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Samy-Squatters

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO SQUATTER ISSUE

IPOH, Oct 7 (Bernama) -- The Cabinet has decided to set up a special committee to look into the squatters issue specially in big towns as this has become a serious problem to the country, Works Minister Datuk Seri S Samy Vellu said today.

The committee's representatives would be drawn from various ministries and departments, he said after opening the Senthamarai Textiles Sdn Bhd shop here.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was expected to call for the first meeting of the committee soon, he said.

The problem of squatters had become serious since more rural folks had migrated to the city seeking a better living while the existing squatters who had been given a house did not move but sold the house to others and continued to squat in the area, Samy Vellu said.

"The problems can be resolved if the squatters that had been allocated houses by the government moved out of the squatter areas."

Samy Vellu said that at the coming meeting, he would brief the Prime Minister on the problems faced by Indian squatters, since it had become an issue of late.

On the Indian Progressive Front (IPF) issue, Samy Vellu said the offer for its president M.G Pandithan to rejoin the MIC had expired.

Hence, he said, he did not see the need for a face-to-face meeting with Pandithan as requested by the latter.

He said Pandithan had been made the offer but he turned it down and now the door had been closed.

However IPF members, could still apply to rejoin the MIC, Samy Vellu added. -- BERNAMA.

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