



July 2016

Allianz: Malaysia to grow by 4.2% this year



Challenging external conditions both in terms of trade and capital flows will likely lead Malaysia to see a 4.2 percent growth this year says Allianz.

By RUPA DAMODARAN - 9 June 2016

KUALA LUMPUR: Challenging external conditions both in terms of trade and capital flows will likely lead Malaysia to see a 4.2 per cent growth this year says Allianz. Chief economist Prof Michael Heise expects it to be supported by consumption activities as a result of households and strong employment. "Sound private gross fixed capital formation and a more diversified economy will contribute towards the growth," he said at a media briefing. Private consumption is however expected to moderate to a 4.5 to 5 per cent range this year he added.

" Domestic tightening financial conditions are expected to pose risk to consumption growth as seen from the slower loans growth." Allianz Malaysia Bhd which has two insurance subsidiaries in the general and life insurance categories also commented on the total insurance market growth last year. At 4.6 per cent it was markedly below the 10-year average of 6.8 per cent. It however expects the insurance market to grow by an average 7.0 per cent annually for the next 10 years. 543 reads Challenging external conditions both in terms of trade and capital flows will likely lead Malaysia to see a 4.2 per cent growth this year says Allianz.

Source: New Straits Times

Asean Day 8 August 2016



NOTICE

Malaysian citizens please be aware of the increased number of lost or stolen travel documents while travelling in the Republic of Croatia.

The Embassy urges Malaysian citizens to be vigil in safeguarding their personal documents and belongings at all times while in the Republic of Croatia.

In case of lost or stolen documents please report it immediately to the nearest police station and then contact the Embassy.

Embassy of Malaysia, Zagreb Slavujevac 4a 10000 Zagreb

Contact: Mr. Mohd Noh Md Yunus Consular Officer Tel: (385) 1 4834350 mwzagreb@kln.gov.my

Working days: Monday - Friday 8.30 a.m - 4.30 p.m

News

Exports rose by 1.6pct in April: MITI

By RUPA DAMODARAN - 3 June 2016

KUALA LUMPUR: Exports rose by 1.6 per cent in April compared to a year ago, supported with stronger demand in Asean, the US and Taiwan. Imports were lower by 2.3 per cent while trade surplus increased to RM9.06 billion.

The International Trade and Industry Ministry said exports of both manufactured and agricultural goods increased in April 2016. Exports of mining goods, however, decreased. The share of manufactured exports expanded to 84 per cent from 81.5 per cent for the same period. The higher exports were driven mainly by increased exports of petroleum products, machinery, equipment and parts, electrical and electronic (E&E) products, optical and scientific equipment, processed food, manufactures of metal as well as chemicals and chemical products.

In terms of markets, exports to the USA expanded by 11.7 per cent to RM6.63 billion, accounting for 10.8 per cent of Malaysia's total exports. "The strong export performance to the US was contributed mainly by E&E products especially photosensitive semiconductor devices." Exports to China shrank by 16.6 per cent due to lower exports of commodities, mainly palm oil and palm-based agriculture products, petroleum products, LNG and metalliferous ores. Exports to the EU decreased by 5.3 per cent to RM5.91 billion, the first decline since June 2015 attributed to lower exports of E&E products, palm oil and palm-based agriculture products, manufactures of plastics as well as chemicals and chemical products. Exports to Japan also declined by 18.7 per cent due to lower exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) which accounted for 25.4 per cent share of total exports to Japan.

Source: *New Straits Times*

Malaysia records RM37.3b approved investments from Jan-March

By RUPA DAMODARAN – 17 June 2016

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia recorded RM37.3 billion of approved investments in the services, manufacturing and primary sectors in the first three months of the year.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said Malaysia remains a competitive investment location for foreign investors, with an increase of 28 per cent in the first quarter. Year-on-year, foreign direct investments (FDI) increased to RM12.8 billion in the first quarter from RM10.0 billion in the corresponding period of 2015. "Domestic investments led with RM24.5 billion or 65.7 per cent of total approved investments in the first quarter," he said in a statement. These investments involved 1,271 projects and will create 39,990 employment opportunities. Mustapa said the first quarter would have recorded an overall increase of 8.1 per cent in investments had it not been for the two lumpy projects approved in last year's first quarter - PRPC's project in Johor and LNG9's project in Sarawak both which amounted to RM35.3 billion.

The services sector attracted the largest portion of approved investments in the first three months of 2016, amounting to RM27.6 billion. Investments in the manufacturing sector for January – March 2016 totalled RM8.9 billion from 170 projects. Investments in the primary sector recorded a total of RM874.9 million in the same period. Mustapa expects to see another challenging year in terms of investments this year. 454 reads (File pix) Malaysia recorded RM37.3 billion of approved investments in the services, manufacturing and primary sectors in the first three months of the year. Pix by Yazit Razali

Source: *New Straits Times*

MATRADE Partners Two Online Platforms To Boost E-commerce Adoption

KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) has partnered with two online platforms, 11street and DagangHalal, via its eTRADE programme to boost the adoption of e-commerce in export among businesses.

