



# Daily Newswatch

## Market Review

The FBM KLCI extended its upward momentum to close higher on Tuesday at 1,563.2 boosted by news of the United States' decision to extend its 90-day tariff truce with China until Nov 10, which lifted market sentiment. The market sentiment was further boosted by optimism over easing geopolitical tensions, as US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin are set to meet in Alaska on Friday to discuss the war in Ukraine. Among the index constituents, the top 3 gainers were PETDAG (+3.5%), SIME (+2.5%) and IOICORP (+2.4%). Sector wise, Technology (+1.2%) led the gain, while Plantation (+0.9%) and Consumer Products & Services (+0.8%) also recorded gains. Nonetheless, the overall market breath turned positive with 513 gainers versus 477 losers.

Asian stocks rose on Tuesday as the extension of the tariff truce between the U.S. and China boosted sentiment and focus turned to a key U.S. inflation report to gauge the future policy-rate path. The Shanghai Composite rose 0.5% to 3,665.9, boosted by lithium producers after CATL halted production at a major mine, driving lithium carbonate prices higher. While Hong Kong's Hang Seng edged up 0.3% to 24,969.7.

The Euro Stoxx 50 rose on Tuesday as investor sentiment improved following better-than-expected corporate earnings from several major European companies and signs of resilience in certain service-sector indicators despite broader economic headwinds. Easing energy price pressures and optimism that upcoming central bank meetings may signal a more accommodative policy stance further boosted confidence. As a result, the EU STOXX 50 increased 0.1% to finish at 5,335.9.

US equities climbed on Tuesday as optimism over progress in US-China trade talks lifted investor sentiment. The market reacted positively to President Trump's last-minute executive order extending the tariff pause on Chinese goods by 90 days, easing near-term trade tensions. Gains were further supported by strength in technology and industrial shares, while expectations for stable inflation data later in the week added to the upbeat mood. The DOW increased 1.1%, while the S&P 500 rose 1.1% and the NASDAQ gained 1.4%.

## Macro Snapshots

- US:** Extend tariff truce by 90 days, staving off surge in duties says with China
- US:** Consumer prices increase moderately in July; data quality concerns rising
- MY:** Ink eight MOUs to boost bilateral ties, defence cooperation with Bangladesh
- CN:** Offers interest subsidies for loans to boost consumption
- UK:** Loses fewer jobs than expected, clouding path to rate cut
- IN:** Inflation eases to eight-year low as food prices fall

## Corporate Snapshots

- ZETRIX:** Eyes selling chatbot to financial institutions, government bodies
- FFB:** Expands on all fronts
- EDUSPEC:** Insider Moves between Eduspec Holdings Bhd, CB Industrial Product Holding Bhd, MISC Bhd, Oasis Harvest Corp Bhd
- AVANGAAD:** Sails out of storm after white knight rescue
- CLASSITA:** Sues Koperasi Felcra for RM9m over Perak housing project
- FSBM:** Teams up with Australia's Monochrome to pursue Web 3.0, blockchain ventures

Key Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,567.9	0.3	(4.5)
Dow Jones	44,458.6	1.1	4.5
Nasdaq CI	21,681.9	1.4	12.3
S&P 500	6,445.8	1.1	9.6
SX5E	5,336.0	0.1	9.0
FTSE 100	9,147.8	0.2	11.9
Nikkei 225	43,011.3	0.7	7.8
Shanghai CI	3,665.9	0.5	9.4
HSI	24,969.7	0.3	24.5
STI	4,220.7	(0.3)	11.4

Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg
Vol traded (m shares)	2,525.7	(0.4)
Value traded (RM m)	2,154.0	(1.9)
Gainers	513	
Losers	477	
Unchanged	507	

Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
CLASSITA	0.095	5.6	199.2
NEXG	0.400	6.7	77.9
ZETRIX	0.880	(1.7)	77.3
TANCO	0.725	(2.7)	72.0
TWL	0.025	0.0	49.1

Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
MAYBANK	9.710	0.6	164.1
CIMB	7.010	1.0	130.0
PBBANK	4.400	0.0	88.6
ZETRIX	0.880	(1.7)	69.0
TANCO	0.725	(2.7)	53.0

Currencies	Last Close	% Chg
USD/MYR	4.226	0.1
USD/JPY	147.750	0.1
EUR/USD	1.167	(0.0)
USD/CNY	7.181	0.1
US Dollar Index	98.071	(0.0)

