

Wanita branch chief willing to apologise

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By FOONG PEK YEE

KUALA LUMPUR: Kampung Bahagia Wanita branch chairman Lo Nyet Yin, who slapped Sabah Wanita MCA chief Agnes Shim at the wing's 27th annual general assembly a week ago, said she is willing to apologise if her action had damaged the movement's image.

Lo, in an open letter to the 390,000 Wanita MCA members, however said the incident would not have occurred "if not for Shim," whom she claimed was fierce and sarcastic.

Lo and her daughter, Lily Chin, are from the Tenom Wanita division.

They were reportedly unhappy after failing to secure their bids for the posts of central delegate and division chairman respectively during the "no-contest elections" under the MCA peace plan.

The peace plan, under Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's agenda to end the party's 14-month tussle between two factions, provides status quo for incumbents at division, state and national levels while vacancies will be filled through negotiation and consensus.

In the case of Tenom Wanita division, there were vacancies for the post of chairman, vice-chairman, four committee members and two central delegates.

Lo and Chin lost because they only had support from one of the eight Wanita branches in the Tenom Wanita division.

At the Wanita assembly attended by 1,333 central delegates nationwide at Putra World Trade Centre here last Friday, Shim went on stage to explain how Sabah Wanita had implemented the peace plan after Wanita MCA deputy

chairman Datin Paduka Dr Tan Yee Kew lamented that some Wanita delegates were denied entry to the hall where the assembly was held.

Lo, in a letter issued to Chinese dailies on Wednesday, accused Shim of aggravating her and urged members to understand the "actual situation".

The 20-member presidential council, chaired by MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, had suspended Lo on Monday after Wanita MCA chairman Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen tabled a report on the inquiry over the incident witnessed by four Wanita MCA central committee members.

The five-member disciplinary committee, chaired by deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek, will hold an inquiry on the incident here on Tuesday.

Shim sought medical treatment and lodged a police report here last Friday night.