



18 December 2019

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Previous Day Highlights

The FBM KLCI closed 7.6 points or 0.48% higher to 1,576.95 yesterday mainly lifted by MAXIS, TENAGA and IHH. Trading volume was 2.34bn unit of shares while value traded stood at RM1.99bn.

Asia equities markets closed higher yesterday boosted by the positive development on the trade deal. Hang Seng Index rose 335.6 points to 27,843.7, Nikkei 225 Index gained 0.47% while Shanghai Composite Index jumped 1.27%.

US stock markets continued to trend higher as the Dow Jones Industrial Average Index settled 0.11% higher at 28,267.2. S&P 500 Index closed at 3,192.5 while Nasdaq gained 0.10%.



News For The Day

Bandar Malaysia set to take off

The massive 486-acre Bandar Malaysia development, at the site of the former Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Jalan Sungai Besi, is now set to take off, following a share sale agreement and a shareholders' agreement that TRX City Sdn Bhd had signed with IWH-CREC Sdn Bhd. - *The Edge Financial Daily*

GFM takes up 49% stake in downstream O&G player HSSB

Facility management services provider GFM Services Bhd plans to widen its oil and gas services' scope by acquiring a 49% stake in downstream O&G company Highbase Strategic Sdn Bhd for RM1, and buying up to RM20m worth of the company's redeemable convertible preference shares – subject to a minimum cash subscription of RM15m. - *The Edge Financial Daily*

Scientex net profit doubles to RM81m in first quarter

Scientex Bhd posted a 50.9% increase in net profit for its first quarter ended Oct 31 to RM81m, from RM53.7m on an enlarged operations base and favourable product mix in the manufacturing segment, as well as higher progress billings in the property development division. - *Sunbiz*

Aeon Credit sets up sukuk programme

Aeon Credit Service (M) Bhd is establishing a RM2bn sukuk programme to fund disbursements to customers and refinancing of any existing loans/financing/sukuk. – *The Edge Markets*

Primary industries ministry optimistic about CPO windfall tax proposal

The primary industries ministry is optimistic that the finance ministry will approve its proposal for a 3% windfall tax on palm oil planters to be channelled back into the industry. – *The Edge Financial Daily*

Oil price rises further above US\$65

Oil edged further above US\$65 a barrel, supported by hopes that the US-China trade deal will bolster oil demand in 2020 and the prospect of lower US crude supplies. – *Reuters*



Our Thoughts

Wall Street continued to close at record high on the back of US housing and industrial production data suggesting economic growth remains robust. Hence, we reckon regional markets will see follow through positive sentiments and continue the uptrend today. Meanwhile on the local front, the revival of Bandar Malaysia and the HSR project coming back in the picture bodes well for the economy with construction stocks to benefit and be in focus. FBM KLCI is expected to rise on the window dressing activities with KLCI crossing the 1,580 mark.



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