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## Renong wins contract to build Bangalore-Mysore highway

RENONG Berhad has won the contract for the construction of the RM625 million Bangalore-Mysore highway package while the chances of two other Malaysian companies securing three other multi-million ringgit projects in India look good.

The projects are for road construction, water supply and sewerage.

Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said Renong would send a delegation to finalise the deal with India's Karnataka State Government next week.

Under the deal, Renong will undertake the construction of the 120km highway.

Speaking to newsmen yesterday after presenting food hampers and ang pow to old folks in Sungai Siput, Perak, Samy Vellu said Renong would also complete a 66km ring road in Bangalore.

He said 33km of the road had already been completed. The work was abandoned due to lack of funds.

Renong had agreed to complete the job and later collect toll.

"Due to our negotiations and frequent follow-up visits, Renong has impressed the Indian Government and it is confident of securing some RM800 million worth of projects in India," he said.

The deals were clinched following negotiations between the minister and the Indian Government and a follow-up visit by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to the country recently.

Samy Vellu, who is also MIC president, said during his trip to Karnataka in December, he held talks with the State Chief Minister J.H. Patel on the proposed highway and also visited the highway site to gauge the traffic volume.

"We will also be submitting a proposal on the privatisation of water supply and sewerage in the city of Bangalore to the minister for Bangalore City, Anand Nat," he said.

The Malaysian company involved in the negotiations is Nat-Air Sdn Bhd, whose engineers will visit the site to prepare a detailed report on the privatisation plan similar to the one here.

Another project Malaysia is interested in is the proposed elevated highway from Madras Port to Minambakam.

Samy Vellu said the Indian Government was interested in Malaysia's privatisation concept, and during talks between him and Finance Minister P. Chithambaram and Minister for Surface Transport Vengekataraman, he spoke to them on the need to come up with laws to acquire land for road projects.

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