

Silence is golden for Subra over Palanivel's MIC presidency comment
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MIC deputy president Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam (pic) refused to be drawn into a debate over the party president's position, saying it was an issue best discussed behind closed doors.

"I rather discuss the issue with party president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel on a personal basis instead of being drawn into a debate," The Star quoted Dr Subramaniam as saying.

Palanivel had recently announced that he may hold onto the position when his current term expires in 2016.

He claimed that over 3,000 branch chairmen had wanted him to continue leading the party and he would make a decision in 2016.

This abrupt U-turn from Palanivel came despite a meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak on August 22 where he announced his intention to retire in 2016.

The Star reported Subramaniam, who is also the Health Minister, as saying he had also announced his intention on August 22 not to contest the party presidency for reasons of unity.

"Until today, my stance remains the same. I'm good friends with Palanivel and we will talk about this matter personally," Subramaniam said.

On the issue of the 101-year-old Sri Muneswarar Kalamman Hindu temple in Jalan P. Ramlee, Subramaniam said City Hall officers may have been overzealous in trying to apply their authority.

According to The Star, Subramaniam said Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Mansor had given his assurance that the temple itself will not be demolished.

"Despite this assurance, City Hall officers had removed a wall of the temple. This has resulted in the temple facing some inconvenience although the main structure isn't damaged."

He remarked that the City Hall officers needed to learn how to communicate better before carrying out any tasks. - September 8, 2013.

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