

**ECONOMY**

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth to Hit Upper End of Forecast Following 5.2% Expansion**

*The Edge – 24 November 2025*

Malaysia's economic growth for 2025 is expected to reach the higher end of the official 4.0% to 4.8% forecast, following a 5.2% expansion in the third quarter of 2025, Bank Negara Malaysia Governor, Datuk Seri Abdul Rasheed Ghaffour stated on November 21, 2025 during the release of quarterly statistics. He added that the domestic economy is expected to continue supporting growth into 2026.

**Malaysia's Leading Index (LI) Rises 0.8% in September 2025**

*The Star – 25 November 2025*

Malaysia's economic indicators strengthened in September 2025, with the LI rising 0.8% to 113.3 points, compared with 112.4 points in 2024, according to the Statistics Department of Malaysia. The LI serves as an early indicator of turning points in the business cycle and the near-term direction of the economy.

**GOVERNMENT**

**High Costs, Relocation Issues Hamper Urban Renewal Act (URA) Redevelopment Efforts**

*The Star – 24 November 2025*

The proposed URA will not fully resolve issues in redeveloping dilapidated housing schemes, said Selangor Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari. He noted that although the URA is needed to prevent ageing apartments from further deterioration, one of the biggest challenges is the temporary relocation of residents during the redevelopment of their homes.

**Sarawak Tables RM14.9 Billion Budget for 2026**

*The Star – 24 November 2025*

Sarawak has tabled a RM14.9 billion budget for 2026, focusing on sustainable development and enhancing the wellbeing of its people. Premier, Tan Sri Abang Johari Openg stated that RM5.6 billion has been allocated for operating expenditure, with RM9.3 billion earmarked for development.

**Fewer Sick, Delayed and Abandoned Private Housing Projects Recorded**

*The Edge – 25 November 2025*

Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister, Datuk Aiman Athirah Sabu stated that there has been a decrease in the number of sick, delayed and abandoned projects, with delayed projects experiencing the largest decline of 24.0%, falling from 146 to 111 as of October 31, 2025. While abandoned projects decreased by 2.0%, from 107.

### **Perak Starts Groundwork on Build-Then-Sell (BTS) Housing Model**

*The Star – 27 November 2025*

Perak is preparing for the potential implementation of the BTS housing concept, said State Housing and Local Government Committee chairman, Sandra Ng. Although no decision has been made, she added that preparations are underway to ensure readiness in policy, implementation mechanisms and industry capacity should the Federal Government make BTS mandatory.

### **Government Reviewing Proposed 30-Year Age Threshold for Ageing Buildings**

*The Star – 27 November 2025*

The Government is reviewing the proposed 30-year age threshold for buildings under the Urban Renewal Bill to ensure it reflects technical, economic and social realities, Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming said. He added that the Ministry will ensure any policy introduced does not impose an undue burden on occupants, whether in maintenance or new development.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Electric Train Service 3 (ETS3): Johor Bahru-KL Sentral Route to Start on December 12, 2025**

*The Edge – 22 November 2025*

ETS3 on the Johor Bahru–KL Sentral route is expected to begin operations on December 12, 2025, Transport Minister, Anthony Loke Siew Fook announced. He said the inauguration ceremony is scheduled for December 11, 2025 and added that the service will initially focus on this route to allow higher train frequencies than on longer routes.

### **The East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) at 89% Completion as of October 2025**

*The Edge – 24 November 2025*

The ECRL project had reached 89% overall completion as of October 2025, according to Malaysia Rail Link Sdn Bhd chief executive officer, Datuk Seri Darwis Abdul Razak. With testing and commissioning set to begin middle of 2026, operations from Kota Bharu to the Gombak Integrated Terminal are expected by January 2027.

### **Preliminary Railway Alignment Proposed for Trans-Borneo Railway Project**

*The Star – 28 November 2025*

A preliminary railway alignment has been proposed for the Trans-Borneo Railway project, which is currently undergoing a feasibility study, the Sarawak Legislative Assembly heard. State Deputy Transport Minister, Datuk Dr Jerip Susil said the alignment will be further refined as part of the study, which is expected to be completed by June 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](http://www.rehdainstitute.com)

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

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