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Malaysia Determined In Meeting Global Economic Challenges, Says Deputy Prime Minister



In facing the current global economic environment, Malaysia is determined to meet its challenges and do what is necessary to ensure sustained growth, says Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

The deputy prime minister said the nation would not rest on its laurels despite the fact that the country's economic fundamentals were strong, underpinned by comfortable levels of reserves, low debt, low unemployment and healthy inflow of foreign direct investments.

"But, having said that, we are not about to bury our heads in the sand and wait for the storm to pass," he said at the opening of the Malaysia Pavilion at the Expo Milano 2015 in Milan, Friday.

He pointed out that the downward revision in global economic growth coupled with the fall in crude oil prices and the lacklustre performance of the commodities sector would surely have an impact on the country's growth.

"We expect to grow steadily between 4.5 and 5.5 per cent despite the global economic environment," Muhyiddin said, adding that Malaysia recorded a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of six per cent last year. He said the business community in the European Union is confident Malaysia was ready to expand its relations with the grouping - be it in people-to-people connectivity or in trade and investment. Malaysia, he said, attracted US\$68 billion (about RM244 billion) in both foreign and domestic investments last year. Muhyiddin said the services and manufacturing sectors, continued to play their leading role, accounting for 63.4 per cent and 30.5 per cent, respectively, towards approved investments in 2014. He said in terms of trade, Malaysia's total trade expanded two per cent to about US\$445 billion (about RM1.6 trillion) last year compared with about US\$435 billion (about RM1.5 trillion) in 2013. Citing Malaysia's policies in this field, he said the success of the Government Transformation Programme (GTP) and the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) could be seen in the country's trade and investment numbers.

In drawing further attention to the matter, Muhyiddin said Malaysia was ranked the 12th most competitive nation and 18th easiest place to do business last year. He drove home the point that Malaysia was assuming the Chair of the 10 member ASEAN grouping comprising Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam and also intended to establish the ASEAN Community by Dec 31. "As a single market, ASEAN is the seventh largest economy in the world, home to a consumer market of more than 600 million people with a combined GDP higher than US\$2 trillion (RM7 trillion)," Muhyiddin said.

"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"



The deputy prime minister added that ASEAN economies were posting an annual average growth of more than five per cent and per capita income was averaging US\$3,800 (RM1.3 million), leading to a growing middle class with increased disposable income. "The establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community at the end of this year sends a powerful signal that ASEAN is committed to market liberalisation and the facilitation of trade and investment," he said. Referring to the Malaysia Pavilion themed, 'Towards A Sustainable Food Ecosystem', he said the overarching message of sustainable, inclusive, innovative and technological development were the basis for the pavilion's design. It reflects the nation's rich biodiversity, comprising virgin jungles, beautiful islands, cool highlands and an eco-system that nurtures many unique flora and fauna to thrive. The 2,047 square metre pavilion consisting of a structure of four seeds is a symbol



of growth, signifying the beginning of a journey and the potential within, said Muhyiddin. He said the pavilion's seed-shaped structure was constructed with 'Glulam', a glue-laminated timber, an innovative structural timber made of Malaysian sustainable materials.

While showcasing various aspects of Malaysia's diversity, the promotion of trade and investment would also be a major highlight of the events at the pavilion. He said several on-site networking events, business matching and also off-site forums and seminars have been scheduled throughout the six months expo which started on May 1. "Among the sectors we are focusing on are green technology, energy, manufacturing and services," he said. Malaysia is one of the 148 countries participating in the world expo, themed 'Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life', aimed at promoting food security and technology. It is expected to attract about 20 million visitors including trade visitors.

Source: Bernama, 8 May 2015



"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"



