MT Weekly BULLET Volume 260



11 October 2013



Perutusan Raya YB Menteri MITI

ssalammu'alaikum w.b.t., Salam 1 Malaysia dan Selamat Sejahtera...

Alhamdulillah, lafaz syukur saya ucapkan ke hadrat Ilahi kerana dengan sifat Rahman dan RahimNya maka kita dianugerahkan kesempatan untuk mengimarahkan Sambutan Hari Raya Eiduladha yang bakal diraikan pada 15 Oktober 2013 bersamaan 10 Zulhijjah 1434 Hijrah.

Bersempena dengan bulan yang mulia ini, marilah kita bersama-sama mengagungkan Allah S.W.T. yang telah mengurniakan kemakmuran, keamanan, ketenteraman serta kestabilan ekonomi negara kita, dimana dengan demikian, kita dapat melaksanakan tugas harian kita dengan sempurna di dalam suasana ekonomi negara kita semakin berkembang serta kehidupan yang penuh aman dan damai.

Hari Raya Eiduladha atau juga dikenali sebagai Hari Raya Haji atau Hari Raya Korban merupakan satu perayaan yang dirayakan oleh seluruh umat Islam di dunia. Hari ini membawa mesej yang penting kepada seluruh umat Islam untuk sentiasa menghayati dan mengambil teladan dari ibadah korban yang dilaksanakan. Antaranya ialah sifat pengorbanan tinggi demi keluarga, masyarakat, agama dan negara yang harus dimiliki oleh setiap umat Islam bagi mencapai kejayaan yang diredhai Allah S.W.T.

Konsep pengorbanan ini sebenarnya juga amat signifikan dan perlu dihayati dalam konteks melaksanakan tanggungjawab sebagai penjawat awam. Dalam konteks ini, penjawat awam yang berperanan sebagai agen transformasi negara wajar mengambil intipati peristiwa pengorbanan berkenaan dan menjadikan ia sebagai panduan hidup seharian dalam menghadapi pelbagai bentuk cabaran dan dugaan. Selaku penjawat awam, sifat dan amalan yang baik di dalam semua aspek kehidupan organisasi secara fizikal, kognitif dan kerohanian perlulah ditanam. Perkhidmatan yang diberi hendaklah mencerminkan kesetiaan dan kesungguhan dalam semua pertugasan. Justeru, setiap seorang penjawat awam adalah bertanggungjawab untuk menjalankan tugas yang diberikan dengan penuh ikhlas, berhemah serta penuh tawaduk.

Begitulah hakikat yang sebenarnya tentang pergorbanan. Inilah yang berlaku juga di negara kita dimana kemerdekaan dan keamanan yang kita nikmati hari ini adalah hasil pergorbanan para pejuang dan pasukan keselamatan kita menentang penjajah dan mempertahankan negara daripada musuh-musuh negara yang kejam seperti pengganas komunis. Sebenarnya dalam apa juga bidang dan lapangan kehidupan pergorbanan adalah satu tuntutan dan kemestian.

Sehubungan itu, marilah kita bersama-sama meraikan Hari Raya Eiduladha kali ini dengan perasaan yang gembira dan tenang bersama-sama sebagai satu masyarakat yang berpegang teguh kepada semangat 1 Malaysia.

Bagi pihak diri saya dan keluarga MITI seluruhnya, sekali lagi saya ingin mengambil kesempatan ini untuk mengucapkan Selamat Hari Raya Eiduladha kepada semua pembaca setia MITI Weekly Bulletin (MWB).

Clamat Hari Praya Eidul Adha 1434H

DATO' SRI MUSTAPA MOHAMED

Mill in the news



APEC Trade Ministers Push For Limited Package For Doha Round, Says Mustapa

Apec trade ministers Saturday expressed hope of achieving a limited package for the Doha Round that consist of trade facilitation, some element of agriculture and development issues, says International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed.

The limited package, to be known as the Bali package, will be discussed at the Ninth World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial Conference (MC9) that will be held in Bali on Dec 3 to 6.

"The Apec Ministerial Meeting (AMM) held ahead of this conference is an important platform for ministers to deliberate on the possible deliverables, strategies and approaches to move the negotiations in Geneva and produce a package before ministers meet in Bali," he told a press conference for Malaysian journalists here today.

Mustapa said time was of the essence and it was critical that negotiators in Geneva achieve agreement on the issues being discussed by late October or early November. In order to reach a consensus on the issues before MC9, he said Apec Economic Ministers urged WTO members to exercise maximum flexibility and be ready to make compromises to bridge the gaps and finalise the package within the remaining timeframe.

Mustapa also expressed Malaysia's strong support for the areas identified as deliverables at the WTO and pledged Malaysia's commitment to move the process forward to achieve convergence on issues at hand. "Malaysia is a very strong advocate for trade facilitation and will continue to strengthen efforts to resolve outstanding issues among the 159 members," he said.

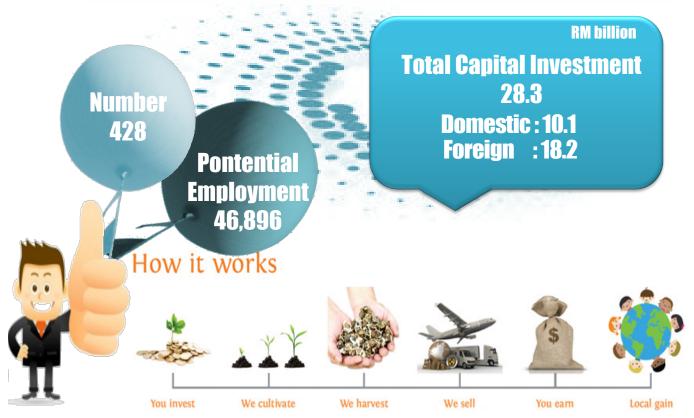
On agriculture and development, Mustapa said Malaysia was supportive of the initiatives to address challenges in the negotiations and was prepared to make the necessary commitments on issues such as food security and special and differential treatment for the least developed countries, specifically duty free quota market access for the least developed countries.

The minister said Malaysia was also actively involved in the negotiations for the expansion of WTO's Information Technology Agreement (ITA) and hoped that the conclusion of the ITA expansion could be achieved before the Bali MC9.

"A successful conclusion of the Bali package is very significant and critical to restore the credibility of WTO as a multilateral trade liberalisation institution among the public and business stakeholders," he added.

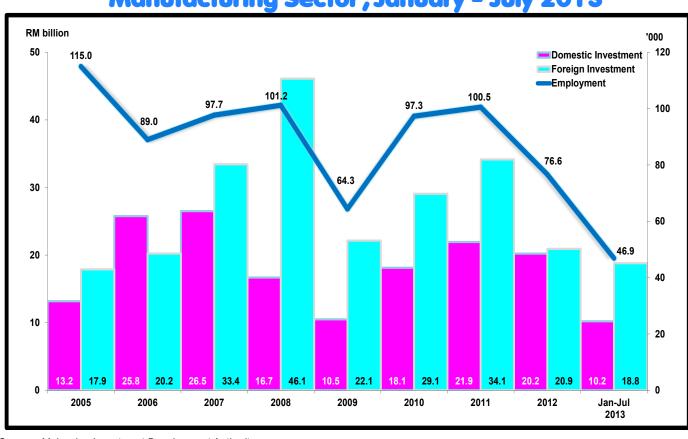
MALAYSIA

Approved Investments in Manufacturing Sector, January - July 2013

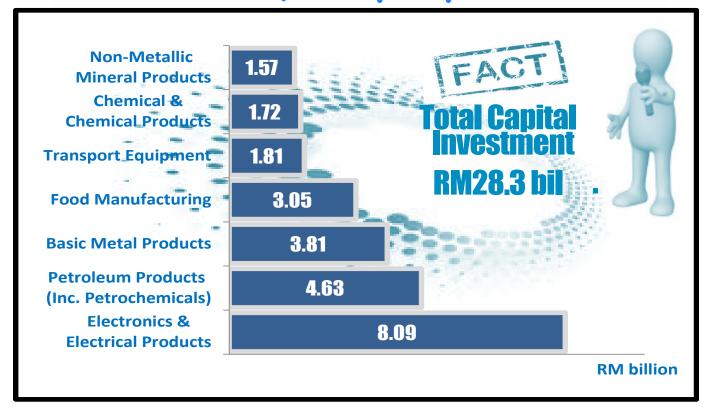


Source: Malaysian Investment Development Authority

Investment and Employment in Approved Manufacturing Sector, January - July 2013

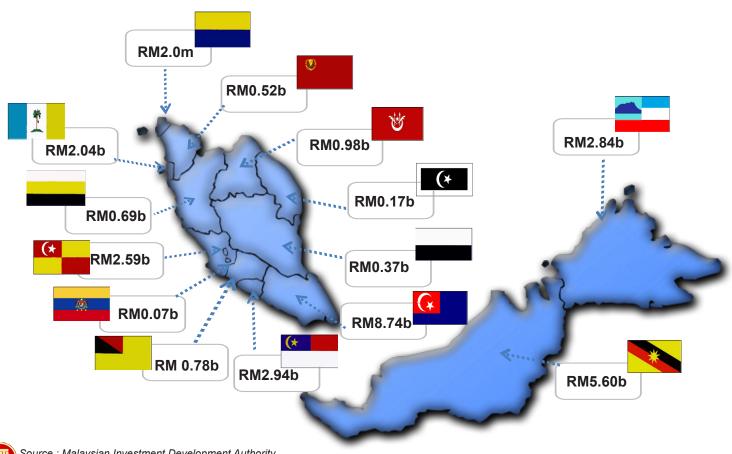


Approved Manufacturing Projects by Major Industries, January – July 2013

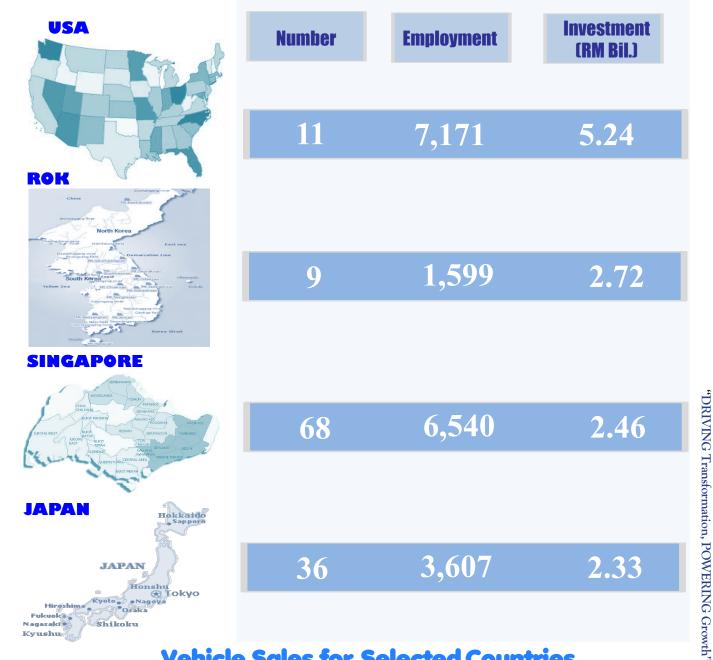


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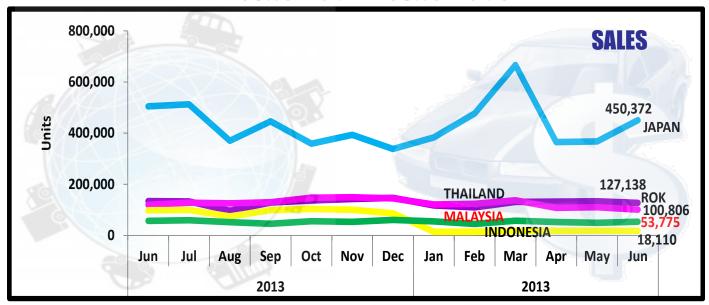
Approved Investments in Manufacturing Projects by State, January – July 2013



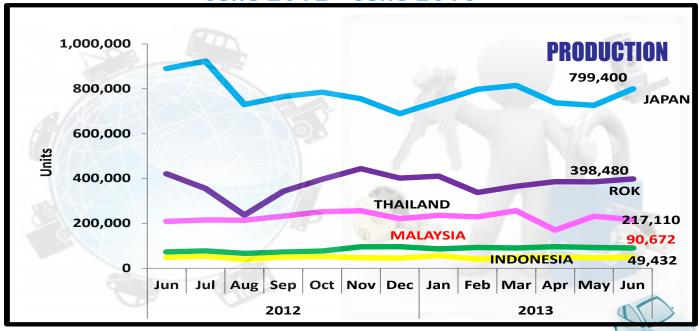
Major Sources of Foreign Investments in Projects Approved, January – July 2013



Vehicle Sales for Selected Countries, June 2012 – June 2013

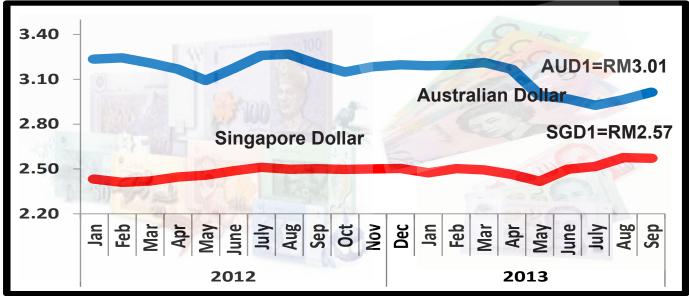


Vehicle Production for Selected Countries, June 2012 - June 2013



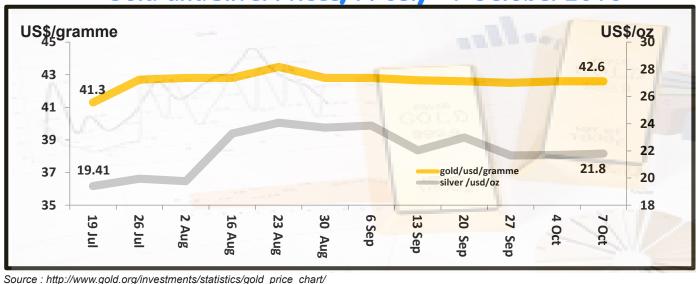
Note: Sales figures refer to domestic sales sources: marklines, MAA, MAI Analysis

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Australian Dollar and Singapore Dollar January 2012 - September 2013

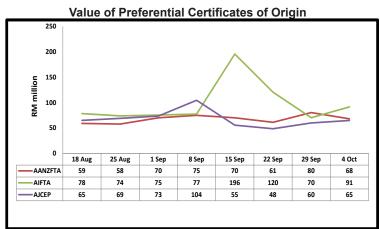


Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 19 July - 7 October 2013



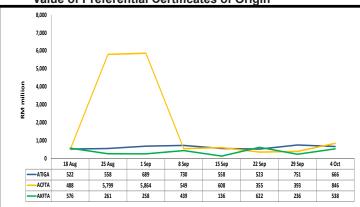
Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCO's)



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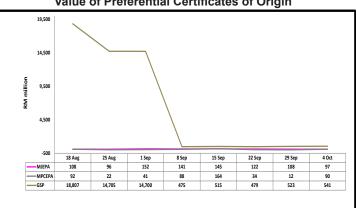
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	MJEPA	MPCEPA	<u>GSP</u>
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22 Sept	1,048	147	5,100
29 Sept	1,241	152	5,295
4 Oct	1,112	189	5,278

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are members of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland, Belarus, the Russian Federation and Turkey.

