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# PM vows to bring in more investments

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**PROACTIVE:** 'Govt will ensure GDP grows between 4 and 4.5pc this year'

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**T**HE government will continue taking proactive measures to create more investment opportunities amid the global economic downturn, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said.

"My cabinet and I have, and will, continue to take proactive measures to ensure our gross domestic product (GDP) grows between four and 4.5 per cent this year," Najib said in an audio message on his website, [www.najibrazak.com](http://www.najibrazak.com), yesterday.

Najib, who is also finance minister, said one such measure was Malaysia's participation the historic

United States-Asean Summit earlier last week, which underscored the US' role as a keen investment and trade partner with Asean countries.

"The summit was an opportunity to strengthen diplomatic and economic ties with participating countries. This is also one of the proactive economic measures that we have taken," he said.

Najib said during his seven-day working visit to the US, he met foreign investors and industry leaders to discuss investment opportunities in Malaysia.

He said Malaysia's strong economic foundations and high-quality workforce were among the key attractions for foreign investors who showed interest in investing in the country.

"Apart from that, investors view Malaysia's political stability as an important factor.

"I believe the explanations given by me, Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar (minister in the Prime Minister's Department) and senior government officers will boost in-

vestors' confidence in the country."

Najib, in the audio message, promised to work hard to develop the nation's economy holistically.

Malaysia's GDP grew from RM528 billion in 2009 to RM877 billion last year through initiatives under the Economic Transformation Programme, under Najib's leadership.

The Malaysian Institute of Economic Research last month estimated Malaysia's GDP growth for this year to be 4.7 per cent, compared with the estimated 4.9 per cent for last year.

The two-day landmark US-Asean Summit held at Sunnylands, California, beginning Monday, also discussed maritime issues, particularly the South China Sea, where China and several Asean nations, including Malaysia, have conflicting and overlapping claims.

The participating countries also talked about the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement, which includes four Asean members: Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei and Malaysia. Others are interested in joining.