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No Budi95 if driving licence does not show 12-digit MyKad number

About 70,000 M'sians risk missing out on subsidised petrol because they are still tied to old, police or military IDs.

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'View Trump's presence at summit in context of regional diplomacy'

Malaysia's role as Asean chair calls for engagement with all major global leaders, including those whose policies may be contentious: Minister

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Target of 70% renewable energy by 2050 viable: Expert

'Need to build resilience into every stage of transition to ensure power grid's stability.'

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RACE TO SAVE LIVES ... Rescue personnel search for victims amidst the rubble after a hall collapsed while students were praying at the Al-Khoziny Islamic boarding school in Sidoarjo, East Java, Indonesia yesterday. — **REUTERSPIX**

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Mutiny of immune system

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Lupus, a disorder that causes body's defence to mistakenly attack healthy tissues, affects thousands of Malaysians but is widely misunderstood, dangerously misdiagnosed and often ignored.



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Call to view Trump Asean invite in broader context

➤ As host and chair, Malaysia needs to engage with all major global leaders, including those whose policies may be contentious: Minister

■ BY HARITH KAMAL
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PETALING JAYA: The invitation extended to US President Donald Trump to attend this year's Asean Summit should be viewed in the broader context of regional diplomacy, Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution said.

Speaking at the ministry's monthly assembly yesterday, Saifuddin stressed that Malaysia, as this year's Asean chair, represents not only the country but the collective voice of the now 11-member bloc with Timor-Leste's inclusion.

He said the invitation must not be misinterpreted as Malaysia endorsing the US leader.

"The prime minister represents Asean, not just Malaysia. He speaks for a region of 680 million people with a large and relatively stable economy," he said, adding that the chairmanship allows Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to convey the bloc's consensus on the global stage.

Saifuddin acknowledged concerns over Trump's attendance, given his perceived support for Israel

amid the Gaza conflict, but stressed that Asean's leadership role requires engagement with all major global leaders, including those whose policies may be contentious.

"The presence of any leader, including Trump, must be understood in the context of international politics," he said.

Drawing on historical and religious teachings, Saifuddin said diplomacy has always required dialogue with powerful yet controversial figures.

He cited the Quranic example of Prophet Musa (AS), who was instructed to address Pharaoh – seen as one of history's most tyrannical rulers – with gentle words despite his cruelty.

"Even in confronting wrongdoing, engagement allows us to speak directly, present our positions and uphold principles," he said.

He also referred to Indonesian scholar Buya Hamka's *Tafsir Al-Azhar*, which emphasises respectful language even when admonishing leaders.

"Our guidance is clear. We can condemn violent attacks on Gaza and criticise policies supporting

Israel firmly, while addressing them respectfully in person," Saifuddin said.

He further highlighted a *Hadith* stating that the greatest *jihād* is to speak the truth before an unjust ruler.

"Does engaging with them mean we are befriending evil? How else can we speak if we cannot confront them directly?" he asked, stressing that dialogue does not equal endorsement.

As Asean chair, Saifuddin said, Malaysia will convey the bloc's consensus on peace, security and regional stability, while providing a platform for global leaders to tackle shared challenges.

"This is about diplomacy, dialogue and responsibility. As host and chair, Malaysia ensures discussions are constructive while representing Asean's interests and values," he said.

The summit is expected to bring together leaders from the United States, China, India, Russia and Brazil, alongside Timor-Leste's first participation as a member.

Saifuddin said hosting such a high-profile meeting underscores Malaysia's commitment to regional cooperation and global engagement.

Last Sunday, Anwar rebuked critics of Trump's invitation, saying Kuala Lumpur will use the summit to continue pressing the issue of Palestine.

Senior press secretary to the prime minister Tunku Nashrul Tunku

Abaidah said Malaysia's invitation to Trump for the 47th Asean Summit is part of its duty as chair to ensure all dialogue partners attend, with turning away any leader never an option.

"Diplomacy is about engaging directly, not avoiding difficult conversations," he said at a Prime Minister's Office briefing in Putrajaya yesterday.

Tunku Nashrul added that the summit is an opportunity for Malaysia to showcase leadership and push regional priorities on the global stage.

At the same time, he reaffirmed Malaysia's firm stand on Palestine, pointing out that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has consistently condemned Israeli aggression and emerged as one of the most vocal international leaders defending Gaza.

"Malaysia will continue to stand firm on Palestine, while also fulfilling its responsibility to lead Asean in building a prosperous and stable region," he said.

The briefing outlined Malaysia's wider chairmanship agenda, including boosting economic cooperation, attracting strategic investments, expanding trade and deepening regional integration.

"Asean must speak with one voice and work with all partners – not only the US, but also China, Japan, Korea, Australia and the Gulf Cooperation Council," Tunku Nashrul said.

Over 13,000 personnel to ensure security at summit

PUTRAJAYA: A total of 10,492 officers from the Royal Malaysia Police and 3,000 personnel from the Immigration Department will be deployed for the 47th Asean Summit in Kuala Lumpur next month, aimed at ensuring high-level security preparedness and smooth entry procedures at all national borders.

Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said preparations for the international event, which will see the attendance of world leaders, including United States President Donald Trump, are progressing well in the capital.

"The preparations are in place. The Immigration Department has briefed me to ensure that all arrangements are thoroughly coordinated," he said at the ministry's monthly assembly yesterday.

Saifuddin stated that six training modules have been implemented and officers have undergone courses at the National Institute of Public Administration to enhance their readiness.

"Everything has been finalised. To ensure smooth facilitation for the delegations and world leaders attending this major event, we have also identified and designated premier entry lanes and fast-track entry points. The next step is to ensure everything we've planned on paper runs smoothly in practice," he said.

Saifuddin stressed that the dual focus remains on both security operations and seamless reception procedures for arriving guests. – Bernama

Smooth full rollout of Budi95 petrol subsidy initiative

PUTRAJAYA: The full rollout of the RON95 petrol subsidy under the Budi Madani RON95 (Budi95) initiative went smoothly yesterday, with operations at petrol stations nationwide reported to be in good order.

Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said initial monitoring found that the situation at petrol stations, including during peak hours, was under control.

He said he had also updated Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim on the progress of Budi95's implementation through a phone call.

"Petrol stations in general were operating smoothly, even during peak hours. This is the result of very thorough planning," he said when addressing the monthly assembly of the ministry here.

Saifuddin said the greatest success of Budi95 was that the purchase of RON95 petrol with identity card or MyKad verification could be carried out directly at petrol pumps.

He said MyKad verification could not only be done at the counter using a card reader but also directly at the pump.

"The National Registration Department assisted by upgrading the system at petrol station terminals through its expertise and information technology division. We have helped all petrol companies (in implementing



Jalan Tun Razak petrol station operator Wan Muhammad Hafidz (right) assisting a customer to use the Budi95 initiative to fill up RON95 petrol. – ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN

Budi95)," he said.

Saifuddin said the ministry was looking into several issues arising from the implementation of Budi95,

particularly involving several police personnel and retirees.

"We have a small number of police personnel whose driving licences

need to be integrated with the Road Transport Department and the Finance Ministry systems," he said.

He added that government

savings from the implementation of Budi95 would be channelled back to the people through various initiatives and infrastructure development.

Under the Budi95 scheme, eligible vehicle owners will be able to purchase up to 300 litres of RON95 petrol per month at the subsidised price of RM1.99 per litre, Bernama reported.

Meanwhile, Digital Minister Gobind Singh Deo has given an assurance that the system used to implement the Budi Madani RON95 initiative is secure against cyber threats.

He said the cybersecurity aspect of the system had been thoroughly studied to ensure its effectiveness, taking into account various potential risks.

"What we have implemented is a system that has already considered such possibilities.

"The prime minister has always prioritised security in all aspects of digitalisation, and the same applies to Budi95.

"Security has been given special attention, and the existing system is well prepared for all eventualities," he said after officiating at the opening of the Cyber Digital Services, Defence and Security Asia Exhibition and Conference at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre.

Seven in 10 veterans turn entrepreneurs

TEMERLOH: Almost 70% of the 5,000 veterans of the Malaysian Armed Forces who retire each year choose to venture into entrepreneurship, said Deputy Defence Minister Adly Zahari.

He said the ministry remains committed to supporting veterans in securing second careers through various entrepreneurial programmes.

"At the Defence Ministry we have a specific programme for veteran entrepreneurs, namely the Malaysian Armed Forces Veteran Entrepreneur Empowerment Programme, carried out in collaboration with Mara and the Rural and Regional Development Ministry,

"The programme provides a grant of almost RM1 million per year," he told reporters at the "Peduli Veteran Madani" programme in Kampung Pangsenam yesterday.

During the event, Adly handed over fish food, *patin* and *tilapia* fry to armed forces veterans Norizan Johari, 47, and Mohd Zaid Kamarul Ismail, 40, both of whom are now entrepreneurs in caged-fish farming.

Adly said the ministry also provides transition training through the Ex-Servicemen Affairs Corporation, which equips retiring personnel with skills in fields such as agriculture, automotive and other industries.

"The training is between six and 18 months, depending on the chosen field of expertise.

"They can choose to be trained in agriculture, automotive and other industrial fields in preparation for a second career." – Bernama

Resilience key to energy future of Malaysia

■ BY **HARITH KAMAL**
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PETALING JAYA: Malaysia's ambition to generate 70% of its electricity from renewable energy (RE) by 2050 can be achieved if resilience is built into every stage of the transition, an energy expert said.

Universiti Tenaga Nasional Institute of Energy Policy and Research director Dr Nora Yusma Mohammed Yusoff said the country must not measure progress solely by the number of solar farms built or megawatts installed.

Instead, she said Malaysia must fortify the backbone of its power system – storage, stability and interconnections.

"This is not about whether renewable energy works. It is whether the system can withstand stress. A modern grid must be designed with resilience as its foundation, not as an afterthought."

Malaysia's power mix remains dominated by coal and gas, which together make up about 70% of supply. Nora said while this fossil-heavy base provides short-term stability, it locks the country into high emissions and leaves it vulnerable to volatile fuel prices.

➤ Transitioning to 70% renewable power will require robust storage, smart grids and regional links to avoid collapses such as those seen in Europe, says energy researcher

She warned that fragility could set in as renewables grow unless safeguards are deliberately built into the system.

She cited the blackout across the Iberian Peninsula in April as a cautionary tale.

"The collapse of the Iberian grid left millions in Spain, Portugal and parts of France without electricity for up to a day, disrupting hospitals, transport and businesses.

"That blackout was not a failure of renewable energy, but of resilience. High reliance on solar, low system inertia and weak interconnections combined to push a modern grid past breaking point.

"Malaysia must learn from this and ensure our transition strengthens both sustainability and security."

Nora said building resilience demands both technological

investment and policy reform.

"Every large-scale renewable project must be paired with battery storage systems, grid-forming inverters and fast-response reserves to keep the grid stable.

"At the same time, regulations and tariffs must reward flexibility and stability, not just cheap generation."

She added that financing should flow to "invisible" but critical parts of the transition such as digitalisation, grid modernisation and storage, not only to visible assets like solar farms and wind turbines.

Nora also underlined the importance of regional cooperation, urging Malaysia to treat the Asean Power Grid (APG) as an urgent resilience tool rather than a distant aspiration.

"No grid is invincible, but interconnected grids provide

countries with vital backup when systems are under stress. Malaysia must see the APG as essential to our energy security."

Ultimately, she said success will not be measured by capacity alone, but by whether daily life continues uninterrupted.

"The real blackout to fear is not just on the grid, but in the resilience of society itself. Success will mean that lights stay on in hospitals, water flows in our taps, children can study without interruption and businesses can operate without fear of collapse."

Her warning comes as the government accelerates work on the APG by studying the European Union's cross-border electricity model.

Last week, Deputy Prime Minister and Energy Transition Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof said Malaysia would work with EU counterparts on harmonised rules, financing frameworks and technical standards to help Asean overcome regulatory and financial hurdles.

He confirmed that a memorandum of understanding to strengthen APG cooperation will be signed at the upcoming Asean Energy Ministers' Meeting.

Heritage icons to get new life amid urban transformation

■ BY **QIRANA NABILLA MOHD RASHIDI**
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KUALA LUMPUR: Seven of Kuala Lumpur's most iconic heritage landmarks will be restored by next year as part of the government's efforts to balance urban development with the preservation of history and culture, said Housing and Local Government Minister Nga Kor Ming.

He said the initiative underscores Malaysia's commitment to progress without losing sight of its cultural identity.

"This is the best testimony of our belief: development must go hand in hand with history, heritage and culture.

"Even as Malaysia moves towards becoming a developed nation, our cultural identity remains preserved in our hearts," he said after launching the 16th International Conference on World Class Sustainable Cities (WCSC) 2025 yesterday.

Nga said RM700 million has been allocated this year to revive seven national landmarks, including Carcosa Seri Negara, the Textile Museum, Sultan Abdul Samad Building and the Old General Post Office.

"These landmarks and iconic symbols of pride will be given a new face and new life by Visit Malaysia Year 2026, reflecting the values of Madani where cultural identity remains safeguarded and celebrated even as the nation advances towards developed status."

The minister also cited the Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry's latest report, which recognised Malaysia as

the most popular and liveable country in Asia.

He said tourist arrivals reached 20.6 million in the first half of this year and the number is projected to surpass 41 million by Christmas – higher than Malaysia's population and the largest figure recorded since independence in 1957.

Nga said restored heritage buildings will be given new roles, such as the Sultan Abdul Samad Building, which will serve as a hub for Made in Malaysia brands.

"Tourists want authentic local experiences, such as Malaysian coffee, which is why brands like Old Town, Oriental Coffee, Secret Recipe and Kopi KawKaw will be featured at restored heritage sites.

"We aspire for these brands to one day become international names, standing shoulder to shoulder with Starbucks and Chagee."

More than 800 participants attended the WCSC 2025, underscoring the event's role in shaping the future of sustainable cities.

"This conference, now in its 16th year, reflects our continuous commitment. I hope such efforts will persist so that Malaysia continues to elevate its stature on the world stage as a global leader in the sustainable development agenda."

He stressed that resilience is not only about strong infrastructure but also about preserving heritage, culture, identity and community values.

"For Malaysia, 'Malaysia Truly Asia' is more than just a slogan. It reflects harmony and unity in diversity – a



Nga views a scale model of an urban development project during the WCSC 2025 in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Also present was KL Mayor Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif. – **ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN**

strength embodied by Kuala Lumpur, where modern towers stand alongside timeless heritage."

Nga added that all public market projects valued above RM10 billion must now go through both open tender and design competitions to ensure the best results.

He also affirmed Malaysia's readiness to work with global partners through the UN-Habitat Assembly,

aiming to integrate New Urban Agenda into the Conference of the Parties process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Brazil next month.

"Next year will mark the 10th anniversary of the New Urban Agenda, first proposed by Malaysia, which links climate action with urban transformation.

"The way forward must be

progressive and ambitious, with accelerated climate adaptation, nature-based solutions like ecological corridors and river restoration, and strong partnerships between the public, private and people sectors.

"WCSC 2025 is a true reflection of the Malaysian urban experience and reminds us that development means nothing if it is not anchored in people and places."



Coping with 'misunderstood' autoimmune disease

► Now undergoing remission, SLE patient had to overcome challenges as condition affected lungs, heart, kidneys

BY KIRTINEE RAMESH
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PETALING JAYA: Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) quietly strikes thousands of Malaysians – mostly women – yet this crippling autoimmune disease is widely misunderstood, often ignored and dangerously misdiagnosed.

Malaysia SLE Association executive secretary Illani Azalia Zainal Abidin, 32, who is a lupus patient herself, knows the danger all too well. At 27, a sudden flare nearly killed her.

"It started with swelling of my face and hands. Three doctors said it was an allergy, while another suspected dengue," she said.

"My body was changing and I did not understand what was happening. My hair was falling out. It was horrible."

Only a private specialist finally gave the correct diagnosis – SLE or lupus, a chronic condition in which the immune system attacks the body's own organs and tissues.

While the association has over 4,500 registered members, Illani said many more cases go undiagnosed, especially among men.

"About 90% of patients are



Illani said about 90% of patients are women, usually aged between 15 and 50, while many more cases go undiagnosed, especially among men.

— ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN

women, usually aged between 15 and 50," she said.

Her battle didn't end with the diagnosis. Within a year, lupus had attacked her heart, lungs, and kidneys, causing lupus nephritis – a potentially life-threatening complication.

"Public hospitals collect samples in batches and results take days. Meanwhile, I am getting sicker," she said.

Early treatment in the private sector saved her life, but drained her savings.

The biologic drug Rituximab brought temporary relief but cost between RM7,000 and RM8,000 per vial – four cycles plus hospital fees cost about RM40,000.

"I didn't even have insurance then," she said.

When Rituximab stopped working, doctors suggested chemotherapy. She refused, eventually switching to an oral transplant drug approved only after months of paperwork.

Today, her daily routine is strict: kidney medication morning and

night, steroids at midday, each dose carefully timed with or without food.

The physical strain was only half the battle. High-dose steroids triggered depression.

"I wasn't suicidal but I didn't want to wake up," she admitted. Intensive therapy – three sessions a week at first – helped her regain control.

Her family also felt the impact.

"They would tiptoe around me, afraid stress would trigger a flare. It can make a home feel dangerous," she said.

Joining the association was transformative, she added.

"Before that, people pitied me. Here, nobody pities you – they just get it," she said.

Monthly online sessions connect patients and caregivers nationwide, offering advice and support.

Access to care remains uneven, with rheumatologists available in Kuala Lumpur or Johor, while patients in Pahang or Sabah sometimes travel for hours – even by boat – just to see a doctor, she said.

Now experiencing remission, Illani still takes medication three times a day, attends monthly therapy and guards her energy.

"My friends schedule outings at night or indoors to accommodate my sensitivity to heat and light."

Lupus has reshaped her personal dreams.

"The only challenge now is whether I can become pregnant," she said, adding that adoption is her path forward.

Her message to fellow patients is blunt and clear:

"Learn about your body – its triggers, its limits and get support. Lupus follows you everywhere," she said.

Bringing fun English lessons on wheels to rural areas

BY FAIZ RUZMAN
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KUALA LUMPUR: The English Speaking Union of Malaysia (ESUM) says it is time to roll up sleeves and get English back on the road. Literally.

At the International Council Meeting 2025 yesterday, ESUM chairman Tunku Dara Tunku Tan Sri Naquiah Tuanku Ja'afar said the group is moving beyond gloomy debates on declining proficiency to actual, grassroots programmes.

English on Wheels, a mobile classroom/library will drive into rural areas and park outside schools with fun lessons.

"It will go to rural areas, like a library on wheels, and bring fun English lessons directly to schools," she said.

The push doesn't stop there. ESUM has roped in universities in Penang, Sabah and Sarawak to host debating and public speaking contests, with winners advancing to the Kuala Lumpur National Public Speaking Competition and, for the boldest, the international finals in London.

"We expose them to meeting people, to be more confident, to exchange ideas and collaborate. When they get a job, these skills are important," Tunku Naquiah said.

But she conceded alumni support remains patchy.

"A few have helped us, but many are busy working in Kuala Lumpur or other states. Having heard from the rest of the members at this meeting, we will probably concentrate more on what we can do with alumni," she noted.

She also took a jab at the current state of teacher training.

"In the old days, teachers were sent to England for two years of training. Why not ensure those who are going to teach English do a year in training colleges to learn how to teach in English? You can't just stand there and teach if you don't even know what to say," she said.

In her welcome remarks, she also spotlighted Malaysia's cultural diversity, saying she hoped delegates would not only benefit from the exchange of ideas but also enjoy a taste of the country's heritage.

Meanwhile, English Speaking Union (ESU) global chairman Miles Young reminded delegates of the original mission of the group born after World War I to build friendship through English.

Today, it's about oracy – the ability to speak and argue with confidence.

"Civil discourse is under threat, with debate replaced by shouting on social media. Part of our mission is to act as an antidote, to help young people understand how important it is to listen as well as to talk."

The Kuala Lumpur meeting cemented Malaysia's place as one of ESU's most active branches, drawing representatives from over 20 countries including the UK, France, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Lithuania and the USA, with others joining online from India, Ghana, Mexico, Ukraine, Romania and Japan.

'Doctors now better equipped to catch early lupus signs'

PETALING JAYA: More Malaysians are being diagnosed with SLE or lupus – not because the disease is more prevalent but because doctors are now better at detecting its elusive symptoms, says Malaysia SLE Association president Prof Dr Syahrul Sazliyan Shaharir.

"The rise is likely due to improved awareness among primary care doctors and other specialists about the diversity of lupus presentations and organ involvement," she said.

Yet public awareness remains weak compared with cancer or diabetes.

"Lupus is mainly managed by rheumatologists or nephrologists, so it doesn't get the same spotlight."

Asked if general practitioners can catch early signs, Syahrul said many are now better equipped.

"Yes, especially those who attend seminars, workshops or conferences on autoimmune diseases. But the bigger challenge is access to specialists.

"Malaysia still does not have enough, though both the Health Ministry and the Higher Education

Ministry are working to address this."

Syahrul said treatment often involves steroids – life-saving in critical situations – along with immunosuppressants and biologics.

"Costs can be prohibitive but government facilities cover most medications, easing the financial load for patients," she added. For association executive secretary Illani Azalia Zainal Abidin, lupus is not just a medical condition but a daily battle that extends far beyond the hospital.

The 32-year-old said medication kept her illness under control but the real struggle lay in emotional support and finances.

"People don't understand what we go through," she said.

"Sometimes you just need someone to talk to."

Regular therapy sessions remain essential and she credits the association's monthly online "shared-care" meetings, where patients nationwide connect virtually to reduce the sense of isolation.

"But staying alive is expensive. Even basic drugs such as the immunosuppressant mycophenolate

(CellCept) can be costly and public hospitals occasionally face shortages," she said.

"You relearn how to live. Camping, hiking, the things I love most are not on the cards anymore unless I plan every detail."

Employment adds another layer of difficulty.

Many employers quietly avoid hiring people with lifelong conditions that require frequent hospital visits.

"I understand their concerns, but it's disheartening. It has been very hard for me to find new jobs."

One former supervisor, however, stood out for his support – asking what adjustments she needed, offering indoor parking to shield her from the sun and even paying for it. Insurance coverage, however, remained out of reach.

Family planning is equally fraught. Pregnancy is possible but risky for both mother and child.

She recalled friends who made difficult choices.

One had three children, two of whom developed lupus –

highlighting the complex mix of genetic and environmental factors still not fully understood.

Stigma, too, deepens the struggle. Because lupus is often labelled a "women's disease", men may delay seeking treatment, despite typically experiencing more severe complications.

She hopes workplaces will evolve to support lupus patients rather than shut them out.

"Employers should learn how to support staff with chronic illness instead of turning them away," she said.

Flexible hours, understanding about medical leave and clear policies could help patients remain productive while protecting their health.

Despite the challenges, Illani remains determined.

"Therapy gives me the tools to stay functional," she said.

"And being part of the association shows me people can return to work, raise families and live fully – even after the worst flare-ups."

— By KIRTINEE RAMESH

Nine held over road bullying case

KUALA LUMPUR: Police have arrested nine individuals, including six underage boys, over a road bullying case involving a group of motorcyclists and a car near the Batu 13 Toll Plaza in Puchong on Sunday.

Serdang police chief ACP Muhammad Farid Ahmad said the suspects, aged 13 to 21, were detained around Puchong and Shah Alam on Sunday and Monday, with three motorcycles seized.

He added that the suspects have been remanded for four days until Friday after being brought before the Petaling Jaya Magistrate's Court yesterday.

A 52-year-old security guard lodged a report at 10.04pm on Sunday over the incident, which occurred about 4am the same day when the victim and a friend stopped near the toll plaza to make a phone call.

"The victim drove off without responding when asked if they were police officers, but was later chased by the motorcyclists, who demanded he stop. His car was also kicked, causing damage."

The case is being investigated under Sections 279 and 427 of the Penal Code.

Muhamad Farid urged the public to drive responsibly and report criminal activities to the police.

A video of the incident has been widely circulated on social media, showing the victim's car being surrounded by about 20 motorcyclists, with one rider seen punching the driver's side window and kicking the door, forcing the victim to slow down. — Bernama

Update licence for Budi95 subsidy: Transport minister

► 'Records tied to old identity card numbers, police or military IDs not recognised by system'

■ BY IKHWAN ZULKAFLEE
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PUTRAJAYA: Transport Minister Anthony Loke said yesterday about 70,000 Malaysians risk missing out on the subsidised RON95 petrol simply because they have not updated their driving licence details.

He said while these motorists technically hold valid licences, their records are stuck in the past, some still tied to old identity card numbers, police or military IDs.

"Take a retired policeman, for example. If his licence still uses his police ID, the system will not recognise him. Only those with the

new 12-digit MyKad number are eligible."

He urged retirees and uniformed body personnel in particular to update their records at any Road Transport Department (RTD) branch, adding that that no fees would be charged.

He also said the update cannot be done online, as a thumbprint is required for citizenship verification.

"Don't panic if you face issues at the pump. First, check the IC number on your licence," he said, adding that the update takes about a week before the subsidy kicks in.

Special RTD counters would be set up nationwide to fast-track the process, with data sent to the Finance Ministry and cross-checked with the National Registration Department.

Loke said Malaysians working in Singapore who have Singapore licences but drive vehicles registered in Malaysia would also qualify. He also said the authorities would set up a mechanism to address this matter.

However, he said he did not have the exact figure of how many Malaysians currently hold Singapore driving licences.

Since the launch of the Budi95 subsidy on Sept 30, no major hiccups have been reported at petrol stations, although driving licence renewals have increased, from 17,000 a day to 27,000.

The minister also revealed that 878,279 licence holders in Malaysia are non-citizens, who will now have to pay the market rate of RM2.60 per litre.

"Previously, the government was subsidising petrol for nearly 900,000 foreigners.

"With targeted subsidies, only Malaysians will benefit. This would save billions of ringgit annually."



