



Daily Newswatch

Market Review

The FBM KLCI closed lower at 1,582.9 on Thursday as investors took profits after a three-day rally, despite most regional markets ending broadly higher following unexpectedly softer U.S. producer price inflation for August. Financial Services led the sectoral losses with a 0.8% drop, followed by Utilities down 0.5% and Energy down 0.3%, while among key stocks, PETDAG slid 2.8%, Maybank lost 2.0% and PBBank fell 1.9%. Market breadth turned negative, with 461 advancers against 474 decliners.

Asian stock markets ended mixed on Thursday after softer US data reinforced expectations of a Federal Reserve rate cut, with the Shanghai Composite Index climbing 1.7% to 3,875.3 as optimism lifted sentiment though domestic regulatory concerns and profit-taking capped gains, while the Hang Seng Index declined 0.4% to 26,086.3, underperforming the mainland as sector-specific weakness and selling pressure in drugmakers and other heavyweights outweighed the boost from global liquidity hopes.

European stocks climbed higher on Thursday as the STOXX 50 gained 0.4% while the STOXX 600 was up 0.5% after the ECB kept the interest rates unchanged for a second consecutive meeting as expected. Policymakers increased their 2025 and 2026 Eurozone inflation forecasts by just 0.1 percentage points, to 2.1% and 1.7%, respectively, while stating that the inflation outlook remained largely unchanged. Traders reduced their bets for additional ECB easing after ECB President Lagarde's comments at the regular press conference, suggesting that the cycle of rate cuts may be coming to an end. Among the stocks, Airbus advanced by 2.9%, followed by Cie de Saint-Gobain (+1.8%) and BNP Paribas (+1.6%).

Wall Street continued its momentum on Thursday as expectations for the Fed rate cut next week remained despite the increasing inflation rate. The Dow Jones increased 616 points to reach the peak of 46,108, the S&P 500 gained 0.9% and crossed the 6588 mark for the first time, and the Nasdaq 100 climbed by 0.6%. According to the August CPI report, consumer prices increased by 0.4% during the month, which was higher than anticipated, but the annual rate remained stable at 2.9%, as predicted. The number of jobless claims increased by 27K to 263K, the largest since 2021, adding to indications of a faltering labor market. With the likelihood of a bigger half-point shift increasing, traders priced in a nearly definite quarter-point decrease at the Fed's September 17 meeting. While companies like Tesla (+6%), Micron (+7.5%), and Centene (+9.1%) saw notable gains, the gains were widespread, with commodities stocks, health banks, consumer names, and chipmakers among the standouts.

Macro Snapshots

- US:** Consumer prices increase more than expected in August
- MY:** July manufacturing sales up 3.5% at RM162.5bn
- MY:** Factory output grows faster than expected in July
- EU:** ECB holds rates unchanged, still 'in a good place'

Corporate Snapshots

- GAMUDA:** JV places top bid of RM3.3bn for mixed-use site in Singapore
- SEALINK:** Vessel declared a total loss after Brazil fire
- PTRB:** Fire breaks out at PT Resources' coconut processing facility in China
- UNIQUE:** Buys industrial land in Kota Kemuning for RM15.5m

Key Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,582.9	(0.5)	(3.6)
Dow Jones	46,108.0	1.4	8.4
Nasdaq CI	22,043.1	0.7	14.1
S&P 500	6,587.5	0.8	12.0
SX5E	5,386.8	0.5	10.0
FTSE 100	9,297.6	0.8	13.8
Nikkei 225	44,372.5	1.2	11.2
Shanghai CI	3,875.3	1.7	15.6
HSI	26,086.3	(0.4)	30.0
STI	4,355.8	0.2	15.0
Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg	
Vol traded (m shares)	2,480.6	(6.7)	
Value traded (RM m)	2,323.2	1.5	
Gainers	461		
Losers	474		
Unchanged	563		
Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
VS	0.550	1.9	135.7
PHARMA	0.245	11.4	97.1
TANCO	0.810	1.3	35.9
99SMART	2.490	0.0	29.8
SIME	2.150	(0.5)	28.4
Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
SDG	5.150	0.0	129.3
CIMB	7.240	0.4	111.5
MAYBANK	9.770	1.0	109.5
VS	0.550	1.9	75.0
99SMART	2.490	0.0	73.9
Currencies	Last Close	% Chg	
USD/MYR	4.221	(0.0)	
USD/JPY	147.210	0.0	
EUR/USD	1.174	0.0	
USD/CNY	7.119	0.0	
US Dollar Index	97.531	(0.3)	
Commodities	Last Close	% Chg	
Brent (USD/barrel)	66.4	(1.7)	
Gold (USD/troy oz)	3,634.8	0.0	
CPO (MYR/metric t)	4,383.0	1.0	
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	115,260.5	0.7	



