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MIC to launch Net campaign

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - The MIC will launch a nationwide campaign called Net-For-Life to ensure that the Indian community is not left behind in the Information, Communication and Technology era.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said Net-For-Life was being organised by the party to transform Malaysian Indians into "Netizens".

The campaign will be launched in conjunction with Tamil Internet 2001, an international conference and exposition to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Aug 26 at the Putra World Trade Centre.

At a Press conference today, Samy Vellu hit out at some Indians who liked to waste time in front of the television rather than acquiring knowledge.

"There is a television in almost every household. It is time that each family owns a computer so that they will not be left behind. The Indians are lagging behind in ICT.

"We hope that the computer literacy campaign will help change their mindset," he said.

Among the programmes is Web@8, an initiative to ensure that Indian children are comfortable using the Internet by the time they reach eight years old.

The MIC will also launch another programme targeted at Indian teenagers called "eSkills@15" which aims to equip every 15-year-old Indian teenager with Internet development skills.

As for working adults and senior citizens, the "eSeniors" programme aims to create awareness of the opportunities that the Internet economy provides.