

**Re-elections, not fresh polls, for MIC, says Subramaniam**  
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**By Anisah Shukry**

MIC deputy president Datuk Seri S. Subramaniam today dismissed Datuk Seri G. Palanivel's claim that fresh elections would be held for the party, saying that this was not in line with the Registrar of Societies (RoS) and court decision.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's tweet today already confirmed MIC must abide by the courts and the RoS's decision, which he said was to hold re-elections and not fresh elections.

"So Palanivel's statement contradicts Najib's tweet which was that we must apply the court and RoS's decision," he told a press conference.

"Maybe he did meet with Najib today, I do not know, and I don't know what was discussed between them. But the prime minister's view on Twitter is that you must abide by the RoS and court decisions."

Palanivel told The Star Online today that Najib had told him in a meeting on Friday that MIC should conduct fresh elections.

"When I talked to him on Friday, he said to go for fresh elections... I will go for fresh elections," Palanivel told The Star Online.

If MIC were to conduct fresh elections, it would mean the party recognises the 2013 polls results, and is now voting in a new leadership.

But the RoS nullified the November 2013 polls following complaints of irregularities.

It ordered members of the central working committee (CWC) elected in 2009 to organise re-elections for all posts.

Subramaniam said today the polls would begin with nominations for the branch chiefs on July 10, 11, 12.

When asked how he would stop Palanivel and the MIC members aligned to him from carrying out fresh elections, Subramaniam said the law and party constitution was on their side.

"They have already gone to the court, which made its decision, so it is all settled," he said.

Last Monday, Palanivel's two judicial review applications to quash the directive of the RoS to hold re-elections were dismissed.

The court upheld the registrar's decision for the party to hold re-elections at all levels

(branches and divisions), including the president's post.

On Monday, Palanivel issued a press statement announcing the 12-month suspensions of his deputy Datuk Seri S. Subramaniam and 13 others for holding a central working committee (CWC) meeting the next day, which he said was illegal.

The drama heightened when Subramaniam announced Palanivel was no longer a member of the party as he had violated Article 91 of the party constitution, which states that party matters cannot be taken to court without the consent of the CWC. – June 21, 2015.

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