

Water rally: Police fired tear gas at protestors
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KUALA LUMPUR - Riot police fired tear gas and water cannons at some 2,000 protesters trying to hand over a memorandum on Selangor water issues to Istana Negara Sunday, The Star reported.

The protesters, who had gathered at the National Mosque since 9am, started their march to the palace at about 1.30pm.

They were approaching the railway station when Federal Reserve Unit personnel blocked their way.

When they insist on getting through, police fired few rounds of tear gas and water cannons. Most of the protesters ran for cover.

Earlier, police starting setting roadblocks leading to Istana Negara in anticipation of the the rally which was aimed at seeking the King's intervention to settle Selangor's water industry dispute with water concessionaire Syarikat Bekalan Air Selangor (Syabas) and the Federal Government.

Police personnel are also guarding roads in the vicinity of the National Mosque where at least 2,000 people have gathered by 1pm to wait for word to walk to the palace.

City police chief Zulkifli Abdullah said he met Selangor Mentri Besar Khalid Ibrahim to inform him that the march had not been approved.

Police have picked up at least three people for questioning in connection with the gathering.

It was reported by news website that Parti Sosialis Malaysia (PSM) chairman Dr Nasir Hashim, and two other members — Shah Alam councillor A. Sivarajan and party secretary-general S. Arulchelvam —were detained earlier at the KL Sentral transport hub while on their way to the Selangor water protest.

They had been released and escorted by police to the National Mosque, The Malaysian Insider reported.

GAPS submit memorandum

At Stadium Merdeka, some 500 members of the Gabungan Anti-Penyelewengan Selangor (GAPS) gathered to protest against alleged misappropriation of funds by the Selangor government.

Its chairman Hamidzun Khairuddin later led a group of eight representatives to submit a memorandum to the King at the Istana Negara.

The memorandum consisted of 30 allegations of misappropriation by the state government.

GAPS is also protesting against PKR advisor Anwar Ibrahim's call for an end to 'Ketuanan Melayu'.

Dressed in black t-shirts and yellow 'GAPS' headbands, the protestors carried anti-Pakatan Rakyat (PR) government banners and shouted "Hidup Melayu" and "Tangkap Anwar".

The gathering dispersed at about noon.

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