

# After more than a year, it remains a burning issue

By G. PRAKASH

prakash@mmail.com.my

RESIDENTS of Bandar Baru Sentul are now in a dilemma over what will be done about the open-burning crematorium in Sentul as many things were promised since a year ago and nothing has been done till today.

Yesterday morning, at the City Hall headquarters, representatives from MIC Youth's social and welfare bureau sent a memorandum to Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Ahmad Fuad Ismail and Deputy Federal Territories Minister Datuk M. Saravanan.

The representatives, led by bureau head S. Subramaniam, said "the crematorium does not have any basic building structures to help the cremation process and thus they have no choice but to go on with the old way of open burning".

The crematorium is used by three different religious communities including Hindus and Sikhs.

"As we all know, funerals should not be delayed but here in Bandar Baru Sentul, cremations are often delayed due to rain as people will have to wait for the rain to stop and besides that the place does not even have an open shelter," added Subramaniam.

Residents living near the crematorium have been complaining about the open burning and how the crematorium is an ugly sight in their area.

In April, Malay Mail report-



**PLEASE ACT QUICKLY:** MIC Youth head of social and welfare bureau S. Subramaniam submitting the memorandum to Shaari

ed that then Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Zulhasnan Rafique had agreed to upgrade the existing facilities at a cost of about RM1.3 million. So far, nothing has been done.

The memorandum for Fuad was given to his Press secretary Shaari Ahmad Junid as the mayor was attending a meeting.

Meanwhile, Saravanan, who also received the memorandum,

said a committee should be set up by the residents there so that it could communicate directly with the relevant parties.

"I am aware of this issue and will help in anyway possible," he said.