

Najib still coy on including GST in Budget 2014

MalaysiaKini.com

Aug 29, 2013

By Kow Kwan Yee

Even though the budget is less than two months away, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak is continuing to keep his cards close to his chest over the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

"GST is not something new. We have been talking about it. But whether or not its in the budget, you have to wait until the budget," he said during a press conference at his office today.

There has been speculation that a 4 percent GST will be introduced in the 2014 Budget to be announced by Najib in October.

Najib, however, has yet to confirm or deny intentions to implement the controversial tax by this year.

He also refused to comment on the government's plans to tackle the deficit in the country and how the deficit is affecting major infrastructure projects.

"We are studying this seriously. We will make an announcement at the appropriate time," he said.

He also refused to answer a question on the dwindling value of the ringgit currency in the forex market.

Earlier today, Finance Ministry secretary-general Irwan Siregar Abdullah had said that the government is trying its best to include the GST as part of the 2014 Budget, in view of full implementation in 2015.

He said that GST was a must for the government, and not an option.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/239672>