

**Ahmad Maslan: Opposition fears losing Felda fortress**  
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The opposition is afraid of losing votes in the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda) schemes, said a deputy minister.

This is why it is influencing settlers to reject the proposed listing of Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd (FGVH).

NONEAhmad Maslan, (left) the deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said the opposition understands that to get to Putrajaya it will have to penetrate BN fortresses that include various Felda schemes nationwide.

"For this reason, it opposes the FGVH listing which will bring a lot of profit and improve (life for) the 112,635 settler families in 317 Felda schemes nationwide," Berita Harian quoted him as saying.

"The opposition would be at a loss (if the listing goes through). It would fail to penetrate BN's strongholds and that would mean 54 parliamentary seats would go to BN.

"If they cannot break BN's (grip on) on Felda (schemes), it cannot rule Malaysia."

NONThe daily's columnist Imlan Adabi was quoted as saying that it is difficult to analyse BN's support from young voters.

"Young voters account for 38.8 percent or 4.5 million of the 12 million voters nationwide. They are the X and Y generations who are competent with computers and the new media," he said.

"They are a generation which is not easily influenced with slogans or propaganda as information is at their fingertips."

About 3.7 million citizens, most of them young people, have yet to register as voters and there is a drastic need for the Election Commission to have them registered, he said.

Imlan noted that the past week had also seen many younger voters taking to Twitter and the new media to protest the government's move to introduce tax on pre-paid phone charges.

They have urged the government not to bow to the telecommunication giants' demand on the tax, which is expected to be implemented after the general election.

He noted that young voters in rural areas are focused on local issues while their counterparts in the urban areas are focused on current issues, the government administration and the economy.

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