

**RI – WEEKLY NEWS** 

## **WEEK 28 | 5 – 11 July 2025**

#### **ECONOMY**

### Bank Negara Malaysia Cuts Overnight Policy Rate to 2.75%

*The Edge – 9 July 2025* 

Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has reduced its overnight policy rate (OPR) by 25 basis points to 2.75%, marking the first rate cut since May 2023. The move is a pre-emptive measure to support economic growth amid increasing global uncertainties, with inflation remaining moderate.

### **US Formally Notifies Malaysia of 25% Tariff in Letter**

The Edge – 8 July 2025

The United States (US) White House has formally notified Malaysia that a 25% tariff will be imposed on all Malaysian products starting 1 August 2025, citing the need to address a "significant trade deficit" with Malaysia. In letters dated 7 July 2025, US President Donald Trump informed Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and the King Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar that the tariff is a response to Malaysia's tariff, non-tariff policy and trade barriers.

### Number of Unemployed Drops 0.7% in May 2025

The Edge - 10 July 2025

Malaysia's unemployment dropped by 0.7% to 522,400 in May 2025, while the unemployment rate remained at 3%, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia. Employment rose by 0.3% to 16.86 million, with consistent job growth in the services sector, especially in accommodation, F&B, retail and transportation and storage activities.

#### **GOVERNMENT**

## Refurbishment of Damaged 185 Selangor PPR Units to Conclude by October 2025

The Star – 7 July 2025

The refurbishment of 185 damaged units across Kampung Baru Hicom, Kota Damansara, and Serendah People's Housing Projects (PPRs) in Selangor is expected to be completed by end of October 2025. So far, 156 units have been repaired and will be rented to eligible tenants, while the remaining 27 units are still under refurbishment by Perumahan dan Hartanah Selangor Sdn Bhd (PHSSB). A total of RM7.88 million has been spent on repair and maintenance works from 2019 to mid-2023.

## Johor Seeks Idle Federal Land for Affordable Housing

The Star – 7 July 2025

The Johor State Government has applied to the Federal Government to use 161 hectares of idle land in Kempas, Johor Baru, owned by the Health Ministry, to build around 2,000 affordable housing units.

# **Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone Development to Spur Emergence of Satellite Towns**The Edge – 7 July 2025

The Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ) is expected to benefit all 10 districts in Johor, not just Johor Bahru. Menteri Besar Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi said the initiative will drive infrastructure development and the growth of satellite towns across the State.

# **DBKL: Decommissioned STPs Making Way for Parks, Housing**The Star – 8 July 2025

Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) is repurposing 60 decommissioned sewage treatment plants (STPs) under the Kuala Lumpur Local Plan 2040. These former utility sites will be transformed into housing, commercial areas, public facilities and green spaces, based on original plans and current needs. At least 10 sites are earmarked for public open spaces like community parks and urban farms, while 32 sites for potential development, including carparks, food court and residential projects. Of the 60 sites, 40 are federal land, 1 under DBKL and 19 privately owned.

# **Terengganu, Federal Government to Discuss Maximising ECRL Stations' Benefits**The Edge – 9 July 2025

The Terengganu State Government will engage with the Federal Government, Malaysia Rail Link (MRL) and relevant agencies to ensure transit-oriented development (TOD) projects at six East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) stations in the State maximise benefits for local communities. Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar emphasised the need for road upgrades and coordinated planning to ensure the ECRL drives public access and economic activity.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

## **ECRL Project Has Reached 85% Progress**

The Edge – 5 July 2025

The East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project has reached 85% completion, with Malaysia Rail Link Sdn Bhd (MRL) instructed to closely monitor its implementation to ensure timely progress. Operations are targeted to begin in early 2027.

## Cross-Border RTS Link Train Rolls in for Testing

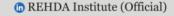
The Star - 10 July 2025

The Johor Bahru–Singapore Rapid Transit System Link (RTS Link) is on track to begin operations by 1 January 2027, following the unveiling of its first train set at the Singapore Rail Test Centre. Featuring eight four-car trains, each train can carry up to 1,087 passengers, allowing for 10,000 passengers per hour per direction.

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