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Leaders vying for CWC seats step up campaigns

JOHOR BARU, Mon. - The three Johor MIC leaders vying for central working committee seats in the party polls on Saturday have stepped up their campaigns.

Tenggaroh State Assemblyman S. Krishnasamy, Johor MIC vice-chairman A. Singgatore and State MIC chief Datuk K.S. Balakrishnan have been keeping hectic schedules lately, travelling and meeting party divisional leaders.

Balakrishnan, who was appointed Johor MIC chief in November 1995, has played a leading role in the upgrading and relocation of Tamil schools affected by development.

He is also being credited for securing government funds to repair and build Hindu temples in Johor.

Krishnasamy and Singgatore, both active fund raisers for MIC's Maju Institute of Educational Development, are also known for their community projects in the Tenggaroh State constituency.

Both incumbent CWC members are expected to retain their seats easily in the party polls.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu and his deputy Datuk S. Subramaniam have been returned unopposed for the two top party posts.

Samy Vellu has retained Senator Sarasa Pasamanickam of Johor as Wanita chief, while the post of MIC Youth leader has gone to Pasir Panjang (in Perak) State Assemblyman M. Muthiah.

Five candidates are involved in the contest for the three vice-presidencies, while 44 are vying for the 23 CWC seats.

A total of 1,314 delegates are expected to attend the 51st annual delegates' conference in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, which will be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

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