MALAYSIA PAVILION AT EXPO MILANO 2015

1 MAY - 31 OCTOBER 2015

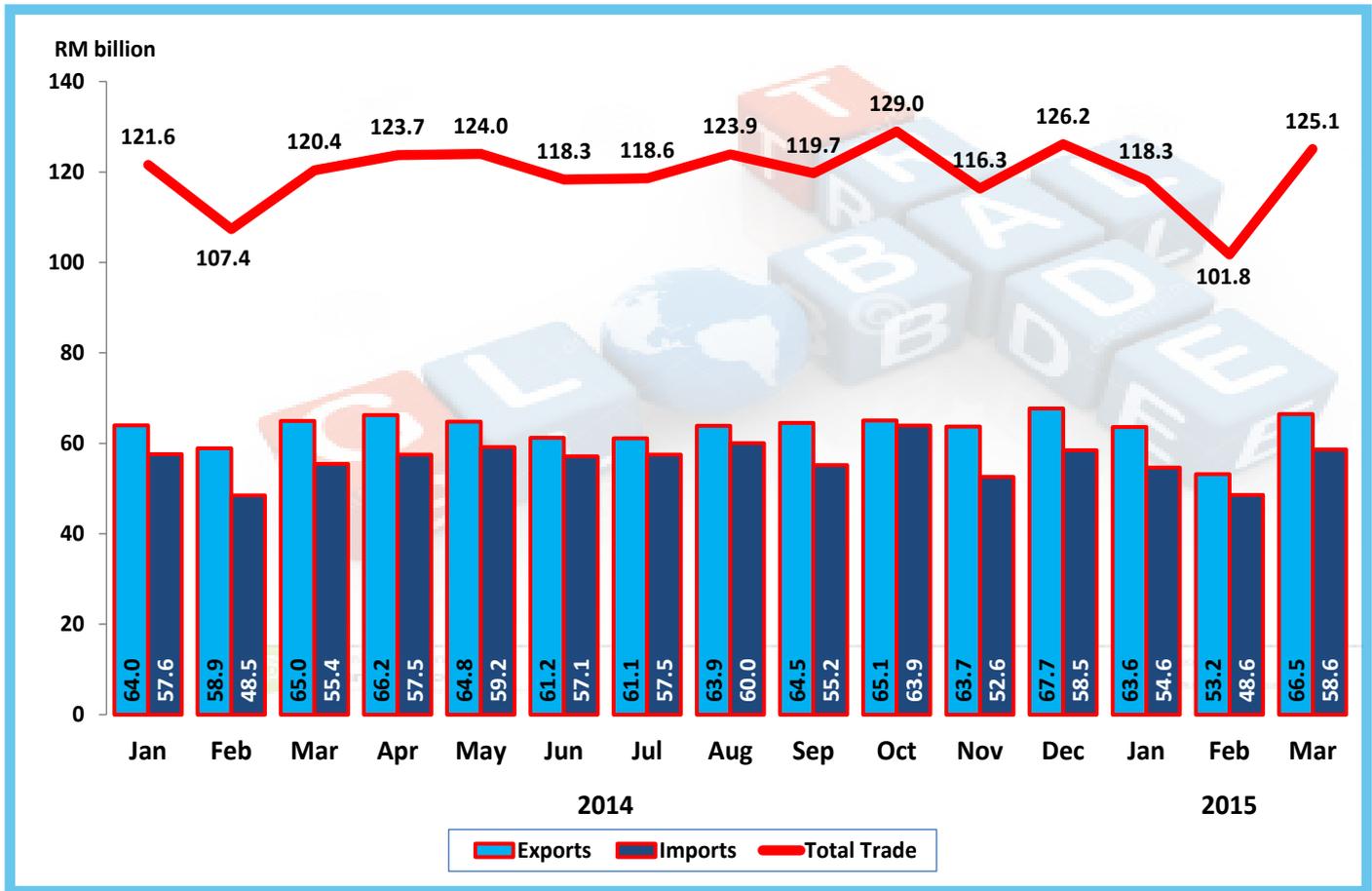


www.malaysiapavilion2015.com.my

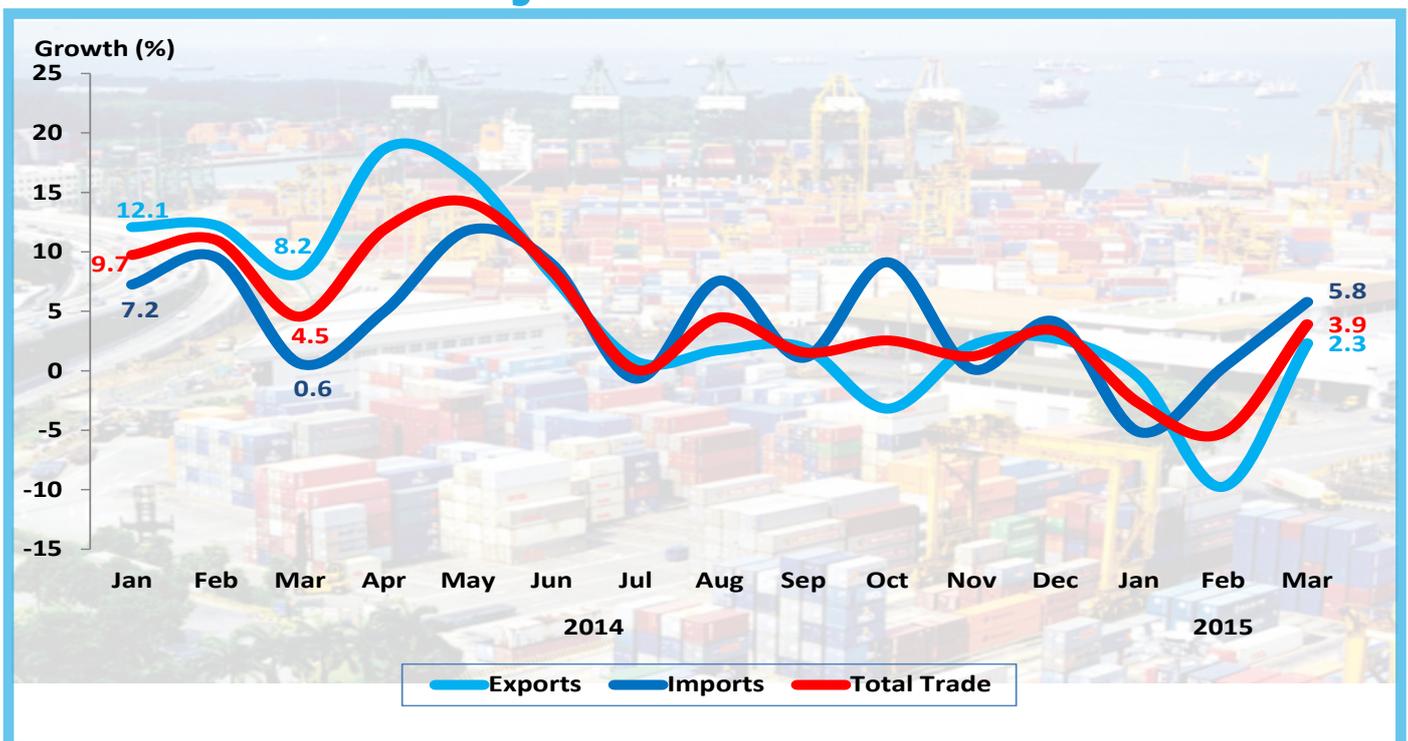


MALAYSIA

Trade Performance, January 2014 - March 2015



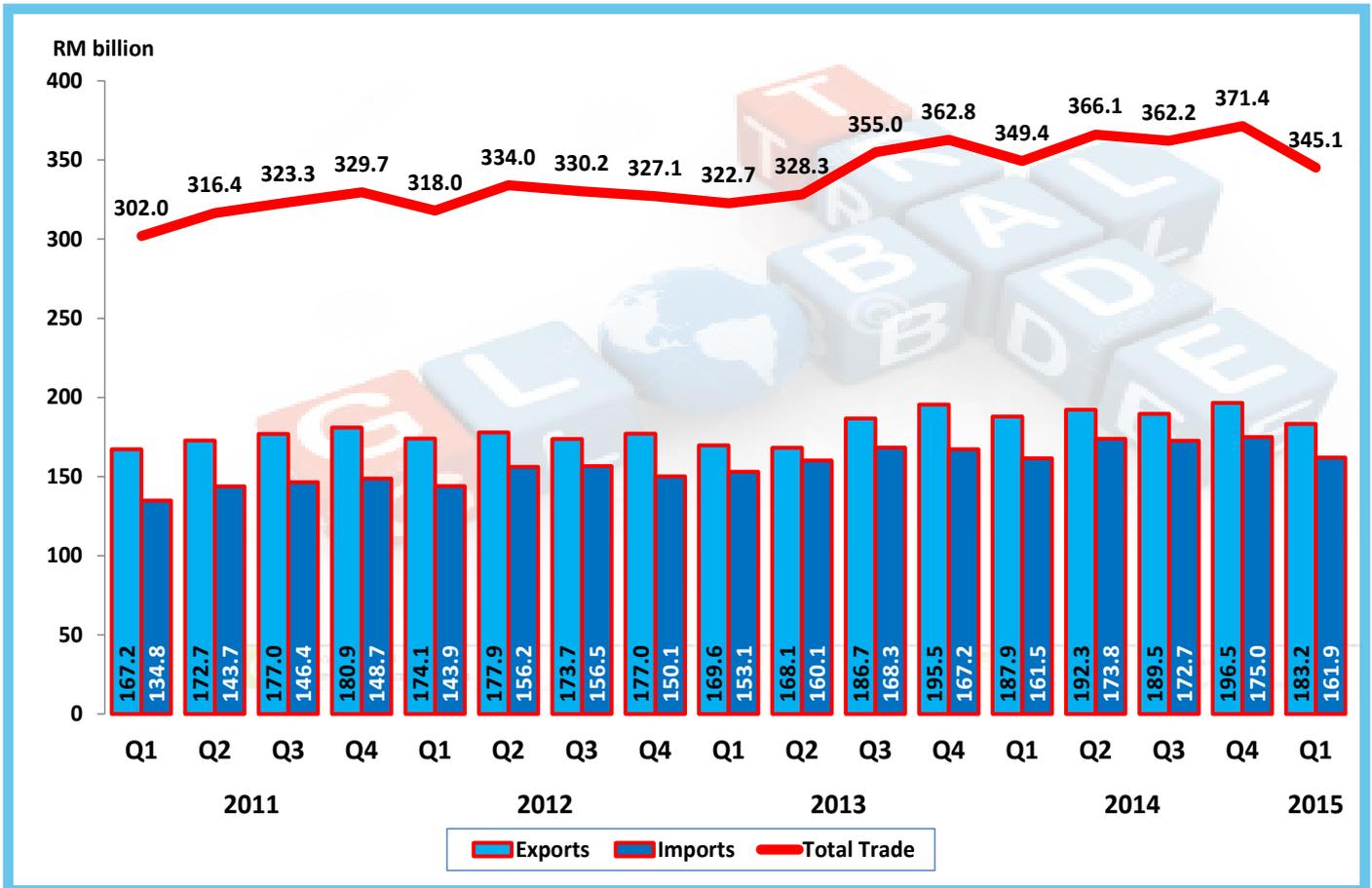
Trade Growth, January 2014 - March 2015



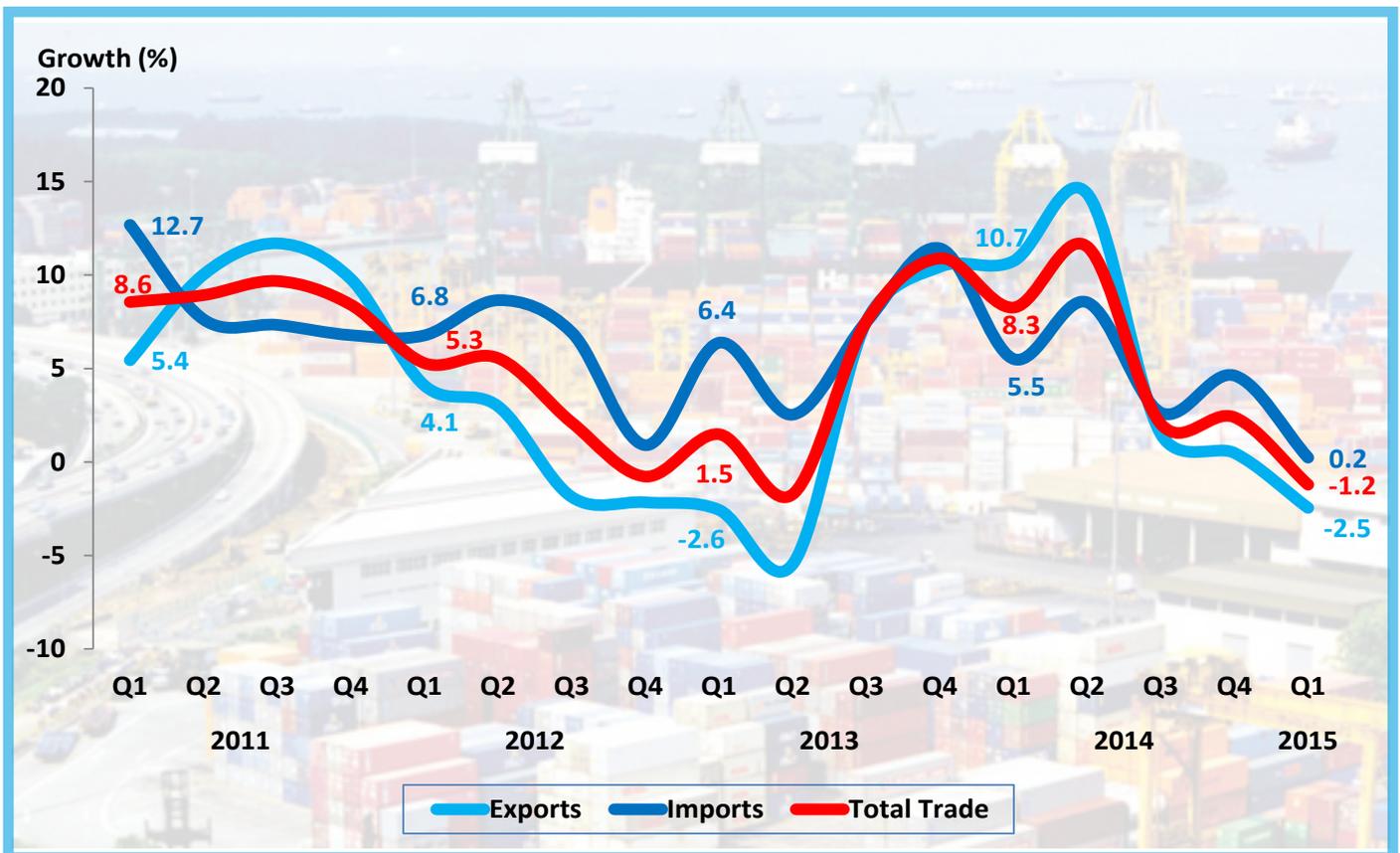
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Trade Performance, Q1 2011 - Q1 2015



