

18 JUL 1999

Samy-Mahfuz

DON'T TALK BIG, DEVELOP KELANTAN FIRSTAMY DARES MAHFUZ

IPOH, July 18 (Bernama) -- MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu today challenged PAS Youth chief Mahfuz Omar to prove his mettle to lead and develop Kelantan on par with the other states under the Barisan Nasional administration.

He said if Mahfuz was a calibre politician, he must unveil his plans to improve the situation in Kelantan.

"What he is doing now was merely humiliating the country's leaders including the families of the late prime ministers Tun Abdul Razak and Tun Hussein Onn," he told reporters after opening the computer room of a Tamil school, here.

He was commenting on Mahfuz's dare to Samy Vellu to show in what way PAS had betrayed the country. The challenge was published in the latest issue of Harakah, PAS' official organ.

Samy Vellu said Mahfuz had no respect for human beings and as such, he had no capabilities to become a political leader in this country.

"If he is a man of substance, he must come up with concrete plans to improve the country's economic climate, not keep on scolding people and talk big everyday," said Samy Vellu, who is Works Minister.

He said Mahfuz's tendency to pick up quarrels with BN leaders was to gain attention from the people.

"It's meaningless for Mahfuz to indulge in empty talk and for Harakah to publish false news," he said.

He said BN leaders must explain the actual situation to the people to counter the false and negative information passed down to the people by the opposition everyday.

He, however, said Malaysians were wise to make the right decision when they cast their ballots in the upcoming general election despite being fed with all kinds of lies.

Samy Vellu said the Indians' support for the ruling BN was unquestionable.

Indians had always rallied behind Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and BN government, he added.

-- BERNAMA.

HK/MR TS