

# Samy Vellu surprised by PPM's invitation to Sikhs

KUALA LUMPUR: MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu expressed surprise over an invitation for all Sikhs in the party to join the Parti Punjabi Malaysia (PPM) for the sake of unity.

"I am shocked with PPM president J'swant Singh's statement that the Punjabis and Tamils do not share anything in common, both in culture and language," he said.

"J'swant Singh is not a European and he is also from the same country where my ancestors came from. He eats the same food, walks the same and yet he claims our culture is different," he said.

Samy Vellu said the statement showed that J'swant Singh was only looking into the unity of the Punjabis and had forgotten the interests of the Indian community at large.

"This is a very selfish statement and does not deserve any answer from anyone. I am not worried as many Punjabis are already in MIC and just one Singh won't make any difference to us," Samy Vellu said when contacted.

To claims that the problems faced by the Punjabis were not the same as those faced by Indians, he said this shows that J'swant Singh did not know what is happening.

"I am helping the Sikh community with their problems. I brought up the issue of a Sikh temple facing demolition behind Padang Merbok to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and it was stopped," he said.