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GERMANS KEEN TO PARTICIPATE IN TRANS-ASIA RAILWAY PROJECT

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 29 (Bernama) -- German infrastructure companies are keen to participate in the Trans-Asia railway project mooted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Visiting German Transport Minister Matthias Wissmann said today Germany was willing to finance and undertake a feasibility study on the project and in which areas German expertise could be applied.

Speaking to newsmen after calling on the Economic Advisor to the government Tun Daim Zainuddin at his office here, he said Germany was the largest investor in the infrastructure sector in Europe.

Wissmann, who arrived here yesterday accompanied by a 30-member business delegation, also said German businessmen were looking for long-term partnerships with Malaysian counterparts and not short-term gains.

"We have a lot to offer, especially our technical expertise, and we want to share that with Malaysia," he added.

Germany spent some 20 billion deutschmarks (RM33 billion) on new roads and rail systems a year, he said.

On his discussions with Daim, Wissmann said they centred on the future of infrastructure projects in Malaysia and Europe.

"I also expressed Germany's interest in infrastructure projects in Malaysia and our interest particularly in the Trans-Asia railway project," he added. -- BERNAMA

DVS LDB