



15 April 2020

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Previous Day Highlights

The FBM KLCI rose 15.6 points or 1.15% to 1,371.7 level yesterday, which was in line with the uptrend of regional markets. Market breadth was positive as there were 706 gainers versus losers of 203. Total of 4.78bn units of shares worth RM2.08bn were traded.

Hang Seng Index gained 0.56% or 135.1 points to 24,435.4. Shanghai Composite Index was 1.59% higher while Nikkei 225 Index closed at 19,638.8, representing 3.13% gain.

US stock market indices ended on positive territory overnight. The Dow Jones Industrial Average Index gained 559.0 points to 23,949.8, S&P 500 Index advanced 3.06% to 2,846.1 while Nasdaq Composite Index climbed 3.95% to end at 8,515.7.

Our Thoughts

Wall Street seems to be in a self-denial mode as stocks surged yesterday as if the situation over in the US is improving. The DJI Average settle just below the 24,000 mark. Meanwhile, in a blatant attempt to deflect his blunders, Mr Trump is blaming the WHO for the surge in Covid-19 cases in the US further illustrating the dire situation in the US. Meanwhile, we reckon regional markets to see limited upside today following some solid performances over the last few sessions. Locally, we expect upside to continue today but may be impeded by profit taking activities along the way. Therefore, we would expect to see the FBM KLCI to possibly test the 1,380 mark and close around the 1,370/75 level today.

News For The Day

Coronavirus 'Great Lockdown' will shave 3% off global economy this year, says IMF

The global economy is expected to shrink by 3.0% during 2020 in a stunning coronavirus-driven collapse of activity that will mark the steepest downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s, the International Monetary Fund said. – *Reuters*

Fitch revises Petronas' outlook to negative, affirms A- rating

Fitch Ratings has revised the outlook on Petroliam Nasional Bhd issuer default ratings (IDRs) to 'negative' from 'stable' previously, while affirming the long-term foreign- and local-currency IDRs at 'A-'. *The Edge Markets*

Solarvest bags 2 contracts from the Philippines

Solarvest Holdings Bhd has secured two contracts from Vivant Energy Corporation in the Philippines, for the development of solar photovoltaic systems for two of Vivant Energy's projects. – *Sunbiz*

mTouche supplying Covid-19 test kits to pandemic frontline in SE Asia

MTouche Technology Bhd has inked a supply agreement with Network Global Solutions Pty Ltd to market and distribute medical equipment for Malaysia and South East Asia market. – *Sunbiz*

2020 retail sales expected to be set back by RM10.9bn

Malaysia's retailers are expected to bring in RM10.9bn less in sales this year after the industry cut its forecast to 5.5% contraction, from a 4.6% growth projection in December 2019. This will be the first time the industry has contracted since the Asian financial crisis in 1998. – *The Edge Financial Daily*



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