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RI – WEEKLY NEWS

WEEK 36 | 29 August - 4 September 2026

ECONOMY

Selangor, Johor Lead Investment as Real Estate Records RM33.5 billion
The Edge – 29 August 2026

Selangor (RM70 billion) and Johor (RM59.4 billion) emerged as Malaysia's leading investment destinations in the first half of 2026, collectively accounting for nearly 60% of the Country's total approved investments (RM218.5 billion). Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) chairman, Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz said the services and manufacturing sectors remained the Country's two key investment engines during the period.

MSMEs with Annual Revenue Below RM3 million Exempt From e-Invoicing
The Edge – 31 August 2026

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with annual sales below RM3 million will be exempted from implementing e-invoicing following the increase in the implementation threshold from RM1 million to RM3 million. The Inland Revenue Board said the revised threshold took effect on 1 September 2026 and is expected to benefit more than 1.1 million businesses.

Malaysia-Japan Trade Up 11.8% to US$23.3 billion in January to July 2026
Bernama – 1 September 2026

Bilateral trade between Malaysia and Japan rose 11.8% to US$23.3 billion in January to July 2026, highlighting Japan's continued role as a key trading and investment partner. Investment ties have also strengthened Malaysia's supply chains, created opportunities for local businesses and supported integration into global manufacturing networks, said Investment, Trade and Industry Minister, Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

Bank Negara Malaysia Keeps Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) Unchanged
The Edge – 3 September 2026

Malaysia's central bank maintained its OPR at 2.75% on 3 December 2026, citing stable price conditions and continued economic growth. The decision was made following the fifth of six scheduled monetary policy reviews for the year 2026, with 20 of 22 economists surveyed by Bloomberg correctly forecasting no change while two had expected a 25-basis-point increase.

Government Confident of 5% Growth This Year
The Star – 4 September 2026

The Government is confident that Malaysia's economy will grow by around 5% in 2026, supported by the strong momentum in current economic activity, according to Economy Minister, Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir. While the Government had initially projected growth of 4% to 5%, current conditions suggest that the economy could perform at the upper end of this range. Key contributors to recent growth include the electrical and electronics sector, particularly the semiconductor industry.

GOVERNMENT

Housing and Local Government Ministry (KPKT) First Ministry to Receive GreenRE Gold Rating
The Edge – 1 September 2026

KPKT has become the first Ministry in Malaysia to receive a GreenRE Gold Rating under the Existing Non-Residential Building (ENRB v3.3) category. Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming said the certification reflects KPKT's commitment to enhancing energy efficiency, optimising resource use and integrating sustainable practices into its operations.

Time to Rethink What Makes a Home 'Affordable'
The Star – 2 September 2026

Malaysia needs to rethink how housing affordability is defined, as a single price benchmark may not reflect households' ability to own homes across different Regions, said Housing and Local Government Minister, Nga Kor Ming. He said affordability should consider factors affecting households' actual capacity to purchase a home. The Ministry is therefore developing a big data-driven policy to determine more appropriate affordable housing prices based on regional and income differences.

Parliament Must Turn Demographic Challenges into Budgets, Policies
The Edge – 4 September 2026

Parliament must translate demographic challenges such as an ageing population, smaller families and changing intergenerational needs into concrete legislation, budget allocations and policies, said *Dewan Rakyat* Speaker, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Johari Abdul. He stressed that population and development issues are ultimately political matters as public priorities must be reflected in laws, institutions and Government spending.

INFRASTRUCTURE

15 Government Hospitals Among Early Recipients of RM1 billion Digital Allocation
The Edge – 30 August 2026

A total of 15 Government hospitals will be among the first to benefit from a RM1 billion allocation to strengthen digital efficiency in the public healthcare sector, said Communications Minister, Dato' Seri Ahmad Fahmi Mohamed Fadzil. He said the allocation, up from the previously announced RM650 million, will accelerate the implementation of the Electronic Medical Record system and expand Internet access, including public WiFi, at health clinics and Government hospitals.

Maintenance Allocation for All Schools Increased from RM1 billion to RM1.5 billion in 2027
The Edge – 30 August 2026

The Government will increase the maintenance allocation for all types of schools by 50%, from RM1 billion to RM1.5 billion in 2027, said Prime Minister, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim. He said the additional funding will cover all priority school streams, including national schools, Chinese and Tamil national-type schools, religious schools, *tahfiz* institutions, *pondok* schools and special education.