

ECONOMY

BNM Keeps Key Interest Rate at 2.75%

The Edge – 22 January 2026

Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has kept the overnight policy rate (OPR) at 2.75%, as widely expected, citing a resilient economy and moderate inflation. The decision, made at the first of six policy reviews 2026, was unanimously predicted by economists, with BNM stating the rate remains supportive of growth and price stability.

Malaysia's December Inflation Rises 1.6% on Higher Personal Care and Education Costs

The Edge – 20 January 2026

Malaysia's inflation averaged 1.4% in 2025, easing from 1.8% in 2024, mainly due to slower increases in housing-related costs, transport and healthcare, along with continued price declines in the information and communication sector, according to Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

GOVERNMENT

100,000 Homeowners Targeted Under Housing Credit Guarantee Scheme in 2026

The Edge – 21 January 2026

The Government targets over 100,000 first-time homebuyers in 2026 through the Housing Credit Guarantee Scheme (SJKP). To support this, the scheme's guarantee ceiling was increased by RM10 billion in 2025, bringing the cumulative total since 2008 to RM40 billion. As of 30 September 2025, SJKP had approved RM23.17 billion in guarantees, benefiting 97,180 buyers, with RM16 billion still available for eligible applicants.

Housing Ministry to Implement 10 Priority Initiatives

The Star – 20 January 2026

Housing reforms, reducing urban poverty and reviving abandoned housing projects are among the Housing and Local Government Ministry's 10 priority initiatives for 2026, set following its Strategic Direction Retreat in line with the 13th Malaysia Plan (13MP). Five of the priorities focus on housing reforms, including drafting of a new Real Property Development Act, the Electronic Sale and Purchase Agreements, the Housing Integrated Management System, the TEDUH platform and a Digital Audit of Housing Development Accounts.

KPKT Ready to Re-Table Urban Renewal Bill 2025 for Second Reading

The Edge – 20 January 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) is ready to re-table the Urban Renewal Bill 2025 for its second reading, subject to Cabinet approval. The second reading, initially scheduled for 28 August 2025, was postponed and is now expected to be taken up during the current parliamentary sitting.

No Go for Big KL Projects Without Members of Parliament's Input

The Edge – 20 January 2026

Large-scale developments in Kuala Lumpur will now require feedback from the Members of Parliament (MPs) for respective areas, effective immediately. Federal Territories Minister Hannah Yeoh said development decisions must involve elected MPs to ensure projects serve the public interest and improve accountability.

All 34 Sick PR1MA Projects to be Completed by March 2026

The Edge – 17 January 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) aims to complete all previously sick or abandoned PR1MA housing projects by March 2026. Its Minister Nga Kor Ming said 34 PR1MA projects were in the sick or abandoned categories when he took office, but all have since been successfully completed through joint efforts.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Subang Jaya-Klang Section in KVDT2 Project to be Completed by end-March 2026

The Edge – 20 January 2026

Rehabilitation works for the Subang Jaya–Klang stretch of the Klang Valley Double Track Phase II (KVDT2) project are expected to be completed by end-March 2026, according to Transport Minister Anthony Loke. While this section is targeted for completion in the first quarter, the full KVDT2 line to Seremban will take several more years to finish.

WORLD

Singapore Home Prices Rise Less Than Estimated, Rents Drop

The Edge – 23 January 2026

Singapore home prices rose 3.3% in 2025, slightly below initial estimates, as the market showed signs of cooling toward year-end, with fourth-quarter price growth easing to 0.6%. Private rents fell 0.5% in Q4 2025, the first decline in over a year, though rents still increased 1.9% for the year. Despite repeated government cooling measures, the property market remained resilient, supported by lower interest rates and strong demand from locals and wealthy immigrants.

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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

 REHDA Institute (Official)

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