

**Government Approves RM43.5 Million Allocation for Manong Bridge - Najib
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KUALA KANGSAR, June 10 (Bernama) -- The government today approved an allocation of RM43.5 million for the construction of a bridge across Sungai Perak linking Kampung Seberang Manong and Pekan Manong near here.

The announcement was made by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak during his speech at a breaking of fast with voters and the local community at Nurul Huda Mosque, Manong here today.

Najib said the allocation would include the construction of a three kilometre road around the area.

"Ladies and gentlemen you have waited so long for this Manong bridge.

"I am aware that the people need the Manong Bridge to bring development to the surrounding areas. I hereby announce the government's approval to construct the bridge with an allocation of RM43.5 million," he said.

Najib said the approval was a gift to the people of Manong in conjunction with the month of Ramadan.

At the event Najib presented Aidilfitri contributions to the orphans, needy and single mothers in Manong.

He also donated zam zam water and dates to representatives of 25 mosques and 53 surau in the area.

Also present were Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir and Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister, Datuk Hamzah Zainudin.

According to a Bernama report yesterday, the bridge will benefit 500 people from 100 families comprising rubber and oil palm smallholders to conduct their business and attend to other matters in Manong town and Kuala Kangsar.

Previously villagers had to depend on the boat service which operates daily from 6am to 6pm and charges a fee of RM1 per person for a return trip and RM2 for those travelling on

motorcycle.

The land route to Manong town is a 45 kilometre distance.

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