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Samy-Campaign

SAMY VELLU PROPOSES PUBLICITY BLITZ TO COUNTER FOREIGN MEDIA ATTACK

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- Works Minister Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu today proposed that the government launch a major publicity campaign overseas to counter biased reporting on Malaysia by the foreign media.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had accepted his proposal made at yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

He said Dr Mahathir informed the Cabinet that such a campaign should be carried out through the Malaysian embassies and high commissions.

"We have to enlighten the world of what is really happening in the country," Samy Vellu, who is also MIC President, told a news conference after chairing the party's Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting, here.

Malaysia has been the target of adverse reporting by the foreign media lately following the sacking of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the government and Umno early last month. Anwar has since been charged in court for alleged corrupt practices and sexual misdemeanour.

He also said Malaysia's move to introduce capital control measures and steps to stimulate the economy had not gone down well with the foreign media.

Samy Vellu said his proposal, which could be done, among others, through the Internet, was also endorsed by the CWC which expressed regret over the foreign media's unfair and one-sided reports.

He said the people must have the wisdom to assess the reports including those posted via the Internet.

Samy Vellu also said the CWC, in its meeting today, expressed full support for Dr Mahathir's leadership.

He urged all peace-loving Malaysians to be tolerant and have confidence in the government and country.

He said MIC was confident that Malaysia would record a positive economic growth next year with the various measures taken by the government to stimulate the economy.

-- BERNAMA

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