



Daily Newswatch

Market Review

The FBM KLCI plunged to a 21-month low on Wednesday, closing sharply lower at 1,400.6 (-3.0%) amid intensified selling pressure sparked by escalating US-China tariff tensions. Index performance was dragged by heavy losses in CIMB (-4.9%), PMETAL (-4.9%) and GAMUDA (-4.8%). Sector wise, all the sectors are ended in red with Energy (-4.9%) being the most underperforming sector, underpinned by significant losses in the index-heavyweighted counters such as KEYFIELD (-9.6%), DIALOG (-7.3%) and DAYANG (-5.8%). Market breadth turned more negative, with 919 losers outnumbered 223 gainers.

Asian markets edged higher on Wednesday as bullish signals from Beijing and trade optimism supported investor sentiment. The SHANGHAI CI rose by 1.3%, while the HSI added 0.7% to close at 20,264.5. The gains came after Chinese Premier Li Qiang reassured markets of Beijing's ability to withstand mounting US pressure, including a spike in tariffs to 104.0% following escalatory moves by President Trump. Li's remarks, along with share buyback announcements from several listed companies, helped reverse earlier losses driven by trade tensions.

This morning for Wednesday's closing, the US, markets' posted one of their most significant rallies in decades, driven by improved sentiment following President Trump's announcement of a temporary pause on the reciprocal tariffs on most of the nations globally. The S&P 500 surged 9.52% to close at 5,456.90, marking its largest single-day gain since 2008. The Dow Jones rose 7.9%, its best day since March 2020, while the Nasdaq surged 12.2%, marking its second-strongest session on record. A broad-based risk-on rally was triggered as the tariff relieve help to ease investor concerns over intensifying trade tensions.

Macro News

- US:** Slapping higher taxes on small parcels with China
- Malaysia:** BNM looks beyond monetary policy tools amid tariffs threats
- US:** Trump signs orders to expand coal power, invoking AI boom
- China:** Retaliates as Trump trade tariffs kick in
- US:** Trump pauses higher duties on most nations, hikes China tariffs to 125%
- EU:** ECB's Villeroy says tariffs favor cutting rates again 'soon'
- US:** Keeps the fed funds interest rate

Corporate News

- KIP REIT:** Acquire RM118m worth of suburban retail assets
- Dayang:** Bags two accommodation workboat vessel orders from Petronas Carigali
- Duopharma:** Bags supply contracts worth RM16.58m from govt in third round of award
- WCT:** Getting shareholders' nod for Paradigm REIT listing
- AWC:** Develop and Operate an Automated Waste Management System at New Transportation Hub
- Jaya Tinggi:** Bags RM30m subcontract to relocate power cables in Penang

Upcoming key economic data releases

	Date
US – FOMC Minutes	Apr 10
US – March 2025's CPI	Apr 10
US – March's PPI	Apr 11
US – April 2025's Consumer Sentiment Index	Apr 11

Key Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,400.6	(3.0)	(14.7)
Dow Jones	40,608.5	7.9	(4.6)
Nasdaq CI	17,125.0	12.2	(11.3)
S&P 500	5,456.9	9.5	(7.2)
FTSE 100	7,679.5	(2.9)	(6.0)
Nikkei 225	31,714.0	(3.9)	(20.5)
Shanghai CI	3,186.8	1.3	(4.9)
HSI	20,264.5	0.7	1.0
STI	3,393.7	(2.2)	(10.4)

Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg
Vol traded (m shares)	3,770.2	13.4
Value traded (RM m)	3,788.0	33.7
Gainers	223	
Losers	919	
Unchanged	320	

Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
SUMI	0.180	(25.0)	103.6
MYEG	0.755	(1.9)	102.9
SUPERMX	0.805	3.9	81.0
PBBANK	4.090	(3.1)	60.1
GAMUDA	3.590	(4.8)	49.7

Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
MAYBANK	9.500	(3.8)	320.6
CIMB	6.350	(4.9)	254.3
PBBANK	4.090	(3.1)	246.7
GAMUDA	3.590	(4.8)	177.6
TENAGA	12.820	(3.0)	157.0

Currencies	Last Close	% Chg
USD/MYR	4.4963	(0.1)
USD/JPY	147.36	0.3
EUR/USD	1.0956	0.1
USD/CNY	7.3463	(0.1)
US Dollar Index	102.90	(0.1)

