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Samy-Shares
240 MILLION UNIT TRUST SHARES FOR INDIAN YOUTH

CAMERON HIGHLANDS, May 4 (Bernama) -- The government will allocate 240 million or eight per cent of the 3,000 million shares in Skim Amanah Saham Wawasan (ASW) to Indian youth, MIC President Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today.

He said the allocation, based on the country's Indian population, should be grabbed by the youth of the community to raise the Indian equity in the country's economy.

The MIC will be conducting an information campaign to encourage Indian youth to subscribe for shares in ASW, he told reporters after opening the four-day National Hindu Youth and Asean Hindu Youth Convention here.

The convention with the theme, "The Role of Indian Youth towards the 21st Century" is being attended by about 500 youths from Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

Samy Vellu said Indian youth should not miss on the opportunity of participating in the ASW scheme because it was the first such scheme opened to all races in the country.

The scheme, offering shares at RM1 each to youths aged between 12 and 30, will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in August.

Samy Vellu advised the Hindu Youth Council to open up more branches in rural areas and in the interior and to create more activities for them.

He also said the rising rate of juvenile crime among Indian youth was a cause for concern, and one of the ways of reducing it was for the youth to participate in the council's activities.

He also said there should be no screening of films or staging of musical shows during Hindu religious festivals because they defeated the purpose of the festivals.

Meanwhile, the Parliamentary Secretary of the National Unity and Social Development Ministry, Datuk G Palanivel, said in his keynote address that in facing the challenges of the 21st Century, Indians should look back at Asian civilisations comprising the Chinese, Hindu and Islamic civilisations.

Hindu Civilisation had brought progress in the fields of mathematics, science and medicine and had actually built a revered religious monument, produced sailors, traders and skilled workers in many fields, he said.

Hinduism had taught its followers internal strength, patience and tranquility, aspects needed in facing the challenges of the 21st Century, he added. -- BERNAMA.

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