

14 JUN 2003

MINISTRY TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING TO GET FEEDBACK ON WATER ISSUES

SUNGAI SIPUT, June 14 (Bernama) -- The Works Ministry will hold a special meeting, prior to the National Water Council meeting, to get feedback from the relevant parties on water management in the country.

Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today that the meeting would involve all the state secretaries, the chairmen of the state committees responsible for water supply and directors of water companies in the country.

The date for the meeting had yet to be fixed but it would be held before the council meeting, he said.

"At this special meeting, the ministry will listen to their views and requests. We will also look into their debts and see how all their problems can be solved," Samy Vellu, who is the MP for Sungai Siput, told reporters after attending a special meeting of village heads from his constituency in Kampung Jalong, here.

Last Wednesday, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the federal government might take over the development and provision of clean water supply following the inability of the state governments to do so because of the high costs.

The prime minister had said that the proposal would be discussed at the National Water Council meeting.

-- BERNAMA

KAY SUA JK