KOTA KINABALU: The 'Jom 100' campaign organised by the movement of Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections (Bersih) is not in the business of telling the people whom to vote but is instead a call for a 100 per cent voter turn­out in the next general election with the view to strengthening the democratic system in the country.

At the launching of the state­level campaign yesterday, the chairperson, Datuk Ambiga Sreenevasan, stressed that Article 119 of the Federal Constitution provides that every citizen who has attained the age of 21 years is entitled to vote in a constituency in any election to the House of Representatives or the Legislative Assembly unless he is disqualified under any law relating to offences committed in connection with elections, but no person shall in the same election vote in more than one constituency.

"If you are not registered as a voter, you must do it now, because we still don’t know when the election is to be held."

"For those who have registered as voters, please check your names in the electoral roll since there have been many cases of names disappearing from the list and many whose polling stations have been changed unknowingly."

"This is another disappointment because the Election Commission (EC) only does something if we make noise. They will keep quiet if we stay silent."

"Why should we be doing their job to check the electoral roll?" she asked.

Ambiga stressed that it was important for the campaign to succeed because more voter turn­out will minimize the incidents of fraud in the election, for many wrongdoings have been detected and reported not only in the peninsula but more so in Sabah.

She also said that Bersih 3.0 will be held at Dataran Merdeka in Kuala Lumpur on April 28 from 2pm to 4pm with half a million people expected to gather, and suggested that Sabah should hold a similar gathering to express the people’s deep disdain and disappointment with a government which manipulates the electoral system to their advantage.

"We will stage a nationwide and worldwide sit­in, known as 'Duduk Bantah'. In fact, I have received a ‘tweet’ from Bersih Japan and Bersih Spain."

"If the people are disabled from forming a big gathering, even two to four people donning the yellow colour is sufficient and will be good enough to spread the message around," Ambiga said, adding that the people must voice their dissatisfaction against the government and the Election Commission and to protest against the continuing fraud and the obvious lack of commitment for election reform before the 13th General Election.

According to her, the report submitted by the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) contains sound recommendations but admitted that the PSC has fallen far short in many areas.

"What had been hoped for was for a tough, no­nonsense approach taken by the PSC to ensure that the next elections would be clean and fair. Many of the recommendations of the PSC, and indeed the eight demands by Bersih can be implemented before the 13th General Election."

"In fact they must be implemented now. But the silence on the part of the government as to its commitment to implementing those reforms before the 13th General Election is deafening," she said.

The event yesterday was attended by Solidariti Mahasiswa Malaysia (SMM) chairman Syukri Abd Razah, Likas assemblyman Datuk Liew Teck Chan, Layang­assemblywoman Melanie Chia, STAR Sabah chairman Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan, Port Klangan assemblyman Datuk Anasari Abdullah, PKR Kota Kinabalu chief Christine Liew, PKR Sabah youth chief Mohd Serman Hassnar and representatives from Majlis Perwakilan Pelajar of Universiti Malaysia Sabah and the Sabah Environment Protection Association (SEPA).

Ambiga also said the Bersih 3.0 gathering would strictly be held peacefully.

Meanwhile, PKR and PAS Youths yesterday pledged their support to Bersih 3.0 in Sabah.