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Samy-Hindu

SAMY VELLU URGES HINDUS TO SET NEW PATH, RENEW PLEDGES

KUALA LUMPUR, April 13 (Bernama) -- Amid signs of economic recovery, MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu today called on Malaysians of Hindu faith to continue making sacrifices to help the nation achieve full recovery in the shortest time possible.

In wishing the Tamil community a Happy New Year, he once again urged them to rally behind Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, in overcoming the economic woes.

"With the measures taken by the government so far, we are confident that our economy will bounce back stronger than ever," he said in his Tamil New Year message.

Tamils worldwide will celebrate their new year tomorrow. About 80 per cent of the country's 1.5 million Indian population are Hindus. They are expected to throng the temples throughout the country to offer prayers for a better year.

Samy Vellu, who is Works Minister, also called on the Indians to preserve the unity and harmony among the various races in the country.

"Our unity is vital for our economic recovery. Never ever take it for granted," he said.

Samy Vellu said while the country was recuperating from a bad flu, the people should take the opportunity to ensure their children continue their studies or take up additional courses to fill the job market once the economy has improved.

"Our new year resolution must be one that will ensure we put all our effort, commitment and money to ensure a promising future for our children," he said.

In this respect, the MIC's Kooperasi Didik Berhad (Koop Didik) would ensure that parents save for the educational cost of their children, said Samy Vellu, adding that the party hope to raise RM100 million.

He said to date, the Johor MIC has pledged to collect RM1 million for the fund and expected other states MIC to each raise between RM1 and RM2 million.

"Our intention is to get the 800,000 working Indians to save for their children so that we don't have to go around and appeal to everyone," he said.

He said so far, the feedback from the Indian community towards Koop Didik has been encouraging.

Samy Vellu said they should realise that if they were not thrifty in their spendings, "the (economic) situation could become worst not only for us but to our children as well."

"So save and save now. Its never late," he added. -- BERNAMA

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