

**MCA veep says 'it's a shame' was axed from GE13**  
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**By Boo Su-Lyn**

KUALA LUMPUR, April 16 — Senator Gan Ping Sieu said today that it was a “shame” that he has been dropped from contesting Election 2013.

The MCA vice-president also said that he has never considered contesting the Kluang federal seat in Johor as an independent candidate.

“It’s a shame that I cannot take up the challenge this time around,” Gan told reporters at the 25th anniversary celebration of the International Youth Centre here.

“To me, as I’ve said before, the party’s and BN’s agenda come first and my personal desires come second,” added the interim youth and sports deputy minister, referring to ruling coalition Barisan Nasional (BN).

Gan said that being dropped from the “most challenging” election race, which is touted to be the most keenly contested polls in recent history, was akin to being booted out by the coach in an “exciting” football match.

The Kluang MCA chief, however, stressed that he would support incumbent Datuk Dr Hou Kok Chung in the Kluang federal constituency.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek announced yesterday that former party president Datuk Seri Ong Tee Keat, party vice-president Datuk Seri Dr Ng Yen Yen and Gan would not be contesting in Election 2013.

Gan was said to be on Ong’s team during a fractious faction war in the MCA that occurred shortly after the tumultuous 2008 national polls that saw the party’s parliamentary representation slashed by half to just 15 seats.

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