

Tamil Internet conference to start on Sunday

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — The Malaysian Indian Congress and the International Forum for Information Technology in Tamil will hold the world's biggest Tamil Internet conference and exhibition at the Putra World Trade Centre here starting Sunday.

To be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the event will be themed "Pathways to Progress" and will feature an information and communications technology exhibition called "Duniaweb 2001".

MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu said about 50 exhibition booths will showcase the latest products and services in areas such as Tamil computing, Internet, e-learning and e-business.

"The event is the fourth in its series and there are a variety of subjects, both technical and socio-economic that need to be discussed in promoting the Internet within the Indian community," he said after chairing the party's central working committee meeting.

He said the organising committee had also put in considerable effort to expand the scope of the event to include a nationwide campaign to help transform the Indian community into one that was Internet-savvy.

He said the campaign would be called "net-for-life" and was targeted at three distinct age groups — the seniors, teenagers and children.

Three leading technology players from Linux, Microsoft and Sun will also take the stage at the PWTC on Monday to present the latest enabling technologies in multi-lingual computing.

Samy Vellu also said that during the event, the organisers and MIC's research and social studies think-tank, Yayasan Strategik Social will hold a computer donation drive.

"The PC-for-the-needy" drive is aimed at encouraging the people to donate computers to the less fortunate," he said.

On receiving the computers, he said YSS would redistribute the units to youths who live in less developed residential areas around the country while also using the computers to expand the YSS computing resource centres in these areas.

He also said that the event would be webcast live and Internet users, keen to follow the opening ceremony and the rest of the conference proceedings, could do so via <http://www.tamilinternet.org>

For further information, the public can visit the above website or call 03-40456987/40456913.