

06 AUG 1998  
MIC-Meeting  
MIC AGM TO FOCUS ON ECONOMIC WOES

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 6 (Bernama) -- The 52nd MIC general assembly on Saturday is expected to focus on the measures implemented by the government to tackle the country's economic problems, particularly the National Economic Recovery Plan (NERP).

MIC secretary-general Tan Sri K.S.Nijhar said today the 1,350 delegates were expected to debate on the issue during their one-day meeting at a hotel in Subang Jaya near here.

Briefing reporters on the MIC meeting at the party headquarters here, he said the presidential address would focus on the economic problems while assuring the government of the party's support for the measures including the NERP.

Nijhar said the party decided to cut the duration of the meeting from two days to one in a cost-saving measure as announced by MIC president Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu recently.

"We spent about RM550,000 for last year's general meeting. This year we have only spent about RM275,000...less than half," he said.

The meeting is scheduled to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is Barisan Nasional chairman.

Nijhar said the meeting was expected to pledge support and loyalty to Dr Mahathir in his efforts to steer the economy back on track.

The meeting was also expected to approve amendments to the party constitution, he said.

The amendment will include increasing the number of appointed Central Working Committee (CWC) from seven members to nine. Apart from the appointed post, there are 23 elected CWC members.

Others include giving more clout to state MIC liaison chiefs to play a bigger role in party affairs, said Nijhar.

"We also propose to increase the life membership fee from RM100 to RM500," he said.

On the resolutions, Nijhar said it would include giving more attention to education, particularly getting more members to subscribe to Koperasi Didik Berhad, highlighting the plight of estate workers and the NERP.

-- BERNAMA

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