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## KL bourse closes mixed

The Malaysian Reserve, Malaysia



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BURSA Malaysia ended mixed last Friday with the barometer index declining for three straight days during the holiday-shortened week, bucking the strong performance of key regional indices, said a dealer.

At 5pm, the benchmark FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) eased 0.84 of-a-point to 1,497.55 from last Thursday's close of 1,498.39.

The market bellwether opened 1.58 points higher at 1,499.97 and moved between 1,493.07 and 1,500.91 throughout the session.

However, on the broader market, gainers outpaced losers 542 to 385, while 403 counters were unchanged, 917 untraded and 49 others suspended

Turnover rose to 4.62 billion units worth RM2.42 billion against last Thursday's 3.75 billion units worth RM2.03 billion.

Rakuten Trade Sdn Bhd equity research VP Thong Pak Leng told *Bernama* the

local bourse was stuck in a consolidation mode for the holiday-shortened week as sentiments were still cautious from the lack of buying catalysts despite the persistent buying from local institutions and retail.

"We noticed that buying activities have shifted to smaller cap stocks, particularly in the construction, transportation and energy sectors," says Thong.

Regionally, he said key indices trended higher as investors digested Tokyo's consumer price index which rose 4.3%, growing faster than estimates nearing the highest for Japan's capital since mid-1981.

Meanwhile, the Hong Kong market continued to rise as investors remain optimistic about the reopening of China's economy, he noted.

Japan's Nikkei 225 added 0.07% to 27,382.56, Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index climbed 0.76% to 22,688.90,

South Korea's Kospi increased 0.62% to 2,484.02 and Singapore's Straits Times Index added 0.34% to 3,388.58.

Malayan Banking Bhd shed four sen to RM8.74, Public Bank Bhd and Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd slipped three sen each to RM4.25 and RM8.48 respectively, while CIMB Group Holdings Bhd added two sen to RM5.74 and **Tenaga Nasional Bhd gained three sen to RM9.55.**

As for the actives, MMAG Bhd edged up half-a-sen to 2.5 sen, ATA IMS Bhd rose earned one sen to 40.5 sen, Nylex (M) Bhd rose 11.5 sen to 54.5 sen, Velesto Energy Bhd eased half-a-sen to 22 sen and Sapura Energy Bhd was flat at five sen.

On the index board, the FBM Emas Index bagged 12.44 points to 10,893.36, the FBM T100 Index added 9.81 points to 10,563.91, and the FBM Emas Shariah Index climbed 28.42 points

to 11,177.55.

The FBM 70 Index surged 80.37 points to 13,759.84 and the FBM ACE Index advanced 43.64 points to 5,731.23.

Sector-wise, the Industrial Products and Services Index improved by 0.22 of-a-point to 190.77, the Energy Index added 10.12 points to 880.76, the Plantation Index lost 2.38 points to 6,841.23, and the Financial Services Index fell 33.60 points to 16,470.19.

The Main Market volume increased to 2.88 billion shares worth RM2.02 billion compared to last Thursday's 2.37 billion shares worth RM1.62 billion.

Warrants turnover expanded to 419.36 million units worth RM57.86 million from 410.29 million units worth RM59.9 million on Jan 26.

The ACE Market volume rose to 1.32 billion shares worth RM345.66 million from 969.87 million shares worth RM344.36 million last Thursday. — *Bernama*