Loke said it would take approximately a week for the subsidy to take effect after a driving licence has been updated. — AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THE SUN

Road safety group probing lorry involved in toll crash

■ BY HARITH KAMAL
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PETALING JAYA: The death of a one-year-old toddler in a crash at the Bukit Kajang Toll Plaza on Sept 27 has renewed calls for stricter vehicle maintenance and tougher enforcement of child passenger safety. The collision, involving a lorry and three other vehicles, also left seven others injured.

The Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (Miros) said its Accident Investigation Team is

conducting a full technical assessment of the lorry, including its braking system to determine if mechanical failure or other factors were to blame.

Miros is working closely with the police, the Road Transport Department and the Land Public Transport Agency to ensure a comprehensive investigation. The findings, it said, will help shape preventive measures.

According to police data, eight children are killed on Malaysian roads every week, adding up to an average of 434 young lives lost annually

between 2014 and 2023.

Stressing the dangers posed by heavy vehicles, Miros highlighted that regular maintenance is critical for safety, particularly for commercial lorries operating frequently and carrying heavy loads.

"Past studies by the institute showed that over 1,000 fatal accidents involving heavy vehicles occurred annually between 2011 and 2015, with more than 80% of deaths involving other road users."

Miros also said road safety must be reinforced on two fronts, proper

maintenance of heavy vehicles and better compliance with child restraint rules.

"Road crashes could happen at any time, but many lives could be saved if vehicles are properly maintained, traffic laws are followed, and passenger safety is prioritised."

Past Miros studies showed more than 1,000 fatal crashes involving heavy vehicles occurred annually between 2011 and 2015, with more than 80% of victims being other road users.

Most crashes happened on highways, with rear-end and side

collisions being the most common. Motorcyclists made up the largest group of fatalities.

A 2022 study found only 31.9% of public and commercial vehicle operators complied with the Industry Code of Practice for Transport Safety. Compliance among lorry operators was the lowest at 4%.

"These findings point to the urgent need for targeted measures on heavy vehicles, including stricter speed controls, GPS monitoring, improved road design and enhanced training and safety audits."

Loke stands by comment on importance of child safety seats

PUTRAJAYA: Transport Minister Anthony Loke has stood by his stance that child safety seats save lives in road accidents, despite criticism over his recent remarks following a fatal crash at the Bukit Kajang toll plaza.

Loke's earlier comments, seen by some as suggesting that a toddler's death in the incident could have been prevented with a child seat, sparked debate online.

"I stand by my position and want to remind everyone of the importance of child seats for children.

"You could criticise me, but do not forget, if there are children in the car, please secure them in a child seat for their safety," he told reporters at the Transport Ministry yesterday.

"As a minister, whatever we do would be criticised, so I will be patient. If you want to criticise me, go ahead."

Loke said the ministry would continue pushing for wider use of child seats among Malaysians.

"We will step up awareness campaigns."

On Monday, he revealed that preliminary findings showed the toddler killed in last Saturday's multi-vehicle crash had not been secured in a child seat.

"This is a reminder to everyone.

When the Transport Ministry mandates or encourages the use of child seats, many people complain.

"But this incident proves their importance. The child was thrown from the vehicle and became trapped under another car."

The crash occurred when a lorry with faulty brakes ploughed into three other vehicles heading towards the Bukit Kajang toll plaza.

The impact killed 12-month-old Amir Husayn instantly after he was flung out of the car.

Seven others were injured and rushed to the Kajang Hospital, Serdang Hospital and the KPJ Kajang Specialist Hospital for treatment.

The lorry driver, who jumped out moments before the collision, is now under investigation.

— By Ikhwan Zulkaflee

Local cuisine **shines** in New Zealand

► M'sian-owned eatery serves classic dishes including *rendang*, *roti canai* and *nasi lemak*

THERE was a time when most Westerners shied away from spicy food. Today, dishes such as *rendang* and curry are some of their favourites, a reality clearly visible at Desa Corner, a restaurant in Central Auckland owned by two Malaysians.

Although barely two years old, the eatery has made a name for itself and built a loyal following among both locals and members of the Malaysian diaspora.

"Those from the West are not like before. These days they come in already knowing what they want to order. Malaysian *roti canai* is number one, and they must have it with *rendang* or curry," said co-owner Azli Musa, 48, in a recent interview with Bernama.

Azli, who hails from Simpang Renggam in Johor, has called New Zealand home since 2007. His journey reflects the resilience of starting over in a foreign land and building something from scratch.

As the old saying goes, a good seed thrown into the sea becomes an island, cast into the sky becomes a star and flung into the forest becomes a mountain.

Now settled with his family, he shared how he worked his way up before founding Desa Corner.

"I started from the bottom. After

arriving here, I worked in the hospitality industry. I gained experience in that field for eight years," he said, adding that he later switched to carpentry.

"I did all kinds of work, cutting wood, building cabinets, installing walls, constructing kitchens and repairing houses, for nearly nine years. I saved up slowly, because I always wanted to open an eatery."

That dream first came true in 2018 when he opened the Dapur Johor stall at the Wellington Food Court. But Covid-19 struck, and the stall, which had begun to gain popularity, was forced to close.

"When the lockdowns started, we could not continue. That period was extremely challenging for me."

Circumstances then reunited him with a fellow Malaysian friend, a chef with more than 20 years of experience.

"We have known each other for a long time, but we lost touch. So when we met again and he suggested opening a restaurant together, I thought this was my second chance. We didn't just pool our capital, we also planned the menu and operations together."

As a result, in November 2023, Desa Corner officially opened its doors. Azli manages the daily



The murals in the restaurant were painted by Azli's (inset) friend Fitri, who spent two months recreating popular Malaysian characters such as Keluang Man, Usop Sontorian, Mat Despatch and others. – **BERNAMAPIC**



running of the business, while his partner, who prefers not to be named, focuses on the kitchen.

Centred around Johor-Malay cuisine, the restaurant also serves popular dishes from Thailand and Indonesia.

It now employs seven staff, most of them Malaysian students working part-time.

Marsya Maisarah Zainudin, 23, from Kuching, said the experience of studying and working abroad has taught her independence while giving her hands-on knowledge of the hospitality field.

"We are trained to treat customers like family. It is not just work, we learn about respect, service and culture," said Marsya, who recently completed

her bachelor's degree in biology at the University of Auckland.

Among the regulars is 72-year-old Nancy Wrigley, who was born in Kuala Lumpur but has lived in New Zealand for more than 35 years. She said she loves not only the food but also the atmosphere.

"The ambience here reminds me of home and when I'm here I feel like I'm back in Malaysia," said Nancy, who favours the *nasi lemak*.

The murals in the restaurant were painted by Azli's friend Fitri, who spent two months recreating popular Malaysian characters such as Keluang Man, Usop Sontorian, Mat Despatch, Upin & Ipin, Didi & Friends, as well as iconic characters by cartoonist Datuk Lat.

"We want customers to relive their childhood days, because these were the cartoon characters we waited to watch on TV. Even when living abroad, we must hold on to our 'village soul,'" said Azli.

To complete the experience, traditional music and songs by Asean artistes, especially Malaysians such as Datuk Seri Siti Nurhaliza, are played as background ambience.

Despite not running large marketing campaigns, Desa Corner continues to attract customers, including Malaysian public figures. During the writer's visit, actress-director Erma Fatima, her sister Umi Aida, actor Bell Ngasri and actress Nora Danish were seen dining there with a production crew while filming a movie.

"We do not have the budget for big marketing but people still find us, because when they are satisfied with the food and our service, they share it on (social media)."

With space for up to 100 customers, Azli has also introduced a "sharing dish" concept suitable for office functions or large gatherings.

"If you come in a big group, order a 10-person set menu. We lay out the food in the middle of the table so everyone can taste," he said, adding that he strives to keep prices reasonable.

As the conversation drew to a close, he shared a message for other entrepreneurs: "Courtesy matters. Customers appreciate sincere service."

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BRIEFS

CHEMICAL LEAK KILLS FIVE IN CHINA

ZHENGZHOU: Five people were killed and three others were hospitalised after toxic gas leaked in a factory restroom in Hebi, central China's Henan Province, said local authorities, reported Xinhua. The incident occurred at 7am on Monday at the Hexin Chemical Industry Co. Ltd. in Shancheng District, when a suspected leak from a sulfuric-acid storage tank sent acid into the plant's stormwater system and then into a septic tank, where it reacted to produce hydrogen sulfide gas. One of the injured is in serious but stable condition while the others sustained minor injuries, the district's emergency management bureau said yesterday. Operations have been suspended and all personnel have been evacuated from the site while a full investigation is underway. – Bernama-Xinhua

N. KOREA TO BOOST TIES WITH BEIJING

SEOUL: North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui said the country's unwavering position is to further strengthen ties with China, state media KCNA reported yesterday. During her visit to China, she met with Chinese Premier Li Qiang, KCNA said. Li told Choe that China has highly valued relations with North Korea, reaffirming its position to promote bilateral ties from a strategic and long-term perspective, KCNA reported. – Reuters

Vietnam mobilises aid after typhoon and storm

HANOI: Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has directed ministries, sectors and provincial authorities to take immediate action to support people in storm-hit areas as the country grapples with the aftermath of *Typhoon Bualoi, Storm No. 10* and severe flooding, Vietnam News Agency reported.

The typhoon swept into the mainland with powerful winds and heavy rain over a prolonged period, leaving widespread destruction.

According to preliminary figures from the Agriculture and Environment Ministry, at least 19 people have died, 13 remain missing, eight are out of contact and 88 others have been injured.

More than 105,000 homes were unroofed or destroyed, with the central province of Hà Tĩnh suffering nearly 79,000 cases and Nghệ An Province close to 20,000.

Thousands of houses were inundated and nearly 3,000 households have been cut off.

Over 9,400ha of rice and crops and 1,700ha of aquaculture farms were lost to flooding.

Infrastructure, including roads, irrigation systems, embankments and production facilities, has also been badly damaged. – Bernama-VNA

Rescuers search for missing after school collapses

➤ Three killed, nearly 80 taken to hospital: Indonesian disaster mitigation agency

JAKARTA: Indonesian rescuers were scrambling yesterday to locate at least 38 people feared trapped under rubble after an Islamic boarding school collapsed in the province of East Java, disaster mitigation authorities said.

More than 100 students had gathered to perform afternoon prayers when the multistorey

building suddenly collapsed, state news agency Antara reported, citing a witness.

Three were killed and about 100 were evacuated in Monday's incident at the Al Khoziny school in the town of Sidoarjo when the unstable building collapsed during construction, the disaster mitigation agency said in a statement.

"This sudden occurrence caused building material to fall on dozens of students and workers," said agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari.

He said a bulldozer was among the heavy equipment that searchers were using to shift the rubble, and nearly 80 injured individuals were taken to hospital.

Earlier, East Java police spokesperson Jules Abraham Abast said authorities were working to establish how many victims were still at the scene.

"We, along with relevant stakeholders, are communicating

with relevant parties, including the Islamic boarding school, to determine the exact number of victims who are still or may still be trapped in the rubble."

Video images from news channel KompasTV showed families of students clustered around a whiteboard looking at a list of survivors.

The agency said the building's foundations allegedly could not support the weight of construction.

One of the boarding school heads Abdus Salam Mujib said the building had collapsed after workers poured concrete for the third floor of the building.

"The building only had three floors. The plan was to have four floors with a flat roof," he told reporters.

"Upper levels of the building were planned to be used for classrooms and student activities while the lower floor was already used as a prayer room."

Lax construction standards have raised widespread concerns about building safety in Indonesia.

Earlier this month, at least three people were killed and dozens injured after a building hosting a prayer recital collapsed in West Java.

In a separate case, teenagers rehearsing for a musical show were among seven people killed in Cirebon, east of Jakarta in 2018 when the building they were in collapsed.

In addition, at least 75 people were injured the same year when a mezzanine floor at Indonesia's stock exchange building in Jakarta collapsed into the lobby. – AFP



Rescue personnel inspecting the site after the building collapsed. – AFP/PIIC

Asean provides support to flood-hit countries

PHNOM PENH: Asean diplomacy is transcending beyond its traditional contours of trade and politics, with the bloc's "rice diplomacy" extending support to thousands of flood-affected individuals across the Philippines, Laos and Myanmar.

The Asean Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) is mobilising humanitarian support for flood-affected countries in Southeast Asia as rough weather continues to batter the region.

Its latest assistance was to Laos, which has been suffering from back-to-back natural disasters.

"APTERR is ready to support Laos and we are working hand in hand to safeguard food security and build greater resilience against the growing challenges of climate change,"

APTERR General Manager Dr Choomjet Karnjanakesorn told Bernama from Bangkok on Monday.

The rice handover ceremony was held in Vientiane on Sept 16.

Thousands of villagers in remote Laos are grappling with floods this year, especially after two major tropical cyclones, namely *Tropical Storm Wutip* in June and *Tropical Storm Wipha* in July, hit the tiny nation.

In late August, *Tropical Storm Kajiki* caused flash floods in several provinces in the tourist nation.

The *Laotian Times* reported that *Wutip* and *Wipha* damaged 527 villages, 24,500ha of agricultural land and 14 schools while 19 people perished in the floods.

Under the APTERR pre-position arrangement, the Plus Three countries,

namely China, Japan and South Korea, collectively contributed 1,050 metric tonnes of rice to Laos.

According to APTERR, South Korea contributed 750 metric tonnes while China and Japan provided 150 metric tonnes each, and the aid is expected to help nearly 170,000 people affected by severe floods and landslides.

APTERR was established in 2011 as part of an Asean initiative to ensure food security and alleviate poverty during emergencies among member countries.

"The total amount of rice donation is fixed at around 11,620 metric tonnes of milled rice annually, which would be allocated to four recipient countries, namely Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines.

"Although there is more

demand, APTERR rice is limited based on the amount of contributions," said Choomjet.

Humanitarian information portal ReliefWeb, in its regional summary posted on Monday, said 29 disasters were reported across the Asean region this year.

Tropical cyclones, floods, landslides, storms and wind-related events affected Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

"The world is facing extreme weather events and the growing impacts of climate change, which bring seasonal fluctuations and unpredictable calamities. Natural disasters are becoming more frequent and more destructive, threatening our livelihoods and food systems," said Choomjet. – Bernama

'Vapes in Philippines may contain cannabinoid'

MANILA: The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) yesterday cautioned that some vape products circulating in the country may contain the same synthetic cannabinoid components earlier found in "Tuklaw" cigarettes.

The Philippine News Agency reported that during the budget

hearing of the agency, its chief undersecretary Isagani Nerez said laboratory tests conducted in the Philippines and Singapore confirmed that "Tuklaw" cigarettes contained a harmful chemical listed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

He said the harmful chemical was also included in the Dangerous Drugs

Board's (DDB) classification of prohibited substances.

"Since we released our advisory, its circulation here has lessened. But now, we found out that the cannabinoid is present in vape products," he said, adding that further research is ongoing to verify the link.

Nerez assured the senate that once

confirmed, PDEA would request the DDB to issue a corresponding board resolution.

DDB Executive Director Undersecretary Earl Saavedra and Officer-In-Charge Chairperson Undersecretary Armando Ramoleta said the chemical mimics cannabis and is dangerous. – Bernama-PNA



US heading towards govt shutdown

► Senate Republican leader accuses Democrats of 'hostage-taking'

WASHINGTON: The United States government was heading towards a shutdown yesterday, with funding expiring at midnight and Democrats and Republicans digging in on their respective demands.

A last-gasp meeting at the White House on Monday yielded no breakthrough on the issue, with top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer later saying "large differences" remained between both sides.

His party, in the minority in both chambers of Congress, is seeking to flex its rare leverage over the federal government, eight months into Donald Trump's barnstorming second presidency that has seen entire government agencies dismantled.

Rules in the 100-member Senate require government funding Bills to receive 60 votes, seven more than the Republicans control.

Unless Congress passes a Bill before midnight to fund federal operations, the government would partially close up shop, plunging Washington into a new round of political crisis.

A shutdown would see non-essential operations grind to a halt, leaving hundreds of thousands of civil servants temporarily without pay and disrupting payment of many social safety-net benefits.

The White House upped the ante last week by ordering government agencies to prepare for layoffs that would go beyond the usual practice of temporary furloughs during a shutdown.

The move would add to the pain of government workers after large-scale firings orchestrated by tycoon Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency earlier this year.

Government shutdowns are deeply unpopular in the United States, and Democrats and Republicans try to avoid the scenario while blaming the other camp should a closure arise.

"This is purely and simply hostage-taking on behalf of the Democrats," Senate Republican leader John Thune said on Monday of Schumer's demands.

Republicans have proposed to extend current funding until late November, pending negotiations on a longer-term spending plan.

Democrats want to see hundreds of billions of dollars in healthcare spending restored, particularly in the Obamacare health insurance programme for low-income households, which the Trump administration plans to eliminate through its so-called "big, beautiful" domestic policy Bill passed in July.

They also want to block Trump and Republicans from cutting approved funds later through the so-called "rescissions" process, as they did this summer. The process requires only a simple majority to pass.

Schumer said: "Ultimately, Trump is the decision-maker. And if he would accept some of the things we asked, which we think the American people are for, on healthcare and on rescissions, he could avoid a shutdown, but there are still large differences between us."

Vice-President J.D. Vance accused the Democrats of putting "a gun to the American people's head" with their funding demands.

"I think we are headed to a shutdown because the Democrats will not do the right thing," he said on Monday.

The House has already passed a short-term funding extension and Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson has sought to force Senate Democrats' hands by not bringing his chamber back to Washington this week.

Johnson, speaking alongside Vance and Thune, accused Democrats on Monday of "trying to bring in extraneous issues" instead of accepting his chamber's "clean" proposal to extend funding.

"If the Democrats make the decision to shut the government down, the consequences are on them and I think it is absolutely tragic," he said.

The gridlocked Congress regularly runs into deadlines to agree on spending plans.

In March, with the threat of a shutdown already looming, Republicans refused to engage in dialogue with Democrats over massive budget cuts and the layoffs of thousands of federal employees.

That time, 10 Senate Democrats, including Schumer, reluctantly voted for that Republican stopgap measure to avoid a shutdown. However, their decision angered the party base, which is calling on Democratic leaders to stand up to Trump. – AFP

BRIEFS

WASHINGTON DEPORTS IRANIANS AFTER MAKING DEAL WITH TEHRAN

NEW YORK: The Trump administration deported a planeload of around 100 Iranians back to Iran from the United States, the *New York Times* reported yesterday, citing two senior Iranian officials involved in the negotiations and a US official with knowledge of the plans. Iranian officials said a US-chartered flight took off from Louisiana on Monday night and was scheduled to arrive in Iran by way of Qatar sometime yesterday, the report added. Reuters could not immediately verify the report. – Reuters

SOLDIERS MISSING, INJURED FOLLOWING PROTESTS IN ECUADOR

QUITO: Ecuador's government on Monday condemned the weekend's violent incidents in Imbabura province, which left one civilian dead, 12 soldiers injured and 17 others missing during massive protests, reported Xinhua. The protests were triggered after the government announced on Sept 12 that it would end diesel subsidies, sparking fierce opposition from transport unions, indigenous communities and workers. On Sept 16, a 60-day state of emergency was declared in seven provinces. – Bernama-Xinhua



APPRAISING WRECKAGE ... A man standing next to a damaged car after a flood that was caused by a storm in Zapopan, Jalisco state in Mexico on Monday. – AFP/PIIC

Colombian minister renounces American visa in solidarity

BOGOTA: Colombia's Foreign Minister Rosa Villavicencio has announced that she would voluntarily renounce her US visa in a show of solidarity with President Gustavo Petro, whose visa was revoked, Anadolu Ajansi reported.

"This is an act of dignity in the face of the unacceptable decision to revoke the visa of the president of Colombia. Our sovereignty does not bow down. Colombia must be respected."

Villavicencio acknowledged that relations with the United States are "tense" after the US State Department announced on Friday that it would revoke Petro's visa due to his "incendiary actions" during a pro-Palestinian street protest in New York.

"Earlier today, Colombian president @petrogustavo stood on a street and urged US soldiers to disobey orders and incite violence," the department wrote on X.

While in New York for the United Nations General Assembly, Petro had addressed a group of protesters.

"I ask all soldiers in the US army not to point their rifles at humanity. Disobey Trump's order! Obey the order of humanity!" he said.

Petro, upon his return to Bogota, confirmed his visa revocation but dismissed the action.

"I no longer have a visa to travel to the United States. I do not care," he said, citing his status as a European citizen as a reason he does not need a visa to enter the United States.

The visa revocation is the latest development in escalating tensions between the two nations.

Colombia's Interior Minister Armando Benedetti publicly sided with Petro, suggesting on X that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visa should have been revoked instead.

"But since the empire protects him, it is taking it out on the only president who was capable enough to tell him the truth to his face."

This diplomatic friction follows a series of recent conflicts, including Colombia's move at the beginning of the year to block two US military planes carrying deported migrants from landing on its territory.

The Trump administration then revoked visas for Colombian officials and threatened to impose 25% tariffs on Colombian goods.

Last week, the United States decertified Colombia as an ally in the fight against drugs. – Bernama-Anadolu

Venezuela ready to declare state of emergency

CARACAS: Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said on Monday he is ready to declare a state of emergency over the threat of US "aggression", following a spate of deadly US strikes on suspected Venezuelan drug boats.

"Today, the consultation process began to declare a state of emergency in accordance with the Constitution and to protect our people, our peace and our stability if Venezuela were attacked by the American empire, attacked militarily."

Earlier in the day, Vice-President Delcy Rodriguez told foreign diplomats that Maduro had signed a decree giving himself "special powers" as head of state to act in matters of defence and security in the event the United States "dares to attack our homeland".

However, a government source told AFP that Maduro had not yet signed the document.

"The vice-president presented the document to show that everything was ready

and that the president could decree it at any time," the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Maduro, a left-wing authoritarian, placed Venezuela on high alert over a major US military deployment near his country's coast.

US President Donald Trump has deployed eight warships and a nuclear-powered submarine to the southern Caribbean as part of a stated plan to address drug trafficking, but which appears aimed at pressuring Maduro.

US forces have destroyed at least three suspected drug boats in the Caribbean in recent weeks, killing 14 people in a move decried as "extrajudicial execution" by United Nations (UN) experts.

US military officials are drawing up options to target drug traffickers inside Venezuela's borders, according to a report by US news outlet NBC, citing four sources familiar with the discussions.

Declaring a state of emergency would allow Maduro, whose disputed re-election last year was not recognised by much of the international community, to temporarily suspend Venezuelans' basic rights.

Rodriguez was confident that Venezuelans would unite behind Maduro in the event of a US attack.

"Venezuela is united in the defence of our country. We would never surrender our homeland."

In his address, Maduro said he had "good feedback" from a private conversation with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

He said Guterres had expressed "astonishment at an unprecedented escalation, an extravagant escalation, which, for almost seven weeks, was announced and launched against a peaceful country, Venezuela."

These assertions have not been confirmed by the UN. – AFP

Trump's Gaza plan wins backing of Netanyahu

➤ If Hamas rejects plan, our nation will finish job by itself, says Israel

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump managed to secure Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's backing for a wide-ranging Gaza peace plan on Monday, and the leaders warned that Israel would "finish the job" against Hamas if the Palestinian militant group rejected the deal.

Hamas has yet to give its judgment on the proposal that Trump unveiled at the White House alongside Netanyahu, leaving uncertainty swirling around the fate of the 20-point plan to end the war.

The plan calls for a ceasefire, release of hostages by Hamas within 72 hours, disarmament of Hamas and gradual Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, followed by a post-war transitional authority headed by Trump.

"I support your plan to end the war in Gaza, which achieves our war aims," said Netanyahu in a joint press conference with Trump.

"If Hamas rejects your plan or if they supposedly accept it and then basically do everything to counter it, then Israel would finish the job by itself."

Trump said Israel would have his "full backing" to do so if Hamas did not accept the deal.

However, he insisted that peace in the Middle East is "beyond very close" and described the announcement of the plan as "potentially one of the great days ever in civilisation".

Reaction was global and swift. Eight key Arab and Muslim nations, namely Egypt, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Indonesia and Pakistan,

hailed the agreement's "sincere efforts" in the wake of their own talks with Trump last week.

Washington's European allies voiced support, with the leaders of France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Italy sharing strong expressions of support for the plan.

European Union Chief Antonio Costa urged all parties to "seize this moment to give peace a genuine chance".

However, after the announcement, Trump said the two leaders would not take

questions from reporters as talks with key parties were ongoing.

Trump's plan sparked mixed reactions in a region scarred by nearly two years of war.

A senior Hamas official said the group would "respond once we receive it".

Gaza residents expressed scepticism that Trump's plan could end the war.

"We as a people will not accept this farce," said Abu Mazen Nassar, 52.

The Palestinian Authority, which is based in the West Bank but would be set for a role in a post-war Gaza government, welcomed Trump's "sincere and determined efforts".

But the deal is full of pitfalls for Hamas and Israel, and the details

could be battled over for weeks or months.

For Hamas, the plan demands the militants fully disarm and be excluded from future roles in the government, although those who agree to "peaceful coexistence" would be granted amnesty.

Netanyahu could also face trouble selling the deal to far-right members of his Cabinet.

He stressed that Israeli forces would retain responsibility for Gaza security "for the foreseeable future" and cast doubt on the Palestinian Authority's role.

Trump's plan leaves hope for Palestinian statehood, something he said Netanyahu had strongly objected to during the meeting. – AFP



A Palestinian cooking next to children in front of a tent at a camp for displaced people in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip. – AFP/PICT

Ukraine villages captured: Russia

MOSCOW: Russian forces have taken control of two more frontline settlements in key areas of eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region, the Russian Defence Ministry said on Monday.

Ukrainian officials did not address the Russian announcement concerning the two villages, but President Volodymyr Zelensky said Kyiv's counter-offensive operation near the town of Dobropillia, also in Donetsk region, made progress.

Reuters could not independently verify battlefield accounts from either side.

The Russian Defence Ministry said its forces are in control of Shandryholove and Zarichne, both northeast of the city of Sloviansk, one of the centres Moscow hopes eventually to capture in its drive westward through Donetsk region.

