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MIC-Youth

SUBRAMANIAM SET TO CONTINUE AS MIC YOUTH CHIEF

KUALA LUMPUR, July 26 (Bernama) -- MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu is expected to extend the tenure of the party's Youth chief, S.Subramaniam, at the movement's delegates conference tomorrow.

Subramaniam, 40, was appointed to the post at the wing's delegates conference in Ipoh last year for a one year "probationary" period. He took over from Selangor state executive councillor S.S.Rajagopal.

Samy Vellu had said then that Subramaniam's term would be extended "if he can prove to be a worthy and capable leader".

According to a party source, although the MIC president was "not satisfied" with Subramaniam's performance, he had no choice but to extend Subramaniam's term to allow him to complete his "unfinished task" as the movement's head.

"Subramaniam may not enjoy the support of many of the movement's council members, but he has got the president's backing," he said.

Under the MIC constitution, the MIC president will appoint the Youth and Wanita leaders and need not necessarily seek the approval of the Central Working Committee, the party's highest decision-making body.

The source also said that the MIC Youth by-laws would be amended to pave the way for the creation of a vice-chief post.

Currently, the wing's top posts consist of the Youth leader, two deputy leaders, a secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and assistant treasurer apart from council members.

Under the proposed changes, the movement would only have one deputy Youth leader and a vice-leader, the source said, adding that the other posts would be retained.

The MIC is also considering amending the party constitution to allow the Youth leader to be elected by the delegates at the wing's delegates conference.

"This may be done after the party elections next year," the source said, adding that the changes would be modelled along the lines of the Umno Youth.

Meanwhile, MIC Youth deputy leader C.Selvaraja said a total of 580 delegates were expected to attend the one-day MIC Youth delegates conference at the MIC headquarters.

It will be opened simultaneously with the MIC Wanita delegates conference by Samy Vellu.

He said the Youth's resolution would include urging the government to provide more educational opportunities to Indian students and also to ensure that foreign workers were required to inform the relevant authorities if they planned to marry locals.

"We have heard of cases where many of these workers get married to local people just to get permanent residence status. Although these may be considered isolated cases, it has to be checked," he added.

The MIC general assembly will be held on Aug 3 and 4. It will be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. The party will also be celebrating its 50th anniversary on Aug 3 at the Putral World Trade Centre.

-- BERNAMA

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