

RI – WEEKLY NEWS

WEEK 12 | 15 - 21 March 2025

ECONOMY

Malaysia's February 2025 Inflation Slows as Housing, Utilities Costs Moderate

☐ The Edge − 21 March 2025

Malaysia's headline inflation slowed in February 2025 as food prices stabilised, while housing and utilities costs moderated. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose by 1.5% year-on-year in February 2025. For 2025, the Ministry of Finance projects headline inflation to range between 2.0% and 3.5%, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia's Economic Report 2025

GOVERNMENT

Malaysian Developers Lead Australia's Urban Renewal While Reforms Stall at Home The Edge – 17 March 2025

Top Malaysian developers, S P Setia Bhd and Gamuda Land, are driving major urban renewal projects in Australia, while Malaysia continues to debate the Urban Renewal Act (URA) amid concerns over low-cost housing. Housing Minister Nga Kor Ming in a press conference held in conjunction with the three-day **Asia Real Estate Leaders (AREL) Study Tour to Melbourne, Australia by the Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute** highlighted key issues, including **Bumiputera** ownership quotas and the impact of "en bloc" sales on lower-income homeowners. The study tour aimed to provide Malaysian developers with insights into sustainable development, social housing, mixed-use projects and urban planning from Australian experts.

Malaysia Targets RM180 Billion in 2025 Property Sales, Eyes Senior Living

☐ The Edge − 17 March 2025

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government Malaysia aims to generate RM180 billion in property sales across all sectors in 2025. Speaking at the Housing Dialogue during the **Asia Real Estate Leaders (AREL) Study Tour in Melbourne by the Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute**, Housing Minister Nga Kor Ming highlighted Malaysia's ageing population. The proportion of those aged 60 and above is expected to increase from 8.3% in 2020 to 14.5% by 2040, with one in ten requiring specialised housing. However, only 2.1% of the Country's total housing stock is currently designated for senior living.

Perak Housing Policy 2.0 Set for Finalisation in 2H 2025

The Star - 20 March 2025

The Perak Housing Policy 2.0 is expected to be finalised in 2H 2025 and is currently in its final phase of refinement before its official launch. Building on the original 2019 policy, it incorporates new trends, emerging housing needs and additional schemes. A key priority is preparing for an ageing population, with the State introducing measures to cater to the housing needs of the elderly.

KPKT And JMB/MC to Jointly Oversee Tender Process in Urban Renewal Projects

The Edge - 20 March 2025

To ensure transparency in urban strata renewals, the Housing and Local Government Ministry (KPKT) and joint management bodies (JMBs) or management committees (MCs) will jointly oversee the tender process. Speaking at the *Asia Real Estate Leaders (AREL) Study Trip & Housing Dialogue* on 12th March 2025, Minister Nga Kor Ming reaffirmed Malaysia's commitment to urban renewal and sustainable housing. Organised by the *Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute* and Monash University, the trip explored key priorities such as strata laws, affordable housing, and senior living.

PROPERTY

REHDA Malaysia Confident of Achieving Sales Target

The Star – 21 March 2025

According to the REHDA Property Industry Survey for 2H 2024 and the market outlook for 2025, the **Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Malaysia** reported that most respondents were more optimistic about the property market outlook for 2H 2025, compared to the more neutral sentiment in 1H 2025. This positive outlook is attributed to strong government initiatives and anticipated post-festive season consumer spending.

INFRASTRUCTURE

KTMB Launches ETS Service to Segamat

The Edge - 15 March 2025

The Electric Train Service (ETS) launched operations between the Butterworth, Padang Besar, and Segamat stations on 15th March 2025. The extended service now includes the existing Butterworth-Gemas-Butterworth and Padang Besar-Gemas-Padang Besar routes.

Plans For AirBorneo to Expand Regionally

The Star – 17 March 2025

The Sarawak State Government is considering leasing new jet aircraft to support AirBorneo's expansion beyond Malaysia. Six destinations have been identified for its regional operations: South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Jakarta and Frankfurt. This initiative aims to enhance connectivity and attract more foreign tourists to Sarawak. The airline is set to be fully operational by 1Q 2026.

RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute

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 Email: inquiry@rehdainstitute.com

