



YB Datuk Darell Leiking, Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI) led the Malaysian delegation at the 25th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) Retreat and Related Meetings from 22 - 23 April 2019 in Phuket, Thailand.

The Economic Ministers exchanged views and deliberated on the 13 economic priority deliverables under the Thailand's Chairmanship of ASEAN 2019, operationalisation of AEC 2025 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework, and progress updates of ASEAN external relations including work towards the conclusion of RCEP and ASEAN engagement in the WTO reforms. The Economic Ministers also considered the recommendations made by the High Level Task Force on Economic Integration (HLTF-EI) to the AEMs which include the development of the next steps for advancing ASEAN's work on the Fourth

Industrial Revolution (4IR), the ongoing assessment of new Free Trade Agreement (FTA) issues, and the streamlining of AEC work processes. The Economic Ministers were also briefed by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) on its priorities and initiatives for 2019, as well as the recommendations by the private sectors.

The Economic Ministers also signed the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA) and the Fourth Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA). Both Agreements would strengthen and enhance Trade in Services and Investment respectively among Member States of ASEAN. This would further stimulate greater opportunities for economic and business development, by creating larger market and predictability of business environment in the region, in line with the AEC Blueprint 2025.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry, 23 April 2019

Palm Oil Issues With European Union (EU)

On 12 April 2019, Malaysia has once again raised our concerns on the palm oil restriction for biofuel at the Council of Trade in Goods (CTG) Meeting of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The European Commission has recently adopted the Delegated Act to implement the European Union Renewable Energy Directive (EU RED II) for year 2021-2030.

The adopted delegated regulation has a strict requirement against crops for feedstock biofuels which cause deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to indirect land use change (ILUC). The crops considered as "high ILUC-risk" will be phased out by 2030.

Palm oil is categorised as "high ILUC-risk" in the Delegated Act and this is clearly a form of disguised restriction on international trade and protectionist measure against the crop.

At the CTG Meeting, important issues highlighted by Malaysia, are as follows:

- The adopted delegated regulation has significant negative implication towards oil palm industry development globally. There is a significant lack of scientific data and reliable information in the determination of high and low indirect land use change risk biofuels and bioliquids that resulted in disinformation and misleading interpretation of the production of palm oil worldwide;
- The adopted delegated regulation is equivalent to a ban of biofuels and bioliquids produced from palm oil and violates the WTO principle of nondiscrimination;
- The methodology for the calculation of the share of expansion of land in the delegated regulation is not a recognised international standard;
- Scientific evidence has proven that oil palm is the most productive oil-bearing crop as compared with other annual oil crops. A single hectare of cultivated oil palm land is able to supply between five to ten times more oil compared to rapeseed and soybean respectively;
- Malaysian palm oil is produced in a sustainable manner and the oil palm industry is committed to produce palm oil in accordance with sustainable principles and criteria under the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) certification scheme. As such, Malaysia urges the EU to accept and recognise the MSPO certification scheme as

one of the voluntary schemes under the Directive for the certification of low indirect land use change risk biofuels and bioliquids;

- Malaysia has put in place policy framework and implementation of sustainable practices and measures to ensure the protection of the environment such as reducing greenhouse gas emission, prevention of pollution and environmental degradation, and efficient management of resources and wastes; and
- Malaysia is committed to maintain at least 50% forested area in our land as pledged in the 1992 Rio Earth Summit which was again reiterated at the United Nations Climate Change Conference and currently 55.3% of land in the country consists of forested areas.

Malaysia has raised our concern at the WTO platforms since 2018. Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) together with Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) made interventions and voiced our positions at the WTO Council and Committee Meetings such as Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee Meetings in March, June and November 2018 and March 2019; CTG in March and July 2018; and Council for Trade in Environment (CTE) in June 2018.

Malaysia's initiatives were also being supported by other palm oil-producing countries such as Indonesia, Colombia, Guatemala, Thailand, and Costa Rica. These palm oil producing countries have also raised and shared their concerns on this discrimination proposed measure to palm oil. In addition, soybean oil producing countries such as Argentina also raised concerns due to the discrimination of these crops for biofuels.

