

BursaMalaysia

# China's data drag Bursa lower

BURSA Malaysia finished lower yesterday on subdued sentiments as weak export data from China, the country's biggest trading partner, signalled weakness for the broader Asian economy.

At 5pm, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) fell 5.73 points to 1,562.71 from last Friday's close of 1,568.44. The barometer index opened 2.26 points lower at 1,566.18 and moved between 1,560.2 and 1,567.78 throughout the day.

A dealer said the softer export data had also offset the positive Wall Street clues following solid US jobs print. "Investor sentiment was hit after data projected that China exports in November shrank for the fourth straight month, implying that the trade war with the US was taking a toll on the world's second-largest economy," he said.

On the local bourse, heavy-weight Malayan Banking Bhd added six sen to RM8.56. Tenaga Nasional Bhd lost 20 sen to RM13.22, Public Bank Bhd fell 14 sen to RM19.02, Petronas Chemicals Group Bhd shed five sen to RM7.05 and CIMB Group Holdings Bhd eased two sen to RM5.18.

Of the actives, Tiger Synergy Bhd added two sen to 11 sen, TDM Bhd gained three sen to 30.5 sen and PUC Bhd earned 1.5 sen to five sen. Sanichi Technology Bhd slipped one sen to five sen and Bumi Armada Bhd lost 1.5 sen to 46 sen.

On the broader market, losers edged gainers 462 to 406, with 359 counters unchanged, 749 untraded and 30 others suspended.

The FBM Emas Index dipped 24.33 points to 11,109.24, the FBM T100 Index decreased

## ► FBM KLCI



## BURSA MALAYSIA DERIVATIVES

MONTHS	VOL	OPEN INTEREST	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	LAST PRC	SETTLE
DEC-19	5244	31644	1571.0	1571.5	1557.5	1558.0	1558.0
JAN-20	190	975	1572.5	1573.5	1560.0	1560.0	1560.0
MAR-20	92	460	1571.0	1571.0	1561.0	1561.0	1561.0
JUN-20	33	285	1569.0	1570.0	1560.0	1560.0	1560.0

29.43 points to 10,910.27 and the FBM Emas Shariah Index eased 24.07 points to 11,699.9. The FBM ACE edged up 2.24 points to 4,886.57 and the FBM 70 climbed 6.2 points to 13,855.28.

Sector-wise, the Industrial Products and Services Index slipped 0.13 of-a-point to 149.89 and the Financial Services Index declined 18.64 points to 15,203.57, while the Plantation Index surged 133.96 points to 7,495.27.

### Stronger Dollar Curbs Ringgit

Ringgit closed lower against the US dollar yesterday as the positive sentiment for the greenback curbed interest for the local currency.

As at 6pm, the local note was quoted at 4.1590/1630 against the US dollar compared to last Friday's close of 4.1580/1610.

A dealer said the upbeat US pay-

rolls for November coupled with the anticipation of unchanged US interest rate by the US Federal Reserve had spurred risk appetite for the US dollar.

After cutting rates three times this year to shield the US economy from the global slowdown, the central bank is expected to keep rates steady at its meeting tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the ringgit was traded mostly lower against other major currencies.

The local currency depreciated against the Singapore dollar to 3.0581/0615 from 3.0571/0605 last Friday, weakened versus the Japanese yen to 3.8328/8372 from 3.8284/8315 and contracted against the British pound to 5.4703/4773 from 5.4570/4613 previously.

The ringgit, however, rose vis-a-vis the euro to 4.6015/6076 from last Friday's 4.6137/6179. — Bernama