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

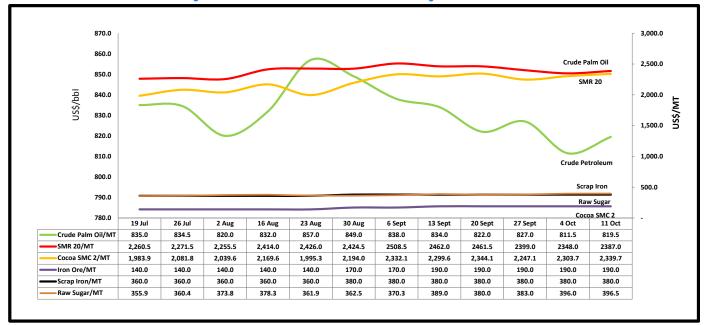
Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



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



Commodity Price Trends, 19July -11 October 2013



Highest & Lowest Prices, 2012/2013



(US\$ per bbl) 6 Sept 2013: 110.2

24 Feb 2012: 109.5

Lowest (US\$ per bbl) 19 April 2013: 88.1

29 June 2012: 77.7

Highest (US\$ per MT) 31 May 2013: 865.0 13 Apr 2012: 1,188.3

Lowest (US\$ per MT)



Crude Palm Oil

(11 Oct 2013) US\$819.5 per MT

Weekly Commodity Prices

Commodity	11 Oct 2013 (US\$)	% Change*	2012 ⁱ	2011 ⁱ	2010 ⁱ
Crude Petroleum (per bbl)	103.6	0.5	77.7-109.5	80.3-112.7	68.0-91.4
Crude Palm Oil (per MT)	819.5	1.0	1,000.4	1,124.0	896.6
Raw Sugar (per MT)	383.0	1 0.1	473.8	647.0	594.6
Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	2,387.0	1 .7	952.5	1,348.3	1,058.1
Cocoa SMC (per MT)	2,339.7	1.6	2,128.9	2,644.8	2,633.4
Srap Iron HMS (per MT)	380.0 (High) 370.0 (Low)	unchanged unchanged	444.7	491.0	393.1

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

Source: 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

13 Sept 2013 domestic prices for:

1.Billets (per MT) : RM1.750 - RM1.800 2.Steel bars (per MT): RM2,050 - RM2,250





NEW MATRADE CHAIRMAN

YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry announced the appointment of Parit Sulong Member of Parliament (MP), Dato' Noraini Ahmad as Chairman of Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) effective October 1, 2013. Dato' Noraini replaces Dato' Mah Siew Keong who held the post since September 2010. The appointment of Dato' Noraini is based on her experience and capability, which will strengthen MATRADE's role towards realising Malaysia's vision of becoming a high-income nation by 2020. Dato' Noraini was appointed as an MP in 2008 and held the post of Deputy Human Resources Minister from March 2008 to March 2009. YB Dato' Noraini was also UMNO Puteri Wing Head from 2004 to 2009. Amongst her other positions, she also serves as Chairman of Astronautic Technology (M) Sdn Bhd and was a member of the board of directors of PUTRA Hospital Batu Pahat from 2011 to 2012.

Eastman to add two plants in **Kuantan**



Eastman Chemical Co, the biggest coal-to-chemicals producer in the United States, will expand production in Malaysia to benefit from cheaper natural gas.

The company plans to add two new plants at its site in Kuantan to become its biggest integrated site in Asia, said Mark Costa, president of the Kingsport, Tennessee-based company, in an interview. "Next year, we hope to start construction of new plants or insoluble sulfur, which is used for vulcanising rubber, and polyvinyl butyral resin, which goes into safety glass," Costa said yesterday. "We see great growth in China. Of course, it's the biggest market but we also see opportunities to grow in Southeast Asia."

Read more:

 $http://www.btimes.com.my/Current_News/BTIMES/articles/20131009000129/Article/index_html$







Name : Mashithah Noordin
Designation : Administrative Assitant

Division : Services Sector Development

Duration of Service: 32 years
Contact: 03-62000551

E-mail : mashithah.noordin@miti.gov.my

Name : Jawaiziana Wailid

Designation : Administrative Assistant
Division : Trade and Industry Support

Import and Export Control Section

Duration of Service : 12 years Contact : 03-62033172

E-mail : ziana.wailid@miti.gov.my



Comments & Suggestions

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21 October 2013



Government Aims To Have 50 IC Companies By 2020, Says Mustapa



The government aims to have 50 integrated circuit (IC) companies by 2020, International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed said."We want to focus more on niche sectors which has more value-added properties and are more profitable compared with manufacturing.

"Companies such as Symmid Corporation is serious in developing a pipeline of the much-needed next generation Malaysian homegrown

knowledge workers," he told reporters during his visit to Symmid Corporation Sdn Bhd here Thursday."The company pays its employees who are high knowledge-driven workers around RM6,000 and up to RM16,000 per month," Mustapa said.Currently, there are only 27 IC companies in the country.

The visit was part of the ministry's efforts to foster engagement with the private sector and obtain views on ways to attract and encourage reinvestment by companies. He said 15 per cent out of the company's total employees were homegrown knowledge workers consisting of local university graduates.

Meanwhile, Symmid Corporation Chief Executive Officer Steve Liew said the company's revenue almost tripled to RM13 million this year compared with RM4.5 million last year. The leading Malaysian-based fabless semiconductor design company employs a total of 85 workers and it aims to grow this to 120 workers by next year.

Symmid Corporation is 60 per cent-owned by French-based Altis International while the remaining 40 per cent is owned by Kumpulan Modal Perdana Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of the Ministry of Finance Inc.

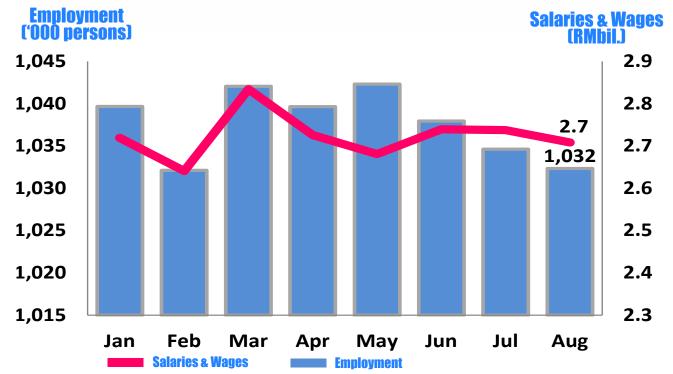
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MALAYSIA

Manufacturing Sector

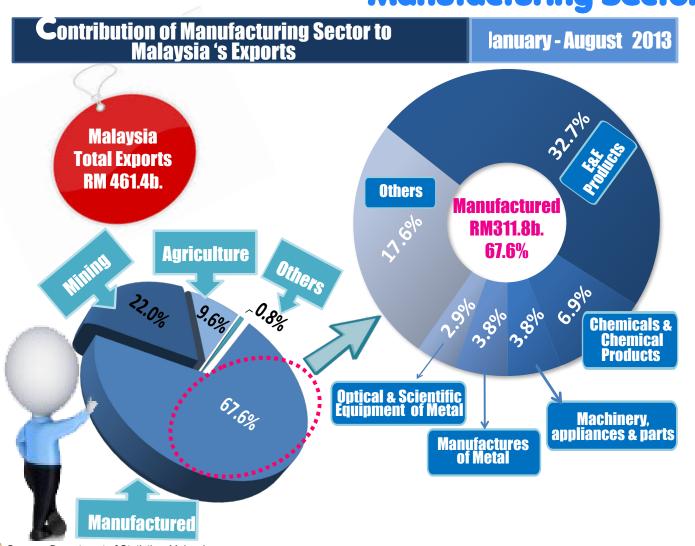
Employment and Salaries & wages

lanuary-August 2013



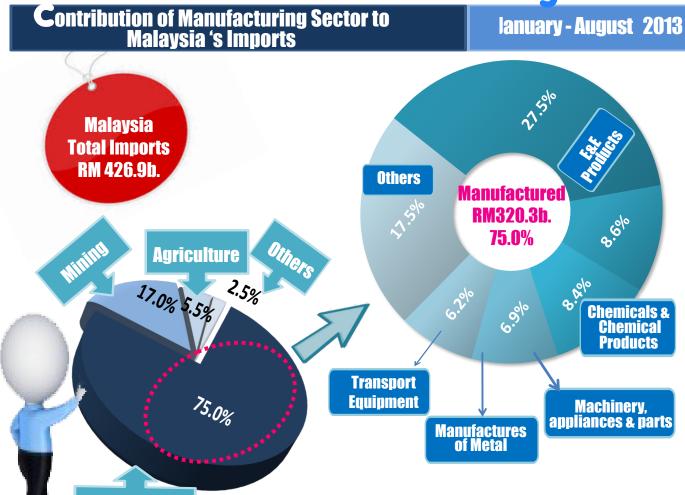
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Manufacturing Sector



"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

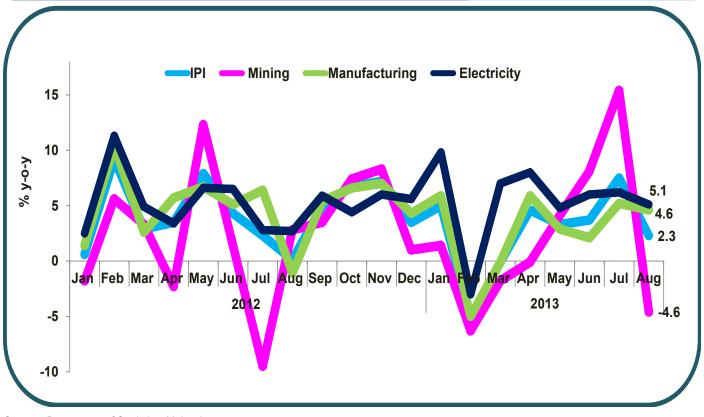
Manufacturing Sector



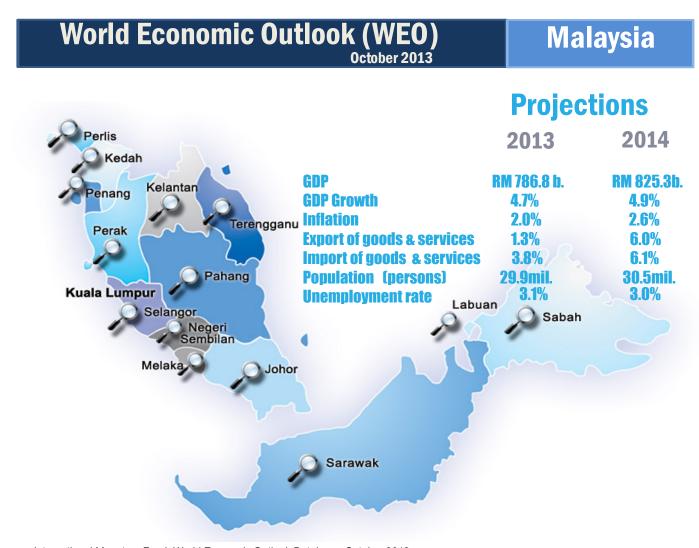
Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Manufactured

Industrial Production Index (IPI) **January - August 2013** 150 135.3 130 124.7 113.8 PI Index 110 90 87.2 70 Jun Mar Apr May Jul Aug Sep Nov Jan Feb Mar Apr May Oct Dec Jan Feb Jun Jul Aug 2012 2013 **IPI** 109.2 | 110.1 | 116.6 | 109.3 | 113.1 | 112.1 | 110.5 | 111.2 | 114.9 | 120.2 | 115.6 | 114.9 | 114.7 | 104.3 | 116.5 | 114.4 | 116.8 | 116.2 | 118.8 | 113.8 Mining 94.3 91.3 95.7 85.1 85.6 81.9 | 77.2 | 91.4 | 87.0 | 94.6 93.1 94.2 95.6 85.5 93.9 85.0 89.2 88.5 89.1 87.2 Manufacturing | 115.2 | 118.1 | 125.3 | 119.2 | 124.2 | 124.7 | 124.4 | 119.2 | 127.0 | 131.2 | 125.2 | 123.4 | 122.0 | 112.2 | 125.2 | 126.3 | 127.8 | 127.3 | 130.9 | 124.7 Electricity 123.2 | 121.4 | 131.7 | 128.5 | 135.8 | 133.0 | 133.7 | 128.7 | 129.8 | 134.8 | 128.2 | 130.7 | 135.3 | 117.7 | 140.9 | 138.9 | 142.4 | 140.9 | 141.9 | 135.3



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia



Benchmark Interest Rate for selected countries

2013 (%)

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Malaysia	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Singapore	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.05
Japan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Indonesia	5.75	6.0	7.0	7.0
Thailand	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
USA	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
PRC	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0

Source: http://www.tradingeconomics.com

Singapore Advance Estimates for Q3 2013

GDP growth

↓1.0% (q-o-q)

5.1% (y-o-y)

Manufacturing sector

↓ 3.4% (q-o-q)

↑ 4.5% (y-o-y)

Construction sector

↓8.8% (q-o-q)

Services sector

1.0% (q-o-q)

↑ 5.7% (y-o-y)



GDP growth is still projected at 2.5-3.5 per cent in 2013 Inflation (July-august 2013) ↑1.9%

Inflation Uuly-august 2013) †1.9% Sources: Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)

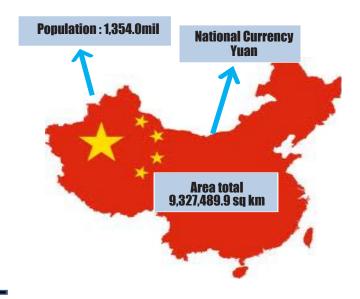
Country profile:China

GDP Growth:7.8% (Q3 2013)

CPI: 102.6 (Aug. 2013)

Inflation rate: 3.10% (Sept 2013)

Unemployment Rate: 4.1% (Jun 2013)



Source: http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm

Economic Community of West African States

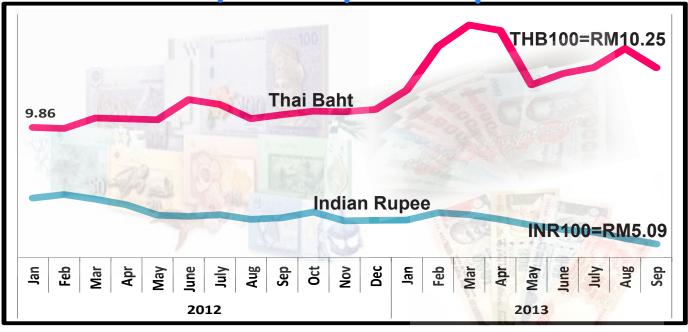


Headquarters : Abuja, Nigeria Founded : 28 May 1975 Membership : 15 countries Total Area : 5,112,903 km2 Population : 300,000,000

