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Bursa Malaysia ends flat

The Malaysian Reserve, Malaysia

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BURSA Malaysia wrapped up the holiday-shortened trading week on a slightly weaker note last Friday, remaining below the 1,600 points psychological level amid a lack of fresh leads.

At 5pm, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) ended at 1,598.23, down 0.7 of a point or 0.04% from Sept 18's close of 1,598.93.

The benchmark index opened marginally higher at 1,598.99 and fluctuated between 1,595.68 and 1,600.40 throughout the day.

However, the market breadth was positive, with gainers leading decliners 565 to 492, while 482 counters were unchanged, 1,109 untraded and 13 suspended.

Turnover widened to 3.59 billion units worth RM4.16 billion from 2.56 billion units worth RM2.52 billion on Sept 18.

Berjaya Research Sdn Bhd head of research Kenneth Leong said the key index may attempt to build a base at around the 1,600-point psychological level before resuming its recovery path towards the immediate resistance level at 1,611 points, followed by 1,620 points.

Among the heavyweights, Malayan Banking Bhd lost 8 sen to RM9.80, Public Bank Bhd eased 1 sen to RM4.24 and CIMB Group Holdings Bhd slipped 9 sen to RM7.23. Tenaga Nasional Bhd rose 10 sen to RM13.38 and IHH Healthcare Bhd added 2 sen to RM7.33.

In active trade, Focus Dynamics Group Bhd and TWL Holdings Bhd were half-a-sen lower at half-a-sen and 2.5 sen respectively.

Pharmaniaga Bhd erased 2 sen to 26.5 sen, VS Industry Bhd gained 4.5 sen to 59.5 sen, while Malakoff Corp Bhd as flat at 97.5 sen.

Top losers included Nestle Malaysia Bhd, which lost 28 sen to RM94.72, while Hong Leong Financial Group Bhd and Sunway Construction Group Bhd fell 22 sen each to RM16.94 and RM6.13 respectively.

Among the top gainers, Malaysian Pacific Industries Bhd surged 58 sen to RM29.12, UWC Bhd climbed 37 sen to RM3.70 and Petronas Gas Bhd jumped 22 sen to RM18.50. Sam Engineering (M) Bhd bagged 20 sen to RM4.10.

On the broader market, the FBM Emas Index gained 8.53 points to 11,896.43, the FBM T100 Index added 7.06 points to 11,647.31, and the FBM Emas Shariah Index bounced 48.27 points to 11,963.37.

The FBM 70 Index climbed 63.66 points to 16,743.40, while the FBM ACE Index was 43.75 points higher at 4,915.43.

By sector, the Industrial Products and Services Index picked up 1.42 points to 168.11, the Financial Services Index lost 93.66 points to 18,003.30, and the Plantation Index increased 11.77 points to 7,744.34. The Energy Index gained 2.27 points to 755.32.

The Main Market volume increased to 2.32 billion units, valued at RM3.90 billion, from 1.57 billion units worth RM2.26 billion on Sept 18.

Warrant turnover dropped to 637.62 million units, valued at RM93.26 million, from 641.29 million units worth RM107.66 million previously.

The ACE Market volume widened to 626.63 million shares worth RM164.47 million, from 354.4 million shares worth RM145.66 million on Sept 18.

Consumer products and services counters accounted for 275.93 million shares traded on the Main Market, industrial products and services (377.01 million), construction (151.54 million), technology (237.10 million), financial services (124.51 million), property (341.89 million), plantation (29.96 million).

REITs (114.44 million), closed/fund (66,500), energy (137.15 million), healthcare (190.74 million), telecommunications and media (86.35 million), transportation and logistics (94.21 million), utilities (167.49 million) and business trusts (107,000). — *Bernama*