Commodities	Last Close	% Chg
Brent (USD/barrel)	66.1	0.0
Gold (USD/troy oz)	3,346.0	(0.1)
CPO (MYR/metric t)	4,343.0	0.2
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	119,862.4	(0.3)



## Macro News

### US: Extend tariff truce by 90 days, staving off surge in duties with China

The United States and China on Monday extended a tariff truce for another 90 days, staving off triple-digit duties on each other's goods, as US retailers get ready to ramp up inventories ahead of the critical end-of-year holiday season. US President Donald Trump announced on his Truth Social platform that he had signed an executive order suspending the imposition of higher tariffs until 12:01am EST (0501 GMT) on Nov 10, with all other elements of the truce to remain in place. China's Commerce Ministry issued a parallel pause on extra tariffs early on Tuesday, also postponing for 90 days the addition of US firms it had targeted in April to trade and investment restriction lists. *(Reuters)*

### US: Consumer prices increase moderately in July; data quality concerns rising

US consumer prices increased moderately in July, though rising costs for goods because of import tariffs led to a measure of underlying inflation posting its largest gain in six months. The consumer price index rose 0.2% last month after gaining 0.3% in June, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said on Tuesday. In the 12 months through July, the CPI advanced 2.7% after rising 2.7% in June. Economists polled by *Reuters* had forecast the CPI rising 0.2% and increasing 2.8% year-on-year. Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the CPI rose 0.3%, the biggest gain since January, after climbing 0.2% in June. The so-called core CPI increased 3.1% year-on-year in July after advancing 2.9% in June. *(Reuters)*

### MY: Ink eight MOUs to boost bilateral ties, defence cooperation

Malaysia and Bangladesh on Tuesday sealed eight memoranda of understanding (MOUs) and agreements aimed at deepening bilateral ties across a wide range of sectors, including defence, energy, higher education, diplomacy, halal development, and private sector cooperation. The signing ceremony was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Bangladesh Chief Adviser Prof Dr Muhammad Yunus in conjunction with Yunus' official visit to Malaysia. Among key documents exchanged was the MOU on defence cooperation between the two governments, signed by Defence Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin and Bangladesh Foreign Adviser Md Touhid Hossain. *(Bernama)*

### CN: Offers interest subsidies for loans to boost consumption

China will offer interest subsidies for businesses in eight consumer service sectors including catering and tourism, in a bid to support services consumption amid a slowing economy. Eligible businesses can receive an interest subsidy of one percentage point on loans from 21 national banks, nine government departments, including the Ministry of Finance, said in a statement on Tuesday. The maximum loan amount eligible for the interest subsidy for a single entity could be up to one million yuan (US\$139,095 or RM588,812), the statement said. The move aims to reduce financing costs "for service industry operators" and boost the consumer market, it said. *(Reuters)*

### UK: Loses fewer jobs than expected, clouding path to rate cut

Britain's jobs market appears to be past the worst with a smaller-than-expected drop in payrolls last month, further complicating the Bank of England's (BOE) decision over whether to carry on cutting interest rates. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported an 8,353 decline in employee numbers in July — the smallest fall since January. That will bring some relief for Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves, who has presided over a 165,000 tumble in payrolls since October when she used her first budget to hike taxes and deliver another big rise in the minimum wage. Both took effect in April. July's fall was smaller than the 20,000 decline expected by economists, while the number of job losses in previous months was also revised down on Tuesday. *(Bloomberg)*

### IN: Inflation eases to eight-year low as food prices fall

India's inflation eased to the lowest in eight years last month, though the central bank forecasts that the price gains may inch up in the coming months. The consumer price index rose 1.6% from a year earlier in July, according to data released Tuesday by the Statistics Ministry. That's higher than the 1.4% increase forecast by economists in a Bloomberg survey. Inflation slowed to 2.1% in June and had dipped to 1.5% in June 2017. The Reserve Bank of India kept its repurchase rate unchanged last week, as policymakers opted to wait, with tariff-related uncertainties evolving and the effects of the previous reductions still playing out. *(Bloomberg)*



