



# REHDA WEEKLY

6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

For the week: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 – 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

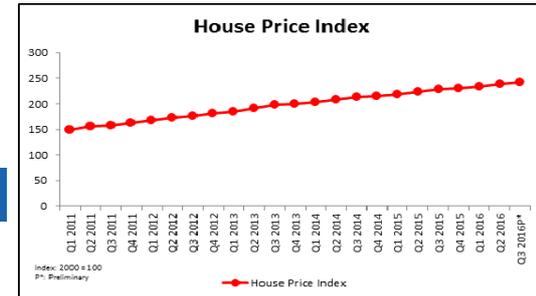
*Relevant, Responsive, Responsible, Respected.*

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



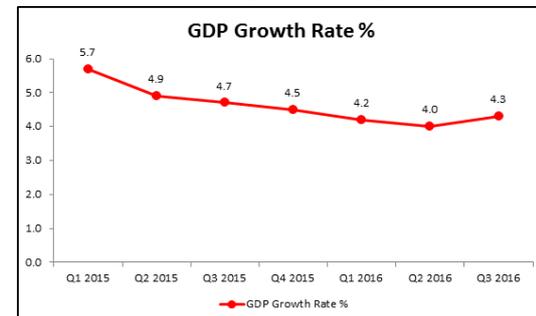
## National Economic Indicators

### Malaysia House Price Index (updated every quarter)



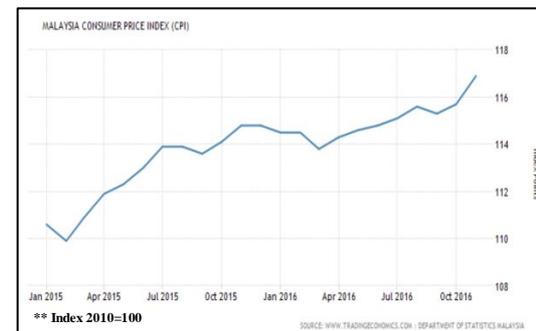
Source: National Property Information Centre (NAPIC) as of 08/12/2016

### 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 23/12/2016

## MALAYSIA NEWS

### ECONOMY

#### No pure gain from weak ringgit

Despite hopes that a weaker ringgit will benefit Malaysia in terms of boosting exports, it has also led to higher production costs, said Douglas Lippoldt, senior trade economist at HSBC. "It's not a pure gain," said Lippoldt as he takes into consideration the fact that Malaysia is very much integrated into regional value chains...

| [The Edge Financial Daily, 6 January 2017, LINK](#)

#### Higher revenues from commodities foreseen

The Plantation Industries and Commodities Ministry and related agencies in pursuit of maintaining the steady income of about one million smallholders in the country, will continue to ensure higher revenue is generated from the country's commodity sector this year...

| [The Star Online, 6 January 2017, LINK](#)

### CONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND POLICY

#### Government's affordable housing a focus in 2017

The government's affordable housing or 1Malaysia People's Housing programme (PR1MA) housing scheme is projected by analysts to be the focus in 2017, in anticipation of the upcoming general election. According to RHB Research Institute Sdn Bhd (RHB Research), the government's emphasis on affordable housing is serious, as this is the only key subject on the property market that was mentioned in Budget 2017, with no other material incentives or cooling measures announced (apart from the higher stamp duty rate for properties priced above RM1 million, effective from January 1, 2018)...

| [Borneo Post Online, 2 January 2017, LINK](#)

#### Levy to ensure bosses care for workers' welfare

The Government's move to make it mandatory for employers to pay the levy for foreign workers is to encourage them to take responsibility for their workers' wellbeing...

| [The Star Online, 3 January 2017, LINK](#)



## MALAYSIA NEWS

### 3 Chambers of Commerce join forces to elevate Klang to 'city' status

The Klang Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCCI) is galvanizing its efforts to get the township of Klang granted city status by roping in the Malay Chamber of Commerce for the State of Selangor, and the Klang Indian Chamber of Commerce as project partners...

| [New Straits Times, 3 January 2017, LINK](#)

### Construction sector to normalize to RM25 bil this year, says HLIB Research

The Malaysian construction sector is expected to see downward normalisation this year, in which the domestic contract is projected to come in at RM25 billion, after achieving a record higher base in 2016, according to Hong Leong IB Research (HLIB)...

| [The Edge Property, 4 January 2017, LINK](#)

