Daily Newswatch

Market Review

The FBM KLCI rose 0.4% to 1,714.8 on Monday as renewed buying interest in banking and utility heavyweights lifted the benchmark, even as the broader market stayed mildly negative. Health care (+0.7%), Plantation (+0.5%) and Energy (+0.5%) led sectoral gains, driven by Petronas Gas (+2.6%), CelcomDigi (+2.2%) and Tenaga Nasional (+1.6%). Market breadth, however, was bearish, with 603 losers ahead of 484 gainers, while 593 counters closed unchanged.

Asian markets closed mostly higher on Monday as technology and semiconductor stocks rallied across the region on optimism that a new OpenAI model would spur stronger demand for memory chips, following Friday's rally in US chipmakers and memory names. South Korea's KOSPI led regional gains, rising 4.6%, followed by Japan's Nikkei 225 (+2.1%) and Taiwan's TAIEX (+1.7%). China's Shanghai Composite edged up 0.1%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng was the lone decliner, slipping 0.9%. In China, gains were led by Information Technology (+3.3%), while Real Estate and Consumer Discretionary each added 0.3%, with Shenzhen Xunjiexing and Suzhou HYC Technology both surging 20%, and Yuanjie Semiconductor up 16.1%, among the top performers. In South Korea, Industrial Services (+15.9%), Electronic Technology (+6.3%), and Finance (+3.5%) were the top sectors, driven by Automobile & PCB (+29.9%), Kumho HT (+20.6%), and SNT Energy (+15.0%).

European stocks closed with small moves Monday as markets weighed how corporates will fare against higher rates, with wider budget deficit risks and political uncertainty lifting sovereign yields. The Euro STOXX 50 edged up 0.1% to 6,399, while the STOXX 600 was flat at 649.8. Germany's far-right AfD won state elections in Saxony-Anhalt over the weekend, its first major win, extending Europe's political fragmentation. Bund yields surged on wider-deficit and gas-driven inflation risks ahead of the ECB's second rate hike this week. Insurers slid, with Munich Re down 3% and Allianz nearly 1%, while ASML gained 2.3% and Infineon soared 6.4% on strong Korean chipmaker signals.

Wall Street was closed on Monday (Labor Day Holiday). To recap on Friday, US stocks closed mostly lower after stronger-than-expected labor data gave the Fed more room to raise rates. The S&P 500 lost 0.4%, the Dow shed 272 points and the Nasdaq CI fell 0.3%. Nonfarm payrolls rose 162K, well above the 50K forecast, lifting yields and pressuring credit-sensitive names, including Alphabet (-1.1%), Microsoft (-2%), Tesla (-5.9%), JPMorgan (-0.9%), and Visa (-1%). Chipmakers rallied on OpenAI optimism, with Nvidia up 0.8%, Micron 6.1%, Intel 4.5%, Marvell 7%, Sandisk 11.9%, and AMD 4.7%.

Macro Snapshots

- **US:** Global reserves shift from dollar overstated, NY Fed study says
- **US:** AI data centres are less thirsty now, tech giants say
- **CN:** Central bank adds most gold since 2023 even as prices jump
- **MY:** Bonds draw record US$3.9bn inflows in August on AI boom

Corporate Snapshots

- **ZETRIX:** Philippine acquisition is back on
- **CENGILD:** Plans placement of up to 2% of shares to medical consultants
- **CBHB:** Lands RM88m Selangor job
- **VLB:** 2026 contract wins top RM1bn

Indices	Last Close	Daily chg %	YTD chg %
FBM KLCI	1,714.8	0.4	2.1
Dow Jones	53,414.3	(0.5)	11.1
Nasdaq CI	26,507.0	(0.3)	14.0
S&P 500	7,718.6	(0.4)	12.8
SX5E	6,404.0	0.2	10.6
FTSE 100	10,822.1	(0.1)	9.0
Nikkei 225	66,399.8	2.1	31.9
Shanghai CI	3,932.7	0.1	(0.9)
HSI	25,413.1	(0.9)	(0.8)
STI	5,792.3	(0.2)	24.7

Market Activities	Last Close	% Chg
Vol traded (m shares)	3,604.5	(16.9)
Value traded (RM m)	2,458.2	(17.6)
Gainers	484	
Losers	603	
Unchanged	593	

Top 5 Volume	Last Close	Daily chg %	Vol (m)
ZETRIX	0.270	5.9	579.6
HHR	0.205	41.4	184.8
INGENIEU	0.035	(22.2)	119.7
KEYA	0.070	7.7	60.1
CAPITALA	0.290	(6.5)	37.5

Top 5 Turnover	Last Close	Daily chg %	Val (RM m)
ZETRIX	0.270	5.9	149.9
MAY	10.580	0.2	116.8
SDG	6.250	0.8	96.1
PBK	5.000	0.4	91.9
TNB	13.840	1.6	86.7