(2011 estimate)

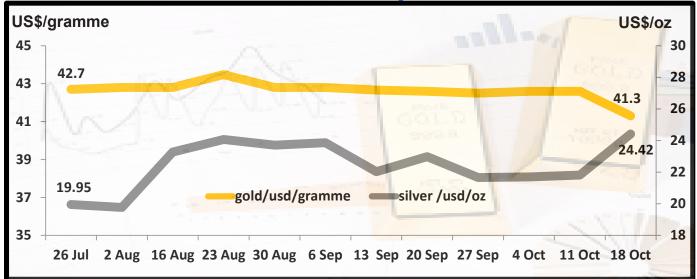
GDP (nominal) : U\$\$402.5bil (2012) Bilateral Trade : Exports - RM4.4bil (2012) Imports - RM3.0bil

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Thai Baht and Indian Rupee January 2012 - September 2013



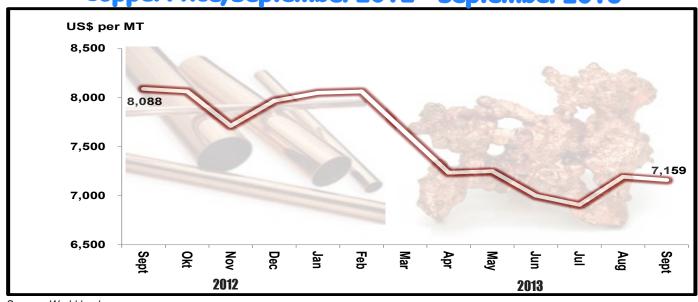
Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 26 July - 18 October 2013



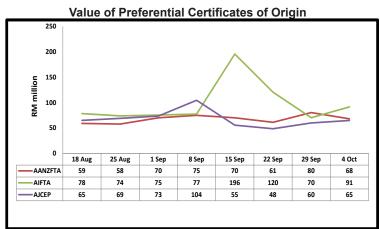
Source: http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold_price_chart/

Copper Price, September 2012 - September 2013





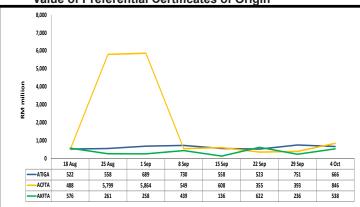
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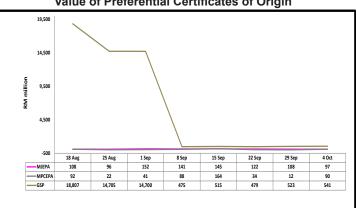
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MJEPA: Malaysia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 13 July 2006)

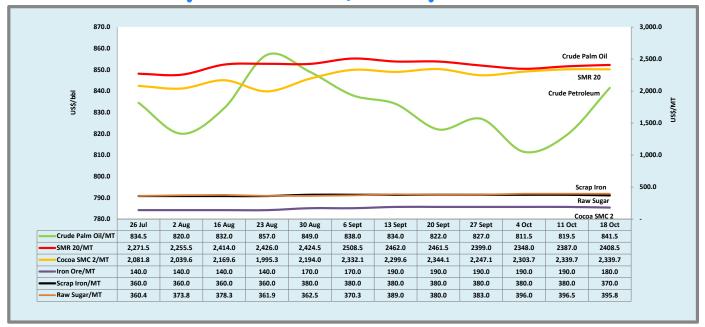
Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



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



Commodity Price Trends, 26 July -18 October 2013



Highest & Lowest Prices, 2012/2013



(US\$ per bbl) 6 Sept 2013: 110.2

24 Feb 2012: 109.5

(US\$ per bbl) 19 April 2013: 88.1 29 June 2012: 77.7

Crude Palm Oil (18 Oct 2013) US\$841.5 per MT **Highest**

(US\$ per MT) 31 May 2013: 865.0 13 Apr 2012: 1,188.3

Lowest (US\$ per MT) 4 Jan 2013: 800.0 14 Dec 2012: 773.5

Weekly Commodity Prices

Commodity	18 Oct 2013 (US\$)	% Change*	2012 ⁱ	2011 ⁱ	2010 ⁱ
Crude Petroleum (per bbl)	102.2	1 .4	77.7-109.5	80.3-112.7	68.0-91.4
Crude Palm Oil (per MT)	841.5	1 2.7	1,000.4	1,124.0	896.6
Raw Sugar (per MT)	395.8	₩ 0.2	473.8	647.0	594.6
Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	2,408.5	0.9	952.5	1,348.3	1,058.1
Cocoa SMC (per MT)	2,339.7	unchanged	2,128.9	2,644.8	2,633.4
Srap Iron HMS (per MT)	370.0 (High) 360.0 (Low)	unchanged unchanged	444.7	491.0	393.1

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

Source: 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

18 Oct 2013 domestic prices for: 1.Billets (per MT) : RM1.750 - RM1.800 2.Steel bars (per MT): RM2,150 - RM2,250





TPPA and You

FMM's Response to article on Malaysian Insider Increased employment with TPPA?

"In 2012, Malaysia exports \$26 billion worth of goods to USA, while USA only exports \$13 billion products to us. We have a trade surplus, and that is exactly what the USA wants to change.'

Response from FMM:

The United States, which continues to be Malaysia's fourth largest trading partner after China, Singapore and Japan, accounts for some 8.7 per cent of Malaysia's total exports. However trade between Malaysia and US is currently confined to a relatively narrow range of goods namely Electrical and Electronics mainly contributed by photosensitive semiconductor devices (\$13.3 billion), Machinery (\$3.7 billion), Optic and

Medical Instruments mainly parts and accessories for oscilloscope and spectrum analysers (\$1.6 billion), and Rubber mainly rubber gloves (\$1.4 billion) and Fats and Oils (palm oil) (\$1.4 billion).

Clearly, we can do much more to diversify trade and expand trade by identifying new and emerging sectors with high potential for growth moving forward. The TPP provides the opportunity to open up another 10% of duty free trade with new non-FTA markets including US, Mexico, Canada and Peru with manufacturers

being able to sell at more cost-competitive prices.

While US import duties are generally low for manufactured goods, a number of products of interest to Malaysian manufacturers attract high import duties including footwear (up to 48%), textile/fabric (cotton fabric is between 6.5%-14.7%), apparel (1.1%-28.6%) and ceramic tableware (up to 25%).

Similarly, Mexico has a highly protective tariff regime with some tariff rates of imported goods go beyond 35%, with the highest rate at 72% for agricultural products. Mexico levies much higher average tariffs on processed products than on raw materials, including in particular food, textiles, clothing, leather, and basic metal industries. For instance the average applied tariff for foods and beverages is 42%, tobacco (53%) and textiles (14%)

FMM is of the view that any preferential advantage through the TPP, in the form of lower or zero tariffs, will enhance our price competitiveness in these products. Mexico has a large automotive component parts manufacturing industry that supplies to the US automakers. Our auto parts makers, for example, can enter the US market if Malaysian auto manufacturers undertake tie-ups with Mexican partners as a strategy to avoid the high duties imposed.

Consultations with FMM members indicate that beyond the conventional markets, there is an increasing

need for manufacturers to have access to the Government Procurement markets in these countries.

As the US and other TPP governments purchase large quantities of goods and services, the TPP will provide Malaysian companies the opportunity to access the huge foreign government procurement market and create

a level playing field for Malaysian companies in bidding for such government tenders.

"But how about other business sectors such as furniture, food, house wares, metal works, etc.? These sectors might not increase their exports, but will be affected when the local market is flooded with the same

cheaper products made from US and the other 10 TPPA countries.'

Response from FMM:

Malaysia has already concluded six bilateral FTAs and five regional FTAs through ASEAN which cover more than 60% of Malaysian global trade and a market exceeding 3.5 billion people. These FTAs especially with ASEAN and China are in direct competition with Malaysia. In general our manufacturers have withstood the opening of the domestic markets and have found new opportunities in the duty free export markets. It did not have a negative impact on our export competitiveness. In fact it has increased Malaysian exports.

As US exports are not directly competing with our exports, Malaysian exports especially furniture and food (which are now enjoying greater popularity in US) will not only remain resilient but will have export unities to (which are now enjoying greater popularity in US) will not only remain resilient but will have opportunities to enter and expand into new markets.

Years	2009	2010	2011	2012
Employment in manufacturing('000)	3,215.40	3,387.70	3,511.20	3,616.60
Unemployment rate %	3.7	3.3	3.1	3

Beyond manufacturers, Malaysian consumers would also stand to benefit from the ability to purchase a

greater variety of services and goods especially high technology items without having to pay duties.

"18 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean from 1970 to 1996 reveals the negative effects of tariff cuts on both overall and manufacturing employment. For example, the cut in average tariffs from 32% in 1980-85 to 14% in 1991-95 caused a reduction in manufacturing employment of up to 5.8% across Latin America. During two decades of freer international trade and increased exposure to international capital, overall unemployment rates in the region increased."

Response from FMM:

Employment in the Malaysian manufacturing sector has been expanding continuously even after we signed numerous FTAs. Malaysia did not experience the negative effects in employment experienced by the Latin American and the Caribbean countries as referred to in the article. The share of manufacturing as a percentage of the GDP has been declining but this is due to the increasing contribution by the services sector as the economy matures and not caused by the FTAs that we have signed. Total numbers employed in the manufacturing sector has increased and national unemployment has declined, even with higher foreign worker employment.

We strongly subscribe to the view that an FTA with the 12 countries in the TPP would be beneficial to the country both in terms of trade and investment as it will create more opportunities for everyone. However, sticky issues remain which have been highlighted including extension of intellectual property rights, capital controls and investor state dispute resolution which needs to be addressed and resolved. When these issues are resolved, Malaysia should proceed with the TPPA as it will contribute to boosting trade, investment and economic activities in Malaysia.



Big gains possible from TPP

New Zealand has a lot more to gain from the Trans-Pacific Partnership now Japan's in the negotiations, says Sir Graeme Harrison.

Speaking on TV3's The Nation, the ANZCO Foods chairman said New Zealand could bring in \$5 billion per year in our exports now Japan was involved in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), compared to \$3.5 billion without Japan.

The increase in exports to Japan could mean a 2% gain in GDP, with many of the gains in the primary industries, he said. Japan has been a very protected economy, with tariffs of over 300% on NZ milk powder and an estimated USD\$1 billion in direct support to Japanese farmers.

But Sir Harrison said Japan had been going through a deflationary phase for a long time."It's time for reform and Japan knows that it has to deal with this, and will use TPP as a pretext to undertake very serious structural reforms."He said Japan's inclusion has made the TPP more worthwhile for the United States, which in turn will work in New Zealand's favour.

"All of this comes together with two countries, the world's first and third largest economy, both believing in a rules-based trading system, that are on our side, and we can have quite an influence in that process."

Source: http://www.nbr.co.nz/article/big-gains-possible-tpp-ts-147045



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Comments & Suggestions

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MITI Weekly BULLETIN

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28 October 2013



Deepavali Message from Minister



n the month of November, Malaysia celebrates the festive occasion of Deepavali, also popularly known as the "festival of lights". Deepavali is an important occasion in Malaysia's annual calendar of events and it is celebrated in Hindu families by performing traditional activities together in their homes. Deepavali is a time to get together with friends and family and celebrate the victory of good over evil with prayers for peace and prosperity.

To our Hindu friends, I sincerely hope that you will be able to celebrate this festival with joy and share this special moment with not only your families but also with friends from different ethnic groups and religions across the country. I believe the light that symbolises Deepavali will continue to illuminate the existing bonds that bind us ever so strongly together as 1Malaysia.

MITI remains committed to serve the business community and to ensure that a friendly business environment is provided to achieve Malaysia's aspiration of becoming a developed and high income nation by 2020. As a trading nation, Malaysia's economic growth is very much dependent on the global environment. The global economic landscape today has changed significantly and Malaysia can no longer rest on our laurels and depend on a low-cost structure to remain competitive internationally. If we are to increase our competitiveness and be among the best not only in ASEAN but in the world, bold and disciplined measures need to be taken right now to set the economy on a new growth path so that more quality jobs and business opportunities through value creation can be generated. Year 2020 is less than a decade away and we no longer have the luxury of time to adopt a 'wait-and-see' attitude. Indeterminate status quo can never be an option for a progressive Malaysia. Important to remind ourselves that 'Malaysia Boleh' is not just a slogan to be expressed during mass gatherings. It is a way of thinking and a way of life for each and every one of us here in Malaysia where we continuously rise up again and yet again to whatever challenges that come our way and overcome these obstacles.

I do hope Deepavali celebrations this year will bring continued prosperity to our business community and nation as a whole with more opportunities for us to work together. On this note, I wish all MITI Weekly Bulletin Hindu readers $Deepavali\ Valthukel$.

Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed Minister of International Trade and Industry Malaysia



Comments on the 2014 Budget by YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed Minister of International Trade and Industry

1. YAB Perdana Menteri presented a progressive, balanced and a rakyat centric budget which clearly underlines Government's effort and commitment towards transforming the economy, reducing the national fiscal deficit and ensuring the prosperity of the nation while placing the concerns and wellbeing of the citizen at the core of the budget.

- 2.The provisions in the budget under MITI are targeted on two focus areas:
 - •Intensifying Economic Activities; and
 - Human Capital Excellence.

3.Following the momentum of increasing inflow of foreign direct investment, the 2014 Budget continues to introduce new measures to ensure Malaysia remain attractive to investors.

4.A total of RM264.2 billion has been allocated to implement the development plans under this Budget. Of this, RM217.7 billion for operating expenditure and RM46.5 billion for development expenditure. Private and public investments are expected to increase 7.3% and 7.4% respectively. This positive growth will help spur Government efforts towards the next phase of the country's development.

5.The services sector continues to be the main contributor for economic growth. To encourage further growth, The Services Sector Master plan will be introduced in 2014.

Incentives to Spur Investments

6. Among incentives to promote private investments:

A.Incentives for the hotel, logistics, aviation and tourism industries.

Hotel Industry - in the form of 70% exemption on statutory income for the period of 5 years and 60% investment tax allowance.

