

KERATAN AKHBAR

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Rafizi: Govt drawing up salary growth framework to cover all workers

PUTRAJAYA: A framework is being drawn up to ensure that Malaysians see an increase in salary commensurate with the rise in living costs, says Economy Minister Rafizi Ramli.

He said this was among the strategies being formulated to deal with the cost of living.

His ministry is developing the framework with the Human Resources Ministry so that salary growth in Malaysia becomes steadier and more inclusive.

“This is the first time in the country's history that an administration has taken the effort to build a specific framework on salary growth that is inclusive of all workers.

“A paper on progressive salary policy will be presented to the National Economic Action Council in August for us to get directions from the country’s leadership.

“Focus on salary and income growth will be one of the main focuses in economic planning under future Malaysia Plans,” he told a press conference here on Wednesday (June 28).

On another matter, Rafizi said his ministry had identified several government agriculture agencies to become strategic partners in working 400ha (1,000 acres) of land for farming purposes.

These projects, part of the People's Income Initiative, would be announced next month.

“We will also open applications to private farming companies to become partners and carry out agricultural and food activities on government land.

“This is our ongoing effort to increase the capacity of the agriculture and food industry to ensure a more sustainable food supply for the country,” he added.

Rafizi said Malaysia’s inflation rate continued to record a decline nine months in a row, with the rate for May at 2.8%.

For April, the inflation rate was at 3.3% while in September, it was at 4.5%.

“This reflects a continued stabilising price trend,” he said, adding that the fall in inflation rate was also across the board over all spending categories, indicating an overall price stabilisation.