



Good job: Zin (right) speaks to Konsortium Lebuhraya Utara-Timur managing director Datuk Haris Hussein (left) during the opening of the DUKE.

Expressway now open to traffic

Works Minister says vital missing link now in place to ease congestion in the city

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THE Klang Valley's newest highway, the Duta-Ulu Klang Expressway (DUKE), is now open.

The 18km highway, 40% of it elevated, provides an alternative route through and out of the city as it bypasses many roads that are usually congested.

The highway is divided into three sections - Section One, from Jalan Duta to Sentul, Section Two from Sentul to Greenwood (near Batu Caves), and Section Three from Sentul to Hillview (Ulu Klang).

There will be three toll plazas at Batu, Ayer Panas and Sentul Pasar.

The seven elevated interchanges will be at Jalan Duta, Jalan Kuching, Sentul Pasar, Setiawangsa, Hillview, Bandar Dalam and Greenwood.

Works Minister Datuk Mohd Zin Mohamed, who officially opened the highway, said the DUKE was the vital missing link in the current road network in the Klang Valley and would help ease traffic congestion in the inner city.

He said the DUKE took three years to construct and was built at a cost of RM892mil, with land acquisition costing about RM255mil.

"Highway users will be exempted from toll payments for one month. The highway will have an open toll system with 46% of the highway being toll-free," he said.

Mohd Zin said the DUKE was expected to cater to some 120,000 vehicles a day and that

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DATUK MOHD ZIN MOHAMED

toll charges would start at RM2 and would only be increased after six years.

He said the highway concessionaire had also agreed to make the agreement public and it could be viewed at the Works Ministry library from today.

Mohd Zin added that the DUKE had also undergone two safety audits, one by the concessionaire's consultant and one by the Road Unit of the Works Department.

"The results were satisfactory considering the geometric constraints that were faced. It was also important to look into the safety in the context of the landslide at Bukit Antarabangsa," he said.

Mohd Zin also said he had submitted an interim report on the Bukit Antarabangsa landslide to the Cabinet and a full report would be submitted soon.

"Basically, what it has shown us is that it was all our creation. We did not respect mother nature," he said.



Good start: Motorists cruising on the new highway.