Malaysia will continue to actively and consistently engage with other palm oil producing countries in coming up with more concerted efforts to raise our rejection before the various committees under the WTO. Multilateral pressure on the EU will be intensified as we move forward as many viewed that this latest development could be violations to the WTO rules. Malaysia will also consider the possibility to elevate this issue to the dispute settlement mechanism under the WTO.

MITI will work closely with the Ministry of Primary Industries to fully utilise and make use of the various WTO platforms in the best interest of our palm oil exporters and smallholders.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry, 24 April 2019

ANUGERAH KECEMERLANGAN INDUSTRI (AKI) 2018

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) organised the Anugerah Kecemerlangan Industri (AKI) 2018 or the Industry Excellence Award to recognize outstanding Malaysia companies which have achieved a certain level of excellence in the area of product and services.

AKI 2018 marks the 26th Anniversary of our Industry Excellence journey. The event was held on 19 April 2019 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Kuala Lumpur officiated by YAB Tun Mahathir Mohamed, Prime Minister of Malaysia.

The AKI was first introduced in 1991 and now uses the Business Excellence Framework (BEF) as the benchmark criteria in the evaluation selection of winners process. The BEF is an accepted framework by many international organisations as a guide to promote outstanding practices in business by incorporating elements required for world class business excellence. The AKI, through BEF, aims to encourage and showcase companies, especially domestic companies, in the manufacturing and services sector to continuously improve management systems as well as quality of products and services. For AKI 2018, a total of 84 companies participated from all over Malaysia.

The awards are broadly categorised under two main category, manufacturing and services. Additionally the AKI also offers a Most Promising Award given in recognition of companies established not more than 5 years of its development in various aspects and promise of exceptional growth in the future. Another award contended is under the Open Category for Multinational Companies from both services and manufacturing sector.

Winners of the various categories will then be in the running for the exclusive Prime Minister's Award. The award, which is AKI's premier award, is given in recognition of overall industry excellence.

The eight winners of AKI 2018 are as follows:

- A) Manufacturing Sector Award
 - i. Category 1 (with sales turnover not exceeding RM50 Mil)

Ideal Healthcare Sdn Bhd – a company that specialises in manufacturing and distribution of quality medical disposable products.

ii. Category 2 (with sales turnover of RM50 Mil- RM100 Mil)

Indkom Engineering Sdn Bhd–a local company manufacturing electrical distribution equipment including developing and manufacturing switchgear as well as switchboard for local and export markets.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry 19 April 2019

iii. Category 3 (with sales turnover of more than RM100 Mil)

Excelvite Sdn Bhd – a company producing palm oil derived products, specifically for nutraceutical product and mixed-carotene complex.

- B) Services Sector Award
- i. Category 1 (with sales turnover not exceeding RM20 Mil)

Cita Information Systems Sdn Bhd – a local company offering services in heavy and civil engineering construction.

ii. Category 2 (with sales turnover of RM20 Mil-RM50 Mil)

Amalgamated Plant Éngineering Sdn Bhd – a local company involved in oil and gas mechanical and civil engineering services in the region of East Malaysia as well as Brunei.

iii. Category 4 (with sales turnover of RM50 Mil-RM100 Mil)

KPJ lpoh Specialist Hospital – a service provider of preventive healthcare, medical diagnostic and care plan management.

C) Open Category Award

STMIcroelectronics Sdn Bhd – an MNC producing multinational electronics and semiconductor.

D) Prime Minister's Award

KPJ Ipoh Specialist Hospital

The AKI recognition will provide Malaysian companies a competitive edge against industry peers as they thrive in local and international markets. This recognition aims to assist companies to enhance management practices as a key pillar to drive excellence in product, market, technology and business model innovation.

This platform will eventually create a conducive business environment for companies to stage stronger presence domestically and grow internationally. These efforts complement MITI's vision to make Malaysia the preferred investment destination and among the most globally competitive trading nation.

