

MCA confirms Yen Yen dropped from Raub candidate list
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, April 8 – The MCA has confirmed that Datuk Seri Ng Yen Yen was dropped from the candidates list from Raub, a Pahang parliamentary hot-seat where she has served for three terms.

The tourism minister (picture) was among three individuals named in the party's initial list of proposed candidates, Raub MCA chief Datuk Seri Lam Kang Sang said today.

But Lam said the second list, which was also discussed with the prime minister, did not contain Ng's name, the Sin Chew Daily reported on its website this afternoon.

Lam said he had met the prime minister twice, with Datuk Seri Najib Razak being very clear on the need to field a "winnable candidate", leading to the party division's decision to drop the MCA vice-president's name.

Last Saturday, Nanyang Siang Pau reported that Raub MCA would likely be fielding Bilut state assemblyman Datuk Ho Khai Mun in Raub.

Ho, a senior Pahang state exco man who has been in politics for close to two decades, will be going up against DAP's Datuk Mohd Ariff Sabri Abdul Aziz in Election 2013.

Mohd Ariff was formerly a one-term Barisan Nasional (BN) state assemblyman in Pulau Manis, Pahang and keeps a blog using the name "Sakmongkol AK47".

Nanyang Siang Pau also said MCA Raub had decided that its local-born deputy organising secretary Lim Teck Hoe will vie with the incumbent DAP representative Choong Siew Onn in Tras, a state seat within Raub.

The Chinese-language daily said the party division believed that the Ho-Lim partnership would be able to ensure a victory in both seats.

Attempts by The Malaysian Insider to contact Ng were unsuccessful.

Ng had previously defeated DAP candidates in Raub, winning with a whopping 9,822 majority in 2004 and a smaller majority of 2,752 votes in Election 2008.

Local residents in Raub have protested over the use of cyanide in gold mining activities there, claiming that they are exposed to unacceptable levels of the chemical, with their health concerns likely to be a key campaign issue by Pakatan Rakyat (PR).

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