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MIC to submit candidate's name to PM on Tuesday

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - The MIC will submit the name of its candidate for the Teluk Kemang parliamentary by-election to Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Tuesday for approval.

Party president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said upon approval by Dr Mahathir, the name would be announced to the public by Negri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad.

"I have already narrowed down the choices to two from the earlier 10 names I picked."

The Election Commission has fixed May 30 for nomination and in the event of a contest, polling would be on June 10.

Declining to give the names of the two hopefuls, he said: "Both are Port Dickson born, about 40 years of age, with good tertiary education and are dedicated workers who will be widely accepted by the people."

Samy Vellu, who is Works Minister, said the criteria he had set for the Teluk Kemang candidate were based on the preference of the people in the constituency.

He said one of the candidates is a new face while the other is a young party stalwart. The two potential candidates are said to be Samy Vellu's political secretary S. Sothinathan, 40, who hails from Port Dickson, and Negri Sembilan MIC youth chief M. Sasasey, 38.

"I have received many calls from people in the constituency asking me to field a young candidate like the previous MP, the late S.A. Anpalagan who died on April 28.

"Although Anpalagan was from Selangor, in the short time that he held the seat, he had captured the hearts of the people in the constituency."

In Port Dickson last night, Samy Vellu thanked Mohamad Isa, who is State BN chairman, for mobilising the election machinery at the constituency within a week.

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