

18 APR 1998

Mahathir-Port

DR MAHATHIR VISITS JOHOR'S SECOND PORT PROJECT SITE

JOHOR BAHRU, April 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today visited the site of Johor's second port project costing RM2.1 billion, in Tanjung Pelepas, about 50km from here.

He was accompanied by Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, Information Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat, Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu and Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

Dr Mahathir was briefed on the progress of the project by Johor Port Bhd executive chairman Datuk Mohamed Taufik Abdullah.

He also observed the launching of piling works at the wharf and reclamation works at the site.

The proposed Tanjung Pelepas Port is situated east of Sungai Pulai and near the Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing linking Tanjung Kupang in Johor and Tuas in Singapore.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, during a visit to the site in February, said that the proposed port could become a vital port in the region due to its strategic location, being near the Melaka Straits.

The proposed Tanjung Pelepas Port is being developed in five phases, to be fully completed in 2020. The first phase is focused on providing facilities for container cargo.

Two of the six wharves now under construction, each stretching 360 metres, are expected to be operational end of next year. Two more will be completed in 2000 and the other two in 2001. -- BERNAMA

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