



# Daily Newswatch

## Market Review

The FBM KLCI declined 0.3% on Thursday to 1,750.9 points, tracking the softer overnight lead from Wall Street. Sectoral losses were led by Telecommunications & Media (-1.2%), followed by Health Care (-0.6%) and Financial Services (-0.5%). Among index constituents, QL Resources, 99 Speed Mart and Celcom were the main laggards, falling 1.7%, 1.5% and 1.2%, respectively. Overall market breadth turned negative from the previous close, with losers outnumbering gainers at 584 to 488, while 565 counters ended unchanged.

Major Asian markets closed mixed to lower on Thursday, as a stronger-than-expected US jobs report improved optimism over the US economic outlook but dampened expectations for near-term Federal Reserve rate cuts, prompting investors to reassess the interest-rate path. The Shanghai Composite edged up to 4,134.0 points, while the Hang Seng Index fell 0.9% to 27,032.5 points; Taiwan's TAIEX gained 1.6% to 33,605.7 points, Japan's Nikkei 225 slipped to 57,639.8 points, and South Korea's KOSPI jumped 3.1% to 5,522.3 points. In China, gains were led by Information Technology (+1.9%), Energy (+1.3%) and Industrials (+0.7%), driven by Ucloud Technology (+20.0%), Science Environmental (+20.0%) and Beijing Tianyishangjia (+17.0%). Meanwhile, South Korea outperformed, led by Electronic Technology (+4.7%), Industrial Services (+3.9%) and Finance (+3.8%), supported by Orientbio (+29.8%), Taekwang Industrial (+25.2%) and CK Solution (+24.9%).

European stocks closed lower on Thursday, tracking a late-day sell-off in North American markets amid renewed concerns over AI capital expenditure, the prospect of restrictive Federal Reserve policy, and weaker earnings results. The STOXX 50 fell 0.5% to 6,004 and the STOXX 600 slid 0.6% to 618, with ASML, Prosus and Infineon down about 2%, Adyen plunging over 21%, Sanofi dropping 4.5%, Mercedes-Benz easing 1.5%, while Siemens ended slightly higher after raising earnings guidance despite paring intraday gains of up to 7%.

US stocks sold off on Thursday amid renewed concerns over the sustainability of elevated AI-related capital expenditure, as investors also awaited the January consumer price index report. Headline inflation is expected to ease to 2.5% from 2.7%, while core inflation is forecast to moderate to 2.5% from 2.6%. In extended trading, Applied Materials surged 12% after delivering stronger-than-expected earnings and an upbeat outlook, while Rivian jumped 16% on robust vehicle delivery guidance for the year. In contrast, Pinterest plunged 18% following weaker-than-expected quarterly results and a soft forecast. In regular trading, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1.3%, the S&P 500 declined 1.6%, and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 2.0%. Losses were led by software, real estate and trucking stocks, as fears of AI-driven disruption weighed on sentiment.

## Macro Snapshots

- **US:** Home resales fall most in four years despite lower rates
- **US:** Weekly jobless claims fall less than expected
- **CN:** Eases duties on EU dairy in latest sign of trade thaw
- **MY:** Ministry set to establish 200 low carbon zones nationwide by 2030

## Corporate Snapshots

- **JPG:** Braces for volatile year after closing FY2025 on record high
- **HEXIND:** To acquire 51% stake in Ilaollao's Malaysia master franchisee
- **GDB:** High Court orders KSK Land to pay RM102m to GDB unit
- **HAWK:** Wins three-year underwater services job

Key Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,750.9	(0.3)	4.2
Dow Jones	49,452.0	(1.3)	2.9
Nasdaq CI	22,597.2	(2.0)	(2.8)
S&P 500	6,832.8	(1.6)	(0.2)
SX5E	6,011.3	(0.4)	3.8
FTSE 100	10,402.4	(0.7)	4.7
Nikkei 225	57,639.8	(0.0)	14.5
Shanghai CI	4,134.0	0.0	4.2
HSI	27,032.5	(0.9)	5.5
STI	5,016.8	0.6	8.0

Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg
Vol traded (m shares)	2,570.1	0.7
Value traded (RM m)	2,786.3	(9.0)
Gainers	488	
Losers	584	
Unchanged	565	

Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
ZETRIX	0.820	0.6	83.6
KEEMING	0.870	128.9	79.0
TANC	1.380	0.0	53.6
PHRM	0.320	(1.5)	52.3
VEB	0.310	0.0	36.4

Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
MAY	12.140	(1.0)	363.7
PBK	5.130	(0.2)	124.0
CIMB	8.530	(0.7)	102.0
SDG	5.800	0.0	94.4
PMAH	7.690	(0.8)	72.8

Currencies	Last Close	% Chg
USD/MYR	3.903	0.3
USD/JPY	152.790	(0.0)
EUR/USD	1.187	(0.0)
USD/CNY	6.901	0.2
US Dollar Index	96.925	0.1

Commodities	Last Close	% Chg
Brent (USD/barrel)	67.5	(2.7)
Gold (USD/troy oz)	4,918.4	(0.1)
CPO (MYR/metric t)	3,978.0	(0.6)
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	66,236.6	0.7

Source: Bloomberg



## Macro News

### US: Home resales fall most in four years despite lower rates

Sales of previously owned US homes fell in January by the most in nearly four years, a month marked by historically cold temperatures and a massive winter storm. Contract closings decreased 8.4% to a 3.91 million annualised pace in January, according to National Association of Realtors (NAR) data released on Thursday. That was below the median forecast of economists surveyed by *Bloomberg*. An extensive winter storm in late January that blanketed much of the US with snow and ice may have delayed many contract closings. In the hard-hit South, the nation's biggest home-selling region, sales slumped 9% to an annualised pace of 1.81 million. Closings also fell sharply in the rest of the country. (*Bloomberg*)

### US: Weekly jobless claims fall less than expected

The number of Americans filing new applications for unemployment benefits decreased by less than expected last week, likely as disruptions from winter storms lingered. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 5,000 to a seasonally adjusted 227,000 for the week ended Feb 7, the Labor Department said on Thursday. Economists polled by *Reuters* had forecast 222,000 claims for the latest week. The fall reversed only a fraction of the prior week's jump, which had been blamed on snowstorms and frigid temperatures across much of the country as well as normalisation following seasonal volatility at the end of last year and beginning of 2026. (*Reuters*)

### US: Citigroup rates desk says markets too calm about US inflation

Markets are complacent on the outlook for US inflation, making trades that pay out if price pressures climb look attractive, according to the rates desk at Citigroup Inc. Investors may be underestimating the resilience of the US consumer and market expectations for inflation are likely to be revised slightly higher, said Benjamin Wiltshire, a rate trading desk strategist at the US bank. "Markets seem to have this conviction that inflation is going to come down," Wiltshire said in an interview. "We're still in a structurally higher inflation environment." (*Bloomberg*)

### US: Pushes AI funding, fisheries tech at Apec amid China rivalry

The Trump administration is promoting artificial intelligence exports and maritime surveillance technology at Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) meetings in southern China this week, as Washington seeks to counter Beijing's technological and maritime influence. Casey Mace, the US senior official to Apec, said the Trump administration had launched a US\$20m fund to support adoption of American AI technologies by partner economies in the region, part of a broader effort to strengthen US leadership in emerging technologies. (*Bloomberg*)

### US: US, Japan zero in on energy and chips for US\$550bn fund — Bloomberg

The US and Japan are closing in on the first three projects to be funded by Tokyo's US\$550bn (RM2.2tn) investment vehicle, according to people familiar with the matter, as the nations seek to set in motion a key component of their bilateral trade deal reached last year. The three projects, considered finalists in a review process, are related to a data centre infrastructure project led by SoftBank Group Corp, a deep-sea oil terminal in the Gulf of Mexico and synthetic diamonds for semiconductors, according to the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity in discussing the content of private negotiations. SoftBank didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. (*Bloomberg*)

### US: House defies Trump and votes to end his Canada tariffs

The Republican-led US House passed legislation aimed at ending President Donald Trump's tariffs on Canada, signalling a growing anxiety over the White House's economic agenda before midterm elections focused heavily on affordability. Trump has threatened to veto similar measures, making it unlikely the legislation will ever become law. But defections from six Republicans, alongside opposition from nearly all Democrats, underscore Trump's increasingly tenuous hold on the narrow House majority. (*Bloomberg*)

