

ECONOMY

Diesel Subsidy Improvements to be Announced Within a Month

The Edge – 22 August 2026

The Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living is optimistic that improvements to the diesel subsidy mechanism will be announced in September 2026, following the completion of engagement sessions with relevant stakeholders and the submission of feedback to the Ministry of Finance. Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister, Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali said the announcement could be made earlier than the one- to two-month timeframe estimated previously.

Malaysia's Leading Index Rises 1.3% in June 2026

The Star – 24 August 2026

Malaysia's Leading Index rose 1.3% year-on-year to 114.8 points in June 2026 from 113.3 points a year earlier, signalling positive near-term economic prospects. The Department of Statistics Malaysia said the increase was mainly driven by higher real imports of other basic precious and non-ferrous metals, which rose 35.1%, and semiconductors, which increased 14.2%.

Resilience Likely for Export Growth in 2H26

The Star – 24 August 2026

Malaysia's export growth is expected to remain resilient in 2H26, supported by sustained demand for electrical and electronics (E&E) products and the ongoing semiconductor upcycle. Commodity shipments are also expected to provide support, although protectionist measures, geopolitical tensions and challenging base effects could weigh on growth.

MITI to Drive Low-Altitude Economy Development

The Star – 26 August 2026

The Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry (MITI) will implement the Unmanned Valley Ecosystem pilot project under the 13th Malaysia Plan to drive the development of the low-altitude economy (LAE). LAE refers to economic activities and public services conducted within a low-altitude airspace ecosystem using technologies such as drones, advanced air mobility, air logistics, infrastructure inspection, smart farming and emergency services.

Unsubsidised Fuel Prices to Rise Five Sen Per Litre from 27 August 2026

The Edge – 27 August 2026

Retail prices for unsubsidised fuels will increase by five sen per litre from Aug 27, driven by higher global crude oil prices amid geopolitical volatility. RON95 will rise to RM3.82 per litre, RON97 to RM4.30 and diesel to RM4.72, according to the Finance Ministry.

Business Outlook For 3Q Rebounds as Confidence Indicator Rises

The Star – 27 August 2026

Businesses are more optimistic for the third quarter of 2026, with the confidence indicator rising to 5.9% from -1.8% in the previous quarter, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). All sectors expect improved business performance in 3Q 2026, with industry, services, construction and wholesale and retail trade recording positive sentiment.

GOVERNMENT

Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) Studying Development Strain in Bangsar

The Star – 24 August 2026

DBKL has begun a six-month study to assess whether Bangsar's infrastructure can support approved projects and future development. Kuala Lumpur mayor, Datuk Seri Fadlun Mak Ujud said the study would examine the cumulative impact of multiple developments, following residents' concerns over traffic, flash floods and pressure on roads and utilities.

Home Ownership Campaign, EV Infrastructure Among Stakeholders' Proposals for Budget 2027

The Edge – 25 August 2026

Stakeholders have proposed improving strata building management, reviving the Home Ownership Campaign (HOC) and expanding EV charging infrastructure for consideration in Budget 2027. Housing and Local Government Minister, YB Nga Kor Ming said the proposals were raised during the Ministry's Budget 2027 engagement session, attended by 350 stakeholders from various sectors to provide feedback and suggestions aimed at developing initiatives that better address the needs of the people.

PROPERTY

Comply with Local Laws when Promoting MM2H Overseas

The Star – 27 August 2026

Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) Programme agents must comply with the laws and regulations of the countries where they operate when promoting the programme and recruiting participants overseas to avoid confusion and fraudulent activities, said Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing. He stressed that holding a licence to operate in Malaysia does not automatically mean MM2H agents have met the regulatory requirements of other countries.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Cabinet Approves in Principle Bandar Malaysia-Seri Kembangan Elevated Expressway

The Edge – 27 August 2026

Works Minister, Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi said the cabinet has given in-principle approval for the proposed Bandar Malaysia-Seri Kembangan Elevated Expressway. He said the high-capacity expressway would strengthen connectivity in Greater Kuala Lumpur by linking several major highways, while supporting economic growth and the country's competitiveness.

RI - Weekly News is published by REHDA Institute

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