

Apr 12, 2010

JB to get mini-checkpoint

JOHOR BARU - MALAYSIA is expected to start constructing a mini Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) building next year for pedestrian usage following complaints about the bigger two-year-old checkpoint, a Johor politician said.

Johor Baru MP Shahrir Samad said on Saturday there had been three meetings involving Home Ministry officials, Johor state assemblymen and the police.

He said police chief Musa Hassan had concluded at the latest meeting 'the mini-CIQ would not pose any security threat to the state or the country'.

'We are optimistic that the project will get under way after we iron out some technical issues,' said Datuk Shahrir.

He added that the proposed mini-CIQ was first brought up in 2008 after public complaints about traffic congestion and the lack of facilities for pedestrians at the main complex.

'Most Johor folk and businesses want this facility. It can also revive businesses in the Johor Baru city centre which took a drastic hit when the new CIQ opened.'

Read the full story in Monday's edition of The Straits Times.