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NGO-Fund

NGOs TO REVIEW STAND OVER DISSOLUTION OF INDIAN FUND

KUALA LUMPUR, July 19 (Bernama) -- Two Indian-based organisations which have expressed concern over the dissolution of the South Indian labour Fund, have now agreed to review their stand following the clarification by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Malaysian Hindu Sangam (MHS) and the Malaysian Hindu Youth Council (MHYC) would meet tomorrow to decide on their stand, MHS president S.Vaithilingam told Bernama today.

He said they were not aware of the real situation until Dr Mahathir clarified the matter.

Dr Mahathir was quoted as saying last Saturday that the fund which was set up in 1958 by the British had outlived its purpose.

While stressing that those who opposed its dissolution were politically motivated, the prime minister said the government would look into the fate of those affected by the dissolution of the fund.

Vaithilingam said Works Minister and MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu and Deputy Human Resources Minister Datuk Dr Affifuddin Omar had also explained through the media that a technical institute would be set up on the six-hectare land in Nibong Tebal, Pulau Pinang, belonging to the fund.

Meanwhile, a meeting between Samy Vellu and the MHS and MHYC scheduled for Thursday has been called off.

Samy Vellu's press secretary S.Ganapathy said in a statement today that the meeting was cancelled because the minister felt that the prime minister had clarified the matter.

"He (Samy Vellu) respects the prime minister's views and assurance," Ganapathy added.

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