### CIMB: Bandar Malaysia jobs worth up to RM50bil

Opportunities for construction and infrastructure works worth up to RM50bil are up for grabs, as Bandar Malaysia plans to roll out the transit-oriented development (TOD) and launch project tenders in 2017, according to CIMB Research...

| [The Star Online, 6 January 2017, LINK](#)

## PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES

### Commercial property segment to offer bargains in 2017

Transactions in commercial and investment properties are anticipated to be priced 10% to 20% below their perceived market value in 2017, said Knight Frank Malaysia managing director Sarkunan Subramaniam in a press release on Knight Frank's real estate round-up of 2016 and outlook for 2017, today...

| [The Edge Property, 30 December 2016, LINK](#)

### Malaysia's property market still resilient despite challenges

The property market remains resilient despite of the challenging economic environment, according to observers. Rahim & Co Research director Sulaiman Saheh said although the number of launches and sales performance of developers have been declining, there were projects that were performing well due to the nature of the product, concept, location and marketing strategies...

| [The Star Online, 3 January 2017, LINK](#)

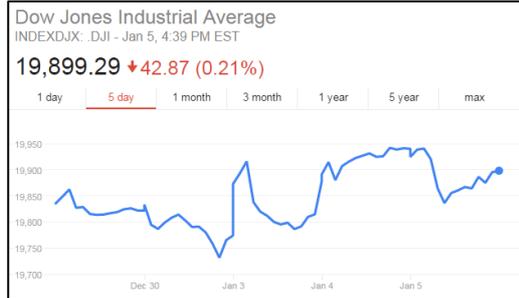
### Paramount Blossom ties up with China firms to develop RM650 mil Seremban residential project

Paramount Blossom Sdn Bhd is collaborating with Fujian Hexinyuantong Investment Co Ltd and China Railway Liuyuan Group Co Ltd to develop a RM650 million property project on 77 acres of land in Seremban, Negeri Sembilan. Officiated by deputy minister of Finance Datuk Lee Chee Leong, the parties inked a strategic and partnership development agreement at a signing ceremony today...

| [The Edge Property, 5 January 2017, LINK](#)

## STOCK MARKET INDICES

### Dow Jones Industrial Average



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 6/1/2017 04:39 PM EST

### Hang Seng Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 6/1/2017 10:07 AM GMT +8

### Nikkei 225



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 6/1/2017 10:48 PM GMT+9

### FTSE Bursa Malaysia Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 6/1/2017 10:10 AM GMT+8



## COMMODITIES PRICES

### Brent Oil



Source: investing.com as of 6/1/2017 10:14 AM GMT +8

### Crude Oil



Source: investing.com as of 6/1/2017 10:16 AM GMT +8

## MALAYSIA NEWS

### TRX shaping up well with better investor confidence

Tun Razak Exchange (TRX), an iconic 28 hectare mixed development in the heart of Kuala Lumpur, is shaping up well amid better investor confidence with the first phase on track for completion as scheduled...

| [Borneo Post Online, 5 January 2017, LINK](#)

### LBS lines up affordable housing in Klang Valley

Property developer LBS Bina Group Bhd is targeting a 15% year-on-year growth in sales to RM1.5bil this year, as it plans to launch a slew of affordable housing projects with total gross development value (GDV) amounting to RM2.3bil...

| [The Star Online, 6 January 2017, LINK](#)

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE

### USD/MYR



Source: investing.com as of 6/1/2017 10:19 AM GMT +8

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### One million houses program face hurdles

Despite the fact that the government has made some improvement in its program to provide 1 million houses for low-income people this year, some challenges remain to be solved, including high land prices and regulatory issues...

| [The Jakarta Post, 31 December 2016, LINK](#)

### Fear of a 'massive' global property price fall amid 'dangerous' conditions and market slow-down

Property prices have climbed to dangerous levels in several advanced economies, raising the risk of massive price falls if markets overheat, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)...

| [The Telegraph, 2 January 2017, LINK](#)

### Singapore Home Prices Fall For Third Year Amid Government Curbs

Singapore home prices fell 3 percent in 2016, the third straight year of declines as the government held steadfast on property cooling measures. An index tracking private residential prices fell 0.4 percent in the three months ended Dec. 31 from the previous quarter, according to preliminary data from the Urban Redevelopment Authority released Tuesday. Prices fell for a 13th straight quarter, the longest streak since the data was first published in 1975...

| [Bloomberg, 3 January 2017, LINK](#)