

Education Ministry confirms Indian students will fill 1,500 matriculation seats
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The Matriculation Department has given their assurance to fill up the 1,500 seats allocated for Indian students by this year.

Malaysian Indian Education Awareness and Welfare Association (PKP-KIM) president A. Thiruvengadam said this was expressed by the Matriculation Department at the Education Ministry during a meeting between the department officials and Indian non-governmental organisations.

The matriculation seat allocation has recently caused unhappiness among the Indian community when the ministry had announced that only 892 Indian students were registered to undertake matriculation programmes despite the government promising 1,500 matriculation seats a year.

"The department has also agreed to look into the list of 333 students which had just been submitted and they promised to update the NGOs on the matter next week," he said.

Thiruvengadam also expressed his disappointment with the MIC and its ministers for not taking up the matter as the Matriculation Department and Education Ministry officers said they did not receive any name list from MIC.

"This is an embarrassing moment for the Indian community. We had submitted three sets of lists to the MIC, Health Minister Dr S. Subramaniam and Deputy Education Minister P. Kamalanathan, yet they did not bother to give the lists to the department," he said.

"This shows they are not sincere or interested in solving out problems."

Two days ago, MIC president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel was reported saying that he wanted the Education Ministry to ensure that the 1,500 seats for Indian students be filled up.

He had said that 6,150 students had applied for the matriculation programmes for the 2013/2014 intake but only 892 students were offered a place and had accepted the offer for the first intake.

Palanivel added that MIC had sent appeal letters to ensure that the rest of the students got their chance to fill the full quota of 1,500 places for matriculation. – July 5, 2013.

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