

**MIC Awaiting Reply From Home Minister Over Appeal - Palanivel  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 23 (Bernama) -- MIC is awaiting response from the home minister regarding its appeal over the contents of letters dated Dec 5 and Dec 31 from the Registrar of Societies (RoS) to the party.

Party president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel said the appeal was lodged on Jan 14 upon legal advice from its lawyers.

"Pending the determination of the appeal...we have informed the home minister that MIC shall refrain from taking any action to convene any meeting at the various levels for the purpose of re-elections and the timeline issued by the RoS be accordingly stayed.

"We are currently waiting for the reply from the minister on MIC's appeal. Depending on the outcome of the appeal, MIC will take the next step or course of action," he said in a statement today.

Palanivel said the lawyers had perused the letter dated Dec 31, 2014 including all the matters raised by RoS, "and have advised me that the purported notice issued by the RoS is flawed and wrong in law".

The party chief said there were certain procedures and proper channels provided for in the Societies Act 1966 in dealing with complaints and decisions made by the RoS.

"We, together with the lawyers, are following the proper procedures and have taken all measures necessary to protect the interests of MIC on this matter.

"It's not that I've done nothing in respect of the RoS matter as alleged by all those making untrue allegations against me. I've done everything to protect the rights and interests of MIC, which I will continue to do," he said.

Palanivel said certain quarters had created fear among MIC members that the party would be deregistered within 90 days from Dec 31, 2014 if no re-elections were conducted.

"I would like to once again assure all that we will not in any way allow such deregistration to take place," he said.

On Dec 5, the RoS ordered MIC to hold fresh elections for three vice-president posts and 23 Central Working Committee seats within 90 days after finding irregularities in the elections held during the 68th MIC annual general meeting on Nov 30, 2013.

Palanivel had this to say about it: "These are mere recommendations as are clear from the

contents of the RoS letter of Dec 5, 2014. However, certain quarters have given a different and false picture of that letter to the media."

The RoS had advised the party not to hold its annual general meeting until the matter is resolved.

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