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MIC annual assembly cut to one day

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - In adopting stringent cost cutting measures, the MIC has decided that its annual general assembly be reduced from two days to only one day.

Party president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said the move would save the party at least RM300,000 as the cost of holding the annual two-day assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre had been at least RM500,000 annually.

He said another move to cut cost was to hold the assembly at the party's Technical and Further Education college in Seremban instead of the PWTC.

"This means we do not have to pay high rentals and do not have to pay for accommodation for the 2,000 delegates."

He said the assembly this year would commence in the morning and end in the evening and added that all State and divisional conventions would also be held on a moderate scale.

Samy Vellu, who is also Works Minister, said the assembly this year which is a non-election year for party positions would concentrate on discussing and adopting measures to help cope with the current economic problems.

The assembly would also focus on the measures to be taken to curb spending and to save more especially for the education of the children of members of the party.

"We will inform our members of our plans to cut down on sponsoring students for education abroad and our efforts to find more places for our students in local institutions of higher learning."

He said the assembly would also be informed of the progress of the party's plans to establish a medical college in Sungai Petani and its proposals to set up feeder colleges in several towns.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to open the assembly on Aug 1.

Elections for all party positions were held last year and new elections will only take place in 2000.

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