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## Special lanes for HOV to ease traffic congestion

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Transport Ministry might introduce special lanes for high occupancy vehicles to reduce traffic jams in the Federal Capital, its Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had directed the ministry to look into the possibility of designating several roads as HOV lanes to reduce traffic congestion.

"It will be a good idea to allow vehicles with four or more passengers to use these special lanes. The move will get more people to car-pool instead of jamming the road with single occupancy vehicles," he said.

Speaking after the post-Cabinet meeting at his office, Dr Ling said the ministry would study the proposal together with the police, the Road Transport Department and City Hall.

He said in Western countries, special lanes were reserved on city roads, highways and arterial roads leading into city centres for public transport vehicles and HOVs.

"There is a possibility that traffic congestion in the city will be reduced if there were special lanes for high occupancy vehicles," he said.

However, Dr Ling said it would be difficult to have special lanes for HOVs for all the roads, considering the width of certain stretches.

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