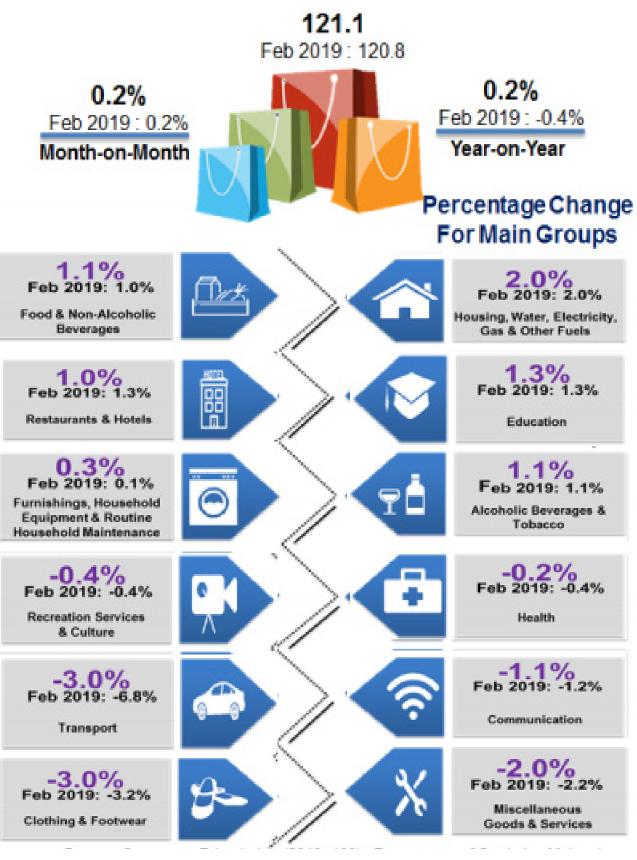
MITI is also inviting participation for AKI 2019/2020 from interested companies soon. Updates will be posted at www.miti.gov.my/aki.

For further enquiries you may contact:

Director AKI and Outreach Division Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Level 15, Menara MITI, No. 7, Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah 50480 Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA Telephone Number: (603) 6200 2460 E-mail address : allaki@miti.gov.my

Consumer Price Index (CPI), March 2019

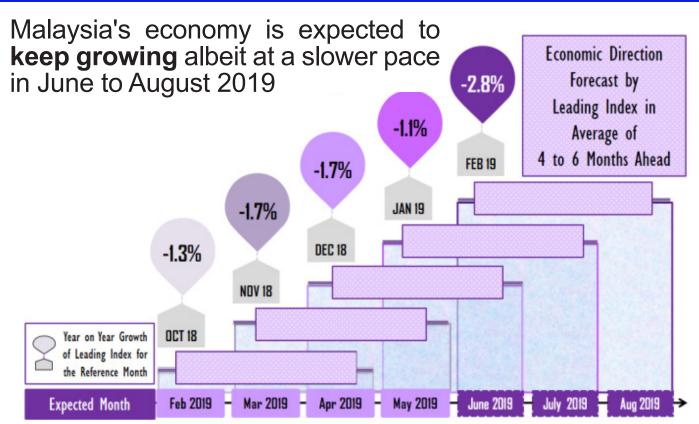
CPI increased by 0.2% in March 2019



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

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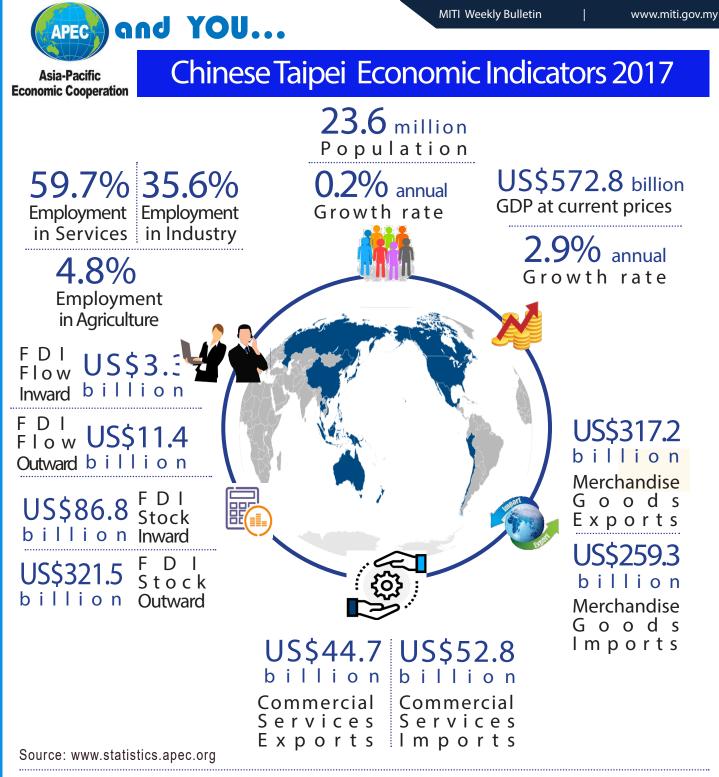
Leading Index, February 2019



