

GOVERNMENT

[Another Move to Help the B40 Get Homes](#)

The Star – 2 August 2023

The Local Government Development Ministry (KPKT) mulls over the creation of a National Housing Fund to help B40 families purchase their first homes, including providing 10% down payment for these households. The plan is in the early stage. KPKT will also offer financing guarantees of up to 120% under the Housing Credit Guarantee Corporation (HCGS) scheme, particularly for people with irregular income.

[KJP Urged to Review, Update Federal Land Database](#)

The Edge – 3 August 2023

Federal ministries and departments as users (KJP) were called to review and update the federal land database to speed up development plans. As of 2021, 1,444 federal land lots with an area of more than 9,399.09 hectares have not been developed for at least five years from the date of land ownership.

INFRASTRUCTURE

[New International Airport for Perak](#)

The Star – 29 July 2023

Perak is set to have a new international airport in Seri Iskandar within five years, developed by London-based company Colebrand International Ltd through a private finance initiative. The proposed airport site covers 1,618 hectares of land near Felcra Nasaruddin, partly owned by Felcra, State Secretary Inc, and the Perak government.

[Bukit Chagar Set to See GDV of RM3 Billion](#)

The Star – 29 July 2023

Bukit Chagar in Johor will be developed as a lifestyle and business hub through an MOU between MRT Corp and Hong Kong's MTR Corp. The mixed development venture is part of the RM3bn Johor Baru-Singapore RTS and aims to attract investors.

[KL Sentral Station to be Redeveloped](#)

The Edge – 2 August 2023

The KL Sentral Station redevelopment project was approved in principle by the Cabinet. This project is subject to further discussion between the Prime Minister's Department's Public Private Partnership Unit (UKAS) and the Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd (MRCB), the developer of the whole KL Sentral Project. This project will involve privatisation, with an estimated cost of more than RM1 billion

Government to Conduct Feasibility Study on Rail Network in Sarawak

Edge Property – 3 August 2023

A feasibility study will be carried out on the viability of a railway system to be constructed in Sarawak. The plan is still at the preliminary stage, and the state transport ministry is in discussions with the transport ministry at the federal government level.

PJD Link: A high-stakes project for Selangor

The Edge – 4 August 2023

The Selangor state government has cancelled the Petaling Jaya Dispersal (PJD) Link elevated highway project as it failed to meet certain conditions set by the state government, especially the social impact assessment reports. The project might be revived if it complied with requirements set by the state government.

ECONOMY

Malaysia's Population Seen to Grow 2.1% in 2023

The Edge – 31 July 2023

In 2023, Malaysia's population is expected to increase by 2.1%, due to a projected rise in the number of non-citizens from 2.5 million in 2022 to three million, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The number of citizens is expected to grow by 0.7% to 30.4 million.

Labour Market Strengthened in 2022 as Unemployment Rate Dropped

The Edge – 31 July 2023

In 2022, Malaysia's unemployment rate dropped to 3.9%, from 4.6% in 2021, citing on the positive economic environment and creation of more job opportunities in various industries, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The working population expanded by 2.2% and the labour force participation rate reached 69.3%.

WORLD

Top China Housing Official Calls for Fresh Real Estate Rescue Effort

The Star – 29 July 2023

Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ni Hong, is urging financial regulators and lenders to revive the struggling property sector. He proposes considering homebuyers who paid off previous mortgages as first-time purchasers to ease down-payment rules. The government may cut mortgage rates and relax borrowing limits for first-home buyers. Financial regulators have been asked to ease terms for property companies to ensure home delivery.

RI In Touch Weekly is published by REHDA Institute

Wisma REHDA, First Floor, No 2C, Jalan SS5D/6, Kelana Jaya, 47301
Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

Tel: (603) 7803 6006

Fax: (603) 7880 3823

Website: www.rehdainstitute.com

Email: inquiry@rehdainstitute.com

 REHDA Institute (Official)

 REHDA Institute

 REHDA INSTITUTE

 REHDA Institute