

18 OCT 2003

NO DEEPAVALI CELEBRATION FOR MIC CHIEF THIS YEAR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 18 (Bernama) -- Works Minister and MIC President Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu will not hold his Deepavali open house this year following the death of his sister-in-law on June 3.

Deepavali falls on Oct 24.

According to Hindu custom, families will not celebrate Deepavali or any other festivity for one year from the day of the death of any family member.

The Works Minister's Press Secretary, E. Sivabalan, said the Deepavali open house could also not be held this year because Samy Vellu will be accompanying Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on an official visit to Indonesia, Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea from Oct 21-25.

He added that the weekly meet-the-public session on Tuesdays, which falls on Oct 21, had also been called off.

--BERNAMA

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