Video released by Russia's Defence Ministry purports to show Russian troops moving from building to building and holding aloft a Russian flag as they take control of Shandryholove.

Moscow has been advancing slowly along the frontline crossing eastern and southern areas of Ukraine, announcing the capture of new villages nearly every day.

It does not release casualty figures but Ukrainian and Western military analysts say the advances have come at a high cost in men and equipment.

Ukraine's military made no acknowledgment of Zarichne changing hands, but a lengthy media report on Saturday said the village was under Ukrainian control, although Russian soldiers had entered parts of it.

Zelensky said Ukraine's Dobropillia counter-offensive, near the key logistics centre of Pokrovsk, was proceeding, with Ukraine having recaptured 175 square kilometres.

Russia now holds about 19% of Ukrainian territory.

Zelensky also said the situation was "not easy" in Kupiansk, a town long under Russian attack in northeastern Kharkiv region, and in parts of Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk region.

He added that Ukrainian servicemen were "doing everything they can to defend their positions". – Reuters

Taliban imposes communications blackout in Afghanistan

KABUL: Afghanistan faced a second day without internet and phone service yesterday after Taliban authorities cut the fibre optic network.

Taliban authorities began shutting down high speed internet connections to some provinces earlier in the month to prevent "vice".

On Monday night, phone signal and internet service gradually weakened until connectivity was less than 1% of ordinary levels, according to internet watchdog NetBlocks.

It is the first time since the Taliban

government won their insurgency in 2021 and imposed a strict version of Islamic law that communications have been shut down in the country.

"We are blind without phones and internet," said 42-year-old shopkeeper Najibullah in Kabul.

"All our business relies on phones. The deliveries are with phones. It is like a holiday, everyone is at home. The market is totally frozen."

In the minutes before it happened, a government official warned AFP that fibre optics would be cut,

affecting phone services.

The official said "eight to nine thousand telecommunications pillars" would be shut down, adding that the blackout would last "until further notice".

"There is not any other way or system to communicate. The banking sector, customs, everything across the country would be affected," said the official who asked not to be named.

Netblocks said the blackout "appears consistent with the intentional disconnection of service".

AFP lost all contact with its bureau in the capital Kabul at 5.45pm (1315 GMT).

"Because of the shutdown, I am totally disconnected with my family in Kabul," a 40-year-old Afghan living in Oman told AFP via text, asking not to be named.

"I do not know what is happening, I am really worried."

Telephone services are often routed over the internet, sharing the same fibre lines, especially in countries with limited

telecoms infrastructure.

Over the past weeks, internet connections have been extremely slow or intermittent.

On Sept 16, Balkh provincial spokesperson Attaullah Zaid said fibre optic internet was completely banned in the northern province on the Taliban's orders.

"This measure was taken to prevent vice. Alternative options would be put in place across the country to meet connectivity needs," he wrote on social media. – AFP

Turkiye delivers food, medical supplies to aid flotilla

ISTANBUL: The Turkish Red Crescent on Monday provided food and medical supplies to the Global Sumud Flotilla, which is en route to deliver humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip, Anadolu Ajansi reported.

It delivered aid to the ships of the 50-strong flotilla, which are continuing their voyage through the Mediterranean in the area between

Crete, the island of Cyprus and Egypt.

On Monday, Türkiye coordinated the evacuation of passengers from flotilla vessel *Johnny M* after it called for help due to its taking on water.

French captain Bernard Pierre Laguna said: "The water started pulling the boat downward. We lost control and everyone on board had to be evacuated. I was the captain and

there were 12 people on board. We transferred everyone to a safe vessel. After all this, I just want to return home to Marseille."

Yasemin Acar, one of the activists in the Global Sumud Flotilla, said their only goal was to reach Gaza.

"The weather was rough, we were bombed. We were stopped several times, but morale is high. We are here

because we all understand that Gaza needs this and we are not giving up. Right now, there are over 40 vessels and hundreds of activists from all over the world are on board."

The Turkish Red Crescent and other authorities took action to coordinate the evacuation from the ship in distress, which carried passengers from countries such as

Luxembourg, France, Finland, Mexico and Malaysia.

The flotilla emphasised that the operation was carried out smoothly thanks to the rapid coordination of the Turkish government and the contributions of the Turkish Red Crescent on the ground during the evacuation process. – Bernama-Anadolu



Trump's UN fiddling as America burns

THE analogy by critics that US President Donald Trump was fiddling in the United Nations whilst Washington D.C. is starting to burn or is already burned may appear unkind.

But even his most fervent supporters must be wondering how his speech and behaviour in the widely publicised appearance at the UN fits with the game plan of "Making America Great Again", which the American electorate has put their faith in him to accomplish.

The main points he made to the representatives of the 193 member countries at the UN General Assembly (Unga) included:

- ➔ **Attack on the UN and globalism:** He launched a strong assault on the UN, describing it as "feckless", "corrupt" and a "pernicious global force" that was not fulfilling its purpose. He explicitly rejected the concepts and principles of globalism and multilateralism in favour of national sovereignty.

- ➔ **Immigration and border control:** A major focus was on immigration, which he called an existential threat to Western nations. He urged countries, particularly in Europe, to "end the failed experiment of open borders", "close their borders" and "expel foreigners", warning that their countries were otherwise "going to hell". He accused the UN of leading and funding a "globalist migration agenda" that was an "assault" on Western countries.

- ➔ **Climate change and energy policy:** He denounced climate change as "the greatest con job ever perpetrated on the world" and heavily criticised the "green energy agenda". He ridiculed renewable sources like wind farms and promoted the use of "traditional energy sources", including "clean, beautiful coal", claiming that high energy costs and "suicidal energy ideas" were "destroying a large part of the free world".

- ➔ **Trade and tariffs:** He reaffirmed his policy of raising tariffs on countries that he claimed had broken international trade rules and "plundered" the factories of nations that followed the rules. Earlier, when announcing the US tariff war, he had used similar aggressive rhetoric to describe a global trade system that the US helped to build after World War II and benefitted enormously from, saying "our country has been looted, pillaged, raped, plundered" by other nations.



ANOTHER TAKE
BY LIM TECK GHEE

Global opinion

Critics, including diplomats and commentators from Asean, have viewed the speech as an embarrassing performance and a long and humiliating rant.

Many saw it as a debacle and a caricature of everything the UN was built to prevent. It showed disdain for the organisation's core mission of global cooperation and objective to bring countries together to ensure peace and security, and meet the challenges of our time. The address appears to have been mainly directed at developed nations as it singled out European allies over their policies. By doing so, he amplified concerns about the reliability of the US as a global partner.

Analysts had earlier noted that foreign leaders were being forced to recalculate their national strategies around the unpredictability of US commitments in foreign policymaking. Trump's speech not only reinforced this perception; it also brought into full view to Asian allies the spectacle of a new American determination to focus on extraction from them the monies and investment required for the US to return to the good old days when America was a global manufacturing leader and its economy was the envy of the world.

Some analysts have suggested that while Trump was listened to, he was not believed, noting that his rhetoric – once shocking – was now becoming normalised, chipping away at the notion of the US president as the leader of the free world.

Fact-checking Trump

Critics have widely noted that the speech was filled with exaggerations, half-truths and false statements.

What Western analysts and media have failed to point out is that Trump's speech condemning the UN appears ignorant of the fact that it is the US that has been the main stumbling block to the UN becoming a more effective global force.

The US's record in its adherence to the rules of international law has been abysmal. The US under its presidents since the beginning of the UN has always ranked low on measures of multilateralism and adherence to Unga majority votes.

The newly devised UN-based Multilateralism Index ranks the US as the



Trump's attack on the UN may distract from the domestic turmoil and sinking approval ratings but it opens space for groups pushing for a fairer global system. – AFP/PIIC

least committed country to UN-based multilateralism among UN member states or large country groups. This index considers factors such as ratification of major UN treaties, percentage of votes aligned with the international majority at the Unga, contribution to the UN budget and use of unilateral coercive measures.

US government agencies appear to be proud of the country's obstructionist and counterproductive role in the UN, with the Department of State 2022 report noting that the average voting coincidence between the US and other Unga countries was 48% for contested resolutions.

The US also voted against 53% of contested Unga resolutions in 2022, the most of any member state besides Israel. The percentage of US votes aligned with the international majority has been reported to be less than 25% in recent years, for example, 2018 to 2022.

Perhaps the only positive takeaway from Trump's speech was his call for world leaders to combat the spread of nuclear and biological weapons. This won't make any impression on the committee now

deliberating on the Nobel peace prize winner for this year to take special notice.

Uncovering Trump's real audience

The overall consensus is that the speech was primarily aimed at energising Trump's domestic political base rather than engaging seriously with the international community.

The attack on the international order may distract from the internal strife and turmoil churning in US politics, economy and society, and provide Trump with some relief as his approval rating drops further. However, it is creating an opening for BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation member countries to enhance their position and standing as defenders of a fairer global system.

Trump's obsession with self-interest, spectacles and personal grievances, while exacerbating the serious existential threats to his nation, may turn out to be a key game changer in international politics.

*Lim Teck Ghee's Another Take is aimed at demystifying social orthodoxy.
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Escaping the middle-income trap

COMMENT by Prof Datuk Dr Ahmad Ibrahim

THE spectre of the “middle-income trap” haunts many nations. Having clawed their way out of poverty through grit and low-cost manufacturing, they find progress stalling.

Wages rise, eroding their competitive edge against poorer rivals, yet they lack the advanced technology and productivity to compete with wealthier nations. It becomes an economic purgatory.

The diagnoses often point to two flaws: over-dependence on cheap labour and chronically low investment in innovation. Malaysia is among many. Having examined the evidence, the arguments are not only persuasive but fundamental to understanding and eventually escaping this trap.

Relying primarily on low wages is a strategy with an expiration date. As economies grow, basic supply and demand will push wages up. Workers will demand better living standards.

Suddenly, factories producing simple garments or assembling basic electronics will find themselves undercut by nations entering the development ladder with even lower costs, like Vietnam or Bangladesh, previously undercutting China.

This model creates a fragile economy – global demand shifts or automation can devastate sectors built solely on cost arbitrage. Profits are thin, capital accumulation is slow and reinvestment in upgrading is difficult. The workforce is not pushed or trained to handle more complex tasks, hindering upward

mobility. This is where the second flaw becomes crippling.

Without significant, sustained investment in research and development (R&D) and the absorption of new technologies, economies cannot climb the value chain. Low innovation investment means efficiency gains will stall. Output per worker will not increase sufficiently to justify higher wages without losing competitiveness and countries will remain stuck producing low-margin goods, unable to create or adopt high-value products and services.

Bright minds will seek opportunities elsewhere and domestic firms will lack the capacity to innovate, missing out on new markets.

Breaking free requires a deliberate, often difficult, shift in economic strategy. Massive, targeted investment in human capital is imperative. This goes beyond basic literacy; it means providing high-quality STEM education, world-class universities and lifelong vocational training aligned with future industries.

Skills must constantly evolve. Governments must lead in R&D spending (3%+ of GDP) through direct funding, powerful tax incentives and creating robust research institutions. Malaysia now spends around 1% GDP on R&D. Crucially, private sector R&D must increase.

Foster dynamic innovation ecosystem

This requires strong intellectual property rights to incentivise invention and attract foreign tech. We need venture capital funding for risky, long-term bets.

“For nations currently trapped, the path is clear: break the addiction to cheap wages and ignite an innovation revolution. The alternative is to remain forever on the treadmill, watching the world race ahead.”

University-industry linkages need strengthening to turn academic research into marketable products. There should also be digital and physical infrastructure for high-speed internet, reliable power and efficient logistics.

Governments must identify and nurture nascent high-potential sectors (for example, green tech, advanced manufacturing, AI and specialised services) – not through protectionism but by facilitating technology transfer, providing temporary support and demanding performance benchmarks.

Move beyond just exporting cheap goods – attract high-value foreign direct investment, integrate global knowledge networks and leverage trade agreements for technology access.

South Korea stands not just as an example but as the definitive case study in escaping the middle-income trap through this formula. Korea consciously moved away from pure cheap labour in textiles and shoes in the 1970s and 80s. It made a massive, state-backed bet on heavy industry (shipbuilding and steel) and on technology (electronics and semiconductors).

Korea now consistently ranks among the world’s top R&D spenders as a percentage of GDP (over 4%). This wasn’t accidental; it was a national priority driven by government policy and massive corporate investment.

A relentless focus on education, particularly in technical fields, created a highly skilled workforce capable of driving complex industries.

The government provided direction, subsidies and protection while demanding export performance and technological upgrading from giant conglomerates.

However, this model also had

downsides – inequality and cronyism – but it delivered the technological leap. Korea transformed from a war-torn agrarian economy to a global leader in electronics, automobiles and pop culture within two generations. It did not just escape the middle-income trap; it soared into the high-income stratosphere.

The diagnosis is sound: overreliance on cheap labour is a dead end and chronic under-investment in innovation is a recipe for stagnation.

South Korea’s extraordinary journey provides the most compelling evidence that escaping the trap is possible but it requires immense political will, strategic vision and sustained, massive investment in people and technology. It demands moving from imitation to creation.

For nations currently trapped, the path is clear: break the addiction to cheap wages and ignite an innovation revolution. The alternative is to remain forever on the treadmill, watching the world race ahead.

The Korean model isn’t perfect, nor easily replicated in full, but its core lessons – prioritise education, invest ruthlessly in R&D and strategically target high-value industries – are the indispensable keys to unlocking sustained prosperity.

The trap is not destiny but escape, which demands a fundamental rewrite of the economic playbook.

Prof Datuk Dr Ahmad Ibrahim is affiliated with the Tan Sri Omar Centre for STI Policy Studies at UCSI University and is an associate fellow at the Ungku Aziz Centre for Development Studies, Universiti Malaya. Comments: letters@thesundaily.com

Stretching your Sara aid: Cut waste, eat healthier and save more

COMMENT by Ang Zheng Feng

IMAGINE stacking 3,500 Petronas Twin Towers by weight. That is how much food the world wasted in 2022: a staggering 1.05 billion tonnes.

In Malaysia, we throw away 17,000 tonnes of food every day, and almost a quarter of it is still edible. That is enough to feed three million people three meals a day even as households struggle with rising grocery bills.

Food waste is not just about tossing out leftovers; it is a triple threat to our economy, environment and food security. Globally, food waste accounts for 8% to 10% of greenhouse gas emissions. It also squanders the resources needed to produce, transport and prepare food – including land, water, energy and labour.

Households are largest food wasters

Many assume that hotels and buffets are the main culprits but food waste starts at home. A study by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia found that households contribute 38.2% of the country’s food waste – more than hotels, restaurants or markets. In comparison, wet and night markets account for 24.5%, food courts and restaurants 23.4% and hotels 6.9%.

Smarter shopping, mindful eating

Researchers from Universiti Putra Malaysia found that nearly half of all

household food waste is due to spoilage and loss of freshness.

Simple habits like planning meals, buying only what is needed and repackaging bulk groceries into smaller portions can help reduce waste and save money.

Through World Vision Malaysia’s Eat Right to Play Right programme, we work with families in People’s Housing Programme communities to reduce food waste.

Parents learn to plan meals using the Malaysian Food Pyramid 2020, portion meals appropriately and store food safely. This helps cut waste and lower grocery bills.

Eating habits also play a role. Rice, noodles and vermicelli make up nearly 75% of plate waste while vegetables, which Malaysians already consume too little of, are often discarded.

The National Health and Morbidity Survey 2023 found that 95.1% of adults don’t consume enough fruits and vegetables, reflecting poor dietary habits and contributing to unnecessary food waste. One solution is to eat mindfully and stick to the recommended portions. This helps families save money and lower the risk of obesity and related health issues.

Sustainable food system

In a world of plenty, 673 million

people still go to bed hungry – a stark reminder that hunger is not just about food production but also about poverty and access.

In Malaysia, organisations like The Lost Food Project, Food Aid Foundation and Yayasan Food Bank rescue surplus food from supermarkets, hotels and markets, redistributing it to vulnerable communities.

We can support their efforts through donations, volunteering or partnerships.

Reducing food waste is essential for building a sustainable food system – one that ensures nutrition and food security for all without harming the economy, environment or social equity.

World Vision Malaysia’s experience shows that when families are equipped with the knowledge and skills to manage their food resources wisely, they can save money and redirect it towards essentials like education, helping to break the cycle of poverty.

Beyond the RM100 Sara aid

To help ease the cost of living, the government recently provided a one-off RM100 Sumbangan Asas Rahmah (Sara) payment to all individuals aged 18 and above.

While reactions to the RM100 aid were mixed, preventing food waste is key to making that amount stretch at least 25% further.

As we use our Sara aid, it is



In Malaysia, we throw away 17,000 tonnes of food every day, and almost a quarter of it is still edible. That is enough to feed three million people three meals a day. – **SYED AZAHAR SYED OSMAN THESUN**

important to remember that preventing waste is just as valuable as bargain-hunting. Every ringgit saved by reducing waste is a ringgit earned for the family.

By shopping, cooking and eating responsibly, we not only nourish ourselves but also contribute to a more sustainable food system for Malaysia’s future.

Quick tips to stretch your RM100 and cut waste

➡ **Plan before shopping** – make a grocery list and stick to it.

➡ **Store smart** – follow “first in, first out” and use proper storage methods.
➡ **Portion wisely** – order smaller portions of rice or noodles when dining out and finish your vegetables.
➡ **Check expiration labels** – “Use by” = safety; discard after this date. “Best before” = quality; if the food looks, smells and tastes fine, it is generally safe to eat.

Ang Zheng Feng is a health and nutrition officer with World Vision Malaysia. Comments: letters@thesundaily.com

Kuala Lumpur steps up as regional sustainability leader

► Mayor champions zero waste 2040, pushes 15-minute city vision

■ BY DEEPALAKSHMI MANICKAM
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KUALA LUMPUR: Kuala Lumpur is stepping up its role as a regional sustainability leader, with Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Maimunah Mohd Sharif unveiling bold urban resilience goals and championing the “15-minute city” concept as the model for future urban living.

Speaking at the recent launch of the third edition of KLCC Sustainable September, she underscored Kuala Lumpur City Hall’s (DBKL) Zero Waste 2040 Roadmap, which aims to cut waste at the source, strengthen the circular economy and ensure no resources are squandered.

The roadmap has already produced measurable results.

At Ramadan bazaars, more than 11 tonnes of surplus food worth RM140,000 were rescued and redirected into thousands of meals, preventing over 21,000 kilograms of carbon emissions.

“Successful transformation is never the work of the government alone. It builds on what I call the 4Ps, public, private and people partnerships. Sustainability is strongest when it is shared,” Maimunah said.

She added that KLCC Precinct already reflects the 15-minute city principle, providing density alongside quality services, connectivity, public spaces, and inclusivity.

She stressed that the city’s Local Plan 2040 sets ambitious targets: 70% of residents commuting by public transport, 305,000 affordable homes, 4,700 hectares of green space, and a clear pathway to net zero emissions.

These goals, she said, are being translated into tangible action through collaborations such as Sustainable September.

Kuala Lumpur’s leadership extends beyond the precinct.

The city recently hosted three major Asean gatherings such as the Asean Sustainable Urbanisation Forum, Asean Governors and

Mayors Forum and Meeting of Governors and Mayors of Asean Capitals.

These events produced the Kuala Lumpur Sustainable Declaration, which will be tabled at the Asean Leaders’ Summit in October. Maimunah herself has been appointed Special Envoy of Asean Cities and Local Governments, a recognition of Kuala Lumpur’s role in shaping regional sustainability policies.

“From this precinct to the city, to Asean, to the world the story is the same. Kuala Lumpur is leading by example,” she said, noting DBKL’s readiness to extend the KLCC model to other areas such as Bukit Bintang, Brickfields and Kampung Baru.

Datuk Sr Mohd Salem Kailany, Group CEO of KLCC (Holdings) Sdn Bhd, said the Sustainable September campaign embodies the precinct’s commitment to shaping a greener, more liveable precinct where business and leisure thrive sustainably.

“By embedding sustainability into everything we do, we are building a legacy of resilience and wellbeing for generations to come,” he said.

John Burke, chairman of the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre Business Events Alliance (KLCCBEA), added that sustainability is not an “add-on” but central to the precinct’s development.

“Through our collaboration with DBKL and Urbanice Malaysia, we are proud to

contribute to the city’s vision of a Liveable and Lovable Kuala Lumpur,” he said.

This year’s campaign, themed “Liveable and Lovable Precinct”, is supported by Urbanice Malaysia and features a precinct-wide fundraising initiative to raise RM30,000 for a charitable cause tied to sustainability and social good.

Activities at KLCC Park included a fun run, tree planting in partnership with the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) under the national 100 Million Tree Campaign, and a community Zumba session.

In total, 48 new trees will be planted this month, further strengthening the park’s role as a green lung in the city.

First launched in 2022, Sustainable September has grown into a precinct-wide movement, engaging hotels, retail and city partners. Its recognition at the Asean Sustainable Urbanisation Forum earlier this year underscored its potential as a scalable model for other parts of Kuala Lumpur and beyond.

As Maimunah concluded: “You have shown that sustainability is not a burden. It is a benefit. It is good for the planet, good for people, good for business and good for Kuala Lumpur.”



From left: Burke, Mohd Salem, Maimunah and Urbanice Malaysia CEO Norliza Hashim.

Knight Frank calls for industry-wide action on green goals

KUALA LUMPUR: Knight Frank Malaysia launched its 2024 ESG Report with a clear message to the corporate businesses: the time for pledges is over and the industry must move from ambition to measurable action.

The report details how the firm has cut absolute Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 22% compared to its 2019 baseline, achieved a 97% inclusion rating among employees, and sourced 100% of operational procurement locally, among others.

It also marks the second time Knight Frank Malaysia’s ESG performance has been verified by an independent third party and aligned with both Bursa Malaysia’s Sustainability Reporting Guide and Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

“We are not just reporting progress; we are setting a market benchmark,” said Group managing director Keith Ooi. “ESG is now a competitive advantage. If Malaysia’s real estate industry can integrate ESG at this scale, we can unlock investment, strengthen communities, and meet the climate challenge head-on.”

The 2024 report theme, “Defining Our Targets”, marks a shift from last year’s focus on understanding impact to delivering clear, measurable goals — including achieving net-zero emissions for Scopes 1, 2, and 3 by 2040, securing green building certification for corporate offices, and screening of active suppliers against ESG readiness criteria by 2025.

Knight Frank Malaysia’s work has already gained national recognition, earning a Silver Award in The Star ESG Positive Impact Awards (Governance, Reporting & Transparency category) and Second Runner-Up for the Outstanding ESG Award at the BMCC Business Excellence Awards.

Beyond the numbers, the report addresses urgent market needs. As Malaysia prepares for stricter disclosure requirements under Bursa Malaysia, the firm’s new ESG Advisory Services are helping investors and occupiers build strategic roadmaps, reduce emissions, optimise resources, and manage risk.

“The property sector is at the intersection of climate risk, regulatory pressure, and investor demand,” Ooi said, adding that this report shows that measurable ESG action is possible and absolutely necessary to remain competitive in the decade ahead.”

Key 2024 ESG highlights:

Environment: 22% reduction in Scope 2 emissions; 10% recycling rate; 100% local procurement; >100 plants added to managed properties.

Social: 94% employee satisfaction; 97% inclusion rating; women make up 40% of workforce and 38% of shareholders; 12% of CSR spend directed to women’s empowerment; 50% increase in community programme investment.

Governance: 85% completion rate for anti-bribery, AML, and data privacy training; over 2,000 hours of safety training; zero workplace injuries, bribery, corruption, or data breaches.

Gas Malaysia awards contracts for biomethane plants in Perak

SHAH ALAM: Gas Malaysia Bhd, a member of MMC Group, has awarded engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning contracts for its biomethane purification plants in Trong and Air Kuning, Perak.

The EPCC contracts were awarded to Malaysia-based companies MTC Orec Sdn Bhd and Enproserve (M) Sdn Bhd, underscoring support in empowering local industry and strengthening homegrown capabilities.

Scheduled for completion within 13 months, the project marks a significant milestone in expanding Gas Malaysia’s green gas portfolio and advancing Malaysia’s renewable energy agenda through its wholly owned subsidiary, Gas Malaysia Green Ventures Sdn Bhd (GMGV).

The biomethane purification plants are designed to process raw biogas by removing impurities and purifying it into cleaner, high-quality biomethane that meets natural gas

standards, providing a low-carbon alternative to fossil fuels.

After purification, the biomethane will be transported through a virtual pipeline system or tube skids before being injected into its existing natural gas distribution system to supply green gas that benefits industrial and local communities.

“Our commitment to sustainability is matched by our drive to deliver long-term growth for the state and the nation. By awarding local contracts, we are not only progressing a renewable energy project but also creating tangible economic and social value from local job opportunities to sustainable energy and thriving communities,” said Gas Malaysia president and group CEO, Ahmad Hashimi Abdul Manap.

Earlier this year, GMGV had launched Malaysia’s first centralised biomethane injection station in the southern region, offering a

centralised approach to inject biomethane into the natural gas grid.

Building on this milestone, the development has now been broadened to Perak, enabling greater access to green gas in the northern region.

Ahmad Hashimi said natural gas remains as an important part of the cleaner energy mix, and biomethane is proven to be a reliable alternative solution while contributing to the nation’s long-term renewable energy aspirations.

He added the strategic effort in the biomethane project is aligned with the National Energy Transition Roadmap and reinforces Gas Malaysia’s commitment to support Malaysia’s clean energy transition.

In advancing the development of the biomethane business value chain upstream, GMGV will continue to expand the green gas business.



Malaysia prioritises NCI protection

► Safeguarding National Critical Information Infrastructure not optional – it's a national imperative for the country to function securely: Gobind

BY JOHN GILBERT
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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia must strengthen its National Critical Information Infrastructure (NCII) to safeguard daily life and business continuity in an increasingly digital world.