### CN: Eases duties on EU dairy in latest sign of trade thaw

China set final import tariffs on some dairy products from the European Union well below preliminary rates outlined late last year, in the latest sign of stabilising trade ties between Beijing and Brussels. The duties — set at as much as 11.7% following an anti-subsidy investigation — apply to goods including fresh and processed cheese and will take effect from Friday, China's Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday. That compares with initial duties, collected in the form of deposits, of as much as 43% that were announced in December. There have been efforts to deepen economic cooperation between the two sides following a leaders summit in July, including a recent visit by French President Emmanuel Macron to China. (*Bloomberg*)

### CN: China, Mexico held talks amid trade tensions over tariffs

China's chief trade negotiator Li Chenggang met Mexico's Deputy Economy Minister Vidal Llerenas in Beijing on Monday, in the first face-to-face talks since Mexico imposed higher tariffs on Chinese imports, drawing warnings from Beijing. The two countries conducted in-depth exchanges on bilateral economic and trade relations and other issues, the Chinese Commerce Ministry said in a statement on Thursday. Mexico announced in December steep tariff increases on China and other countries without free trade agreements with Mexico — most up to 35%. The move was widely interpreted by analysts as an attempt to placate US President Donald Trump, who levied significant tariffs on Chinese goods. (*Reuters*)



**CN: Yuan firms past 6.9 per dollar for first time in 33 months**

China's yuan surpassed the psychologically key 6.90 per dollar mark for the first time in 33 months on Thursday, heading for its longest run of weekly gains in 13 years as pre-holiday corporate buying and the country's buoyant capital markets spur demand. Analysts expect the yuan to keep rising against a weakening dollar as Chinese exports remain resilient and Beijing is more receptive to a strong currency. The onshore yuan finished the domestic session at 6.9016 per dollar, the strongest such close since April 24, 2023. It is on track to rise for 12 weeks in a row, the longest winning streak since late 2012. The offshore yuan strengthened to 6.8987 per dollar. *(Reuters)*

**JP: Wholesale inflation slows, weak yen pressures import costs**

Japan's annual wholesale inflation slowed for a second consecutive month in January but yen-based import costs rose, highlighting the impact of a weak yen on prices and monetary policy. While wholesale price growth is expected to moderate in the coming months due partly to the effect of fuel subsidies, yen fluctuations will be key to the inflation outlook and timing of future interest rate hikes by the Bank of Japan (BOJ), analysts said. "As wholesale price growth slows, consumer inflation will likely come under downward pressure with some lag," said Masato Koike, a senior economist at Sampo Institute Plus. *(Reuters)*

**JP: Investors stay wary Takaichi will spur another bond crash**

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's landslide election win saw a largely positive initial response from investors. But they remain wary of another market meltdown over her expansive spending plans. In her first press briefing after a historic victory on Sunday, Takaichi acknowledged market concerns over how she'll be able to cut the sales tax on food for two years while ramping up spending on defence and strategic industries. Worries that she would add to Japan's mountain of public debt prompted yields to spike last month to the highest levels in decades. Takaichi emphasised the prudence of her "responsible proactive fiscal policy" while insisting that Japan "must make a complete break from excessive austerity and chronic underinvestment for the future". *(Bloomberg)*

**UK: Economy Grows 0.1% in Q4**

The UK economy grew by 0.1% in the fourth quarter of 2025, matching the pace recorded in the previous three-month period and coming in slightly below market expectations of 0.2%, according to preliminary estimates. Production output rose 1.2%, reversing a 0.7% decline in Q3. Manufacturing increased by 0.9%, largely supported by gains in other manufacturing and machinery and equipment, as car production normalized following August's cyber incident. In contrast, the dominant services sector showed no growth, after expanding by 0.2% in the third quarter. Business-facing services stagnated, while consumer-facing services posted modest growth of 0.2%. Construction weighed on overall performance, with output contracting 2.1% after a 0.4% rise in Q3. *(UK Office for National Statistics)*

**EU: ECB to extend its longest interest rate pause since below zero days**

The European Central Bank will keep its deposit rate at 2% at least through the end of this year, a Reuters poll showed, extending its longest spell of steady borrowing costs since the negative-rate era despite heightened geopolitical risks. Inflation fell to a 16-month low of 1.7% in January, prompting some policymakers to warn price growth could slow too much and that the ECB must be ready to act. Even so, the economy has remained resilient. Economists in the February 9-12 poll broadly kept their long-held expectations of steady rates, near-target inflation and stable growth. The ECB, which left rates unchanged for a fifth straight meeting last week, is expected to stay on hold until at least 2027, according to 66 of 74 forecasters, an outlook unchanged since October. *(Reuters)*

