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Anwar to address special MIC assembly

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will deliver a keynote address on the current economic situation at an MIC extraordinary general meeting to be held next month.

In his address, Anwar will also mention measures that need to be taken by all Malaysians to realise a speedy economic recovery.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said Anwar, who is also Finance Minister, had agreed to address the assembly to outline several measures that had to be taken and the Indian community's contribution towards a speedy economic recovery.

Samy Vellu who is also Works Minister, said 3,500 MIC branch chairmen would attend the meeting. The venue and date have yet to be fixed.

He said after the meeting, the chairmen would have to return to their branches and call for a series of meetings to convey Anwar's message to the Indian community.

"The Malaysian Indian community must play its role in assisting the Government in its concerted efforts to achieve a speedy recovery, otherwise the economic problem might not improve and might even get worse.

Samy Vellu said Anwar's guidelines and the follow-up measures that had been taken would be deliberated in detail at the party's one-day general assembly to be held on Aug 1.

Prime Minister and Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has consented to declare open the one-day assembly.

He said the assembly this year would be held only for one day compared to three days previously to cut costs.

Samy Vellu said Malaysian Indian students abroad were facing very difficult times because of the depreciation of the ringgit against the US dollar, the British Pound Sterling, the Australian dollar and other currencies in countries where the students were pursuing tertiary education.

He said the MIC had to find places for them at local institutions of higher learning, adding that the party would continue to assist them when they returned.

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