"As we move into a future where we depend almost entirely on digital technologies, we must ensure an ecosystem that equips us with the necessary tools to function securely," Digital Minister Gobind Singh Deo said at the opening ceremony of the Cyber Digital Services, Defence and Security Asia Exhibition and Conference 2025 (CyberDSA 2025) yesterday.

"If there were a cyberattack on our NCII, the consequences would be severe – we would lose access to the very information and tools needed to succeed daily," he said.

Gobind stressed that protecting NCII is no longer optional but a national imperative, central to Malaysia's digital ambitions.

"This is what we mean when we speak about NCII," he added. "It underpins everything, from business operations to the everyday tools people rely on."

Gobind said trust must be redefined in the digital era, as emerging technologies reshape how people, businesses and governments connect.

"In today's world, we all speak about connectivity – 4G, 5G, IoT. Over the past five years, these technologies

have empowered us, transformed businesses, optimised industries and even changed how governments deliver digital services to their people."

He pointed to ongoing showcases that highlight these breakthroughs, while underscoring that the next frontier is already here.

"Now, the conversation is about artificial intelligence – AI, generative AI and perhaps in the future, genetic AI. This is the next generation of technology, and it will continue to evolve."

From household robots to autonomous vehicles, Gobind said, the rise of intelligent machines underscores the need for secure and resilient ecosystems – where both cyber threats and mechanical failures are addressed to ensure technology operates safely in daily lives.

"We know what technology can do, and we are ready to adopt and adapt," said Gobind. "While we assume it is safe and expect it to benefit us, we must also recognise the national security dimensions of a virtual world that is constantly exposed to cyber threats."

Cybersecurity Malaysia chairman of the board Al-Ishsal Ishak said together with its strategic partners under the CyberSecurity Collaboration Programme, the agency supports the National Cyber Security Agency in safeguarding NCII, provides trusted cybersecurity certification services, develops industry standards, and delivers capacity-building pro-



Gobind speaking at the opening of the Cyber Digital Services, Defence and Security Asia Exhibition and Conference 2025.

grammes that raise the bar for cyber professionals across the region.

"We remain firmly committed to capacity building. As of August 2025, CyberSecurity Malaysia has successfully trained 18,764 knowledge workers across critical domains, including digital forensics, governance, risk and compliance, incident handling and response, cryptography, and security assurance.

"Through hands-on training programmes, we truly believe that investing in human capital remains a cornerstone of our mission to build a safer and resilient digital nation," he said.

Al-Ishsal said CyberSecurity Malaysia recently spearheaded the establishment of the nation's first vehicle forensics laboratory in advanced cybersecurity and digital forensics.

The state-of-the-art facility enhances technical capabilities in investigating road accidents, cross-border crimes and human trafficking cases.

On the international front, Al-Ishsal said, CyberSecurity Malaysia continues to strengthen regional collaboration through sustained strategic partnerships with esteemed counterparts across Asean.

These include the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore, Indonesia's *Badan Siber dan Sandi Negara*, Cyber Security Brunei, Thailand's National Cyber Security Agency, Cambodia's Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, Ministry of Technology and Communications of Laos and the Philippines' Department of Information and Communications Technology.

"These collaborations strengthen Asean's ability to respond collectively to threats," Al-Ishsal said.

At the international level, Malaysia actively contributes to several key platforms dedicated to advancing global cybersecurity efforts.

Al-Ishsal noted that CyberSecurity Malaysia is an active member of the Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams, the Organisation of

Islamic Cooperation – Computer Emergency Response Team and the Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team.

"Through these multilateral engagements, we reaffirm our commitment to global best practices, technical collaboration, and the continuous exchange of expertise. These concrete commitments demonstrate that CyberDSA is not merely a forum for dialogue, but a catalyst for operational collaboration and collective resilience," Al-Ishsal said.

CyberDSA 2025 participants will gain actionable insights and engage with emerging technologies shaping the next frontier of cybersecurity. A lineup of 80 speakers from 15 countries will guide conferences and forums on key themes.

The three-day event, which runs until Thursday, will see more than 8,000 trade professionals from 45 countries and 150 exhibitors from 15 nations addressing the increasingly complex cybersecurity challenges shaping Asia and beyond.

Miti to launch digital dash board SCIMS to enhance supply chain resilience

BY HAYATUN RAZAK
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KUALA LUMPUR: The Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (Miti) is set to launch the Supply Chain Intelligent Management System (SCIMS), a digital dashboard that maps out Malaysia's entire supply chain to strengthen its resilience, by December.

Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz said the platform will cover eight critical sectors first – pharmaceuticals, medical devices, personal protective equipment, electrical and electronics, automotive, livestock, aquaculture and agriculture.

"The whole idea for the supply chain management system is to map up key sectors of our country. The idea started when Covid-19 hit, because we wanted to know what are the areas where we need to ensure the supply chain is resilient," he told the media after launching MIDF's Global Market Access

Accelerator Programme yesterday.

Tengku Zafrul said SCIMS will position Malaysia better to deal with external shocks, from pandemics and tariffs to global supply chain realignments.

"For Malaysia to plan in case of an emergency like Covid-19, even some issues like tariff today, when you map it (supply chain) out, you can see the gap. The platform will highlight where new industries could be invited to fill missing links.

"For example, we don't have this part of the supply chain. We have this, but we don't have that. And sometimes when you stack it up, one sector is still too reliant on import. Why don't we build some of those capabilities in Malaysia?"

Tengku Zafrul said SCIMS will serve as a tool for large corporations and small businesses by making supply chain requirements more transparent.

He added that the platform is also expected to give financiers greater

confidence in providing funding.

"When you talk about supply chain financing ... this will help give comfort to financiers, to companies that there is a market. Without adequate support it would be difficult for local firms to scale up and strengthen domestic supply chains.

Tengku Zafrul said the supply chain mapping exercise complements Miti's New Industrial Master Plan 2030, which focuses on building strategic clusters and reducing reliance on imports.

"Through our Asean chairmanship in 2025, Malaysia is also championing greater regional supply chain resilience and integration," he added.

Yesterday, Malaysian Industrial Development Finance Bhd (MIDF) launched the Global Market Access Accelerator (Glomax), a RM100 million financing programme aimed at helping at least 50 SMEs and MTCs (mid-tier companies) expand into international markets.

Tengku Zafrul said the initiative goes beyond trade promotion by combining financing with advisory services to strengthen companies' readiness for overseas expansion.

"Today, we have a new strategic initiative under Miti, via MIDF, to help Malaysian SMEs and mid-tier companies expand globally. Backed by an allocation of RM100 million, this programme will support at least 50 promising SMEs and MTCs in scaling up internationally."

Glomax is designed to enhance financing readiness so that Malaysian firms venturing abroad are "structured, well-capitalised, and sustainable", Tengku Zafrul said.

Participating SMEs will also receive advisory support through collaborations with agencies such as Matrade, SME Corporation Malaysia and international market partners.

In addition, MIDF and MBSB Bank are offering syariah-compliant financing

solutions under the programme.

Meanwhile, MBSB Group is accelerating the growth of Malaysia's SME sector through direct engagement platforms between vendors and government-linked companies.

The MBSB Group Anchor Companies Open Day and Vendor Business Matching Sessions, held at Sime Darby Convention Centre, connected over 400 SMEs and vendors with 20 major anchor companies.

MBSB chairman Datuk Wan Kamaruzaman Wan Ahmad said this is also an opportunity to take capacity and capabilities to the next level.

"Anchors bring standards, predictability, and volume. Vendors bring speed, technical expertise, ingenuity, and talent. When those strengths work in rhythm, value is created and more importantly, retained here in Malaysia. That's how we build supply-chain resilience, and compound national capability."

BY DEEPALAKSHMI MANICKAM
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SEPANG: Malaysia Aviation Group Bhd (MAG) is leveraging its 10th anniversary to chart a bold growth path anchored on digital partnerships, regional catering hub and operational resilience as it seeks to secure its place in a highly competitive global aviation market.

Speaking at the group's Airline 101 media tour yesterday, Malaysia Airlines chief operating officer Captain Nasaruddin A. Bakar painted a picture of transformation rooted in lessons from past crises, including the tragedies of MH370 and MH17, and the Covid-19 pandemic that shut down 95% of global flight networks.

"From about 800 airlines globally, only 300 survived during Covid. Now, the industry has reset itself and so have we. For MAG, the learning was to restructure and not put every business in one basket," he said.

MAG today operates under three business pillars: airlines (Malaysia Airlines, Firefly and MASwings), loyalty (led by Enrich) and aviation services such as engineering and catering.

Nasaruddin highlighted that MAG has partnered with global technology leaders including Google and Samsung, along with Spanish and Canadian firms, to future-proof operations and diversify income streams.

"These heavyweight teams are able to enhance our reach to a bigger customer base," he said.

"First and foremost, it's about increasing our revenue base and secondly, improving our operations."

While no specific revenue targets were shared, he confirmed that MAG views digitalisation as a "moving target" and is exploring further opportunities in artificial intelligence, financial technology and loyalty ecosystems.

Digitalisation, he stressed, is one of MAG's main enablers for growth through 2030.

A major highlight of the group's plans is a new catering complex, set to begin construction in 2026 and complete in 2029, which could become one of Asia's largest airline kitchens.

Currently, MAG Catering Services prepares around 26,000 meals daily, but the new facility will double capacity to 50,000.

"With this new setup, we will be able to cover all of Malaysia Airlines' network capacity and still have surplus to support foreign carriers,"

MAG plots bold growth path as it marks 10th anniversary

Malaysia Aviation Group outlines digital push, catering growth and renewed passenger focus

Nasaruddin said.

The move follows MAG's decision to insource catering after ending its long-standing partnership with Brahim's Holdings last year.

Nasaruddin said the group managed to recover within a month, investing in high-lift trucks and other equipment to stabilise operations.

"Our on-time performance because of catering is 100% most of the time. The results have been very good," he said.

Nasaruddin also offered a behind-the-scenes look at the scale of running an airline, noting that a new long-haul route can take up to five years of planning and involves over 800 processes before an aircraft even pushes back.

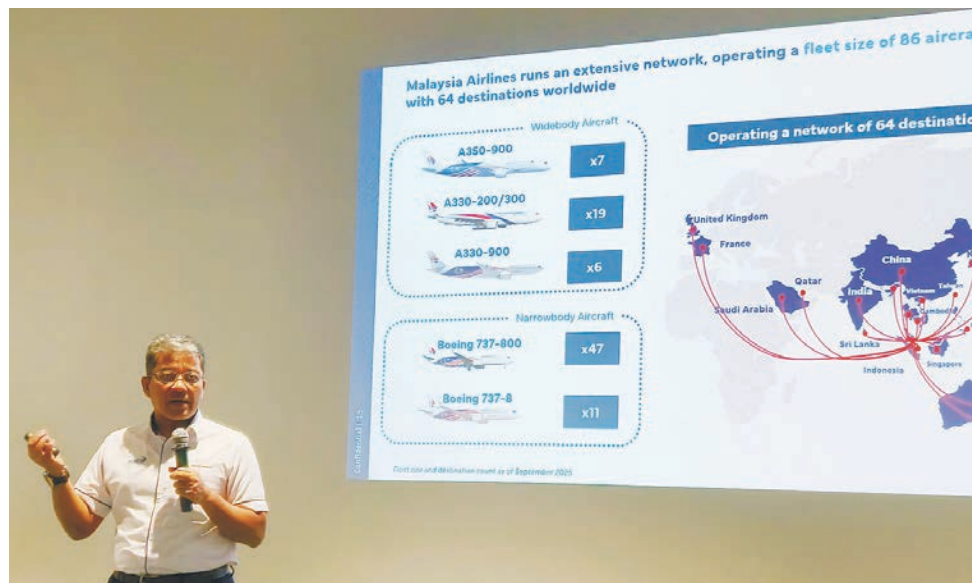
He emphasised that the aviation industry is among the most regulated globally, with strict oversight by both the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia and international bodies.

Safety, he said, remains the group's "number one non-negotiable."

"Airline is the safest transport industry. We target zero incidents, because in this business, even one is too many," he added.

Operational performance, particularly on-time departures, is another critical benchmark. MAG currently ranks among the top five airlines in the Asia-Pacific region for punctuality.

On customer satisfaction, the airline tracks 11 touchpoints, from website booking to cabin



Nasaruddin conducting a briefing during Malaysia Aviation Group's Airline 101 media tour yesterday.

crew service. Malaysia Airlines' cabin crew are ranked eighth globally, with ambitions to return to the top spot it once held two decades ago.

Addressing the often-debated issue of airfares, Nasaruddin explained that pricing is governed by a dynamic supply-demand algorithm used across the industry, alongside operational costs.

"For a Kuala Lumpur-London flight, just the fuel alone requires 150,000kg, equivalent to RM1 million. So the further you go, the fare will be higher. Product offerings, like serving steak or caviar, also influence pricing," he said.

MAG currently operates 117 aircraft, with plans to add 40 more over the next decade. The group carried about 40-50 million passengers

annually pre-pandemic, but expects to serve 15 million in 2025 as recovery continues.

Through its oneworld alliance and global partners, MAG offers connectivity to 900 destinations worldwide.

"From Singapore to Kuala Lumpur to Doha to Boston, passengers can travel seamlessly under our network," Nasaruddin said.

As MAG embarks on its second decade, its priorities are clear: scale up digitalisation, expand in-house capabilities like catering, and double down on operational excellence.

"Safety, punctuality, customer experience and financial strength, those are the four pillars we measure ourselves on. And these are what will carry us forward," Nasaruddin said.

China, Malaysia usher in 'Golden 50 Years' amid robust trade, tourism flows

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia-China trade hit US\$131.84 billion (RM555.7 billion) in the first eight months of this year, ushering in robust momentum at the start of the "Golden 50 Years" of relations.

China's Ambassador to Malaysia Ouyang Yujing cited the figures as evidence of the thriving partnership at a reception in Kuala Lumpur on Monday to mark the 76th anniversary of the founding of China, noting that tourist arrivals from the mainland reached a historic 2.78 million in the first seven months of this year.

"As a new chapter begins, we continue to write the story of renewed brilliance and shared prosperity."

"Let's carry forward the traditional friendship between China and Malaysia, strengthen strategic communication, deepen practical cooperation, and bring more benefits to the peoples of China and Malaysia."

"Together, let us make greater contributions to regional peace, stability, development, and prosperity," he said.

Ouyang said high-level visits by leaders of the two countries have injected strong impetus into the development of the China-Malaysia community with a shared future.

In April, President Xi Jinping made a historic state visit to Malaysia, during which both countries agreed to build a high-level strategic China-Malaysia community with a shared future, elevating the bilateral relationship to a new height, he said.

Apart from Xi's visit, Chinese Premier Li Qiang was also in Malaysia to attend the inaugural

Asean-GCC-China Summit in May.

Malaysia's Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim also visited China for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Plus 2025 meeting and attended the Victory Day Parade to mark 80 years after the end of World War II in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, earlier this month.

Meanwhile, Ouyang said China's 76-year journey has progressed from peaceful co-existence to deeper global integration and now towards building a shared future.

He said China's foreign policy has evolved from safeguarding independence to fostering stability and advancing the vision of a community with a shared future for humanity.

China has worked with partner countries to promote initiatives such as the Belt and Road, the Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilisation Initiative, which together have built broad consensus and strong synergy for unity, development, security and civilisational progress, he said.

"China will continue to share development opportunities with countries worldwide, including Malaysia, while working together to build a brighter and more prosperous future," Ouyang said.

Transport Minister Anthony Loke, the guest of honour, joined Ouyang in toasting the success of their respective governments and the friendly ties between the two countries. Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing and Deputy Communications Minister Teo Nie Ching were also present at the reception. - Bernama

Pulau Indah power plant blueprint for smarter, cleaner energy: Fadillah

PORT KLANG: The Pulau Indah Power Plant (PIPP) is a blueprint for how Malaysia can build smarter and cleaner energy solutions through collaboration, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof said.

Fadillah, who is also Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister, said the project is a model of cooperation where federal goals and state actions align, ensuring clear governance while fostering lasting public-private partnerships.

"With the commissioning of the PIPP, we are not simply bringing new capacity online. I strongly believe we are reinforcing Malaysia's commitment to energy security and sustainable growth."

"This 1,200-megawatt combined cycle gas turbine plant is among the most advanced and efficient generation assets of its kind in Malaysia. It stands as a milestone that reflects Malaysia's bold energy ambitions and confidence in a fast-changing global landscape," he said in his speech at the inauguration ceremony of PIPP here yesterday.

Also present was Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari.

Fadillah said Malaysia's actions in energy transition are guided by the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR).

"I am proud to say that this Pulau Indah Power Plant project is proof of that transition in action. This is Phase 1 of NETR in motion-phasing down coal, boosting efficiency, and laying the foundation for a cleaner energy mix."

"It uses advanced turbine technology to

deliver lower emissions per megawatt, while preparing Malaysia to scale up solar, hydro and hydrogen in the years to come," he said.

He said the project is a joint venture with Korea Electric Power Corporation (Kepco), whose 25% equity participation marks South Korea's first-ever investment in a Malaysian power plant, affirming the strength of Malaysia's energy sector and the Selangor government's execution capability.

"As we move forward, I encourage Worldwide Holdings Bhd (WHB) and other companies to continue exploring new frontiers, including hydrogen, floating solar and green power purchase agreements," he said.

"These efforts will be critical as we work together to shape an energy ecosystem that is aligned with global sustainability expectations."

The PIPP is a 1,200 megawatt combined-cycle gas turbine facility located in Pulau Indah, owned and operated by Pulau Indah Power Plant Sdn Bhd, a joint venture between WHB and Kepco.

PIPP achieved its commercial operation date on March 1 this year under a 21-year power purchase agreement with Tenaga Nasional Bhd, and has generated over 2,500 job opportunities throughout its development.

Built on a 60-acre reclaimed site adjacent to the Port Klang Free Zone, the project is officially listed under the First Selangor Plan 2021-2025 and classified as a high-impact project. - Bernama

Maxis rolls out Malaysia's first quantum-safe network

➤ New encryption service aims to shield sensitive data in transit, from banks to government agencies

KUALA LUMPUR: Maxis Bhd has introduced Malaysia's first Quantum Safe Networking (QSN) solution for government agencies and businesses, becoming the first telco in the country to offer this advanced security capability.

Available through Maxis Business, the company's B2B arm in partnership with Nokia, this managed service encrypts data directly at the optical layer, securing critical data against future quantum computing threats and empowering businesses in the era of artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud.

The solution was showcased to Digital Minister Gobind Singh Deo at the Cyber Digital Services, Defence and Security Asia (CyberDSA) 2025 event powered by Maxis Business. Held at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre, Maxis Business' exhibition themed "Building Tomorrow's Security Today"

featured QSN alongside innovative solutions around network monitoring, real-time field visibility, and solar energy.

The solution ensures quantum-safe encryption of data in transit, mitigating the urgent "harvest now, decrypt later" threat, where data intercepted today could be decrypted by future quantum computers. It particularly serves the needs of critical industries with strict data integrity and data sovereignty requirements, such as banking and financial services, healthcare, and the public sector.

QSN adds a future-proof layer of security to Maxis' fibre connectivity services – especially for enterprises, cloud providers, and financial institutions relying on data centre interconnects and high-capacity fibre links. It complements the company's Data Centre Connect solution – delivering secure, private

access to major cloud providers and data centres nationwide for businesses across physical, hybrid, or multi-cloud environments.

Maxis chief enterprise business officer Prateek Pashine said, "In an era of escalating cyber threats, securing today's data against tomorrow's risks is a critical imperative for any organisation. As the first telco in Malaysia to enable quantum-safe networking, we are setting a new standard for network protection, giving government agencies and businesses the confidence to accelerate their digital transformation journeys. This demonstrates our commitment to fortify Malaysia's digital resilience, in line with the national cybersecurity agenda."

Nokia Southeast Asia South, Network Infrastructure head Ming Kin Ngiam said: "Our collaboration with Maxis addresses a real business need – protecting data in motion against evolving security risks while maintaining the performance enterprises depend on. By combining Nokia's carrier-grade platforms with quantum-safe encryption across Maxis's network, Malaysian businesses can future-proof their operations without compromising on

speed or reliability."

For always-on operations and business continuity, Maxis has completed the fiberisation of all leading data centres in Malaysia including major multi-tenant facilities and cloud provider campuses – bringing them on-net to its national network. Building on this foundation, Maxis delivers up to three diverse fibre routes into these data centres, giving enterprises industry-leading resilience and high availability with service-level agreements of up to 99.999%.

To further protect mission-critical traffic, this robust infrastructure can now be enhanced with quantum-safe encryption, ensuring data in motion remains secure against both today's threats and tomorrow's quantum risks. Together, these capabilities provide a powerful, future-proof platform that helps businesses minimise downtime, safeguard sensitive data, and operate with confidence.

The introduction of QSN expands Maxis Business' comprehensive suite of end-to-end solutions, which ranges from core connectivity to adjacent digital solutions including the Internet of Things, cloud, and cybersecurity.

Pro-Net unveils DC charging hub at Proton Tanjung Malim

TANJUNG MALIM: Proton New Energy Technology Sdn Bhd (Pro-Net), a subsidiary of Proton, yesterday launched its first DC charging hub at Proton Tanjung Malim.

Located at the administration building, the hub is equipped with two DC chargers and four charging bays, delivering a combined station output power 120kW and allowing four EVs to charge at once.

Unlike previous facilities operated through third-party providers, this is Proton's first standalone charging infrastructure, managed by Pro-Net.

The charging hub is open to all EV owners, regardless of brand, following the approval of the ST EVCS Licence.

"This charging hub is a significant step forward for us, not just as a facility but as part of our commitment to build a stronger EV ecosystem for Malaysia. By keeping the service affordable and simple to use, we hope to make EV adoption more appealing for everyone. Tanjung Malim is where Pro-Net's story began, so it is fitting for us to also start this new chapter here," said Pro-Net CEO Zhang Qiang.

In line with its mission to make EV ownership more practical and affordable, Proton has set the charging rate at RM0.80 per kWh, one of the lowest in the country.

Malaysian firms achieve RM123m sales at Construction Indonesia 2025

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian exhibitors participating in Construction Indonesia 2025 collectively recorded sales of RM123.26 million.

The achievement underscores the strong demand for Malaysian solutions in Indonesia's fast-growing construction market.

Held on Sept 10-13 at the Jakarta International Expo, the Malaysia Pavilion was led by the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (Matrade).

Twelve Malaysian companies and one government agency Jabatan

Landskap Negara, showcased a wide range of innovative solutions including road additives, construction software, formworks, soil testing, waterproofing, erosion control, playground equipment, arboriculture services and urban landscaping technologies.

Over the four-day event, participants engaged in more than 100 business meetings with Indonesian stakeholders including buyers, distributors and project partners.

The Malaysia Pavilion was officially launched by Datuk Syed

Mohamad Hasrin Tengku Hussin, Malaysia's Ambassador to Indonesia.

According to Matrade CEO Datuk Seri Mohd Mustafa Abdul Aziz, the strong sales recorded at Construction Indonesia underscore the competitiveness and resilience of Malaysian companies.

"Indonesia's construction industry is among the fastest-growing in the region, projected to reach RM1.87 trillion by 2030. This offers tremendous opportunities not only in infrastructure and building materials but also in sustainable

urban development and landscaping".

He added, "Matrade is committed to helping Malaysian companies forge stronger partnerships in Indonesia and position Malaysia as a trusted partner in shaping the country's future cities and infrastructure. By providing innovative and sustainable solutions, our exporters help contribute to greener urban spaces and more resilient communities, in line with Indonesia's development agenda."

Malaysia's landscaping expertise

also attracted strong interest at the exhibition. With Indonesia's rapid urbanisation and emphasis on sustainable city planning, demand for urban greening and landscaping solutions is expected to increase. Malaysia's strengths in this area are well aligned with Indonesia's priorities in building liveable and sustainable cities for future generations.

Malaysia's exports of building materials to Indonesia reached RM1.43 billion in 2024, with several product categories showing strong growth.

EDUCATION

FOCUS 2025



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VS Industry set to ride out near-term headwinds

➤ Johor-based EMS services provider posts softer results for FY25, expects better year ahead

PETALING JAYA: Johor-based electronics manufacturing services provider VS Industry Bhd reported revenue of RM3.79 billion for the financial year ended July 31, 2025 (FY25), versus RM4.25 billion a year ago.

In a statement yesterday, VS Industry said this was largely due to lower sales orders, as well as effects from deferred order delivery at the request of customers in Q4'25 following the announcements of reciprocal tariffs which caused market uncertainties and dampened sentiments.

FY25 profit before tax (PBT) and profit after tax and non-controlling interest (net profit) came in at RM75 million and RM36.7 million respectively, against RM268.5 million and RM246 million in the preceding year.

The FY24 performance included a one-off non-cash accounting gain of RM50.5 million resulting from the dilution of the group's equity interest in VS International Group Ltd, as well as RM13.5 million impairment on plant and equipment.

VS Industry said contributing factors to the weaker FY25 results included lower revenue; cost-down pressures from customers; along with plant setup costs and RM24.9 million losses from the Philippine plant, which is still in its gestation period.

In addition, there were one-off impairment losses on trade receivables amounting to RM6 million and on plant and equipment totalling RM7.1 million.

Adjusting for these exceptional items, FY25 PBT would have been higher at RM88.1 million.

Managing director Datuk S.Y. Gan said, "As an export-based company with the United States being one of the key markets, the reciprocal tariffs had a larger-than-expected adverse impact on the group's fourth-quarter FY25 performance, as the extent of customer adjustments to the measures was more pronounced than initially envisaged. This was coupled with certain impairments that were deemed necessary to reflect our prudent practice.

"Looking ahead, the near-term operating environment is expected to remain challenging. The group's performance over the next few quarters will continue to be influenced by prevailing consumer sentiment and our customers' outlook on the broader market. The reciprocal tariff rate for Malaysia has now been fixed at 19%, which is in line with most other export-oriented manufacturing countries in Asean. With this clarity, we expect greater visibility on order flows to emerge in the coming quarters."

