

DAP: Stop 'wild allegations' on fracas
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MIC Youth chief S Vigneswaran must stop making 'wild allegations' about Tuesday's fracas in Machap on nomination day, said DAP Negeri Sembilan chief Loke Siew Fook.

Contacted today, he said Vigneswaran's claim that DAP supporters had started the fight was irresponsible and untrue.

"The fact is that two DAP members were injured. What he (Vigneswaran) said was like he is condoning the violent act," he added.

Earlier today, Loke held a press conference in Negeri Sembilan with party member K Kannis, 42, who was one of the two allegedly assaulted by MIC Youth brigade members during the fracas.

Loke also rebutted Vigneswaran's claim that Kannis was not a DAP member.

Trouble maker

The MIC Youth chief alleged that Kannis was a Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) member and known trouble maker, who also caused problems during the 2000 Lunas by-election.

"Kannis has been a DAP member since 2005 and is the secretary of the Senawang service centre," said Loke.

"(Vigneswaran's) claim was based on a photo which showed a PKR flag in front of Kannis (during nomination for the Machap by-election).

"Even if he is a PKR member, does it mean MIC can hurt him?" he asked, adding that Kannis was never present at the Lunas by-election and urged Vigneswaran to show proof.

Failing to do so, Loke said DAP will consider initiating legal action against the MIC Youth chief.

"Vigneswaran must not try to divert attention with these wild allegations. Let the police do their job (in investigating the fracas)," he added.

Kannis, 42 and transport worker A Vijian, 24, had lodged a police report over the incident. The police later detained a 28-year-old man in connection with the case.

A Malaysia Nanyang Siang Pau journalist and a Makkal Osai photographer also lodged separate police reports on that day, claiming they were harassed and threatened by the MIC Youth brigade members and Vigneswaran.

The April 12 Machap by-election will see a straight fight between Barisan Nasional candidate Lai Meng Chong, 56, and DAP's Liou Chen Kuang, 33.

The seat fell vacant following the death of its assemblyperson Poh Ah Tiam on March 15.

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