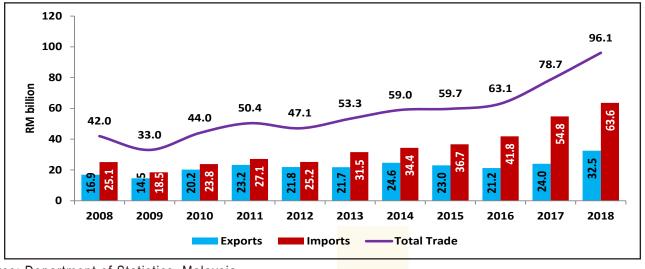
Month on month percentage change by leading index components

	0.1%	Bursa Malaysia Industrial Index (JAN 19: -0.1%)
····· 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0.1%	Expected Sales Value, Manufacturing (JAN 19: 0.0%)
-2.2% LEADING INDEX (JAN 19: 1.3%)	-0.1%	Real Money Supply, M1 (JAN 19: 0.0%)
	-0.4%	Real Imports of Other Basic Precious & Other Non-ferrous Metals (JAN 19: 0.2%)
	-0.4%	Number of New Companies Registered (JAN 19: 0.1%)
·	-0.6%	Number of Housing Units Approved (JAN 19: 0.7%)
	-0.9%	Real Imports of Semi Conductors (JAN 19: 0.4%)

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia



Malaysia's Trade with Chinese Taipei 2008 - 2018

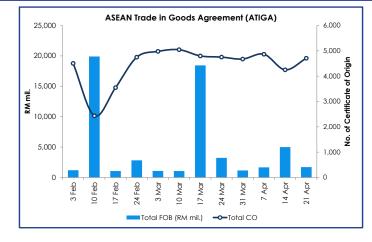


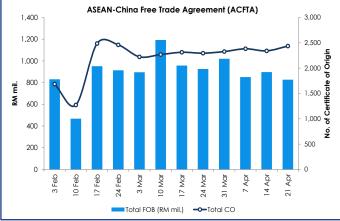
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

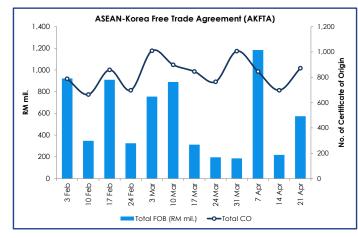
International Statistics

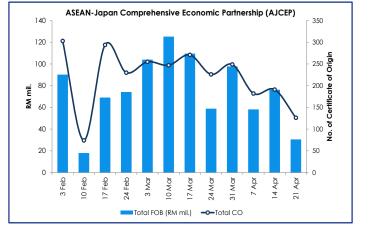
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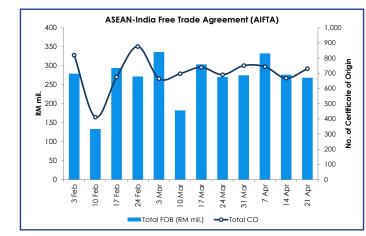
Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs)

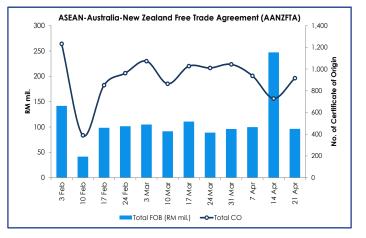


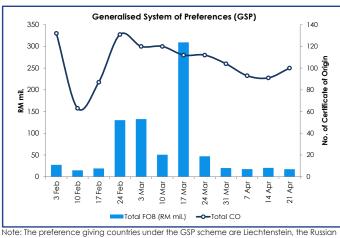












Federation, Japan, Switzerland, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Norway.