**MY: Ministry set to establish 200 low carbon zones nationwide by 2030**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES) is set to establish 200 low carbon zones nationwide by 2030, as part of its strategic commitment to addressing the global climate crisis. Minister Datuk Seri Arthur Joseph Kurup described the effort as a proactive step to position urban areas as catalysts for green economic growth and to enhance the climate-resilient well-being of the people. "This effort began with the introduction of the Low Carbon Cities Framework in 2011 and was further strengthened through the National Low Carbon Cities Masterplan in 2021. To date, 146 out of 156 local authorities (PBTs) have received the relevant training. *(Bernama)*

**MY: Malaysian population hit 34.3m in 4Q2025 as growth slowed**

Malaysia's total population was estimated at 34.3 million in the fourth quarter of 2025 (4Q2025), up from 34.1 million a year earlier, reflecting a slower growth rate of 0.6%, compared with 1.2% previously. Chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin noted that the breakdown between citizens and non-citizens remained unchanged, at 90.1% and 9.9% respectively, the same as in 4Q2024. "The male population increased to 18 million from 17.9 million, while females rose to 16.3 million from 16.2 million. The overall population sex ratio stood at 110 males for every 100 females, while the sex ratio for citizens was 102," he said in a statement here on Thursday. *(Bernama)*

**MY: Home minister warns action against foreign tourists misusing social visit passes to run businesses, work in Malaysia**

Some foreign tourists have been detected misusing social visit passes (PLS) to open businesses in Malaysia by using local partners, in addition to working illegally, Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said. He said the ministry had identified several industries involved, including tourism, interior design, furniture and restaurants, adding that the issue had been discussed several times at Cabinet meetings. "Even if they act as financiers, they are still required to apply for the appropriate pass to conduct business. Entering the country as a tourist but engaging in business activities is against the law, and enforcement action will be taken," he told a press conference after the Home Ministry's monthly assembly here on Thursday. *(The Edge)*



**MY: Putrajaya to consider GST return only when median income hits RM4,000**

The government will only consider reinstating the goods and services tax (GST) when the country's median wage exceeds RM4,000, Deputy Finance Minister Liew Chin Tong said on Thursday. While the GST is more efficient and may be favoured by business chambers compared with the current sales and service tax regime, Liew said the government must also consider the burden that would be borne by the public. As a form of consumption-based tax, GST is regressive in nature as it imposes a proportionately heavier burden on lower-income earners compared with higher-income groups, he noted. *(The Edge)*

**MY: PETRONAS won't be slashing Sabah O&G production, says Azalina**

PETRONAS has no plans to reduce oil and gas production in Sabah, despite the global oil and gas industry facing the challenge of a sharp drop in prices, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Law and Institutional Reform) Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said. She said the federal government, together with the country's multi-national oil and gas companies, are constantly monitoring the development of world oil prices closely, including the impact of price fluctuations on the local oil and gas industry. *(Bernama)*

**MY: BMI expects Malaysian household spending to grow 4.1% in 2026**

BMI, a unit of Fitch Solutions, projects Malaysia's household spending to grow 4.1% year-on-year (y-o-y) in real terms in 2026 to RM975.3bn. In a statement, BMI said spending is expected to remain resilient despite high debt levels and the related debt servicing costs, with further relief as Bank Negara Malaysia is expected to leave the overnight policy rate unchanged at 2.75% throughout the year. "However, continued low inflation, forecast to average 1.9% in 2026, and the country's tight labour market will support spending, with real wage growth forecast to comfortably outpace inflation and underpin purchasing power over the year," it said. *(The Edge)*

**MY: To prioritise high economic spillover investments under new incentive framework, says Zafrul**

Malaysia will give priority to investments that create better economic spillovers when determining incentives, said Malaysian Investment Development Authority (Mida) chairman Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz. Under the New Incentive Framework (NIF), which comes into effect on March 1, tax incentives will be tied to measurable economic outcomes, assessed using the National Investment Aspirations (NIA) scorecard. "The higher the score, the more incentive you get. Given the limited resources that we have, I think we need to reward those who are giving the right kind of spillover to the economy," Zafrul said after the launch event for One Credit. *(The Edge)*

