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'Energy roadmap within 3 months'

ASIA ZERO EMISSION COMMUNITY

'ENERGY ROADMAP WITHIN 3 MONTHS'

Govt can leverage opportunities presented by AZEC membership, says Rafizi

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THE government will finalise Malaysia's Energy Transition Roadmap within three months, said Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli yesterday.

The roadmap will translate into energy transition projects with new high-value jobs as the government leverages opportunities presented under the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC).

"This plan will be led by large as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Usually, energy-transition projects are limited to big companies but under this plan, we will also make it accessible to SMEs."

AZEC, which is an energy bloc consisting of Japan, Australia and Asean countries except for

Myanmar, is aimed at driving energy transition from hydrocarbon sources to clean energy and renewable energy.

Rafizi said he had led a delegation to the AZEC ministerial meeting in Tokyo on March 4, accompanied by officials from his ministry as well as the Foreign Ministry, Malaysian Investment Development Authority and Petroliaam Nasional Bhd.

Malaysia must focus on hydrogen, biomass and ammonia as they were "low hanging fruits" that the country could benefit from in terms of energy transition, he added.

Malaysia can also benefit from the high demand for these alternative energies given that the country has existing talents.

"We have talents in liquefied natural gas and we need to transition these talents towards alternative energy sources such as



Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli says Malaysia must focus on hydrogen, biomass and ammonia as they are 'low hanging fruits' that the country can benefit from in terms of energy transition. PIC BY HAZREEN MOHAMAD

hydrogen. Many countries are way ahead of us. By working on this, it would provide us with ample opportunities to meet the global demand for alternative energy," he said.

Meanwhile, on the Consumer Price Index, Rafizi said the Menu Rahmah was aimed at reducing

the price of ready-made food, which was among the main components that had contributed to inflation in the past months.

"When ready-made foods are sold at a low price either via Menu Rahmah or Inisiatif Pendapatan Rakyat, it would create a competitive environment in the

market and ease the price of ready-made foods in the coming months. Subsequently, this would help the government to curb inflation," he said.

The CPI eased to 3.7 per cent in January from 3.8 per cent in December last year while core inflation stood at 3.9 per cent.