Trade Growth, Q1 2011 - Q1 2015



Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia



Top Ten Trading Partners, Q1 2015



China

Trade: RM49.1 bil.
Share* : 14.2%

Singapore

Trade: RM44.3 bil.
Share* : 12.8%

Japan

Trade: RM35.1 bil.
Share* : 10.2%

USA

Trade: RM29.8 bil.
Share* : 8.6%

Thailand

Trade: RM20.0 bil.
Share* : 5.8%



ROK

Trade: RM14.4 bil.
Share* : 4.2%



Chinese Taipei

Trade: RM14.0 bil.
Share* : 4.1%



Indonesia

Trade: RM14.0 bil.
Share* : 4.0%



Hong Kong

Trade: RM12.0 bil.
Share* : 3.5%



Australia

Trade: RM11.7 bil.
Share* : 3.4%

Note: * Share to total trade

Top Five Export and Import Products, Q1 2015



E & E Products

Exports : RM64.2 bil.
Share* : 35.1%
Growth# : 6.9%



LNG

Exports : RM16.5 bil.
Share* : 9.0%
Growth# : -4.7%



Chemicals & Chemical Products

Exports : RM12.9 bil.
Share* : 7.1%
Growth# : 2.8%



Petroleum Products

Exports : RM12.7 bil.
Share* : 6.9%
Growth# : -33.8%



Palm Oil

Exports : RM8.9 bil.
Share* : 4.9%
Growth# : -21.4%



E & E Products

Imports : RM46.2 bil.
Share* : 28.5%
Growth# : 8.1%



Chemicals & Chemical Products

Imports : RM15.5 bil.
Share* : 9.6%
Growth# : 6.4%



Petroleum Products

Imports : RM14.8 bil.
Share* : 9.1%
Growth# : -27.1%



Machinery, Appliances & Parts

Imports : RM14.0 bil.
Share* : 8.6%
Growth# : -1.0%



Manufactures of Metal

Imports : RM11.2 bil.
Share* : 6.9%
Growth# : 36.3%

Notes : * Share to total exports or imports
y-o-y growth

Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia
MITI Weekly Bulletin / www.miti.gov.my





'ASEAN and You'



Merchandise and Services Trade Share to the World, 2014

Country	Share to the World (%)	World Rank*
 Singapore	2.18	14
 Thailand	1.18	24
 Malaysia	1.10	25
 Indonesia	0.86	31
 Viet Nam	0.68	35
 Philippines	0.36	47
 Myanmar	0.07	89
 Cambodia	0.06	92
 Brunei	0.03	112
 Lao PDR	0.01	142

Note: * Total 207 economies

Source : <https://www.wto.org>

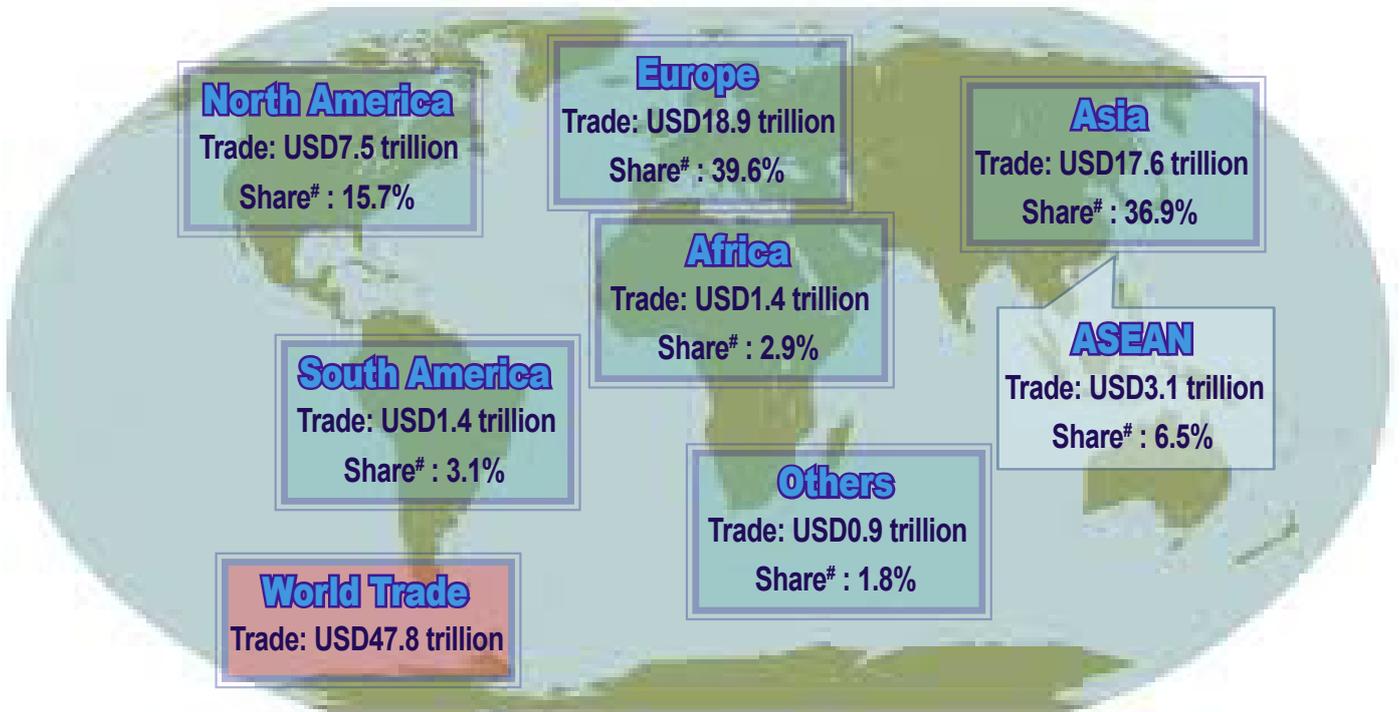
“DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth”

MITI's ASEAN Portal can be accessed via <http://www.miti.gov.my/cms/aec2015.jsp>.



