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Highway

SIMULTANEOUS CONSTRUCTION OF EAST COAST HIGHWAY FROM BOTH ENDS

KUALA TERENGGANU, July 17 (Bernama) -- There has been a proposal to construct the Karak-Jabor-Cendering stretch of the East Coast Highway simultaneously from the Pahang and Terengganu ends, Works Minister Datuk Seri S Samy Vellu said today.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had directed the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) to study the proposal and whether Terengganu could help the consortium undertaking the project if construction was to start from both states.

Samy Vellu said this idea was mooted by Terengganu Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad who met him in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Construction of the RM3 billion highway from Karak in Pahang to Cendering (Terengganu) over a distance of 336km is scheduled to begin this October by a consortium led by Malaysian Mining Corporation (MMC).

He said if the proposal was approved then construction work would begin simultaneously in Karak and Cendering before linking up at the inter-state border.

Samy Vellu said both states had agreed to make immediate land acquisition once the highway's route was identified.

On the water crisis in the Klang Valley, Samy Vellu said he would visit the newly completed RM136 million Wangsa Maju treatment plant next week.

He said the plant was expected to be operational within the next three weeks.

The Public Works Department had also signed a RM29 million agreement with a private company to channel water to the Wangsa Maju plant from Sungai Gombak, he said.

-- BERNAMA

SBS ZUL AAM