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M'SIA, SPORE TO HOLD TALKS ON JULY 1 AND 2

SINGAPORE, May 18 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Singapore will resume negotiations on their package of outstanding bilateral issues on July 1 and 2 in Kuala Lumpur, the Straits Times reported.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar and his Singapore counterpart S.Jayakumar would hold the talks to resolve the package which had stalled over the pricing of new water supply to the island-state.

The protracted negotiations have tested bilateral ties over the past three years since the prime ministers of the two countries agreed to work out a series of issues as a package in December 1998.

Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew had since discussed the matter, in particular, on the water agreement.

The other issues in the package are the development of Malaysian-owned railway land in Singapore, a Malaysian customs and immigration checkpoint at the rail station here, the use of Malaysian airspace by the Singapore Air Force and the pension savings of West Malaysians who had worked in Singapore.

-- BERNAMA

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