

**DAP's Ng to sue Utusan, two women over 'traitor' taunt**  
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**By Debra Chong**

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 25 — Accused of being a racist, Penang DAP lawmaker Ng Wei Aik said today he will sue Utusan Malaysia and two women married to Bangladeshis to clear his reputation.

The Umno-owned Malay daily yesterday published a report citing two local women, Sarimah Packeer Mohd and Fatimah Sharmin Abdullah as saying the Komtar assemblyman had labelled them "national traitors" for marrying Bangladeshi nationals.

"Why am I labelled a national traitor? Am I a communist?" Sarimah, 43, an Indian-Muslim married to a Bangladeshi man for the past 15 years was quoted as saying by the Malay-language newspaper.

"Are we so stupid that we'd burn down our shop? As a state government representative, he [Ng] should be professional. He should check the source of the fire, not make accusations as he likes," Utusan quoted 30-year-old Fatimah Sharmin, a Chinese-Muslim, as saying.

Ng was alleged to have uttered the epithet on November 22 and chasing the women's husbands to "go back to India" while handing out aid money to victims of a fire that razed a row of shophouses in Jalan Gurdwara, George Town and where both women reportedly ran a recycling business.

Ng, who is also Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng's political secretary, denied he uttered the derogatory words. He also denied knowing the two women.

"If I never met with Farimah Sharmin, how can I be accused of using such coarse language on her. As for Sarimah Packeer, I also did not speak with her directly and how can I have insulted her.

"If such phrases did not cross my mind, how could I have uttered them?" he said in a statement today.

Ng added there were eyewitnesses to the incident who would back his claim.

He said his lawyer has been directed to issue a legal notice to Utusan and the two women to retract their statement or face court action.

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