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PETALING JAYA: The national central database hub (Padu) will have a three-month grace period for all Malaysians to verify and update their details, says Rafizi Ramli. The Economy Minister said this would allow over 32 million Malaysians to verify and update their socio-economic data on the platform after its planned official launch on Jan 2.

"All necessary personal information, income information, vehicle information, child and dependent information and more will be included in the system, which was acquired from over 270 government databases currently.

"The three months will give the people the time they need to verify and update their details to ensure fairness as Padu's data will be used to target subsidies to eligible people later," he posted on Facebook yesterday.

Rafizi also said the new system was fully owned and developed by civil servants. This included those from the Economy Ministry, the Statistics Department and the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu), with the cooperation of other relevant government agencies.

"Padu is a product of the expertise and energy of civil servants alone as no external consultants and contractors were involved. The database was built using existing allocations and infrastructure without having to open new tenders to private parties.

"As a result, it does not involve additional spending like what typically happens when a new system is introduced by the government, while no annual payments will be made to any private party systems providers," he added.