

ECONOMY

[Government Taking Steps to Keep Economy Stable Amid Crisis](#)

The Star – 16 March 2026

The Government has implemented strong, proactive fiscal measures to maintain economic stability if the crisis in the Middle East continues, says senior political adviser, Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz. These measures include savings initiatives and maintaining fuel subsidies to help ease the public's cost of living. Tengku Zafrul also assured that the Government will continue monitoring developments in West Asia to protect the interests of the people and the Country.

GOVERNMENT

[Government Ensures All Citizens Benefit from Development and Facilities](#)

The Edge – 15 March 2026

Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim stressed that the Madani Government will continue striving to ensure every citizen, whether in urban or rural areas, enjoys proper development and basic facilities without being left behind. This was in response to the appreciation expressed by residents of Kampung Chatel Damai, Lata Rek in Kelantan, over the construction of a new bridge in the village.

[Prime Minister Calls for Close Monitoring of Development Projects in Kota Kinabalu](#)

The Edge – 15 March 2026

Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has emphasised the need for all parties to stay focused and closely monitor the implementation of every approved development project in the Kota Kinabalu district. He said this is important as the people have high expectations for projects that directly affect their daily lives, including efforts to upgrade roads and infrastructure facilities.

[The Regent of Johor Planning Residential Project on Singapore's Holland Road](#)

The Star – 17 March 2026

The Regent of Johor, Tunku Mahkota Ismail, plans to develop residential properties on his land parcels at Holland Road. A media release on the Urban Redevelopment Authority website stated that it had received a development application from the Regent of Johor for residential use. He has now submitted a proposal to develop the land for low-rise and low-density housing.

[One-Third of Public Works Department \(JKR\) Projects Ahead of Schedule](#)

Bernama – 18 March 2026

About one-third of JKR projects nationwide are currently progressing ahead of schedule, said Deputy Works Minister, Ahmad Maslan. He noted that out of 855 ongoing projects, roughly a third are either ahead of time or on track, while the remainder are behind schedule.

PROPERTY

[More Middle East interest in Malaysia My Second Home \(MM2H\)](#)

The Star – 16 March 2026

Malaysia is seeing growing interest from citizens of Gulf countries in the MM2H programme, says MM2H Consultants Association president, Anthony Liew. He attributed this to Malaysia's status as a geopolitically neutral Country. He added that enquiries have increased, mainly from those living in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar, although applications have yet to be submitted as some documents still need verification.

[REHDA Institute to Lead Malaysian Delegates to United Kingdom](#)

The Edge – 17 March 2026

The **Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute** will lead Malaysian industry leaders on a study mission to the United Kingdom from 19 to 25 March 2026. The mission supports Malaysia's efforts to advance urban regeneration frameworks, strata law reforms and public transport-oriented planning policies to improve liveability and address housing challenges, said REHDA Institute. Meanwhile, REHDA Institute chief operating officer, David S Chong said the programme highlights the institute's role in facilitating collaboration between industry players, policymakers and international knowledge partners.

[Malaysia Stops Preferential Rate for Real Estate Investment Trusts \(REITs\) Withholding Tax](#)

The Edge – 19 March 2026

Malaysia has stopped offering preferential withholding tax rates on dividends from REITs, according to a Government notice. The previous concessionary 10% rate for most non-corporate investors has been discontinued from 2026, as stated in Inland Revenue Board Practice Note 2/2026, with Malaysians now taxed based on prevailing individual rates without withholding tax deductions.

INFRASTRUCTURE

[East Coast Rail Link \(ECRL\) Achieves 92.6% Construction Progress in February 2026](#)

The Star – 17 March 2026

The ECRL project has reached 92.6% completion as of February 2026, in line with the schedule to complete the Kota Bharu–Gombak alignment by the end of 2026 and begin commercial operations in January 2027. Finance Minister II, Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said the alignment from Gombak to Port Klang in Selangor is expected to be completed by December 2027 and to become fully operational in January 2028.

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