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MALAYSIA

ECONOMY

- Malaysia's economic growth is expected to be slower this year in the face of the challenging global economic and financial landscape. According to Bank Negara, the country's GDP is expected to expand at a more moderate pace of around 4% to 4.5% this year, compared with 5% in 2015, with domestic demand still being the principal driver of growth. The central bank's GDP growth projection is in line with the forecast published by the Finance Ministry under the recalibrated Budget 2016. | *The Star*, 24 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

CONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND POLICY

- The continuous undersupply of affordable houses, in contradiction with oversupply of office and retail spaces in several major cities and towns, may lead to deeper imbalances in the property market, with negative spillovers to other parts of the economy. Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) said a comprehensive and carefully-designed national planning policy is needed for the property market to help support the government's aim of delivering more housing, whilst managing the oversupply of commercial properties. | *The Edge*, 24 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

MALAYSIA

PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES

- Home hunters and investors seeking choice property at affordable prices should consider Desa Ku in Padang Meha, Kedah, marketed by MBI Desa Ku Sdn Bhd (MDK). The mixed housing development project sprawls over 248 acres of land and when completed, will be a vibrant township with some 2,000 residences and shop offices as well as complete amenities. Currently under construction is Phase 2 of Desa Ku with 118 units, of which 88 are single-storey semi-detached homes priced at RM288,000. The rest comprises 15 double-storey terrace homes costing RM238,000 and 15 double-storey shop offices with a price tag of RM558,000. | *The Star*, 21 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

- TH Properties is poised to set a new standard in luxury living by introducing The Villas, a limited collection of five bungalows. These exclusive and luxuriously designed homes bring modern living to another level, with spacious land area of 8,033 to 9,700 sq ft and built-up area of 4,313 sq ft. Featuring six bedrooms and seven bathrooms, the price of each unit at The Villas ranges from RM2,102,800 to RM2,648,690. The Villas features double-storey bungalows with a private swimming pool and deck, balconies and private gardens. A covered car porch provides parking for up to four cars. | *The Star*, 21 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

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The REHDA Weekly provides brief news summaries on local and international topics related to property and national economic indicators.

STOCK MARKET INDICES



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PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES

- IOI Properties Group Bhd plans to officially launch two residential blocks of its new freehold mixed development Conezion @ IOI Resort City at Putrajaya. The project consists of four 31-storey and 32-storey towers with 1,326 units of serviced apartments, and 14 blocks of commercial and office units that are 2, 4 and 5 storeys. The serviced apartments have three layouts with built-ups ranging from 750 sq ft to 1,200 sq ft and prices from RM459,000 or RM530 psf. Conezion, which has a gross development value (GDV) of RM1.4 billion comes with two parking bays. There are a total of 3,200 car parking bays spread over five podium levels and four basement levels. |*The Edge*, 23 March 2016, [LINK](#) |
- Servcorp Malaysia recently marked their latest milestone – the launch of their newest serviced suites, strategically located in Kuala Lumpur's newest state-of-the-art building, Ilham Tower. Ilham Tower is comprises of 33 floors dedicated to office suites, and a further 22 floors of serviced apartments, with a total GFA close to 1,000,000 sq ft. Ilham Tower offers a range of workspace solutions, including sixty (60) individual company office suites. |*The Star*, 24 March 2016, [LINK](#) |
- Bukit Bintang City Centre's (BBCC) serviced apartments – which will be open for a public preview this weekend – will be priced indicatively at RM1,600 psf, said a personnel from developer BBCC Development Sdn Bhd. The serviced apartments – which are part of phase 1 – have tentative built-ups from 500 sq ft to 1,000 sq ft. The official launch of the serviced apartments are slated for June or July. It is believed that there are 350 units with built-ups of 1,000 sq ft to 1,200 sq ft with indicative pricing of RM1,600 psf. BBCC is an integrated development with a gross development value of RM8.7 billion. |*The Edge*, 24 March 2016, [LINK](#) |
- UEM Sunrise Bhd has completed the topping out for its condominium project, Verdi "eco-dominiums", in its Symphony Hills development in Cyberjaya, Selangor. Verdi, which was launched on May 18, 2013, sits on a 9.16-acre freehold land featuring two residential towers (44 and 45 storeys) with a total of 800 units or 10 units per floor on average. The built-ups of the unit range from 700 sq ft to 1,453 sq ft and are priced between RM528,000 and RM1.18 million. The project will be completed by end of this year. |*The Star*, 25 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

INTERNATIONAL

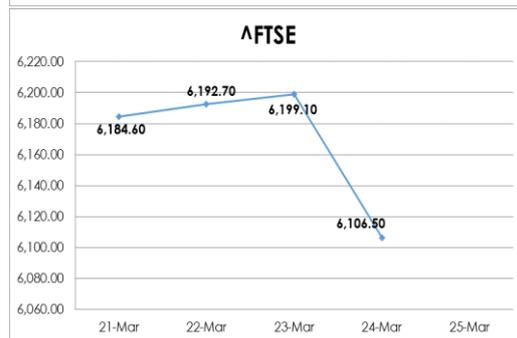
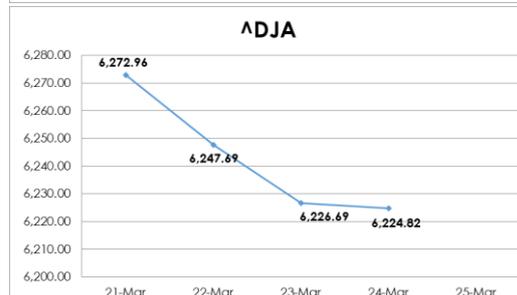
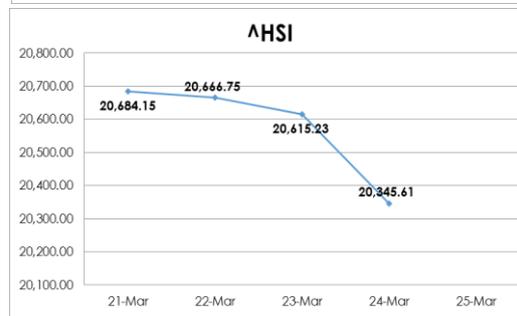
- **CHINA:** The real estate in Laos has seen changes in recent years as more investors have been engaging in building apartments and houses for rent, Vietnam News Agency (VNA) reported. The move is to meet the rising rental demand by foreign businesspeople, who, are not allowed to purchase a property under Laos law. Currently, 80% of the rental accommodation market is in the hands of Lao people and foreigners hold the remaining 20%. |*The Edge Property*, 25 March 2016, [LINK](#) |

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STOCK MARKET INDICES



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