

ECONOMY

[Higher Electricity Tariff in April 2026 as Fuel Cost Increases](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

Tenaga Nasional Berhad announced that the Automatic Fuel Adjustment (AFA) for April 2026 has been set at a rebate of 0.47 sen per kWh, compared with 2.15 sen per kWh in March 2026, noting that the AFA mechanism, allows monthly adjustments to electricity tariffs based on prior fuel costs, including gas and coal used in power generation, as well as exchange rate movements.

[Putrajaya Exploring New Energy Sources, Supply Channels Amid Surging Oil Prices](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

Malaysia is actively seeking alternative energy sources and new supply channels across various regions as global oil prices rise above US\$100 per barrel amid the ongoing conflict in Iran. The Government is assessing both immediate supply security and longer-term diversification strategies, with discussions taking place at the National Economic Action Council and a newly formed dedicated energy security committee.

BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA (BNM) ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Published on 31 March 2026

[BNM Declares RM5 billion Dividend as Income Eases](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

BNM declared a dividend of RM5 billion to the Government for 2025, marking the second consecutive year of such a payout following a record RM5.25 billion dividend in 2024, despite a 5.7% decline in income. Net profit after tax stood at RM12.45 billion for the financial year ended 31 December 2025, down from RM13.16 billion in 2024.

[Malaysia's 2026 Growth at 4% to 5%](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

Malaysia's economy is projected to grow between 4% and 5% in 2026, supported by resilient domestic demand and sustained investment momentum. This forecast is slightly broader and more optimistic than the Ministry of Finance's projection of 4.0% to 4.5% outlined in Budget 2026.

[Growth at Risk if War Exceeds Six Months](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

BNM warned that Malaysia's 4% to 5% growth outlook may be revised if the US-Israel-Iran conflict extends beyond six months and drives oil prices above US\$110 per barrel. Its Governor, Datuk Seri Abdul Rasheed Ghaffour, said the Central Bank's stress tests account for multiple scenarios based on the duration and severity of the conflict as well as its impact on global growth and energy markets.

[Malaysia's Inflation to Edge Up To 1.5% to 2.5% in 2026](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

Malaysia's headline inflation is projected to average between 1.5% and 2.5% in 2026, compared to 1.4% in 2025, primarily reflecting higher external cost pressures amid a more uncertain global environment. While this represents a modest increase from 2025, overall price pressures are expected to remain moderate and broadly in line with the long-term average, supported by domestic policy measures and stable underlying demand conditions.

[Ringgit Outlook Remains Positive Despite Escalating Mideast War](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

Despite external uncertainties arising from the Middle East conflict that continue to weigh on global currency markets, the outlook for the ringgit remains positive. This outlook is supported by the Country's strong economic fundamentals, ongoing domestic reforms and sustained investor engagement.

[Wage Growth Fails to Keep Pace with Inflation](#)

The Star – 1 April 2026

While maintaining stable prices for goods and services remains a key priority for policymakers, it is equally important to ensure that income growth keeps pace. BNM highlighted that the real challenge lies in aligning wage growth with inflation, noting that between 2019 and 2024, the headline consumer price index rose by 9.3% while nominal wages per worker increased by only 7.2%. This disparity means that, on average, individuals must work longer hours to afford the same basket of goods.

GOVERNMENT

[Malaysia-Cambridge Urban Platform for Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#)

Bernama – 28 March 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government is proposing the establishment of a Malaysia Cambridge urban platform to advance the SDG 2030 under the MADANI economic framework. Its Minister, Nga Kor Ming, said the collaboration with the University of Cambridge would strengthen strategic partnerships with leading global institutions and further position Malaysia as a resilient and competitive economy in Asia despite ongoing geopolitical challenges. He shared this at the inaugural Forum on Housing and Urban Planning at Downing College, University of Cambridge, which was jointly organised by **Real Estate and Housing Developers' Association (REHDA) Institute**, the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University and the Cambridge University Malaysian Students Association.

[Gig Workers Act 2025 Comes into Full Force on 31 March 2026](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

The Gig Workers Act 2025 has come into full force, providing protection to 1.64 million gig workers in Malaysia, including both citizens and permanent residents. The Act also clarifies that a gig worker refers to any individual who has entered into an agreement with a contracting entity, whether through a platform provider or otherwise and who receives income or payment for services rendered.

[Expansion Plans to be Unveiled by End-April 2026 for Government's Central Database Hub](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

The Government will announce further plans for the Central Database Hub (PADU) system by the end of April 2026 to strengthen a data driven approach under the 13th Malaysia Plan. Economy Minister, Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir said the initiative is being refined to ensure PADU remains a relevant platform for supporting Government policies and programmes.

LEGAL

[Semantan Estate's Discovery Application Dismissed, Hearing for Compensation Also Deferred](#)

The Edge – 1 April 2026

On 1 April 2026, the High Court dismissed two separate discovery applications filed by Semantan Estate (1952) Sdn Bhd against the Federal Government in relation to compensation for 263.27 acres of prime land in the Duta enclave that was acquired prior to Merdeka in 1956. Judge Roslan Mat Nor acknowledged the significance of the applications but noted that the Government had undertaken searches with the Land and Mines Department, Kuala Lumpur City Hall, the National Archives and the Department of Survey and Mapping, which produced only limited results.

PROPERTY

[Melaka, Perlis and Putrajaya Achieve Zero Abandoned Housing Projects](#)

The Edge – 2 April 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) reported continued progress in resolving problematic private housing developments, with Melaka, Perlis and the Federal Territory of Putrajaya recording zero abandoned projects as at end-February 2026. As at 28 February 2026, KPKT recorded 145 delayed projects, 309 sick projects and 99 abandoned projects.

[34 sick PR1MA Projects Completed, Over 22,000 Buyers Received Homes](#)

The Edge – 2 April 2026

A total of 34 previously sick projects under PR1MA Malaysia Corporation have now been completed, enabling 22,925 buyers to finally receive their houses after years of waiting, with Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming noting that the milestone was achieved following the handover of keys for the final two projects, Residensi Klebang 2 and Residensi Bukit Katil.

CONSTRUCTION

[Works Ministry to Conduct Impact Assessment on Rising Construction Material Costs](#)

The Edge – 31 March 2026

The Public Works Ministry is undertaking a comprehensive assessment to identify appropriate mitigation measures in response to rising construction costs driven by geopolitical tensions in West Asia. Its Minister, Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi, stated that the assessment is being conducted in collaboration with relevant agencies and industry players and will cover key aspects including project implementation, cost structures and the resilience of the construction sector's supply chain.

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