

MIC seeking RM20m for Tamil schools

STAR - 3 FEB 2004

PETALING JAYA: The MIC is seeking an annual allocation of RM20mil from the Government to repair and upgrade rundown Tamil schools in the country over the next 10 years.

Its party president Datuk Seri S. Samu Vellu said with the annual allocation, the party could repair and upgrade 20 out of the 180 Tamil schools in

the country that were in a deplorable condition.

He said the plight of the Tamil schools was brought to the attention of Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi just before the latter became Prime Minister last year.

He said in the past no annual allocation was granted for Tamil schools while aid and

contributions were offered as and when the need arose.

"If our request is met we will be able to upgrade and repair the 180 schools located in various states over the next 10 years." Samy Vellu told reporters after officially opening the new SJK (Tamil) Effingham Bandar Utama.

On the new three-storey

Effingham Tamil school premises, Samy Vellu said former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had granted RM900,000 from the Prime Minister's allocation, while a private company, Paramount Garden Sdn Bhd, had contributed RM300,000 to put up the school, which cost RM1.23mil.