Currencies	Last Close	Daily chg %
USD/MYR	4.046	(0.0)
USD/JPY	153.980	0.2
EUR/USD	1.163	0.0
USD/CNY	6.710	(0.0)
US Dollar Index	99.176	0.0

Commodities	Last Close	% Chg
Brent (USD/barrel)	97.0	0.7
Gold (USD/troy oz)	4,410.1	0.1
CPO (MYR/metric t)	4,698.0	2.0
Bitcoin (USD/BTC)	79,081.9	(0.2)

Source: Bloomberg

Macro News

US: Global reserves shift from dollar overstated, NY Fed study says

The decline in the dollar's share of foreign-exchange reserves does not reflect a widespread reallocation away from the currency but rather moves by a small number of reserve managers, according to research from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Dollar holdings comprised 56% of official currency reserves last year, compared with 64% a decade earlier. While the shift is often cited as evidence of broad de-dollarisation, the Fed researchers said their study showed roughly equal numbers of countries had increased and decreased their dollar holdings during two separate periods since 2015. "There is little evidence of a widespread official diversification away from dollars," Linda S Goldberg and Sneha Parthasarathy wrote in a blog last week. "Aggregate statistics can create misleading impressions of broad trends when they actually reflect the concentrated actions of a few large players." (*Bloomberg*)

US: AI data centres are less thirsty now, tech giants say

Data centres are running into a wall of public anger in the US over their thirst for water and power. The tech giants spending billions of dollars on them say the water part, at least, is solvable. Data centres are the warehouses full of computer servers that run the internet and increasingly artificial intelligence (AI). The computers get hot, and keeping them cool takes water. American chip giant Nvidia said in a June report that it can eliminate water consumption almost entirely at some facilities when deploying DSX, its newest system for designing and managing AI data centres. It's a bold claim, and one the industry is under mounting pressure to make good on. In 2025, data centres consumed 222 billion litres (59 billion gallons) of water worldwide for cooling, according to consultancy Rystad Energy. (*AFP*)

UK: House prices fall for first time since November 2023, Lloyds data shows

British house prices recorded their first annual fall in nearly three years in August as some buyers have held back on purchases due to higher borrowing costs following the US-Iran war, monthly figures measured by Lloyds showed on Monday. Lloyds house price data — previously released under its Halifax brand — showed a 0.4% annual drop in August, the first such decline since November 2023, compared with economists' median expectation in a *Reuters* poll for a 0.2% rise. In August, prices fell 0.2% versus expectations for a 0.1% rise, while July's initial reading of 0.1% growth was revised down to show a 0.1% fall. "The housing market has faced a more difficult backdrop in recent months, with the impact of global events on inflation and borrowing costs creating greater economic uncertainty," said Andrew Asaam, mortgages director at Lloyds. (*Reuters*)

UK: Retail Sales Growth Slows to Nearly 2-Year Low

UK retail sales rose 0.5% year-on-year on a like-for-like basis in August 2026, slowing from a 1% increase in July and marking the weakest growth since October 2024. Total retail sales growth also eased to a four-month low of 0.7% from 1.3% in the previous month. Food sales increased 2.6%, down from 3.8% in July, while non-food sales fell 0.8% after declining 0.7% a month earlier. The British Retail Consortium said record-high temperatures earlier in the summer had brought forward seasonal purchases, particularly for food, drink, health and beauty products, leaving most other categories struggling to sustain momentum in August. Shoppers also cut back on big-ticket purchases such as furniture and household appliances in favor of cheaper health and beauty products. Separately, Barclays' broader measure of consumer spending rose 2.1% year-on-year in August, slightly faster than July's 2% increase, while its consumer confidence measure fell to 26% from a 21-month high of 30% in July. (*BRC - British Retail Consortium*)

EU: Eurozone growth upgraded after bumper quarter for Ireland

The eurozone economy expanded more than initially thought in the second quarter after a sharp upward revision in Ireland. Gross domestic product increased 0.6%, up from a preliminary estimate of 0.4%, Eurostat said Monday. That's the strongest quarterly pace in more than a year and comes after the 21-nation stagnated in the first three months of 2026. The revision was triggered by Ireland, which said last week that output jumped by 10.2% between April and June. That's up from an earlier reading of 3.9% thanks to a strong performance by multinationals that include Apple Inc and Eli Lilly & Co. The economies of France, Austria and Portugal, on the other hand, all fared worse than initially thought. (*Bloomberg*)

EU: To invest €200m in Greenland as Trump circles

The European Union (EU) is investing €200 million (US$232 million or RM940 million) in Greenland, part of the bloc's campaign to tighten links to the island as President Donald Trump claims it should belong to the US. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the funds during a two-day visit to the island's capital, Nuuk, meant to show support for the semi-autonomous territory of EU member Denmark. The money will help develop critical minerals, renewable energy and satellite communications. "It reflects a clear choice expressed by Greenland to strengthen the ties with the European Union," von der Leyen said at a press conference, speaking alongside Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen and Greenlandic leader Jens-Frederik Nielsen. "It also shows a very strong interest of Europe having made a choice, too," she added. "The choice to be more present and to be more engaged in Greenland and in the Arctic." (*Bloomberg*)