## Corporate News

### **ZETRIX: Eyes selling chatbot to financial institutions, government bodies**

Zetrix AI Bhd has set its sights on selling its NurAI chatbot to financial institutions and government bodies in its next phase of growth. While the rollout will start with a free consumer app, the company aims to have NurAI in daily operations of Islamic financial institutions, financial technology firms, halal certification bodies, and shariah authorities, said Datuk Mohd Jimmy Wong Abdullah, a non-executive director of Zetrix AI. "The rollout of NurAI is designed to be phased and progressive," Wong said in a statement following a launch event of NurAI on Tuesday. However, the company did not hold a press conference. (*The Edge*)

### **FFB: Expands on all fronts**

JOHOR-based dairy product specialist Farm Fresh Bhd is going all out to expand its product portfolio, scale up production capacity and plant its flag in new markets in the region. No longer just a fresh milk player, the company now counts growing up milk, cultured milk, flavoured milk, plant-based milk, chocolate malt, milk powder, butter, ice cream, yogurt and yogurt drinks on its growing list of more than 200 stock keeping units (SKUs) — with more to come. In the financial year ended March 31, 2025 (FY2025), Farm Fresh booked a 21.1% jump in revenue to RM981.2m and a 67.5% surge in net profit to RM106.4m. (*The Edge*)

### **EDUSPEC: Insider Moves between Eduspec Holdings Bhd, CB Industrial Product Holding Bhd, MISC Bhd, Oasis Harvest Corp Bhd**

Notable filings of shareholding changes in the period between July 21 and 25 included that of the emergence of Salcon Bhd executive deputy chairman Tan Sri Tee Tiam Lee as a substantial shareholder of ACE Market-listed Eduspec Holdings Bhd. Tee had a 7.9% stake or just over 111.1m shares in Eduspec as at July 24 following a private placement, a filing dated July 25 shows. Tee already had 63.2m shares or a 4.8% stake as at June 3, 2025, Eduspec's 2025 annual report shows. That means, at most, Tee would have only obtained 47.9m or 64% of the fourth and final tranche of Eduspec's private placement on July 15 of 74.9m shares priced at 10 sen a piece or RM7.5m in total. (*The Edge*)

### **AVANGAAD: Sails out of storm after white knight rescue**

AFTER three tumultuous years in the Practice Note 17 (PN17) status for financially distressed companies, Avangaad Bhd— formerly known as EA Technique (M) Bhd — has finally charted its way out of troubled waters. The turning point came with the entry of Voultier Sdn Bhd (VSB) as a white knight shareholder last year. The capital injection of RM79.6m and operational revamp helped stabilise the once-ailing marine transport and offshore storage company. In February 2022, EA Technique became a PN17 company after its shareholders' equity of RM5.9m as at end-December 2021 fell below 50% of its share capital of RM179.7m. (*The Edge*)

### **CLASSITA: Sues Koperasi Felcra for RM9m over Perak housing project**

Classita Holdings Bhd's wholly owned unit Caely (M) Sdn Bhd has sued Koperasi Peserta-Peserta Felcra Malaysia Bhd to recover RM9.4m in unpaid sums for a completed housing project in Perak. The RM69.0m project, known as Kampung Tersusun Generasi Kedua Felcra Seberang Perak, was awarded to Caely-M in 2013 and completed on Oct 3, 2022. Caely-M had, through a firm of lawyers, issued a notice of demand dated June 23, 2025, demanding the outstanding amount. Koperasi Felcra, however, had neglected, refused and failed to pay the outstanding amount, Classita's filing said. (*The Edge*)

### **FSBM: Teams up with Australia's Monochrome to pursue Web 3.0, blockchain ventures**

FSBM Holdings Bhd is exploring opportunities with Australian financial group Monochrome Corporation Pty Ltd in areas spanning Web 3.0, blockchain platform services and digital asset infrastructure development. Under their collaboration agreement, FSBM's wholly-owned FSBMI-Command Sdn Bhd, will act as the technology solutions partner, while Monochrome will provide consulting and advisory services on regulated digital asset investment structures, exchange-traded fund (ETF) operations and technology enablement for financial services. Monochrome, an Australian-based, multi-investment, crypto-asset financial services group, manages about A\$180m (RM497m) worth of assets, according to a statement from FSBM on Tuesday. (*The Edge*)



Upcoming key economic data releases	Date
US – PMI (Jul)	Aug 14
JP – GDP (Q2)	Aug 14
US – Core Retail Sales (Jul)	Aug 15
EU – CPI (Jul)	Aug 20
Source: Bloomberg	

## 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		



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