Impact

- •Continue to support investment in 4 and 5 stars hotel by extending the incentives period that will lapse by 1 January 2014 (Pioneer Status and Investment Tax Allowance for another 3 years, i.e. until 31 December 2016.
- •The establishment of more luxury hotels will further promote tourism, raise the standard of hospitality in Malaysia to attract high yield tourists especially during the Visit Malaysia Year 2014.
- •The Entry Point Project 12:- Improving Rates, Mix and Quality of Hotels, targeting 37,000 more rooms for 4 and 5-star hotels by 2020. As at December 2012, 3,908 rooms have been added.
- •The incentives will also stimulate other related activities especially in Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) in Malaysia.
- •It is also consistent with the Government's aspiration of

positioning Malaysia as a high income nation by 2020 through the revitalisation of private sector's investments.

Logistics Sector Masterplan

- •The Masterplan will guide policymakers across agencies, sectors, and regions in the implementation of measures to improve the efficiency, integration, competitiveness and environmental sustainability of the country's trade logistics, while meeting the requirements set by the broader policy goals for economic development.
- Efficient freight logistics services will support manufacturing and agricultural supply chains with linkages to international gateways, and rural networks for access to local markets and production sites.
- •Will also contribute towards increasing the level of efficiency of logistic management, reduce the cost of services provided thereby enhancing trading activities as well as to increase competitiveness of country export

Maritime Development Fund

•Maritime Transport (particularly shipping and port) plays an important role in international freight, particularly to transport bulky items such as crude oil and grains.

National Aviation Policy

- •The aviation industry is vital in the rapid expansion of trade and thriving tourism industry for Malaysia and will help place Malaysia as a leading regional air transport hub.
- •The industry is expected to grow with the Visit Malaysia Year 2014 and other tourism boosting initiatives by the Government.
- •Moreover, the Government has also introduced earlier a myriad incentive within aerospace industry. The incentive available includes activities that directly and indirectly contribute to the design and development, construction, operation, maintenance and disposal of aerospace related products covering Manufacturing and Design, MRO, General Aviation, Regulator and Aerospace Training sub-sectors.

B.Incentive for Vendor Development Program in the form of double deduction on Operational Expenditures

to attract more anchor companies participating in vendor development programmes.

Impact

- •The double deduction on operational expenditure awarded to anchor companies is expected to attract greater participation in the programme. Anchor companies would be encouraged to develop and enhance more Bumiputera SMEs as their component manufacturers and suppliers. This is in line with the Fourth Focus under the Bumiputera Economic Empowerment Agenda announced by the Y.A.B. Prime Minister on 14 September 2013.
- •Benefits provided under the Vendor Development Programme include:
- -promote and encourage anchor companies to engage local Bumiputera vendors for supplies of products and services;
- -promote localisation and import substitution;
- -increase competitiveness and ability of Bumiputera SMEs through capacity building programmes and training provided by anchors;
- -encourage more Bumiputera SMEs to upgrade existing products or services through R&D supported by their anchors;
- -encourage more Bumiputera SMEs to invest in new technologies; and
- -increase quality of products produced by Bumiputera SMEs to comply with requirements of anchors.

C.Entrepreneurial Development Scheme

•Establishment of the National Entrepreneur Development Office (NEDO) under the Unit National Strategy of Ministry of Finance to plan and coordinate all development plan and activities related to entrepreneurship.

Impact

•Establishment of NEDO will ensure that all programmes and activities related to entrepreneurship will be monitored and coordinated in a very systematic, efficient and effective manner.

D.Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre

•The creation of Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MAGIC) will ensure that the development of entrepreneurs will be conducted in a very comprehensive and integrated manner. In relation to this, we foresee that all the elements pertaining to the development of competitive, resilient and sustainable entrepreneurs will be in place.

E.High Impact Bumiputera Equity Financing Scheme

•The RM 300 million High Impact Bumiputera Equity Financing Scheme is the expansion of the existing BFF to support Bumiputera equity ownership in identified non-core activities of GLCs that to be divested. The enhanced scope will include the acquisition of majority interest in PLC and potential companies to be listed (owned by GLC ect.)

Impact

• Target to finance more than 20 entrepreneurs.

F.Bumiputera Property Ownership Financing Program

•The RM300 million Bumiputera Property Ownership



Financing Program aims to support the Bumiputera entrepreneurs property ownership in strategic locations.

Impact

•Expected to assist more than 100 entrepreneurs to own business premises

G.Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

- •Budget 2014 is a windfall for SMEs in terms of access to financing. It offers a complete package covering a full spectrum of financing for SMEs, starting from the small entrepreneurs, to those that need revitalisation and finally to innovative SMEs at the higher-end of the value chain.
- •MITI is glad to note that Budget 2014 continues to be supportive towards SMEs and Entrepreneur Development. I noted about 13* specific programmes, with a combined allocation of about RM2.6 billion, that will ultimately benefit the growth of Malaysia's SME and entrepreneurs. Although many of these programmes are under various ministries and agencies, SME Corp, as the Central Coordinating Agency for SME development will be coordinating these programmes.
- •We are very pleased that the Government recognises the importance of SMEs to remain innovative through the extension of the Green Lane Policy until 2017. Introduction on a special package amounting to RM120 million for SMEs to undertake automation, mechanisation, capacity building will assist SMEs in increasing their productivity.
- •Intensive support in terms of financing with funds amounting to RM1.18 billion in total (from AIM, TEKUN, BSN and SME Bank) for the microenterprises is also seen as Government's effort to accelerate the growth of the microenterprises. This is in line with the objective of SME Masterplan 2012-2020 to increase business formation which is targeted to growth at 6% by 2020.
- •MITI is very pleased that the Government has agreed to introduce special incentive in the form of financial packages (RM250 million) to enable SMEs to adopt accounting application into their business in preparation to the GST starting 1 April 2015. MITI will facilitate promotion and outreach to business community in order to prepare them for GST.

*List of the 13 Programmes

- (i) Microenterprises Financing through Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia and TEKUN amounting to RM1 billion
- (ii) Special financing for Indian entrepreneurs by TEKUN RM50 million
- (iii) Dana Ekuiti Bumiputera RM30 million SME Bank
- (iv) Pembangunan Tanah Rizab Melayu RM200 million
- (v) Skim Usahawan Permulaan Bumiputera RM30 million
- (vi) Training Grant in preparation for GST RM100 million
- (vii) Financing for purchase of ICT accounting application for SMEs RM150 million
- (viii) Skim Usahawan Pasar Malam by BSN RM100 million
- (ix) Tabung Usahawan Siswazah RM50 million SME Bank





- (xi) Up skilling and reskilling fund PSMB RM400 million
- (xii) Establishment of 60 new shops under Kedai Rakyat 1 Malaysia KRIM RM30 million
- (xiii) Pakej bersepadu bagi PKS untuk meningkatkan produktiviti dengan melaksanakan automasi dan pembangunan kapasiti –RM120 million

Impact

•The additional allocation for the Graduate Entrepreneur Scheme of RM50 million provide greater opportunities for new graduates to venture into. Under the 2013 budget, a total of 861 graduates have been trained as entrepreneurs.

H.Outcome Based Budgeting

•MITI, MOH and MOF will be the first three Ministries to undertake the performance evaluation process under OBB.

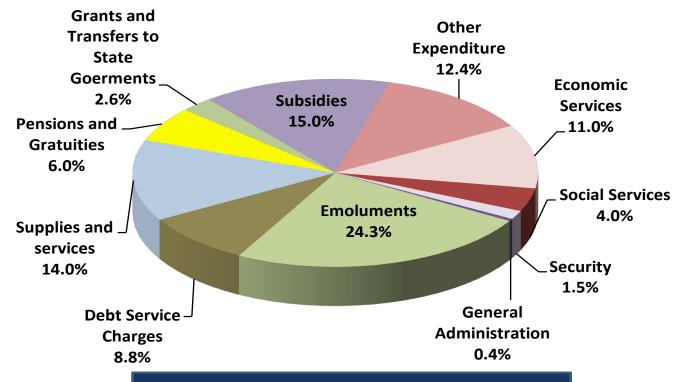
Impact

•Performance of government delivery system including KPI's will be monitored through OBB that will improve the budget management system through close monitoring and effective implementation of programmes and activities.

This Budget is balanced and will go a long way in providing benefits not only for the business community but also to the average citizens. The measures reflect the Government's commitment to reduce the effect of the rising cost of living on the low-income group.

Minister of International Trade and Industry Malaysia 25 October 2013

MALAYSIA - BUDGET ALLOCATION IN 2014



Total Allocation: RM262.1 billion

Source:Economic Report 2013/2014 Ministry of Finance, Malaysia





"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

GDP and Annual Growth by State 2012

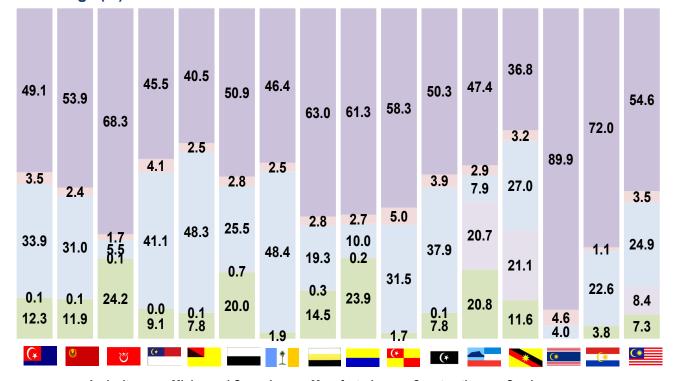


Notes:

WP K.Lumpur* includes WP Putrajaya
Supra** state covers production activities that are beyond the centre of predominent economic interest for any state, e.g. oil
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

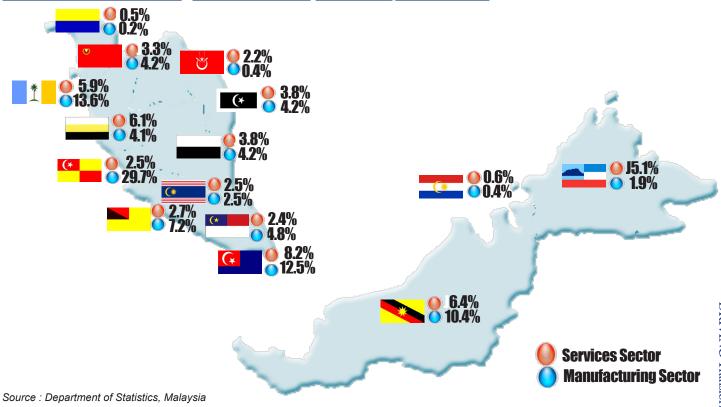
Percentage Share of Economic Activity by State, 2012

Percentage (%)

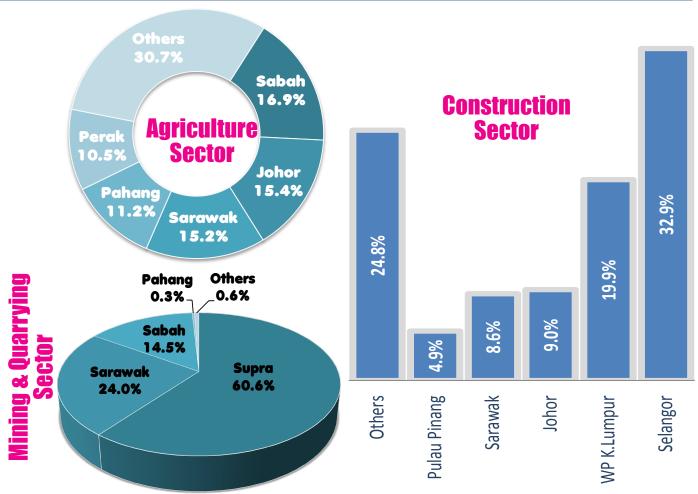


■ Agriculture ■ Mining and Quarrying ■ Manufacturing ■ Construction ■ Services

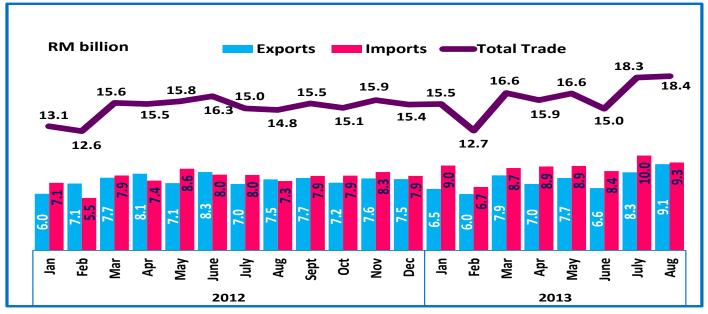




Percentage Share of Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying and Construction Sector by State, 2012

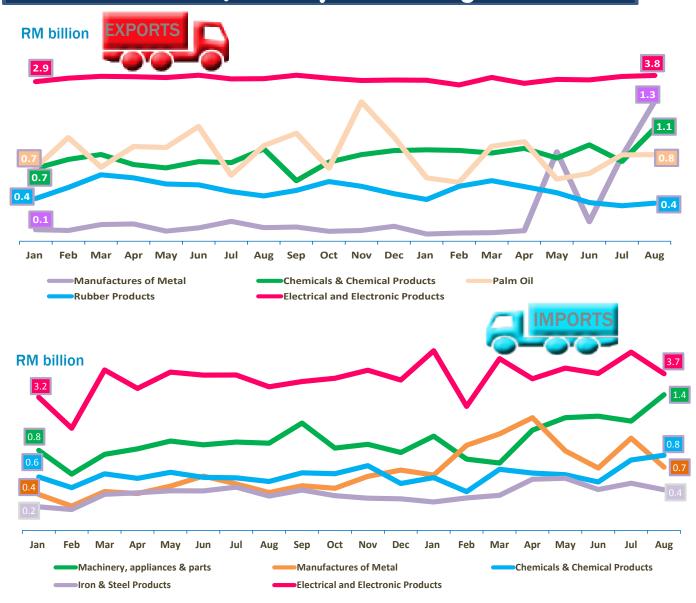


Malaysia–China Trade, January 2012– August 2013

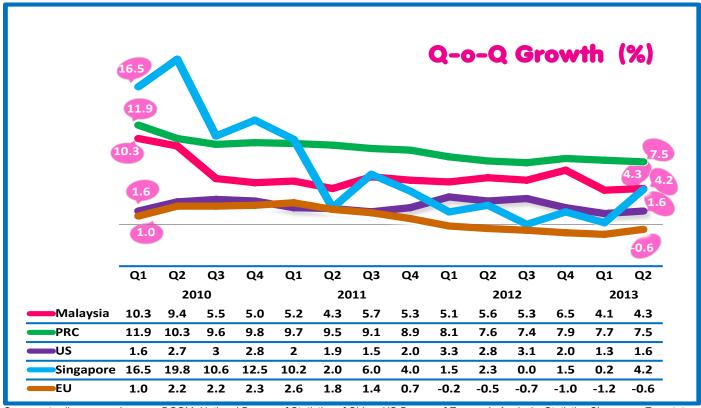


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Top Five Products of Malaysia's Exports & Imports to/from China, January 2012 - August 2013

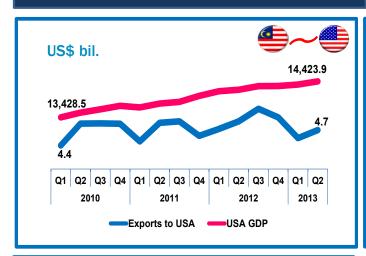


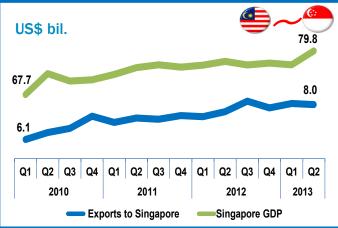
Trend of GDP Growth for Selected Countries, 2010 – 2013

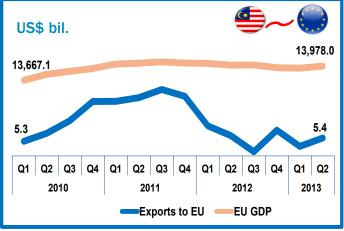


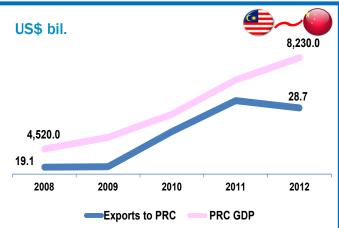
Sources: tradingeconomics.com; DOSM; National Bureau of Statistics of China; US Bureau of Economic Analysis; Statistics Singapore; Eurostat

Malaysia Exports and GDP of Selected Countries











National currency Pound Sterling

Singapore External Trade Data for September 2013

Three major source of imports

USA \$\$4.8bil.
PRC \$\$4.7bil.
Malaysia \$\$4.0bil.