EU: Deutsche Bank expects ECB to extend rate hikes through December

Deutsche Bank now expects the European Central Bank (ECB) to raise interest rates by 25 basis points in December, in addition to a September hike, as persistent energy risks keep pressure on the inflation outlook. The research arm of the bank had previously expected interest rates to peak at 2.5%, only slightly above the ECB's current deposit facility rate of 2.25%, based on forecasts that the energy price shock would be short-lived and economic growth would be weaker. It now sees those assumptions being challenged, it said in a note on Friday. Although a prolonged Iran conflict poses upside risks to inflation, euro zone labour market conditions remain relatively soft and there is little evidence so far of broader price pressures feeding into wage growth. *(Reuters*)

DE: Industry output unexpectedly drops most in almost a year

German industrial production declined the most in almost a year, marking an unexpected setback to the recovery of Europe's biggest economy. Output fell 1.1% in July, Destatis said on Monday, compared with a 0.2% gain predicted by economists in a *Bloomberg* survey. The numbers for June, which initially showed a small increase, were revised to zero. The drop was mainly due to reduced production in the automotive industry, with the statistics office citing a multi-week production shutdown in that sector. Still, the less volatile three-month average was 0.4% higher than in the previous period. *(Bloomberg*)

CN: Central bank adds most gold since 2023 even as prices jump

China added the most gold to its reserves since 2023, accelerating purchases in August even as bullion prices surged. Holdings at the People's Bank of China, one of the world's biggest official-sector buyers, rose by 650,000 ounces, according to data released by the central bank on Monday. That extends the PBOC's buying streak to 22 months. After spending much of the year under pressure, bullion prices rose almost 10% in August amid a revival of the so-called debasement trade. The US Treasury's plan to ramp up buybacks of government debt fuelled concerns about inflation and dollar weakness, prompting investors to seek alternative stores of value such as gold. The PBOC's prolonged accumulation of bullion, alongside buying by other sovereign investors, has reassured some gold bulls on the longer-term outlook, even as elevated bond yields remain a headwind for the non-interest-bearing metal in the near term. (*Bloomberg*)

CN: Iron ore tops US$100 on position unwinds and China buying hopes

Iron ore broke above US$100 (RM404.45) a tonne for the first time in seven weeks as traders unwound bets that favoured coking coal, adding to support from expectations for pre-holiday restocking in China and high freight costs. Futures of the steel-making ingredient advanced as much as 1.6% to US$101.10 in Singapore, the highest intraday level since July 2. Prices had remained below the psychologically important US$100 mark through much of the summer, when steel demand is typically weaker. Yuan-priced futures advanced as much as 1.8%. It's "largely being driven by positioning unwinds, as market participants who were previously running a long coking coal, short iron ore spread are now closing out those positions", said Pranay Shukla, head of dry bulk freight and commodities research at S&P Global Energy. That is "creating buying pressure and driving upward momentum in iron ore", he added. (*Bloomberg*)

CN: Yuan hits fresh three-1/2-year high despite PBOC's weak guidance

China's yuan strengthened to a three-1/2-year high against the dollar on Monday, defying a near-record weak-side gap in the central bank's daily midpoint guidance as demand for the greenback remained subdued. The yuan strengthened to a high of 6.7050 per dollar in early trades, its strongest level since February 2023, before retreating to 6.7125. The offshore yuan traded at 6.7113 yuan per dollar, down about 0.05% in Asian trade. Prior to the market opening, the People's Bank of China set the midpoint rate at 6.7795 per dollar. That comes in 709 pips weaker than a *Reuters*' estimate, the largest weak side deviation since a record seen in February this year. The central bank has been gradually strengthening its daily yuan official guidance, but at levels weaker than market expectations, suggesting it wants to manages the pace of appreciation, traders and analysts said. (*Reuters*)

TW: Flexes chip diplomacy muscles as it faces pressure to share AI wealth with allies

Taiwan flexed its chip diplomacy muscles at a major trade show last week, portraying itself as a democratic and reliable supplier for the AI revolution, while signalling a willingness to share the benefits of its semiconductor prowess with like-minded partners. Home to companies like TSMC whose chips power AI applications, diplomatically isolated Taiwan has long sought to leverage its tech prowess to garner international support, something Beijing routinely seeks to block saying the island is merely one of its provinces. But Taiwan also faces pressure from the United States, its most important international backer and arms supplier, to shift more chip manufacturing there. *(Reuters*)

