

Tanga road construction to start

By Godfrey Mushi, Tanga

A Chinese firm, Sinohydro Corporation, which has been awarded the tender to construct the Tanga-Horohoro road, will start its work early next month.

Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) Acting Regional Director Alfred Ndumbalo said the construction work will commence on February 2 after the contractor has met with Millenium Challenge Corporation (MCC) officials, the sponsors of the project.

"MCC will handover the work to the contractor on February 2 this year. As you have seen, all the people who have been compensated to allow the construction of the road have started vacating the area.

The Guardian' observed some villagers from Amboni Mafuriko, Duga Maforoni, Zingibari, Mtibwani and Horohoro demolishing their houses to allow construction of the road to start.

A resident of Duga Maforoni, Oyaya Martin who is a pastoralist, said upon its completion, the road will help to speed up the development of Tanga Region.

"I have been paid 40m/- as compensation. Why should I refuse to vacate the area?" Oyaya said.

Construction of the 65-kilometre road, which connects Tanzania and Kenya, will cost 70bn/-.