



Daily Newswatch

Market Review

The FBM KLCI closed lower (-0.4%) on Tuesday, amid profit-taking following past several days of gains. Market sentiment remained cautious, underpinned by ongoing concerns over regional trade negotiations with the US. Among key index constituents, PETGAS led the losses (-2.4%), followed by SDG (-2.4%) and PMETAL (-2.2%). Losses were seen across most sectors, led by Plantation (-0.9%), Telecommunications & Media (-0.8%) and Property (-0.5%). Market breadth turned negative, with 506 losers outpacing 405 gainers.

Across the region, Asian stocks ended mixed on Tuesday as investors weighed China's pledges to support domestic businesses amid uncertainty over ongoing trade negotiations between the US and regional partners. As a result, the SHANGHAI CI slipped 0.1% to 3,286.7, while the HSI edged up 0.2% and ended at 22,008.1.

On Tuesday, European markets closed lower, amid ongoing tariff uncertainty that continues to rattle global markets. This translated into a 0.2% drop in the EURO STOXX 50.

This morning, for Tuesday's closing, US stocks closed higher after US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick announced a trade deal with an unnamed country, offering hope for progress on tariffs. Markets were also buoyed by strong earnings reports and a tariff reprieve for automakers. Consequently, the Dow Jones edged up 0.7%, the S&P 500 rose 0.6%, while the Nasdaq increased 0.5%.

Macro News

- Malaysia:** Miti deputy sec-gen appointed chief negotiator for US tariff talks
- China:** Xi is trying to turn world against US as Trump cuts trade deal
- China:** Ramps up global yuan push, seizing on retreating dollar
- US:** Trump to offer auto tariffs reprieve after carmaker appeals
- US:** Trump administration withholding US\$436.9bn in approved spending, top Democrats say

Corporate News

- Maxis:** Expands home solar solution across Peninsular Malaysia
- HHRG:** Issues show cause letter to CEO, extends suspension
- IHH Healthcare:** Secures S\$300m sustainability loan from UOB
- Pharmaniaga:** Auditor flags going concern uncertainty for third straight year
- MyEG:** Launch blockchain infrastructure to boost Malaysia's digital economy with MIMOS

Key Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,515.6	(0.4)	(7.7)
Dow Jones	40,527.6	0.7	(4.7)
Nasdaq CI	17,461.3	0.5	(9.6)
S&P 500	5,560.8	0.6	(5.5)
FTSE 100	8,463.5	0.5	3.6
Nikkei 225	35,840.0	0.4	(10.2)
Shanghai CI	3,286.7	(0.1)	(1.9)
HSI	22,008.1	0.2	9.7
STI	3,805.2	(0.2)	0.5
Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg	
Vol traded (m shares)	3,045.0	16.2	
Value traded (RM m)	1,814.1	4.3	
Gainers	405		
Losers	506		
Unchanged	450		
Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
VELESTO	0.150	(3.2)	79.6
NEXG	0.340	(8.1)	49.4
NOTION	0.670	(3.6)	36.4
CLITE	0.230	9.5	29.4
TANCO	0.880	0.0	28.1
Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
CIMB	7.020	0.4	87.2
TENAGA	13.640	0.3	83.1
GAMUDA	4.050	(0.2)	71.8
MAYBANK	9.950	(0.4)	63.8
KPJ	2.850	4.4	54.2
Currencies	Last Close	% Chg	
USD/MYR	4.3273	0.8	
USD/JPY	142.29	0.0	
EUR/USD	1.1385	(0.0)	
USD/CNY	7.2714	0.2	
US Dollar Index	99.21	0.2	
Commodities	Last Close	% Chg	
Brent (USD/barrel)	63.9	(2.9)	
Gold (USD/troy oz)	3,317	(0.8)	
CPO (MYR/metric t)	3,970	(1.0)	
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	94,557	(0.3)	



Macro News

Malaysia: Miti deputy sec-gen appointed chief negotiator for US tariff talks

The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (Miti) has appointed its deputy secretary general (trade) Mastura Ahmad Mustafa, one of its most experienced senior civil servants, as Malaysia's chief negotiator for the upcoming formal tariff negotiations with the United States. Its minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz said that the US has also named one of its Assistant United States Trade Representatives to lead the talks, with both sides agreeing to begin discussions after Malaysia's Cabinet gives the green light. *(Bernama)*

China: Xi is trying to turn world against US as Trump cuts trade deal

President cutting Xi Jinping's diplomats are fanning out across the world with a clear message for countries cutting deals with Donald Trump: The US is a bully that can't be trusted. Chinese officials are racing to turn foreign governments against the US inside a 90-day window Trump has granted all nations — except China — to strike trade deals during a tariff reprieve. Once those pacts are in place, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has said he wants US allies to "approach China as a group," giving his side more leverage in negotiations. *(Bloomberg)*

