Beat: Politics

120,000 Show of Force At Post-GE13 Rally

Black Rally Out In KL

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USPA NEWS - 7.30pm: PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim will today address his supporters for the first time since Sunday's elections, which he alleged were marred with fraudulent practices that ensured BN´s win.The rally in Kelana Jaya today is expected to draw a large crowd eager to listen to their leaders.

The rally in Kelana Jaya today is expected to draw a large crowd eager to listen to their leaders after an election that has left many Pakatan Rakyat supporters unhappy. The crowd is slowly trickling in, with the stadium about a quarter full as a slight drizzle falls on the grounds of the Kelana Jaya stadium. No police presence has been spotted yet despite speculations that there will be tight police control around the stadium, which housed 50,000 supporters during a pre-election rally. Tens of thousands are already inside the stadium. The slight drizzle continues with the crowd unfurling their umbrellas or donning raincoats. Massive traffic jams are reported in the vicinity of the stadium. Some participants have to walk more than 2km.

8.35pm: The rain has caused roads near the area to be jam-packed from the junction with the Federal Highway until Paradigm Mall. Some of the participants have parked their cars at the side of the main road and are walking about 1km to the Kelana Jaya stadium. Some of them are wearing black T-shirts and are walking while shouting “Hidup! Hidup! Hidup rakyat!“ Many Pakatan Rakyat leaders tweeted that they are trapped in the traffic jam, including Tian Chua and Elizabeth Wong. The drizzle has stopped and the participants of 'Suara Rakyat Suara Keramat' rally are packing up their umbrellas. Newly-elected MP for Kelana Jaya Wong Chen takes the stage to address the excited crowd. Telephone lines around the stadium are congested.

PKR director of strategy Rafizi Ramli warns Utusan Malaysia that if they still play the racial card, they will face the wrath of Malay people. “I am Malay, but I support Pakatan Rakyat,“ he told the 50,000 crowd. They are chanting "Najib, tipu", "Ubah" and blowing the noisy vuvuzelas. Many of them have brought yellow flowers, symbolising Bersih, or clean and fair elections. Motorcyclists passing by drivers dressed in black but stuck in the traffic crawl on the LDP, yell out “Ini Kalilah“. The roads around the stadium are clogged for several kilometres, with no sign of having eased over the past two hours.
Many people, adorning 'Ini Kalilah' T-shirst, are observed leaving their cars parked along the side of the highway and are legging it.

10pm: Four kilometres from the venue, passengers on a bus and several cars alight from their vehicles and begin making their way to the rally on foot. All are dressed in black. Meanwhile, men in a pick-up truck waves a PKR flag, to honks of support. DAP leader Lim Kit Siang is spotted riding pillion on a motorbike in the effort to beat the traffic jam so that he could get to the stadium on time for his speech. PKR leader Anwar Ibrahim is also seen being ferried to the venue on a motorbike. Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim arrives. His arrival is greeted with wild cheers from the crowd, who also begin shouting, "Kami anak Malaysia". Those still on the road start unwinding their windows to chat with each other.

With no traffic police guiding traffic, civilians have taken it upon themselves to help unclog the roads. Almost all cars have their windows down and most are honking rhythms, in what appears to be the most jubilant traffic jam in the Klang Valley. Along the LDP, people are still making their way to the stadium on foot. Most of them wear black, to symbolise protest against what they allege as "electoral fraud". Columns of cars and motorbikes, parked along the road and believed to belong to Pakatan supporters, have contributed to the traffic congestion. Many are also walking to the stadium from Paradigm Mall, undeterred by the fact the rally was to have started two hours ago. Those seen walking comprise of youth of various races.

Pakatan Rakyat supremo Anwar Ibrahim declares that the people of Malaysia, be they Malay, Chinese, Indian, Kadazan or Dayak, want free and fair election. He is taking a dig at Utusan Malaysia´s inflammatory headline yesterday, "Apa lagi Cina mahu?". Anwar says every Malaysian, regardless of race, want to reclaim their rights and they want BN to fall. The crowd, which has now swelled to 80,000 responds enthusiastically, raising their fists in a show support. The way out of the stadium, heading towards Paradigm Mall is clogged as the car ferrying Abdul Khalid Ibrahim is forced to slow down as many people ask the latter to roll down his window so that they may take snapshots with him.

Gelang Patah MP Lim Kit Siang takes to the stage, after having earlier arrived via the back of a motorcycle. He begins by thanking all

Malaysians, even those who did not support the Pakatan coalition, for their commitment towards making the country and people stronger and states that now is the time to “turn our resolve into the tasks that can move our country forward“. “Foremost is the need to properly account for all of the irregularities during an election that was not only the dirtiest election in our country´s history, but also the most marred in its process. We support Bersih´s people´s tribunal as an essential step for justice and transparency. We call on all Malaysians to come forward to share their experiences and help us get.

Traffic congestion worsens and motorists continue to snake their way home. Some are even still trying to get to the stadium. Reporter Aidila Razak was unable to make it to the stadium as she has been stuck in traffic for four hours. Including those caught in traffic jams all around Petaling Jaya, the crowd is estimated at 120,000 - making it one of the biggest rallies in recent times. Although the event is over, there are still people dressed in black walking towards the stadium from a couple of kilometres away. Traffic is at an absolute standstill from least five kilometres away in various direction and many who were heading to the rally are still stuck.

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