

Fund raised to remove ship wrecks in the straits

MALACCA: Removing wrecked ships in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore is one of six actions planned under a RM38.87mil navigation fund raised by three countries.

There are several hundred ship wrecks in Malacca waters alone.

Raised by Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore, the fund was set up in 2008 to strengthen the roles of the three countries in safeguarding the busy shipping lanes.

Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha said part of the fund would also go into ensuring security and environmental protection of the two straits.

The Transport Minister was speaking to reporters after launching a conference on cooperative mechanism to enhance navigational safety and environmental protection in the straits yesterday.

Other projects that will be carried out under the fund include navigation traffic separation system; preparing quick response to tackle hazardous and toxic substances from the straits as well as exhibiting an automatic identification transponder system for small vessels.