

**Black 505 rally: Tempo rises, and PKR rejects bid to change venue**  
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PKR rejected a last-minute bid to move the Black 505 rally to Stadium Merdeka and insisted on heading to Padang Merbok as planned.

PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli revealed this in Kuala Lumpur just now in immediate response to reports that Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor was seen at Padang Merbok speaking to the Black 505 rally organisers to change the venue to Stadium Merdeka.

"This is an Umno rumour. It is not true," Rafizi said.

Earlier Tengku Adnan told reporters that he had advised them to go to Stadium Merdeka, a contained area. "I advised them to abide by the law," he said.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in the city, the tempo has risen.

Political speeches are being made at various locations before the crowd begins the march.

While screaming "reformasi", "turun Najib", "SPR tipu" and "hancur UMNO dan BN", the speakers are also urging the crowds not to provoke the police and not to resort to violence.

Police sirens have been heard near the Sogo department store area and Federal Reserve Unit (FRU) trucks have been seen in Brickfields.

The haze has worsened since this morning's moderate reading but this is not stopping the crowds.

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