Commodities	Last Close	% Chg
Brent (USD/barrel)	65.5	4.2
Gold (USD/troy oz)	3,083	0.0
CPO (MYR/metric t)	4,426	(3.0)
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	83,037	(0.2)



Macro News

US: Slapping higher taxes on small parcels with China

President Donald Trump raise tariffs even further on small parcels that were until now exempt from taxes. The US will tax imports of items priced up to US\$800 (RM3,594) at the rate of 90% of their value, up from a previous plan to levy a 30% ad valorem tax. Washington will also increase the per postal item on goods entering after May 2 and before June 1 to US\$75 from the planned US\$25. Parcels entering after June 1 will pay a fee of US\$150 per item instead of US\$50 announced previously, according to the executive order Wednesday. *(Bloomberg)*

Malaysia: BNM looks beyond monetary policy tools amid tariffs threats

Malaysia's central bank is looking beyond monetary policy to weather the fallout from US President Donald Trump's duties, arguing that the country is entering the tariff disputes from a position of strength. Strong investment activity, resilient domestic demand and diversified trade partners will help support the economy, and policymakers also have numerous policy tools to mitigate the impact of sweeping US levies Governor Datuk Seri Abdul Rasheed Ghaffour said. *(Bloomberg)*

US: Trump signs orders to expand coal power, invoking AI boom

US President Donald Trump signed a raft of measures he boasted would expand the mining and use of coal inside the US, a bid to power the boom in energy-hungry data centres and revive a flagging US fossil fuel industry. He is "taking historic action to help American workers, miners, families and consumers", as he set in motion wide-ranging initiatives to promote electricity made from coal, including with legal strikes targeting state regulations and policies that deter the fossil fuel's usage. *(Bloomberg)*

China: Retaliates as Trump trade tariffs kick in

China will impose 84% tariffs on US goods from Thursday, up from the 34% previously announced, its finance ministry said on Wednesday, firing the latest salvo in a global trade war sparked by US President Donald Trump. China's currency has faced heavy downward pressure, with the offshore yuan at record lows due to the tariffs. But sources told Reuters the central bank has asked major state-owned banks to reduce US dollar purchases and would not allow sharp yuan declines. *(Reuters)*

US: Trump pauses higher duties on most nations, hikes China tariffs to 125%

U.S. President Donald Trump announced a 90-day pause on higher reciprocal tariffs for certain non-retaliating countries, maintaining a 10% baseline rate while increasing tariffs on Chinese imports to 125% due to China's refusal to negotiate. It remains unclear which nations will benefit from the temporary relief, though Trump stated that over 75 countries have engaged in trade talks without retaliating. *(Bloomberg)*

EU: ECB's Villeroy says tariffs favor cutting rates again 'soon'

European Central Bank (ECB) officials, including Francois Villeroy de Galhau and Olli Rehn, are signaling that interest rate cuts may be necessary soon due to economic pressures from U.S. tariffs and global market volatility. Villeroy emphasized that Europe's disinflation trend and the euro's strength support a rate cut, while also warning against excessive government spending in France. Investors now widely expect the ECB to cut rates at its next meeting, with policymakers highlighting their readiness to act quickly to support growth and financial stability. *(Bloomberg)*

US: Keps the fed funds interest rate

Fed policymakers expected inflation to be pushed higher this year due to the impact of elevated tariffs, though they acknowledged considerable uncertainty around the magnitude and persistence of these effects, minutes from the last FOMC meeting in March 2025 showed. At the same time, a majority of officials highlighted the possibility that inflationary pressures from various sources could prove more persistent than previously anticipated. Nearly all participants viewed inflation risks as tilted to the upside, while risks to employment were seen as skewed to the downside. The Fed kept the federal funds rate unchanged at 4.25%-4.5% during its March 2025 meeting, extending the pause in its rate-cut cycle that began in January, in line with expectations. *(Trading Economics)*

Corporate News

KIP REIT: Acquire RM118m worth of suburban retail assets

KIP Real Estate Investment Trust is acquiring four retail properties worth RM118m in Kuala Selangor and Kuantan, Pahang, boosting portfolio to RM1.5bn, marking a strategic suburban expansion. The proposed acquisitions are deemed related party transactions as Datuk Ong Kook Liong, the managing director and a major shareholder of KIP REIT Management Sdn Bhd. *(The Edge)*

