

## **Pakatan sends protest note to Japanese Embassy**

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Pakatan Rakyat yesterday submitted a protest letter to the Japanese Embassy over the deportation of Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim from that country.

In the letter addressed to Japanese Ambassador to Malaysia Shigeru Nakamura, it demanded an explanation on the move.

"Pakatan Rakyat strongly protests the deportation of the leader of the opposition, who is also a senior member of the Malaysian Parliament, which is very surprising considering the fact that Anwar's office recorded no issues outstanding that may bar his entry into Japan when it made inquiries last week with the Embassy of Japan in Kuala Lumpur.

"As such, we demand a clarification and an immediate apology for this truly regretful treatment of the opposition leader," the letter states.

It was jointly signed by the parliamentary whips of all three component parties in Pakatan - Azmin Ali (PKR-Gombak), Anthony Loke (DAP-Seremban) and PAS deputy whip Abdul Khalid Samad (Shah Alam).

The letter was also copied to Foreign Affairs Minister Anifah Aman and Foreign Affairs Ministry secretary-general Othman Hashim.

Anwar who landed at Narita Airport in Tokyo was informed by Japanese immigration officers to take the first flight back home or face deportation.

The opposition leader had said the Japanese officers cited a "latest report" in 2013 for his deportation but provided no details.

Anifah denied that Malaysia was involved in Anwar's barring but said the Japanese authority has power to block entry to "undesirable" persons.

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