

## **GST Protesters Defy Law by Bringing Their Children to Protest Rally**

**Bernama**

**May 1, 2014**

KUALA LUMPUR, May 1 (Bernama) -- No one to care for their children at home was the excuse given by some protesters for bringing them along to the protest gatherings against the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the city today, despite their action breaching the law.

Their action went against the Peaceful Assembly Act 2012 which prohibits participants from bringing along children to such mass gatherings, as reminded by Kuala Lumpur police chief Datuk Seri Mohamad Salleh at a press conference yesterday.

Checks by Bernama around the National Mosque found most of the protesters wearing red, with some ignoring the safety and well-being of their children who had to stand under the hot sun at the open space near the mosque.

A rally participant who wished to be identified as Osman, who was met near the Sogo shopping complex in Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, said he and his wife were forced to bring along their two children as there was no one to look after them at home and today also being a public holiday (Workers Day).

Another participant who did not want to be identified said he brought along his three daughters to the protest gathering as there was no one at home to look after them and also because there was no school today.

At the same location, a trader was seen selling sharp objects like Rambo knives and using a loud hailer to interact with the GST protesters.

Committee member of the 'May 1 Gathering, Dr Mohd Hatta Ramli, who is Kuala Krai member of parliament, also arrived at the location to join the protest.

Meanwhile at KLCC, there were protesters using loud hailers placed on four-wheel-drive vehicles and shouting anti-GST slogans.

Some opposition leaders like Solidariti Anak Muda Malaysia (SAMM) founder Badrul Hisham Shaharin or Chegubard and Kelantan PAS liaison secretary Zulkifli Mamat were also seen at the gathering.

As at 1.30pm, the participants who had gathered at five locations in the city were seen heading towards Dataran Merdeka, causing traffic congestion around the square.

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Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1035038>