

EPU aid for Indian youths

The Star - 30/7/2007

RM4.3m for education and business

KUALA LUMPUR: The Economic Planning Unit (EPU) has approved an allocation of RM4.3mil to assist Indian youths in education and business.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said the allocation, which was the result of discussions between Yayasan Strategik Sosial and the EPU, would primarily be for vocational courses.

He said that of the allocation, RM1.16mil would be for 200 youths who failed their SPM and were unable to secure places at Giat Mara, Industrial Training Institute (ILP) and the National Youth Skills Institute (IKBN).

"They will undergo six months of training from July to December at four other skills training institutes," he said in his speech at the 14th Malaysian Indian Youth Council annual meeting yesterday.

Samy Vellu said the RM4.3mil allocation

also included a RM3mil micro-business loan fund for 500 youths, who had graduated from Giat Mara, ILP and IKBN.

"Each youth is allowed to apply for loans between RM500 and RM10,000," he said.

Samy Vellu added that RM140,600 has also been allocated for the living expenses of between 60 and 80 youths studying in six Giat Mara centres.

"Additionally, the Government through the National Entrepreneurs Institute has allocated RM150,000 for 600 youths involved in micro-businesses at Giat Mara centres and the ILP," he said.

Earlier in his speech, Samy Vellu called on all Indian associations in the country including non-governmental organisations and social clubs to hold a national convention to discuss the Youth Societies and Youth Development Act 2006.