

**BURSA MALAYSIA: Share Prices Stay Above Psychological 1,400-Level At Midday
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 11 (Bernama) -- Share prices on Bursa Malaysia were steady at the end of the morning session today with the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) staying above the psychological 1,400-level, owing to positive external factors, dealers said.

At 12.30pm, the key index stood 13.65 points higher at 1,410.69, supported by gains in Hong Leong Bank, KL Kepong and SIG Gases.

It had opened 9.95 points better at 1,406.99.

The local bourse was supported by the overnight rise on Wall Street following hopes that eurozone leaders can stem the debt crisis, as well as China's move to support its stock market by buying shares of the nation's four biggest banks, a dealer said.

On the local front, the August factory output and manufacturing sales rose 3.0 per cent and 10.8 per cent, respectively, from a year ago, according to the Department of Statistics.

The Finance Index surged 177.271 points to 12,982.45, the Industrial Index increased 18.25 points to 2,533.21 and the Plantation Index rose 121.38 points to 7,159.09.

The FTSE Bursa Malaysia Emas Index added 108.83 points to 9,567.88 and the FTSE Bursa Malaysia Ace Index rose 59.69 points to 3,706.15 with the FTSE Bursa Malaysia Mid 70 Index improving 163.09 points to 10,199.32.

Turnover stood at 595.914 million shares worth RM623.706 million.

Gainers thumped losers 508 to 111 while 216 counters were unchanged, 642 untraded and 33 others suspended.

Among active stocks, Dutaland-WA gained two sen to 13.5 sen, Time Dotcom was up three sen to 50 sen and Dutaland lost half-a-sen to 64.5 sen while Malaysia Building Society added four sen to 65.5 sen.

For the heavyweights, Maybank improved three sen to RM8.23, CIMB went up nine sen to RM7.24, Petronas Chemicals rose six sen to RM5.66 and Axiata inched up two sen to RM4.84.

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