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IMPLEMENTATION CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR KUALA PERLIS PORT SIGNED

KANGAR, Dec 23 (Bernama) -- Construction of the RM750 million Kuala Perlis international standard port at Kuala Sungai Baru, Kuala Perlis near here will commence following the signing of an implementation contract agreement here today.

The contract agreement and memorandum of understanding involved a local company Pashacorp Sdn Bhd, which was given the contract for the project, and three other international companies namely Hamburg Port Consultant (HPC), a port consultant company from Germany, Posford (M) Sdn Bhd, a design engineering consultant from Britain and Kisan Corporation, a contractor from Korea which is involved in digging and reclamation work.

The signing ceremony took place at the Menteri Besar's office and was witnessed by state exco member, Yazid Mat, who represented Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim.

The project which is being carried out on a privatisation basis under the Perlis coastal land reclamation project will involve 2,600 ha beginning from the Thai border to Sanglang and is expected to be fully completed by the year 2000.

Pashacorp executive chairman, Haji Zamani Abdul Aziz Yeop, said the cost for the whole project was RM1.5 billion including RM750 million for the port construction.

He said the project would be implemented in phases and that the first phase would involve the construction of cargo and container port which was expected to be completed in the middle of 1998.

"Other construction work including a commercial area, small and medium size industrial area, a hotel, residential scheme, a modern jetty and a marina will be carried out in the second phase and is expected to take between 10 to 12 years to be completed," he said.

He said the port, which has the capacity of 1.3 million tonnes TEU, would indirectly attract more investors to Perlis and states and provinces within the Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT).

Prior to this, 13 companies have simultaneously signed memoranda of understanding for the Perlis coastal land reclamation project, which was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during his official visit to the state last April 12.

However, of the 13 companies, only seven were given the contracts by the state government including Pashacorp which was given the go-ahead to carry out work on land reclamation involving 1,400 hectare at Kuala Sungai Baru which also included construction of the port comprising 680 hectare.

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