

Latar Expressway to spur development in towns

KUALA LUMPUR (May 2, 2011): The Kuala Lumpur-Kuala Selangor Expressway (Latar Expressway), linking Kuala Lumpur to Ijok, Selangor at Templer's Park, is expected to spur the economic development of towns along the expressway.

The chairman of the Kuala Lumpur-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad (KLSEB), Mohamad Razali Othman, said the 33km, two-lane carriageway links the townships of Kuala Selangor, Assam Jawa, Ijok, Batang Berjuntai, Kota Puteri, Puncak Alam, Shah Alam, Bukit Jelutong, Sungai Buloh, Kundang, Rawang, as well as the cities of Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur.

"Commercial and general trade activities will receive a boost from the expressway because of the easy and convenient access to all towns," he said in a statement issued here today.

He added that Latar Expressway, which is in its final stage of development and expected to be completed by the middle of this year, connects the many townships through four interchanges and three tolls, which significantly disperse traffic.

Travelling the expressway is expected to take only 18 minutes from end-to-end, he added.

Mohamad Razali also said that with the opening of the Latar Expressway, the Kuala Lumpur Outer Ring Road (KLORR), an orbital ring road within the greater Kuala Lumpur area, would be near completion as it strategically eliminates congested traffic from the existing Middle Ring Road 2 (MRR2).

"With the completion of the Latar Expressway, 75% of the KLORR network would be formed, leading to the government's greater vision for traffic dispersal that reduces congestion in Kuala Lumpur city," he said.

The expressway also provides links to the existing North-South Highway and the Guthrie Expressway, he added.

The construction of the expressway, which began in Oct 2008, is divided into two packages – package 1 of the proposed design-and-build contract from Assam Jawa to Kundang, and package 2 from Kundang to Templer's Park.

KLSEB has a 40-year expressway concession and was awarded a build-operate-transfer scheme in which the company is responsible to finance, design, build, operate and maintain the highway. —
Bernama