China: Ramps up global yuan push, seizing on retreating dollar

As Chinese President Xi Jinping toured Southeast Asia this month to forge closer ties against higher US tariffs, the People's Bank of China was seizing a moment of confusion and disruption in global trade to promote greater usage of the yuan. It won't de-throne the dollar, but as cross-border yuan payments surged to a record in March, analysts say there is renewed appetite for a global yuan as aggressive tariffs shake faith in the US currency and other US assets. *(Reuters)*

US: Trump to offer auto tariffs reprieve after carmaker appeals

President Donald Trump is on track to ease the impact of his auto tariffs, with changes sought by the industry that would lift some levies on foreign parts for cars and trucks made inside the US. Imported automobiles also would be given a reprieve from separate tariffs on aluminium and steel, an effort to prevent multiple levies from stacking on top of each other, a White House official said Monday. *(Bloomberg)*

US: Trump administration withholding US\$436.9bn in approved spending, top Democrats say

US President Donald Trump's administration has so far withheld at least US\$436.9bn (RM1.9tn) of congressionally approved funding, the top Democrats on the US Congress' appropriation committees said on Tuesday. The frozen allotments span the federal government, according to the first estimate of the potential impoundments in the project led by Senator Patty Murray from Washington and Representative Rosa DeLauro from Connecticut. *(Reuters)*

Corporate News

Maxis: Expands home solar solution across Peninsular Malaysia

Maxis Bhd (Maxis) is planning to expand its Maxis Home Solar solution to households across Peninsular Malaysia, following positive feedback from early adopters in the Klang Valley. The solution is being expanded across Peninsular Malaysia starting May 2025, and will be available to both Maxis and non-Maxis customers by the end of this year. *(Bernama)*

HHRG: Issues show cause letter to CEO, extends suspension

HHRG Bhd, formerly known as Heng Huat Resources Group Bhd, said that the company has issued a show cause letter to its CEO Fong Chee Khuen. The biomass material manufacturer said that it has also extended Fong's suspension pending his response to queries on financial transactions and personal conduct, according to a filing on Tuesday. *(The Edge)*

IHH Healthcare: Secures S\$300m sustainability loan from UOB

IHH Healthcare Bhd (IHH) on Tuesday secured its first sustainability-linked loan worth S\$300m (approximately RM993.2m) from Singapore-based United Overseas Bank (UOB). IHH said that the loan is structured under UOB's Sustainability-linked Financing Framework, which provides clients with pre-approved and externally validated key performance indicators and sustainability performance targets. This also marks UOB's first such loan to the healthcare sector. *(The Edge)*

Pharmaniaga: Auditor flags going concern uncertainty for third straight year

Concerns over Pharmaniaga Bhd's (Pharmaniaga) financial sustainability have been raised for the third straight year, with independent auditor Ernst & Young PLT (EY) identifying a material uncertainty in the group's FY2024 financial statements that raised doubts about its ability to continue as a going concern. In its audit, EY pointed out that, as of end-December 2024, Pharmaniaga's current liabilities exceeded its current assets significantly by RM748.8m at the group level and by RM827.2m at the company level. The auditors also noted a capital deficiency of RM145.9m at the group level. *(The Edge)*



MyEG: Launch blockchain infrastructure to boost Malaysia's digital economy with MIMOS

Digital services provider MyEG Services Bhd (MyEG) announced on Tuesday the launch of the Malaysia Blockchain Infrastructure (MBI), a national platform developed in collaboration with MIMOS Technology Solutions Sdn Bhd (MIMOS), that aims to foster blockchain innovation and streamline the integration of digital assets across various industries in Malaysia. In a joint statement, MyEG and MIMOS, a strategic agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, described the fully operational MBI platform as a "neutral and trusted platform", designed to serve as the backbone for blockchain-based services in both the public and private sectors. (*The Edge*)

<u>Upcoming key economic data releases</u>	<u>Date</u>
US – April's Unemployment Rate	May 02
US – Non Farm Payrolls	May 02
EU – April's Inflation Rate	May 02

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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		
Reach Ten Holdings Berhad	Main Market	0.52	200.0	100.0	18 Apr	2 May
West River Berhad	ACE Market	0.39	71.5	35.8	17 Apr	5 May
Fibromat (M) Berhad	ACE Market	0.55	32.3	24.8	25 Apr	8 May
Peoplelogy Berhad	ACE Market	0.25	105.0	0.0	6 May	20 May
Eco-Shop Marketing Berhad	Main Market	1.21	347.0	515.1	7 May	23 May
Oasis Home Holding Berhad	ACE Market	0.28	100.0	50.0	9 May	28 May
Cuckoo International (Mal) Bhd	Main Market	1.29	143.3	222.1	5 Jun	24 Jun

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