Meanwhile, VS Industry's Q4'25 revenue stood at RM858.8 million, versus RM1.21 billion last year. It posted a loss before tax (LBT) of RM30.6 million and a net loss of RM33 million versus PBT of RM104.6 million and net profit of RM126.6 million respectively in Q4'24.

The Q4'25 LBT comprised RM20.5 million losses from the Philippines operations, together



VS Industry expects the near-term operating environment to remain challenging.

with the earlier mentioned one-off impairment losses on trade receivables of RM6 million and on plant and equipment totalling RM7.1 million in the quarter under review. Excluding these two impairments, Q4'25 LBT would have been RM17.5 million. For comparison, Q4'24 results had a one-off accounting gain of RM50.5 million and the RM13.5 million impairment on plant and equipment.

The board did not propose dividend for the current quarter under review. Total dividend per share for the financial year amounts to 1.4 sen or RM51.9 million, which included a share dividend distribution of treasury shares on the basis of one treasury share for every 125 existing ordinary shares held, translating to 0.6 sen per share. This works out to a payout ratio of 141.3% based on the FY25 net profit

of RM36.7 million.

On a brighter note, Gan said orders have picked up in Q1'26, and several new models have also entered mass production and they opine there would be return of some normalcy as industry stakeholders including customers and suppliers adapt to the reciprocal tariffs.

"We are in active discussions with customers on product cost structures. Meanwhile, the Philippine operations, having recently commenced mass production, are expected to see gradual improvements in utilisation rates," he added.

Operations continued to be backed by a solid balance sheet with strong cash holdings, and the board of directors opines that the group's performance in the coming fiscal year will be satisfactory, barring unforeseen circumstances.

ES Sunlogy reports RM324.7m revenue and RM15.3m net profit for FY25

PETALING JAYA: ES Sunlogy Bhd, a provider of mechanical and electrical (M&E) engineering services as well as generation and sale of renewable energy, has announced its financial performance for the fourth quarter and the financial year ended July 31, 2025 (Q4'25 and FY25), marking the company's first full-year results following its listing on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia on Feb 20.

For Q4'25, ES Sunlogy recorded revenue of RM85.5 million, a 13.1% increase from RM75.6 million in the preceding quarter (Q3'25). The M&E engineering services segment remained the largest contributor with RM78.2 million, representing 91.5% of total revenue, while trading and renewable energy segments contributed RM5.2 million and RM2.1 million respectively.

Gross profit rose to RM12 million from RM7 million in Q3'25. Profit before tax (PBT) surged 117.3% quarter-on-quarter to RM7.4 million, with profit after tax (PAT) more than doubling to RM5.3 million compared to RM2.5 million previously.

On a full-year basis, ES Sunlogy posted revenue of RM324.7 million and PBT of RM21.1 million. PAT stood at RM15.3 million, translating to basic earnings per share of 2.2 sen. As at July 31, the company's net assets attributable to owners amounted 16 sen per share.

ES Sunlogy's financial resilience is underpinned by a healthy unbilled order book of RM180.4 million as at July 31, providing strong visibility for the financial year ending July 31, 2026.

Looking ahead, ES Sunlogy remains optimistic about its prospects in the infrastructure and clean energy sectors.

Bursa leads regional IPOs with 41 listings year to date

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia continues to lead Southeast Asia in initial public offerings, recording 41 listings as at Sept 30.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan said the figure surpassed the 35 IPOs achieved in the same period in 2024 and reflects steady progress towards Bursa Malaysia's full-year target of 60 listings.

"The 41 IPOs in 2025 raised approximately RM4.36 billion, with a total IPO market capitalisation of RM22.31 billion.

"This performance underscores the resilience of Malaysia's public fundraising ecosystem, which continues to attract investors despite global headwinds, including geopolitical tensions, tariff risks and market volatility," he said in a special address at the launch of a book on corporate finance law in Malaysia here yesterday.

"A strong corporate finance framework enables companies to access capital markets, manage assets responsibly and make sound investment decisions that support sustainable growth.

"These efforts, combined with reforms to improve oversight, reduce compliance risks and enforce regulations, have strengthened investor confidence, reflected in the steady rise of both foreign and domestic investments," Amir Hamzah said. – Bernama

IATA hopes Budget 2026 will strengthen M'sian aviation's economic contribution and support RE

KUALA LUMPUR: The International Air Transport Association (IATA) hopes that the Budget 2026 will feature measures to strengthen Malaysia's aviation industry, underscoring its role as a vital contributor to the national economy and tourism sector.

IATA regional vice-president (Asia-Pacific) Sheldon Hee said aviation is an important contributor to the Malaysian economy; therefore, policies being considered need to analyse and avoid any potential impact on airlines and passengers, particularly taxes, levies or any fees related to security and border control measures.

"The industry contributes US\$14.4 billion (RM68 billion) to Malaysia's economy annually and supports more than 650,000 jobs, including 100,000 directly employed in the aviation sector," he told Bernama recently.

Hee noted that Malaysia's strong position as an international travel hub relies on policies that enable efficiency and competitiveness, pointing out that higher operating costs could affect airlines, passengers and ultimately Malaysia's connectivity with the world.

On sustainability, he said the delivery of the first locally blended sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) by Petrolim Nasional Bhd was a welcome development for the industry.

"IATA has been engaging the government on its plan to introduce a robust SAF policy in 2027, in line with global efforts to decarbonise aviation," he said, adding that IATA has submitted six policy recommendations for consideration in Budget 2026.

The recommendations include ensuring that policies are stable, predictable and supportive of

renewable energy (RE) and fuel production, and that they are flexible enough to address unintended consequences.

Other recommendations were to ensure SAF pricing transparency, provide certainty for airlines to claim environmental benefits from SAF and avoid introducing SAF mandates as a stand-alone measure without incentives to help bridge the price gap with conventional fuel.

Besides that, he said, IATA also urged the recognition of a global SAF accounting and reporting methodology, which would help enable wider market access and participation in international SAF trading.

"With aviation in the Asia-Pacific expected to be the fastest growing segment in the next 20 years, addressing capacity challenges will be key," Hee said, adding that Malaysia is well-positioned to

benefit from this growth if the right policies are in place.

He said incentives to boost efficiency and productivity, such as the digitalisation of airport processes through IATA's ONE ID for passengers and ONE Record for cargo, would provide significant benefits.

ONE ID is used to streamline the passenger journey with a document-free process based on identity management and biometric recognition.

Meanwhile, ONE Record is a data-sharing standard that provides a single view of shipments through a common data model and web application programming interface, enabling end-to-end digital logistics.

Additionally, Hee said that training incentives were needed to ensure Malaysia develops the skilled manpower required to meet future demand in the industry.

BRIEFS

BRITISH ECONOMY GREW 0.3% IN Q2, CURRENT ACCOUNT GAP WIDENS

LONDON: Britain's economy grew 0.3% in the April-to-June period of this year, the Office for National Statistics said yesterday, unrevised from its initial estimate and as expected in a Reuters poll of economists. Yesterday's data showed that Britain's GDP in the second quarter was 1.4% higher than a year ago – revised up from an initial 1.2% estimate – while on a per capita basis, output in the second quarter was 0.9% higher than the year before. Overall 2024 GDP growth was unrevised at 1.1%. Britain's current account deficit in the three months to the end of June totalled £28.939 billion (RM163.88 billion), well above a poll forecast of £24.9 billion and equivalent to 3.8% of GDP, up from 2.8% in the first quarter of 2025. – Reuters

CHINA'S ZIJIN GOLD SOARS MORE THAN 60% IN HONG KONG MARKET DEBUT

HONG KONG: Shares in China's Zijin Gold International surged more than 60% on its debut in Hong Kong yesterday after raising more than US\$3 billion (RM12.6 billion) in one of the world's biggest initial public offerings this year. The blockbuster opening comes as gold prices continue to hit record highs amid surging demand for the safe-haven asset to head off broader market volatility and expected US interest rate cuts. Zijin Gold – a unit of Zijin Mining, China's biggest miner – rocketed 67% to a peak of HK\$120 (RM65 billion), valuing it at around HK\$300 billion (US\$38.6 billion). The company is one of the world's fastest-growing gold producers, with interests in eight mines located in regions across Central Asia, South America, Oceania and Africa. – AFP

Australia's central bank holds rates, cautious on inflation

SYDNEY:- Australia's central bank yesterday left its cash rate steady as expected at 3.60%, saying recent data suggested inflation might be higher than forecast in the third quarter and that the economic outlook remained uncertain.

Wrapping up a two-day policy meeting, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) said the board judged it was appropriate to remain cautious on policy, but was well-placed to respond to international developments.

The more cautious commentary from the central bank prompted markets to further trim bets on rate cuts this year and for some analysts to even call a possible end to the current policy easing cycle if conditions remain upbeat.

Markets had seen scant chance of a further easing this week after a strong second quarter gross domestic product (GDP) report and a high monthly inflation reading that argued for a measured pace of policy easing.

Speaking to reporters after the decision, RBA governor Michele Bullock said the central bank would remain data dependent and by November have quarterly inflation data, a labour market report and updated economic forecasts, as well as more forward looking indicators to decide on policy.

"What we are focusing on is an interest rate path that will deliver us inflation sustainably in the band. That could mean a couple more reductions. It might not. I don't know at this point and we will look at all this again in November."

The central bank said recent data, while partial and volatile, suggests that inflation in the third quarter may be higher than expected due to sticky prices in market services, adding that it was appropriate to remain cautious. – Reuters

Trump slaps 10% tariff on lumber imports, 25% on kitchen cabinets and furniture

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump said on Monday he was slapping 10% tariff on imported timber and lumber and 25% duties on kitchen cabinets, bathroom vanities and upholstered furniture, continuing his tariff assault on global trading partners.

The action is the first in three sectors that Trump said last week would get steep new duties as early as today, including patented pharmaceutical imports, and heavy truck imports. Monday's proclamation sets the start of the lumber and furniture duties two weeks later, on Oct 14.

Trump signed a presidential proclamation laying out his argument that timber, lumber and furniture imports are eroding US national

security to justify the new duties under Section 232 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Trump's increasing use of Section 232 comes as he awaits a Supreme Court ruling on the legality of his broader "reciprocal" tariffs on global trading partners, which two lower courts have struck down.

The proclamation said the tariff rates would start on Oct 14, but added that duties would increase on Jan 1 to 30% for upholstered wooden products and 50% for kitchen cabinets and vanities imported from countries that failed to reach an agreement with the United States.

Trump's proclamation said wood product imports were weakening the US economy, resulting in the persistent threat of closures of

wood mills and disruptions of wood product supply chains and diminishing utilisation of the US domestic wood industry.

"Because of the state of the United States wood industry, the United States may be unable to meet demands for wood products that are crucial to the national defense and critical infrastructure," the statement said.

The order added that wood products were used for "building infrastructure for operational testing, housing and storage for personnel and materiel, transporting munitions, as an ingredient in munitions, and as a component in missile-defense systems and thermal-protection systems for nuclear-reentry vehicles". – Reuters



Boxes of clothing for export are pictured at a factory in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, China. Export activities have been surprisingly resilient so far this year and helped to partly offset the weak domestic demand, an economist says. – **REUTERSPIC**

China factory activity shrinks for sixth straight month**► September manufacturing PMI remains below growth threshold at 49.8**

BEIJING: China's factory activity shrank for a sixth straight month in September, official data showed yesterday, as a domestic consumer slump and lingering trade uncertainty weigh on the economy.

The manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) came in at 49.8, narrowly below the value of 50 separating contraction from expansion, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Still, the reading beat the forecast of 49.6 in a Bloomberg survey of economists and was the highest since March.

But it extended a streak of contraction that began in April, as factories across the manufacturing powerhouse contend with turbulence from the ongoing US-China trade war.

"Overall economic output expansion in the country accelerated slightly" during the month, said NBS statistician Huo Lihui in a statement.

The figures come just before the start of the country's "Golden Week" National Day holiday, a period that usually sees slower factory activity.

The prolonged slump underlines the twin pressures on China's economy: domestic demand has failed to mount a durable recovery in the years since the pandemic while US President Donald Trump's tariffs have squeezed Chinese factories as well as overseas firms that buy components.

All the same, a separate private-sector survey of factory managers showed the fastest expansion since March, buoyed by rising new orders and accelerated production growth, including an uptick in new export orders.

The two surveys cover different pools of producers, with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) placing more emphasis on large- and medium-sized firms focused on domestic sales, while the RatingDog General PMI, compiled by S&P Global, which came in at 51.2, up from 50.5 in August, includes a larger share of export-orientated private companies.

Official data also showed yesterday that the non-manufacturing PMI, which measures activity in sectors including services and construction, fell to 50.0 in September from 50.3 in August.

That was short of a Bloomberg forecast of 50.2 and was the lowest since November.

"Economic momentum is weak in the third quarter," Zhiwei Zhang, president and chief economist at Pinpoint Asset Management, said in a note.

"Export activities have been surprisingly

resilient so far this year and helped to partly offset the weak domestic demand."

On Monday, the state's planner said China will deploy policy-based financial tools to the value of 500 billion yuan (RM295.8 billion) to accelerate investment projects, as part of efforts to support the slowing economy.

Authorities are using the new financing tools to boost financial services and effective investment, Li Chao, a spokesperson for the National Development and Reform Commission, said.

"We are working with relevant parties to promptly allocate funds from these new policy-based financial instruments to specific projects," Li told a media briefing.

"The total scale of these new policy-based financial instruments is 500 billion yuan, all of which will be used to supplement project capital."

"The launch of the programme suggests Beijing is becoming more concerned about the growth outlook, especially the slump in investment in July and August, reinforcing our more cautious views for H2," said Ting Lu, chief China economist at Nomura, in a research note yesterday.

The funding will be used as seed capital for projects in areas including the digital economy, artificial intelligence, the low-altitude economy, consumption infrastructure, transportation and logistics, according to local media reports. – AFP, Reuters



India plans mega-dam to counter China water fears

➤ Planned 280m-high hydropower project in Arunachal Pradesh sparks fierce protests from Adi tribes

RIEW: On a football field ringed by misty mountains, the air rang with fiery speeches as tribesmen protested a planned mega-dam – India's latest move in its contest with China over Himalayan water.

India says the proposed new structure could counteract rival China's building of a likely record-breaking dam upstream in Tibet by stockpiling water and guarding against releases of weaponised torrents.

But for those at one of the possible sites for what would be India's largest dam, the project feels like a death sentence.

"We will fight till the end of time," said Tapir Jamoh, a resident of the thatch-hut village of Riew, raising a bow loaded with a poison-tipped arrow in a gesture of defiance against authorities. "We will not let a dam be built"

Jamoh's homelands of the Adi people are in the far-flung northeastern corner of India, divided from Tibet and Myanmar by soaring snowy peaks.

Proposed blueprints show India considering the site in Arunachal Pradesh for a massive storage reservoir, equal to four million Olympic-size swimming pools, behind a 280m (918 ft) high dam.

The project comes as China presses ahead with the US\$167 billion (RM703 billion) Yaxia project upstream of Riew on the river known in India as the Siang, and in Tibet as the Yarlung Tsangpo.

China's plan includes five hydropower stations, that could produce three times more electricity than its vast Three Gorges dam – the world's largest power station – though other details remain scant.

Beijing – which lays claim to Arunachal Pradesh, fiercely rejected by India – says it will have no "negative impact" downstream.

"China has never had, and will never have, any intention to use cross-border hydropower projects on rivers to harm the interests of downstream countries or coerce

them," Beijing's foreign ministry told AFP.

Chinese media reports suggest the project may be more complex than a single giant dam, and could involve diverting water through tunnels.

The area around the village of Riew is one of the shortlisted sites for India's response mega-dam, a project that people like Jamoh feel is the more immediate threat to them.

"If the river is dammed, we also cease to exist," the 69-year-old told AFP, saying that the arrow's tip was dipped in poisonous herbs foraged from the mountains.

"Because it is from the Siang that we draw our identity and culture," he added.

Despite a thaw between New Delhi and Beijing, the two most populous nations have multiple areas of disputed border manned by tens of thousands of troops, and India has made no secret of its concerns.

The river is a tributary of the mighty Brahmaputra, and Indian officials fear China could use its dam as a control tap – to create deadly droughts or release a "water bomb" downstream.

China rejects that, saying that the "hype surrounding the Yaxia Hydropower Project as a 'water bomb' is groundless and malicious."

But Arunachal Pradesh state Chief Minister Pema Khandu said protective action against China's dam is a "national security necessity", and sees India's dam as a safety valve to control the water.

"China's aggressive water resource development policy leaves little room for downstream riparian nations to ignore it," said Maharaj K. Pandit, a Himalayan ecology specialist at the National University of Singapore.

India's dam could produce 11,200-11,600 megawatts of hydropower, making it the country's most powerful by a huge margin, and helping scale back emissions from its coal-dependent electricity grid.



A general view of the newly constructed Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project on the Subansiri River, at the border of the northeastern states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. – AFPPIX

But generating power is not the priority, acknowledged a senior engineer from National Hydropower Corporation (NHPC) – the federal agency contracted to develop the dam.

"It is meant for water security and flood mitigation – if China seeks to weaponise their dam and use it like a water bomb," the engineer said on condition of anonymity as he was not authorised to talk to reporters.

"During the lean season, the reservoir will be filled to capacity, so that it can add in if water is diverted upstream," the officer said. "That is the calculation."

In the rains, water will only reach up two-thirds of the dam wall – so there is capacity to absorb water if released suddenly by China.

India's former ambassador to Beijing, Ashok K. Kantha, called China's dam project "reckless" and said that India's dam, as well as generating power, would be a "defensive measure" against potential attempts "to regulate the flow of water".

India's dam would create a giant storage reservoir of 9.2 billion cubic metres, but the exact area flooded depends on the final location of the dam.

The Adi people, like Jamoh, consider the river sacred and depend on its life-giving waters for their lush lands dotted with orange and jackfruit trees.

They fear the dam will drown

their world.

"We are children of the Siang," said Jamoh, who was the former headman of Riew – before being forced to quit by local government authorities for protesting against the dam.

In May, furious Adi villagers blocked NHPC from surveying a proposed site.

Today, government paramilitary forces watch over the charred remains of the drilling machines that protesters torched. But the protests have not stopped.

When AFP visited, thousands gathered to hold a traditional court-style meeting of Adi clans to condemn the proposed dam.

"We are asking for a project plan to have an idea of the magnitude of the dam," said Bhanu Tatak of the Siang Indigenous Farmer's Forum (SIFF), a local protest group.

"Instead they have militarised us, treating us like extremists," she said.

The dam, the local residents are convinced, would drown dozens of villages.

"If they build a huge dam, the Adi community will vanish from the map of the world," said Likeng Libang from Yingkiong, a town that even officials say is likely to be entirely underwater.

"The Adi will be totally displaced," he added. "We will be nowhere."

NHPC did not respond to AFP's requests for comment.

Australia media groups in A\$417m merger to take on streamers

SYDNEY: Australia's Seven West Media said it would merge with Southern Cross Media to create a A\$417 million (RM1.15 billion) metropolitan and regional media group designed to be more competitive against global streaming giants.

Seven West shares, controlled by mining and media billionaire Kerry Stokes, rose 14.3% in early trade yesterday to A\$0.16, while Southern Cross stock was up 10.75%. Stokes' Seven Group holds about 40% of Seven West.

Under the deal terms, Seven West shareholders would receive 0.1552 Southern Cross Media shares for each share held.

The offer values Seven West shares at A\$0.13 each, slightly below the stock's A\$0.14 closing price on Monday. The combined group will be worth A\$417 million based on the current market capitalisations of both entities.

Southern Cross owns major radio networks and podcast platforms across Australia, while Seven West holds metropolitan and regional television licences. Southern Cross announced the sale of its remaining regional television businesses to Seven West for up to A\$24 million in May.

Southern Cross shareholders will own 50.1% of the merged group while Seven West will hold 49.9%, the companies said.

Free-to-air television in Australia, like all major markets, has faced severe revenue and earnings pressure from streaming giants like Netflix, Paramount Skydance and Walt Disney.

"We have both (Southern Cross and Seven West) been on the record as being substantial advocates of consolidation," Southern Cross CEO John Kelly said. "It needs to happen, we need to take the mantle and really fight back against the global behemoths."

The deal requires 75% support from Seven West shareholders at a meeting that will be held in the first quarter of 2026, the companies said, once the deal receives regulatory approvals.

Communications and competition regulators, as well as the Australian Securities Exchange, must sign off on the transaction.

Seven West said that the board unanimously recommended its shareholders to vote in favour of the merger, with all directors also pledging to support the deal.

The company added that both boards expect to record annual pre-tax cost savings of A\$25 million to A\$30 million in the next 18 to 24 months. – Reuters

Boeing in early stages of developing 737 MAX replacement

BENGALURU: Boeing is in the early stages of developing a new single-aisle airplane that would eventually replace the 737 MAX, the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) reported on Monday, citing people familiar with the matter.

Reuters could not immediately confirm the report. Rolls-Royce declined to comment, while Boeing did not respond to a Reuters' request for comment.

The 737 MAX entered service in

2017 but was grounded globally in 2019 after two fatal crashes killed 346 people. The incidents slashed Boeing's profits and triggered lawsuits, investigations, and a criminal probe by the US Department of Justice.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) lifted the grounding order in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic. Last Friday, the FAA said it would allow the planemaker to issue airworthiness

certificates for some 737 MAX jets, starting this week. This authority had been revoked in 2019 following the second fatal crash involving the model in Ethiopia.

Earlier this year, Boeing CEO Kelly Ortberg met with officials from Rolls-Royce Holdings in the UK to discuss a new engine for the aircraft, according to the WSJ report.

The US planemaker has also been designing the flight deck of a new

narrow-body aircraft, the report said, adding that development remains in the early planning phase, with final decisions yet to be made.

The planemaker told WSJ that its recovery plan remains on track, with priorities including the delivery of roughly 6,000 back-logged commercial airplanes and the certification of previously announced models.

Still, Boeing continues to face

regulatory scrutiny.

In early 2024, the FAA imposed a production cap of 38 per month for 737 MAX planes after a mid-air cabin panel blowout on a new Alaska Airlines jet, which was later found to be missing four bolts.

The Alaska Airlines incident led the US Justice Department to launch a criminal probe, saying Boeing violated its 2021 settlement over 737 MAX disclosures. – Reuters

MARKET ROUND-UP: SEPT 30

30-Sept-2025

Bursa Malaysia

Trade Statistics

Net (in RM million):

Participation

Retail

-12.23

16.08%

Institutions

+65.23

40.04%

Foreign

-53.00

43.88%

Source: Bursa Malaysia, Berjaya Research

Preliminary statistics (excluding trade amendments). For final data, please refer to www.bursamalaysia.com.

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SUNBIZ presents a summary of the day’s trading activity on Bursa Malaysia and other markets in an easy to digest format.

 Sources: *Bursa Malaysia, Bernama, shareinvestor.com and websites*

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Bursa Indices		
INDEX	CHANGE	
FBMEMAS	11,985.80	-2.55
FBMKLCI	1,611.88	+0.93
CONSUMER PRODUCTS	514.29	+0.05
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	171.46	-0.29
CONSTRUCTION	331.70	+0.97
FINANCIAL SERVICES	18,246.70	-17.10
ENERGY	776.62	-1.64
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	489.70	+0.14
HEALTH CARE	1,583.42	-3.29
TRANSPORTATION	1,008.70	+0.34
PROPERTY	1,070.05	+1.12
PLANTATION	7,779.58	+8.01
FBMSHA	12,016.50	+6.91
FBMACE	5,171.31	-18.50
TECHNOLOGY	57.65	-0.05
TURNOVER: 3.455 bil		VALUE: RM3.161 bil

Bursa pares gains, closes flat as investors turn cautious

BURSA Malaysia pared earlier gains in the session to close flat yesterday, as investors adopted a cautious stance ahead of domestic policy announcements and on worries over a US government shutdown, an analyst said.

At 5pm, the FBM KLCI tilted up 0.93 of-a-point, or 0.06%, to 1,611.88, up from Monday’s close of 1,610.95.

The benchmark index opened 0.87 of a point higher at 1,611.82 and moved between 1,608.69 and 1,619.11 throughout the trading session.

The market breadth was almost equally balanced, with decliners marginally outnumbering gainers 557 to 549. A total of 503 counters were unchanged, 1,006 untraded, and 81 suspended.

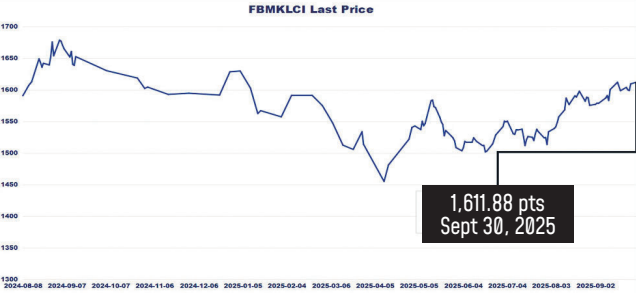
UOB Kay Hian Wealth Advisors Sdn Bhd head of investment research Mohd Sedek Jantan said yesterday’s trading was mixed, with consumer and utilities stocks leading both the gainers and the laggards, “reflecting selective rotation rather than broad-based momentum. This underscores a market that is highly stock-specific, awaiting clearer catalysts to drive direction,” he told Bernama.

Meanwhile, a looming US federal government shutdown appeared even more likely after top Democrats and Republicans met with President Donald Trump at the White House on Monday, according to media reports. If both sides failed to agree, the shutdown could begin as soon as today.

Of the heavyweight counters, YTL Corporation rose seven sen to RM2.78, Sunway surged 11 sen to RM5.65, and Tenaga gained eight sen to RM13.22. Petronas Dagangan added 36 sen to RM22.94, and PPB bagged 20 sen to RM10.20.

In active trade, NexG Bina, TWL and Permaju were all flat at 9.5 sen, 2.5 sen and one sen respectively. Zetrix AI dropped one sen to 85 sen, and VS Industry added one sen to 59 sen.

