

12/03/1998

Group `no' to road project

KUALA LUMPUR: The controversial Sprint Expressway project was met with greater resistance this time from Bukit Bandaraya Residents' Association. It will send a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, proposing for the project to be scrapped. The decision was unanimously reached at a dialogue held at Sekolah Kebangsaan Bukit Bandaraya, Bangsar, last night where members agreed that the project would harm the environment as well as further aggravate traffic congestion in the city. The association also questioned the rationale behind the Government's decision to award Sistem Penyuraian Trafik KL Barat Sdn Bhd (Sprint) the RM1.3 billion project on Oct 23 last year in view of the current economic situation. Sprint is given a 33-year concession to design, build, operate and manage the expressway. Its shareholders are Mujur Minat Sdn Bhd (50 per cent), Gamuda Bhd (30 per cent) and Kumpulan Pinang (20 per cent). The project will consist of a 26km six-lane dual carriageway, which will include a 700m tunnel, 17km viaducts/bridges and 13 multi-level interchanges and is expected to be completed by 2001. The project comes under the Western Kuala Lumpur Traffic Dispersal project consisting three components - Duta-Kerinchi Link, Penchala Link and Damansara-Semantan Link.

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