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SPECIAL RELEASE 2 - FOR BUILDING AND STRUCTURAL WORKS

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

- A month-on-month comparison of construction materials and selected areas showed a decrease in the unit price index for selected materials such as steel, plumbing materials and steel & metal sections for almost all areas of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. Meanwhile, other building materials such as cement and timber recorded an increase in price.
- A month-on-month in June 2023 recorded a decrease in the price index per unit of steel, which is between 0.6 per cent and 2.3 per cent for almost all areas of Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah. Meanwhile the price index per unit of steel remains unchanged for several areas such as in Johor, Terengganu & Kelantan and all areas in Sarawak (Kuching, Sibu and Miri) as compared to May 2023. Apart from steel, the price index per unit of steel & metal sections also recorded a decrease, which is between 0.3 per cent and 2.1 per cent for all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The decrease in the price index of steel and steel & metal sections was in line with the scenario of decreases in the prices of steel and iron ore at the global level.
- In June 2023, the price index per unit of cement increased at a slower pace, which was between 0.1 per cent and 0.9 per cent as compared to May 2023 (1.8 per cent to 4.0 per cent).
- Meanwhile, an annual comparison for the period of June 2022 and June 2023 showed that the unit price index of cement has recorded an increase between 2.4 per cent and 17.5 per cent for all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak.
- The highest increase for areas in Peninsular Malaysia was cement in Kelantan & Terengganu (17.5%), followed by bricks & walls in Johor (17.4%), and cement in Pulau Pinang, Kedah, and Perlis (17.1%). The price index for a unit of construction materials that recorded the highest increase in Sabah was plumbing materials in Kota Kinabalu (17.6%), while in Sarawak it was timber in Sibu (31.7%) and bricks & wall materials in Miri (23.3%).

## **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 RM3,689.50 per metric tonne, recording a 0.5 per cent decrease as compared to the previous month (May 2023: RM3,708.75 per metric tonne).
- The average price of cement (Ordinary Portland) increased at a slower rate of 0.2 per cent (May 2023: 1.4%), with an average price of RM22.86 per 50 kg bag as compared to RM22.81 (May 2023).

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