**MY: Raises March crude palm oil reference price, keeps export duty at 9%**

Malaysia has raised its March crude palm oil (CPO) reference price, a change that maintains the export duty at 9%, a circular on the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) website showed on Thursday. The world's second-largest palm exporter calculated a reference price of RM3,896.09 per metric ton for March. The February reference price was RM3,846.84 a ton, and incurred a duty of 9%. The export tax structure starts at 3% for CPO in the range of RM2,250 to RM2,400 per ton. The maximum tax rate is set at 10% when prices exceed RM4,050 a ton. *(Reuters)*

**MY: Labour demand up 1.8% to 9.21m jobs in 4Q2025**

Malaysia's labour demand increased by 1.8% to 9.21 million jobs in the fourth quarter of 2025 (4Q2025), marking the highest growth since the first quarter of 2024, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The growth was driven by comprehensive government fiscal support and policy initiatives aimed at stimulating economic activity, said Chief Statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin. "Filled jobs accounted for 97.8% of total jobs and vacancies made up the remaining 2.2%. Meanwhile, there were a total of 32.1 thousand new jobs created during this quarter. *(Reuters)*

## Corporate News

**MAXIS: Reports 18% growth in 4Q net profit, sees slower earnings growth ahead**

Maxis Bhd posted an 18% growth in net profit in the final quarter of 2025 from a year earlier thanks to higher service revenue and cost control but flagged slower earnings growth in 2026. Net profit at the country's second-largest mobile network operator for the three months ended Dec 31, 2025 (4QFY2025) was RM380m, or 4.8 sen per share. Revenue for the quarter rose 3.8% higher year-on-year to RM2.9bn thanks to an increase in postpaid subscribers and wholesale services. "Looking ahead, our strategy is to strengthen our consumer segment and expand our enterprise offerings beyond connectivity, including the growth of our wholesale business," said Maxis chief executive officer Goh Seow Eng in a separate statement. *(The Edge)*

**JPG: Braces for volatile year after closing FY2025 on record high**

Johor Plantations Group Bhd is bracing for a volatile 2026, even as it closed its 2025 fiscal year with record earnings, driven by better palm product prices and volumes. While full-year net profit jumped 34.1% from a year earlier, growth in the fourth quarter eased to 9.1% after double-digit growth in the first three quarters, as a dip in crude palm oil (CPO) prices moderated its earnings growth. The group, which is 64.44%-owned by Johor Corp Bhd (JCorp), cautioned that near-term price outlook for palm oil remains unpredictable due to the delayed B50 biodiesel mandate in Indonesia, and regional supply risks from ongoing land seizures in the republic. *(The Edge)*



**SKPRES: 3Q profit slumps 37% on softer orders**

SKP Resources Bhd's third-quarter net profit tumbled 37% from the corresponding quarter a year earlier, as the electronics manufacturing services provider recorded softer sales volumes, with customers scaling back orders in response to global tariff measures. Net profit for the third quarter ended Dec 31, 2025 (3QFY2026) fell to RM16.1m from RM25.6m in 3QFY2025; revenue dropped 9.2% to RM457.2m from RM503.7m, its bourse filing on Thursday showed. Gross profit margin eased to 11.9% from 12.5% as economies of scale diminished, despite a relatively unchanged cost base. No dividend was declared for the quarter under review. *(The Edge)*

**CIHLDG: 2Q profit down 72% as forex, edible oil price weigh**

CI Holdings Bhd, the 32.96%-owned flagship of Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, logged a 72.% drop in net profit for the second quarter, weighed by adverse foreign exchange and lower palm olein prices. Net profit for the three months ended Dec 31, 2025 (2QFY2026) dropped to RM9.6m or 5.94 sen per share, from RM34.8m or 21.5 sen per share a year earlier. Revenue edged down 2.8% to RM1.2bn from RM1.2bn previously, according to the edible oil products maker and tap and sanitary ware trader's bourse filing on Thursday. The lower revenue came amid steady costs. The stronger ringgit translated to lower value of sales priced in US dollar, CI Holdings explained. A drop in palm olein prices further contributed to lower average selling price. *(The Edge)*

**HEXIND: To acquire 51% stake in Ilaollao's Malaysia master franchisee for RM177.5m**

Hextar Industries Bhd said it is acquiring a 51% stake in food and beverage retail firm Woodpeckers Group for RM177.5m in cash. The acquisition will provide Hextar Industries a footprint in the frozen dessert market, the company said in a statement, noting that Woodpeckers is the master franchisee of the Ilaollao frozen yogurt chain in Malaysia with 131 outlets. The acquisition includes an average annual profit guarantee of RM29m over three years, the company added. Hextar Industries group managing director Benny Ang said the acquisition will help to "accelerate scale, enhance operational efficiencies and unlock sustainable long-term value in Malaysia's dynamic food and beverage landscape." *(The Edge)*