Dayang: Bags two accommodation workboat vessel orders from Petronas Carigali

Dayang Enterprise Holdings Bhd has secured two work orders from Petronas Carigali Sdn Bhd for the provision of accommodation workboat vessels. The contracts were awarded to its subsidiary, DESB Marine Services Sdn Bhd, and involve the deployment of two vessels, Dayang Berlian and Dayang Pertama, according to a Bursa filing by the Sarawak-based oil and gas services group on Wednesday. *(The Edge)*

Duopharma: Bags supply contracts worth RM16.58m from govt in third round of award

The country's largest generic drug manufacturer Duopharma Biotech Bhd (Duopharma) on Wednesday announced that it has bagged another three government supply contracts worth RM16.58m from Pharmaniaga Logistics Sdn Bhd. Duopharma announced that its unit, Duopharma HAPI Sdn Bhd, had secured three additional contracts, bringing the total number of products supplied to the government to 99, valued at over RM682m. *(The Edge)*

WCT: Getting shareholders' nod for Paradigm REIT listing

WCT Holdings Bhd said its shareholders have approved the proposal to list the Paradigm Real Estate Investment Trust (Paradigm REIT) on the Bursa Malaysia Main Market at Wednesday's extraordinary general meeting (EGM). Shareholders also approved the proposed disposal of three prime retail properties — Bukit Tinggi Shopping Centre (BTSC), Paradigm Mall Petaling Jaya (PMPJ) and Paradigm Mall Johor Bahru (PMJB) — to Paradigm REIT for RM2.44bn. *(The Edge)*

AWC: Develop and operate an automated waste management system at new transportation hub.

AWC Bhd has secured a 10-year concession worth RM18.4m to build and operate an automated waste collection system at the newly operational Terminal Bersepadu Gombak (TBG), serves as the main transportation hub for services to the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia, covering Pahang, Terengganu, and Kelantan. In a statement on Wednesday, AWC said the concession agreement was signed with Landasan Kapital (M) Sdn Bhd and Terminal Bersepadu Gombak Sdn Bhd. *(The Edge)*

Jaya Tinggi: Bags RM30m subcontract to relocate power cables in Penang

Jati Tinggi Group Bhd has secured a RM30.3m subcontract for the relocation of power supply cables in Bandar Sri Pinang. In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, the infrastructure and engineering company said its wholly-owned subsidiary, Jati Tinggi Holdings Sdn Bhd, had accepted a letter of acceptance (LOA) from Worktime Engineering Sdn Bhd for the cable relocation work. *(The Edge)*



Stock Selection Based on Dividend Yield

	Sector	Price (RM)	Dividend/Share (RM)	Dividend Yield (%)
Bermaz Auto	Consumer	1.11	0.15	13.78
Amway (M)	Consumer	5.07	0.47	9.27
British American Tobacco (M)	Consumer	6.21	0.54	8.70
Sentral REIT	REIT	0.78	0.06	8.26
YTL Hospital REIT	REIT	1.04	0.08	7.98
REXIT	Technology	0.63	0.05	7.94
KIP REIT	REIT	0.87	0.07	7.75
Hektar REITS	REIT	0.49	0.04	7.63
CapitaLand Malaysia Trust	REIT	0.64	0.05	7.56
Paramount Corporation	Property	1.03	0.07	7.28
MBM Resources	Consumer	5.43	0.39	7.24
Taliworks Corporation	Utilities	0.70	0.05	7.14
MAG Holdings	Consumer	1.23	0.08	6.67
Magnum	Consumer	1.23	0.08	6.67
Ta Ann Holdings	Plantation	3.92	0.26	6.58

Source: Bloomberg

User guide: Mercury Securities compiles a list of dividend-yielding stocks for conservative long-term passive investors looking for regular income whilst capping downside risk of their investment.

Methodology: The list above includes stocks that have a high dividend yield, estimated to be greater than 4% per annum. These stocks also have a history of paying dividends consistently, having paid dividends for the past 3 years.