Top 20 Actives				
STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('00)
HSI-CWI3	0.170	+0.010	+6.25	1,504,256
HSI-CWKS	0.130	-0.020	-13.33	1,236,040
HSI-PWJ8	0.120	-0.020	-14.29	916,373
HSI-PWLQ	0.140	-0.010	-6.67	913,191
HSI-CWI2	0.245	+0.020	+8.89	742,255
NEXGBINA	0.095	-	-	661,399
ZETRIX	0.850	-0.010	-1.16	655,034
VS	0.590	+0.010	+1.72	654,907
HSI-CWKC	0.215	+0.015	+7.50	597,996
TWL	0.025	-	-	536,943
PERMAJU	0.010	-	-	433,006
PHARMA	0.290	+0.005	+1.75	411,258
TANCO	0.900	+0.020	+2.27	410,756
L&G	0.145	-0.005	-3.33	354,983
SIME	2.280	+0.040	+1.79	347,140
TRIVE	0.015	-	-	286,226
MALAKOF	1.050	+0.020	+1.94	280,499
TOPGLOV	0.580	-	-	273,410
ZETRIX-C9W	0.070	-	-	271,100
XPB	0.210	-0.005	-2.33	254,761



Top 20 Gainers (By RM)			
STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	VOLUME ('00)
PETDAG	22.940	+0.360	5,077
AYER	7.500	+0.330	4
PPB	10.200	+0.200	22,550
AEONCR	5.530	+0.180	14,132
PJBUMI	2.780	+0.180	7,179
CATL-C1	0.550	+0.175	1,605
KEINHIN	1.200	+0.140	2,610
KLK	20.600	+0.140	7,930
SUNWAY-PA	5.600	+0.140	1,001
ALLIANZ	18.380	+0.120	739
HLBANK	20.520	+0.120	20,826
HLFG	17.220	+0.120	358
HLIND	14.000	+0.120	921
SAB	3.500	+0.120	294
UTDPLT	22.980	+0.120	5,959
PLENITU	2.330	+0.110	36,061
SUNWAY	5.650	+0.110	161,247
SUNCON-C50	0.255	+0.105	400
HLCAP	3.760	+0.100	1,855
IGBB	3.300	+0.100	63

Top 20 Gainers (By %)			
STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('00)
NETX-WD	0.015	+200.00	7,350
BIOHLDG	0.030	+100.00	124,955
BIOHLDG-WB	0.010	+100.00	18,695
HM-WC	0.010	+100.00	1,100
JADI-WB	0.020	+100.00	124,096
MLAB-WD	0.010	+100.00	6
OVERSEA-WB	0.020	+100.00	113,004
VSOLAR-WC	0.010	+100.00	7,956
SINARAN	0.055	+83.33	170,524
SUNCON-C50	0.255	+70.00	400
OVERSEA	0.055	+57.14	98,758
ZETRIX-C9C	0.085	+54.55	460
AEM	0.060	+50.00	4,230
HARTA-C2X	0.015	+50.00	650
SIME-C92	0.015	+50.00	500
YB-LA	0.015	+50.00	20
CATL-C1	0.550	+46.67	1,605
JOE	0.070	+40.00	1,172
GLDHK-C8	0.325	+38.30	180
MALAKOFC67	0.110	+37.50	2,450

World Stocks/Commodities			
INDEX	CLOSING	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY CHANGE (%)
DJIA [US]	46,316.07	68.78	0.15
S&P 500 [US]	6,661.21	17.51	0.26
NASDAQ [US]	22,591.15	107.08	0.48
NYSE [US]	21,497.55	20.04	0.09
EURO STOXX 50 [EUR]	5,501.83	-5.02	-0.09
FTSE 100 [UK]	9,282.20	-17.64	-0.19
DAX [GER]	23,737.64	-7.42	-0.03
NIKKEI 225 [JPN]	44,932.63	-111.12	-0.25
TOPIX INDEX [JPN]	3,137.60	6.03	0.19
HANG SENG INDEX [HK]	26,855.56	232.68	0.87
CSI 300 [CHN]	4,640.69	20.64	0.45
MSCI ASIA PACIFIC	219.25	1.02	0.47
SHANGHAI SE COM [CHN]	3,882.78	20.25	0.52
KOSPI INDEX [SK]	3,424.60	-6.61	-0.19
SENSEX INDEX [IND]	80,232.57	-132.37	-0.16
ASX 200 [AUS]	8,848.77	-14.02	-0.16
ALL ORDINARIES INDX [AUS]	9,135.90	-12.61	-0.14
FBM KLCI	1,611.88	0.93	0.06
STRAITS TIMES INDEX [S'PORE]	4,289.12	19.14	0.45
WTI [US\$/BBL.]	62.96	-0.49	-0.77
BRENT [US\$/BBL.]	67.44	-0.53	-0.78
GOLD [COMEX] [US\$/T OZ]	3,845.90	-9.3	-0.24
SILVER [COMEX] [US\$/T OZ]	46.42	-0.6	-1.27
PLATINUM [US\$/T OZ]	1,539.56	-63.87	-3.98
COPPER [COMEX] [US CENTS/LB.]	486.95	-2.25	-0.46
COPPER 3MO [LME] [US\$/MT]	10,414.00	232.5	2.28
CORN [US CENTS/BU.]	420.75	-0.75	-0.18
WHEAT [US CENTS/BU.]	519	-0.5	-0.1
SOYBEAN OIL [CBOT] [US CENTS/LB.]	49.76	0.07	0.14
COCOA [ICE] [US\$/MT]	6,922.00	-76	-1.09
RUBBER [S'PORE] [US CENTS/KG]	169.1	-3	-1.74

As at 5.30pm, Sept 30.

Top 20 Losers (By RM)			
STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	VOLUME ('00)
NESTLE	96.220	-0.880	1,017
MPI	28.720	-0.380	1,555
HSI-PWLG	0.335	-0.295	60
HSI-PWLH	0.225	-0.245	8,782
ITMAX-CX	0.085	-0.165	1,650
HUMEIND	3.490	-0.160	3,121
HSI-PWJV	0.520	-0.155	35
KLUANG	5.550	-0.150	3
PANAMY	8.400	-0.140	1,164
CVIEW	2.880	-0.120	482
DLADY	27.120	-0.120	40
KESM	3.380	-0.120	1,031
PCHEM	4.230	-0.120	95,928
GENTINGC4C	0.045	-0.105	1,250
CHINTEK	10.000	-0.100	94
CRESNDO	1.360	-0.090	25,398
ICAP	2.490	-0.090	3,069
ZETRIX-C9X	0.065	-0.085	90,000
EG	1.230	-0.080	66,279
HI	2.450	-0.080	44,300

Top 20 Losers (By %)			
STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('00)
GENTINGC4C	0.045	-70.00	1,250
FBMKLCI-HB8	0.005	-66.67	5,000
ITMAX-CX	0.085	-66.00	1,650
ZETRIX-C9X	0.065	-56.67	90,000
HSI-PWLH	0.225	-52.13	8,782
FBMKLCI-HB7	0.005	-50.00	23,700
HSI-PWHK	0.005	-50.00	5,000
OWG-WB	0.005	-50.00	2,499
RCECAP-CG	0.005	-50.00	1,400
SCBUILD	0.005	-50.00	5,000
SUNWAY-C49	0.075	-50.00	1,376
TRIVE-WD	0.005	-50.00	10,467
HSI-PWLG	0.335	-46.83	60
HIBISCS-C80	0.030	-45.46	200
HSI-PWJT	0.075	-37.50	3,010
HSI-PWLA	0.060	-36.84	1,160
ARMADA-C1F	0.010	-33.33	4,000
ARMADA-C1H	0.010	-33.33	2,000
HANDAL-WB	0.010	-33.33	150
HSI-PWJP	0.030	-33.33	310

MARKETS/FROM THE BROKERS

SUNBIZ presents extracts of a selection of commentaries and research reports received from stockbrokers on counters that could be of interest to investors.

Compiled by **SunBiz Team**

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Malaysia's reserve assets total US\$122.68b at end of August

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's official reserve assets amounted to US\$122.68 billion (RM516 billion) as at end-August 2025, while other foreign currency assets stood at US\$252.8 million, according to Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM).

The central bank said in accordance with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) format, the detailed breakdown of international reserves provides forward-looking information on the size, composition and usability of reserves and other foreign currency assets.

It also offers guidance on the expected and potential future inflows and outflows of foreign exchange of the federal government and BNM over the next 12 months.

"Overall, the detailed breakdown of international reserves under the IMF SDDS format indicates that as at end-August 2025, Malaysia's international reserves remain usable," BNM said in a statement.

For the next 12 months, the central bank said the pre-determined short-term outflows of foreign currency loans, securities and deposits – including, among others, scheduled repayment of government external borrowings and maturities of foreign currency Bank Negara Interbank Bills, amounted to US\$14.75 billion.

It added that the net short forward positions amounted to US\$21 billion as at end-August 2025, reflecting the management of ringgit liquidity in the money market.

"In line with the practice adopted since April 2006, the data exclude projected foreign currency inflows arising from interest income and the drawdown of project loans. Projected foreign currency inflows amount to US\$2.73 billion in the next 12 months," it said. – Bernama

Ringgit closes higher as US govt shutdown fears grow

THE ringgit ended higher yesterday due to rising fears of a possible US government shutdown, an analyst said.

Reports indicate that the US federal government risks a shutdown if Congress does not reach a funding agreement before the new fiscal year starts on Oct 1.

At 6pm, the local note rose to 4.2050/2090 against the greenback compared with Monday's close of 4.2150/2200.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid said an indication from US vice president JD Vance that a government shutdown seems likely has taken a toll on the US dollar.

"The US Dollar Index (DXY) fell 0.21% to 97.699 points, as this event appears to increase the likelihood of a US interest rate cut," he told Bernama yesterday.

At the close, the ringgit was mixed against a basket of major currencies.

It appreciated to 5.6532/6586 against the British pound from 5.6612/6679 at Monday's close, weakened to 2.8420/8447 against the Japanese yen from 2.8365/8400, and weakened slightly to 4.9405/9452 versus the euro from 4.9387/9446.

The local note was traded mostly higher against Asean currencies.

It advanced to 3.2604/2638 vis-a-vis the Singapore dollar from 3.2664/2706 at Monday's close, edged up against the Indonesian rupiah to 252.3/252.6 from 252.6/253.1 previously, and inched up versus the Philippine peso at 7.22/7.24 from 7.25/7.26 Monday's close.

The ringgit also appreciated to 12.9744/9927 against the Thai baht from 13.0649/0857 previously.

Exchange Rates			
FOREIGN CURRENCY	SELLING TT/OD	BUYING TT	BUYING OD
1 US Dollar	4.2860	4.1400	4.1300
1 Australian Dollar	2.8300	2.7150	2.6990
1 Brunei Dollar	3.3160	3.2130	3.2050
1 Canadian Dollar	3.0720	2.9860	2.9740
1 Euro	5.0220	4.8600	4.8400
1 New Zealand Dollar	2.4810	2.3900	2.3740
1 Singapore Dollar	3.3160	3.2130	3.205
1 Sterling Pound	5.7530	5.5690	5.5490
1 Swiss Franc	5.3980	5.1700	5.1550
100 UAE Dirham	117.8200	111.7000	111.5000
100 Bangladesh Taka	3.5870	3.3400	3.1400
100 Chinese Renminbi	60.4700	57.9200	N/A
100 Danish Krone	68.9700	63.4600	63.2600
100 Hongkong Dollar	55.5400	52.7700	52.5700
100 Indian Rupee	4.9000	4.6000	4.4000
100 Indonesian Rupiah	0.0265	0.0240	0.0190
100 Japanese Yen	2.8880	2.7830	2.7730
100 New Taiwan Dollar	N/A	N/A	N/A
100 Norwegian Krone	43.9400	40.4200	40.2200
100 Pakistan Rupee	1.5400	1.4300	1.2300
100 Philippine Peso	7.4700	7.0300	6.8300
100 Qatar Riyal	118.6400	112.6300	112.4300
100 Saudi Riyal	115.3000	109.4500	109.2500
100 South Africa Rand	25.6800	23.1900	22.9900
100 Sri Lanka Rupee	1.4500	1.3300	1.1300
100 Swedish Krona	46.8300	42.6400	42.4400
100 Thai Baht	13.8600	12.2900	11.8900

Source: Malayan Banking Bhd/Bernama

SkyWorld Development Bhd

Buy. Target price: RM0.70



Source: Bloomberg

SKYWORLD Development Bhd is an urban developer focusing on high-rise residential, commercial, and affordable properties. Since inception, it has completed 12 projects worth RM5.3 billion GDV, with two ongoing projects valued at RM1.2 billion. Its 257.7-acre landbank carries a potential GDV of RM20.1 billion, providing strong earnings visibility through upcoming launches in Kuala Lumpur and Penang.

Having completed 12 projects worth RM5.3 billion in GDV and two ongoing developments valued at RM1.2 billion, the group is backed by a strategic landbank of 257.7 acres and a future GDV pipeline of RM20.1 billion. Guided by its vision to be the "Always Best City Developer (ABCD)" and its purpose to "Make Living Better," SkyWorld is well-positioned for sustainable growth, with upcoming launches planned across Kuala Lumpur and Penang.

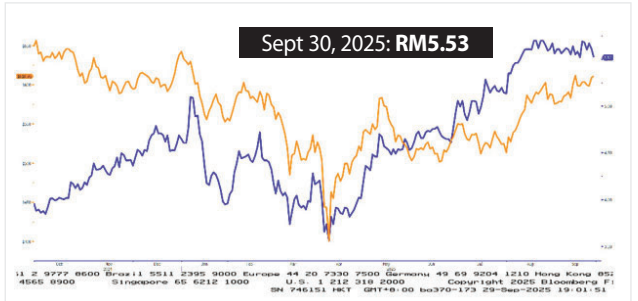
SkyWorld's RM13 billion joint venture with the Penang Development Corporation (PDC) under the Rumah Mampu Milik Madani (RMM) and RBB Madani programme represents a transformational step change for the group. Covering 195.5 acres across Seberang Jaya (34 acres, GDV RM2.3 billion) and Batu Kawan (161.5 acres, GDV RM10.7 billion), the initiative will deliver over 35,000 affordable housing units, the single largest affordable housing programme in Malaysia.

SkyWorld is set to emerge from a temporary earnings lull, with FY26 marking the trough. A robust pipeline of about RM2.2 billion in launches for FY26, led by SkyAman 1, SkyAwani Prima, and Pearlmont Phase 1 in Penang, will anchor a recovery. These projects are already demonstrating healthy booking levels, underscoring resilient demand in the affordable high-rise segment.

Buy with RM0.70 TP. – **TA Research, Sept 30**

Gamuda Bhd

Buy. Target price: RM6.58



Source: Bloomberg

GAMUDA, via its wholly owned subsidiary Gamuda (Singapore) Pte Ltd and joint-venture partners Evia MCS Pte Ltd and H108 Pte Ltd, has successfully secured the 29,450 sqm Chencharu Close leasehold land parcel from Singapore's Housing Development Board at a winning bid of S\$1.01 billion (RM3.31 billion).

The land deal will position GAMUDA as a first mover in developing a government land with a private housing component in the Chencharu area. This gives the group a strategic edge in shaping the initial development narrative of the area, which has seen limited new supply since the launch of The Estuary in 2010. Crucially, this success strengthens Gamuda's track record in Singapore's highly competitive Government Land Sales (GLS) market, which could enhance its prospects of securing future tenders involving similar integrated developments.

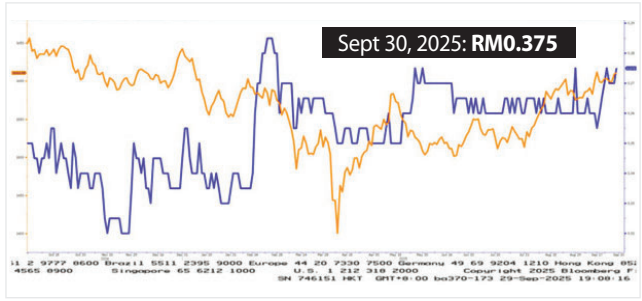
Residential demand for the site is expected to be robust, underpinned by its attractive location within walking distance to Khatib MRT station and surrounded by a cluster of established primary and secondary schools. These attributes make the site highly appealing to buyers, which should support healthy take-up rates upon its estimated launch in 2H'26.

Based on the tender results, the consortium's winning bid was 20% above the second-highest offer. While this may appear aggressive, the implied land cost-to-GDV ratio of ~55% still falls within the typical 50–60% range observed in Singapore GLS tenders. In our view, this suggests that Gamuda is confident of achieving higher average selling prices, supported by the site's strong locational attributes (proximity to Khatib MRT and reputable schools) and its first-mover position in Chencharu.

Buy with RM6.58 TP. – **TA Research, Sept 30**

EXSIM Hospitality Bhd

Buy. Target price: RM0.54



Source: Bloomberg

EXSIM Hospitality Bhd (EH) is an investment holding company with operations spanning three core pillars: (i) own-and-operate hospitality, (ii) hospitality management and operation, and (iii) interior design and fit-out works. Listed in 1987 (formerly known as Pan Malaysia Holdings Bhd), the group's historical focus centred on the ownership and operation of hospitality properties. Its flagship asset, Corus Paradise Resort, is a 200-room beachfront hotel in Port Dickson.

In 2024, EH underwent a strategic transformation via an acquisition by EXSIM Hospitality Holdings Sdn Bhd (EHHSB). This marked a pivotal shift in business direction, diversifying into property management, hospitality operations, and expanding into a high-margin interior fit-out construction segment. The move also strengthened its positioning within the broader hospitality ecosystem, aligning with the growth momentum of Malaysia's tourism and property markets.

Notably, EH serves as a strategic proxy to EXSIM Development Sdn Bhd (EXSIM Group), a prominent and award-winning property developer known for its eco-centric high-rise and mixed-use projects. This linkage stems from common shareholders Lim Aik Hoe, Lim Aik Kiat and Lim Aik Fu (Lim Brothers), founders of the EXSIM Group and substantial shareholders of EHHSB.

While broadening its footprint in the hospitality sector, EH has been recalibrating its strategy to not only expand its hospitality asset portfolio but also unlock embedded asset value through targeted initiatives. A flagship undertaking is the temporary closure of Corus Paradise Resort (Corus) in early-2025 for a comprehensive refurbishment, aimed at repositioning it as a premier four-star beachfront resort in Port Dickson. Scheduled for reopening by end-Q3'26, the upgraded property will offer enhanced facilities and elevated guest experiences, consistent with the group's aspiration to raise its hospitality benchmarks.

Buy with RM0.54 TP. – **TA Research, Sept 30**



WEEKLY **FOCUS**

MONDAY

Technology and
social media

TUESDAY

Family
and parenting

WEDNESDAY

Fashion
and beauty

THURSDAY

Home
and living

FRIDAY

Travel
and leisure

SATURDAY

Food
and beverage

Timeless elegance

*Local hanfu enthusiasts bring
ancient Chinese attire to life. - P22*



— ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THE SUN

INSIDE

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Stand out by being
scentsational

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Review of latest
beauty products

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Chainsaw Man film
deftly mixes love, carnage



From left: A Ming-style *hanfu* with round-neck short jacket, a Tang dynasty *hanfu* and a Wei Jin *hanfu*.



The group's president Yeo Sui Keong (centre) wears a Tang dynasty round-collar robe.



Spotting a noble lady look, the group's vice president Alisa Tan (right) wears a Tang dynasty *qixiong ruqun* (chest-high *ruqun*).

Transcending times

➤ Step into tradition with historic *hanfu* this Mid-Autumn Festival

BY EE ANN NEE

THE elegance and beauty of *hanfu*, or the ancient clothing of the Han Chinese, continue to captivate many hearts even in modern times.

Closer to home, a group of *hanfu* enthusiasts, known as the Hanfu Cultural Exchange Centre, is spreading the love of the *hanfu*, as members delight in donning elegant *hanfu* in an array of colours during events and cultural activities.

Formed in April last year by four *hanfu* lovers, the group has observed the growing interest towards this traditional wear. To date, its public group on Facebook has garnered 5,200 members and counting, as more and more people are drawn to admiring and wearing the *hanfu*.

With more Malaysians embracing this cultural dress, the group frequently shares *hanfu* photo shoots and events among members.

"We have Hanfu Day, gatherings and activities that promote *hanfu*. Besides dancing and singing, there are *hanfu* fashion shows that showcase the beauty of *hanfu*. We also provide *hanfu* rental, photography, bridal and modelling," said the group's vice president Eva Zhu, 37, a Chinese national who is married to a Malaysian and has lived in Malaysia for 14 years.

"What is appealing about *hanfu* is its accessories, history and styles. For example, a Tang dynasty *hanfu* comes with styles such as round-collar robes, chest-high skirts and cross-collars," Zhu told *theSun*.

Song dynasty *hanfu* is characterised by simple designs, soft colours and flowing fabrics. Ming dynasty *hanfu* has intricate embroideries, with key garments such as *mamianqun* (horse-face skirts), *pipa* sleeve tops and long robes.

The *mamianqun* has been made popular by TikTok star Miles Moretti's street fashion videos across the world, which sees him wearing traditional Chinese outfits and impressing passersby. In a way, Moretti has brought Chinese aesthetics to the world, empowering people to embrace their cultural heritage and express confidence and beauty through timeless traditions.

"*Hanfu*'s acceptance is wide.

Some people are curious about it but mistook *hanfu* as Korean or Japanese traditional wear since they do not understand this clothing. We want people to get to know *hanfu*, then guide them further," Zhu said.

Zhu, a makeup artist, has close to 30 sets of *hanfu* and will continue to buy more, she said.

"Why do I continue to promote this is because I see efforts by Malaysia that are actively promoting Chinese culture. I will do my best (to promote *hanfu*) as well," quipped Zhu.

Interestingly, Zhu pointed out that a *qipao* (or *cheongsam*) is not considered as a *hanfu*.

In conjunction with Mid-Autumn Festival next Monday, *hanfu* is a timeless and elegant choice that can be worn to celebrate this cultural heritage. In fact, the festival provides the perfect stage for *hanfu* fans to wear this historic costume with pride.



The noble consort looks.



The beauty and elegance of traditional Chinese costumes are here to stay.



Zhu wears a Tang dynasty *qixiong ruqun* (chest-high *ruqun*).



The growing popularity of *hanfu* shows an increasing appreciation for traditional Chinese culture. – ALL PICS BY ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/THESUN

SCENTSATION

■ BY YASMIN ZULRAEZ

**Montblanc Explorer Extreme by Montblanc****Fragrance notes:** Bergamot, clary sage, patchouli, Ambrox, amber, leather, vetiver**Bottle design:** Inspired by Montblanc's Extreme 3.0 leather collection**Availability:** Available at Montblanc boutiques

and counters

Montblanc's boldest masculine scent yet, Explorer Extreme evokes the thrill of exploration with a vibrant, earthy and leathery trail designed for men who embrace adventure.

Le Vestiaire des Parfums by YSL Beauty**Fragrance notes:** Varies by scent, highlights include Muse (ink, iris, vanilla), Tuxedo (patchouli, pepper, ambergris), Blouse (rose, angelica, Cashmeran), Velours (rose, patchouli), Cuir (oud, violet leaf), Babycat (vanilla Bourbon, suede) and more.**Bottle design:** Sharp architectural glass, grain de poudre-textured cap, metallic lettering set in glass, black coffret box with mirrored interior.**Availability:** YSL Beauty boutiques and online

YSL's haute parfumerie wardrobe translates iconic couture pieces into scents, offering a luxurious olfactory experience that blends heritage, artistry and timeless style.

**Million Gold Elixir by Rabanne****Fragrance notes:** Mandarin, bergamot, vanilla, cardamom, sandalwood, benzoin, patchouli**Bottle design:** Golden ingot bottle featuring an amber gemstone with Rabanne's XL Link motif**Availability:** 50ml and 100ml sizes at Seibu, Isetan, Parkson, Sogo and Aeon nationwide

The most opulent edition in the Million line, Gold Elixir is a statement-making fragrance – warm, spicy and magnetic – for confident men who want to stand out.

**Summer Scents Collection by Kayali****Fragrance notes:**Fleur Majesty 01: Powdery florals with roses, pear and peony
Deja Vu White Flower 57: Creamy white florals with warm undertones
Yum Boujee Marshmallow 81: Whipped marshmallow, vanilla cream and milky notes
Vanilla Candy Rock Sugar 42: Spun sugar, candied pear, bubblegum and creamy vanillaMaldives in a Bottle 38: Salty ocean breeze with aquatic freshness
Capri in a Bottle 21: Sparkling citrus and fruity accords**Bottle design:** Signature Kayali bottles with vibrant packaging**Availability:** Kayali counters and online, limited seasonal collection
Kayali's summer lineup celebrates playful layering, offering gourmand treats, fresh aquatic escapes and radiant florals for every mood, from beach days to sunset soirees.**Barenia Eau de Parfum Intense by Hermes****Fragrance notes:** Patchouli absolute, leather, butterfly lily, miracle berry, roasted oakwood**Bottle design:** Lacquered amber-toned gradient bottle with Collier de chien-inspired plate and Hermes signature cap, housed in a rouge H coffret**Availability:** Available worldwide at selected Hermes boutiques

A deeper, more sensual take on Barenia, this intense fragrance blends patchouli, leather and warm florals into a mysterious yet refined signature that evokes the intimacy of Hermes leather.

**Rare Eau de Parfum by Rare Beauty****Fragrance notes:**

Top: Caramel, pistachio, pink pepper

Heart: Vanilla, ginger, cocoa beans

Base: Sandalwood, tonka beans, skin musks

Bottle design: Ergonomic, luxe design developed with accessibility in mind**Availability:** Exclusively at Sephora Malaysia outlets, Sephora app

Created by Selena Gomez, Rare Eau de Parfum is a warm, decadent and evolving scent designed to adapt from day to night, offering comfort, sophistication and individuality.

