

MIC Reduces Disciplinary Penalty On Two Leaders
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KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 31 (Bernama) -- The MIC central leadership has reduced the penalty meted out to two of its leaders for breach of party discipline.

It reduced the one-year suspension of MIC Youth secretary C. Sivarraajh to four months and reinstated sacked former MIC Bagan division chairman Datuk Hendry Benedict and suspended him for four months instead.

The suspensions of both Sivarraajh and Benedict will end on Dec 31, according to party secretary-general S. Murugesan who was contacted by Bernama Wednesday.

"The CWC (Central Working Committee), which met on Sunday, looked into these two cases and decided to review the DC (Disciplinary Committee) decision," he said.

Benedict was sacked for questioning party president Datuk G. Palanivel's reinstatement of several sacked party leaders and formation of new branches.

Earlier this month, the party's disciplinary committee suspended Sivarraajh after he had criticised the party leadership for reinstating several members expelled in April last year.

Sivarraajh was reported to have lodged a report with the Registrar of Societies after the party decided to reinstate three leaders -- former Youth deputy chief V. Mugilan and two former CWC members K. P. Samy and G. Kumar Amaan.

Murugesan also said that the CWC decided to reduce the punishment meted out earlier by the disciplinary committee based on the precedence set by the party.

"During the meeting, we also looked into eight other cases, mostly involving former senior party members who were either expelled or did not have their membership renewed.

"The CWC decided to take them back as new members," he said.

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