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Chan-Licence

BIKES UNDER 150CC: OWNERS MUST HAVE RM2 VEHICLE LICENCE

PUTRAJAYA, Sept 16 (Bernama) -- Owners of motorcycles under a 150cc capacity need only pay RM2 for a Motor Vehicle Licence following the government's decision to abolish road tax for these vehicles.

Transport Minister Datuk Chan Kong Choy said the payment would be charged for new vehicle licences and each renewal at Road Transport Department offices nationwide.

"Although exempted from road tax, each motorcycle owner still needs to purchase insurance, which is currently compulsory, at least for the third party," he told a press conference here today.

The Motor Vehicle Licence will be in lieu of the road tax, which was exempted under the 2004 Budget announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last Friday.

The exemption, which Chan said would be enforced immediately, was expected to benefit some four million motorcycle owners but would cause revenue losses of RM224 million.

Previously, the motorcycles were charged road tax, including the vehicle licence, between RM50 and RM65 in the Peninsula, RM12 and RM24 in Sarawak and RM50 in Sabah per year.

Local cars, vans and motorcycles for the disabled which were given full road tax exemption also needed the RM2 vehicle licence and insurance, he said.

Chan said the RM1 vehicle licence would be maintained for vehicles modified for the disabled which weighed, excluding cargo, less than 250kg.

He said in line with the budget, owners of buses for workers would also have their road tax halved when they were next renewed.

Buses were previously charged between RM238 and RM480 per year.

-- BERNAMA

MAM EMK