

Headline	Share prices close slightly higher on lacklustre market sentiments		
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KUALA LUMPUR: Share prices on Bursa Malaysia, which got off to a cautious start, inched slightly higher at close yesterday, reflecting the lacklustre market sentiments. The FBM KLCI ended 0.16 point higher at 1,798.13 after hovering between 1,796.25 and 1,802.78 during the entire trading session.

Losers led gainers by 465 to 347, with 315 counters unchanged, 473 untraded and 34 suspended. Total turnover rose to 2.12 billion shares worth RM2.67 billion from 1.74 billion shares worth RM1.88 billion on Monday.

A dealer said the local equities market was seen battling to stay above the 1,800 level and was lifted by gains in selected heavyweights, Petronas Dagangan and Tenaga Nasional.

"At close, Petronas Dagangan soared 90 sen to RM31.04, after opening at RM30.10, with 1.46 million shares transacted, while Tenaga Nasional chalked up 21 sen to RM9.85, after opening at RM9.65, with 10.47 million shares traded," the dealer added.

On the scoreboard, the Finance Index surged 88.16 points to 16,596.65, while the Industrial Index fell 15.92 points to 3,115.5, and the Plantation Index dipped 21.8 points to 8,786.37.

The FBM Emas Index was 11.55 points lower at 12,501.87, the FBMT100 Index fell 13.99 points to 12,223.39, the FBM Ace shed 28.07 points to 5,665.78 and the FBM 70 dwindled 78.26 points to 14,172.93. Among actives, Ingenuity Consolidated eased one sen to 8.5 sen, Sumatec erased 2.5 points to 30.5 sen and Dialog dipped 13 sen to RM2.96.

For the heavyweights, CIMB surged 12 sen to RM7.63 and Sime Darby garnered three sen to RM9.63, while Maybank eased two sen to RM9.59. Volume on the Main Market rose to 1.4 billion shares worth RM2.55 billion from 1.28 billion shares worth RM1.77 billion.

Turnover on the ACE market rose to 679.76 million shares worth RM113.39 million from 394.98 million shares worth RM97.66 million. Warrants contracted to 40.54 million units valued at RM4.66 million from 51.21 million units worth RM5.39 million.

Consumer products accounted for 96.04 million shares on the Main Market, industrial products 106.02 million, construction 34.85 million, trade and services 725.71 million, technology 159.19 million, infrastructure 42.73 million, SPAC 15.02 million, finance 82.85 million, hotels 956,300, properties 101.27 million, plantations 20.28 million, mining 17,000, REITs 16.09 million and closed/fund 122,300. — Bernama