

Taxi drivers will ferry Bersih-goers if...

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By Lee Long Hui

Taxi drivers have vowed to make the Bersih 3.0 rally a success by ferrying protestors to the venue - provided the organisers accept a government offer to hold the rally in a stadium.

Malaysian Taxi/Limousine and Car Rental Drivers and Operators Association (Petekma) deputy chairperson Mohd Syahrir Abdul Aziz said Bersih should accept the government offer.

"Just hold it (in a stadium for) as many days as you want, but please don't do it on the streets. We want to make money," he said today.

"Never mind, if they don't have (transportation), we can use taxis to take them to the stadium...we can earn a bit, right?"

NONEHe was speaking to reporters after lodging a police report against Bersih at the Dang Wangi district police headquarters this afternoon.

Mohd Syahrir said that past experience has taught taxi drivers that Dataran Merdeka is not a suitable venue.

"I am not agreeable (with the use of) Dataran Merdeka ... If the roads are blocked, the situation will become chaotic.

"Tear gas canisters and water cannon will be fired here and there. And we can't make money the whole day."

He said 36,000 taxi and limousine drivers in the Klang Valley will be affected by the rally.

A budget taxi driver can earn between RM60 and RM70 a day, he said, adding his hope that the relevant authorities will keep Bersih off the streets.

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