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PRM-Toll

THE RM85 MILLION PAID TO TOLL CONCESSIONAIRE TOO HIGH, SAYS PRM

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 2 (Bernama) -- The RM85 million compensation paid by the government to the concession holders for the Damansara-Puchong Highway (LDP) following the decision to reduce toll rate by 50 sen was too high and was not based on facts which were disclosed by the company, the Parti Rakyat Malaysia (PRM) said today.

PRM president Dr Syed Husin Ali said according to the briefing given to the media at the National Economic Action Council (NEAC) by Littrak Sdn Bhd managing director Datuk Lin Yun Ling last week, toll collection by the company was expected to reach RM81 million a year if the original rate of RM1.50 was maintained.

"If the toll was abolished, the concession holder would lose RM81 million. Reducing the toll by 50 sen would only deprive toll collection by RM25 million a year.

"Why should they be paid RM85 million in compensation for a 50 sen toll reduction," Syed Hussein said in a statement.

He called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who announced the toll reduction at the LDP last week, to explain the glaring difference.

Dr Syed Husin also urged the government to ensure transparency in agreements signed with toll concessionaires to avoid any incidence of favouritism.

"It's clear that transparency is very much needed. What are the conditions which had been imposed by the ruling government on the companies," said the opposition party.

-- BERNAMA

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