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PPP-Deny

SHOW PROOF THOUSANDS OF PPP MEMBERS HAVE JOINED MIC, SAMY VELLU TOLD

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 1 (Bernama) -- The People's Progressive Party (PPP) has asked the MIC to show proof that 20,000 PPP members have joined the party or face a legal suit.

PPP president Datuk M. Kayveas said today the MIC had "resorted to all kinds of cheap publicity stunts " to discredit the PPP, the latest being a ceremony held at Melewati Stadium in Shah Alam yesterday in which Samy Vellu was reported to have received 20,000 applications to join the party from former PPP members.

"As every valid PPP member carries a party identity card (ID), I want Samy Vellu to send to the PPP headquarters these 20,000 ID's to prove there actually have been 20,000 of our party members joining the MIC. If he fails to do so, we will take legal action against him and the MIC," he said.

He told Bernama that the PPP had had enough of the efforts by the MIC to undermine the PPP, and he planned to meet Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad with a view to putting a stop to such sabotaging among BN parties.

Calling on PPP members to remain calm, Kayveas described today's newspaper reports about the 20,000 PPP members joining the MIC as "the biggest hoax of the millennium".

Kayveas alleged that the MIC had made numerous attempts to "hijack" PPP members, especially with the general election drawing near, despite calls by Dr Mahathir for all BN component parties to concentrate all efforts and resources on winning the coming polls.

"I just cannot understand Samy Vellu's attitude towards a fellow BN party like the PPP. Is he afraid of our growing support, especially among the Indian community?" said Kayveas, who added that PPP now had 250,000 registered members with 30,000 more being registered.

Samy Vellu was also reported to have said at yesterday's gathering that another 24,000 membership applications from ex-PPP members were expected to be submitted to the MIC within the next two or three weeks.

Kayveas said that following the press reports of the "mass defections" of PPP members as claimed by the MIC, the PPP headquarters had been receiving non-stop calls from party members who expressed anxiety over the latest developments.

"I call on party members not to be alarmed. Our checks showed that there has been no such resignations of our members. PPP members should know MIC better," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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