SK: Won climbs to two-year high with rally momentum at extremes

The South Korean won advanced to its strongest level in nearly two years Monday, helped by a rally in semiconductor stocks and continued foreign inflows into the country's benchmark equity index. The won gained as much as 1.3% to 1,334.70 per dollar, its strongest level since October 2024. Its relative strength index, a gauge of momentum, rose to the highest since 2013, underscoring the pace of the currency's advance. The rally in stocks was led by chipmakers Samsung Electronics Co and SK Hynix Inc on Monday, while foreign investors bought over a net 800 billion won (US$598 million) of Korean stocks on the Kospi Index, extending inflows to a third session, according to exchange data. Continued demand for Korean assets may provide further support for the currency, though the speed of gains may be harder to sustain. (*Bloomberg*)

JP: Q2 GDP Growth Revised Higher

Japan's GDP grew 0.4% quarter-on-quarter in Q2 2026, slightly above the flash estimate of 0.3% and in line with market expectations. It marked the third consecutive quarter of expansion, supported by an upward revision to government spending, while business investment declined less than initially anticipated. (*Cabinet Office, Japan*)

JP: Nominal Wage Growth Highest Since 1997

Average cash earnings in Japan jumped by 4.7% year-on-year in August 2026, surpassing market expectations for a 3.9% gain and marking the biggest increase since January 1997. The latest reading was also faster than the upwardly revised 4% rise in July and remained above 3% for the sixth straight month, the longest streak in thirty-four years. Regular pay, including base salaries, increased 4.1% to ¥301,582, the fastest growth since April 1992, while special payments such as bonuses surged 6.3% to ¥134,819. Overtime pay rose 3.1%, easing from a revised 3.4% gain in June. Wage growth was particularly strong in construction (13.5%), mining (12.6%), transport and postal services (8.3%), information and communications (6.2%), and manufacturing (4.8%), while education and learning support was the only major sector to record a decline, falling 2.2%. Meanwhile, real wages increased 2.4% year-on-year, marking the seventh consecutive month of gains and the strongest increase since May 2021. (*Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan*)

JP: Yen surges to seven-month high; dollar drifts ahead of US inflation

The yen surged to a seven-month high on Monday, as traders appeared to reassess their outlook on the embattled currency, thanks to a combination of factors including bets on faster Bank of Japan (BOJ) tightening and expectations that Japanese investors may shift funds home. The main scheduled event of the week is Friday's US inflation data, which will help shape the Federal Reserve's (Fed) view on an interest-rate hike later in the month, and in turn the direction of the dollar. The European Central Bank also meets on Thursday, when it is widely expected to raise eurozone rates. Until then, the focus remains on the yen. The dollar fell to as low as 154.05 against the yen, its weakest level since February, and was last down 1.1% at 154.4. It has now broken below lows reached in August after Washington and Tokyo jointly intervened to support the Japanese currency, which was then trading at 40-year lows. (*Reuters*)

JP: Nikkei rises over 2% as chip-related stocks track US peers higher

Japan's Nikkei rose more than 2% on Monday, as chip-related shares tracked US peers ending higher last week. The Nikkei share average was up 2.28% at 66,500.29 as of 0150 GMT, while the broader Topix rose 0.81% to 4,136.31. "With US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent seemingly curbing bond yields and stemming the fall of the yen, market volatility has fallen," said Mamoru Shimode, chief strategist at Resona Asset Management. "That has made it easier for stock investors to shift to risk-on mode." Chip-testing equipment maker Advantest and chip-making equipment maker Tokyo Electron rose more than 4% each. Memory maker Kioxia jumped 6.8%. (*Reuters*)

JP: August foreign reserves post largest-ever drop after record intervention

Japan's foreign reserves posted their biggest-ever drop in August, government data showed on Monday, after Tokyo launched another round of record dollar-selling, yen-buying intervention to stem persistent weakness in its currency. The reserves stood at US$1.208 trillion at the end of August, down by a record US$79.6 billion, or 6.18%, from US$1.287 trillion a month earlier, according to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) data. The decline was led by a drop in foreign securities, held mostly in US Treasuries bought during dollar-buying intervention conducted around two decades ago, which account for about 70% of Japan's reserves. Japan spent 15.4 trillion yen (US$98.66 billion) on intervention between July 30 and Aug 26, marking the largest intervention operation on record in a single month, separate MOF data showed last month. (*Reuters*)

SG: War-tested oil traders descend on Singapore as fresh risks loom

Global oil markets are showing fresh signs of strain after months of war, as conflict-weary traders, anxious buyers, and under-pressure executives huddle in Singapore for the region's main industry gathering. More than six months after the US-Iran conflict erupted, Brent crude is threatening to spike back above US$100 a barrel, fresh vessel attacks in the Strait of Hormuz are jeopardising a further recovery in flows, and among products, diesel faces extreme tightness. The outlook for Chinese demand — a key swing factor in the global market — remains murky, complicating forecasts. Crude markets have been stress-tested in 2026 by the hostilities in the Middle East, as well as the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. (*Bloomberg*)