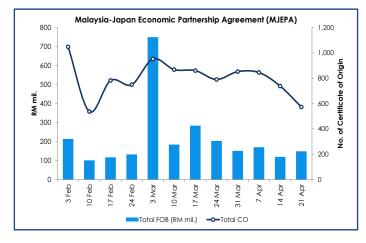
Note: *Provisional Data

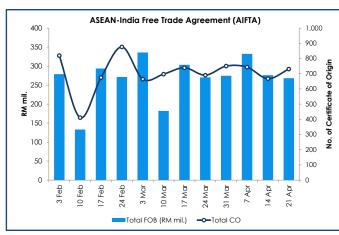
Source: Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia

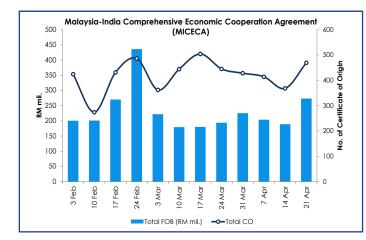
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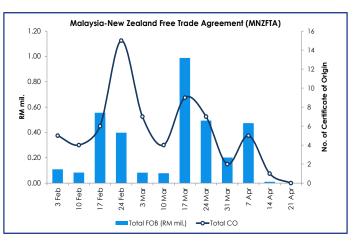
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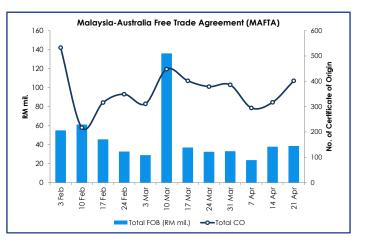


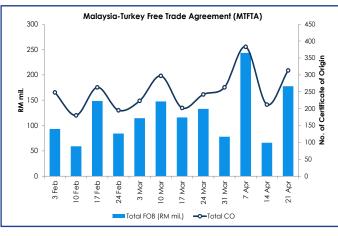








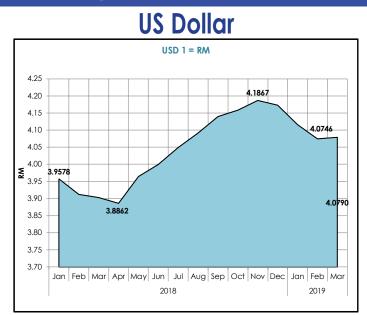


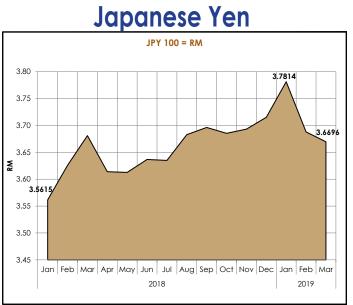


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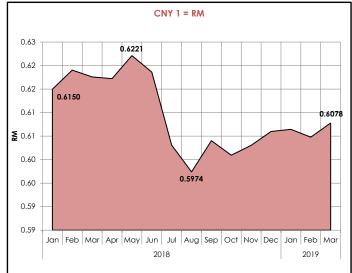
Source: Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Selected Countries, January 2018 - March 2019

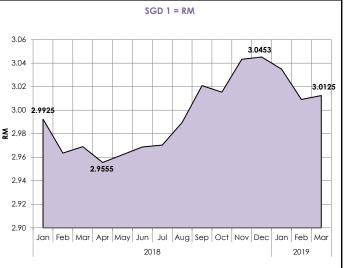




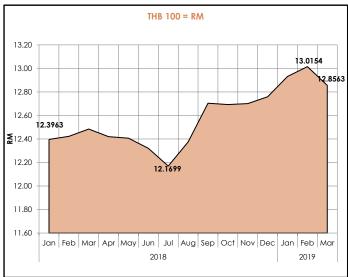
Chinese Yuan



Singapore Dollar



<u>Thai Baht</u>



New Taiwan Dollar



Source : Bank Negara Malaysia

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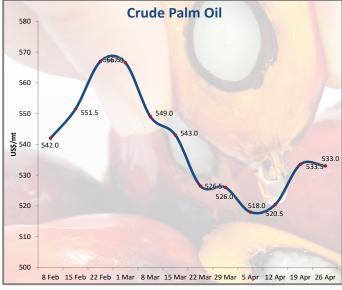
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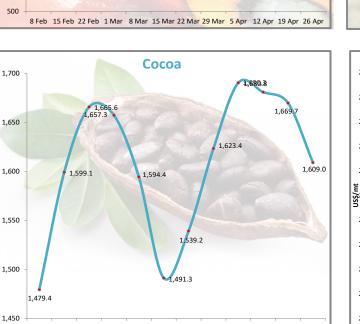
Commodity Prices



