

ECONOMY

Lowest Unemployment in 11 Years: Government to Ensure Economic Growth Translates to Jobs

The Star – 10 January 2026

The Government will continue to strive to ensure that economic growth translates into better job opportunities, higher incomes and a more secure future for Malaysians, Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said. He noted that the national unemployment rate fell to its lowest level in 11 years by the end of 2025.

Malaysia's Economy Accelerates in 4Q 2025, Finishing 2025 Above Expectations.

The Edge – 16 January 2026

Malaysia's economy grew faster than expected in the fourth quarter of 2025, supported by a pickup in services and manufacturing activity. Gross Domestic Product expanded 5.7% in October to December of 2025 when compared to the same quarter in 2024, said the Department of Statistics Malaysia.

GOVERNMENT

2026 Marks Implementation of Government Reforms and Development Agenda

Bernama – 15 January 2026

In 2026, the Government's reform and development agenda comes into effect, with its impact already being experienced by households, businesses and the wider economy, according to Finance Minister II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan during the **Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute's CEO Series 2026**.

Fourteen Ministries Failed to Meet Targets

The Edge – 15 January 2026

A total of 14 Ministries has been identified as failing to meet their targets in implementing physical development projects allocated in 2025, according to Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar. He noted that expenditure on these projects by the Ministries stood at 87.9%, below the national average, highlighting the need for urgent attention.

Government Green-Lights RM4.3 billion for 13th Malaysia Plan (13MP) Projects in Kedah

The Star – 16 January 2026

A total of RM4.389 billion has been approved for 38 projects in Kedah under the 13MP, according to Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof. He stated that the allocation was granted to the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation to carry out the projects under 13MP's Rolling Plan 1 for the State.

PROPERTY

REHDA Institute CEO Series 2026: Malaysia Economy Near Potential

The Edge – 15 January 2026

Malaysia's economy is operating close to its potential, underpinned by stable monetary policy and gradual fiscal consolidation, indicating steady conditions despite external uncertainties. This was highlighted during the **REHDA Institute's CEO Series 2026**.

Transit-Oriented Development Can Transform Rail Corridors into Economic Engines

Bernama – 15 January 2026

Unlocking nearly 3,520.77 hectares of the Railway Asset Corporation's landbank for transit-oriented development could turn railway corridors into economic drivers, according to REHDA Institute. **REHDA Institute chairman, Datuk Jeffrey Ng Tiong Lip** said the initiative would boost ridership, expand housing supply, stimulate commercial activity, tourism and strengthen the financial sustainability of the Nation's rail network, especially along the Southern and Eastern corridors.

CONSTRUCTION

Building Costs Rise in December 2025 on Higher Cement and Sand

The Edge – 12 January 2026

Building costs in Malaysia increased in December 2025, driven by increases in cement and sand prices, according to Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The unit price index for cement recorded a monthly increase of between 1.2% and 3.2%, DOSM noted in its Special Release for Building and Structural Works for December 2025.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Rapid Bus Route Revamp to Enhance Services in Klang Valley

The Star – 12 January 2026

Effective on January 16, 2026, Rapid Bus Sdn Bhd will restructure selected Klang Valley bus routes, with 16 Mass Rapid Transit feeder routes and 3 standard Rapid KL routes being fully converted to the Rapid KL On-Demand service in the first phase due to low daily passenger numbers.

Bill on Johor Bahru-Singapore Rapid Transit System (RTS) Link Border Control to be Tabled

The Edge – 16 January 2026

A bill to facilitate border control arrangements for the Johor Bahru–Singapore RTS Link will be tabled in Parliament in February 2026, Transport Minister, Anthony Loke Siew Fook said. He noted that one of the Government's key steps is to introduce legislation to enable the co-location of Customs, Immigration and Quarantine facilities for the RTS Link, speaking on the sidelines of the **REHDA Institute CEO Series 2026** conference on January 15, 2026.

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