

**MIC wings to pass resolution backing Sammy
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MIC's four major wings - Wanita, Youth, Puteri and Putera - will meet on Sunday at their respective annual general assemblies to discuss a number of new initiatives to revive the fortunes of the ailing party.

The four movements are also expected to pass a resolution supporting embattled party president S. Samy Vellu's transition plan.

S. Samy Vellu, who came under intense pressure to quit now instead of later, had reportedly said that he would hand over the presidency to his deputy G. Palanivel in September next year.

The party boss plans to outline new initiatives for the party's wings at their respective annual general assemblies on Sunday.

The new initiatives would allow the four movements to operate more effectively, he said ahead of the one-day assemblies of the four wings at the Putra World Trade Centre.

S. Samy Vellu said the movements would be given time-frames to complete the new initiatives.

He said they would also be given specific tasks in preparation for the next general election and undertake programmes to bolster the party's membership which currently stood at almost 630,000 people.

"There is a need to streamline the operating procedures of the four wings in order to strengthen our machinery, especially at the grassroots," S. Samy Vellu said.

Four simultaneous meetings

S. Samy Vellu, who is scheduled to open the four meetings simultaneously, said his priority would be to gauge the party's preparedness for the next general election.

"I want the Wanita, Youth, Puteri and Putera wings to be ready from now on as they will be the ones laying the groundwork," he said.

The MIC is aiming to wrest back the parliamentary and state seats which it had lost in the 2008 general election.

After the last general election, the party had initiated various reforms with the hope of restoring the support of the Indian community.

S. Samy Vellu said registration of new voters would also be made a top priority, especially among the party's members.