Three major export destination

Hong Kong, \$\$5.7bil. \$\$5.4bil. Malaysia \$\$5.3bil.

Exports ↑ **5.7%** (m-o-m)

Non-oil domestic export ↓ 1.2% (y-oy) Electronic Exports ↓ 5.5% Non-electronic export ↑ 0.9% Non-oil re-exports ↑ 12.7%

Exports to other major markets (y-o-y)

Sources: Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)

Country profile: United Kingdom

JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2013

- Malaysia was Singapore's largest trading partner with total trade worth \$\$83.6bil (RM215.0bil.)
- Malaysia was Singapore's second major source of imports with total imports of \$\$37.8bil (RM97.2bil.)
- Malaysia was Singapore's major export destination with total exports of \$\$45.8bil (RM117.8bil.)



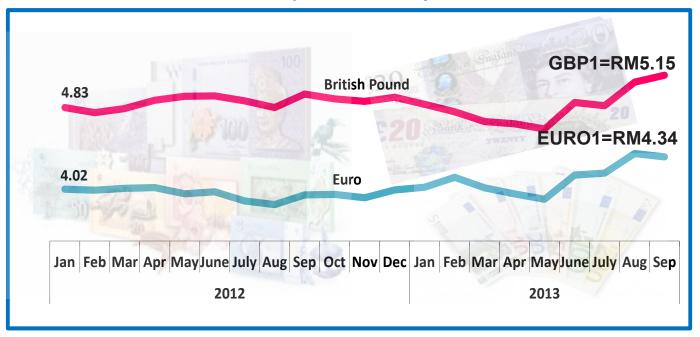
Eastern

Greater London² South East

South West

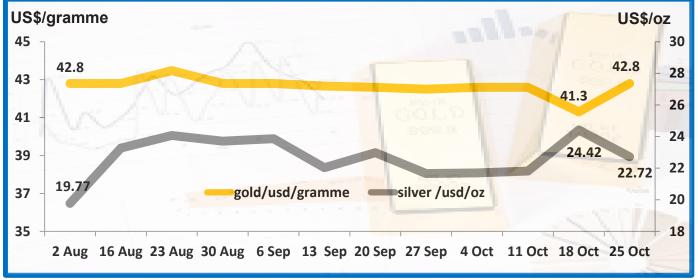
GDP growth : 1.3% (Q2 2013) CPI : 126.4 (Aug 2013) Infiltion Rate : 0.91% (Sept. 2013) Unemployment Rate : 4.1% (Aug 2013) Income level High income

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with British Pound and Euro, January 2012 - September 2013



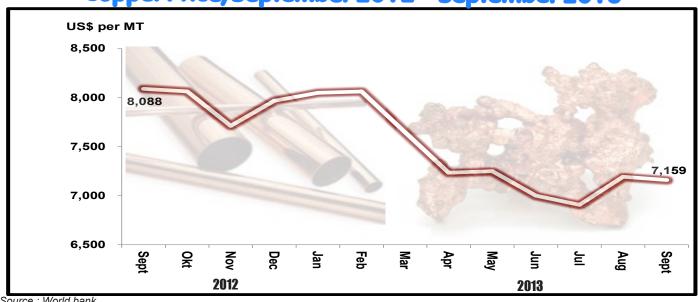
Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 2 August – 25 October 2013

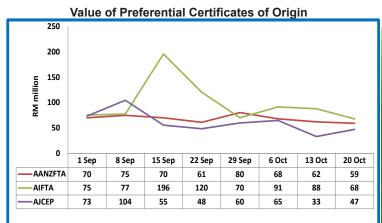


Source: http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold_price_chart/

Copper Price, September 2012 - September 2013



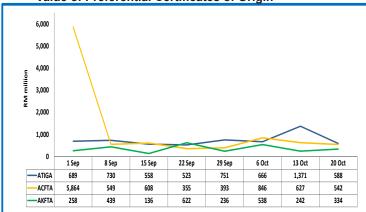
Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCO's)



Number of Certificates

	<u>AANZFTA</u>	AIFTA	AJCEP	ATIGA	<u>ACFTA</u>	<u>AKFTA</u>
1 Sept	1,565	617	194	6,250	1,931	929
8 Sept	1,550	561	236	6,974	1,749	754
15 Sept	1,588	582	160	5,973	1,689	835
22Sept	1,157	511	115	5,577	1,232	707
29Sept	1,629	547	207	7,122	1,312	832
6 Oct	1,373	582	200	6,768	1,709	782
13 Oct	1,488	564	126	5,920	1,515	890
20 Oct	1,239	587	90	5,673	1,538	707

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



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

AIFTA: ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement

(Implemented since 1 February 2009)

(Implemented since 1 January 2010)

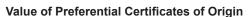
AJCEP: ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership

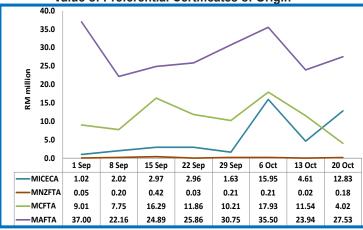
ATIGA: ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Implemented since 1 May 2010)

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

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







Number of Certificates

	MICECA	MNZFTA	MCFTA	MAFTA
1 Sept	15	7	133	454
8 Sept	28	11	111	372
15 Sept	25	14	85	438
22 Sept	55	6	107	338
29 Sept	41	16	116	518
6 Oct	59	22	141	489
13 Oct	50	6	48	402
20 Oct	66	9	54	394

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)

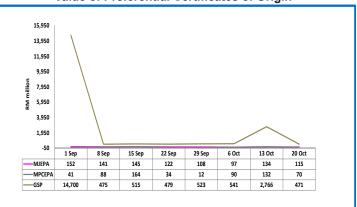
Number of Certificates

	MJEPA	MPCEPA	GSP			
1 Sept	1,552	229	5,625			
8 Sept	1,147	155	5,927			
15 Sept	1,165	255	4,517			
22 Sept	1,048	147	5,100			
29 Sept	1,241	152	5,295			
6 Oct	1,122	189	5,278			
13 Oct	1,199	179	5,804			
20 Oct	906	155	3,535			

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are members of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland, Belarus, the Russian Federation and Turkey.

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

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin

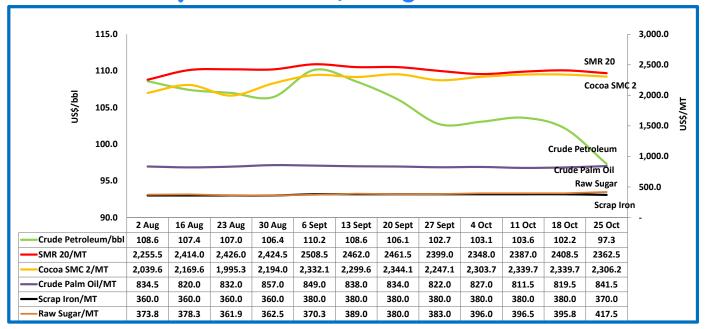


MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)



Source: Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia

Commodity Price Trends, 2 August -25 October 2013



Highest & Lowest Prices, 2012/2013



(US\$ per bbl) 6 Sept 2013: 110.2

24 Feb 2012: 109.5

Lowest (US\$ per bbl)

19 April 2013: 88.1 29 June 2012: 77.7



Highest (US\$ per MT)

31 May 2013: 865.0 13 Apr 2012: 1,188.3

Lowest (US\$ per MT) 4 Jan 2013: 800.0 14 Dec 2012: 773.5

Weekly Commodity Prices

Commodity	25 Oct 2013 (US\$)	% Change*	2012 ⁱ	2011 ⁱ	2010 ⁱ
Crude Petroleum (per bbl)	97.3	4 .7	77.7-109.5	80.3-112.7	68.0-91.4
Crude Palm Oil (per MT)	858.5	1 2.0	1,000.4	1,124.0	896.6
Raw Sugar (per MT)	417.5	1 5.5	473.8	647.0	594.6
Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	2,362.5	▼ 1.9	952.5	1,348.3	1,058.1
Cocoa SMC (per MT)	2,306.2	↓ 1.4	2,128.9	2,644.8	2,633.4
Srap Iron HMS (per MT)	370.0 (High) 360.0 (Low)	unchanged unchanged	444.7	491.0	393.1

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

Source: 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

25 Oct 2013 domestic prices for: 1.Billets (per MT) : RM1.750 - RM1.800 2.Steel bars (per MT): RM2,150 - RM2,250



MORE CONSULTATIONS: Isis and Teraju to study benefits and cost of pact to Malaysia

The benefits and cost of Malaysia participating in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) will be scrutinised by its leading think-tank and a national Bumiputera agenda unit. The International Trade and Industry Ministry (Miti) said the autonomous Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Isis) and Bumiputera Agenda Steering Unit (Teraju) will study the underlying issues of the free trade pact.

"Cost and benefit analysis aside, Miti will also continue consultations with all stakeholders — parliamentarians, industry representatives, civil society, non-governmental organisations and experts in specific fields," it disclosed yesterday. A debate on the TPP will also be held in Parliament, it added.

The TPP agreement talks involve Malaysia, Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam. The ministry was responding to queries ahead of a Business Times Insight series, here, today, which will discuss the TPP, its opportunities and the challenges for Malaysia.

International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed is the keynote speaker at the event, which will also feature a panel forum participated by Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers president Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon and academician Dr Sufian Jusoh from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

The cost and benefit analysis comes on the heels of the feasibility study by the United Nations Development Programme when Malaysia decided to join the negotiations three years ago. The study revealed that TPP will help Malaysia achieve its Vision 2020 target.

Teraju, which was set up last year, has helped shift the Bumiputera agenda in Malaysia's development to a higher gear. The threat of TPP to the Bumiputera agenda, alongside other national interests, has led to intense debates during negotiations held in Kota Kinabalu in July and Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, in August.

Malaysia, which has signed and implemented six bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) and six regional FTAs, hopes to be an integral part of the greater economic integration within the dynamic Asia-Pacific region by participating in the TPP. The Business Times Insight session, which has attracted more than 100 participants, will provide a platform for policymakers, academicians and industry leaders to exchange views on how Malaysia should move forward on this issue.

So far, 19 rounds of negotiations have been held to discuss the scope that covers traditional FTA elements, as well as new elements for Malaysia, such as competition, labour, environment, government procurement and intellectual property rights. Like Malaysia's move to involve public stakeholder participation in August, TPP leaders have also agreed that there is a need to further engage stakeholders to reach an agreement that caters to the needs of citizens. One of the calls Malaysia made during the 19th round is that transparency of the talks should be heightened.

TPP leaders, who had met on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Bali earlier this month, also agreed that continuous efforts should be undertaken to resolve outstanding issues, with the objective of completing the negotiations this year."This means a comprehensive and balanced regional agreement that ensures the benefits are fully shared, taking into account the diversity of the levels of development," said Miti.

"Safeguarding national interests and national sovereignty will remain the priority for Malaysia's negotiation team," the ministry added.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia



Malaysia's Halal Export Growth On Uptrend

The Government expects Malaysia's halal exports to increase in line with the country's total trade expansion, which is projected at three per cent this year. International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed said up to June this year, Malaysia had exported halal products worth RM15.7 billion.

"Out of this figure, RM1.6 billion, or 14.4 per cent, was contributed by halal-certified Bumiputera companies," he said after witnessing the signing of a memorandum of collaborative arrangement

between Halal Industry Development Corporation (HDC), SME Bank and Bumiputera Agenda Steering Unit (Teraju) here yesterday. Mustapa said based on export statistics, Malaysia was the biggest halal product exporter among the countries in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation."The main export markets for Malaysia's halal products are China, Singapore, the United States, Indonesia, the Netherlands and Japan," he added.

Meanwhile, HDC, SME Bank and Teraju signed an arrangement for the Halal Development Fund amounting to RM280 million. The fund is tailored for halal industry players and Bumiputera entrepreneurs with strong potential to penetrate and expand their exports into the global halal market.

Through the collaboration, HDC will handle the pre-screening and provide a list of eligible halal companies, SME bank will process these applications and disburse the approved facilities and Teraju will provide guarantee placement.



HDC chief executive officer Datuk Seri Jamil Bidin (left) exchanging document with SME Bank managing director Datuk Mohd Radzif Mohd Yunus. Looking on is International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed. Pic by Kamarulzaman Ariffin

these applications and disburse the approved facilities and Teraju will provide guarantee placement of funds for selected Bumiputera players. Until September 30, SME Bank has approved applications worth RM89.4 million under this fund. "We expect the balance of the fund amounting to RM190.6 million to be fully approved by the first quarter of next year," said SME Bank managing director Datuk Mohd Radzif Mohd Yunus.

At the same event, SME Bank and Teraju signed a Teras Fund financing agreement with an allocation of RM320 million, with the aim of identifying potential Bumiputera entrepereneurs to be absorbed into the High Performing Bumiputera Companies (Teras) programme under Teraju.

Source: BERNAMA, 24 October 2013



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MITI Weekly BULLETIN Volume 263



4 November 2013

ENTROPHOSIN MINING HIPERINE TO MITCHEST



Alhamdulillah, bersyukur kita ke hadrat Allah SWT kerana dengan rahmat dan hidayahNya kita bersama-sama menyambut Maal Hijrah bagi tahun 1435 Hijrah ini. Sambutan ini merupakan kesinambungan dalam memperingati dan menghayati peristiwa hijrah Nabi Muhammad SAW dari Mekah ke Madinah yang telah mengubah senario dan landskap dunia khususnya dunia Islam. Sesungguhnya kehadiran tahun baru ini akan membuka satu lembaran baru dalam memperkasa perpaduan dan meningkatkan usaha untuk mencapai kecemerlangan dunia dan akhirat.

