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BN consensus system not helpful, says IPF

SEREMBAN, Sun. - Indian Progressive Party (IPF) president Datuk M.G. Pandithan said today Barisan Nasional should do away with its consensus system if it did not benefit the BN.

Pandithan said the system had not been of help to IPF as until today, it was still not accepted as a BN component party despite numerous requests made by IPF leaders.

"To me, this system is outdated and should be abolished. BN leaders should think of ways of further strengthening the BN and not strengthening MIC alone," he said, referring to MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu who had disagreed with the inclusion of IPF into BN's fold.

Pandithan said despite the "obstacles", he would continue to meet BN leaders, including BN president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to discuss the matter.

On the next general election, he said the party had begun preparations since early this year.

"Strategies to ensure victory for BN candidates are in place."

Pandithan said he had visited all 80 IPF divisions in the country and had made changes to the divisional line-ups to ensure that they were really prepared for the general election.

IPF, he added, was trying to recruit more young people.