BEAUTY REVIEWS

BY YASMIN ZULRAEZ



Kylie Cosmetics, Pumping Powder Matte Lip (Sweet Talk)
Function: Creates a plump pout with a lightweight, matte finish. Highly pigmented, blurs lip lines, delivers full coverage and lasts up to 12 hours. Vegan and cruelty-free.
Ingredients (key): Silica, kaolin, jojoba seed oil, Punica Granatum (pomegranate) flower extract.
Directions: Apply directly to lips. Pair with Pumping Lip Liner or Pumping Gloss for a fuller look.
Pros: Long-lasting wear, full coverage, smooth matte finish.
Cons: Can leave stains.
Price: RM110 for 3ml
Rating: 3/5



KraveBeauty, Plumptuous Lip Jelly (Iced Persimmon)
Function: Hydrates lips upon first application, firms and smooths for a plumper look.
Ingredients (key): Upcycled Plum Oil, MaxiLip, Triolein.
Directions: Apply with a cooling metal doe-foot applicator. Wear alone or on top of lipstick.
Pros: Hydrating, non-sticky, cooling applicator, refillable packaging.
Cons: Sheer formula, may need layering for stronger colour.
Price: RM103 for 7ml
Rating: 4/5

Healez x NL Alchemist, LipBlossom Treatment Volumizer Gloss (5-in-1 Lip Treatment)
Function: Multipurpose lip gloss that volumises, hydrates and nourishes.
Ingredients (key): Hyaluronic acid, shea butter, vitamin E.
Directions: Apply to lips for shine and treatment. Can be used daily.
Pros: Combines lip treatment with cosmetic gloss, multifunctional use.
Cons: Limited full ingredient disclosure.
Price: RM79.90
Rating: 3/5



Straand, Heaven Scent Hair Perfume + Gloss
Function: Hair perfume that provides fragrance, anti-pollution protection and a glossy finish.
Ingredients (key): Neroli, bergamot, rose, Exo-P (anti-pollution).
Directions: Spray directly onto hair.
Pros: Long-lasting fragrance, protects against pollution, adds shine.
Cons: Expensive for hair perfume.
Price: RM106 for 25g
Rating: 4/5



Anillo, Rosy Night Eau De Parfum
Function: A rosy floral fragrance designed for everyday wear.
Ingredients (key notes): Rose, magnolia, musk.
Directions: Spray onto pulse points (neck, wrists, inner elbows).
Pros: Affordable price for a 100ml bottle, romantic floral profile.
Cons: Limited ingredient transparency, niche brand availability.
Price: RM111.70 for 100ml
Rating: 4/5



Wardah, Everyday Cheek & Liptint 02 (My Baerry)
Function: Dual-use tint for lips and cheeks with a berry tone.
Ingredients (key): Water, glycerin, red pigment.
Directions: Dab lightly onto lips or cheeks and blend quickly.
Pros: Affordable, versatile 2-in-1 product.
Cons: Pigmentation and longevity could be better.
Price: RM17.90
Rating: 3/5





Kplass, Far Infrared Relief Patch Range (Cough Relief, Pain Relief, Joint Pain Relief, Menstrual Relief)
Function: Patches that use Far Infrared Technology with acupoint stimulation to improve blood circulation, reduce inflammation and provide targeted relief.
Ingredients (key): Far Infrared Material, herbal extracts (varies by patch), skin-safe adhesive.
Directions: Apply to recommended acupoints (eg. TianTu and DanZhong for cough relief). The patch emits gentle infrared heat for therapeutic effect.
Pros: Non-invasive, drug-free, multiple variants.
Cons: Ingredient transparency is limited and effectiveness may vary by individual.
Price: (Prices vary by retailer: Watsons, Guardian, Multicare, Shopee, Lazada, etc.)
Cough Relief Patch: RM19.90–RM20.90
Pain Relief Patch: RM16.90
Joint/Knee Pain Relief Patch: RM17.91–RM19.90
Menstrual Relief Patch: RM10.98–RM13.90
Rating: 4/5



The film's final act is a nonstop trail of over-the-top carnage and mayhem.

– ALL PICS FROM SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT

➔ **Director:**
Tatsuya Yoshihara

➔ **Cast:**
Kikunosuke Toya, Tomori Kusunoki, Reina Ueda, Fairouz Ai, Shogo Sakata

E-VALUE

10

ACTING

10

PLOT

10

MOVIE REVIEW

BY MARK MATHEN VICTOR

Love blows up for Chainsaw Man

➤ Reze Arc film delivers romance, bomb-fuelled mayhem

UNDER a rain of explosions and blood, the direct sequel of the animated series' first season, *Chainsaw Man - The Movie: Reze Arc* has arrived, blasting out of animation studio Mappa to challenge Ufotable's *Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba - The Movie: Infinity Castle*'s throne as the biggest anime film of the year.

Picking up directly where the anime's first season ended, Denji (Kikunosuke Toya) finally scores a date with Makima (Tomori Kusunoki), his superior and the leader of Public Safety Division 4's Devil Hunters.

His dream of pursuing a relationship with her hits a snag when he meets Reze (Reina Ueda), an employee of a nondescript cafe in Tokyo. Her flirty and friendly demeanour quickly causes the perpetually love-starved Denji to fall for her.

Their blossoming relationship eventually leads to the emergence of the powerful hybrid devil, the Bomb Devil. Sent by the Soviet Union to steal Denji's Chainsaw Man heart, the Bomb Devil tears through the city as Denji and Public Safety devil hunters scramble to stop the attack.

Contained, focused

According to Mappa president Manabu Otsuka, the reasoning



With Reze (left) entering his life, Denji catches a glimpse of what love and a normal life could look like.

behind turning the "Reze Arc" from Tatsuki Fujimoto's manga into a film was purely because "cinema is the better choice". Like many others, having watched *Reze Arc*, it makes sense.

This small arc works better with the typical two-hour film run time,

rather than occupying a small portion of the eventual, still unconfirmed second season, which would also need to kick off the "International Assassins Arc", which is even longer and denser.

Financially, *Chainsaw Man - The Movie: Reze Arc* also makes

sense because Mappa saw the preposterous profit generated by their own *Jujutsu Kaisen 0* and Ufotable's *Demon Slayer: Mugen Train* films in cinemas.

Both factors combined explain why Mappa has pulled out all the stops with *Reze Arc*.

Love story that explodes

Directed by Tatsuya Yoshihara, *Reze Arc* is the perfect demonstration of the saying "calm before the storm". For two-thirds of the film's 100-minute screen time, Mappa and Tatsuya lull the viewer unfamiliar with *Chainsaw Man* into thinking the entire film is about to be a romantic-comedy anime with pretty visuals and animations.

However, those that have read the manga or watched the first season are made to wait for the other shoe to drop and once it does, the shoe turns into a Soviet ballistic missile dropped amid accompanying cluster bombs.

Once *Reze Arc* introduces the Bomb Devil, it completely goes off the rails, in a good way. The villain introduces a kind of diabolical threat never seen before in the realm of *Chainsaw Man* animated media and sets the stage for the future of the series, be it the power level of upcoming devils or the narrative complexity. That is not even accounting how the character itself will surely shape a new predilection or preference for a certain kind of woman in male viewers and fans.

If there is one thing *Reze Arc* slightly fails at, it is the lack of development for its lead character Denji, which *theSun's* review of the first season also noted. He is still motivated solely by food and a yearning for being loved.

As entertaining as he and his antics are, especially in his *Chainsaw Man* form, Denji is not quite where other anime leads are at in terms of having fans root for him. On the flipside, he is certainly moving in that direction following the events in the film, albeit very slowly.



Beyond manipulating explosions using her limbs, skin and fingers, the Bomb Devil can also transform those body parts into a variety of bombs.



Aki (bottom) and Power have minor roles in the film.



Jade LeMac unveils song about heartbreak

► Tender track from artiste's upcoming EP

FOLLOWING the release of her infectious summer single *Running Home*, Vietnamese-Canadian pop singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Jade LeMac has released heartfelt track *Sleeping with the Lights On*. This marks the third track from LeMac's EP *It's Always At Night*, due Nov 7.

A tender, emotionally raw track, *Sleeping with the Lights On* sees LeMac at her most vulnerable. "How the hell are you so fine, while I'm out here losing my mind?" she belts, as she opens up about the raw aftermath of heartbreak. LeMac has been giving fans an early taste of the song while on tour and most recently featured it in her Audiotree live session – a set that also includes *Constellations*, *Running Home* and

an interview.

LeMac's impassioned storytelling has set her apart since her career beginnings and *It's Always At Night* adds new chapters. The forthcoming EP is built on the artiste's guitar, whose poetic riffs – with the help of longtime production partner JVP (Mother Mother, Simple Plan) – were amplified to bring a bigger pop sound to the new music. One of the EP's most endearing treasures is the vocal choir woven throughout, made up of LeMac's friends and family. Their presence is a reflection of the artiste's humanity, as she proudly takes her loved ones along her career's joyride.

In the EP, LeMac dives into themes of being in love and finding yourself through it all, opening herself to listeners and empowering herself through her vulnerability. Explaining, LeMac said: "*It's Always At Night* is a story about a person who's in love with love. There are songs for so many emotions – heartbreak, desire, love and lust. Each song is its own story about the different ways I've felt while being in love with someone."

Earlier this year, LeMac hit

major milestones with festival performances at Osheaga and Lollapalooza – even joining Role Model onstage at his Lollapalooza afterparty. Over the past month, the singer-songwriter joined Grammy Award-winning powerhouse Maren Morris as the opener on her Dreamsicle tour. Adding to the momentum, LeMac also announced her first Canadian headline tour, further solidifying her place on the radar as one of today's most promising emerging voices.

LeMac has received praise from the likes of *LA Weekly*, *OnesToWatch*, *Rolling Stone* and *Wonderland Magazine*. With over 450 million global streams and more than 1.6 million followers on TikTok – her largest platform for fan engagement – LeMac's reach continues to expand worldwide.

Her strongest audience base on the platform is in Southeast Asia, with the Philippines ranking first, followed by Thailand (third), Indonesia (sixth) and Vietnam (eighth). LeMac has built a loyal, ever-growing global fanbase – and is boldly redefining what modern pop stardom looks and sounds like.

WhyLucas drops EP *Orange*

SINGAPOREAN singer-songwriter WhyLucas pours his heart out in his debut EP *Orange*, an encapsulation of his thoughts on the complexity of love.

Known for his heartfelt lyricism, guitar-driven melodies and fearless exploration of genre, WhyLucas is quickly carving out a space as one of the region's most exciting emerging voices.

The project is the culmination of countless late-night writing sessions and the steady belief that honest music finds its way to listeners' hearts.

Building on the first single off the EP *Tiara*, this new EP offers listeners a deeper look into WhyLucas's artistry. *Orange* blends the melodic warmth of indie-pop with subtle nods to country pop, bluesy rock and the confessions of a singer-songwriter.

From the fiery passion of red to the cautionary signals of yellow, the EP expresses all that and more. With each song focusing on different stages of love, *Orange* feels exciting and intimate. Vulnerable and vibrant, WhyLucas threads together the honesty of a singer-songwriter and the energy of pop in this diverse EP.

At the heart of the release is *Dirty Jokes*, a song that best captures the emotional pulse of the EP. With confessional lyrics, soaring yet intimate vocals and a melody that builds into catharsis, the track explores the tension between longing and letting go.

After making waves as a finalist on *Chuang Asia* season 2, WhyLucas channels his journey, doubts and growth into this body of work that acts as an introduction to who he is, not just as a performer, but as someone learning how to feel, to lose and to heal. The EP showcases his distinctive voice, genre-bending sensibilities and lyrical honesty, marking him as one of the most compelling new voices in the region's music scene.

Building a reputation for himself as a live performer, WhyLucas has gone from humble beginnings busking on the streets of Singapore to opening for Thai band Three Man Down in Singapore and performing at festivals such as Sundown Festival, and most recently Waterbomb Singapore, where his cover of *Soda Pop* from popular Netflix series *Kpop Demon Hunters* captured the attention of



WhyLucas is known for his heartfelt lyricism.

countless attendees and netizens.

WhyLucas will also be performing at Music Matters Live and GrooveDriver Festival, further cementing his growing reputation on the live music circuit. In addition to his live performances, WhyLucas has also been collaborating with a number of international brands.

Notably, one of the songs *Weekend Plans* from the EP was initially written for a brand collaboration where he composed an original song drawn from a bold and innovative conceptualisation, demonstrating his creativity and testament to his versatility and rising global appeal.

WhyLucas's debut EP *Orange* is out on all streaming platforms.



The EP showcases WhyLucas's distinctive voice.



LeMac's impassioned storytelling sets her apart from other artistes.

Japan's Kenn releases English tune *One in a Million*

KENN is just like any of us – refusing to bow to being *One in a Million*.

The singer-songwriter's third single dives into the raw pain and loneliness of heartbreak, wrapped in a shimmering indie-pop sound that draws listeners into a vast, cinematic soundscape. The track showcases Kenn's crystal-clear vocals, cutting through the modern production with vulnerability and strength, making every note unforgettable.

One in a Million has been garnering attention since its demo first appeared on social media, sparking strong reactions and pleas from fans for the full version. The track tells the story of a wounded heart – longing to be that

irreplaceable *One in a Million* for someone, yet unable to. At its core, it is about loneliness and the determination to keep moving forward. The production unfolds like an endless night drive with no destination, pulling listeners deeper into its cinematic world.

The release also marks a bold step forward for the Tokyo-based artiste. Writing entirely in English – a rarity for Japanese acts – Kenn is signalling his ambition to connect with listeners far beyond Japan. Ahead of the single, he even embarked on a promotional tour across Asia, with stops including Singapore and Bangkok, hinting at his vision to step firmly onto the global stage.

Adding depth to the track are artiste Mon/Ku, known for his forward-thinking electronic sound, and Korean producer Young_Vibe, a rising talent bringing fresh energy to the collaboration.

"When I first shared the demo on social media, the reaction was incredible. To finally release it as my third single feels special. Writing in English was about more than style – it's about reaching people everywhere. *One in a Million* feels like a signature sound of who I am right now, and I'm excited to see how it connects with the world," said Kenn.

A short version of the music video is now available for viewing, with the full version set to follow soon.



Kenn is intent on connecting with listeners far beyond Japan.



SCAN ME

Classified

WEDNESDAY

OCT 1, 2025

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UNTUK DISEWA**

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(SHAH ALAM)
BERMINAT SILA
HUNBUNGI KAMI :

ENCIK FAREK :
016 - 690 6609
MS SHELLY :
018 - 323 3518

322

Notices

DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET
DI PETALING JAYA
DALAM NEGERI SELANGOR
DARUL EHSAN, MALAYSIA
GUAMAN NO. BB-A72NCC-905-08/2025

ANTARA

SEMUAMAS RESOURCES SDN BHD
(No. Syarikat: 201301011288 / 1041126-H) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

1. NORZIAH BINTI ISHAH
(No. KP: 57091-08-5696)

2. RIZA BIN RAHMAT
(No. KP: 831203-14-5013)

3. AZRYLL BIN NORDIN
(No. K/P: 740702-01-5009) ...DEFENDAN-DEFENDAN

NOTIS

KEPADA:
DEFENDAN KEDUA YANG DINAMAKAN DI
ATAS **RIZA BIN RAHMAT**
(No. KP: 831203-14-5013)
No. 9, Jalan Dahlia 1B,
Taman Puchong Perdana,
47150 Puchong, Selangor Darul Ehsan

Dan

DEFENDAN KETIGA YANG DINAMAKAN DI
ATAS **AZRYLL BIN NORDIN**
(No. K/P: 740702-01-5009)
No. 20, Jalan DS 14,
Taman Bukit Saujana, Bandar Saujana,
Bandar Saujana Utama, 47000 Sungai
Buloh, Selangor

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa salinan
bermeterai Writ bertarikh 06 Ogos 2025
dan Pernyataan Tututan bertarikh 06
Ogos 2025 telah diemukakan terhadap
kamu di Mahkamah Majistret Petaling
Jaya dalam perkara Guaman No. BB-
A72NCC-905-08/2025 oleh Semuamas
Resources Sdn Bhd (No. Syarikat :
201301011288 / 1041126-H) yang
beralamat di di E-11-07, Capital 5, Oasis
Square, No. 2, Jalan PUJ 1A/7A, Ara
Damansara, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
dan Mahkamah telah memberitahukan
bahawa Plaintiff diberi kebebasan dari
atau kebenaran untuk menyampaikan satu
salinan bermeterai Writ bertarikh 06 Ogos
2025 dan Pernyataan Tututan bertarikh
06 Ogos 2025 kepada kamu dengan
cara penyampaian ganti, yakni dengan
menampalkan satu salinan bermeterai Writ
bertarikh 06 Ogos 2025 dan Pernyataan
Tututan bertarikh 06 Ogos 2025 serta satu
salinan bermeterai Perintah Penyampaian
Ganti bertarikh 19 September 2025 di
Papan Kenyataan Mahkamah Majistret
Petalang Jaya dan pada suatu tempat yang
mudah dilihat di alamat-alamat terakhir
Defendan Kedua di No. 9, Jalan Dahlia 1B,
Taman Puchong Perdana, 47150 Puchong,
Selangor Darul Ehsan dan Defendan
Ketiga di No. 20, Jalan DS 14, Taman Bukit
Saujana, Bandar Saujana, Bandar Saujana
Utama, 47000 Sungai Buloh, Selangor dan
menyebarkan satu Notis diiklankan dalam
akhar harian "The Sun Daily" untuk sekali
dalam Bahasa Malaysia dan penampalan-
penampalan dan pengiklanan tersebut
hendaklah menjadi penyampaian yang
sempurna dan cukup akan Writ bertarikh
06 Ogos 2025 dan Pernyataan Tututan
bertarikh 06 Ogos 2025 disampaikan ke
atas kamu tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh akhir
penampalan-penampalan dan pengiklanan
dibuat. Kos permohonan ini adalah
dijadikan kos dalam kausa.

Jika kamu berhasrat untuk membatalkan
tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah dalam
tempoh dua puluh satu (21) hari selepas
penampalan-penampalan dan pengiklanan
tersebut, kamu hendaklah menyebarkan
satu kehadiran dimasukkan untuk diri
kamu dalam kausa atas guaman dengan
mencatatkan kehadiran samada sendiri
atau melalui peguam di Pejabat Pendaftaran
Majistret Petaling Jaya dan ambil perhatian,
bahawa dalam keingkaran kamu berbuat
demikian Plaintiff boleh meneruskan
untuk mendapatkan penghakiman ingkar
terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 19 September 2025.

DITANDATANGANI OLEH TETUAN FYIONA,
LAI & DENNIS THONG
PEGUAMCARA BAGI PLAINTIF

NOTIS ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Fyiona, Lai
& Dennis Thong, Peguamcara bagi Plaintiff
yang dinamakan di atas yang mempunyai
alamat penyampaiannya di No. 13A-3,
Menara 1 Mont Kiara, Jalan Kiara, Mont
Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: 03-6211 1128 / 017-666 2721
Fax: 03-6211 9393
Email: office.fdt@gmail.com
[Ru]:YF.LF.MLA.956.25.SMR(Norzhiah)]

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Jobs



WE ARE
HIRING
JOIN OUR TEAM



MEDIA SALES - Specialist

Job Description

- Building and sustaining strong working relationship with advertising agencies and clients.
- New business development and business retention.
- Conceptualise, plan and execute creative and innovative marketing campaigns to enhance brand visibility and engagement.
- Create, develop and continuously improve marketing material, presentations and proposals that showcase our products/services effectively.

Requirements

- SPM level with at least two years of experience.
- Diploma or Bachelor's degree in business, marketing or other related fields.
- Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply, training will be provided.
- Good communication, presentation, problem-solving and organisational skills.
- Passionate in client servicing.
- Possess own transport and willing to travel.
- Able to start work immediately.

Office based in Petaling Jaya (Five-day week)

MEDIA SALES - Representative/Agent (Freelance)

Requirement

- Minimum one year sales experience in classified ad, print and digital advertising.
- Those without sales experience but with media advertising knowledge may also apply.
- Attractive commission package and incentives.
- Able to start immediately.
- Central, Northern, Southern, East Coast and Sabah/Sarawak.

Send in your CV with your photo via email to : thesun.hr2@gmail.com

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Notices

PERISTYIHARAN JUALAN
DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG
PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1049-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenal Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965
Dan
Dalam perkara mengenai Gadsian Perserahan No: 0799SC2014029768/ bertarikh : 26/08/2014) ke
atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipagang di bawah Geran No. H.S.(D) 14291, Lot 7171, Mukim
15, Daerah Seberang Perai Tengah, Pulau Pinang

ANTARA

OCBC BANK (MALAYSIA) BERHAD (No. Syarikat : 295400-W) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

DHENESAARASI A/P BALAKRISHNAN (No. Kad Pengenalan : 871213025660) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaysia di Pulau Pinang mengenai Perintah Jualan dan
Perintah bertarikh 9 Jun 2025 dan 4 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa
Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA
LELONG AWAM
Pada Hari Khamis, 16 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,
SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS
MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua langgungan, bebanan serta mengenal pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan berlangsung.

Sila layari <https://elelong.hakaiman.gov.my/bidderweb>

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:
No. Hakmilik : Geran No. H.S.(D) 14291
No. Lot : Lot 7171
Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 15 / Seberang Perai Tengah / Pulau Pinang
Pegangan : Hakmilik Kekal
No. Petak/No. Tingkat/No. Bangunan :
Keluasan Tanah : 109.9600000000 kaki persegi
Pemilik Berdaftar : DHENESAARASI A/P BALAKRISHNAN
Syarat Nyata : The Land comprised in this title : (a) shall not be affected by any provision of the National Land Code limiting the compensation payable on the exercise by the State Authority of a right of access or use conferred by Chapter 3 of Part Three of the Code or on the creation of a Land Administrator's right of way; and (b) subject to the implied condition that land is liable to be re-entered if it is abandoned for more than three years, shall revert to the State only if the proprietor for the time being dies without heirs; and the title shall confer the absolute right to all forest produce and to all oil, mineral and other natural deposits on or below the surface of the land (including the right to work to extract any such produce or deposit and remove it beyond the boundaries of the land)

Sekatan Kepentingan
Bebanan / Lain-Lain : Tiada
Kawasan Rizab :
Kaveat :

LOKASI DAN PERIHAT HARTANAH:
Hartanah tersebut adalah rumah berkambar tiga tingkat yang beralamat pos di 34, Lorong Sejahtera 16, Taman Sejahtera, 14000, Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Pinang.

HARGA RIZAB :
Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak **RM 330,000.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: TIGA RATUS TIGA PULUH RIBU SAHAJA)** dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang bernaam hendaklah mendepositkan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama **OCBC BANK (MALAYSIA) BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA** sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD** dalam tempoh **seratus dua puluh (20)** hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : GHAAZI & LIM
Alamat : 197TH FLOOR, PLAZA NIWE
NO 8, LEBUH FAROUHAR
10200, PG, MY
No. Telefon : 04-2633688
No. Fax : 04-2633189/2627433
No. Rujukan : 07724/JBL/L/rzl

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR
IN THE STATE OF THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF KUALA LUMPUR (COMMERCIAL DIVISION)
COMPANIES WINDING-UP NO.: WA-28NCC-944-09/2025

IN the Matter of Section 465(1)(e) and (h) and Section 466(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016

AND

In the Matter of CTG Pictures Sdn. Bhd. (Registration No.: 201001018806 (902513-U))

AND

In the Matter of the Companies (Winding-Up) Rules 1972

BETWEEN

WHITE MERPATI ENTERTAINMENT SDN. BHD. (REGISTRATION NO.: 200501022422 (704552-A)) ... PETITIONER

AND

CTG PICTURES SDN. BHD. (REGISTRATION NO.: 201001018806 (902513-U)) ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for the Winding-Up of the above-named Company by the High Court was, on the 9th day of September 2025, presented by White Merpati Entertainment Sdn. Bhd. (Registration No.: 200501022422 (704552-A)), the above said Petitioner and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the High Court of Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur at Wilayah Persekutuan, on the 27th day of November 2025, at 9.00 o'clock in the forenoon; and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desiring to support or oppose the making of an order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing by himself or his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

The Petitioner's address is at 40-1, 1st Floor, Jalan 42/26, Taman Sri Rampai, Setapak, 53300 Kuala Lumpur.

The Petitioner's solicitors are Messrs. Kuruvilla, Yeoh & Benjamin with an address at D4-U5-07, Solaris Dutamas Block D4, No.1, Jalan Dutamas 1, Off Jalan Dutta, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

.....signed.....
Messrs. Kuruvilla, Yeoh & Benjamin
Solicitors for the Petitioner

NOTE – Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named Solicitors for the Petitioner notice in writing of his intention to do so. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitors (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 26th Day of November 2025 (the day before the day appointed for the hearing of the petition).

Reference:KT/EVK/205/1/2025
Telephone:03-6413 5152
E-Mail:general@kyblegal.com

IN THE MATTERS OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTERS OF CORONATION ECONOMY MARKET SDN. BHD. Registration No.: 198701006612 (165326-W) (In Members' Voluntary Winding-Up)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the creditors of the abovenamed Company which is being wound up voluntarily are required on or before 30th November 2025 to send in their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims against the Company to the undersigned, the Liquidator of the said Company at No. 5105, Ground Floor, Dahlia Park, Jalan Kampung Benggali, 12200 Butterworth, Pulau Pinang and if so required, are to come and prove their debts and claims as shall be specified or in default will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such proof.

MOHD AZWAN BIN KHAIZAAR (Liquidator)

Dated : 22nd September 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR COMPANIES (WINDING-UP) PETITION NO: WA-28NCC-606-06/2025

In the matter of Sections 465(1)(e) and 466(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016;

And

In the matter of Amprex Racing Services Sdn. Bhd. [Company Registration No. 202101039299 (1439599-W)]

BETWEEN

FM GLOBAL LOGISTICS (M) SDN. BHD. (No. Syarikat: 85740-U) ... PEMPETISYEN

AND

AMPREX RACING SERVICES SDN. BHD. (No. Syarikat: 202101039299 (1439599-W)) ...RESPONDEN

NOTICE OF WINDING-UP ORDER

In the matter of AMPREX RACING SERVICES SDN. BHD.