International Report

World Trade* Trade by Region, 2014



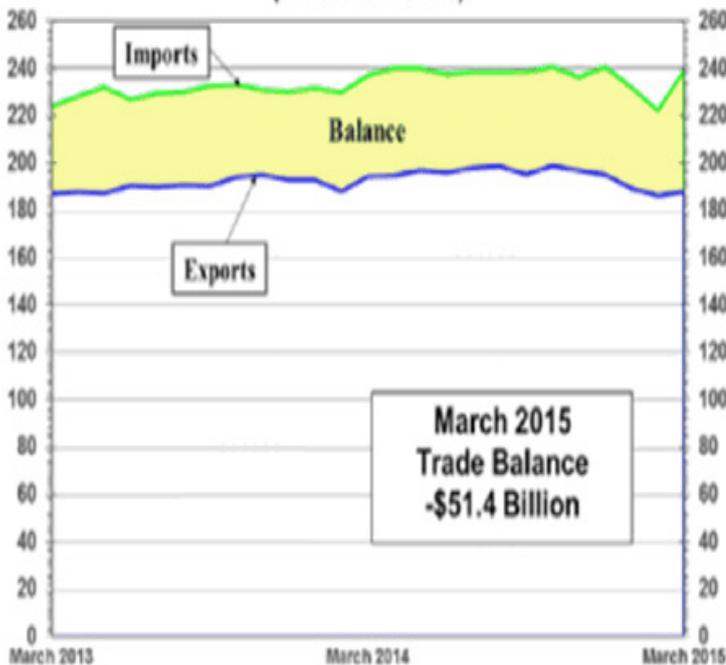
Note: * Trade refers to total trade in merchandise and services
Share to total world trade

Source: WTO International Trade Statistics for trade

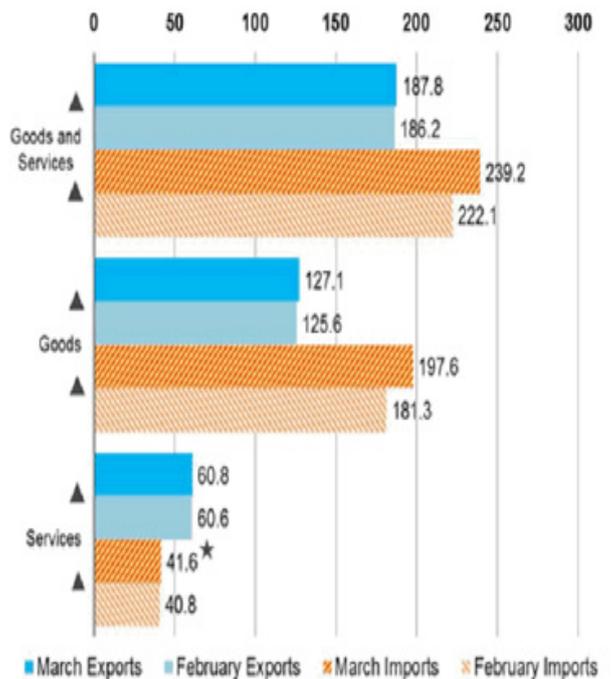
US Trade Performance, March 2015

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U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services
(Billions of Dollars)



Trade in Goods and Services (Billions of Dollars)



Source: US Department of Commerce's



Did You Know?

Global Green Economy Index 2014

The Global Green Economy Index™ (GGEI) measures both the green economic performance of 60 countries and how experts assess that performance. The GGEI performance index uses quantitative and qualitative indicators to measure how well each country performs on four key dimensions: leadership & climate change, efficiency sectors, markets & investment and environment & natural capital.

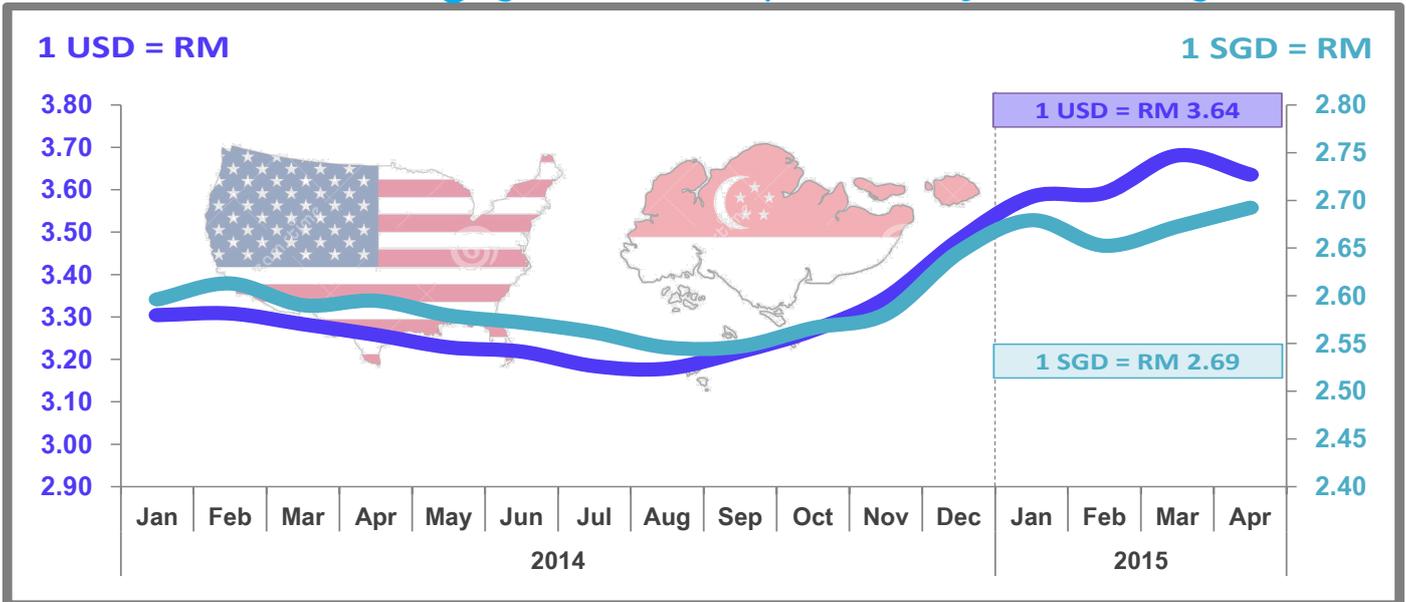
Top 10 Countries

Performance Rank	Rank		Rank		
		Sweden	#1		Switzerland #6
		Norway	#2		Austria #7
		Costa Rica	#3		Finland #8
		Germany	#4		Iceland #9
		Denmark	#5		Spain #10

Among ASEAN Countries

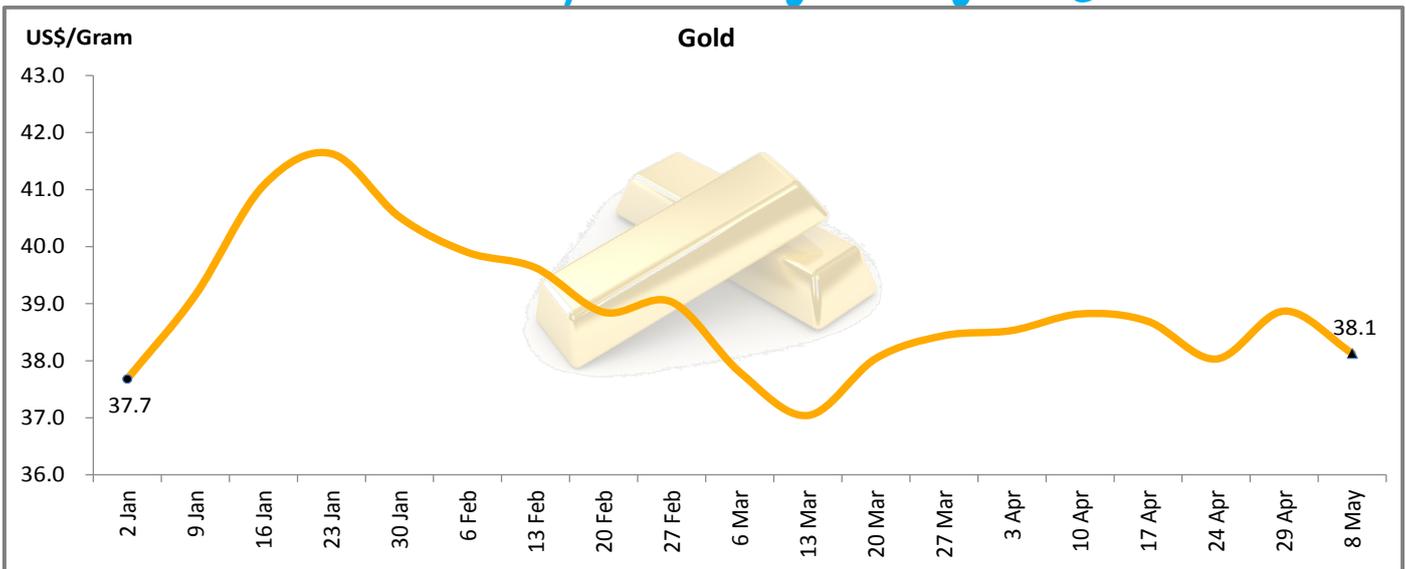
	Rank
	Philippines #32
	Malaysia #35
	Cambodia #42
	Thailand #45
	Indonesia #54
	Viet Nam #59

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with US Dollar and Singapore Dollar, January 2014 - April 2015