In a statement today, MATRADE said its collaboration with 11street would see both parties work together to equip and nurture local business owners especially small and medium enterprises in utilising e-commerce platform.

"The initiative is in line with the government's efforts to increase the adoption of e-commerce among Malaysian businesses.

"It is also to prepare them to embark on e-commerce activities and push for greater exports of local products and services globally," said MATRADE Chief Executive Officer Datuk Dzulkifli Mahmud.

Meanwhile, the collaboration between MATRADE and DagangHalal is aimed at promoting Malaysian halal products and services to the international markets through DagangHalal.com online platform.

Dzulkifli said over the years, MATRADE has been the key organisation in promoting local halal products and services to the international markets through various trade fairs.

"It is highly important that we leverage on both the offline and online channels to create greater demand for Malaysian halal products and services," he added.

Source: Bernama

World junior champ Jin Wei leads team at Asian Juniors



By Kng Zheng Guan

PETALING JAYA: The Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) will be banking on women's singles shuttler Goh Jin Wei to lead the team at the Asian Junior Championships in Bangkok from July 9-17. The 16-year-old Jin Wei, who won the world junior title last year, will also be out to capture the individual crown.

The Penangite came close in the Asian Juniors last year as she made a fine run to semi-finals before losing to China's He Bingjiao. With 19-year-old Bingjiao no longer eligible to compete in the junior meet, Jin Wei is certainly a favourite for the title. The pint-sized shuttler, No. 2 in the world junior ranking, can expect tough challenges from the likes of Thailand's Pornpawee Chochuwong, China's Chen Yufei and Japan's Moe Araki and Natsuki Nidaira. Malaysia have only made it to the quarter-finals in the last three editions of the mixed team event.

Besides Jin Wei, the other singles shuttlers in the team are S, Kisona, M. Thinaah and Eon Qi Xuan while the doubles shuttlers are Toh Ee Wei, Yap Ling and Pearly Tan Koong Le. The boys' singles shuttlers selected are Dutch Junior Open winner Lee Zii Jia, national junior champion Leong Jun Hao, Sim Fong Hao and Tan Jia Wei. The doubles pairs are Soh Wooi Yik-Ooi Zi Heng, Hoo Pang Ron-Chen Tang Jie and Chang Yee Jun-Ng Eng Cheong.

Source: The Star



World Tourism Conference (WTC) 2016

Once again, Malaysia is the proud host of the World Tourism Conference (WTC), which is currently in its 4th edition and held in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Themed “Tourism Delights: Delivering the Unexpected”, it is the first conference of its kind which is dedicated to the “Tourists First” mantra. It shall focus on ideas and strategies that are geared towards giving tourists the full experience they desire.

Its primary objective is to learn and analyse the successful strategies developed and practiced by leading destinations and organisations. In line with this objective, the theme and topics that will be presented are specifically designed to provide practical insights and more importantly, how to capture the hearts and minds of tourists.

WTC aims to bring together world leaders in tourism, from high level policy-makers, specialists and experts from both public and private sectors, to academicians and representatives from NGOs. It will then provide as a platform for them to exchange ideas and experiences, update knowledge, as well as expand networks for tourism growth and development. All this and more, at Malaysia’s very own UNESCO World Heritage Site – Georgetown, Penang.

For more information, please log on to www.wtc2016malaysia.com.

National Day Exhibition 2016

16 July 2016 - 16 September 2016



In conjunction with the National Day celebration 2016, this exhibition will recall the journey and fight to free the country from the clutches of colonialism, as well as the many challenges faced to achieve independence.

Venue
National Museum, Kuala Lumpur

Organizer
National Museum, Department of Museums Malaysia



Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) Programme is promoted by the Government of Malaysia to allow foreigners who fulfill certain criteria, to stay in Malaysia for as long as possible on a multiple-entry social visit pass. The Social Visit Pass is initially for a period of ten (10) years, and is renewable.

It is open to citizens of all countries recognised by Malaysia regardless of race, religion, gender or age. Applicants are allowed to bring their spouses and unmarried children below the age of 21 as dependants.

For more information please visit:
www.mm2h.gov.my

Medical Tourism in Malaysia



Malaysian healthcare offers specialties in various medical disciplines and conducts some of the most complicated treatments worldwide. Today, the medical care in Malaysia on par with the best in the world; where innovation and international expertise are key. Numerous renowned medical specialists that work in Malaysia have been trained at the best medical institutions in the world. Treatments are performed in state-of-the-art facilities that are equipped to meet international standards.



