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Samy-Road

FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON PROPOSED RM4.2 BILLION EAST-COAST HIGHWAY

KUALA TERENGGANU, May 21 (Bernama) -- The Government is awaiting feedback from the people particularly the potential users of the East Coast Highway before beginning work on the RM4.2 billion project, Works Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said here today.

The project had been approved by the Cabinet and the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) was getting the feedback and once it had evaluated the public feedback work would begin, he told reporters after opening the Terengganu MIC Convention here.

He said the EPU would be meeting some 900 people including road users from Pahang, Terengganu and the Klang Valley at random to get their views on toll rates, the proposed route and alignment of the highway which would be the second longest in the country.

The highway would be the first road project in the country that would be built after getting feedback from the people, he added.

Work on the project should begin as soon as possible to ensure its construction cost did not shoot up, he said.

The contract for the construction of the 338KM road from Karak in Pahang to Cendering in Terengganu had been given to a consortium led by Malaysia Mining Corporation (MMC).

He said if the feedback was favourable the highway could be completed by 2002 or mid 2003 and would give rise to the development of linear settlements, industries and also boost tourism in the east coast.

Samy Vellu also urged the Terengganu MIC leaders and members to remain loyal to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who had improved the lot of Indians in this country.

-- BERNAMA

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