

ECONOMY

Malaysia's Industrial Output Rises Faster Than Expected in June 2024 

The Edge – 9 August 2024

According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), the industrial production index rose 5.0% year-on-year in June 2024, led by higher manufacturing activities while mining output rebounded.

Total Jobs in Economic Sector Up 1.5% in 2Q 2024 

The Edge – 14 August 2024

The Department of Statistics Malaysia's (DOSM) Employment Statistics report showed that the number of jobs in the economic sector increased by 1.5% to 8.96 million in the second quarter of 2024. The construction sector contributed 11.6% to job creation, equivalent to some 3,700 jobs created.

GOVERNMENT

Johor Moots Making Special Financial Zone Part of Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone 

The Star – 12 August 2024

Johor has proposed making the Forest City Special Financial Zone (SFZ) a part of the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ). According to the State investment, trade, consumer affairs and human resources committee chairman Lee Ting Han, the matter had been discussed internally and would be brought up for discussion in the JS-SEZ working group.

Contracts Will be Revoked if Work Does Not Start Within a Month 

The Edge – 14 August 2024

The Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg said the State Government contracts awarded to contractors will be revoked, if they fail to start work within a month of being awarded the projects. The move came to address the issue of contractors failing to complete projects within the stipulated time. Additionally, the State Government will monitor contractors who use multiple company names to win project tenders.

Speedy Approval of Development Projects Called for Malaysia to Attract Investors 

The Edge – 15 August 2024

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has called for speedy approvals of development projects by the Federal and State Governments as well as Local Authorities, without compromising on regulations, to make Malaysia attractive to investors in the region.

[Johor Proposes Using Recycled, Rainwater for Data Centre Development](#)

The Edge – 15 August 2024

The Johor Government is planning to include conditions regarding the use of recycled water and rainwater for the development of data centres in the State. This move aims to prevent domestic water consumption from being affected by the development of the sector.

CONSTRUCTION

[Construction Sector Grew Over 20% in 2Q 2024](#)

The Edge – 12 August 2024

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) data showed that the construction sector recorded a 20.2% surge in work done value to RM38.9 billion in the second quarter of 2024. The surge was driven by the strong growth in the civil engineering and residential buildings sub-sectors.

INFRASTRUCTURE

[Kuantan Port Has Potential to be Homeport for Cruise Ships](#)

The Edge – 15 August 2024

Transport Minister Anthony Loke said Kuantan Port has been identified as having the potential to be developed as a homeport for cruise ships in the East Coast region due to its strategic location along the cruise ship routes in the South China Sea.

[Transport Ministry to Support Kuantan International Airport Project](#)

The Edge – 15 August 2024

The Transport Ministry (MOT) would support the Pahang Government's plan to build the Kuantan International Airport (KIA). However, no application has been received by MOT for an aerodrome operator licence from the project's developers.

[ECRL Progress Hit 70.13% in July 2024](#)

The Edge – 16 August 2024

The progress of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project had reached 70.13% completion as of July 2024, according to Transport Minister Anthony Loke Siew Fook.

WORLD

[China's Housing Rental Industry Crucial to Future Real Estate Market](#)

The Star – 11 August 2024

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) said the housing rental industry is identified as a crucial direction for the future development of China's real estate market.

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