

05/01/2000

KLCI likely to breach 900-point by year-end: Dr M

THE Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's Composite Index (KLCI) may continue its current upward trend to breach even the 900-point mark by year-end, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

He based his forecast on the general all-round endorsement and conviction that a robust economic recovery was under way for the country.

"I reckon the KLCI may appreciate further as all have seen and are convinced that our economy is rebounding actively.

"I'm confident by year-end it will touch 900 points or beyond," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this in an interview with Radio and Television Malaysia after taping his Aidil Fitri message at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya.

He was asked about Monday's performance of the KLSE which saw its KLCI rising by 21 per cent to 833.89 points with total turnover of 539.912 million shares worth RM1.33 billion.

Dr Mahathir said the surging index also reflected investor confidence in Malaysia's economic recovery and their conviction that Malaysian investments promised good returns.

The prime minister, however, cautioned investors against profit-taking by disposing of stocks at the slight surge of the KLCI.

"Selling pressure will bring down the KLCI and trigger losses for other investors," he added.

Meanwhile, the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange took a breather on Tuesday closing mixed in heavy trading with the KLCI easing 1.09 points or 0.1 per cent to settle at 832.80 points.

The easing of the local bourse is in line with the drop in the Dow Jones Industries Index and regional bourses.

The Dow Jones was down by 139.61 points in overnight trading.

The Hang Seng dropped by 296.81 points and Straits Time 57.48 points.

The Tokyo market, however, gained 68.52 points to end at 19,002.86, a rise of 0.36 per cent.

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