

KERATAN AKHBAR

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Inflation to stay moderate, says rafizi

MEASURES BEARING FRUIT

INFLATION TO STAY MODERATE, SAYS RAFIZI

'Govt confident about meeting inflation target of 2.8pc to 3.3pc'

KUALA LUMPUR

ECONOMIC data for the next few months indicate that Malaysia's inflation rate is expected to remain moderate this year, said Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli.

He said the government was optimistic the country would meet the inflation target of between 2.8 per cent and 3.3 per cent.

"We (the government) will continue to focus on scaling up food production capacity at the local community level and on the narrative that cooked meal prices should moderate," he said after launching Invest Fair here yesterday.

Rafizi said the country had brought inflation numbers under control, with 11 months of moderating inflation, by focusing on stabilisation measures.

"It is a combination of efforts. Some are market-oriented and some are fundamental, but all together, we expect this downward

trend to continue throughout the year."

Commenting on the country's monetary policy, he said the overnight policy rate and monetary policy were driven by long-term data and evidence available to Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM).

Rafizi said: "Unless it begins to encroach on the social safety net or has an immediate impact on the economy that will move away from the sweet spot between sustainability and growth, then we will have a discussion with BNM."

"The government will monitor how the market reacts to the debt ceiling problem in the United States."

"Hopefully it will be resolved by next week," Rafizi said.

Themed "Grow your money lahh!", the two-day Invest Fair will see more than 50 speakers share their knowledge on topics that include market outlook, sector insights and investment-related issues. **Bernama**



Rafizi Ramli