

#### **RI – WEEKLY NEWS**

# WEEK 22 | 24 May - 30 May 2025

#### **ECONOMY**

#### Asean Economy to Expand at 4.7% in 2025

The Star - 25 May 2025

The collective gross domestic product of ASEAN is projected to grow by 4.7% in 2025, up from 4.2% in 2024, according to Investment, Trade and Industry Minister, Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz. He noted that the 25th ASEAN Economic Community Council Meeting, held on May 25, 2025, also forecasted the region's inflation rate at 3%.

## Malaysia, Singapore Agree to Strengthen Investment and Trade Cooperation The Edge – 26 May 2025

Malaysia and Singapore have agreed to further strengthen cooperation in investment and trade, with a focus on key bilateral projects, Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said following his meeting with Singaporean counterpart Lawrence Wong on the sidelines of the 46th ASEAN Summit at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on May 26, 2025.

### Malaysia's Business Confidence Eases for April-September 2025 The Edge - 27 May 2025

Business sentiment in Malaysia is expected to soften slightly for the April – September 2025 period, with the overall net balance of expectations easing to 10.9%, down from 11.9% in 1Q 2025, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia.

# Malaysia-China Trade Hit RM161.98 billion in January to April 2025 The Edge – 28 May 2025

China has remained Malaysia's largest trading partner for 16 consecutive years, with trade reaching US\$36.47 billion (RM161.98 billion) from January to April 2025, driven primarily by exports of electrical and electronic (E&E) products.

#### **GOVERNMENT**

### Government to Review e-Invoicing to Avoid Burdening Small Firms The Star – 24 May 2025

Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has said that the Government is prepared to review the

implementation of the e-Invoice system by the Inland Revenue Board to ensure it does not place an undue burden on small businesses, while emphasising that the system is crucial for preventing leakages and revenue loss.

# Historical Elements Should be Considered in Urban Redevelopment

The Star - 26 May 2025

Communications Minister, Datuk Fahmi Fadzil has urged Kuala Lumpur City Hall to assess the historical elements that should be preserved in the urban redevelopment of 139 identified areas, emphasising that safeguarding a location's heritage is just as important as pursuing sustainable and resilient development.

# Over 200 Johor Projects Worth RM10.8 billion Remain Unimplemented

The Star - 26 May 2025

Johor Menteri Besar, Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi revealed that over 200 projects in the State, valued at RM10.8 billion and approved under the 11th Malaysia Plan in 2016, have yet to be implemented despite funds already being allocated. The State Government views this as a serious matter, given that allocations for the projects have been approved but the work has not been carried out.

### Department of Statistics Malaysia Launches MyLabourHub

The Edge – 27 May 2025

The Department of Statistics Malaysia has launched MyLabourHub, a central platform that consolidates labour market data from surveys, Government records and job websites. It provides a comprehensive overview of Malaysia's workforce and addresses job-skill mismatches.

### Kuala Lumpur Local Plan to be Gazetted June 11, 2025

The Star - 30 May 2025

The Kuala Lumpur Local Plan 2040 is set to be gazetted on June 11, 2025, despite concerns raised by some stakeholders. The Federal Government Gazette, detailing the adoption of the modified draft local plan for the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, was issued by the Attorney General's Chambers on May 28, 2025.

#### **PROPERTY**

# Johor's Property Demand Soaring

The Star - 26 May 2025

Johor executive councillor, Datuk Mohd Jafni Md Shukor said the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone has driven a surge in property demand, with over 3,000 overhang properties sold in 2024. He noted that the number of overhang units fell from around 13,000 in the first quarter of 2024 to about 10,000 in the first quarter of 2025, reflecting a significant increase in sales.

#### 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

