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BODY:

DATUK Seri S.P.

Seenivasagam was born in Ipoh in 1918.

He received his education at the Anderson School before leaving for Britain to study law at the Middle Temple, London, before WWII. On his return to Malaya after the war, he started his career as advocate and solicitor in 1949.

Together with his brother, D.R.

Seenivasagam and Dr Kanapathipillai, he founded the Perak Progressive Party in 1953.

It became the People's Progressive Party (PPP) in 1956, and in March 1956, he was elected a vice-president of the PPP.

He later became President, a post he held until the time of his death. S.P.

Seenivasagam won the State and Parliamentary seats in the 1959, 1964 and 1969 general elections.

In the early 1960s, the Seenivasagam brothers and 14 other party colleagues swept the local council election and won a majority in the Ipoh Municipal Council. On March 1, 1962, S.P.

Seenivasagam was appointed deputy chairman of the Ipoh Town Council.

On May 31, 1962, he was appointed Ipoh's first municipal president, a post he held for 14 years. On January 24, 1963, he was elected Chairman of the combined Bar of Perak, Kedah and Perlis and was re-elected in 1964, 1965 and 1967. He was honoured three times by the Sultan of Perak.

On August 29, 1963, he was awarded the Paduka Mahkota Perak.

On August 28, 1964, he was appointed Justice of Peace and awarded the Dato Paduka Mahkota Perak on October 21, 1965.

In 1972, the Sultan of Perak elevated him to the rank of Datuk Seri. He was a firm believer in the philosophy that national unity was essential to the peace and prosperity of the country when the National Front was adopted by the first Prime Minister, **Tunku Abdul Rahman**. In 1974, he took the PPP into the National Front because, as he told the party's general meeting in March 1974: "The Salvation of Malaysia depends on a multi-racial government." On July 4, 1975, he died of heart failure at his official residence.

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