

### RI – WEEKLY NEWS

### WEEK 5 | 25 – 31 January 2025

#### ECONOMY

## Malaysia's Median Monthly Wages Up 5.6% in September 2024

The median monthly wages in Malaysia's formal sector rose by 5.6% year-on-year to RM2,745 in September 2024, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia. Kuala Lumpur recorded the highest median wage at RM3,964, followed by Selangor at RM3,000. The lowest median wages were reported in Kelantan and Perlis at RM1,682 respectively, and Sabah at RM1,882.

### Malaysia's Total Trade Jumps 14.6% in December 2024

The Edge – 28 January 2024

Malaysia's total trade surged 14.6% year-on-year to RM257.9 billion in December 2024, driven by a 16.9% rise in exports to RM138.5 billion and an 11.9% increase in imports to RM119.3 billion, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia.

#### GOVERNMENT

# **New Tribunal Can Help with Rogue Tenants and Issues Like Unpaid Bills** The Star – 25 January 2025

Landlords burdened by high electricity bills from rogue tenants may soon find relief through the proposed Residential Tenancy Act. Housing Minister, Nga Kor Ming said the tribunal will handle disputes and ensure both landlords and tenants uphold their rights and responsibilities throughout the rental process.

# **Urban Planning in Malaysia Must Preserve National Identity and Culture** The Edge – 25 January 2025

Urban development in Malaysia should balance advanced technology with the preservation of arts, culture, and identity, says Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. He emphasised systematic planning that highlights the unique character of Malaysian cities, distinguishing them from global metropolises. Urban planning should prioritise green spaces, public comfort, and inclusivity, avoiding societal divides while reflecting Malaysia's heritage.

#### **Nga Urges Chinese New Village Residents to Apply for Special Loans** *The Edge – 25 January 2025*

Residents of Chinese New Villages who meet the requirements are encouraged to apply for the Special Loan Scheme for Chinese New Village Residents, which still has an available allocation of RM144.6 million. Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming highlighted that, so far, only RM13.5 million has been approved from the scheme's total financing allocation of RM158.1 million.

### **Selangor State May Probe All Agencies After Illegal Land Transfers Found** The Edge – 27 January 2025

The Selangor Government is considering an internal probe and audit of all its agencies to determine if other departments were involved in illegal land title transfers through the new e-Tanah system. Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari stated that this effort aims to comprehensively address illegal land transfer activities in the State.

# **CCTV Expansion in Seberang Perai, Mainland to Maintain Penang's Safest City Status** *The Edge – 31 January 2025*

The Penang Government plans to expand CCTV coverage across Seberang Perai to enhance security and maintain the State's status as Malaysia's safest city. Chief Minister, Chow Kon Yeow stated that up to 1,000 additional units will be installed on the mainland to improve monitoring efforts.

#### LEGAL

**RM28.1 Million Suit for Purportedly Failing to Pay-Up Full Sum in Joint Venture Agreement** The Edge – 27 January 2025

Bina Puri Holdings Bhd, its subsidiary Bina Puri Properties Sdn Bhd, and their director face a RM28.1 million lawsuit from Wisma Majujaya Sdn Bhd for allegedly breaching a joint venture agreement to develop the "Puri Residence" project in Johor Bahru. The Klang-based developer filed the suit on May 16, 2024, at the Shah Alam High Court, seeking RM28.172 million plus interest.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

**RM28 Million Allocation for Road Upgrades in Sungai Burung, Perak** The Star – 30 January 2025

Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi has allocated RM28 million for road upgrades and widening in Kampung Nelayan Sungai Burung, Perak. As the Rural and Regional Development Minister, he stated that the funding aims to improve accessibility in the area, a well-known tourist destination.

### Damaged Roads to be Fixed Immediately

The Star – 31 January 2025

Sarawak Deputy Premier, Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas has announced that repair work on roads damaged by heavy rainfall and flooding will commence immediately. He stated that the Public Works Department has been directed to proceed with the repairs, even though the full extent of the damage to the Pan Borneo Highway is still being assessed.

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