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Samy-Constitution

AMENDMENTS TO MAKE MIC WANITA AND YOUTH CHIEFS ELECTED POSTS

KUALA LUMPUR, May 12 (Bernama) -- The MIC is amending its constitution to provide for the chief and deputy chief of its Youth and Wanita movements at all levels to be elected instead of appointed.

"This new system will be introduced (next year) to strengthen the two movements and to make their leaderships more aggressive and responsible," MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today.

The amendments would also empower branches to pick at least 10 committee members, he told reporters after simultaneously opening the Wanita MIC and Youth general assemblies here.

He proposed the appointment of an organising secretary at the national level to monitor and intensify the branch and division activities of the two movements.

"This will not undermine the duty and responsibility of the Wanita and Youth secretaries as the organising secretary will be visiting branches and divisions and giving feedback to the Supreme Councils of the two movements," he said.

Asked on the lower intake of Indian students into public universities this year, Samy Vellu said this could be because of fewer applications from Indians.

Indian students made up 1,530 or 4.7 percent of this year's admissions, which were based on merit for the first time.

Students whose applications had been rejected could apply a second time and MIC would help them to appeal, he said.

On the MIC-sponsored Asian Institute of Medicine, Science and Technology to be set up in Kedah, he said about RM18 million of the RM50 million required for the project had been raised.

On Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement yesterday that the Barisan Nasional (BN) was confident of getting a bigger win in the next general election, Samy Vellu said the signs were already clear.

"The opposition parties could not unite and cooperate like the BN components, and the opposition parties have their own policies," he said.

Umno and BN Youth chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein told reporters that BN Youth would study the resolutions adopted at the MIC Youth assembly.

Hishammuddin, who spoke at the assembly, received a RM5,000 donation from MIC Youth for the Palestine Humanitarian Fund.

-- BERNAMA

HM AZZ YBY