

Highlights Of Bank Negara Malaysia's 2013 Annual Report
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Following are the highlights of Bank Negara Malaysia's 2013 Annual Report

- * Malaysia's economy to expand 4.5-5.5 pct in 2014 (2013: 4.7);
- * Construction to lead 2014 GDP growth by 10 pct (10.9); followed by services 6.2 pct (2013:5.9);
- * Agriculture, forestry and fishery to expand by 3.8 pct (2.1) manufacturing 3.5 pct (3.4), mining and quarrying 1.6 pct (0.5);
- * Inflation to average 3-4 pct in 2014 (2.1);
- * Bank Negara's international reserves totalled US\$134.9 bln in 2013 (US\$139.7 bln/RM447 bln)
- * Base Rate, a new reference rate for the pricing of floating-rate bank loans, to be introduced in 2015 replacing Base Lending Rate;
- * Unemployment rate to be unchanged in 2014 at 3.1 pct;
- * Exports in 2014 forecast to grow to RM714.6 bln (RM690.9 bln);
- * Imports in 2014 forecast to grow to RM620.9 bln in 2014 (RM588.2 bln);
- * Current account balance forecast at RM30.8 bln (RM37.3 bln);
- * Concept paper on new liquidity standards to be published by mid-2014;
- * Broader range of products & services to be developed for underserved;
- * Bank Negara to adopt three-pronged approach to raise e-payment usage from 2014 to 2015;
- * Bank Negara to keep tabs on lending to curb property speculation;
- * RM13 mln refunded to banking customers after central bank took action on financial institutions that failed to observe guiding principles on fees and charges;
- * Bank Negara acted against unfair tied-selling practices, especially where general insurers

required policyholders to buy personal accident insurance as a condition for, or together with, motor insurance;

* Malaysia's population to increase to 30.4 mln in 2014 (29.9 mln)

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