Sesungguhnya pemantapan dan kesatuan ukhuwah akan menyumbang kepada kekuatan ummah menjadi tunjang pembangunan sesebuah Negara. Ini telah terbukti apabila umat Islam yang bersatu di bawah kepimpinan Nabi Muhamad SAW berjaya membangunkan Madinah sebagai sebuah Negara Islam yang ditunjangi oleh kestabilan politik, kemajuan ekonomi dan keharmonian rakyatnya yang berbilang kaum. Hijrah kita dalam erti kata ini bermaksud memperbaharui hasrat dalam melaksanakan agenda Transformasi Negara menerusi beberapa pelan tindakan yang kukuh seterusnya meletakkan Malaysia di landasan tepat dalam pelbagai bidang terutamanya pembangunan ekonomi.

Namun, demi memastikan momentum ini berterusan, saya mengajak rakyat dan diri saya sendiri sentiasa istiqamah dalam mengikis sikap negatif. Hijrah dalam konteks ini bermakna memperbaharui iltizam kita untuk komited melakukan penambahbaikan serta nilai tambah dalam cara bekerja ke arah mencapai kejayaan. Hakikatnya, umat Islam hari ni wajar menyelami semangat Hijrah yang merupakan satu tauladan yang unik sejak zaman-berzaman dalam mengharungi pelbagai cabaran yang mendatang.

Saya dan seisi keluarga ingin mengambil kesempatan ini bagi merakamkan ucapan selamat menyambut Maal Hijrah 1435H kepada seluruh umat Islam.

Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa & Industri Malaysia





Malaysia Surges to 6th Position on Ease of Doing Business Among 189 Economies

Malaysia has achieved a significant surge to sixth position from 12th among 189 economies in the ease of doing business, according to the latest World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report 2014.

The sixth place ranking from 12 previously is also a testament of Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak's stewardship and the success of his economic and government transformation programmes, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, said. Its Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed said that Malaysia was in 23rd place when Najib, who is also Finance Minister, assumed office on April 3, 2009.

Malaysia achieved this ranking well-ahead of its target to be among the top 10 by 2015, he said in a statement today on the report released today.

"At 6th position, Malaysia has been placed in the same league as Singapore, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the United States and Denmark.

"This ranking also places Malaysia ahead of economies such as South Korea, Norway, the United Kingdom, Australia and Finland," he said.

Mustapa said Malaysia had also achieved first place in getting credit and fourth in protecting investors six years in a row.

"In the area of trading across borders, Malaysia made a breakthrough to fifth position, and other significant improvements made were in the areas of starting a business, dealing with construction permits, enforcing contracts, resolving insolvency and getting electricity," he said.

The World Bank, according to Mustapa had further acknowledged that Malaysia is among the economies that improved the most across three or more doing business areas.

It said Malaysia had made starting business less costly by reducing the company registration fees while in dealing with construction permits, the establishment of one-stop centres has facilitated construction processes.

"Malaysia welcomes the World Bank findings. They are testament to the efforts made by both the public and private sectors to help Malaysia become a high-income nation.

"The Special Task Force to Facilitate Business (PEMUDAH) has proven to be a platform where the public and private sectors collaborate to create a sense of urgency in improving government service delivery, enhancing Malaysia's competitiveness and ensuring business is facilitated efficiently," he said.

Since its inception in 2007, Malaysia's performance in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business has improved from 25th position to sixth position.

This year was the country's largest leap in the competitiveness ranking, reinforcing its position as a preferred destination for trade and investments among local and foreign investors.

"Notwithstanding this significant improvement, the government is aware that there is no room for complacency.

"As we move forward, we are seeking to do more, cognisant of the competition that Malaysia faces both regionally and globally.

"Our central challenge will lie not only in addressing operational inefficiencies in service delivery but also in reviewing regulations to further reduce the burden of doing business in Malaysia," Mustapa added.

Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed Minister of International Trade & Industry Malaysia (MITI)

"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"



Malaysia in Doing Business 2014

2014 2013

2014 2013

Singapore





Malaysia





Hong Kong



2

ROK





New Zealand



3

Georgia





USA



4

Norway





Denmark





UK





Among Top Malaysia's Performers in Doing Business 2014





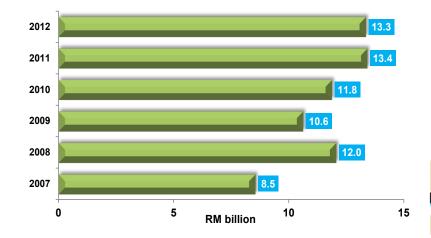






Source: World Bank

Exports of Processed Food



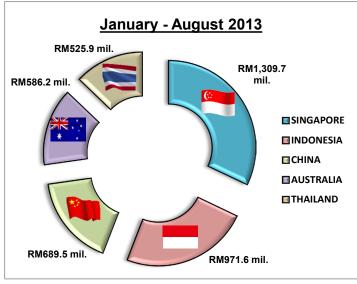


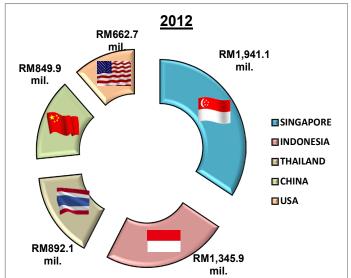
January to August 2013, exports of Processed Food accounted for RM9.2 billion.

Source : Department of Statistics, Malaysia



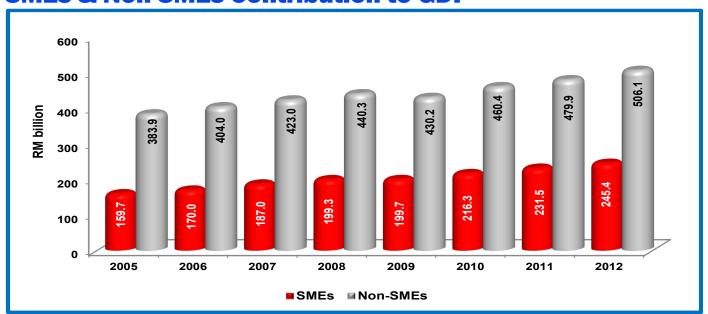
Top Five Export Destinations for Processed Food





Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

SMEs & Non-SMEs Contribution to GDP



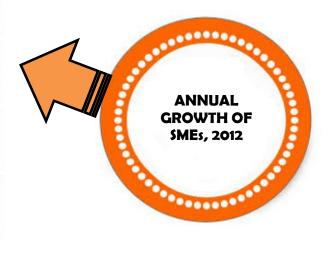
CONSTRUCTION
15.3%

MINING & QUARRYING
14.6%

MANUFACTURING
6.0%

SERVICES
5.9%

AGRICULTURE
1.9%

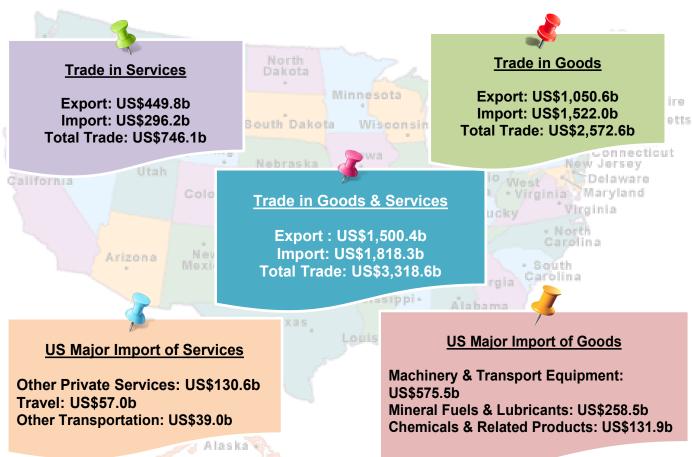






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USA: International Trade in Goods and Services, January to August 2013

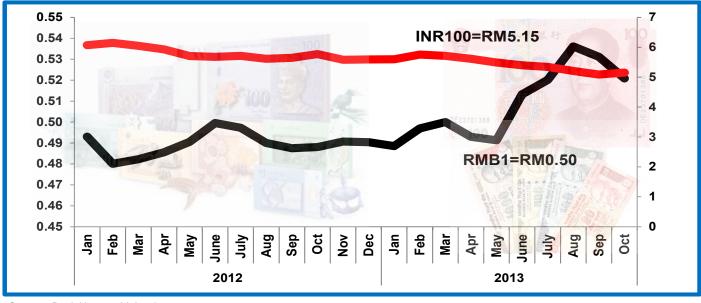


Notes: i) Other private services consist of education services, financial services, insurance services, business, professional & technnical services and other services;

ii) Other transportation is a transactions include freight charges for the transportation of goods to and from the US, operating expenses that transportation companies incur in foreign ports, space transport services, postal services, and payments for vessel charter and aircraft leases with crew.

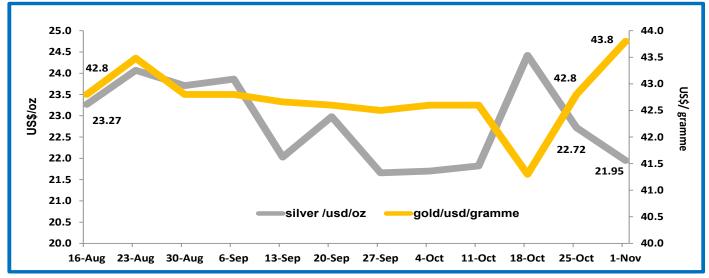


Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Chinese Renmimbi and Indian Rupee January 2012 - October 2013



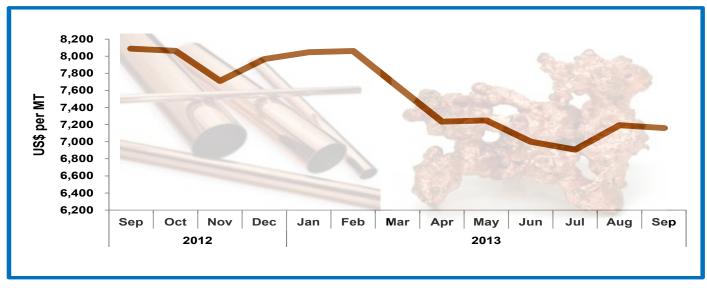
Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 16 August - 1 November 2013



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

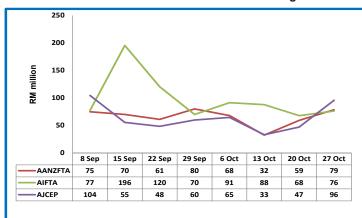
Copper Price, September 2012 - September 2013



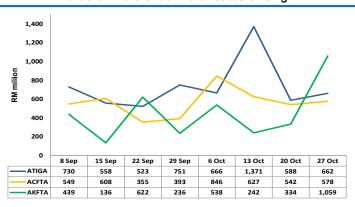
Source: World bank

Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCO's)

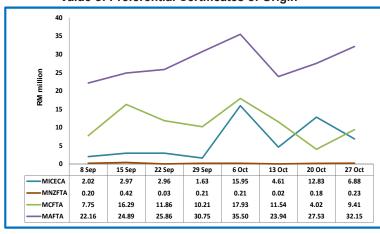
Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



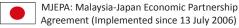
Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Number of Certificates

	MJEPA	MPCEPA	GSP
8 Sept	1,147	155	5,927
15 Sept	1,165	255	4,517
22 Sept	1,048	147	5,100
29 Sept	1,241	152	5,295
6 Oct	1,122	189	5,278
13 Oct	1,199	179	5,804
20 Oct	906	155	3,535
27 Oct	1,171	115	6,282

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are members of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland, Belarus, the Russian Federation and Turkey.



Number of Certificates

	<u>aanzfta</u>	<u>AIFTA</u>	<u>AJCEP</u>	<u>atiga</u>	<u>ACFTA</u>	<u>akfta</u>
8 Sept	1,550	561	236	6,974	1,749	754
15 Sept	1,588	582	160	5,973	1,689	835
22Sept	1,157	511	115	5,577	1,232	707
29Sept	1,629	547	207	7,122	1,312	832
6 Oct	1,373	582	200	6,768	1,709	782
13 Oct	1,488	564	126	5,920	1,515	890
20 Oct	1,239	587	90	5,673	1,538	707
270ct	1,627	467	158	6,048	1,677	830

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



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

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



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

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



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





Number of Certificates

	MICECA	MNZFTA	MCFTA	MAFTA
8 Sept	28	11	111	372
15 Sept	25	14	85	438
22 Sept	55	6	107	338
29 Sept	41	16	116	518
6 Oct	59	22	141	489
13 Oct	50	6	48	402
20 Oct	66	9	54	394
27 Oct	40	15	69	325

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

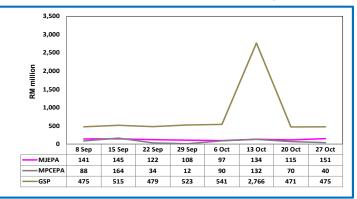
MNZFTA: Malaysia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 August 2010)

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



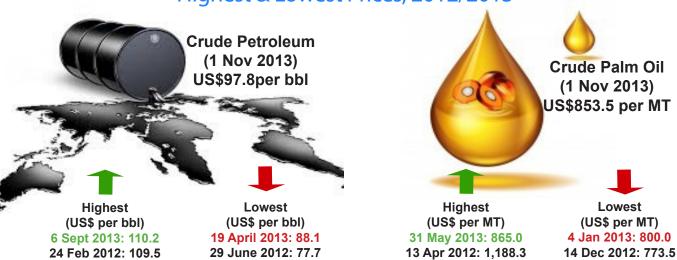


MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)

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Source: 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

25 Oct 2013 domestic prices for:

1.Billets (per MT) : RM1,750 - RM1,800 2.Steel bars (per MT) : RM2,150 - RM2,250



Successful Malaysian Companies

ANUGA 2013, Cologne, Germany

Two Malaysian companies, Foods Wise Network Sdn Bhd and Golden Fresh Sdn Bhd won the Most Innovative Product Award in the Taste 13 competition organised in conjunction with ANUGA (General Food and Fine Food Exhibition) 2013. ANUGA, one of the largest food and beverages trade fair in the world was held on 5 – 9 October 2013 in Cologne, Germany. Foods Wise Network Sdn Bhd received the award for "Vegetarian Curry Mutton Mushroom", while Golden Fresh Sdn Bhd for "Mango Chilli Prawn". They were chosen as innovative new products by Taste 13 from among 1800 exhibitors.

The two Malaysian companies were part of the 33 exporters under MATRADE's national pavilion in the recent ANUGA. This event had generated sales totaling RM48.5 million.



