

26 JAN 1997

Samy-India

SAMY VELLU TO FINALISE TALKS ON HIGHWAY PROJECT WITH INDIAN LEADERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 26 (Bernama) -- Works Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu will leave for India tomorrow to finalise negotiations with the Indian authorities on Renong Berhad's bid to secure the US\$250 million (RM625 million) Banglore-Mysore highway project.

Renong has submitted a proposal for the privatisation of the 120km highway to the Karnataka state government.

Samy Vellu's press secretary S.Ganapathy said today the minister's trip was a follow-up to the visit by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to India recently.

Samy Vellu will be leading a 10-member delegation including Malaysian Highway Authority Director-General Datuk Chua Soon Toh and senior officials of Renong.

Ganapathy said that during his trip to Karnataka, Samy Vellu would hold talks with the state Chief Minister J.H.Patel on the proposed highway and also visit the highway site to gauge the traffic volume.

Samy Vellu is also expected to submit a proposal on the privatisation of water supply in the City of Banglore to the Minister for Banglore City, Anand Nat.

He will then proceed to New Delhi where he will address an international conference organised by the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses with the theme "Natural Disaster Reduction on Roads".

Samy Vellu would talk about Malaysia's experience in coping with natural disasters, said Ganapathy.

In the Indian capital, Samy Vellu is also expected to hold talks with Finance Minister P.Chithambaram and Minister for Surface Transport Vengekataraman.

The minister is scheduled to return home on Jan 30. -- BERNAMA

ES JK