IPO Tracker

Company	Listing Sought	Issue Price (RM/Share)	No. Of Shares (m)		Closing Date	Listing Date
			Public Issue	Offer for Sale		
MSB Global Group Bhd	ACE Market	0.20	133.0	74.0	04 Apr	15 Apr
WTEC Group Berhad	ACE Market	0.25	90.2	43.2	15 Apr	29 Apr
Cuckoo International (Mal) Bhd	Main Market	1.29	143.3	222.1	10 Apr	30 Apr
Reach Ten Holdings Berhad	Main Market	0.52	200.0	100.0	18 Apr	2 May

Disclaimer & Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

The information contained in this report is based on data obtained from data and sources believed to be reliable at the time of issue of this report. However, the data and/or sources have not been independently verified and as such, no representation, express or implied, are made as to the accuracy, adequacy, completeness or reliability of the information or opinions in this report.

This report may contain forward-looking statements which are often but not always identified by the use of words such as “believe”, “estimate”, “intend” and “expect” and statements that an event or result “may”, “will” or “might” occur or be achieved and other similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements are based on assumptions made and information currently available to Mercury Securities Sdn Bhd. (“Mercury Securities”) and are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievement to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievement, expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Caution should be taken with respect to such statements and recipients of this report should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. Mercury Securities expressly disclaims any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or circumstances after the date of this publication or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Accordingly, neither Mercury Securities nor any of its holding company, related companies, directors, employees, agents and/or associates nor person connected to it accept any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect, or consequential losses (including loss of profits) or damages that may arise from the use or reliance on the information or opinions in this publication. Any information, opinions or recommendations contained herein are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Mercury Securities has no obligation to update its opinion or the information in this report.

This report does not have regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and particular needs of any specific person. Accordingly, investors are advised to make their own independent evaluation of the information contained in this report and seek advice from, amongst others, tax, accounting, financial planner, legal or other business professionals regarding the appropriateness of investing in any securities or the investment strategies discussed or recommended in this report. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting or tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to your individual circumstances or otherwise represents a personal recommendation to you. This report is not intended, and should not under no circumstances be considered as an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer or a solicitation or expression of views to influence any one to buy or sell the securities referred to herein or any related financial instruments.

Mercury Securities and its holding company, related companies, directors, employees, agents, associates and/or person connected with it may, from time to time, hold any positions in the securities and/or capital market products (including but not limited to shares, warrants and/or derivatives), trade or otherwise effect transactions for its own account or the account of its customers or be materially interested in any securities mentioned herein or any securities related thereto, and may further act as market maker or have assumed underwriting commitment or deal with such securities and provide advisory, investment, share margin facility or other services for or do business with any companies or entities mentioned in this report. In reviewing the report, investors should be aware that any or all of the foregoing among other things, may give rise to real or potential conflict of interests and should exercise their own judgement before making any investment decisions.

This research report is being supplied to you on a strictly confidential basis solely for your information and is made strictly on the basis that it will remain confidential. All materials presented in this report, unless specifically indicated otherwise, are under copyright to Mercury Securities. This research report and its contents may not be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, redistributed, transmitted, or passed on, directly or indirectly, to any person or published in whole or in part, or altered in any way, for any purpose.

This report may provide the addresses of, or contain hyperlinks to websites. Mercury Securities takes no responsibility for the content contained therein. Such addresses or hyperlinks (including addresses or hyperlinks to Mercury Securities own website material) are provided solely for your convenience. The information and the content of the linked site do not in any way form part of this report. Accessing such website or following such link through the report or Mercury Securities’ website shall be at your own risk.

This report is not directed to or intended for distribution or publication outside Malaysia. If you are outside Malaysia, you should have regard to the laws of the jurisdiction in which you are located.

The views expressed in this research report accurately reflect the analyst’s personal views about any and all of the subject securities or issuers; and no part of the research analyst’s compensation was, is or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed in the report.

Published & Printed By:

MERCURY SECURITIES SDN BHD
Registration No. 198401000672 (113193-W)
L-7-2, No 2, Jalan Solaris, Solaris Mont’ Kiara,
50480 Kuala Lumpur
Telephone: (603) - 6203 7227
Website: www.mercurysecurities.com.my
Email: mercurykl@mersec.com.my