

Thursday, 2 July 2015, 9:53 AM

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[LIFESTYLE \(/LIFESTYLE\)](#)

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[WORLD \(/WORLD\)](#)

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## Improve expressways before raising toll rates

1 JULY 2015 @ 12:00 PM

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ANY plans to increase prices, rates or charges will always be controversial, and the leaked plan to revise toll rates is no exception. Frequent commuters will probably understand the need to revise rates for some expressways as they are convenient to use. However, the majority of expressways are a bane instead of a boon for daily commuters.

At times, one cannot help but feel that toll booths themselves are the actual cause of congestion.

We understand the need to have a collection system in place. However, after more than 20 years, little has been done to improve the system and technology.

Without even going into cash collection lanes, many commuters suffer poor detection technology for the Touch 'n Go and Smart Tag lanes. It takes up valuable seconds to use these cards.

In the meantime, traffic builds up. In my experience, four out of 10 times, Smart Tag lanes do not work, causing untold issues to motorists.

We are living in the 21st century, where information and data move in milliseconds and yet, the toll collection system seems to be languishing in the 20th century. Even traffic management at expressways seem non-existent.

Instead, they resort to a free-for-all, letting drivers figure it out for themselves.



(/node/90527)

### Farid and Hazlanshah speeding up for Suzuka 8-hour debut (/node/90527)

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian riders, Mohd Farid Badrul Hisham and Hazlanshah Mohd Noor are all set for their debut in the Suzuka 8-Hour Endurance Road Race with Team Nozuka & Bike ART at the Suzuka Circuit, Japan from July 23 to 26.

### Argentina routs Paraguay 6-1, reaches Copa America final (/node/90418)



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(/mh370)

Often, the lanes leading to and from the toll booths are confusing, with little done to improve the flow or traffic situation. Many toll exits, too, are built too close to main routes, causing massive difficulty in traffic dispersal.

These issues cause people to look at plans to revise toll rates with disdain. Despite revisions of toll rates in the past, we have yet to see improvements in the toll collection system, traffic management system and traffic dispersal system. All we seem to hear of are plans to build more expressways.

The mental and physical well-being of urban dwellers are at stake here.

Show us some improvements that may justify future toll rates revision before any changes are contemplated.

Megat Shah Rizal Noor Ikhsan, Kuala Lumpur

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Tickets to Against The Current 'GRAVITY' Live in Malaysia 2015 is now on sale! (/node/90491)

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Edge has confirmed that it has received a show cause letter from the Home Ministry.

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TEHRAN: Iran said Wednesday it has recovered part of its gold reserves frozen under international sanctions after an accord sealed on the sidelines of nuclear negotiations with world powers.

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