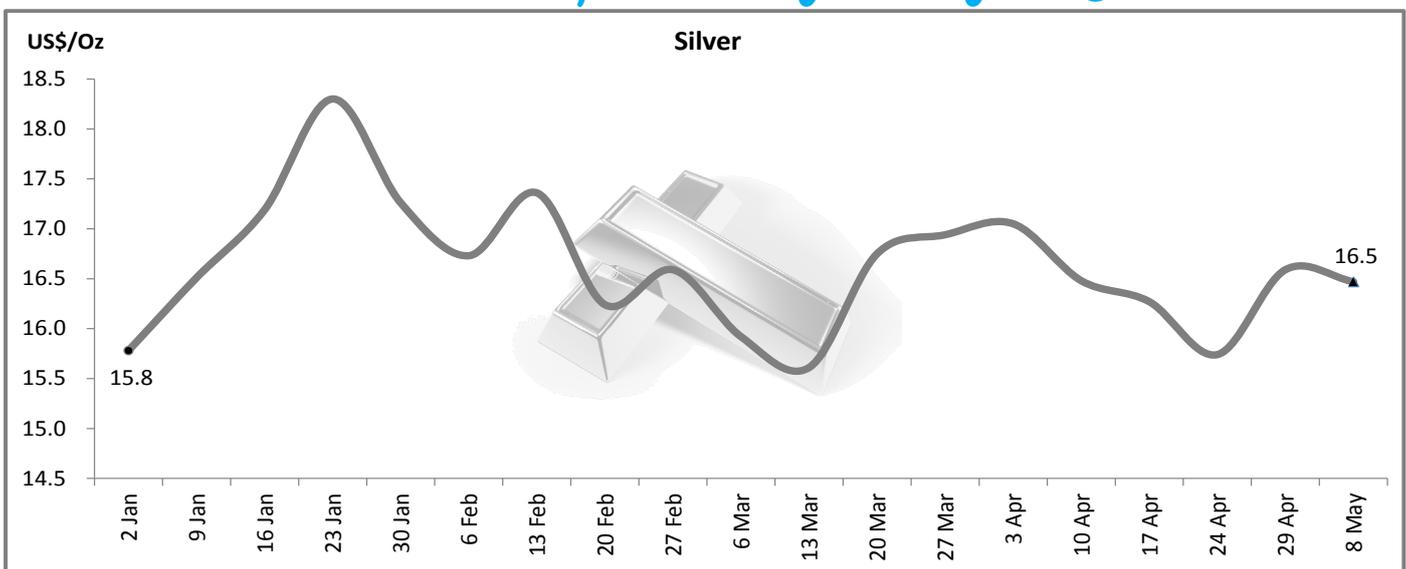
Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold Prices, 2 January - 8 May 2015



Source : http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold_price_chart/

Silver Prices, 2 January - 8 May 2015



Source : <http://www.hardassetsalliance.com/charts/silver-price/usd/oz>

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Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs)

Number of Certificates (Provisional Data)

	15 Mar 2015	22 Mar 2015	29 Mar 2015	5 Apr 2015	12 Apr 2015	19 Apr 2015	26 Apr 2015	3 May 2015
AANZFTA	805	776	910	869	770	903	804	640
AIFTA	478	651	529	708	462	616	533	507
AJCEP	241	250	177	209	163	181	209	121
ATIGA	4,433	4,562	4,322	4,496	3,719	4,001	4,231	3,334
ACFTA	1,354	1,566	1,569	1,464	1,484	1,763	1,618	1,196
AKFTA	844	889	782	767	661	759	941	650
MICECA	360	355	289	385	322	335	338	262
MNZFTA	7	4	14	3	6	6	16	2
MCFTA	75	57	52	52	54	80	46	57
MAFTA	481	409	336	402	290	466	428	317
MJEPA	812	775	838	836	819	632	866	659
MPCEPA	172	118	165	160	125	250	141	112
GSP	114	139	112	164	68	102	134	104

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are Japan, Switzerland, the Russian Federation, Norway, Cambodia and Liechtenstein.



AANZFTA: ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2010)



ATIGA: ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Implemented since 1 May 2010)



AJCEP: ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (Implemented since 1 February 2009)



ACFTA: ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2003)



AKFTA: ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2006)



AIFTA: ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2010)



MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)



MJEPA: Malaysia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 13 July 2006)



MICECA: Malaysia-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2011)



MNZFTA: Malaysia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 August 2010)

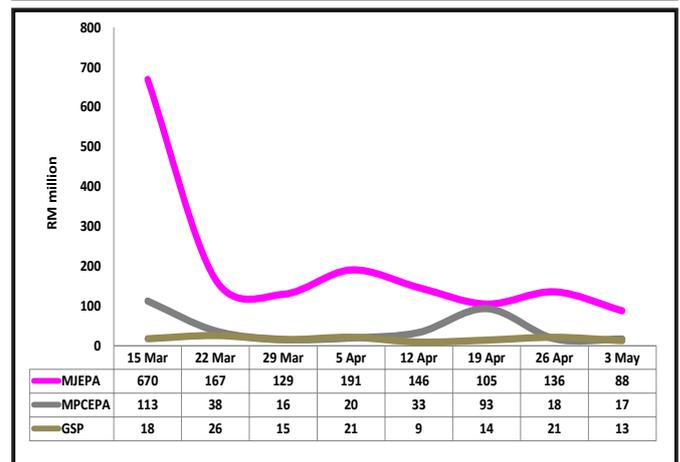
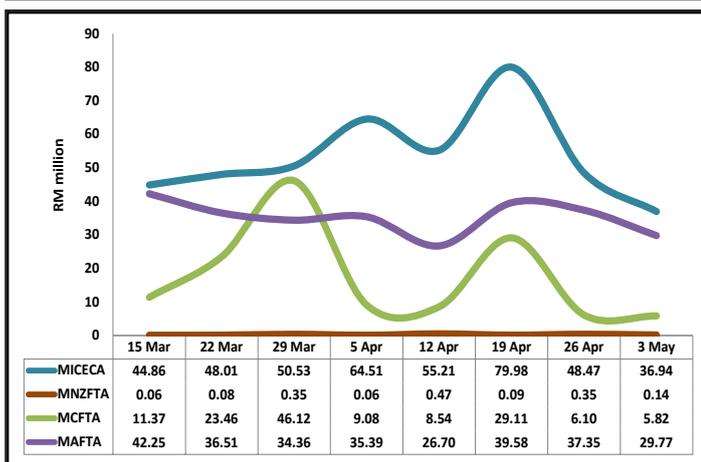
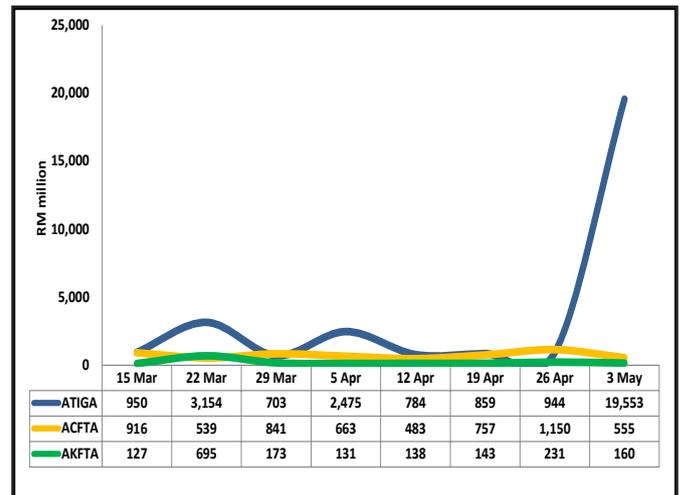
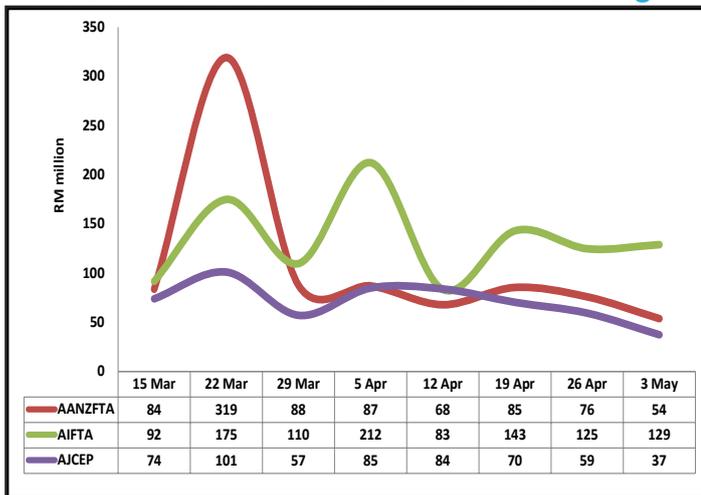


MCFTA: Malaysia-Chile Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 25 February 2012)



MAFTA: Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2013)

