

Samy Asks India For clear Roadmaps To Woo Overseas Indians

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By P. Vijian

JAIPUR, Jan 8 (Bernama) -- A senior Malaysian envoy today asked India to roll out "clear roadmaps" to entice nearly 25 million Indians living abroad who can become a catalyst to its trillion-dollar-economy.

Malaysia's Special Envoy (Infrastructure) to India and South Asia, Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said ethnic Indians outside India possessed talent to spur India's economy -- especially at a time when nagging inflation and weakening rupee shake growth optimism.

"Every Indian has the potential to be part of India's success journey. The Indian Diaspora could expedite this process with clear roadmaps and cooperation through partnering towards prosperity," said Samy Vellu at a global Indians meet here.

He was addressing the 10th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Jaipur nicknamed "pink city" of colourful Rajasthan state in India's north.

Earlier Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in his inaugural address hinted concern -- "Our country is also going through difficult times."

India, Asia's third largest economy, boasting the second largest population on the planet, is roughly chalking seven percent growth rate -- despite internal and external distractions.

Its robust automotive industry highly-shield US\$450 billion (RM1.35 trillion) retail and world-class software sectors, among others, fuels domestic economy which is further stimulated by a strong 330-million middle-class population.

"It (India) needs partners for prosperity. The Indian Diaspora is in an ideal position to render its hand and service.

"India will now have to amplify inclusivity in its economy to enable equal access and opportunities for wealth creation and distribution," added Samy Vellu, a former Works Minister.

Jaipur is hosting the three-day annual conclave, attended by a galaxy of Indian academics, entrepreneurs and political figures from around the globe.

Samy Vellu led a strong 200-odd Malaysian delegates group to the event, touted as the biggest gathering of any ethnic community in the world.

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