

Newspaper	The Star
Date	7 August 2015

'Apply the right formula'

The Star - 7/8/2015

Felda can gain much from Indonesian deal, says PM

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr
joekaosjr@thestar.com.my

PUTRAJAYA: With the "right formula", Felda Global Ventures (FGV) stands to gain from its proposed purchase of Indonesian plantation company PT Eagle High Plantations, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister wants Felda settlers to be rational, support the move and not make "the wrong decision".

"They (the settlers) should not be swayed by negative incitement," he said.

"In order for Felda to change the quality of life for settlers from the original generation to the second and third generation, it needs to go beyond the country's borders.

"We want Felda to go global and for that, we are considering this venture between FGV and Eagle High.

"I am confident that if we can get the right formula that mutually works for both parties, FGV and the Felda community can gain a big profit.

"Of course, we need to carefully research all aspects of this venture.

"But what is important is for us to think rationally. Do not let other parties incite you to the extent that what is good becomes bad.

"If a wrong choice is made, than you might lose out on what is a good



Grassroots greeting: Felda members clambering to meet Najib during the Felda Hari Raya open house in Putrajaya.

opportunity," said Najib at a Hari Raya open house by Felda at Puspanitapuri here yesterday.

Last June, FGV announced its plan to acquire a 37% stake in Eagle High, the third largest oil palm company in Indonesia.

FGV is expected to hold an EGM in September to seek approval from its shareholders and relevant authorities on the deal.

On another matter, Najib called

on Felda settlers to continue its traditional support of Barisan Nasional.

"About 54 parliamentary and 92 state seats were won through the support of the Felda community.

"If Felda settlers are largely hardcore supporters of the government, than these seats can be considered safe.

"If Barisan has this number of seats in the bag, then Felda definitely deserves the "political power-

house' tag," said the Barisan chairman and Umno president.

Also present at the event, attended by over 1,000 Felda settlers, were Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Razali Ibrahim and Felda Group Chairman Tan Sri Isa Samad.