

REYKJAVIK (AFP) - Nearly 70 percent of Icelanders oppose a deal to pay back the British and Dutch governments after they compensated savers who lost money when the Icesave bank collapsed, an opinion poll showed on Wednesday.

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When asked if parliament's should vote to approve the agreement, 67.9 percent said they should not.

The poll, conducted by Capacent Gallup, found that 19.6 percent backed the move, while 12.5 percent had no opinion.

Pollsters quizzed 1,273 people for the survey between July 16 and July 27.

Iceland's parliament, the Althingi, is to meet on Monday to debate the deal, which needs approval from a majority of lawmakers before Britain and the Netherlands can be paid back.

The Icelandic government said in June it would hand over 3.8 billion euros (5.4 billion dollars) by 2023 to the British and Dutch governments -- the total amount the two countries forked out to compensate disgruntled savers.

Those figures represent about 12,000 euros for each Icelandic citizen in this small island of 320,000 people.

About 400 protesters took the streets of the capital Reykjavik days after the proposals were announced.

Icelanders oppose Icesave repayment to UK

Written by AFP / The Swedish Wire

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Iceland nationalised Icesave, a subsidiary of the country's second-biggest bank Landsbanki, in October leaving more than 200,000 British savers and 120,000 Dutch clients cut off from their money.

Icelandic assets in Britain were frozen in response.

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