

ECONOMY

**Malaysia's Economy Expands Faster Than Expected in 4Q 2024** 

*The Edge – 14 February 2025*

Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has announced that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 5% in the 4Q of 2024, slightly slower than the 3Q's revised 5.4% year-on-year growth. For the whole 2024, the Malaysian economy grew by 5.1%, higher than the 3.6% in 2023.

GOVERNMENT

**JS-SEZ Action Plan Expected to be Ready by 3Q 2025** 

*The Edge – 20 February 2025*

The Government is preparing the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ) Action Plan, expected to be completed in the 3Q of 2025, with infrastructure development funded through development allocations, said the Economy Ministry.

**Johor Drafting Masterplan for Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone** 

*The Edge – 19 February 2025*

The Johor State Government is drafting a masterplan for the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ) with input from key agencies like the Iskandar Regional Development Authority. The masterplan is expected to be finalised by June 2025.

**Government Eyes 139 Land Parcels for Affordable Housing Under KL's 2040 Plan** 

*The Edge – 18 February 2025*

The Federal Territories Department has identified 139 land parcels totalling 1,228.95 hectares for potential redevelopment, which could be used for affordable housing under the Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan 2040 and Draft Kuala Lumpur Local Plan 2040 (DPTKL2040). To support this, the Draft DPTKL2040 introduces the Residential 4 Land Use zone, dedicated to affordable housing projects, including public housing, covering 354.47 hectares.

**Residensi Rakyat Harmoni Madani to be Model for Estate-Government Partnerships** 

*The Edge – 15 February 2025*

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has proposed using the Residensi Rakyat (PRR) Harmoni Madani Bestari Jaya programme as a model for estate-government collaboration in developing workers' housing.

## **Developers Must Give Back to Communities**

*The Star – 7 February 2025*

Residential developers in Kuala Lumpur will soon be required to contribute to a housing fund to improve community infrastructure and amenities. The collected funds will be used to develop public facilities and upgrade infrastructure in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

### **LEGAL**

## **Government Says Semantan Estate is Not Entitled to Recovery of Land**

*The Edge – 20 February 2025*

The Federal Territory Land Registrar and the Government informed the Court of Appeal that Semantan Estate (1952) Sdn Bhd is not entitled to reclaim the 263.272 acres of land known as the "Duta Enclave" in Kuala Lumpur but is entitled to compensation, in accordance with Section 29(1)(b) of the Government Proceedings Act 1956.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

## **KL-Karak Highway Widening Project to Begin End-February 2025**

*The Edge – 20 February 2025*

The KL-Karak Highway widening project will start at the end of February 2025 and is expected to be completed in four years. The 45.3-kilometre (km) project involves adding one lane in each direction from the Gombak Toll Plaza to Bentong, Pahang.

## **Final Cost of Penang Light Rail Transit Yet to be Determined**

*The Edge – 19 February 2025*

The final cost of the Penang Light Rail Transit (LRT) project is yet to be determined as it depends on the ongoing procurement process and tender results. The RM13 billion approved by the Federal Government covers construction costs and land acquisition.

## **Selangor Rail Line to be Rolled Out in Phases Over 10 Years**

*The Edge – 19 February 2025*

The Selangor Rail Line will be constructed in phases over up to 10 years, with the feasibility study in its final phase. The proposed 200km alignment includes four spurlines to Westport, Klang, Putra Heights and Universiti Selangor (Unisel) Bestari Jaya.

## **Government Finalising Main Parameters for Proposed KL-Singapore HSR Project**

*The Edge – 18 February 2025*

The Government is finalising main parameters for the proposed private sector-led Kuala Lumpur-Singapore high-speed rail (HSR) project, which will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

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Wisma REHDA, First Floor, No 2C, Jalan SS5D/6, Kelana Jaya, 47301  
Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

Tel: (603) 7803 6006

Fax: (603) 7880 3823

Website: [www.rehdainstitute.com](http://www.rehdainstitute.com)

Email: [inquiry@rehdainstitute.com](mailto:inquiry@rehdainstitute.com)

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