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## SPECIAL RELEASE 2 - FOR BUILDING AND STRUCTURAL WORKS

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## **Unit Price Index of Building Materials**

- A month on month comparison by construction materials and areas showed an increase in unit price index for selected materials such as cement, steel and roofing materials in all areas of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.
- The unit price index of cement recorded an increase of 2.6 per cent in January 2023 as compared to December 2022 and recorded an incline for three consecutive months. The increase in the price of raw materials and coal as well as higher shipping costs were the main contributors to the price increase in Malaysia's cement market.
- In addition, the unit price index of steel recorded an increase of 1.0 per cent as compared to December 2022. The increase in the price index of steel coincided with the increase in the price of iron ore and steel at the global level.
- Nevertheless, a year-on-year comparison of the unit price index on building materials recorded increases of between 0.7 and 11.4 per cent in January 2023 as compared to a year ago.
- The unit price index for steel and cement increased by 1.4 per cent and 9.3 per cent respectively, for January 2023 as compared to the same month of the preceding year.

## **Average Price of Selected Building Materials**

- The average price per unit of steel consisting of mild steel round bars and Mycon 60 high tensile deformed bars was RM3,599.37 per metric tonne, recording a 0.7 per cent increase as compared to the previous month (December 2022: RM3,576.00 per metric tonne).
- The average price of cement (Ordinary Portland) recorded an increase of 3.4 per cent which is RM21.66/ 50 kg compared to RM20.95/ 50 kg (December 2022). Meanwhile, the average price of sand remained unchanged which was RM36.32/metric tonne.

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