Study in Malaysia

Located in the heart of tropical southeast Asia, Malaysia has a growing higher education sector and plenty to offer those considering post-graduate study abroad. Malaysia can certainly be described as a land of opportunity. Malaysia is quickly evolving into a technologically-advanced, industrialized nation, and with affordable course fees and a relatively low cost of living are just a few of the many reasons graduates decide to further their education in Malaysia. With its welcoming multi-ethnic population and beautiful natural landscapes providing a fascinating contrast to modern city living, you will feel safe and at home here as you study for your internationally-recognized qualification.

Already the 12th top global destination for international study, according to UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) data, Malaysia has grand ambitions to become the sixth-largest education provider by 2020.

Please visit: <https://studymalaysia.com/>

Fairs in Malaysia

Malaysia International Jewellery Fair 2016

Event Date: 5-8 August 2016



Malaysia International Jewellery Fair (MIJF) is well-recognized as one of the most significant and vital jewellery trading hub within the Southeast Asia region. This excellent platform for unlimited business opportunities is consistently granted with support and acknowledgement from the global jewellery associations, delegates and professional buyers.

MIJF has created a great opportunity for everyone to see the display of region's finest jewellery collection from diamonds, pearls, jades, gemstones, precious metals to precious stones. Jewelers from around the world will gather at MIJF for the opportunity to penetrate into Malaysia market.

For more info please visit: <http://www.mijf.com.my/>

Print Technology 2016

Event Date: 4-7 August 2016

Print Technology 2016 proffer more perfection for the higher production efficiency development and business competitiveness advancement. It features a great number of the newest innovations and latest technologies in a comprehensive range of exhibit zones. It will present an ideal opportunity for industry professionals and experts, to develop strong network, build influential collaborations and utilize vital marketing resources for the growth and development of the industry. The biennial Print Technology 2016 will play her role as the platform for Asian advertising and printing trade, gaining greater heights, welcoming wider market and accepting greater challenges while providing superior service to the industries. Advertising and printing trade leaders from all over the world will be gathering in Kuala Lumpur for Print Technology 2016, creating for you endless opportunities, possibilities and excitements! In order to keep abreast with the fast development and vast opportunities in Malaysia's printing market, and build on the success of the previous exhibition, Print Technology is once again staged incorporating,

- Asia Sign Exhibition
- Office Automation & Infocomm
- Corrugated Carton
- Digital Print
- Packaging & Label

A wide range of technologies, innovations and applications ranging from pre-press, digital imaging, printing equipment, converting, flexography, labeling, post-press equipment, printing materials and accessories up to the finishing section will be presented in Print Technology Exhibition 2016.

For more info please visit: <http://www.printtechnology.com.my/>

Consular Information

The Embassy of Malaysia in Zagreb does following consular assistance to Malaysian citizens:

1. Passport renewal
2. Birth/Marriage Certificate Registration
3. Registration of Malaysian citizens

For more information please visit the Embassy's website at: http://www.kln.gov.my/web/hrv_zagreb/home

Travel Advisory for the Republic of Croatia

If you are going to visit or live in Croatia, please take the time to tell our Embassy about your trip. If you register, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. Your registration will also help your friends and family to get in touch with you in an emergency.

Entry Requirements: Malaysian citizens do not require visa to enter Croatia for the duration of up to 90 days within a six-month period.

Under the Croatian law all foreign citizens must register with the local police within 24 hours of arrival and inform them of any change in their address. For those staying in a hotel or in accommodations rented, the company will register you automatically. Failure to register is a misdemeanor offense and one can be fined if not doing so.

Threats To Safety And Security: Although hostilities in all parts of the country ended in 1995, de-mining of areas along former confrontation lines is not complete. It is estimated that de-mining operations will continue until at least 2018. Mine-affected areas are well-marked with Croatian-language warning signs using the international symbol for mines.

*Citizens of the Republic of Croatia **do not require** visa to enter Malaysia for the purpose of social/tourism visit for the duration of up to 90 days. Passport of the traveler should be valid for at least six months before entering Malaysia.*

Crime: Violent crime is rare. Foreigners do not appear to be singled out by criminals. We advise you to safeguard your belongings in public areas, especially in bus or railroad stations, airports, and gas stations, and on public transportation. As in many countries, outward displays of wealth may increase your chances of being targeted by thieves.

Medical Facilities And Health Information: In case you have been medically treated at Croatian health care facilities, doctors and hospitals usually expect immediate cash payment for health services and generally will not accept credit cards. Tick-borne encephalitis, a disease preventable with a three-shot vaccination series, is found throughout inland Croatia but is not prevalent along the coast.

Payment: Most of the shops and restaurants in Croatia will accept credit card payment, although coffee bars, sellers at market places and fast food restaurants would prefer cash payment in kuna only.