

**Rafizi: No GST necessary if country's finances well-managed**

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The Goods and Services Tax (GST) will not be necessary at all if the country's finances are properly managed, Pandan MP Rafizi Ramli said today.

Speaking at the launch of Pakatan Harapan's shadow budget, Rafizi said this could be achieved by any government.

"It is incumbent on everyone that if we manage this country fiscally well there will never be any need for GST by any government in the future," he said.

He was responding to a question on whether Pakatan would implement the GST in the future.

This after the opposition coalition said its alternative budget for 2016 would 'effectively abolish' the need for GST.

This will be achieved by zero-rating all goods and services.

Asked why they would go zero-rated instead of abolishing the tax completely, Rafizi said it was so that the RM5 billion the government has sunk into GST training and software would not go to waste.

Instead he said, all that needs to be done is to change the systems so that the GST rate is zero percent instead of six percent.

In their alternative budget, Pakatan also said the lack of GST can be offset by savings gained by eliminating wastage and corruption.

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