ItraMAS Corporation

Established in 1999, ItraMAS Corporation, is a leading system integrator in Intelligent Transport System (ITS) industry. The company produces a variety of LED-based lighting systems, which has been recognized worldwide for its quality and usability in various industries.

To date, its lighting products have been used in over 17 countries which include Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA, Panama, Italy, Germany, France, Lebanon, South Africa as well as Asian countries.



Example of MR-16 LED Bulb usage in an art gallery



One of RNZ Integrated's project in Yetagun North Field, Myanmar

RNZ Integrated

RNZ Integrated provides engineering and consulting services in offshore oil and gas sector. Headed by Ir. Rozali Ahmad, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, RNZ Integrated has over 650 experienced staff which has been trained in various specialisations in the industry.

The company has successfully implemented various projects in Sudan, India, Vietnam, Turkmenistan, Iran and Qatar. RNZ Integrated has received various accolades from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) of Malaysia in recognition of their exceptional success in project delivery.

LKL Advance Metaltech

From their humble beginnings in 1978 with only four staff, LKL Advance Metaltech has grown to become one of Malaysia's top medical furniture manufacturer. The company's products include hospital beds, patient transport trolleys, birth care tables, medical treatment carts, peripheral support equipment and the fabrication of steel/wooden products.

LKL's manufacturing process conforms to strict German certification board guidelines, and the company is among one of the first in the local industry to be awarded the ISO 9001:2000 & ISO 13485:2003 certification by the world renowned German body, TUV. The awards are testament to the company's tireless pursuit of quality.



Various types of medical carts and trolleys by LKL Advance Metaltech

Dana Pembangunan Halal & Dana Teras



Astana Jentayu Sdn. Bhd

Supplier of corporate hampers, souvenirs and home made cookies. Provide training how to make corporate hampers, ribbon and cookies.



Edaran Vitacat Sdn. Bhd

Manufacturer of halal pet food products



ACE Front Industries Sdn. Bhd

Producer of marine food based products.



Mr. Cendol (M) Sdn. Bhd

Owner and Franchisor of Mr. Cendol outlets







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E-mail : ismail.karim@miti.gov.my

Name : Salasiah Abd. Jalil
Designation : Administrative Assistant

Division in MITI : Miniser's Office Contact : 03-62000009

E-mail : salasiah@miti.gov.my



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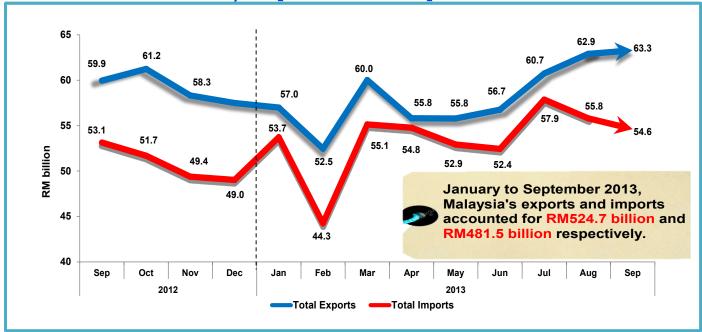
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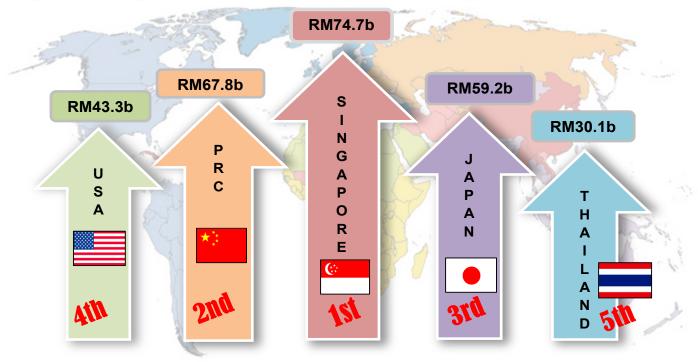
11 November 2013

MALAYSIA

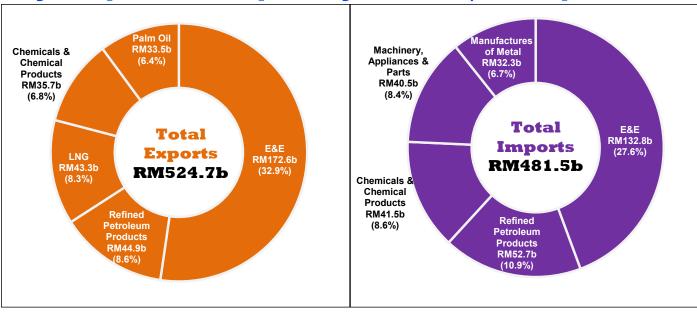
Trade Performance, Sep 2012 to Sep 2013



Top Five Export Destinations, Jan to Sep 2013

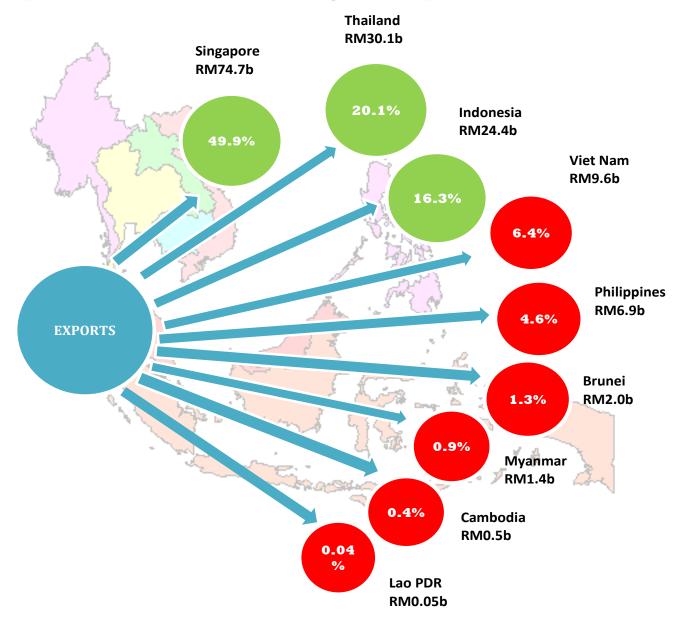


Major Exports and Imports by Products, Jan-Sep 2013



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Exports to ASEAN Countries, Jan-Sep 2013



Note: Figure in the circle refers to percentage share to Malaysia's exports to ASEAN countries. Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia



US: Economic Indicators, Aug & Sep 2013



Inflation Rate:

Aug 2013: 1.52% Sep 2013: 1.18%

Consumer Price

Index:

Aug 2013: 233.9 Sep 2013: 234.1 Producer Price Index:

Aug 2013: +0.3 Sep 2013: -0.1

Q3 2013: 2.8%

Q2 2013: 2.5%

Unemployment Rate:

Aug 2013: 7.3% Sep 2013 : 7.2%

Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis

Highlights of UNCTAD Global Investment Trends Monitor Report

The UNCTAD Global Investment Trends Monitor Report No. 13 was officially released on 31 October 2013. The Report discussed global and regional trends in FDI for the first half of 2013

Global FDI Trends

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows for the first half of 2013 were recorded at an estimated US\$745 billion, 4% higher than the same period in 2012, with a diverging trend between developing and transition economies, and developed countries.

In the first half of 2013, flows to developed countries declined. The Report found that the decline was more than offset by a rise in flows to developing and transition economies, which accounted for more than 60% of global FDI flows.

In developing and transition economies, the increase was driven by acquisitions in Central America and the Caribbean as well as record inflows into the Russian Federation.

For developing Asia, FDI inflows fell slightly, partly contributed by a slowdown in economic growth, macroeconomic uncertainty and slow demand in consumer markets in many investor countries. Nevertheless, Asia continues to absorb more than half of the FDI directed to developing economies as a group, and one quarter of global FDI flows.

As for developed countries, the fall is mainly accounted for by declines in the major host countries including the United States, France and Germany. The United Kingdom however, remains an exception, continuing its upward trend in FDI attraction, and becoming the world's largest recipient of FDI in this period amounting to US\$75 billion.

Cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&As) and large retained earnings kept in foreign affiliates were a driving force behind the current global FDI growth, rather than investment in new productive assets through greenfield investment projects.

The top ten host economies for the first half of 2013 were:

1.	United Kingdom	US\$75b
2.	China	US\$67b
3.	USA	US\$66b
4.	British Virgin Islands	US\$61b
5.	Russian Federation	US\$56b
6.	Hong Kong	US\$32b
7.	Canada	US\$31b
8.	Brazil	US\$30b
9.	Ireland	US\$30b
10.	Singapore	US\$26b

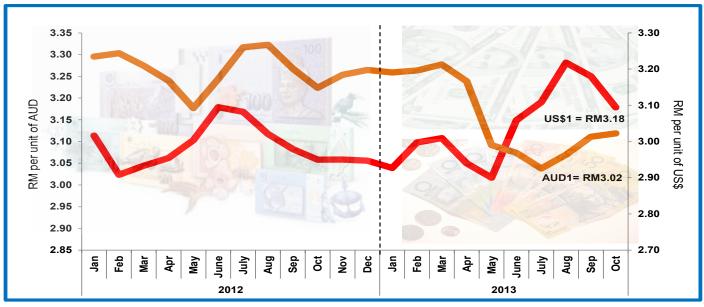
UNCTAD estimates that 2013 FDI flows will be close to the 2012 level, even with some improvements in macroeconomic conditions in developed countries. Looking forward, UNCTAD forecasts that global FDI flows are set to increase in 2014.

Malaysia' FDI Performance Regionally

For the first half of 2013, Malaysia's FDI inflows was US\$5.9 billion compared with US\$5.2 billion for the same period in 2012. Among ASEAN countries, Malaysia ranked third after Singapore (US\$26 billion) and Indonesia (US\$8.3 billion), followed by Viet Nam (US\$3.9 billion), Philippines (US\$2.2 billion) and Thailand (US\$1.9 billion).

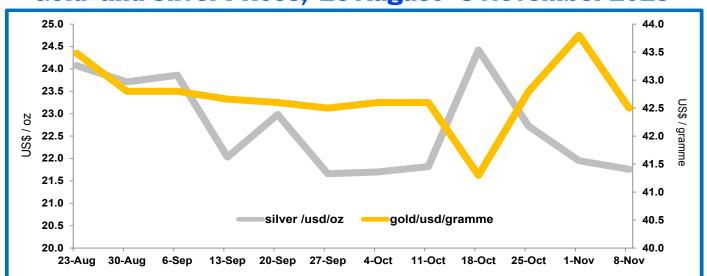
In terms of percentage, Malaysia recorded the highest increase of 14.4% and followed by Philippines (10.9%), Indonesia (6.8%) and Viet Nam (3%). However, FDI inflows to Thailand and Singapore dropped 53.5% and 7.9%, respectively. For Southeast Asia as a whole, total FDI inflows dropped by 4.6% in the first half of 2013, compared to the same period in 2012.

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with US and Australian Dollar January 2012 - October 2013



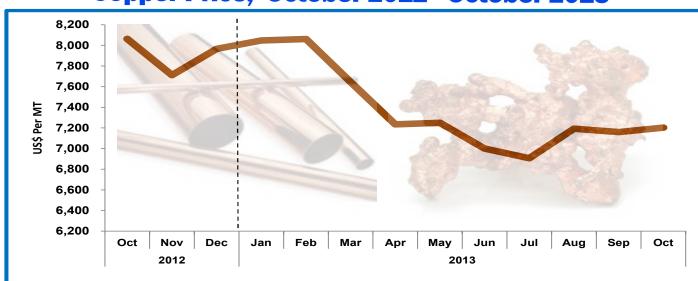
Source: Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 23 August - 8 November 2013



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

Copper Price, October 2012 - October 2013

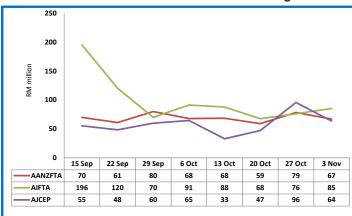


Source : World Bank
MITI Weekly Bulletin www.miti.gov.my

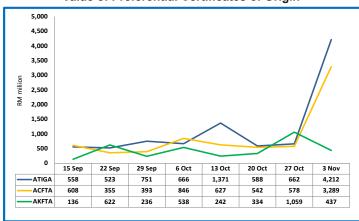
'DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs)

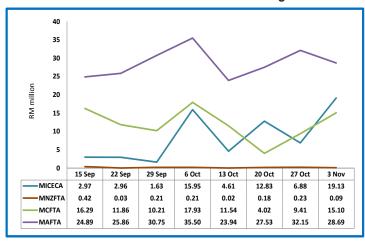
Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Number of Certificates

	MJEPA	MPCEPA	<u>GSP</u>
15 Sept	1,165	255	4,517
22 Sept	1,048	147	5,100
29 Sept	1,241	152	5,295
6 Oct	1,122	189	5,278
13 Oct	1,199	179	5,804
20 Oct	906	155	3,535
27 Oct	1,171	115	6,282
3 Nov	950	209	5,397

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are members of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland, Belarus, the Russian Federation and Turkey.



