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Mahathir - port (pix)

MAHATHIR HAPPY WITH CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS OF WEST PORT

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PORT KLANG, June 2⁹⁴ (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the West Port at Pulau Indah here is important to meet the needs of Malaysia's expanding shipping industry.

The Prime Minister said Malaysia was still short of port facilities to cater for increasing export and import trade.

"I am confident that the West Port will be able to meet its objective in term of its preparations," he told reporters after visiting the West Port, a component of Port Klang, here today.

Dr Mahathir said when the West Port was ready, more ships would be able to call at Port Klang and this would boost Malaysia's economy.

He was satisfied with the progress in the construction of the RM1.5 billion project.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and Chairman of Port Klang Authority (LPK) Datuk Micheal Chen. -- more

▼02/06/20-30MST

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Mahathir - port 2 Port Klang

Before touring the Port Klang area by boat, the Prime Minister was briefed on the progress of the construction of West Port at the site by LPK General Manager Encik M. Rajasingam.

Rajasingam said the first phase of the project, the new road leading to the West Port, would be operational in October as scheduled.

The phase would include three wharves for containers and cargo and two wharves to handle liquid cargo.

The second phase would be operational by the end of 1995, he said.

It would have four container and cargo wharves, one for dry bulk cargo and one for liquid petroleum gas (LPG).--more

▼02/06/20-40MST

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Mahathir - port 3 (last) Pelabuhan Klang

Rajasingam said the entire project was financed solely by LPK without having to secure loans.

He said last year Port Klang handled 30.83 million tonnes of cargo, an increase of 8.6 per cent over the figure for 1992.--Bernama

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