

08 DEC 2000

Samy-Lunas

MIC TO SUBMIT BY-ELECTION POST-MORTEM REPORT TO PM NEXT WEEK

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 8 (Bernama) -- The MIC will submit its post-mortem report on the defeat of the Barisan Nasional in last month's Lunas by-election to Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad next week.

Party president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said MIC expected to complete the report by early next week.

He told reporters this after the presentation of the ISO 9001 quality assurance certification to the Public Works Department by Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali.

In the Nov 29 by-election, BN's S. Anthonysamy of the MIC failed to retain the seat and lost to Keadilan's Saifuddin Nasution Ismail by 530 votes.

To a question, Samy Vellu said he had not met Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Norian Mai over his allegation that the police were slow in acting against unruly opposition supporters during the by-election.

"I don't want to discuss these things through the media...I have made my point and do not wish to add anything," he said.

Samy Vellu on Nov 30 questioned the way police handled Keadilan supporters who waylaid 12 busloads of BN supporters and checked the passengers' identity card against the electoral roll for the Lunas constituency.

The passengers claimed they were held by opposition workers for more than three hours before the police brought the buses to the Lunas police station and subsequently escorted them out of Lunas.

Samy Vellu also said no other party could replace the MIC as the sole representative of the Indian community in the country.

"Anyone can join anybody but they cannot replace the MIC or take the chunk of votes MIC obtains in any election.

"As long as the MIC is alive there could be no other party which could represent Indians as most Indians in the country support what we do," he added.

He was reacting to a statement by the unregistered Parti Rakyat Insan Malaysia (PRIM) last week that it would join the opposition alliance to represent the Indians.

-- BERNAMA

SR HS RYN