

## RI – WEEKLY NEWS

## WEEK 46 9 November – 15 November 2024

#### ECONOMY

### **Government has Mechanisms to Ensure Ringgit Doesn't Slide Further** *The Star – 11 November 2024*

Deputy Finance Minister, Lim Hui Ying reassured the public that Putrajaya has effective measures in place to prevent further depreciation of the ringgit, which has been weakening against the US dollar following Donald Trump's presidential victory. He noted that the government is aware of the impact of the current Middle East geopolitical tensions and the recent US presidential election on the ringgit and other emerging market currencies.

### GOVERNMENT

## Selangor to Set Up Water Commission, Create Master Plan

The Star – 12 November 2024

The Selangor Government plans to establish a State water commission and develop a master plan. State Infrastructure and Agriculture Committee chairman, Izham Hashim stated that the State commission's scope would not overlap with the National Water Services Commission. He explained that while SPAN will focus on treated water and sewerage services, the State commission will oversee all agencies handling water-related matters.

#### LEGAL

# **Empire City Buyers Get Leave to Appeal Against Developer Cosmopolitan Avenue** *The Edge – 11 November 2024*

The Federal Court has granted permission for 58 buyers of Empire City Damansara to proceed with their appeal against the project's developer, Cosmopolitan Avenue Sdn Bhd, over issues such as delayed delivery and the lack of a proper certificate of compliance and completion.

# **Delivery of Vacant Possession Without Occupancy Rights is Against Public Policy** *The Edge – 14 November 2024*

In a landmark decision on November 14, 2024, the High Court ruled that developers who provide vacant possession of a property without allowing owners to occupy it are acting against public policy and undermining the purpose of vacant possession. Judge Datuk Ahmad Shahrir Salleh stated that developers hold a significant bargaining power advantage over purchasers and ruled that delivering vacant possession without allowing purchasers to occupy the property is against public policy.

#### PROPERTY

# Penang Built 170,000 Affordable Homes, Targets 220,000 by 2030

The Edge – 11 November 2024

The Penang Government has delivered 170,000 affordable housing units to date, aimed at assisting low- and middle-income groups in home ownership, aligning with the Penang2030 vision of providing 220,000 units by 2030. State Housing and Environment Committee chairman, Datuk Seri S Sundarajoo stated that the focus is now on completing the remaining 50,000 units by 2030.

#### Government Achieves 89% Progress in Affordable Housing Target 🖆

*The Edge – 12 November 2024* 

As of September 30, 2024, 89% of the targeted affordable homes, equivalent to 443,259 units, have been completed, are under construction, or are in the planning stages across the country. Housing Minister, Nga Kor Ming stated that with only 56,741 units left, the ministry is confident that the goal of 500,000 units, set under the 12th Malaysia Plan, will be met.

#### CONSTRUCTION

## Malaysia's Construction Sector Continues Positive Growth In 3Q 2024

*The Edge – 11 November 2024* 

The construction sector maintained its strong momentum, achieving a growth of 22.9% (RM41.1 billion) in the third quarter of 2024, up from a 20.2% (RM38.9 billion) in the second quarter of 2024. According to Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician of the Department of Statistics Malaysia, the growth was largely driven by a 42.6% surge in the special trade activities sub-sector.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

# **Construction of West Coast Expressway (WCE) Expected to Drive Development** *The Edge – 11 November 2024*

Deputy Works Minister, Datuk Seri Ahmad Maslan stated that the WCE, linking Banting, Selangor to Gelang Patah, Johor, is set to boost development along its route. He highlighted that one of the main benefits of the project will be the upgrading and widening of existing roads in these areas.

### Phase Two of ECRL Ready by end of 2027

The Star – 12 November 2024

The Transport Ministry, Anthony Loke announced that phase two of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL), connecting Gombak and Port Klang, is set for completion by December 31, 2027. Additionally, phase one of the ECRL, linking Kota Baru to the Gombak Integrated Transport Terminal, is expected to be finished by December 31, 2026.

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