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Renong-Bridge

RENONG CONDUCTING FEASIBILITY STUDY ON MALAYSIA-INDONESIA BRIDGE

By: Mokhtar Hussain

BEIRUT, June 18 (Bernama) -- Renong Berhad is carrying out a feasibility study on the construction of the proposed bridge linking Malaysia and Indonesia across the Straits of Melaka, Works Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said.

The company is expected to come out with a report on the study within a month, he told reporters here today..

"The initial information that I have got is that the bridge will probably be 24 or 25 kilometres-long," said Samy Vellu, who is accompanying Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on a three-day visit to Lebanon.

A senior executive of Renong, who is also in the Malaysian delegation here, said the proposed bridge will be built from Melaka to Dumai in Southern Sumatera.

It is expected to cost RM6 billion, said the executive who did not want to be named.

He said the feasibility study is almost completed and the report will be submitted to Dr Mahathir for his approval, and then to President Suharto.

Dr Mahathir informed the Indonesian leader of the proposed bridge when they met on Sunday, while in the Turkish city of Istanbul to attend a summit of eight Islamic countries known as D-8.

Suharto is reported to have supported the proposal and expressed his government's willingness to cooperate in making the bridge a reality.

Dr Mahathir had explained that the bridge is not just to provide a link for vehicles but also for a rail service and for the channeling of electricity and gas. -- BERNAMA

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