Macro News

US: Consumer prices increase more than expected in August

US consumer prices rose more than expected in August and the annual increase in inflation was the largest in seven months, but the data is not expected to prevent a much-anticipated interest rate cut from the Federal Reserve next week against the backdrop of labour market weakness. The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4% last month after increasing 0.2% in July, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) said on Thursday. In the 12 months through August, the CPI advanced 2.9%, the largest increase since January, after climbing 2.7% in July. *(Reuters)*

US: Weekly jobless claims increase as labour market softens

The number of Americans filing new applications for jobless benefits increased sharply last week, consistent with a material softening in labour market conditions. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits jumped 27,000 to a seasonally adjusted 263,000 for the week ended September 6, the Labor Department said on Thursday. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast 235,000 claims for the latest week. The government said this week that nonfarm payrolls could have been overstated by 911,000 jobs in the 12 months through March. That followed the release last Friday of the monthly employment report, which showed job growth almost stalled in August and the economy shed jobs in June for the first time in four and a half years amid tariff uncertainty. *(Reuters)*

US: Oil prices fall nearly 2% on oversupply and weaker US demand

Oil prices fell on Thursday, pressured by concerns over softening US demand and broad oversupply that offset threats to output from conflict in the Middle East and the Russian war in Ukraine. Brent crude futures were down US\$1.1, or 1.7%, at US\$66.4 a barrel by 1319 GMT while US West Texas Intermediate crude futures lost US\$1.2, or 1.8%, to US\$62.5. The International Energy Agency said in its monthly report that world oil supply will rise more rapidly than expected this year on Opec+ increasing output further. However, the Opec report published after the IEA's kept non-Opec supply and demand forecasts for the year unchanged, citing steady demand. *(Reuters)*

MY: July manufacturing sales up 3.5% at RM162.5bn

Malaysia's manufacturing sector sales value rose 3.5% year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM162.5bn in July 2025, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). Chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said the growth was mainly driven by the food, beverages and tobacco sub-sector, which expanded by 8.9% in July 2025, compared with 14.7% in June 2025. He said sales were also supported by the electrical and electronics (E&E) products sub-sector, which grew 6.9% (June: 4.5%), and the non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products sub-sector, which rose 3.8% (June: 3.0%). *(Bernama)*

MY: Factory output grows faster than expected in July

Malaysia's industrial output expanded faster than expected in July as manufacturing activities picked up and mining production rebounded, official data showed. The industrial production index, which measures output from factories, power plants and mines, climbed 4.2% when compared to the same month in 2024. The print is significantly higher than the median 2.8% increase predicted in a *Bloomberg* poll and June's revised 2.9% year-on-year gain. The index, however, shrank 0.3% on a month-on-month basis in July, according to a statement from the Department of Statistic Malaysia on Thursday. *(The Edge)*

IN: New finance chief moves fast with US\$12bn plan

Indonesia's new finance minister wants to immediately flood the economy with roughly US\$12bn in cash to jump-start lending, proving his commitment to President Prabowo Subianto's growth agenda barely three days into the job. The government will transfer half of the 400 trillion rupiah in cash reserves that it holds with the central bank to state-owned lenders, Finance Minister Purbaya Yudhi Sadewa told lawmakers in a hearing on Wednesday. He added on Thursday that the cash injection would be done "soon" and deployed all at once to banks. A cash injection of this scale from the finance ministry is unprecedented, underlining Purbaya's quest for a quick fix to what he said was "drought" in the financial system that's choked activity in Southeast Asia's largest economy. *(Bloomberg)*

EU: ECB holds rates unchanged, still 'in a good place'

The European Central Bank kept its three key interest rates unchanged, with the deposit facility at 2.00%, the main refinancing rate at 2.15%, and the marginal lending rate at 2.40% on Thursday as expected and maintained an upbeat view on growth and inflation, dampening expectations for any further cut in borrowing costs. The ECB halved its key rate in the year to June but has been on hold at 2% since, arguing that the economy of the 20-country eurozone is in a "good place" even if all policy options, including additional easing, could not be ruled out. Recent data has confirmed this sanguine view, giving policymakers time to understand how US tariffs, higher German government spending, looming Federal Reserve rate cuts and political turmoil in France might impact growth and inflation. *(Reuters)*



