

11 MAR 2001

Samy-Clash

SAMY VELLU MEETS TAMAN DESARIA RESIDENTS

PETALING JAYA, March 11 (Bernama) -- MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu today held a meeting with about 500 residents of Taman Desaria, one of the settlements off Jalan Klang Lama, here which were embroiled in clashes between two groups of residents since Thursday.

At the meeting with residents of Phase 5A at the community hall there, he urged them to be patient and to leave the matter to the authorities to resolve whatever problems there were.

"I appeal to everyone to be patient because the government will endeavour to resolve the problems," he said.

Describing the dispute that cropped up as a family problem, he expressed satisfaction over the agreement by the residents to hold discussions in resolving their problems.

Taman Desaria and several other settlements off Jalan Klang Lama had been the focus of attention since Thursday following clashes between two groups of residents that had so far resulted in five deaths and 37 others injured.

It was reported that the situation in the affected areas had now returned to normal following quick action by police in tackling the situation.

At the meeting, Samy Vellu who is also Works Minister explained that he had planned to visit the area yesterday but called it off because of security reasons.

He also gave an assurance that he would raise the residents' problems with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi so that efforts could be immediately taken to improve the situation.

He said the clashes in the affected areas broke up because of a slight misunderstanding.

On the problems of residents who had yet to own homes after staying in the area for between 10 and 15 years, he advised them to treat the problem as a temporary one and that it could be resolved through discussions among the local residents.

Samy Vellu later visited Kampung Lindungan Jaya and held a meeting with the residents there.

At the meeting, Samy Vellu donated RM5,000 for a goodwill function to promote solidarity between the residents there. The People's Progressive Party (PPP) president, Datuk M.Kayveas, was also present during the visit.

--BERNAMA

SHI AKT ES AO