

ECONOMY

**Malaysia's Services Producer Price Index (PPI) Up 2.1% in 1Q 2026**

*The Edge – 7 May 2026*

Malaysia's services PPI increased by 2.1% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2026, up from 1.0% in 4Q 2025, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia. Chief Statistician, Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the rise was primarily driven by higher prices in accommodation and food and beverage services, transportation and education.

**72% of Malaysian Manufacturers Report Worsening Conditions Since April 2026**

*The Star – 7 May 2026*

The Middle East crisis has worsened conditions in Malaysia's manufacturing industry, according to the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers. Its president, Jacob Lee, said a second survey confirms that conditions have deteriorated since the initial findings were published on 7 April 2026.

GOVERNMENT

**Government Measures to be Prudent and Targeted Amid Cost Pressures**

*The Edge – 4 May 2026*

The Government acknowledges cost-of-living pressures but says responses must be targeted and measured, said Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. He added that the Government's current approach in addressing these challenges is more focused on targeting assistance to ensure that those who truly need help continue to be protected.

**State Rolls Out Cash and Rental Aid to Ease Entry into Property Ownership**

*The Star – 6 May 2026*

Potential first-time homebuyers in Johor can receive up to RM7,000 in assistance from the State Government to help ease the financial burden of homeownership, said State Exco member, Mohd Jafni Md Shukor. He added that the assistance included RM5,000 under the Home Purchase Aid scheme and Home Entry Aid scheme, which has been increased to RM2,000.

**Abandoned Sungai Limau Water Treatment Plant (LRA) Project May Cost Extra RM50 Million**

*Bernama – 7 May 2026*

The Federal Government is expected to allocate an additional RM50 million to revive the abandoned Sungai Limau Water Treatment Plant project in Baling following the termination of the project's original contract last year. Economy Minister, Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir said the nearly RM100 million project had only achieved between 15% to 20% progress before construction works were halted.

## [Government Mulls 'Option to Purchase' \(OTP\) Clause to Curb Abandoned Housing Projects](#)

*The Star – 7 May 2026*

Putrajaya is looking at introducing an OTP clause to prevent the occurrence of sick and abandoned housing projects, says Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming. He said the clause is being studied under the proposed Real Property Development Bill, which aims to modernise the industry's legislative framework.

## [Government Closely Monitors Development Projects, Prioritises Public Interest](#)

*The Star – 7 May 2026*

The Economy Ministry will continue to closely monitor the implementation of development projects, particularly those under its purview, to ensure they remain on track and avoid delays, especially for ongoing projects of public interest. Economy Minister, Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir, said the Ministry is also continuously assessing the need for Government intervention.

## [Penang Maintains Rental Rates for Local Authority Business Premises](#)

*The Star – 7 May 2026*

The Penang Government will maintain current rental rates for business premises under Local Authorities for the time being, said State Local Government and Town and Country Planning committee chairman, H'ng Mooi Lye. He added the prolonged geopolitical conflict in the Middle East has triggered a chain reaction in the global economy, driving up crude oil prices and logistics costs.

### LEGAL

## [Sabah Passes Law for Management of Properties Under Subsidiary Titles](#)

*The Star – 30 April 2026*

The Sabah Legislative Assembly has passed the Building Management Enactment 2026, a comprehensive law to oversee the management of properties under subsidiary titles. The enactment covers residential, commercial and mixed developments and introduces subsidiary management corporations for specific precincts in large-scale developments to enable more comprehensive regulation.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

## [Elevated Highways, Smart Technology to Ease Urban Congestion](#)

*The Star – 6 May 2026*

The development of elevated highways and the use of smart technology are among the key approaches adopted by the Malaysian Highway Authority (LLM) to address worsening traffic congestion. LLM Director-General, Mohd Hadzmir Yusoff said the need to develop new highways and adopt such technologies is driven by the increase in the number of vehicles and highway usage.

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