TH: Sugar output to drop at least 17%, worsening global squeeze

Thailand's sugar output may drop at least 17% in the coming season, adding to the strain on global supplies as dryness hits some of the world's major growers. Production is likely to fall below 10 million tonnes in the 2026-27 year that starts in October, according to Rangsit Hiangrat, the director of industry association Thai Sugar Millers Corp. That compares with 12 million tonnes in the prior season. The country is the world's second-largest exporter, and the downturn comes as the El Niño weather phenomenon strengthens — which is known for bringing dryness to swathes of South and Southeast Asia. The supply risks have pushed New York sugar futures higher, with prices climbing more than 20% last month in the biggest jump since 2010. *(Bloomberg*)

TH: August headline CPI rises 2.53% on year, above forecast

Thailand's headline consumer price index (CPI) rose 2.53% in August from a year earlier, following an annual rise of 1.95% in the previous month, the commerce ministry said on Monday. The August reading compared with a forecast increase of 2.37% in a *Reuters* poll, and was inside the central bank's target inflation range of 1% to 3%. The core CPI, which excludes volatile energy and fresh food prices, rose 1.44% in August from a year earlier, close to the 1.39% seen in the poll. Headline CPI is expected to continue rising, Nantapong Chiralerspong, head of the Trade Policy and Strategy Office, told a briefing. *(Reuters)*

MY: Malaysia, Thailand to lead surge in SEA LNG demand amid data centre boom as domestic output wanes

Malaysia and Thailand are poised to lead a surge in demand for liquefied natural gas in Southeast Asia, driven by an influx of hyperscale data centres amid steady drops in domestic gas output, according to energy research analytics and consultancy firm, Wood Mackenzie. In a statement on Monday, the firm noted that Malaysia currently has 3.9GW of data centre capacity under development, with new regasification terminals being built to meet growing power demand, as legacy piped gas supply decline. Thailand, where two-thirds of the grid is already gas-fired, is expected to see its LNG share of gas supply exceed 50% by 2035, as Gulf of Thailand production and Myanmar pipeline imports continue to fall. *(The Edge)*

MY: Bumiputera MSME contribution target to be reviewed by early 2027, says economy minister

The target to increase the contribution of Bumiputera micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from 15% of gross domestic product (GDP) to potentially double by 2035 will be reviewed in greater detail at the end of this year or early next year, said Economy Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir. He said the review would be based on a report on the current progress of the Bumiputera Economic Transformation Plan 2035 (PuTERA35), which has a 10-year implementation period. “When PuTERA35 was developed, the targets were set for 10 years up to 2035. “At the same time, I see a need to review the overall progress to date. By the end of this year or early next year, we hope to have a report on the current progress,” the minister told reporters after attending a dialogue session with the economy minister titled “Bumiputera Wealth Creation and Corporate Control” here on Monday. Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar moderated the session. *(Bernama)*

MY: Bonds draw record US$3.9bn inflows in August on AI boom

Malaysia’s bonds lured record inflows in August on optimism over the impact of the artificial intelligence (AI) boom on the Southeast Asian economy. Foreign investors poured US$3.9 billion (RM15.77 billion) into the nation’s government and corporate bonds, the biggest monthly inflow in Bank Negara Malaysia data going back to 2016. Malaysia has emerged as Southeast Asia’s main data centre hub, attracting billions of dollars of investment from companies such as Oracle Corp and Amazon.com Inc. The inflows are also helping support the ringgit, which climbed more than 1% in August to be among Asia’s top performers. Global funds have been drawn in as “Malaysia is an AI winner, boasting strong export growth and inbound foreign direct investment”, said Abbas Keshvani, Asia macro strategist at RBC Capital Markets Ltd in Singapore. The trend is likely to continue in line with similar foreign direct investment inflows, he said. *(Bloomberg)*

Corporate News

ZETRIX: Philippine acquisition is back on

Zetrix AI Bhd will acquire a 50% stake in MyEG Ventures Inc for RM130 million, reviving the deal after scrapping last week’s agreement, but this time from a different seller. IPVG Employees Inc, which currently owns 9.4% of MyEG Ventures, will first buy another 40.6% stake from other shareholders before selling the full 50% stake to Zetrix AI, the company said in an exchange filing. Zetrix AI will finance about 78% of the RM130 million deal through new shares, while the remaining RM29 million will be paid in cash. The proposed acquisition is intended to strengthen its “strategic blueprint and support its expansion into the Philippines”, the company reiterated. The transaction comes after a plan announced on Sept 1 to acquire MyEG Ventures was scrapped just three days later. *(The Edge)*

