



REHDA WEEKLY

16th December 2016

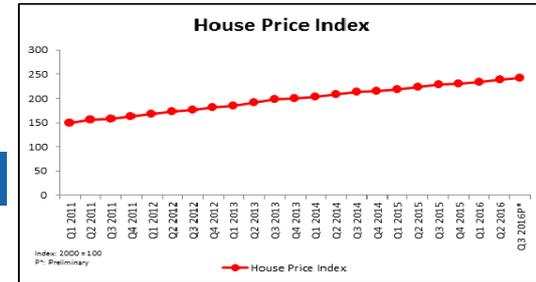
For the week: 10th December – 16th December 2016

Relevant, Responsive, Responsible, Respected.

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

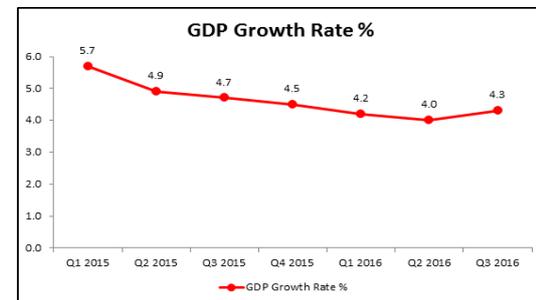
National Economic Indicators

Malaysia House Price Index (updated every quarter)



Source: National Property Information Centre (NAPIC) as of 08/12/2016

GDP Growth Rate % (updated every quarter)



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia as of 08/12/2016

Consumer Price Index Malaysia (updated every month)



Source: tradingeconomics.com as of 08/12/2016

MALAYSIA NEWS

ECONOMY

Ringgit, Asian currencies weaken on US rate hike

The ringgit depreciated to its weakest level against the US dollar so far today at 4.4668 following the US Federal Reserve's interest rate rise and as investors priced in further hikes in 2017. At about 1pm today, the ringgit pared losses at 4.4648 against a strengthening US dollar. The US Dollar Index, which measures the US dollar's value against a basket of currencies rose to 102.26...

| [The Edge Markets, 15 December 2016, LINK](#)

Malaysia palm oil hits 4-1/2-year high as ringgit weakens

Malaysian palm oil futures rose to the highest in 4-1/2-years on Thursday evening, charting a third straight session of gains on a weaker ringgit and tight supplies. Palm saw three straight sessions of declines last week, pulling back from its highest level in four years, but the gains this week have recouped nearly all those losses. Benchmark palm oil futures for February delivery on the Bursa Malaysia Derivatives Exchange were up 1.9 percent at 3,185 ringgit (\$713) a tonne at the end of the trading day, the strongest daily gains in over a month...

| [The Star Online, 16 December 2016, LINK](#)

CONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND POLICY

Busy 2017 for Gamuda with RM28bil MRT2 and township projects

Gamuda Bhd is set to have a busy 2017 as it outlines two major projects with staggering figures, namely the RM28bil Mass Rapid Transit Line 2 (MRT2) project and four townships with an estimated gross development value of RM45bil...

| [The Star Online, 13 December 2016, LINK](#)

Malaysia, Singapore ink deal on high-speed rail link

The agreement on the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore High-Speed Rail (HSR) was signed between Malaysia and Singapore today. When completed, the HSR will slash travel time between KL and the island republic from over five hours by road to 90 minutes...

| [The Edge Property, 13 December 2016, LINK](#)

MALAYSIA NEWS

MCA calls for consultant to review track design of Gemas-JB rail line

MCA yesterday called for the consultant of the Gemas-Johor Bahru electrified double-tracking rail project costing RM7.13 billion, to review the track design. Kluang MCA division chief Gan Ping Sieu said the matter was raised as there had been concerns about the existing design of the track which could cause “defects” and negative impact to the development of Kluang town in the near future...

| [The Edge Property, 14 December 2016, LINK](#)

Klang Valley MRT line kicks off operations

The much-awaited Klang Valley MRT has kicked off, providing fast and efficient public transport to city folks at RM2bil less than the targeted cost. Adding to the good news is that the public can enjoy a month of free rides on all the trains and feeder buses along Phase One of the Sg Buloh-Kajang (SBK) MRT Line...

| [The Edge Property, 16 December 2016, LINK](#)

Ekovest brushes aside ringgit concerns in relation to highway projects

The weak ringgit against the US dollar is not expected to have a major impact on the construction of Ekovest Bhd's Setiawangsa-Pantai Expressway (SPE), formerly known as the Duta-Ulu Kelang Expressway (DUKE) Phase 3...

