

**ECONOMY**

**Malaysia's Exports Decelerated, Growing Slower Than Expected in August 2025**

*The Edge – 19 September 2025*

Malaysia's exports growth decelerated in August 2025, coming in at a slower-than-expected pace as gains in shipments of electronics were dampened by a decline in petroleum deliveries. Exports climbed to RM131.6 billion, a 1.9% increase from the same month of 2024, according to the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry.

**GOVERNMENT**

**Sustainable Urban Development Should Combine Digital Innovation with Cultural Preservation**

*The Edge – 15 September 2025*

Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming has called on Asean and China to strengthen collaboration in sustainable urban development by combining digital innovation with cultural preservation.

**Selangor Identifies 1,699 Hectares of Land for Third Port on Carey Island**

*The Edge – 17 September 2025*

The Selangor Government has identified 1,699.68 hectares (4,200 acres) of land to be developed as a third port on Carey Island in Kuala Langat. Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari said that this comprises 1,011.71 hectares of seabed land managed by the Selangor State Development Corporation (PKNS) and 687.96 hectares (1,700 acres) of coastal land owned by Yayasan Selangor.

**Urban Renewal Bill Set to be Tabled for Second Reading on October 6, 2025**

*The Edge – 18 September 2025*

The Urban Renewal Bill is expected to be tabled in the Dewan Rakyat for the second reading on October 6, 2025, after being postponed on August 27, 2025, said Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming.

**PROPERTY**

**Foreign Residents Contribute Over RM84.2 Billion A Year, Including Buying Property**

*The Edge – 13 September 2025*

Malaysia's open-door policy has boosted the economy, with foreign residents contributing more than RM84.2 billion a year, including from international property buyers, said Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming.

### Malaysia, China to Collaborate on Smart City Pilot Projects

*The Edge – 14 September 2025*

Malaysia and China have agreed to strengthen cooperation in developing smart city pilot projects, with plans to establish smart city command centres in Malaysia's second-tier cities such as Ipoh and Seberang Perai.

### Penang Home Owners to See Higher Quit Rent

*The Star – 18 September 2025*

Almost 400,000 home and landowners in Penang will have to pay more in quit or parcel rent, locally called *cukai tanah* and *cukai petak*, from 2027. This follows a State Government move to redraw 10 town boundaries and gazette 25 densely built areas as townships instead of villages or rural areas.

### Penang Expands 10 Towns, Creates 25 New Ones

*The Edge – 18 September 2025*

Penang has officially gazetted amendments to municipal boundaries, expanding the limits of 10 existing towns and creating 25 new towns across the State. Chief Minister, Chow Kon Yeow said the decision was made through the Penang State Government Gazette dated September 4, 2025, in line with Sections 11(ca) and 11(d) of the National Land Code (Act 828).

### Year-End 2025 Affordable Housing Goal Nearly Achieved

*The Star – 19 September 2025*

The development of 500,000 affordable homes by year-end 2025 is just a whisker away from its target, says Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming. He said as of June 2025, 98.8% or 493,874 affordable houses were delivered with the remaining 6,126 units expected to be ready by the end of 2025.

### Property Developers Plan 3-5% Price Hikes Due to Sales and Service Tax (SST) Impact

*The Edge – 19 September 2025*

The SST is a major concern for property developers with over 70% planning to raise property prices by 3% to 5% because of it, according to a Property Industry Survey by the **Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Malaysia**.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### Smart Lane on North-South Expressway (NSE) to Close for Upgrades

*The Star – 19 September 2025*

PLUS Malaysia Berhad announced the closure of the Smart Lane on the NSE, southbound from Kulai to Senai between KM26.5 and KM19.3 starting September 22, 2025.

**RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute**

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