ZETRIX: TS Wong cuts Zetrix AI stake by over 12% amid forced selling

Wong Thean Soon, co-founder and single-largest shareholder of Zetrix AI Bhd, has offloaded more than 12% of his equity in the digital services company in just over a week. Wong, better known as TS Wong, together with his vehicle Asia Internet Holdings Sdn Bhd, net disposed of 960.7 million shares — equivalent to a 12.193% stake — for a combined RM227.99 million. The forced sell-down reduced Wong's total holding to 17.129% (8.402% direct and 8.896% indirect), down from 29.49% stake (15.19% direct and 14.30% indirect). The selling pressure stems from margin call liquidations, which have wiped out over two-thirds of Zetrix AI's market capitalisation since Aug 27. *(The Edge)*

MNHLDG: JV bags RM67m TNB contract for cable works in Penang

MN Holdings Bhd said its subsidiary and an engineering firm have jointly secured a RM67.32 million contract from Tenaga Nasional Bhd to install an underground cable for bulk power supply to Intel Penang. The wholly-owned subsidiary, MN Utilities Engineering Sdn Bhd, and Pembinaan Tajri Sdn Bhd will undertake the 275-kilovolt cable installation works through an 80:20 joint venture, said MN Holdings in a bourse filing on Monday. Pembinaan Tajri, which was established in 1983, is involved in building and infrastructure works, according to the firm’s website. MN Holdings said the underground cable job scope includes engineering, design, supply and erection works for the new underground cable, as well as associated civil works. The works are to be completed within 540 days. *(The Edge)*

NEXGBINA: Aborts talks to offload part of lingerie business

NexG Bina Bhd, formerly known as Classita Holdings Bhd and originally as Caely Holdings Bhd, has called off formal talks to sell part of its long-standing lingerie business. The heads of agreement for the sale of a 49% stake in wholly owned units, Classita (M) Sdn Bhd and Marywah Industries (M) Sdn Bhd, to a director of the units, Choo Peng Hung, was mutually terminated, according to a bourse filing on Monday. The termination was due to there being no further material development since the heads of agreement was signed in September last year, said NexG Bina. The deadline to ink a definitive agreement was extended by six months to Monday (Sept 7) in March this year. (*The Edge*)

GASMSIA: Gas Malaysia, PETRONAS Gas study pipeline link for proposed Yan LNG terminal

Gas Malaysia Bhd is working with PETRONAS Gas Bhd to study construction of a pipeline connecting the proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) regasification terminal in Yan, Kedah to the Peninsular Gas Utilisation (PGU) system. In a bourse filing, Gas Malaysia said it had entered into a joint study and collaboration agreement with PETRONAS Gas to conduct a feasibility study on the proposed pipeline. PETRONAS Gas is the gas infrastructure unit of state-owned oil company Petroliam Nasional Bhd. The group is currently the major shareholder in Gas Malaysia, with a 14.8% direct stake. (*The Edge*)

CENGILD: Plans placement of up to 2% of shares to medical consultants

Cengild Medical Bhd plans to place up to 16.66 million new shares, or 2% of its issued share capital, to specialist medical practitioners who provide services to the group on a contractual basis. Cengild said the plan would help attract and retain experienced medical specialists, who are not employees and therefore are not eligible for its existing executives' share option scheme, an avenue to participate in the company's equity ownership. At an illustrative issue price of 17.2 sen per share, the placement would raise gross proceeds of about RM2.87 million, the company said in a bourse filing on Monday. (*The Edge*)

MKH: Shareholders advised to accept Batu Kawan's takeover offer for MKH, but reject bid for plantation unit

Minority shareholders at MKH Bhd and its plantation unit MKH Oil Palm Bhd have been given contrasting recommendations on the takeover offers from Batu Kawan Bhd: accept the buyout of the parent company, but reject the offer for its listed plantation arm. On the RM2 per share offer for MKH, independent adviser Kenanga Investment Bank said the offer is not fair as the takeover undervalues the property developer's estimated worth of RM4.31 per share. MKH's latest unaudited net assets stood at RM3.27 per share as at June 30. The offer, however, is reasonable as MKH shares are illiquid and there are no alternatives on the table, (*The Edge*)

CBHB: Lands RM88m Selangor job, second data centre-linked job in under two weeks

CBH Engineering Holding Bhd has secured an RM88.05 million contract to design and build a 275kV consumer landing station for a data centre in Selangor. The engineering services provider's wholly owned subsidiary received the contract from Company A — a private company that is involved in providing infrastructure for hosting, data processing services and related activities. CBH Engineering did not name the company in the bourse filing announcement, citing a non-disclosure agreement. The contract commenced on Aug 13, 2026, and is scheduled for completion on May 12, 2027. This is CBH Engineering's second data centre-linked job in less than two weeks. (*The Edge*)

HENGYUAN: Hengyuan, Shell Malaysia agree key terms for 10-year offtake deal renewal

