

SMART project for other parts of M'sia

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KUALA LUMPUR: Gamuda Bhd is mulling over the prospects of introducing the Stormwater Management and Road Tunnel (SMART) project to other parts of Malaysia, said executive director Datuk Azmi Mat Nor.

"We are still studying the prospects. There are opportunities to introduce it to other states," he told reporters after a visit to the SMART motorway tunnel by Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu yesterday.

The RM1.9bil project is implemented through a 50:50 joint venture between Gamuda and MMC Corp Bhd, with the Department of Irrigation and Drainage and the Malaysian Highway Authority as the executing government agencies.

The joint venture was also awarded a 40-year concession.

Azmi said the financial impact from the toll collection would depend on the toll rates approved by the government.

He declined to reveal the toll rate that was proposed to the government.

"It will have a positive impact," Azmi said, adding however, that the effect would not be seen immediately as it would take time for traffic to build up and the loan repayment period was not



Media preview: (From left) Works Ministry secretary general Datuk Syed Jamal Syed Jaafar Shahabudin, Works Minister Datuk Seri Samy Vellu and Gamuda Bhd group MD Datuk Lin Yun Ling during the media preview of SMART Motorway in Kuala Lumpur

short.

The SMART motorway tunnel would link KL-Seremban Highway, Jalan Sultan Ismail and Jalan Tun

Razak.

"About 200,000 vehicles commute daily on Jalan Sungai Besi to the city centre," Samy Vellu said.