

Pan Borneo: Govt Emphasises On Multiplying Effects Of Rate Of Return
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BINTULU, March 31 (Bernama) -- The construction of the Pan Borneo Highway which will be implemented on the concept of Private-Public Partnership (PPP) can minimise risks besides ensuring that the implementation cost will not escalate, said prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said under the concept, the project developer would bear the risk of cost escalation or that the project could not be completed within schedule, and they would certainly choose a consultant who was truly capable of ensuring everything went smoothly.

What was more important, he said, was that the government did its best to maximise the rate of return from the construction of the highway, and ensure that it not only brought multiplying effects to the economy of Sarawak, particularly in every town that it passed through, but also to the surrounding interior areas.

"Thus we must plan, so that we can create more new entrepreneurs through the highway, must determine how agricultural products, for example from the rural areas, can be marketed at the RSA (Rest and Service Areas) provided, to ensure that it brings about maximum returns," he said at the media conference after launching the Sarawak Pan Borneo Highway construction project at the Bakun RSA (Rest & Service Area), Km 52 Bintulu-Miri road, here this morning.

The Sarawak Pan-Borneo Highway is a federal government project involving a 1,076 km route between Tanjung Datu and Merapok at the Sarawak/Sabah border costing more than RM13 billion which is expected to be fully completed in 2023.

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