

## **200 descend on PM's Office to protest Felda listing**

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**By Koh Jun Lin**

Some 200 people marched to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in Putrajaya this afternoon, protesting the planned listing of Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd (FGVH).

The protesters, who marched from the Putra Mosque about 500 metres away, carried two large banners stitched together with some 40 pieces of cloth bearing signatures protesting the proposed listing.

"When we arrive at the PMO, surely the prime minister would ask 'what is this white cloth?'

"Let us all answer that, this is the cloth that would become BN and Umno's burial shroud," said PKR Felda and natives bureau secretary Rebin Birham as the banners were unfurled.

The two large banners measured about 100 metres each and are said to be carrying signatures of Felda settlers from Malacca, Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Terengganu, Kelantan, Kedah, Perak, Selangor, Sabah and Pahang.

NONEAt the PMO's main gate, the group, led by Felda NGO Anak chairperson Mazlan Aliman and PKR's Felda and natives bureau chief Suhaimi Said were redirected to another gate and were told that the main gate was meant for buses.

The group then marched about 700 metres to a side entrance chanting slogans like "Reformasi", "Long live the settlers", "Crush Umno", "Down with (Felda chairperson) Isa Samad".

Some protesters also sang the first two verses of the patriotic song "Parajurit Tanah Air", but with the lyrics slightly modified such that the song was about Felda settlers marching to Putrajaya.

Upon reaching the side entrance at 3.20pm, they sent a seven-person delegation - Mazlan, Suhaimi, Rebin, National Laureate A Samad Said, PKR Youth chief Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin and Jingga 13 chairperson Fariz Musa - to hand in their memorandum.

NONEWhen the delegation emerged about 20 minutes later, Suhaimi said a representative had received the memorandum on behalf of Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, who had left urgently to attend the funeral of Perak prince Raja Ashman Shah.

Mazlan added that along with their demand that Felda should not be listed, the delegation also told the representative S Azhar, that they wanted a face-to-face meeting with Najib.

"If the prime minister is not prepared for discussions and does not cancel the listing, the time will come at the next general election where 54 parliamentary and 92 state constituencies will reject BN, and raise Pakatan Rakyat as the new government," he said.

About 15 police officers monitored the group's march while Putrajaya OCPD ASP Miserang Busno was seen mingling with the protesters.

The protest ended peacefully at 4pm.