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Commodity Prices



Commodity	Crude Petroleum (per bbl)	Crude Palm Oil (per MT)	Raw Sugar (per MT)	Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	Cocoa SMC 2 (per MT)	Coal (per MT)	Scrap Iron HMS (per MT)
8 May 2015 (US\$)	59.4	646.9	288.8	1,502.0	2,109.6	52.0	270 (high) 250 (low)
% change*	↑ 1.4	↓ 1.5	↑ 0.6	↑ 4.7	↓ 1.6	↓ 2.6	unchanged unchanged
2014 ⁱ	54.6 - 107.6	823.3	352.3	1,718.3	2,615.8	59.8	370.0
2013 ⁱ	88.1 - 108.6	805.5	361.6	2,390.8	1,933.1	..	485.6

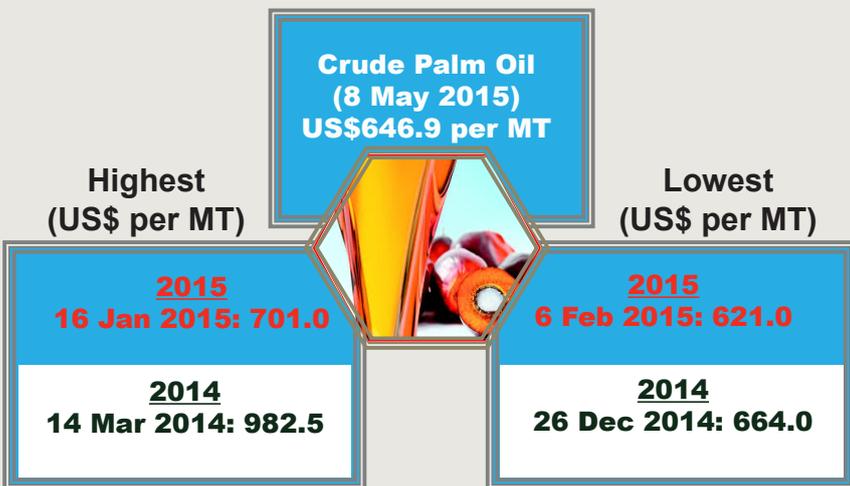
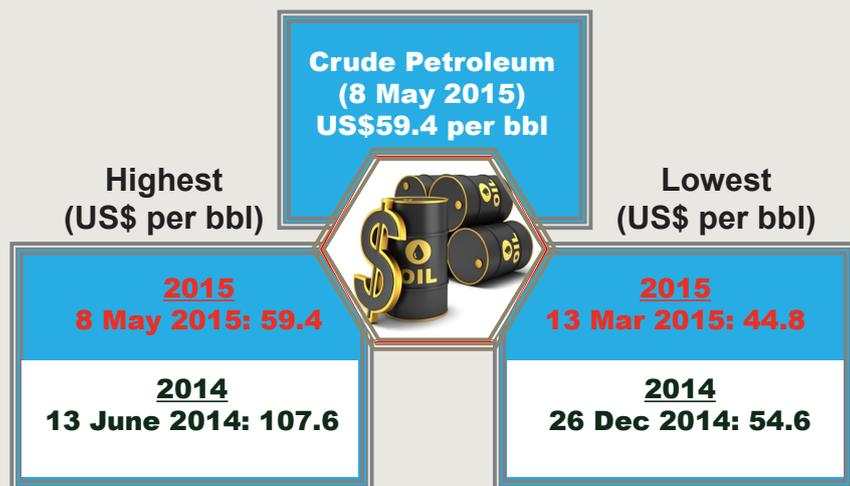
Notes: All figures have been rounded to the nearest decimal point

* Refer to % change from the previous week's price

ⁱ Average price in the year except otherwise indicated

n.a Not available

Highest and Lowest Prices, 2014/2015



Average Domestic Prices, 8 May 2015

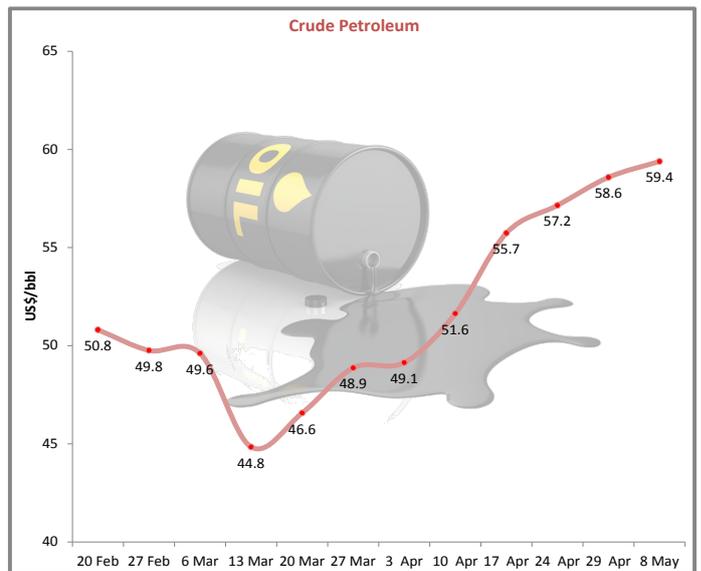
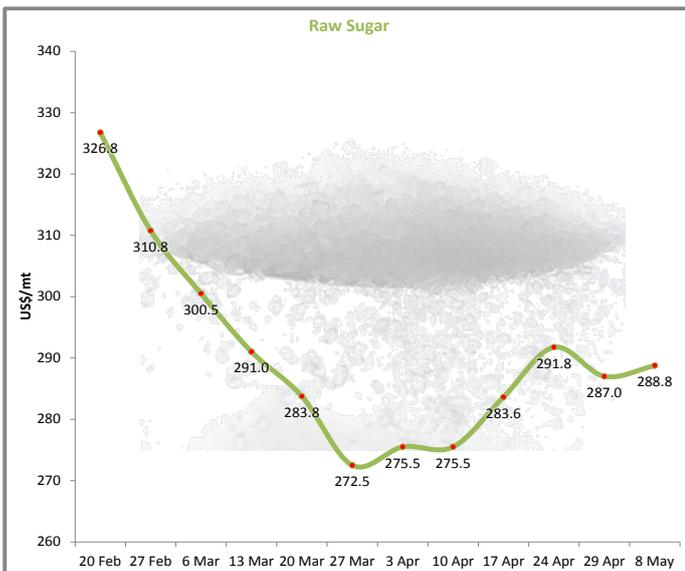
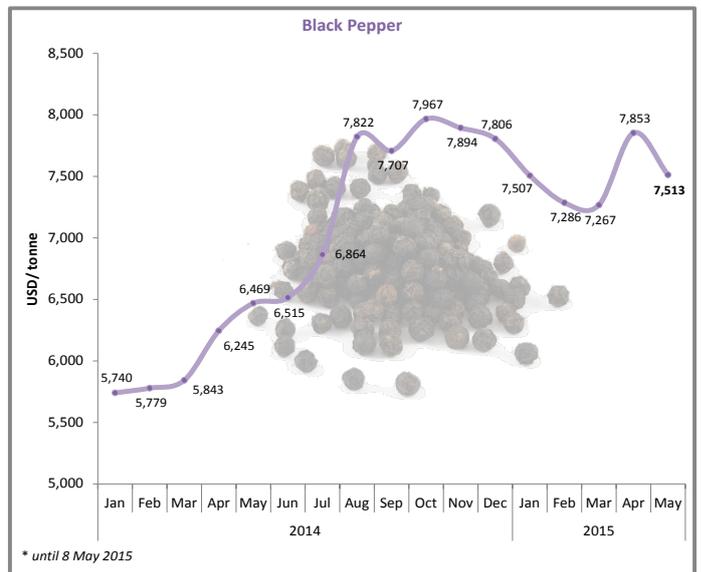
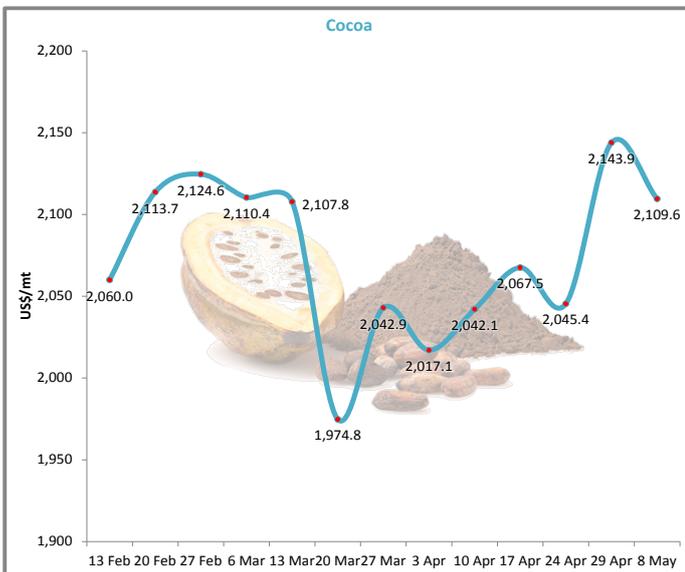
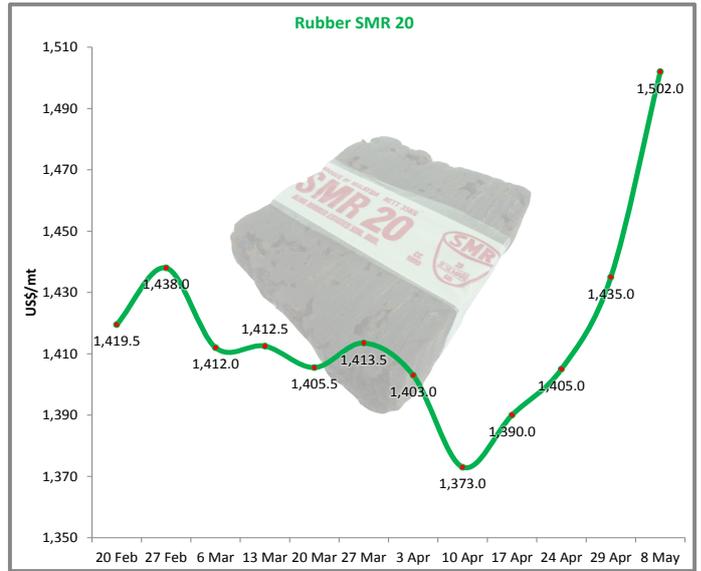
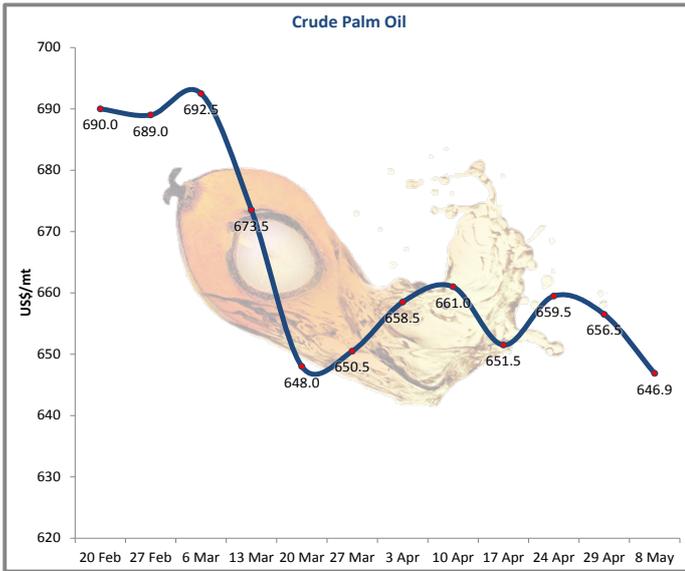


