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Kayveas-Samy Vellu

ONLY SAMY VELLU CAPABLE OF LEADING MIC NOW, SAYS KAYVEAS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 26 (Bernama) -- There is no capable leader to lead MIC at present except Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, People's Progressive Party (PPP) President Datuk M. Kayveas said today.

"In my opinion, other than Datuk Seri Samy Vellu, I don't see anyone else who can lead MIC at this point of time.

"If you give a reason that he (Samy Vellu) is too long in MIC and too old to lead and must resign and hand over to his Number 2, his deputy is equally old," he told reporters after closing his party's 50th General Assembly.

Kayveas, who is also Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, was responding to Indian Progressive Front (IPF) President Datuk M.G. Pandithan's statement yesterday asking Samy Vellu to step down after having served as MIC President for about 20 years.

"If age is a factor, then Pandithan too should step down as he is also old and has been leading the IPF for a long time, he said.

Kayveas also blamed Pandithan for splitting the Indian community after breaking away from MIC and forming his own party following a rift with Samy Vellu in the 1980s.

If Pandithan cared for the community, he should not have started a new party, he said.

Citing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as an example, Kayveas said he continued his struggle for the Malays despite being sacked from Umno.

"He loved the Malays, he loved Umno and he never started another party," he said, adding that Pandithan should have emulated Dr Mahathir.

-- BERNAMA

VP HK TS