

# PEJUANG WILL APPEAL, SAYS DR M

## RoS also rejects application from Syed Saddiq's Malaysia United Democratic Alliance

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**T**UN Dr Mahathir Mohamad will appeal the decision by the Registrar of Society (RoS) to reject his application to register Parti Pejuang Tanah Air (Pejuang).

The Langkawi member of parliament said the appeal, which must be made to Home Minister Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainudin, would be done "as soon as possible".

"According to the rules, we can appeal to the (Home) minister, and we will do just that.

"We follow the law, and we be-



*Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad*

lieve in the rule of law. We will (appeal) as soon as possible. (Perhaps) tomorrow (today)," he said in a press conference yesterday.

The former prime minister said there was no reason why RoS would reject the application if the party observed all the rules.

Dr Mahathir pointed out that it took only one month for Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) to be registered, and only seven days for Perikatan Nasional's application to be approved.

"Our secretary meets RoS reg-

ularly. During the last meeting, we were verbally informed that everything was fine.

"But we were also told that our application could be approved, and that RoS would need to refer to the minister first.

"This shows that instead of being an administrative process, it has become something political," he added.

On Dec 10, Pejuang secretary-general Datuk Amiruddin Hamzah filed a judicial review application to challenge the action of RoS, which had yet to approve the party's registration.

In the application, Amiruddin applied for a declaration that the actions of both respondents in not giving any decision or registering Pejuang were in conflict with the statutory obligations of both respondents, as well as unreasonable and mala-fide.

They were informed of the party's application rejection via email on Jan 6, at 5.50pm, on the eve of its judicial review, which was scheduled yesterday.

Similarly, the application by the Malaysia United Democratic



*Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman*

Alliance (Muda) to be registered as a political party has also been rejected by RoS, which was communicated through an email on Wednesday.

"In the email, the RoS stated that the application by Muda was rejected but there were no reasons provided. The rejection came four months after Muda submitted its application to the RoS.

"Muda is disappointed with the rejection as we have given our full cooperation and complied with all conditions required for the

registration," it said in a statement.

Muda also claimed the rejection was a move by the Perikatan Nasional government to prevent them from taking part in the upcoming general election.

"We demand that the government of the day contest the next general election in a fair, just, clean manner and not use cunning and dirty tactics.

Muda said it would consider all remaining options available, including legal action against the RoS.

On Dec 21, Muda had given the RoS seven days to approve the its registration or it would proceed with legal action against the government agency.

Former youth and sports minister Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman had said the application to register Muda was submitted to the RoS on Sept 17.

Muda has since appointed former attorney-general Tan Sri Tommy Thomas and Former Bar Council president Datuk Ambiga Sreenevasan to represent it in the registration issue.