Corporate News

GAMUDA: JV places top bid of RM3.3bn for mixed-use site in Singapore

Gamuda Bhd said a consortium comprising its Singapore subsidiary and two other companies has submitted the highest bid of S\$1.0bn (about RM3.3bn) in a tender for a mixed-use residential and commercial site in Singapore. The consortium partners are Gamuda (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Evia MCS Pte Ltd and H108 Pte Ltd. In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, Gamuda said the provisional tender result was announced by Singapore's Housing and Development Board (HDB) after the tender closed on Thursday. *(The Edge)*

SEALINK: Vessel declared a total loss after Brazil fire

Sealink International Bhd said one of its offshore support vessels, which was damaged by fire in Brazil earlier in May, has been declared a constructive total loss. This was confirmed by the surveyor appointed by the vessel's insurer in a final claim settlement report, which the Sarawak-based company received on Thursday. "The vessel owner continues to work closely with the charterer, insurers, appointed surveyors, legal advisors, and other relevant parties in relation to the insurance claims process and next steps," Sealink said in a filing with Bursa Malaysia. *(The Edge)*

PTRB: Fire breaks out at PT Resources' coconut processing facility in China

PT Resources Holdings Bhd said a fire incident occurred at its coconut processing facility in Fuqing City, China on Monday (Sept 8). The fire incident did not cause any casualties or injuries to its staff, the frozen seafood producer said in its filing. The facility is under its wholly owned subsidiary Fujian HJS International Holdings Co Ltd. The group said Fujian HJS is unable to assess if there is any damage to its processing facility and to determine the financial and operational impact due to the fire incident, amid the ongoing investigation into the cause of the fire incident. *(The Edge)*

ALSREIT: To establish RM3bn sukuk programme

Al-Salam Real Estate Investment Trust has proposed the establishment of a sukuk programme worth up to RM3bn in nominal value. The programme, which involves the issuance of senior Islamic medium-term notes and subordinated perpetual Islamic notes, was lodged with the Securities Commission Malaysia on Aug 29, the REIT said in an exchange filing on Thursday. Proceeds from the debt notes to be issued under the programme will finance the REIT's investment activities, refinance maturing sukuk wakalah under the programme, and fund requisite deposit in a sukuk trustee reimbursement account. *(The Edge)*

GASMSIA: To build two biogas purification plants, Enproserve gets one of two contracts

Gas Malaysia Bhd said on Thursday it is planning to build two biomethane purification plants in Perak. Enproserve Group Bhd has been awarded a contract to build one of the purification plants in Air Kuning while privately-held MTC Orec Sdn Bhd will construct the other facility in Trong, according to a statement from Gas Malaysia. Gas Malaysia did not disclose the project costs and Enproserve also did not disclose the value of the engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning contract in its exchange filing. *(The Edge)*

UNIQUE: Buys industrial land in Kota Kemuning for RM15.5m

Fire protection solutions provider Unique Fire Holdings Bhd, which recently transferred to the Main Market of Bursa Malaysia, is acquiring a land parcel measuring 4,926 square metres in Shah Alam for RM15.5m, to support its long-term expansion plans. Located within the Kota Kemuning industrial estate and in close proximity to the group's existing facilities, Unique Fire said the land is expected to enhance operational efficiency and improve coordination of resources once developed. However, the group has not formalised specific development plans for the land, it said in a bourse filing on Thursday. *(The Edge)*



Stock Selection Based on Dividend Yield

	Sector	Price (RM)	Dividend/Share (RM)	Dividend Yield (%)
Bermaz Auto	Consumer	0.68	0.08	12.00
British American Tobacco (M)	Consumer	4.88	0.53	10.86
REXIT	Technology	0.52	0.05	9.62
Taliworks Corporation	Utilities	0.54	0.05	9.35
KIP REIT	REIT	0.85	0.07	8.28
Sentral REIT	REIT	0.79	0.06	7.77
MBM Resources	Consumer	5.36	0.42	7.80
UOA REITS	REIT	0.83	0.06	7.52
CapitaLand Malaysia Trust	REIT	0.62	0.05	7.42
Ta Ann Holdings	Plantation	4.16	0.31	7.33
Paramount Corporation	Property	1.03	0.07	7.28
RHB Bank	Finance	6.60	0.45	6.76
YTL Hospital REIT	REIT	1.11	0.07	6.67
Kim Loong Resources	Plantation	2.27	0.15	6.61
Sports Toto	Consumer	1.42	0.09	6.55

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		
JS Solar Holding Berhad	ACE Market	0.31	78.0	19.5	9 Sep	23 Sep
Express Powerr Solutions (M) Bhd	ACE Market	0.20	180.0	65.4	8 Sep	24 Sep
Camaroe Berhad	ACE Market	0.14	99.0	49.5	12 Sep	2 Oct



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