

# NEW STRAITS TIMES

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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### TRAFFIC JAMS: Haphazard planning aggravates road congestion

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LOOKING at the traffic congestion plaguing the Klang Valley, I wonder if there is any end in sight. We get stuck in traffic jams every day, either on the way to work or returning home. Even on weekends the jam is persistent.

After observing this phenomenon for many years I have come to the conclusion that traffic congestion happens because:

THE designs of the roads, exits, flyovers, expressways and highways are not catered for long-term solutions.

POSSIBLE lack of coordination and planning between the expressway operators, authorities, decision makers and local councils.

DRIVERS take the easiest way out by cutting into lanes and not stopping when they should respect the right of way.

TOLLED roads are supposed to be the solution, not part of the problem. And yet in many instances they are actually the main cause. It is worsened by extremely slow gantries, especially at the Touch 'n Go or Smart Tag lanes.

TRAFFIC lights are located where they are not necessary, poorly timed traffic lights force cars to speed, and the distance between the exit on the expressway and the traffic light is too short.

All these seem to point to a lack of planning and coordination. I hope there is better coordination among the planners and authorities.

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#### HIGHLIGHTS

Megat Shah Rizal Noor Ikhsan, Kuala Lumpur



The scene at the Jalan Duta toll plaza during the recent Chinese New Year holiday.

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