**GDB: High Court orders KSK Land to pay RM102m to GDB unit over 8 Conlay works**

GDB Holdings Bhd said its wholly-owned subsidiary Grand Dynamic Builders Sdn Bhd has obtained a favourable High Court judgment against KSK Land Sdn Bhd, which is in liquidation, to recover amounts owed for works on the 8 Conlay project. In a bourse filing, GDB said the court awarded Grand Dynamic Builders RM102.1m, together with interest of 5% annum on RM93.4m until full settlement and RM80,000 in costs. The dispute traces back to late payments under a RM1.3bn contract for the 8 Conlay mixed development, where Grand Dynamic Builders was the main contractor. Payment issues first emerged in 2022, prompting the contractor to suspend works and commence legal action to recover more than RM120m in unpaid sums. *(The Edge)*

**MFLOUR: Unit to challenge RM70m MyCC fine in High Court**

Malayan Flour Mills Bhd's partly-owned Dindings Poultry Development Centre Sdn Bhd will seek a judicial review at the High Court after the Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT) dismissed its appeal against a RM70m fine by Malaysia Competition Commission (MyCC) for its involvement in a chicken feed cartel. In a filing on Thursday, the group said Dindings Poultry, in consultation with its legal advisers, will also seek an interim stay order to temporarily suspend enforcement of the tribunal's decision pending the court's determination. In Malaysia, a judicial review is when the High Court checks whether a decision by a public authority or tribunal is legal, fair, and reasonable. It does not re-examine the actual decision, only the way it was made. *(The Edge)*

**HAWK: Wins three-year underwater services job**

Oil and gas services and equipment provider Steel Hawk Bhd has bagged a three-year underwater services contract from PETRONAS Chemicals Methanol Sdn Bhd. The contract was secured through its wholly owned subsidiary Steel Hawk Engineering Sdn Bhd, which includes the provision of specified underwater services on a call-out basis, spanning a period from Dec 9, 2025 to Dec 8, 2028. The contract does not carry a fixed value, but the company expects it to contribute positively to the earnings of the group over the contract tenure and further strengthens its working relationship with companies within the PETRONAS ecosystem. *(The Edge)*

**CHB: Bags RM35m cleanroom production floor construction job**

Critical Holdings Bhd has secured a RM34.5m contract to build a cleanroom production floor at a manufacturing plant in the Batu Kawan Industrial Zone, Penang, for an undisclosed US-based multinational corporation (MNC). The job is expected to be completed by June 30, the group said in a bourse filing on Thursday. It described the undisclosed MNC as a renowned US-based MNC that offers computer memory and computer data storage systems for industrial Internet of Things solutions. Critical Holdings is a Penang-based company that specialises in mechanical, electrical and process utilities (MEP) design and engineering services. *(The Edge)*



## Stock Selection Based on Dividend Yield

	Sector	Price (RM)	Dividend/Share (RM)	Dividend Yield (%)
Bonia Corporation	Consumer	0.95	0.11	12.06
Taliworks Corporation	Utilities	0.46	0.05	10.87
British American Tobacco (M)	Consumer	6.10	0.60	9.84
Sentral REIT	REIT	0.78	0.06	8.21
MBM Resources	Consumer	5.28	0.41	7.75
Ta Ann Holdings	Plantation	4.52	0.35	7.74
Paramount Corporation	Property	1.05	0.08	7.62
KIP REIT	REIT	0.93	0.07	7.42
CapitaLand Malaysia Trust	REIT	0.69	0.05	7.10
MAG Holdings	Consumer	1.34	0.09	7.09
Magnum	Consumer	1.34	0.09	7.09
Kim Loong Resources	Plantation	2.38	0.15	6.30
Sports Toto	Consumer	1.33	0.08	6.24
Wellcall Holdings	Ind. Prod.	1.35	0.08	6.07
UOA Development	Property	1.91	0.11	5.97

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		
Hock Soon Capital Berhad	Main Market	0.60	100.0	50.0	30 Jan	13 Feb
Teamstar Berhad	ACE Market	0.26	132.0	72.0	09 Feb	25 Feb

Source: Bursa Malaysia

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