

Get paid for pothole photos

KUALA LUMPUR: Works Ministry secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Abdul Munit Kasmin will pay RM5 to the ministry's staff for each photo of poor roads and potholes, in an effort to improve the condition of federal roads.

He said the ministry has about 900 employees nationwide and his "reward" is to encourage them to be the eyes and ears of the ministry.

"When they return to their hometowns, should they see potholes or bad road conditions, they can snap a photo and hand it over to me immediately the next day and I will pay RM5 for each photo.

"Develop the photo and hand over to me. Do not keep it for

weeks as the road might have been repaired during that time."

Abdul Munit was speaking to reporters after the appreciation ceremony in which the ministry was awarded five-star rating by the Malaysian Administrative and Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu) yesterday. The Works Ministry is the first ministry to receive such rating.

He also said the public should not blame the Public Works Department for poor road conditions as it does not own federal roads.

"Only the minister can request for allocation to repair federal roads and direct the PWD to start repairs on the road.

"So let me know if there are

potholes on federal roads. I will send my men to repair them because it is our wish to make the roads first class," he added.

Abdul Munit said the ministry plans to gazette more federal roads from the existing 16,500km to 18,000 km so that more roads in the country will come under the ministry.

Earlier, in his speech, Abdul Munit urged ministry staff to work harder to maintain the five-star rating.

"Although the ministry scored a remarkable 92.18% last year in the star rating system, we must score better and more than 93% this year to make sure we continue to be the five-star ministry," he said.