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

Number of Certificates

	<u>AANZFTA</u>	<u>AIFTA</u>	<u>AJCEP</u>	ATIGA	<u>ACFTA</u>	<u>AKFTA</u>
15 Sep	1,588	582	160	5,973	1,689	835
22Sep	1,157	511	115	5,577	1,232	707
29Sep	1,629	547	207	7,122	1,312	832
6 Oct	1,373	582	200	6,768	1,709	782
13 Oct	1,488	564	126	5,920	1,515	890
20 Oct	1,239	587	90	5,673	1,538	707
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AJCEP: ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (Implemented since 1 February 2009)



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



Number of Certificates

	MICECA	MNZFTA	MCFTA	MAFTA
15 Sept	25	14	85	438
22 Sept	55	6	107	338
29 Sept	41	16	116	518
6 Oct	59	22	141	489
13 Oct	50	6	48	402
20 Oct	66	9	54	394
27 Oct	40	15	69	325
3 Nov	129	3	67	364

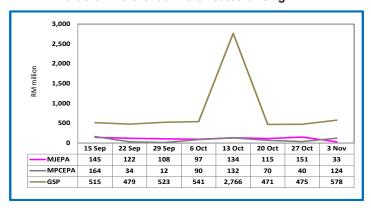
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Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin

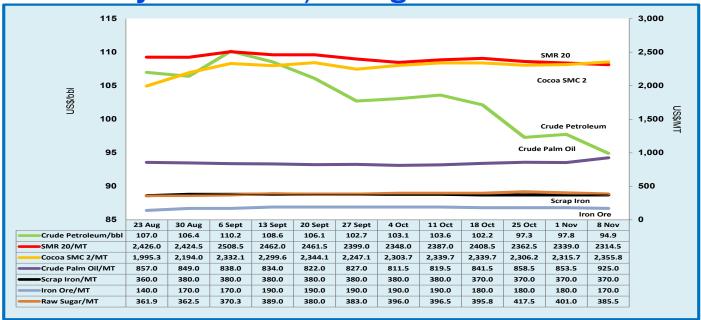


MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)

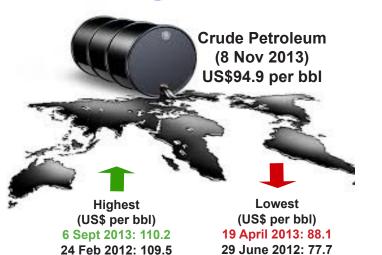




Commodity Price Trends, 23 Aug - 8 Nov 2013



Highest & Lowest Prices, 2012/2013



Crude Palm Oil
(8 Nov 2013)
US\$925.0 per MT

Highest
(US\$ per MT)

Lowest
(US\$ per MT)

(US\$ per MT) 8 Nov 2013: 925.0 13 Apr 2012: 1,188.3 (US\$ per MT) 4 Jan 2013: 800.0 14 Dec 2012: 773.5

Weekly Commodity Prices

Commodity	8 Nov 2013 (US\$)	% Change*	2012 ⁱ	2011 ⁱ	2010 ⁱ
Crude Petroleum (per bbl)	94.9	↓ 3.0	77.7-109.5	80.3-112.7	68.0-91.4
Crude Palm Oil (per MT)	925.0	8.4	1,000.4	1,124.0	896.6
Raw Sugar (per MT)	385.5	↓ 3.9	473.8	647.0	594.6
Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	2,314.5	1 .0	952.5	1,348.3	1,058.1
Cocoa SMC (per MT)	2,355.8	1 .7	2,128.9	2,644.8	2,633.4
Scrap Iron HMS (per MT)	370.0 (High) 360.0 (Low)	unchanged unchanged	444.7	491.0	393.1

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

Source: 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

7 Nov 2013 domestic prices for:

1.Billets (per MT) : RM1,700 - RM1,750 2.Steel bars (per MT) : RM2,050 - RM2,200



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Team Building
Pendakian Gunung Kinabalu MITI & AGENSI,
21 - 24 Oktober 2013







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MITI Weekly BULLETIN

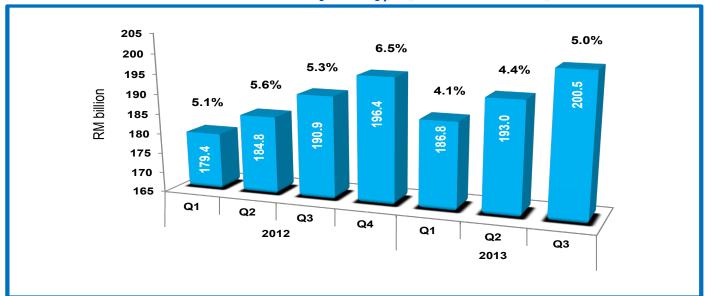


Volume 265

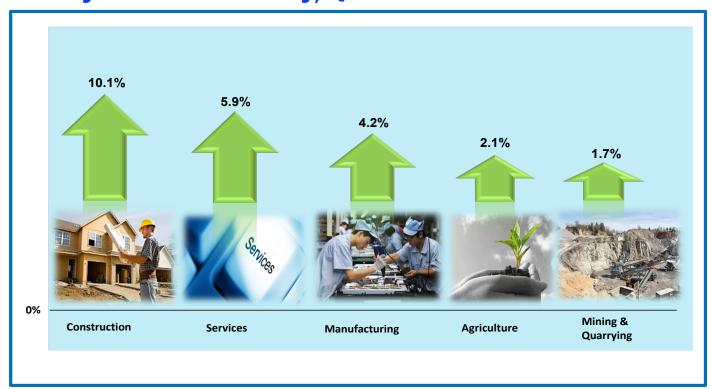
19 November 2013

MALAYSIA

Gross Domestic Products (GDP), Q1 2012 to Q3 2013

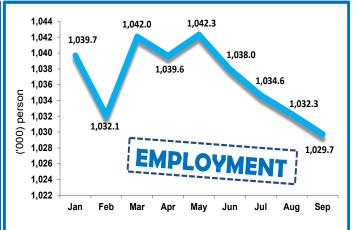


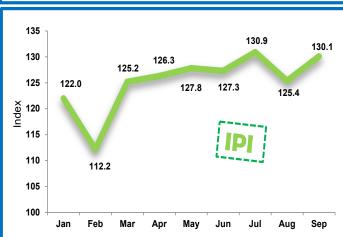
GDP by Economic Activity, Q3 2013

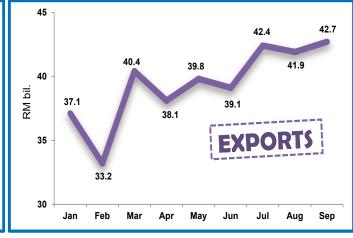


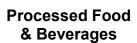
Manufacturing Performance, Jan to Sep 2013















Transport Equipment



Chemicals





E&E



RM11	SALES
95. <i>′</i>	IPI

Metal



SA	L	ES	



IPI

194.7

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Major Import Sources for Watches, Jan to Sep 2013



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Top Ten Malaysian Brands, 2013

Brand Value

Brand Value



U\$\$7,068 mil.

Maybank

U\$\$1,558 mil.



U\$\$2,839 mil.

7. maxis.

U\$\$1,407 mil.



U\$\$1,347 mil.

4.

U\$\$1,884 mil.

U\$\$1,073 mil.

10. U\$\$1,731 mil.



U\$\$943 mil.

Source: Brand Finance Report 2013



Government Likely to Announce Revised NAP on Jan 15 Next Year

The government is likely to announce the much anticipated revised National Automotive Policy (NAP) between Jan 10 and Jan 15, 2014, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said here Tuesday.

He said the policy is currently in the final stage of drafting.

"We hope the Cabinet can approve the policy by year-end. But that is not a good time to launch a major policy. So, we going to announce it probably in mid-January," he told reporters after delivering his keynote address at the 4th Kuala Lumpur International Automotive Conference here.

He said this when asked about the progress of the NAP, and cited the auto industry as being a very important sector of the country's economy.

DATO' SRI MUSTAPA MOHAMED Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri

Source: Bernama, 12 Nov 2013

"Therefore, we want to ensure that whatever is done, is undertaken in a manner that promotes the development of the auto sector in Malaysia," he added.

On the NAP itself, Mustapa said the key focus is on the competitiveness of the sector as well as energy-efficient vehicles.

Meanwhile, Malaysian Automotive Association President Datuk Aishah said industry players were eagerly awaiting the official announcement on the NAP by the government, as it had been delayed for quite a while now.

She expects the revised NAP to include a longterm policy for the automotive industry and which could attract foreign investors to participate in it.

Successful Malaysian Companies



INDUSTRIAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Industrial Quality Management Sdn. Bhd. (IQMSB) was established in February 1992 to support Malaysia's emerging automotive industry. The company designs, manufactures and assembles plastic and metal components for major automotive companies, including Proton, Perodua, Modenas, Hicom and Isuzu. The company has its headquarters in Shah Alam and has three manufacturing branches in Tanjung Malim in Perak, Gurun in Kedah and Bukit Beruntung in Selangor.

Funding support of over RM100 million from SME Bank helped the company to attain consistent growth via acquisition of premises and machinery. Excellent financial standing and sound management practices resulted not only in business expansion and strong operating foundation, the company even earned recognition from SME Bank as excellent paymasters. The company's success has been attributed to prudent

financial management, a commitment to quality as well as maintaining a viable workforce. They had also greatly improved their management and business expertise by enrolling in the entrepreneur programmes conducted by SME Bank.

IQMSB plans for greater growth for 2013-2014. Acquisition of smaller or ailling companies had greatly expanded operational and production capacity and the company are targeting to acquire even bigger companies that will further improve its position. There are also plans to acquire new machinery and equipment which can further improve production.

The company will continue to look to SME Bank as a vital partner in its push to attain greater growth. Since embarking on its transformation programme, SME Bank had greatly improved its services and the Bank's extra assistance programmes beyond financing had been invaluable tools for the company in its journey towards success.





What is GST?

GST is a consumption tax levied on goods and services at all level of businesses. The consumer is taxed only when they spend. GST will replace the Sales and Service Tax (SST).



Why is GST being introduced?



It is a better and fairer tax system compared to SST.

Benefits of GST

1. Reduces Business Costs

Under SST, the merchant is not able to claim the input tax fully. Nevertheless, with GST, the merchant will enjoy the benefit as they will be able to claim back the input tax over raw materials / goods and services paid at every level of the business. As a result, the operating costs can be reduced.

2. Improves Compliances

SST involves a complicated tax administration system whilst GST has a ready mechanism which is more self-policing, thus improving compliance.

3. Reduces Bureaucracy

The process is easier with GST since the application for approval of exemption on raw materials is no longer required.



GST Rate: 6%



GST threshold*: RM500,000

*Businesses that do not reach an annual turnover of taxable supplies amounting to RM500,000 are not required to register under GST. However, voluntary registration is encouraged.

4. Products & Services More Affordable to Consumers

GST eliminates the cascading effect of tax under SST. As a result, consumers get to enjoy more affordable prices for most of the goods and services obtained compared to the SST.

5. Provides Fairness

The same GST rate applies for all businesses involved, such as manufacturing, wholesaling, retailing or servicing.

6. Ensures Transparency

GST is more transparent compared to SST because consumers will be fully aware if goods purchased or services obtained are subjected to tax and the exact amount of tax payable.

Goods & Services not Subjected to GST



Basic groceries such as rice, flour, sugar and cooking oil;



Purchased and rental of residential building;



Sale and purchased of agricultural land;



Education;



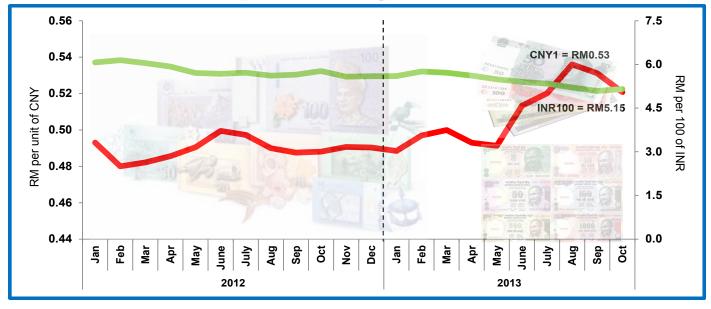
Public Transport; and



Healthcare services

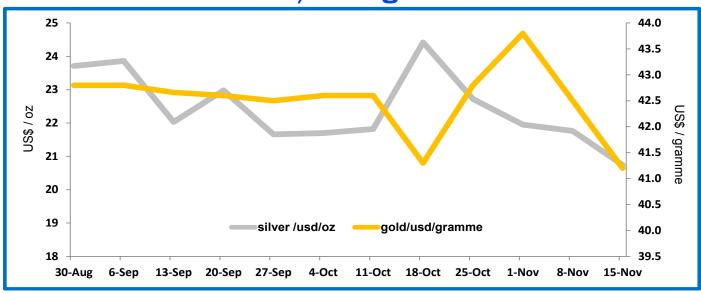
Source: Royal Malaysian Customs Department

Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Chinese Renminbi and Indian Rupee January 2012 - October 2013



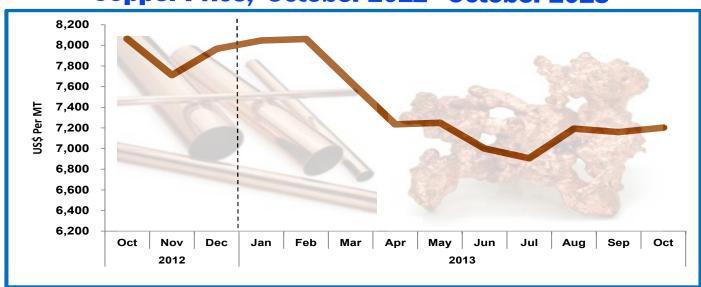
Source: Bank Negara, Malaysia

Gold and Silver Prices, 30 August - 15 November 2013



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

Copper Price, October 2012 - October 2013

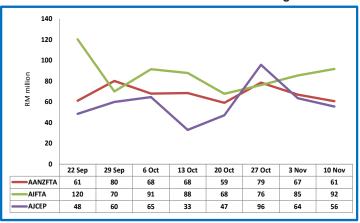


Source: World Bank

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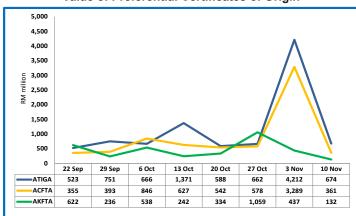
"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



	<u>AANZFTA</u>	<u>AIFTA</u>	<u>AJCEP</u>	ATIGA	<u>ACFTA</u>	<u>AKFTA</u>
22Sep	1,157	511	115	5,577	1,232	707
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3 Nov	1,312	483	219	7,231	1,889	854
10 Nov	1,303	310	183	5,872	1,390	695

Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin



Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin

40 35

25 20 ξ

10

MNZFTA

MCFTA

MAFTA

22 Sep

0.03

11.86

25.86

29 Sep

0.21

10.21

30.75

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

8 ※ ※

AIFTA: ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement

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Number of Certificates

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Number of Certificates

6 Oct

0.21

17.93

35.50

13 Oct

0.02

11.54

23.94

20 Oct

0.18

4.02

27.53

27 Oct

0.23

9.41

32.15

3 Nov

0.09

15.10

28.69

10 Nov

0.01

5.78

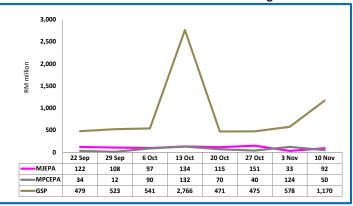
28.93

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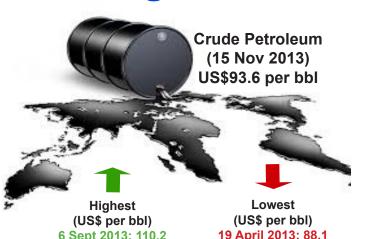


MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)

Commodity Price Trends, 30 Aug - 15 Nov 2013



Highest & Lowest Prices, 2012/2013



6 Sept 2013: 110.2 19 April 2013: 88.1 24 Feb 2012: 109.5 29 June 2012: 77.7

Crude Palm Oil (15 Nov 2013) US\$925.0 per MT

(US\$ per MT) 15 Nov 2013: 925.0 13 Apr 2012: 1,188.3 Lowest (US\$ per MT) 4 Jan 2013: 800.0 14 Dec 2012: 773.5

Weekly Commodity Prices

Commodity	15 Nov 2013 (US\$)	% Change*	2012 ⁱ	2011 ⁱ	2010 ⁱ
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Rubber SMR 20 (per MT)	2,306.0	↓ 0.4	952.5	1,348.3	1,058.1
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7 Nov 2013 domestic prices for:

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