

# ACA has cleared me, says Sammy

'I DON'T SEE ANY REASON WHY ANYONE  
SHOULD GET RID OF ME'

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Samy Vellu and wife Datin Seri Indrani cut a cake to mark Mother's Day at the 61st MIC general assembly.

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** MIC president Datuk Serj S. Samy Vellu said yesterday he sees no reason for anyone to get rid of him as he has been declared clean by the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) after a three-month investigation.

Responding to comments made by former premier Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in an interview with *Malaysiakini* posted last Friday, he said it was unhealthy to simply label one as corrupt.



"I don't see any reason why anyone should get rid of me. If I'm taken to court and proven to have done something wrong, I will voluntarily resign," he told reporters during a break at the 61st MIC general assembly.

"As far as I am concerned, Dr Mahathir knows that after several people made reports, I went

through three months of investigations by the ACA.

"The ACA finally came out to say I did nothing wrong."

Asked whether he thought Mahathir should stop making such comments, Samy Vellu said: "He can do anything he likes. That is his business."

Mahathir had said in the interview Samy Vellu could not be removed without the ruling coalition suffering a serious internal backlash.

He also said that when it came to the head of a component party, he did not have "that much liberty" to say who the head should be or to remove the head from the cabinet.

He had said this when pressed about his seriousness to battle corruption.

Samy Vellu said he is in the cabinet as he is the MIC president but Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has the prerogative to sack him anytime he likes.

"Previously, the MCA president was sacked. At the stroke of the pen, a minister goes out," he said.

Samy Vellu said he was told the question was posed to Mahathir in a wrong way as *Malaysiakini* had used the phrase "tainted leaders" to refer to him (Samy Vellu) and International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz but Mahathir himself did not use the term.

"I've known him for so many years. He is not a man who simply says (things) without any meaning," he said.

Samy Vellu said it is not something new in the country's politics to label one as corrupt as "it's a style nowadays to frame the name with a creative adjective".

"My heart is not afraid. I know what my job is," he said.

"When this community says it doesn't want me anymore, I myself will get out. And when I get out from politics, I won't say anything anymore."

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