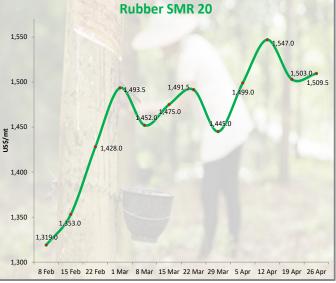
Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, and Bloomberg.

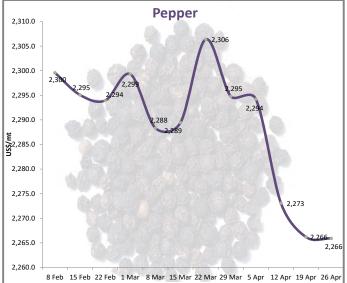
Commodity Prices Trends

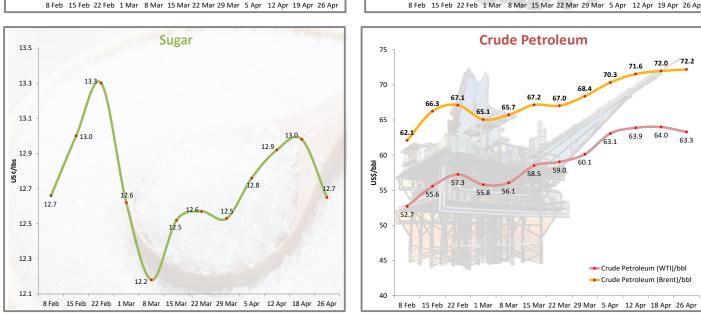




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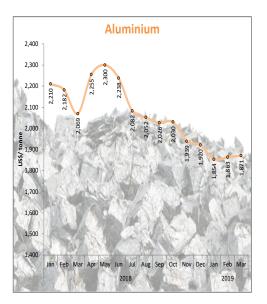


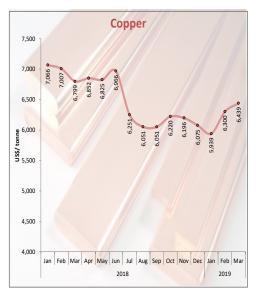


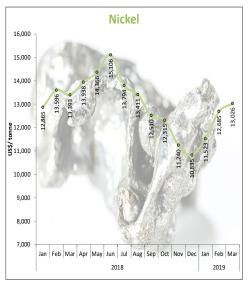


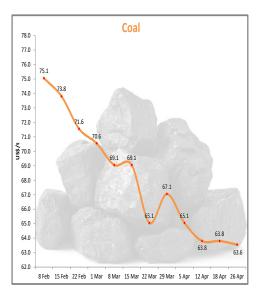
Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank, World Gold Council, The Wall Street Journal.

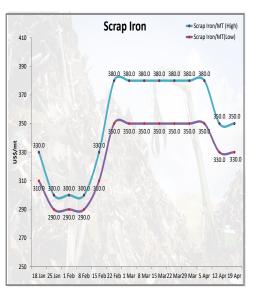
Commodity Prices Trends

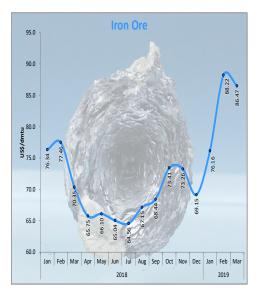


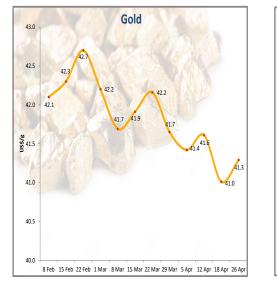


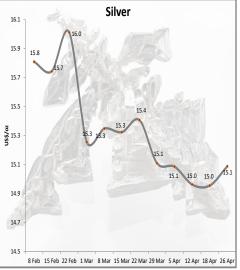


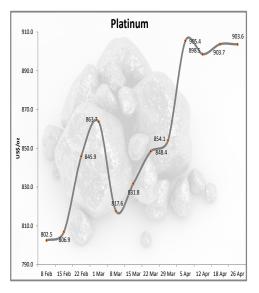












Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, , Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank, World Gold Council, The Wall Street Journal.

