

ECONOMY

**Malaysia's Inflation Eases to 1.9% in August 2024** 

*The Edge – 23 September 2024*

According to data from the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), the consumer price index (CPI) rose by 1.9% year-on-year in August 2024, down slightly from 2.0% in July. Higher costs were observed in restaurants, utilities, and food. Transport inflation increased to 1.3% in August, up from 1.2% in July, following the re-targeting of diesel subsidies.

GOVERNMENT

**Federal Government Explores Johor Housing Scheme** 

*The Star – 23 September 2024*

The Federal Government is studying Johor's Rumah Transit Bangsa Johor model for potential expansion to other States, according to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi. This transit housing program aims to help low-income groups and young families become homeowners by allowing a portion of their rent to be saved for a future home deposit.

**Sarawak to Review Development of Bintulu Port Area** 

*The Edge – 23 September 2024*

With the advisory services of Singapore's Surbana Jurong, the Sarawak Government is reviewing the development of Bintulu Port Area, according to Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Openg. The port development review will encompass the second phase of Bintulu Samalaju Port under Bintulu Port Holdings Bhd. The review will further enhance the services provided by Bintulu Port based on the green port concept.

**MDEC to Launch Digital City Initiative** 

*The Edge – 24 September 2024*

The Malaysian Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) is set to launch a Digital City Initiative aimed at accelerating the adoption of digital solutions in city services and advancing the smart city agenda. MDEC will collaborate closely with the Ministry of Communications and Digital and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) on this digital city initiative, which will focus on the adoption and enhancement of digital services for the public as well as leveraging on data to obtain valuable insights for optimising public services.

## [Federal Government to Discuss with Selangor on Expediting Road Widening in Port Klang](#)

*The Edge – 27 September 2024*

The Federal Government will hold discussions with Selangor on expediting the widening of roads in Port Klang, according to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. However, he highlighted that immediate action is not feasible due to the high cost of construction involved.

### PROPERTY

## [Overhang of Residential Properties in Penang Dropped](#)

*The Star – 23 September 2024*

According to data from the National Property Information Centre (Naptic), the number of overhang residential properties in Penang declined to 2,400 units in 1H 2024, from 2,901 units in 1H 2023. Penang ranked fourth in Malaysia with the most overhang properties during the review period, following Perak (4,161 units), Johor (3,219 units) and Kuala Lumpur (3,051 units).

### INFRASTRUCTURE

## [Johor Finalising Local Transport Network to Support RTS Integration](#)

*The Edge – 26 September 2024*

The Johor State Government is finalising a local network to complement the Johor Bahru-Singapore Rapid Transit System (RTS) Link. According to Johor Chief Minister Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi, this network will connect key landing points in Johor Bahru to various developments within the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone. Additionally, the state has several large-scale infrastructure projects in the pipeline, including expansions to the Senai-Desaru Expressway and the North-South Expressway.

### WORLD

## [China Considers Removing Major Home-Buying Curbs](#)

*The Star – 23 September 2024*

Chinese regulators are working on a proposal that would relax restrictions on home purchases for non-local buyers in mega cities such as Beijing and Shanghai. The Government is also considering removing the distinctions between first and second-home purchases, paving the way for smaller down payments and lower mortgage rates on second house.

**RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute**

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