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Samy-Road

MTD UNIT TO BUILD SECOND ROAD LINK TO CAMERON HIGHLANDS

CAMERON HIGHLANDS, Sept 9 (Bernama) -- MTD Construction Development Sdn Bhd has been instructed to begin work immediately on the second road link to Cameron Highlands, Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said.

He said the construction contract for the RM300 million 50km road, which will link Pos Slim in Perak to Kampung Rajah in Pahang, has been signed.

MTD Construction Development, a unit of listed MTD Capital Bhd, has experience building roads in hilly terrain including the East-West Highway and Karak Highway.

It has designed a road comprising a number of connecting bridges to avoid hill cutting, Samy Vellu told reporters after visiting the project site for a Tamil primary school at Kuala Terla, 10km from Tanah Rata, today.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who has repeatedly asked road builders not to cut hills in order to prevent soil erosion and landslides, had seen a model of the new Cameron Highlands road and approved its design.

The Perak government, which plans to develop Kinta Highlands at the Pahang-Kelantan boundary, built a 21km road from Simpang Pulai to Pos Slim two years ago and then asked the federal government to extend the road to Cameron Highlands.

Samy Vellu said MTD Construction Development promised at a briefing on the project last July that it would only fell trees where necessary during construction of the road so as to maintain the ecology in the highland area.

According to him, the government is expected to spend RM110 million to upgrade the road between Kampung Rajah and Tanah Rata to make it easier for people using the second road link to travel to the popular hill resort.

On the SRJK (T) Kuala Terla, Samy Vellu said a new building with 12 classrooms will be built on a 0.2 hectare site donated by the owner, Soony Long.

The Education Ministry has approved an allocation of RM200,000 to help pay for the school project which will cost RM450,000, he said. -- BERNAMA

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