

GOVERNMENT

Ministry Proposes Lower Tax Rate for Green Buildings

The Star – 6 September 2026

The Housing and Local Government Ministry has proposed lower tax rates to encourage green building adoption. The proposal aims to make green certification more attractive and financially viable, as energy and water efficient buildings can reduce long-term operating and maintenance costs. The Ministry also plans to establish a dedicated division to coordinate green building rating tools and promote wider adoption of green certification.

Social Security Organisation (SOCSO): 87.6% of Workers Opt for *Lindung 24 Jam* Coverage

The Edge – 9 September 2026

87.6% of workers, equivalent to 8.5 million employees, chose to remain in SOCSO's *Lindung 24 Jam* scheme after the opt-out period ended. From June 2026 to August 2026, the scheme received 6,330 claims, with payouts totalling RM9.97 million. Among those who opted out, 52% earned below RM3,500. The scheme covers accidents outside working hours, with contributions starting at 0.75% of wages for the first two years.

Strata Management Act (SMA) 2013 Review Considers Changes to Maintenance Charges

The Edge – 10 September 2026

The Government is reviewing the SMA 2013, including potentially replacing the current share-unit system for determining maintenance charges and voting rights. The review also covers enforcement, financial management, owner participation, mixed-use developments, shared facilities, urban redevelopment and digitalisation.

PROPERTY

Malaysia Property Market Achieved RM105.12 billion Transactions in First Half 2026

The Star – 10 September 2026

The Finance Minister II said Malaysia's property market recorded 187,320 transactions worth RM105.12 billion in 1H 2026, supported by stable economic conditions and a 2.75% Overnight Policy Rate (OPR). The residential subsector remained the primary driver, accounting for 59.3% of total transaction volume with 110,998 transactions. A total of 27,832 new residential units were launched, recording a sales performance of 16.6%, while the average house price rose 0.9% year-on-year to RM506,317. Completed unsold residential units increased to 33,094 units worth RM17.78 billion.

INFRASTRUCTURE

East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) Passenger Fares to be Announced by the End of 2026

The Edge – 7 September 2026

Passenger fares for the ECRL are expected to be officially announced by the end of 2026. Once operational, travel time is expected to be around four hours from Kota Bharu to Gombak, while Kuantan to Gombak could take approximately 1 hour 35 minutes.

Penang to Auction Six-acre Land to Raise Funds to Complete Ayer Itam Bypass

The Edge – 7 September 2026

The State's executive councillor for infrastructure, transport and digital executive said Penang will auction a six-acre freehold land parcel to fund the remaining works for the Ayer Itam to Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu Highway bypass. Construction is 92.46% complete, but financial progress is only 81.69%. The project contractor requested land monetisation to improve cash flow and target completion by April 2027.

Rapid KL to Replace Kelana Jaya Line Track in Stages from 13 September 2026

The Edge – 9 September 2026

Rapid KL will replace tracks on the Kelana Jaya Line Track in seven phases from September 2026 to September 2027. The works will be carried out on scheduled dates with Gombak and Taman Melati covered in both the first and final phases. The upgrades aim to improve infrastructure safety, reliability and service quality.

Completion of Klang Valley Double Track (KVDT2) Unchanged at Fourth Quarter 2027

The Edge – 10 September 2026

The Government and Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad aims to complete the RM4.475 billion KVDT2 rehabilitation by Q4 2027, ahead of its original completion in 2029. The 265 km project replaces ageing rail tracks on the Salak South to Seremban and Abdullah Hukum to Port Klang corridors.

Building Cost Index Falls in Peninsular Malaysia, Rises in Sabah, Sarawak in August 2026

The Star – 10 September 2026

In August 2026, the Building Cost Index (BCI) with steel bars decreased by 0.1 per cent to 1.1 per cent across building categories in Peninsular Malaysia compared with the previous month. However, Sabah and Sarawak recorded increases of 0.1 per cent to 3.4 per cent and 0.1 per cent to 0.4 per cent respectively, according to Department of Statistics Malaysia.

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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)

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