

PM orders probe into fatal assault in police lock-up

KUALA LUMPUR: The Prime Minister has ordered the Home Ministry to conduct an inquiry into the death of a lorry driver who was assaulted in a police lock-up at the Klang district police headquarters, MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said.

He said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad ordered the inquiry after he raised the matter at the Cabinet meeting last Wednesday.

"I had asked for the inquiry as there had been three to four

similar cases of mysterious deaths involving Indians in lock-ups," Samy Vellu said.

R. Sundaraju, 32, was picked up by the district police on Nov 11 after his wife M. Latha had lodged a report against him for allegedly beating her and threatening to burn her alive.

He was admitted to the Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital in a coma five days later after he was found unconscious in the police lock-up.

Sundaraju died on Nov 18, without regaining consciousness.

Meanwhile Parti Keadilan Nasional supreme council member N. Gobalakrishnan said an ad-hoc committee comprising representatives of MIC, DAP, Keadilan and NGOs had been formed to get to the bottom of this issue.

Samy Vellu also advised couples to resolve problems or differences themselves rather than resorting to lodging complaints to the police.

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