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NO NEED TO CHANGE BN CONSENSUS DECISION-MAKING SYSTEM, SAY MIC WINGS

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 6 (Bernama) -- The MIC Wanita and Youth wings said today there is no need to change the Barisan Nasional (BN) consensus decision-making system as suggested by Umno Youth Leader Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

Their leaders, Puan Sri P. Sarasa and S. Subramaniam, in a joint statement here stressed that the existing system had worked very well so far in maintaining the unity and harmony in this multiracial country.

"The founder leaders of independence designed the consensus system which has withstood the test of time and has been the basis of the nation's political stability and prosperity in this multiracial country," they said.

They cited the example of Parti Melayu Semangat 46 which was dissolved and its members absorbed into Umno for the sake of Malay unity and said that the same should apply to other partners of the BN.

"Why should the system be changed to accommodate an individual," they said in reponse to Umno Youth president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's statement yesterday that the Indian Progressive Front's (IPF) suggestion for a review of the consensus decision-making system would be brought to Dr Mahathir's attention to enable the IPF to join the BN.

Meanwhile, the Malaysian Indian Muslim Congress welcomed Ahmad Zahid's statement on the issue.

Its secretary-general, Amir Amsaa Alla Pitchay, said in a statement here that the part hoped the BN would review the system to enable more small parties to join the coalition. -- BERNAMA

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