

## Four in family splashed with acid

**KUALA TERENGGANU:** Four members of a family in Kampung Sekayu, Hulu Terengganu, suffered burns after being splashed with acid by an assailant early yesterday morning.

Che Ku Zainab Che Ku Awang, 29, suffered burns on her body and her two children, Nurul Dahyatul Fazlina Khalid, eight, and Mohd Irfan Firdaus, two, suffered burns on their hands and face while Che Ku's mother Minah Omar, 56, suffered burns on her hands and eyes.

Terengganu deputy CID chief Supt K. Manoharan said the incident happened about 1.45am. He said all the victims, except Minah, were rushed to the Hulu Terengganu Hospital and later transferred to the Sultanah Nur Zahiran Hospital here.

Che Ku said the suspect had entered the house after breaking down the front door, and asked for money.

She said when she refused, the suspect, who was holding a plastic container filled with liquid, threatened to splash acid on her.

She said while trying to snatch the plastic container away from the suspect, the acid splashed on her and her two children who had by then, come out to investigate the commotion.

Che Ku's mother who lives next door was also injured when she tried to defuse the situation. Police are looking for a 32-year-old suspect. — Bernama

# Comments not new

> Nazir's comments about NEP had been said by his brother Najib before, says Soi Lek

BY **TAN TI LIANG**  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The comments made by CIMB Group CEO Datuk Nazir Razak at the Chinese Economic Congress last Saturday are "nothing new", said MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek.

Chua said the comments by the brother of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak criticising the New Economic Policy (NEP) are nothing new as everybody was aware of its weaknesses.

Nazir had said in a Q&A session after his speech that he had "strong opinions" about how the NEP had been "bastardised over the years".

"The PM himself had said it, so to us Nazir's comments are nothing new," said Chua.

He said while he recognised the NEP had a role to play "we always feel the implementation has been hijacked by self-interest groups".

"The PM himself and the DPM are aware and said that affirmative action (is) to be based on needs, to be based on merits and should be market-friendly," added Chua.

Chua, who spoke after a briefing for MCA division leaders yesterday said that among the topics discussed in the briefing, MCA would be stepping up its cyber-war against the

Opposition.

"We admit that we are weak in this area compared with them. They have been successful in confusing the rakyat as lies have become the truth and vice-versa," said Chua, adding that MCA was now on the offensive.

Chua also said that in the last month, most but not all MCA leaders had begun tweeting, adding that those who had yet to start would be doing so before the end of the month.

"MCA leaders have experience in their fight, so they can be more ethical and many of them hold government posts and have more accurate information and not just rumours," added

Chua.

He also said that the Opposition had been very "persistent and aggressive".

"They have been successful in confusing the rakyat as lies have become the truth and vice-versa," he added, saying that many people believed that the new media spoke the whole truth.

"While the information in the new media has not been filtered, a lot of people read it and believe it, ending in a lot of confusion, half truths and lies," he said.

Chua said MCA would be embarking on a voter registration, adding that over 200,000 MCA members had yet to register as voters.

He also said MCA would be running internal training to improve the spirit and morale of party members to engender a sense of team spirit and loyalty to the party.

"This will be done in stages with each division, and we have also appointed people to observe the process to see that certain levels are met," he said.

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## 'Relook training proposal for company directors'

### PRESS DIGEST

BY **KONG SEE HOH**  
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**MCA vice-president and Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Donald Lim Siang Chai** has urged the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM) to relook its proposal to make it mandatory for directors of non-listed companies to attend its training course in view of the negative response from the private sector.

Lim, who is also the MCA national SME bureau chief, said in a statement the proposal is intended to raise the quality of the directors but there are a lot of technical problems which need to be overcome before it can be implemented.

"We need to study (the proposal) before its full implementation," *Nanyang Siang Pau* quoted him as saying.

Lim pointed out that many company directors belong to the league of businessmen who started from scratch, and whose hands-on experience can match anything one can learn

from the books.

"To businessmen, (attending) courses which do not produce results is deemed an act of taking a step backwards. Furthermore, many companies have professional secretaries, accountants and even legal consultants (to ensure everything is in order)," he said.

Lim felt that instead of making it compulsory for company directors to attend the training course, the government can consider organising seminars or interaction sessions on government policies regularly to better inform the people concerned on the latest developments, such as SME loan applications.

"The government should implement policies which the people want, based on the 'people first' concept," he said.

The CCM has proposed that the government make it mandatory for private company directors to attend its corporate director training programme to better understand their roles and responsibilities. They are to pay for the one-and-a-half-day course out of their own pockets.

Once it is made compulsory, it will affect some 1,620,000 directors from about 810,000 non-listed companies in Malaysia.

The proposal drew flak from the private sector and many had regarded it as redundant.

Former Tawau MP Geoffrey Yee said the training course proposal "is impractical and

unnecessary". He said if it is implemented, company directors will be forced to take time off from their busy schedule to attend the course.

Yes, who is now in the plantation industry

and a company director himself, suggested that the government come up with a multi-lingual booklet on management which company directors can read up on their own free time.



KAMARIDUAN MOHD NOR/  
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### NATIONAL PRIDE ...

Patriotism flies high at UEM Group's office, Mercu UEM, near Kuala Lumpur Sentral. The 52m x 25m Jalur Gemilang will be on display from now to Sept 16. More than 30 of UEM's staff helped to put up the giant flag, which covers nine floors of the company's headquarters, yesterday morning. Displaying the Jalur Gemilang in conjunction with the Merdeka celebration has been the company's annual tradition since it first moved into the building in 2008. This year's flag is the biggest so far and can be seen from as far as Jalan Travers, Bangsar and Brickfields.

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## Councillor nabbed after fight

BY **CHARLES RAMENDRAN**  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** A 36-year-old Ampang Jaya municipal councillor and two other men were arrested following a clash between two groups which resulted in a restaurant owner being slashed with a parang in Ampang early yesterday.

It is learnt that the councillor was drinking with several friends at a restaurant in Kampung Kuala Ampang when a fight broke out between his group and another seated at a table nearby at about 4.30am.

Minutes later, a shouting match between

both groups ensued before a confrontation took place. The 39-year-old restaurant owner's ear was almost severed when he was attacked with a parang.

Ampang Jaya deputy police chief Supt Amiruddin Jamaluddin said the public alerted police and several patrol cars went to the scene. Both groups fled on seeing the police.

Police managed to arrest the councillor and his two friends, in their 20s, at the scene.

Amiruddin said the police sent the restaurant owner to the Ampang district hospital where he was warded. He is reported to be in a stable condition.