

Pakatan states to block AES cameras rollout
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 29 — All four Pakatan Rakyat (PR)-governed states have decided to suspend the federal government's controversial Automated Enforcement System (AES) that detects speeding motorists.

"That means 40 per cent will not be installed," Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said at a press conference today, referring to the 331 out of the planned 831 cameras under the nationwide AES scheme.

"This is because we want to protect the people's interest."

The AES cameras, which also captures those who beat traffic lights, is in its pilot phase, with 14 installed in Perak, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor and Putrajaya.

Following Election 2008, PR now governs Penang, Selangor, Kedah and Kelantan.

Lim said approval from state administrations was needed for the project initiated by the federal government.

The state authorities will withhold approval for the installation of AES cameras until they receive more information, he added.

"For the time being, we suspend (our authorisation); we want to have further discussion."

He also said the PR states also wished to obtain the public's feedback on the camera system first.

"(It's) not that we want to encourage the committing of offence as we please, but do it correctly, do it well," Lim said.

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