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IPF

IPF WILL NOT BE DISSOLVED- PANDITHAN

SEREMBAN, Feb 2 (Bernama) -- The Indian Progressive Front (IPF) will not be dissolved to allow its members to join existing Barisan Nasional parties, its president M.G.Pandithan said today.

The IPF was ready to cooperate with other BN parties including the Peoples Progressive Party (PPP) and the MIC in the interest of the country's Indian community and the Malaysian nation, he said.

"The IPF already has the cooperation of several BN parties particularly Umno," Pandithan said after chairing the party's Supreme Council meeting here.

Pandithan said his party was getting increasing support from Malaysian Indians.

"The IPF will be happier if the question of its joining the BN is considered solely by the BN Chairman himself -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad," he said.

"Support from other BN parties has been very much evident after the IPF supported the BN in the general election of 1995 after getting out from the Gagasan Rakyat", he said.

Senator Pandithan said the IPF at present had 1,200 branches and the party leadership would ensure that such branches were only set up in areas where it had widespread support.

He said the IPF through its Education Bureau would step up efforts to enhance the educational standards of Tamil school pupils.

He said the political question should be set aside in the interest of improving the standards of Tamil schools, which were far behind other schools in the country. -- BERNAMA

RAB AAM