

Felda settlers asked to sign papers backing FGVH

MalaysiaKini.com

March 30, 2012

By Hazlan Zakaria

Federal Land Development Authority (Felda) settlers are being asked to sign sworn statements giving their support for the Felda Global Ventures Holdings (FGVH) listing exercise, a PAS-linked NGO claimed today.

NONE Signing the statement, Anak chairperson Mazlan Aliman warned at a press conference in Kuala Lumpur, would waive their right to take legal action against the move in the future.

"This is the form, dubbed 'the blue form', that Felda settlers or those who inherit their land are asked to sign in support of the FGVH listing.

"What is disturbing is paragraph five on page two, which states clearly that this is a sworn statement of the person signing the form and that the person doing so will not take legal action against Felda," Mazlan said.

Displaying a document he claimed was a copy of the 'blue form', Mazlan said it had to be signed by the settlers or their heirs in the presence of a commissioner of oaths.

"This copy was given to me by the son of a settler who with a district land office. It is clearly an attempt to swindle settlers, cheating them out of their land," he elaborated.

'Isa Samad is a crazy individual'

Mazlan also claimed that Felda chairperson Isa Samad was moving swiftly to secure his grip on Felda by sacking more officers who were apprehensive or opposed his idea to list FGVH and restructure Felda Holdings and Felda Investment Cooperative (KPF) to facilitate the exercise.

He said KPF board chairperson Zulkifli Wahab and secretary Abidin Abdul Rahman were summarily dismissed from their posts by way of a circular dated March 26, while three KPF representatives on the Felda Holdings board were also similarly sacked on March 22.

isa samad interview 150509The PAS central committee member added that Isa has since named himself as KPF chairperson and Faizul Ahmad as secretary.

This, Mazlan warned, was a precursor to the former Negeri Sembilan MB's plans to take over the three corporate entities linked to the Felda and shape them to his purposes – and to the detriment of the interests of the settlers.

Isa's actions showed that the Felda chairperson "is a crazy individual who must be sent for treatment in a psychiatric ward", he added.

"The once harmonious Felda is no more. Isa is making enemies out of everyone, sacking everyone (who opposes him), and in the end Felda is near ruin."

'FGVH luxury condo in US'

Anak's economic adviser Rosli Yaacob, who was also present, told reporters that another FGVH subsidiary in the US was also suffering losses.

NONE This, Rosli said, was Felda Global Ventures Properties Inc, which he claimed had purchased an

RM8.6 million luxury condominium in Braintree, Massachusetts.

The property was then furnished for RM238,000 and leased to an unknown party, but it continued to bleed losses.

Rosli also hinted that they have uncovered, through research and observations, that a foreign partner would be given a 20 percent stake in FGVH once it is listed. However, Rosli and Mazlan declined to disclose details, only saying that an expose would be made at Parliament.

Mazlan said they have documentary evidence of their unconfirmed allegations, and that nothing would be revealed until they had completed consultations with their lawyers.

'Protest against Anwar and Mat Sabu'

Just minutes before the Anak press conference, which took place at the PAS headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, a group of 67 claiming to be from the NGOs Pekida, the Association of Kedah Royal Family, Kelab Merdeka Muda and former police and army personnel demonstrated for nearly 30 minutes outside.

Dressed in their respective NGO colours of yellow, black and red, the group carried the national flag, banners and placards condemning Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim and PAS deputy president Mohamad Sabu.

They claimed that Anwar supported Israel and Mohamad idolised communists.

When their attempt to deliver a memorandum to PAS was not entertained, some in the group made speeches and they all chanted slogans to show their displeasure.

They also called on PAS to advise Anwar and Mohamad to return to the true path and to work with Umno for the good of the nation.

About 15 uniformed policemen, traffic policemen, Rela members and civil defence personnel were on the ground but did not interfere. They monitored the group and helped to direct traffic.

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