

ECONOMY

Malaysia's Trade Surges 22.4% to Record RM1.796 trillion in 1H26

The Star – 20 July 2026

Malaysia's trade expanded 22.4% year-on-year to a record RM1.796 trillion in the first half of 2026, supported by robust export growth despite persistent geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions and uneven global demand. In a statement, the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) said exports rose 27.5% to RM971.59 billion, while imports increased 16.9% to RM824.44 billion, resulting in a trade surplus of RM147.15 billion.

Unsubsidised RON95, RON97 Price Raised RM0.20, Diesel Up RM0.35

The Edge – 22 July 2026

The retail prices of unsubsidised fuels will increase for the week beginning 23 July 2026, with diesel rising by RM0.35 to RM4.42 per litre, while RON95 and RON97 will each increase by RM0.20 to RM3.62 and RM4.20 per litre, respectively, according to the Ministry of Finance. The Ministry said the prices of unsubsidised petroleum products are adjusted in line with movements in the global oil market over the past week.

NIMP 2030 Impetus for Factory Gate Activity in 1Q 2026

The Star – 24 July 2026

Malaysia's manufacturing sector recorded a 5.9% increase in gross value-added to RM101.3 billion in the first quarter of 2026, two years after the launch of the New Industrial Master Plan (NIMP) 2030. The electrical and electronics sector remained the main growth driver, buoyed by rising global technology demand and higher semiconductor output.

GOVERNMENT

Government Allocates RM33 Million for Peninsular Malaysia Road Safety

The Star – 22 July 2026

The Works Ministry has allocated RM33.5 million this year to implement 94 road safety infrastructure projects across Peninsular Malaysia, with all works expected to be completed by October 2026. Works Minister, Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi said the allocation covers 77 accident-prone locations under the Blackspot Programme and 17 sites under the Signalised Pedestrian Crossing Programme (LPKSI).

Budget 2027 to be Tabled in Early October 2026

The Star – 23 July 2026

Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said work on Budget 2027 is underway, with the Government expected to table the spending plan in Parliament in early October 2026. The upcoming budget follows Budget 2026, Malaysia's largest-ever fiscal plan, which allocated RM470 billion.

Customs Department Exceeds First-Half Revenue Target, Collecting RM43.62 billion

The Edge – 23 July 2026

The Royal Malaysian Customs Department exceeded its first-half revenue target after collecting RM43.62 billion, surpassing projections by RM3.62 billion. The collection also represented a 22.22% increase compared with the same period in 2025.

Melaka Households to Get Own Digital IDs

The Star – 24 July 2026

Every household in Melaka can now obtain an official digital identity through a dedicated e-mail address, providing direct access to Government services, school updates and community information. Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Ab Rauf Yusoh said the *E-Mel Rakyat Melaka* initiative is designed to establish a secure, trusted and official communication channel between the State Government and residents.

PROPERTY

Participating Developers to Offer 10% Home Purchase Discount at AREC 2026

The Edge – 23 July 2026

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has announced a 10% home purchase discount for buyers at Asean Real Estate Conference (AREC) 2026. Held from 29 July 2026 to 1 August 2026 at Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre, the event will bring together key property industry players while offering homebuyers access to property showcases, financing options and expert advisory services.

INFRASTRUCTURE

East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) Set to Contribute Up to RM90 Billion to GDP by 2047

The Edge – 21 July 2026

The ECRL project is expected to contribute between RM80 billion and RM90 billion in cumulative value added to Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2047. Deputy Economy Minister, Datuk Mohd Shahar Abdullah said the projected contribution will be driven by 21 economic accelerator projects, which are set to play a key role in generating economic growth and returns along the ECRL corridor.

Seremban Sentral Railway Station 35% Completed, Ready in March 2027

The Edge – 21 July 2026

The construction of the new Seremban Sentral railway station, which is set to become the city's integrated modern transport hub, has reached 35% completion and is on track for completion by March 2027. Transport Minister, Anthony Loke Siew Fook said the project has passed its most challenging phase, with piling works and the relocation of underground utilities now completed, paving the way for faster construction progress.

RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute

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)

 REHDA Institute

 REHDA INSTITUTE

 REHDA Institute