

05/05/2003

### Call for fund to help single mothers

WANITA MIC wants the Government to set up a revolving fund to help single mothers start small-scale businesses and buy low-cost houses.

This was among the nine resolutions passed at the movement's general assembly, tabled by information head Jeyamani Shanmugham.

The resolution said that single mothers faced difficulty getting bank loans, and thus the revolving fund should only charge low interest rates.

"We hope the Government can lighten the burden of these single mothers through the revolving fund. Repayments by the recipient should be channelled back to the fund so others can also benefit from it."

Another resolution called on the Education Ministry to look into fair representation for the various races in all boarding schools to encourage racial integration.

"The boarding schools are monopolised by a community. This will deprive students of the opportunity to interact with other races."

The other resolutions are:

- \* support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi when he takes over as the Prime Minister,
- \* support for party president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu,
- \* that all partially-aided Tamil schools be converted into fully aided schools,
- \* alternate financial aid easily accessible to all Indian women,
- \* urging the Government to monitor the intake of civil service staff to ensure the major races are fairly represented,
- \* urging MIC to allocate awards and due recognition annually to Wanita MIC members and,
- \* calling for Wanita MIC to be given 10 per cent of local council appointments.