| [The Star Online, 3 December 2016, LINK](#)

PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES

RE/MAX Malaysia equity crowdfunding programme sees good response

RE/MAX Malaysia's equity crowdfunding (ECF) programme has attracted investors' attention with 48% of the offerings already subscribed before the official launch yesterday, said CrowdPlus.asia chief operating officer Bryan Chung. “Those interested can register their interest online...”

| [The Edge Property, 9 December 2016, LINK](#)

Country Garden in JV to launch Forest City

One of China's top 10 real estate developers and also among *Forbes Asia's* Top 30 companies, Country Garden has partnered with Johor's Esplanade Danga 88 Sdn Bhd in a joint venture (JV) to launch its latest project, Forest City, with a gross development value of US\$100 billion (RM441 billion)...

| [The Edge Property, 13 December 2016, LINK](#)

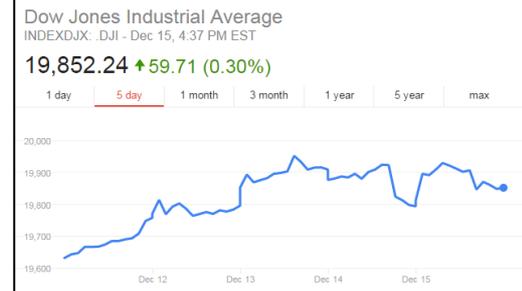
Greater KL development negative for property and REITs, says HLIB Research

The Greater Kuala Lumpur development has been deemed as being negative for the property sector and real estate investment trusts (REITs) by Hong Leong IB Research. In a note today, the research house said several catalytic developments are emerging in Greater KL. It said these are TRX, Warisan Merdeka, BBCC, Bandar Malaysia, Kwasa Damansara and CCC...

| [The Edge Property, 14 December 2016, LINK](#)

STOCK MARKET INDICES

Dow Jones Industrial Average



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 15/12/2016 04:37 PM EST

Hang Seng Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 16/12/2016 10:22 AM GMT+8

Nikkei 225



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 16/12/2016 11:03 GMT+9

FTSE BURSA MALAYSIA Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 16/12/2016 10:35 AM GMT

COMMODITIES PRICES

Brent Oil



Crude Oil



CURRENCY EXCHANGE

USD/MYR



MALAYSIA NEWS

Property prices around MRT stations expected to rise

The Klang Valley MRT Lines will not only improve connectivity for people but will also see property value around the stations go up. Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association Malaysia (Rehda) past president Datuk Ng Seing Liong said there was already a "positive response" when Phase 1 of the Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT Line (SBK) was announced...

| [The Star Online, 16 December 2016, LINK](#)

YNH plans to sell hospital to Pantai Medical Centre

Property developer [YNH Property Bhd](#) is planning to dispose of a hospital facility in Perak to Pantai Medical Centre Sdn Bhd (PMC) for RM63mil. In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, YNH said its wholly owned subsidiary, YNH Hospitality Sdn Bhd, had agreed to enter into discussions with PMC on Dec 9 for the disposal of the facility...

| [The Star Online, 16 December 2016, LINK](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Australian home prices come off the boil

Australian home prices grew at the slowest pace in over three years last quarter amid tougher rules on investment lending and economic hardship in mining states, a cooling that could reduce hurdles to a further cut in interest rates. An easing might be needed if business conditions continue to soften at the pace suggested by National Australia Bank's latest survey of 500 firms...

| [The Star Online, 13 December 2016, LINK](#)

Hong Kong Property Shares Turn Toxic As Mortgage Costs Spike

Hong Kong's property developers are fast falling out of favor among investors as surging mortgage costs and punitive taxes threaten to choke home sales. A gauge of real estate companies traded on the city's stock market has tumbled 13 percent this quarter, with developers accounting for half of the biggest losers on the benchmark Hang Seng Index, which has fallen 5.3 percent...

| [Bloomberg, 15 December 2016, LINK](#)

London house price growth slows to lowest rate in three years

House price growth in London has slowed to the lowest rate in more than three years, according to research. A report by property market analysts Hometrack found that the rate of house price growth in the 12 months to November in the capital fell to 7.6pc, the lowest level for 39 months, and far below the same period last year, when growth was at 11.8pc...

| [The Telegraph, 16 December 2016, LINK](#)