Hengyuan Refining Company Bhd has agreed on key terms to renew its product supply deal with Shell Malaysia for another 10 years, from 2027 to 2036. In a filing with Bursa Malaysia Monday, Hengyuan said it signed a binding term sheet with Shell Malaysia Trading Sdn Bhd and Shell Timur Sdn Bhd. The deal will run for an initial five years (2027–2031), with the option to extend for another five years (2032–2036) if both sides agree. Hengyuan said the term sheet establishes the commercial framework from which a definitive agreement will be negotiated and executed. "The arrangement is expected to support the continued placement of HRC's refinery products and the stability of its refinery operations," said the company in the filing. (*The Edge*)

VLB: 2026 contract wins top RM1bn with RM263.7m Sungai Golok flood mitigation works

Construction firm Vestland Bhd has bagged a RM263.73 million contract for flood mitigation works along Sungai Golok in Kelantan, bringing its contracts wins for this year past RM1 billion. In a bourse filing, Vestland said its wholly owned subsidiary Vestland Infra Sdn Bhd had accepted a letter of award from Johnson Fluid Engineering Sdn Bhd for the construction of a dual-function sheet pile wall and bridge works along the river. The company said work is scheduled to start on Sept 21 this year, and is expected to be completed by April 14, 2028. This is Vestland's sixth contract win for the year, bringing the total to RM1.1 billion. (*The Edge*)

PEKAT: Bags three subcontracts worth RM57 mil for earthing and lightning protection systems

Pekat Group Bhd has announced that its subsidiary Pekat E & LP Sdn Bhd (PELP) has won three subcontracts worth RM57.18 million for earthing and lightning protection works for a project in Johor Bahru. Pekat said the subcontracts were awarded by a company that is principally engaged in engineering, construction services and investment holding, according to a bourse filing on Monday. The identity of the company was not disclosed due to confidentiality obligations. Under the subcontracts, PELP's scope of works spans the design, supply, installation, testing, and commissioning of comprehensive earthing and lightning protection systems, which include civil works and substation applications. (*The Edge*)

GENM: Genting Malaysia, SUTL to develop marina in Langkawi

Resorts World Langkawi, owned and operated by Genting Malaysia Bhd, is collaborating with a unit of Singapore-listed marina developer and operator SUTL Enterprise Ltd to develop a new marina in Langkawi, with the development expected to receive its first yachts in the second half of 2027. The ONE°15 Marina Langkawi will have more than 90 berths and accommodate superyachts of up to 140 feet, according to a joint statement issued by Resorts World Langkawi and SUTL Enterprise on Friday (Sept 4). The development, to be located within Resorts World Langkawi, will provide access to yacht charters, island-hopping and other marine leisure activities. Visitors will also have access to the resort's accommodation, dining and entertainment facilities. *(The Edge)*

GLOTEC: Raises RM8.8m to advance Indonesian gas commercialisation

Globaltec Formation Bhd's 70%-owned subsidiary NuEnergy Gas Ltd is raising A$3.05 million (about RM8.8 million) to advance the commercialisation of its gas assets in Indonesia. The proceeds will mainly be used to support development of the Tanjung Enim production sharing contract (PSC), beginning with an early gas sales initiative targeting one million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCFD), followed by a second phase of 24 MMSCFD. NuEnergy said the placement, priced at A$0.038 per share, would also support the development of its remaining three PSCs and provide working capital as it moves its Indonesian coal-bed methane assets closer to commercial production. *(The Edge)*

HHRG: Jumps more than 44% after Syed Azman takes helm

Shares of biomass firm HHRG Bhd surged as much as 44.8% on Monday, following the appointment of Tan Sri Syed Azman Syed Ibrahim as executive chairman. At 4.29pm, the counter was up 6.5 sen at 21 sen, valuing the group at RM283.84 million. HHRG announced on Friday that Syed Azman, founder of helicopter services firm Weststar Aviation, had been appointed executive chairman with immediate effect, filling a position that had been vacant for more than two years. Syed Azman, who owns a 2.83% stake in HHRG, founded Weststar Aviation Services in 2002 and has business interests spanning aviation, automotive, defence, property and renewable energy. *(The Edge)*

BUTTERFIELD: Posts RM6.5m net profit ahead of ACE Market debut

Coffee and tea extract powder blends manufacturer Butterfield FB Bhd posted a net profit of RM6.47 million for the first quarter ended July 31, 2026 (1QFY2027), ahead of its upcoming listing on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia. The group recorded revenue of RM69.7 million for the quarter, with nearly 79% derived from the manufacturing of coffee extract powder blends and tea extract powder blends, according to a bourse filing. The remainder of its top line came from the sales and trading of food ingredients and instant beverage premixes. Malaysia was the largest contributor to its revenue at RM40.1 million, or 57.6% of total revenue, followed by Thailand at RM21.4 million, or 30.7%. Taiwan, Indonesia and China collectively contributed the remaining RM8.2 million, or 11.7%. *(The Edge)*

