Foreign attrition on Bursa Malaysia enters 10th week

by DASHVEEN JIT KAUR

FOREIGN investors continued to reduce their holdings in the Malaysian equity market, marking the 10th consecutive week of selling streak, the longest since September 2015.

MIDF Amanah Investment Bank Bhd’s MIDF Research in its weekly fund-flow report stated that foreign funds sold RM704.3 million net in equity last week, compared to net sales of RM705.4 million the week before.

MIDF Research analyst Adam M Rahin said this has brought cumulative outflow thus far this year to RM275.3 billion, which offsets 75% of last year’s total foreign inflow of RM368.3 billion.

"It is the longest weekly selling streak recorded since the 20-week selling spree in May to September of 2015," he added.

Last Friday, foreign selling surged to RM70.6 million, the highest in a day since June 21, along with regional peers South Korea and the Philippines.

The major self-off was due to the US-China trade dispute, Adam said.

"The retail market, however, remained healthy with an average daily trade value of RM607.7 million," he said.

The top three counters with the highest money inflows were Tenaga Nasional Bhd, Public Bank Bhd and Genting Malaysia Bhd.

MyEG Services Bhd and Top Glove Corp Bhd were the counters that led the outflows.

On the global front, equity markets ended mixed last week as global trade tensions took centerstage.

MIDF Research said foreign title continued to leave Asia for the fourth week running.

"Based on the provisional aggregate data for the seven Asian exchanges that we track, investors classified as 'foreign' sold US$1.45 billion net last week, just around US$200 million lower compared to the amount disposed in the preceding week."