

ECONOMY

Penang Achieves Zero Hardcore Poverty 

The Star – 6 May 2024

Penang's hardcore poverty rate is now zero, following the provision of financial assistance to the last 45 hardcore poor families by the Malaysian Government's Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU). Penang had 45 hardcore poor households as of April 29, 2024, compared to 4,949 on January 31, 2023. Hardcore poor families have a monthly income of less than RM1,198, while those earning less than RM2,589 are classified as poor. As of March 31, 2024, there are 472,153 hardcore poor households in the country, with 77,141 classified as hardcore poor and 395,012 as poor.

BNM Keeps Overnight Policy Rate Unchanged as Widely Expected 

The Edge – 9 May 2024

Malaysia's central bank left the benchmark interest rate unchanged at 3% as widely expected, citing improving economic activity amid moderate inflation.

GOVERNMENT

Families of Rubber Settlers from Five Estates to Get PPR Homes in Bestari Jaya 

The Edge – 6 May 2024

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government announced the Bestari Jaya People's Housing Project (PPR) to resolve the longstanding housing crisis faced by 245 families across five rubber estates namely Mary Estate, Nigel Garder Estate, Bukit Tagar Estate, Sungai Tinggi Estate and Minyak Estate since 1998.

JPA Adopts Pulau Aman as Madani Village with RM2.5 Million Allocation 

The Edge – 6 May 2024

The Public Service Department (JPA) has adopted Pulau Aman, Penang, under the MADANI village adoption program with an allocation of RM2.5 million aimed at developing it into a tourist attraction and improving the living standards of its residents.

Ministry Introduces Affordable Programme to Boost Solar Energy Adoption in Homes 

The Edge – 6 May 2024

The Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (Petra) has introduced the affordable "Solar BOLEH!" program to encourage more people to adopt solar energy by installing solar panels in their homes.

[Selangor Government Launches State Structure Plan 2035 Draft for Public Feedback](#)

The Edge – 10 May 2024

The Selangor State Government launched the Selangor State Structure Plan 2035 (Amendment) draft, a planning document aimed at complementing the First Selangor Plan 2021-2025 in managing the State's physical development.

LEGAL

[78 Property Owners Obtain Summary Judgment Against Hatten Square Developer](#)

The Edge – 6 May 2024

Seventy-eight property owners in Hatten Square, Melaka, have obtained a summary judgment from the High Court against the main developer, MDSA Development Sdn Bhd. The judgment requires the company to pay them RM2.009 million in rental arrears for a mix of commercial and residential units, along with the return of RM591,143.90 as payment for refurbishments that were never completed.

PROPERTY

[Greater Johor Baru Agenda Bolstering Growth](#)

The Star – 8 May 2024

Johor-based developers are experiencing positive impacts and good growth prospects in the property market under the Greater Johor Baru agenda. The Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Johor branch stated that developers were benefiting from the agenda. Greater Johor Baru, positioned as the Country's second metropolitan hub, is a vibrant region holding the key to unlocking Johor's full economic potential.

INFRASTRUCTURE

[Progress of ECRL Project in Four States Reaches 65%](#)

The Edge – 4 May 2024

Construction work on the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project in Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, and Selangor has reached an average completion rate of 65% as of April 2024. The 120-kilometer project in Selangor has progressed by more than 26% as of April 2024, aligning with the schedule for the preparation of the ECRL line from Gombak to Port Klang by December 2027, with operations scheduled to commence in January 2028.

[Racing Against Time to Stop JB City Centre 'Chocking in Traffic'](#)

The Star – 7 May 2024

Johor is racing to devise feasible ways to address the heavier traffic volume expected in the State when the Rapid Transit System Link (RTS Link) starts operating on January 1, 2027. The proposed elevated Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) system is one such measure. The Johor State Government will be submitting a proposal to the Federal Government regarding the establishment of an elevated ART.

RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute

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