

07 AUG 2003
KLSE-CLOSING
KL SHARES END SLIGHTLY HIGHER

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- Share prices on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) ended slightly higher with some late buying on blue chips like Petronas Gas.

An analyst said the buying activities on selected heavyweights helped push the Composite Index to a positive territory.

Profit taking bouts were seen on lower liners and penny stocks.

In moderate trading activity, the 100-quality shares Composite Index closed 0.88 of a point higher at 719.79, after opening 0.02 of a point higher at 718.93.

The Emas Index declined 0.05 of a point to 178.29, while the Second Board Index dropped 0.25 of a point to 116.27.

The Industrial Index rose 3.50 points to 1,539.95, Mesdaq index shed 0.71 of a point to 122.47, and the Finance Index declined 23.20 points to 5,873.70.

Losers outnumbered gainers by 433 to 254, while 249 counters were unchanged, 227 untraded and 96 counters suspended.

The turnover declined to 512.948 million shares worth RM674.525 million compared with 527.681 million shares worth RM629.899 yesterday.

The analyst said the market regained momentum with positive remarks by Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad saying that the bombing incident in Jakarta would not affect the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

Malaysia is expected to see a GDP growth of 4.5 percent this year.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia has taken the precautionary measures and would continue to tighten security to ensure that such incidents did not take place in the country.

Another analyst said the marginal overnight gains on Wall Street did little to boost the market.

Actives, Malaysia Resources Corporation was down 1.5 sen to 93 sen, MCM Technologies rose half a sen to 27 sen, and Premium rose 3.5 sen to 27 sen.

Debutant Englotechs Holdings, listed on the second board, rose 31 sen to RM1.86. Its initial public offer was RM1.55.

Key bluechips Maybank declined 10 sen to RM8.75, Telekom shed five sen to RM7.80, Tenaga and Petronas Gas added five sen each to RM9.00 and RM7.25, while Genting rose 10 sen to RM15.10.

British American Tobacco increased 25 sen to RM41.50.

Total turnover on the main board increased to 265.283 million shares worth RM468.843 million compared with yesterday's 234.763 million shares worth RM432.298 million.

Second board's turnover rose to 119.843 million shares worth RM141.162 million versus RM82.146 million shares worth RM109.106 million previously.

The Mesdaq market volume dropped to 123.025 million shares worth RM59.918 million from 204.182 million shares worth RM81.338 million yesterday.

Off-market turnover increased to 66.212 million shares worth RM725.622 million from 25.179 million shares worth RM40.996 million previously.

On a sectoral basis, the consumer products accounted for 9.059 million units traded on the main board, industrial products 23.657 million, construction 24.131 million, trade/service 96.766 million, technology 1.781 million, infrastructure 2.391 million, finance 27.800 million, hotels 3.948 million, properties 36.548 million, plantation 7.515 million, mining

342,400, trusts 278,900, closed/funds 25,100, loans 26.722 million and PN4
Condition 4.347 million. -- BERNAMA
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