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Internet-Conference

BIGGEST CONFERENCE ON TAMIL INTERNET OPENS IN KL TOMORROW

By: R.Ravichandran

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 25 (Bernama) -- The biggest international conference and exhibition on Tamil Internet and computing will begin at the Putra World Trade Centre here tomorrow.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will open the three-day conference with the expected participation of some 800 delegates from 10 countries.

The organising chairman, MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu, said the conference was aimed at promoting the usage of Internet through Tamil and vice-versa and to bring the Tamil speaking community to upward mobility.

"The conference and exposition will provide an opportunity for Tamil-speaking people worldwide to tap the vast opportunities and latest developments of using the Internet to do business, trade and e-commerce," he told Bernama.

Issues to be discussed at the conference include multimedia content, digital gap, wireless applications, entrepreneurship as well as employment and opportunities in IT.

Samy Vellu said the Internet could bring the Tamil speaking people throughout the world closer as the medium was an important channel for them to communicate in the rapidly changing world.

The event is jointly organised by the MIC and the International Forum for Information Technology in Tamil (Infitt).

Samy Vellu, who is Works Minister, said MIC was committed to promoting and upgrading the educational and social status of the country's Indian community, especially to prepare them for the knowledge-based economy era.

He said the party had outlined several programmes to assist Indian-Malaysians to own personal computers and familiarise them to the Internet.

The MIC would popularise the usage of the computer and Internet not only among students but also housewives and working people "because it is vital for the Indian community to be on par with other races in the information communication technology", he said.

"We want to remove the inferiority complex among members of the Indian community once and for all. We want to strengthen their ability to deal with changes and create capacity building," Samy Vellu said.

An exhibition is also being held on the sidelines of the conference where 75 booths showcasing the latest in Tamil Internet, achievements of Tamil IT experts and country pavilions have been set up.

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