

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



MALAYSIA NEWS

ECONOMY

EPF declares 5.7% dividend for 2016, total payout RM37.08bil

The Employees Provident Fund (EPF) has declared a 5.7 per cent dividend for 2016, with a total payout of RM37.08bil. Chairman Tan Sri Samsudin Osman said the EPF is pleased it has been able to consistently exceed its two strategic investment targets of at least 2.5 per cent nominal dividend on a yearly basis and at least 2.0 per cent real dividend on a rolling three-year basis...

| The Star Online, 18 February 2017, LINK|

Malaysia's January inflation up 3.2% y-o-y

Malaysia's inflation, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI), rose 3.2% from a year earlier in January, mainly on increases in transport, besides food and non-alcoholic beverages...

| The Edge Markets, 22 February 2017, LINK|

CONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND POLICY

MyHSR Corp launches strategic development framework along KL-Singapore HSR corridor

MyHSR Corp Sdn Bhd has launched a strategic development framework (SDF) to outline socioeconomic development direction along the 350km Kuala Lumpur Singapore High Speed Rail (HSR) corridor...

| The Edge Property, 20 February 2017, LINK|

RM8.9 bil Gemas-JB double-tracking project to spin off jobs for locals

AFTER a delay of more than a decade, the RM8.9 billion electrified double-tracking railway line project linking Gemas to Johor Baru has been revived. The project is expected to provide a fresh source of construction jobs for local players...

| The Edge Markets, 20 February 2017, LINK|

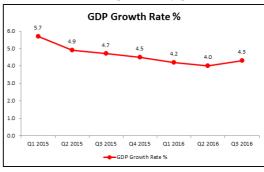
National Economic Indicators

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 19/1/2017



MALAYSIA NEWS

Improve efficiency in PR1MA purchase process, says analyst

The government should look to enhance the 1Malaysia People's Housing (PR1MA) scheme by improving its efficiency in processing home purchases, Affin Hwang Capital Research senior associate director for equity research Loong Chee Wei (pictured) told TheEdgeProperty.com when commenting on PR1MA's recently-announced policy changes...

| The Edge Property, 21 February 2017, <u>LINK</u>|

Jetson-CCCC tie-up bags SUKE construction deal

Kumpulan Jetson Bhd and Beijing-based construction firm China Communications Construction Co Ltd (CCCC) have jointly secured a RM201.87mil subcontract to build a stretch of the 31.8km Sungai Besi-Ulu Kelang Elevated Expressway (SUKE)...

| The Star Online, 21 February 2017, <u>LINK</u>|

Mercury Industries bags RM238mil construction job

Mercury Industries Bhd's 70%-owned construction unit Paramount Bounty Sdn Bhd has won a mixed development project worth RM238 million in Gombak, Selangor...

 $|\ The\ Edge\ Property,\ 22\ February\ 2017,\ \underline{LINK}|$

PROPERTY MARKET ACTIVITIES

Real estate industry must stay relevant or risk being left out

To hop on the digital disruption bandwagon, there are many possible ways that the real estate industry could work with relevant tech start-ups...

| The Edge Property, 19 February 2017, LINK

Penang, Sabah picked up as top investment regions for leisure/hotel sub-sector

Penang and Sabah remain the most attractive regions for investment in the hotel or leisure sub-sector, according to respondents of Knight Frank's Malaysia "Commercial Real Estate Investment Sentiment Survey 2017" (CREISS)...

| The Edge Property, 21 February 2017, LINK|

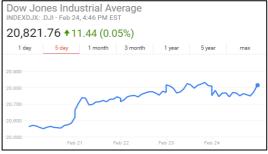
Mah Sing's Icon City gets Cyber-centre status

Mah Sing Group Bhd has obtained Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) Malaysia Cybercentre status for its Icon City in Petaling Jaya...

| The Star Online, 21 February 2017, LINK|

STOCK MARKET INDICES

Dow Jones Industrial Average



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 24/2/2017 04:46 PM EST

Hang Seng Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 24/2/2017 4:08 PM GMT +8

Nikkei 225



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 24/2/2017 3:00 PM GMT+9

FTSE Bursa Malaysia Index



Source: yahoofinance.com as of 24/2/2017 8:59 AM GMT+8



MALAYSIA NEWS

Sheda: Time is ripe to buy properties as prices still kept current

The Sarawak Housing and Real Estate Developers' Association (Sheda) urges interested buyers to consider purchasing property soon as they believe the time is right...

| The Borneo Post, 22 February 2017, LINK

House prices can be reduced up to 40% by offering bare units, says Rehda past president

If developers adopt the core housing development concept, house prices could come down by 30% to 40%, said past president of the Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (Rehda) Datuk Ng Seing Liong...

| The Edge Property, 23 February 2017, LINK

COMMODITIES PRICES



Source: investing.com as of 24/2/2017 5:00 PM GMT

Crude Oil



Source: investing.com as of 27/2/2017 8:18 AM GMT +8

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pattaya condo market hits the pause button

The condominium market in Pattaya City has been growing briskly for the past few years, with more than 7,400 units were completed and registered at the Land Department in 2015-16. At the end of 2016, a total of 73,660 units were completed and registered in the resort city...

| The Bangkok Post, 19 February 2017, LINK

More affordable resale HDBs for first-time applicants

Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat announced, with immediate effect, in his Budget statement today that the CPF housing grant has been raised to \$\$50,000 (RM157,144) for first-timer couples buying four-room or smaller HDB flats from the resale market. For those who purchase five-room or bigger flats, the grant has been raised to \$\$40,000...

$|\ The\ Edge\ Property,\ 20\ February\ 2017,\ \underline{LINK}|$

Private sector urged to invest in infrastructure

Private companies taking part in infrastructure development is highly important because of the state's limited funds for infrastructure projects, a government official has stressed...

| The Jakarta Post, 24 February 2017, <u>LINK</u>|

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

USD/MYR



Source: investing.com as of 27/2/2017 8:19 AM GMT +8