KSL: Ku family exempted from KSL mandatory offer after consolidating stakes in family setup

The Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) has exempted the Ku family from undertaking a mandatory offer in KSL Holdings Bhd for consolidating their stakes under family vehicles into a single-family office. The capital market regulator granted the exemption on Sept 3, as there is no change to the ultimate shareholders and proportion of shareholding. It cited subparagraph 4.13(3)(a) of the Rules on Take-overs, Mergers and Compulsory Acquisitions, according to a bourse filing on Monday. Ku family members, KSL managing director Khoo Cheng Hai @ Ku Cheng Hai, executive chairman Ku Hwa Seng, executive director Ku Tien Sek, Ku Wa Chong, Khoo Keng Ghiap, Khoo Lee Feng, Ku Ek Mei and Ku Keng Yaw had transferred their stakes in KSL to the family vehicles in 2025. *(The Edge)*

TONGHER: To table RM100m privatisation plan to shareholders

Stainless steel and aluminium products manufacturer Tong Herr Resources Bhd said on Monday that it would table a proposal from its major shareholders to take the company private via a selective capital reduction and repayment exercise (SCR) at RM2.55 per share. In its bourse filing, the group said the SCR proposal would be tabled at an extraordinary general meeting following advice from independent adviser Mercury Securities Sdn Bhd. The decision follows an agreement by the joint offerors, Allrich Corp and Richard Holdings Ltd, to extend the deadline for the company's response from Sept 4 to Oct 4. The offerors had proposed the privatisation on Aug 6, citing reduced listing costs, faster decision-making and allow shareholders to exit their investments amid the stock's low trading liquidity. *(The Edge)*

TECHNAX: Bursa flags Techna-X for contradictory disclosures over stake in HK battery firm

Bursa Malaysia has questioned Techna-X Bhd's proposed sale of its stake in loss-making Hong Kong-based battery maker HK Aerospace Beidou New Energy Technology Co Ltd (HKAB), following contradictory disclosures about its ownership in the company. This came after Techna-X announced last Thursday it was selling its entire 50% stake in HKAB to Tess Global Sdn Bhd for RM45 million cash, which was easily five times the group's market capitalisation of RM8.82 million then, based on its three sen closing price. In a query to the company, Bursa Securities flagged that Techna-X had, in its audited financial statements for the year ended Dec 31, 2025, stated it had no effective ownership or voting interest in HKAB, following an agreement to sell the same 100,000 shares on Dec 30 that same year. *(The Edge)*

Upcoming key economic data releases	Date
US 10-Year Note Auction	Sept 10
US PPI (MoM) (Aug)	Sept 10
US Initial Jobless Claims	Sept 10
US Existing Home Sales (Aug)	Sept 10
US Crude Oil Inventories	Sept 11
US 30-Year Bond Auction	Sept 11
US CPI (MoM) (Aug)	Sept 11
US CPI (YoY) (Aug)	Sept 11
US Core CPI (MoM) (Aug)	Sept 11
Source: Investing.com	

Stock Selection Based on Dividend Yield

	Sector	Price (RM)	Dividend/Share (RM)	Dividend Yield (%)
Sentral REIT	REIT	0.66	0.06	9.70
Bermaz Auto	Consumer	0.92	0.08	8.91
CapitaLand Malaysia Trust	REIT	0.59	0.05	8.81
MBM Resources	Consumer	5.34	0.46	8.65
YTL Hospital REIT	REIT	1.00	0.09	8.50
KIP REIT	REIT	0.86	0.07	8.42
Sports Toto	Consumer	1.31	0.09	7.25
Paramount Corporation	Property	1.03	0.07	7.09
Al-Salam REIT	REIT	0.60	0.04	6.67
TIME dotCom	Telco	5.91	0.39	6.58
Ta Ann Holdings	Plantation	6.12	0.40	6.54
MAG Holdings	Consumer	1.23	0.08	6.50
Magnum	Consumer	1.23	0.08	6.50
UOA Development	Property	1.63	0.11	6.50
Pavilion REIT	REIT	1.62	0.10	6.36

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.

Research Team
research@mersec.com.my

IPO Tracker

Company	Listing Sought	Issue Price (RM/Share)	No. Of Shares (m)		Closing Date	Listing Date
			Public Issue	Offer for Sale		
United Asiapac Energy Berhad	ACE Market	0.35	139.22	-	5 Aug	14 Sept
Butterfield FB Berhad	ACE Market	0.48	150.00	72.00	2 Sept	15 Sept
Pioneer Heat Holdings Berhad	ACE Market	0.25	86.70	17.35	3 Sept	17 Sept
Evocom Berhad	ACE Market	0.18	113.91	22.00	14 Sept	28 Sept

Source: Bursa Malaysia

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 reliabnity 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 simar 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 liabnity 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 responsibnity 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