

Wanita Umno No.2 upset over GE13 snub
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 18 – Wanita Umno deputy chief Datuk Kamilia Ibrahim is disappointed that Barisan Nasional (BN) will not field her in the May 5 polls, saying it shows the coalition does not recognise the wing's contributions.

Kamilia had expected to be nominated in Kuala Kangsar where she is division chief, especially after Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil declined to contest in Election 2013.

"The move by the BN to sideline me and other women in the wing surprises me. I am dejected as there is no proper recognition of Umno Wanita," she was quoted as saying in the Malay-language Sinar Harian today.

She also said that some state Wanita chiefs were also ignored, including those from Kedah, Johor and Terengganu.

"We have contributed a lot, but we are not given a place. Does this mean the top echelon of Umno does not recognise our qualifications and contributions, as most of us are also professionals?" said Kamilia, who is a lawyer.

She also suggested that she might seek her fortunes outside the ruling coalition.

"If the door is not open for me, I will struggle elsewhere. If the door is closed, there is a possibility of other doors opening and I'll either split or create my own opportunities.

"I will consider these options as my struggle does not end here," the daily quoted Kamilia as saying.

The top Wanita Umno leaders join other senior women wing leaders from BN component parties in not being fielded in the May 5 general elections. Despite that, BN had said 11 per cent of its slate for Election 2013 were women.

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