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Sources : Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group.



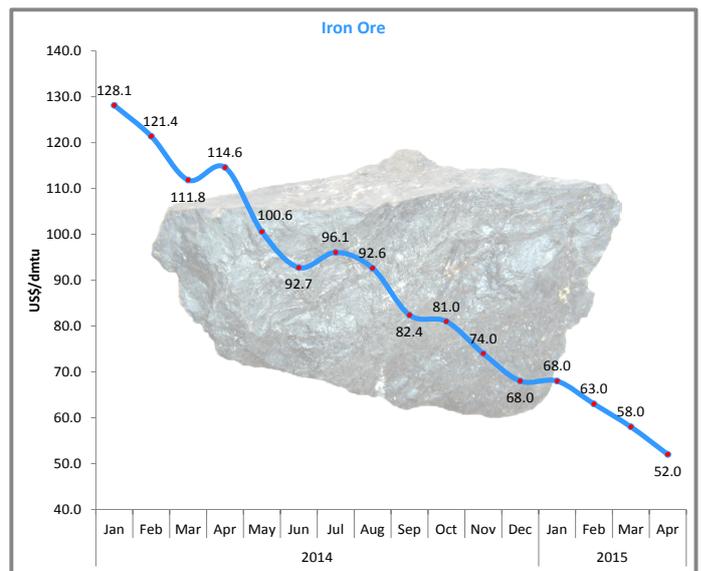
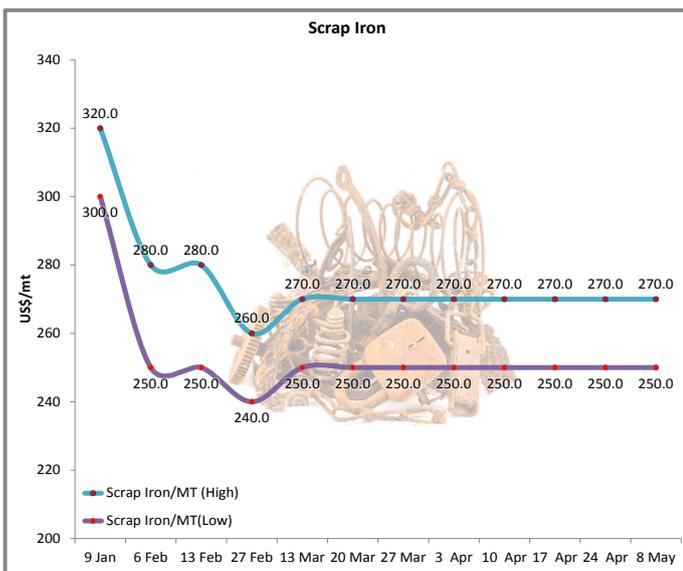
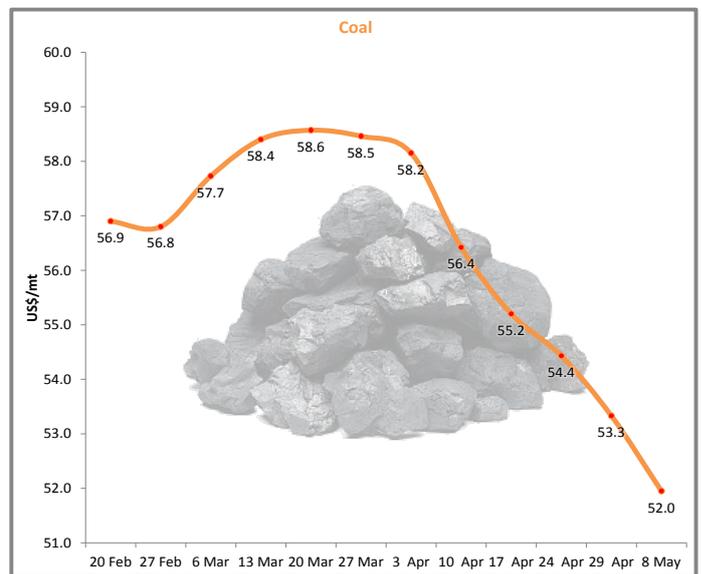
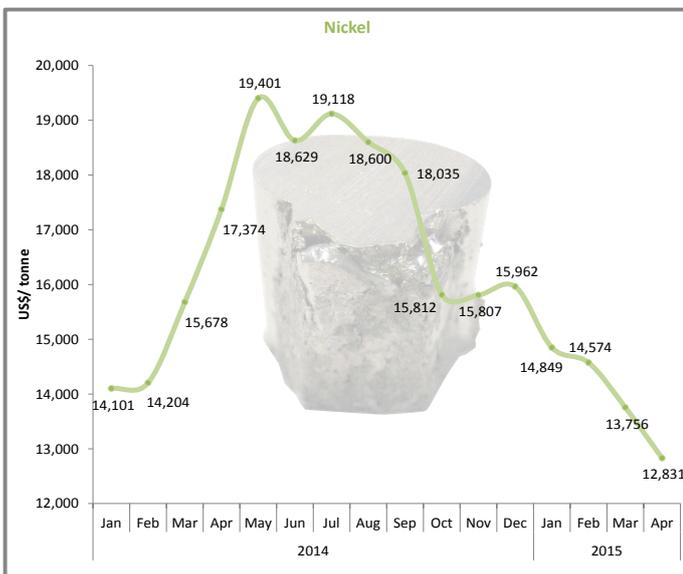
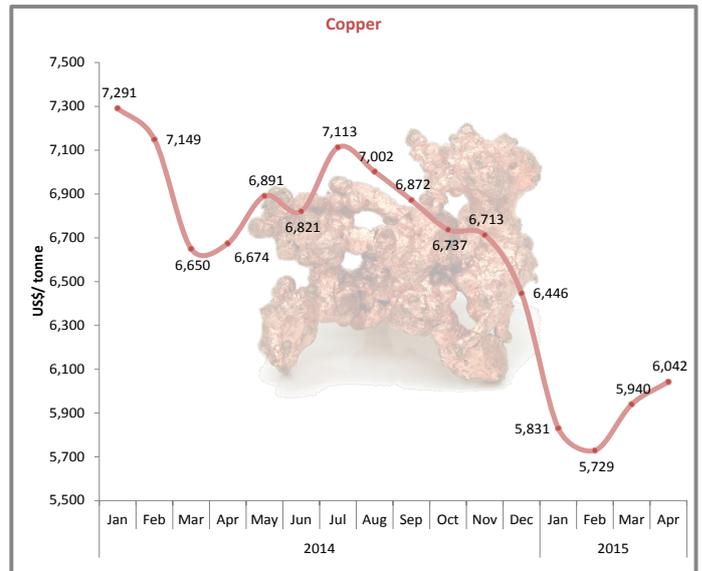
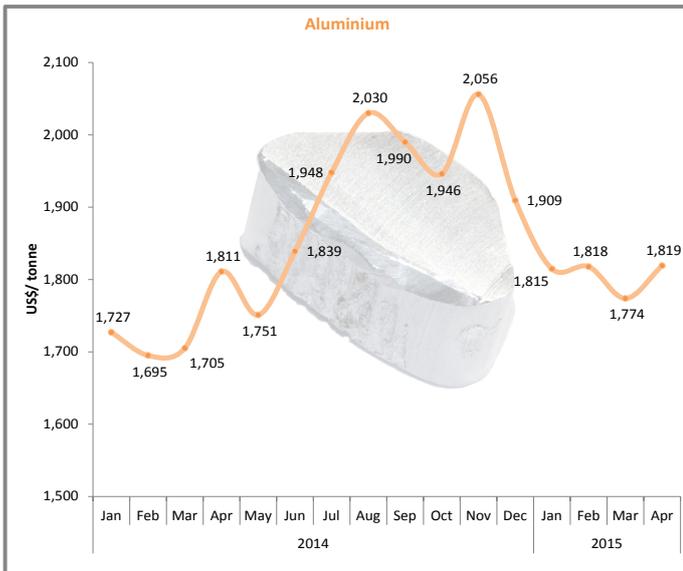
Commodity Price Trends