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MITI Tower, No. 7, Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tel: +603 - 8000 8000

MITI Deputy Minister launched the GENIE Smart Factory Solution by Galactic Advanced Engineering Sdn Bhd 23 April 2019







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MITI Minister visited HMI, P.R.China, 24 April 2019



Dialogue Session with Chinese Corporate Leaders, P.R.China, 25 April 2019



OGUE SESSION E CORPORATE LEADERS

on with the Participation of **Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad linister of Malaysia** Forum for International Cooperation

25th April 2019 World Hotel, Beijing

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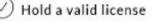
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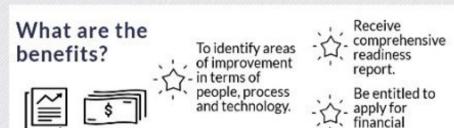
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Final Consumption

Final consumption consists of goods and services used by individual households or the community to satisfy their individual or collective needs or wants.

Source : National Accounts

Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM\

Final Consumption Expenditure of Government

General government final consumption expenditure consists of expenditure, including expenditure whose value must be estimated indirectly, incurred by general government on both individual consumption goods and services and collective consumption services.

Source : National Accounts Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM

Final Consumption Expenditure of Households

Household final consumption expenditure consists of the expenditure, including expenditure whose value must be estimated indirectly, incurred by resident households on individual consumption goods and services, including those sold at prices that are not economically significant and including consumption goods and services acquired abroad.

Source : National Accounts

Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM

Final Consumption of NPISHs

Final consumption expenditure of NPISHs consists of the expenditure, including expenditure whose value must be estimated indirectly, incurred by resident NPISHs on individual consumption goods and services and possibly on collective consumption services.

Source : National Accounts

Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM

Financial Auxiliaries

Financial auxiliaries consist of financial corporations that are principally engaged in activities associated with transactions in financial assets and liabilities or with providing the regulatory context for these transactions but in circumstances that do not involve the auxiliary taking ownership of the financial assets and liabilities being transacted.

Source : National Accounts

Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM

Financial intermediaries

Financial intermediaries are units which incur liabilities on their own account on financial markets by borrowing funds which they lend on different terms and conditions to other institutional units.

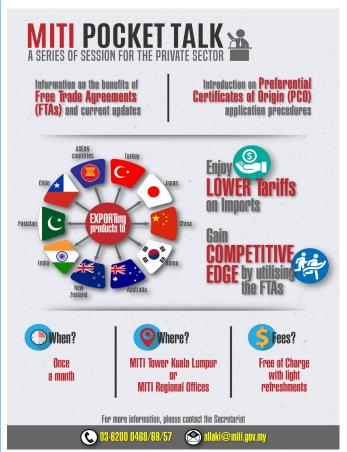
Source : National Accounts

Source Detail : Gross Domestics Product (GDP), DOSM



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Tentative Schedule for MITI Pocket Talks 2019

NO	DATE	VENUE	ΤΟΡΙϹ
1	16 May (Thursday)	MITI JOHOR	Introduction to FTA & Preferential Certificate of Origin (PCO)
2	20 June (Thursday)	MITI HQ (SEMINAR 1)	
3	18 July (Thursday)	MITI Pahang	
4	22 August (Thursday)	MITI HQ (SEMINAR 1)	
5	19 September (Thursday)	MITI PERAK	
6	17 October (Thursday)	MITI HQ (SEMINAR 1)	
7	14 November (Thursday)	MITI KELANTAN	



For more information, kindly visit: https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=column/cone&menu_id=N0FVaDR4Y1hGMk1NNi9jS2ZQRFFLZz09#



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