

19 MAY 2002

MIC-Debate

SAMY VELLU CUTS SHORT DEBATE ON MERIT SYSTEM

SHAH ALAM, May 19 (Bernama) -- MIC President Datuk Seri S.Samy Vellu today cut short the debate on the merit system for university entrance at the 56th MIC Annual General Meeting here.

He said the delegates need not debate the matter any further as it had already been conveyed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and was receiving the government's attention.

However the debate on other matters proceeded with members raising various issues ranging from discipline among Indian students to difficulty in securing government posts and economy class houses.

The delegate from Sepang S.V.Sivalingam urged the MIC to set up committees to monitor the discipline and academic performance of Indian students in secondary schools.

To succeed the Indians must perform well academically and also practise a high standard of discipline, he said.

The delegate from Kuala Lumpur Federal Territory C.Ganapathy said the Indians had always loyally supported the Barisan Nasional even though other communities had switched their support to the opposition time and again.

Hence it was only fair that the government also paid attention to the problems of Indians in this country.

The delegate from Alor Setar P.S.Maniam claimed that gradually the doors were being shut to Indians for employment in the public sector.

"Opportunities are no longer opened to Indians to fill posts in the public sector. If this continues the government programmes will never reach the community," he said.

The delegate from Hulu Langat C.Munusamy said the estate-urban migration had resulted in Indians living in illegal settlements in the urban areas.

S.Krishnan from Subang said students from Tamil primary schools moving into national secondary schools suffered from culture shock which had forced them into unhealthy social activities.

They had become members of secret societies and behaved wildy to give a boost to their ego, he said.

He appealed to the government to set up a special counselling body for them so that they become aware of the current situation in the country and the world.

-- BERNAMA

VG SR AAM