

14 NOV 2003

Samy-Pandithan

PANDITHAN CAN LODGE POLICE REPORT AGAINST ME - SAMY VELLU

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- MIC President Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said today Indian Progressive Front (IPF) President Datuk M.G. Pandithan can go ahead to lodge a police report against him and he will leave it to the police to investigate.

"He can lodge a report with the police and the police can investigate. The police will take action against me if I had done something wrong.

"I know the law, if not I won't be a minister.

"As such, I'm leaving the matter to the police. If the police investigate me, they also have to investigate the person who lied," he told reporters.

Samy Vellu, who is also Works Minister, was commenting on Pandithan's statement yesterday that he would lodge a police report against Samy Vellu for revealing the contents of his private letter to former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Pandithan had said any information related to the letter sent to Dr Mahathir fell under the Official Secrets Act 1972 as it was marked "secret."

The document was specifically addressed to the prime minister and not Samy Vellu and by his declaration in public that he was in possession of the official secret, Samy Vellu had confirmed violating Section 8(2) of the Act, he said.

Samy Vellu had alleged on Sunday that Pandithan had written a letter to the King and Dr Mahathir recommending Malaysia Nanban Editorial Adviser Athi Kumanan for a "Datukship" claiming that he was IPF deputy president whilst he was an MIC member.

-- BERNAMA

VP NM TS