"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.

Commodity Price Trends



"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.





SUCCESS STORY

Tradelinks Management System (TMS)

Crafting Success in the Handicraft Industry

From its humble beginnings of being a trader, buying Sarawakian handicraft from the longhouse communities and reselling them to tourists, Tradelinks Management System (TMS) has come a long way to emerge as one of the most successful handicraft manufacturers in the country. TMS began its business in 2003, operating from a small retail outlet selling a blend of unique local handicraft on the third level of the Kuching Civic Centre, Sarawak. The founder of the company, Ms. Florence Skim AK Sujang, raised the initial funds with the help of some friends and family members, to offer a collection of traditionally designed beads, necklaces, bracelets, bamboo and wooden handicraft to customers.

The company was subsequently extended a RM30,000 business loan by the Sarawak Economic Development Centre (SEDC) which later led to the establishment of the company's showroom in Ewe Hai Street in downtown Kuching. From the outset, Ms. Florence realised that TMS needed a value proposition to distinguish itself from its competitors. She came up with the idea of blending ceramics into her handicraft collection given the rising demand for ceramic products. To acquire the skills in ceramic production, Ms. Florence enrolled herself in numerous training programmes, one of which was the Ceramic Industrial Development Programme, which is jointly conducted by the Ministry of Industrial Development Sarawak and SIRIM Berhad.



TMS was also an incubatee company under the Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation for three years before being invited to participate in the Ceramics Centre owned by the Ministry of Industrial Development (MID) Sarawak for mass production of ceramics in Demak Laut, Kuching. Today, the company offer customers who are mainly tourists, an array of more than 80 different uniquely designed handicrafts to choose from. For its efforts and success over the years, TMS has been blessed with numerous accolades. The company was named as the Best Showcase for Handicraft in the 2006 One District One Industry programme, and was also the proud recipient of the Handicraft Entrepreneurs Award in 2007 which was presented by the Honourable Prime Minister. For the company's achievements, Ms. Florence was also named as an ambassador under the Duta 1Nita programme by Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI).



The company has also participated in numerous overseas exhibitions such as in Singapore, Japan and the United Kingdom with support from Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation. Its participation in the Groom Big programme has enabled TMS to enhance its packaging and labeling in accordance with international quality standards, and as a result, today, its range of beads and ceramics can also be found in Australia and the United Kingdom.

“DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth”



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Tel 082-412 433
Fax 082-256 834



Malaysia Investment Performance 2014

Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE)



Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) is a development initiative undertaken by the Government to accelerate the state's economic growth towards the year 2020. SCORE's major advantage is its abundant energy resources: 20,000 MW of potential hydropower, 1.46 billion tons of coal and 40.9 trillion square cubic feet of natural gas. The core strategy behind SCORE is to accelerate the development of Sarawak's energy resources and allow Sarawak to price its power competitively and attract investments in energyintensive industries. This rapid industrialisation is targeted to take place in the Samalaju Industrial Park. With over 8,000 hectares in available land, dedicated port facilities in nearby Bintulu as well as a new township, Samalaju is one of the country's most important industrial parks. It has attracted 15 companies with total committed investments of RM25.2 billion to date. Four companies have commenced operations, two are under construction and three are preparing their sites. The other companies are in various stages of pre-implementation.

The projects within Samalaju are hightechnology manufacturing plants that will complement strategic industrial ecosystems in solar panel manufacturing, steel production and logistics. The aluminium smelting, ferro-alloy and polycrystalline silicon plants will trigger other investments within downstream industries that will ultimately result in thousands of highincome opportunities for Malaysians.

“DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth”

MITI Programme

Malaysia Pavilion at Expo Milano 2015, Italy



“DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth”



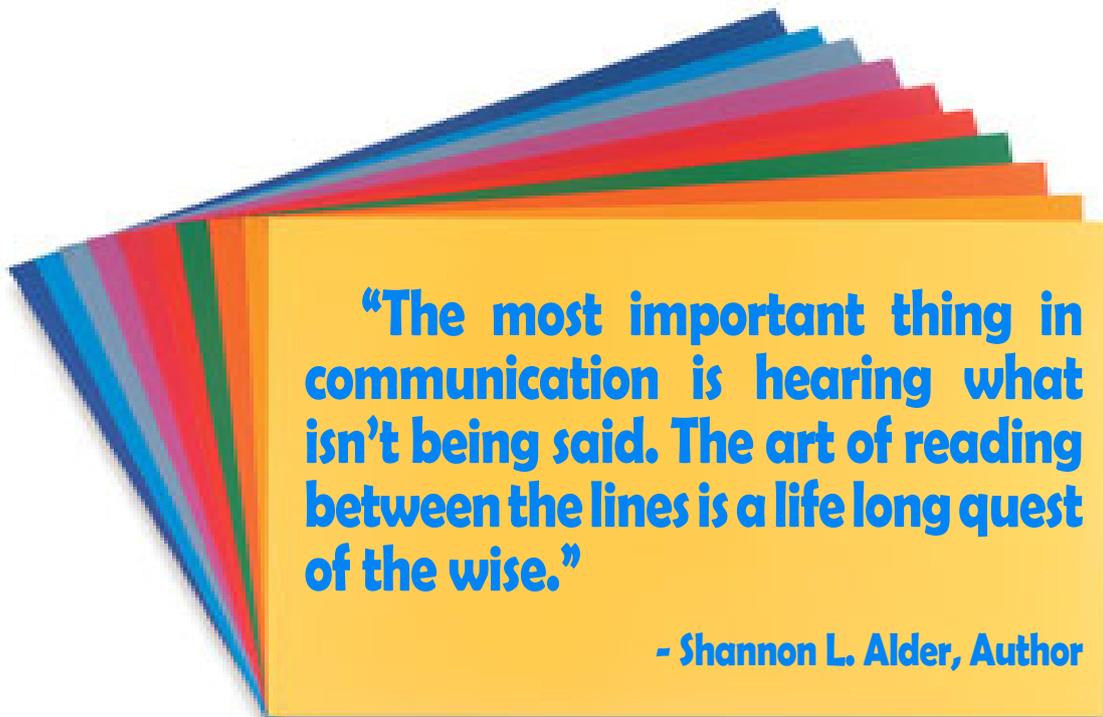


@Your Service

Name : Mohd Adi Ali
Designation : Operations Assistant
Job Description : Responsible for assisting and handling of logistic tasks
Division : Logistics Unit
Contact No : 03 - 62000240



Name : Mohd Zaid Shafril Sezali
Designation : Technician
Job Description : Responsible for assisting and handling of logistic tasks
Division : Logistics Unit
Contact No : 03 - 62000239



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Comments & Suggestions

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