Winding-Up Order made on the 25th day of September 2025.

Name and address of liquidator : Director-General of Insolvency of Malaysia

Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur Branch
Aras 22-25, Menara TH Perdana
1001 Jalan Sultan Ismail
50250 Kuala Lumpur

Dated this 30th day of September 2025.

signed

.....
WONG LU PEEN & TUNKU ALINA
Solicitors for the Petitioner

This Notice of Winding-Up Order, is taken out by WONG LU PEEN & TUNKU ALINA, solicitors for the Petitioner abovenamed, whose address for service is at 21-6, Block B, The Boulevard, Mid Valley City, Lingkaran Syed Putra, 59200 Kuala Lumpur. [Reference No.: L3 16226 I
Tel No.: 03-22018378]
[Email: andrew_teh@wlpita.com.my | lee.chongwan@wlpita.com.my | hardinah@wlpita.com.my]

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF YA HORNG ELECTRONIC (M) SDN. BHD. Company No.: 198901008341 (185643-K) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of Ya Horng Electronic (M) Sdn. Bhd. (198901008341 (185643-K)) duly convened and held at No. 19, Lintang Selat, Taman Selat, 12000 Butterworth, Pulau Pinang on the 25th September 2025 at 11.00 a.m., the following Resolutions were duly passed :-

SPECIAL RESOLUTION - VOLUNTARY WINDING UP
That the Company be wound up voluntarily pursuant to Section 439(1)(b) of the Companies Act, 2016.

ORDINARY RESOLUTION - APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR
That Chan Theng Sung of No. 19, Lintang Selat, Taman Selat, 12000 Butterworth, Pulau Pinang be and is hereby appointed liquidator of the Company.

Butterworth, 1st October 2025

HUANG, CHIN-I @ J.Y. HUANG
Director

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF YA HORNG ELECTRONIC (M) SDN. BHD. Company No.: 198901008341 (185643-K) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of Ya Horng Electronic (M) Sdn. Bhd. which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before the 31st October 2025, to send in their names and address and particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidator, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their solicitors or personally to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts or claims are proved, or such priority is established, or, as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Dated this 1st October 2025

CHAN THENG SUNG
Liquidator
No. 19, Lintang Selat,
Taman Selat,
12000 Butterworth,
Pulau Pinang.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR
IN THE STATE OF THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF KUALA LUMPUR (COMMERCIAL DIVISION)
COMPANIES WINDING-UP NO.: WA-28NCC-943-09/2025

In the Matter of Section 465(1)(e) and (h) and Section 466(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016

AND

In the Matter of Awesome Broadcasting Sdn. Bhd. (formerly SNR Multi Tech Sdn. Bhd.) (Registration No.: 200301014463 (616883-X)) AND

In the Matter of the Companies (Winding-Up) Rules 1972 BETWEEN

WHITE MERPATI ENTERTAINMENT SDN. BHD. (REGISTRATION NO.: 200501022422 (704552-A)) ... PETITIONER

AND

AWESOME BROADCASTING SDN. BHD. (FORMERLY SNR MULTI TECH SDN. BHD.) (REGISTRATION NO.: 200301014463 (616883-X)) ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for the Winding-Up of the above-named Company by the High Court was, on the 9th day of September 2025, presented by White Merpati Entertainment Sdn. Bhd. (Registration No.: 200501022422 (704552-A)), the above said Petitioner and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the High Court of Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur at Wilayah Persekutuan, on the 20th day of November 2025, at 9.00 o'clock in the forenoon; and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desiring to support or oppose the making of an order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing by himself or his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

The Petitioner's address is at 40-1, 1st Floor, Jalan 42/26, Taman Sri Rampai, Setapak, 53300 Kuala Lumpur.

The Petitioner's solicitors are Messrs. Kuruvilla, Yeoh & Benjamin with an address at D4-U5-07, Solaris Dutamas Block D4, No.1, Jalan Dutamas 1, Off Jalan Dutta, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

.....signed.....
Messrs. Kuruvilla, Yeoh & Benjamin
Solicitors for the Petitioner

NOTE – Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named Solicitors for the Petitioner notice in writing of his intention to do so. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitors (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 19th Day of November 2025 (the day before the day appointed for the hearing of the Petition).

Reference:KT/EVK/205/1/2025
Telephone:03-6413 5152
E-Mail:general@kyblegal.com

PERISTYIHARAN JUALAN
DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG
PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1050-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenai Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965
Dan
Dalam perkara mengenai Gadsian Perserahan No: 0704SC2023001777/ bertarikh : 02/08/2023) ke atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipagang di bawah Geran Mukim 3746, 20257, Mukim 13, Daerah Timor Laut, Pulau Pinang

Dalam perkara mengenai Atruan 83 Kaedah- Kaedah Mahkamah, 2012

ANTARA

Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (No. Syarikat : 198401003274 (115793-P)) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

Loh Wei Hoong (No. Kad Pengenalan: 77108087047) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaysia di PULAU PINANG mengenai Perintah Jualan dan Perintah bertarikh 28 Mei 2023 dan 4 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA
LELONG AWAM
Pada Hari Rabu, 22 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,
SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua langgungan, bebanan serta mengenal pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan berlangsung.

Sila layari <https://elelong.hakaiman.gov.my/bidderweb>

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:
No. Hakmilik : Geran Mukim 3746
No. lot : 20257
Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 13 / Timor Laut / Pulau Pinang
Pegangan : Hakmilik Kekal
No. Petak/No. Tingkat/No. Bangunan :
Keluasan Tanah : 12239.0000000000 kaki persegi
Pemilik Berdaftar : Loh Wei Hoong
Syarat Nyata : (First Grade) The Land comprised in this title: (a) shall not be affected by any provision of the National Land Code limiting the compensation payable on the exercise by the State Authority of a right of access or use conferred by Chapter 3 of Part Three of the Code or on the creation of a Collector's right of way; and (b) subject to the implied condition that land is liable to be re-entered if it is abandoned for more than three years, shall revert to the State only if the proprietor for the time being dies without heirs; and the title shall confer the absolute right to all forest produce and to all oil, mineral and other natural deposits on or below the surface of the land (including the right to work or extract any such produce or deposit and remove it beyond the boundaries of the land);

Sekatan Kepentingan
Bebanan / Lain-Lain : A charge to Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad vide Persn. No. 0704SC2023001777 registered on 10-8-2023.
Kawasan Rizab :
Kaveat :

LOKASI DAN PERIHAT HARTANAH:
Hartanah tersebut adalah rumah berkambar tiga tingkat yang beralamat pos di No. 8, Lengkok Relau 1, Taman Sri Relau, 11800, Bayan Lepas, Pulau Pinang

HARGA RIZAB :
Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak **RM 2,600,000.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: DUA JUTA ENAM RATUS RIBU SAHAJA)** dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang bernaam hendaklah mendepositkan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA** sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD** dalam tempoh **seratus dua puluh (20)** hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : SEE RAMSUN & TAN
Alamat : 8 TAWAY ROAD, 10050, PG, MY
No. Telefon : 04-2259511
No. Fax : 04-2259588
No. Rujukan : CKM/LCS/ER/SCB/23/3806

PERISTYIHARAN JUALAN
DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG
PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1051-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenai Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965
Dan
Dalam perkara mengenai Gadsian Perserahan No: 0799SC2022000009/ bertarikh : 03/12/2021) ke atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipagang di bawah Geran 10952, 4269, Mukim 13, Daerah Timor Laut, Pulau Pinang

Dalam perkara mengenai Atruan 83 Kaedah- Kaedah Mahkamah, 2012

ANTARA

Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (No. Syarikat : 198401003274 (115793-P)) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

Chew Seok Ling (No. Kad Pengenalan : 950603075116) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaysia di PULAU PINANG mengenai Perintah Jualan dan Perintah bertarikh 17 November 2023 dan 2 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA
LELONG AWAM
Pada Hari Selasa, 14 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,
SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua langgungan, bebanan serta mengenal pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan berlangsung.

Sila layari <https://elelong.hakaiman.gov.my/bidderweb>

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:
No. Hakmilik : Geran 10952
No. Lot : 429
Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 13 / Timor Laut / Pulau Pinang
Pegangan : Hakmilik Kekal
No. Petak/No. Tingkat/No. Bangunan :
Keluasan Tanah : 2971.0000000000 kaki persegi
Pemilik Berdaftar : Chew Seok Ling
Syarat Nyata : (First Grade) The Land comprised in this title: (a) shall not be affected by any provision of the National Land Code limiting the compensation payable on the exercise by the State Authority of a right of access or use conferred by Chapter 3 of Part Three of the Code or on the creation of a Land Administrator's right of way; and (b) subject to the implied condition that land is liable to be re-entered if it is abandoned for more than three years, shall revert to the State only if the proprietor for the time being dies without heirs; and the title shall confer the absolute right to all forest produce and to all oil, mineral and other natural deposits on or below the surface of the land (including the right to work or extract any such produce or deposit and remove it beyond the boundaries of the land);

Sekatan Kepentingan
Bebanan / Lain-Lain : Tiada
Kawasan Rizab :
Kaveat : 1. No. Perserahan: 0799B2021008744) dengan Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (No. Syarikat : 198401003274 (115793-P)) didaftarkan pada 17/11/2021.
2. (No. Perserahan: 0799B2024009520) oleh Lim Shir Ley (No. Kad Pengenalan : 760601-07-5147) didaftarkan pada 31/7/2024.

LOKASI DAN PERIHAT HARTANAH:
Hartanah tersebut adalah rumah berkambar tiga tingkat yang beralamat pos di No. 38, Lorong Batu Uban 1, Taman Century, 11700, Glugor, Pulau Pinang

HARGA RIZAB :
Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak **RM 944,784.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: SEMBILAN RATUS EMPAT PULUH RIBU TUJUH RATUS EMPAT RIBU RATUS EMPAT RIBU SAHAJA)** dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang bernaam hendaklah mendepositkan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA** sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD** dalam tempoh **seratus dua puluh (20)** hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : SEE RAMSUN & TAN
Alamat : 8 TAWAY ROAD, 10050, PG, MY
No. Telefon : 04-2259511
No. Fax : 04-2259588
No. Rujukan : CKM/LCS/ER/SCB/23/3785

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Notices

PERISTYIHARAN JUALAN
DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG
PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1052-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenai Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965
Dan
Dalam perkara mengenai Gadsian Perserahan No: 0799SC2021004730/ bertarikh : 17/02/2021) ke atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipagang di bawah Geran 85895, 8871, Mukim 15, Daerah Seberang Perai Selatan, Pulau Pinang

Dalam perkara mengenai Atruan 83 Kaedah- Kaedah Mahkamah, 2012

ANTARA

Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (No. Syarikat : 115793-P)) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

Raveendran A/ Tangavelu sebagai wakil diri kepada Harta Pusaka Thammanthi a/ Krishnan, si mati (No. Kad Pengenalan: 720331075169) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaysia di PULAU PINANG mengenai Perintah Jualan dan Perintah bertarikh 25 Oktober 2023 dan 2 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA
LELONG AWAM
Pada Hari Selasa, 14 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,
SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua langgungan, bebanan serta mengenal pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan berlangsung.

Sila layari <https://elelong.hakaiman.gov.my/bidderweb>

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:
No. Hakmilik : Geran 85895
No. Lot : 8871
Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 15 / Seberang Perai Selatan / Pulau Pinang
Pegangan : Hakmilik Kekal
No. Petak/No. Tingkat/No. Bangunan :
Keluasan Tanah : 2186.0000000000 kaki persegi
Pemilik Berdaftar : Thammanthi a/ Krishnan
Syarat Nyata : (First Grade) The Land comprised in this title: (a) shall not be affected by any provision of the National Land Code limiting the compensation payable on the exercise by the State Authority of a right of access or use conferred by Chapter 3 of Part Three of the Code or on the creation of a Land Administrator's right of way; and (b) subject to the implied condition that land is liable to be re-entered if it is abandoned for more than three years, shall revert to the State only if the proprietor for the time being dies without heirs; and the title shall confer the absolute right to all forest produce and to all oil, mineral and other natural deposits on or below the surface of the land (including the right to work or extract any such produce or deposit and remove it beyond the boundaries of the land);

Sekatan Kepentingan
Bebanan / Lain-Lain : Tiada
Kawasan Rizab :
Kaveat :

LOKASI DAN PERIHAT HARTANAH:
Hartanah tersebut adalah Rumah Teres Dua Tingkat yang beralamat pos di No. 2, Lorong Tasik Indah 3, Taman Tasik Indah, 14120, Simpang Ampat, Pulau Pinang.

HARGA RIZAB :
Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak **RM 459,000.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: EMPAT RATUS LIMA PULUH SEMBILAN RIBU SAHAJA)** dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang bernaam hendaklah mendepositkan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA** sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada **STANDARD CHARTERED BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD** dalam tempoh **seratus dua puluh (20)** hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : SEE RAMSUN & TAN
Alamat : 8 TAWAY ROAD, 10050, PG, MY
No. Telefon : 04-2259511
No. Fax : 04-2259588
No. Rujukan : CKM/LCS/ER/SCB/21/3661

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND

IN THE MATTER OF ENTROPIA INTERCRAFT SDN. BHD. (201601037472 (1208413-W)) (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 459 of the Companies Act, 2016 that the Final Meeting of Entropia Intercraft Sdn. Bhd. (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation) ("the Company") will be held at 37-2-1 Block G, Cheras Business Centre, Jalan 3/101C, 56100 Kuala Lumpur on the 31st day of October, 2025, at 10.00 am.

The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's final accounts and any explanations she may give including the liquidator's remuneration and to authorise the storage and subsequent destruction of the Company's books and records.

Dated this 1st day of October, 2025

Soo Lynnie
Liquidator

DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET PETALING JAYA

DALAM NEGERI SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN, MALAYSIA

WRIT NO: BB-A72NCvC-736-08/2025

ANTARA

LEMBAGA KUMPULAN WANG SIMPANAN PEKERJA

...PLAINTIF

DAN

1. NG & PARTNERS ADVISORY PLT [NO. PENDAFTARAN: 202104000593 (LLP0027215-LGN)]

2. LEONG FOO KEONG (NO. K/P: 810323-14-5015) ...DEFENDAN-DEFENDAN

NOTIS

Kepada:-

NG & PARTNERS ADVISORY PLT [NO. PENDAFTARAN: 202104000593 (LLP0027215-LGN)]

B-1-15, Block B, 8 Avenue

Jalan Sungai Jernih 8/1

Section 8

46050 Petaling Jaya

Selangor

LEONG FOO KEONG d/a NG & PARTNERS ADVISORY PLT [NO. PENDAFTARAN: 202104000593 (LLP0027215-LGN)]

B-1-15, Block B, 8 Avenue

Jalan Sungai Jernih 8/1

Section 8

46050 Petaling Jaya

Selangor

dan/atau

P-4-2, Taman Kinrara

Batu 7 ½ Puchong

47100 Puchong

Selangor

SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu dalam Mahkamah Majistret Petaling Jaya dalam Writ Saman No. BB-A72NCvC-736-08/2025 oleh LEMBAGA KUMPULAN WANG SIMPANAN PEKERJA yang beralamat Ibu pejabat di Seksyen Pendakwaan dan Litigasi, Jabatan Undang-Undang, Tingkat 4, Menara KWSF, No. 1, Persiaran Kwasa Utama, Kwasa Damansara, Seksyen 14, 40150 Shah Alam, Selangor, Darul Ehsan dalam mana tuntutan Plaintiff adalah untuk suao Penghakiman, termasuk tetapi tidak terhad kepada perintah-perintah seperti berikut:-

1. Tunggakan dividen sebanyak RM2,139.00 bagi tempoh Mei 2021 sehingga Jun 2021 yang terakru ke atas tunggakan caruman bulanan KWSF dan bayaran tunggakan caj lewat bayar sebanyak RM3,895.00 bagi tempoh Mei 2021 sehingga Jun 2021 yang terakru ke atas tunggakan caruman bulanan KWSF, yang menjadikan jumlah keseluruhannya sebanyak RM6,034.00;

2. Kos bagi tindakan ini;

3. Lain-lain relif yang Mahkamah yang mulia ini fikir wajar dan suaimfaat

DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN BAHAWA penyampaian Writ Saman dan Penyata Tuntutan bagi tindakan ini kepada kamu dilaksanakan secara penyampaian ganti melalui penampalan satu salinan Writ Saman bermeterai dan Pernyataan Tuntutan masing-masing bertarikh 08.08.2025 dan Perintah Penyampaian Ganti bertarikh 09.09.2025 di alamat-alamat seperti yang dinyatakan di atas dan melalui pengiklanan di satu akhbar harian dan penyampaian seumpama itu hendaklah dianggapkan sebagai penyampaian yang baik sempurna dan cukup ke atas Defendan-Defendan dalam tempoh penamatan tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh yang terakhir penampalan dan pengiklanan sedemikian itu dilaksanakan, dan kos permohonan ini hendaklah menjadi kos dalam kausa.

Kamu boleh mendapatkan Writ Saman dan Penyata Tuntutan ini dengan memohon di Mahkamah.

Bertarikh pada 9 September 2025

tt.

Tetuan Ahmad Fuad Abi & Aidiil
Pegumacara Plaintiff

NOTIS IKLAN ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Ahmad Fuad Abi & Aidiil, pegumacara Plaintiff yang dinamakan dengan alamat penyampaian di 1-91-1, Jalan Teknologi 3/9, Bistari "De" Kota, Kota Damansara, PJJ5, 47510 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan. Tel: 03-2774 6324 | Emel: officedk@ataa-law.com [Ruj: AFAA/25/LIT/1283/KWSF(12)-12/AM] [Ruj: KWSF: 9/42-0395-04(L)/KJG/2025/0022]

PERISYTIHARAN JUALAN

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG

PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1048-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenai Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965

Dan

Dalam perkara mengenai Gadaian Perserahan No: 0799SC2023033708(bertarikh : 14/07/2023) ke atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipegang di bawah Hakmilik Strata No. Hakmilik Pajakkan Negeri 2316/M2/14/276, Lot 12034, Mukim 12, Daerah Barat Daya, Pulau Pinang

Dan

Dalam perkara mengenai Aturan 83 Kaedah- Kaedah Mahkamah, 2012

ANTARA

PUBLIC BANK BERHAD (No. Syarikat : 6463-H) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

VINOTH RAJ A/L PALANY (No. Kad Pengenalan : 901202075405) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaya di PULAU PINANG mengenai Perintah Jualan dan Perintah bertarikh 19 Disember 2024 dan 4 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA

LELONG AWAM

Pada Hari Rabu, 22 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,

SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua tanggunan, bebanan serta mengenai pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan lelongan dijalankan.

Sila layari https://elelong.kehakiman.gov.my/bidderweb

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:

No. Hakmilik : Hakmilik Strata No. Hakmilik Pajakkan Negeri 2316/M2/14/276

No. Lot : Lot 12034

Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 12 / Barat Daya / Pulau Pinang

Pegangan : Hakmilik Pajakkan

No. Petak/No. Tingkat/ No. Bangunan : 276 / 14 / M2

Keluasan Tanah : 818.0000000000 kaki persegi

76.0000000000 meter persegi

Pemilik Berdaftar : VINOTH RAJ A/L PALANY

Syarat Nyata : Petak ini hendaklah digunakan untuk tujuan pangsapuri sahaja.

Sekatan Kepentingan : Tanah yang diberi milik ini tidak boleh dipisah sempadan, pindah milik, cagar, pajak, pajak kecil atau dengan apa-apa urusan sekali pun dipuskan tanpa kebenaran bertulis daripada Pihak Berk kuasa Negeri.

Bebanan / Lain-Lain :

Kawasan Rizab :

Kaveat :

LOKASI DAN PERIHAL HARTANAH : Hartanah tersebut adalah Pangsapuri yang beralamat pos di 104-12B-10, Persiaran Bayan Indah, Villa Emas Condo, 11900, Bayan Lepas, Pulau Pinang.

HARGA RIZAB : Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak RM 405,000.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: EMPAT RATUS LIMA RIBU SAHAJA) dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang berminat hendaklah mendeposikan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama PUBLIC BANK BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada PUBLIC BANK BERHAD dalam tempoh seratus dua puluh (120) hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : TOH THEAM HOCK & CO.

Alamat : NO. 155, 1ST FLOOR

MEDAN KIKIK SATU

TAMAN INDEHAWASIH, 13600, PG, MY

No. Telefon : 04-3981917

No. Fax : 04-3981921

No. Rujukan : TTH/PBB/HL-198/2024/OSY/DURA

PERISYTIHARAN JUALAN

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI PULAU PINANG

PERMOHONAN UNTUK PERLAKSANAAN NO: PA-38-1029-07/2025

Dalam perkara mengenai Seksyen 256 dan 257 Kanun Tanah Negara, 1965

Dan

Dalam perkara mengenai Gadaian Perserahan No: 0799SC2016009208 (bertarikh : 07/03/2016) ke atas semua bahagian tanah yang dipegang di bawah Hakmilik Strata No. Hakmilik: Geran 78880/M1C/25/600, Lot 10087, Mukim 13, Daerah Timor Laut, Pulau Pinang

Dan

Dalam perkara mengenai Aturan 83 Kaedah-Kaedah Mahkamah, 2012

ANTARA

Public Bank Berhad (No. Syarikat : 6463-H) ...PLAINTIF

DAN

Ong Swee Jin (No. Kad Pengenalan : 750225075453)

Tan Yen (No. Kad Pengenalan : 831221086280) ...DEFENDAN

Menurut Perintah Mahkamah Tinggi Malaya di Pulau Pinang mengenai Perintah Jualan dan Perintah bertarikh 21 April 2025 dan 2 September 2025, adalah dengan ini diisytiharkan bahawa Timbalan Pendaftar/Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Pusat Operasi e-Lelong di Kuantan

AKAN MENJUAL SECARA

LELONG AWAM

Pada Hari Selasa, 14 Oktober 2025, Pada Jam 11:00 pagi,

SECARA ELEKTRONIK DI LAMAN WEB e-LELONG, PUSAT OPERASI e-LELONG, KOMPLEKS MAHKAMAH KUANTAN, PAHANG DARUL MAKMUR

NOTA: Bakal pembeli adalah dinasihatkan agar membuat carian Hakmilik secara rasmi di Pejabat Tanah dan memeriksa semua tanggunan, bebanan serta mengenai pasti dengan tepat hartanah tersebut sebelum jualan lelongan dijalankan.

Sila layari https://elelong.kehakiman.gov.my/bidderweb

BUTIR-BUTIR HAKMILIK:

No. Hakmilik : Hakmilik Strata No. Hakmilik: Geran 78880/ M1C/25/600

No. Lot : Lot 10087

Mukim / Daerah / Negeri : 13 / Timor Laut / Pulau Pinang

Pegangan : Hakmilik Pajakkan

No. Petak/No. Tingkat/ No. Bangunan : 600 / 25 / M1C

Keluasan Tanah : 700.0000000000 kaki persegi

65.0000000000 meter persegi

Pemilik Berdaftar : Ong Swee Jin, Tan Yen

Syarat Nyata : Petak ini hendaklah digunakan untuk tujuan rumah pangsa sahaja.

Sekatan Kepentingan : Tiada

Bebanan / Lain-Lain : The 99-year leasehold interest in the subject property is presently charged to Public Bank Berhad vide Presentation No. 0799SC2016009208 registered on 5th April 2016.

Kawasan Rizab :

Kaveat :

LOKASI DAN PERIHAL HARTANAH : Hartanah tersebut adalah Three-bedroom flat yang beralamat pos di 5-25-10, Lengkok Angsana, Mukim 13, 11500, Ayer Itam, Pulau Pinang,

HARGA RIZAB : Hartanah tersebut akan dijual atas "sepertimana sedia ada" tertakluk kepada satu harga rizab sebanyak RM 260,000.00 (RINGGIT MALAYSIA: DUA RATUS ENAM PULUH RIBU SAHAJA) dan kepada syarat-syarat jualan yang dilampirkan. Pembida yang berminat hendaklah mendeposikan 10% daripada harga rizab dalam bentuk Bank Draft di atas nama PUBLIC BANK BERHAD 1 HARI BEKERJA sebelum tarikh lelong awam. Baki harga belian hendaklah dibayar oleh pembida yang berjaya kepada PUBLIC BANK BERHAD dalam tempoh seratus dua puluh (120) hari dari tarikh jualan. Untuk butir-butir selanjutnya, sila berhubung dengan:-

Firma Guaman : WONG-CHOOI & MOHD NOR

Alamat : NO. 27, 1ST & 2ND FLOOR

JALAN MAJU JAYA

PUSAT PERNIAGAAN MAJU JAYA, 14000, PG, MY

No. Telefon : 04-5398855

No. Fax : 04-5395855

No. Rujukan : WCMN(BM)/PBB-HL/2025-004/OSJ(RS/J)

Gamble pays off

Marquez vindicated by 'difficult decision' to leave Honda to win MotoGP title

MARC MARQUEZ'S gamble to leave Honda in 2023 has paid off spectacularly this year, with the Spaniard claiming a seventh MotoGP championship with Ducati that he concedes vindicated the "most difficult decision" of his career.

The 32-year-old's emotional title win, sealed with five rounds to spare, came after a remarkable journey from injury hell and the brink of retirement to equalling the title haul of MotoGP great Valentino Rossi.

After winning six titles with Honda, Marquez endured a nightmare period with four arm surgeries that left him contemplating hanging up his racing leathers as he struggled with an uncompetitive bike that punished his battered body.

MARQUEZ'S LEAP OF FAITH

However, his salva-

tion came through an unlikely route few could have predicted – a switch to satellite team Gresini Racing and their year-old Ducati machines, a leap of faith rooted in instinct that convinced him he could fight at the front again.

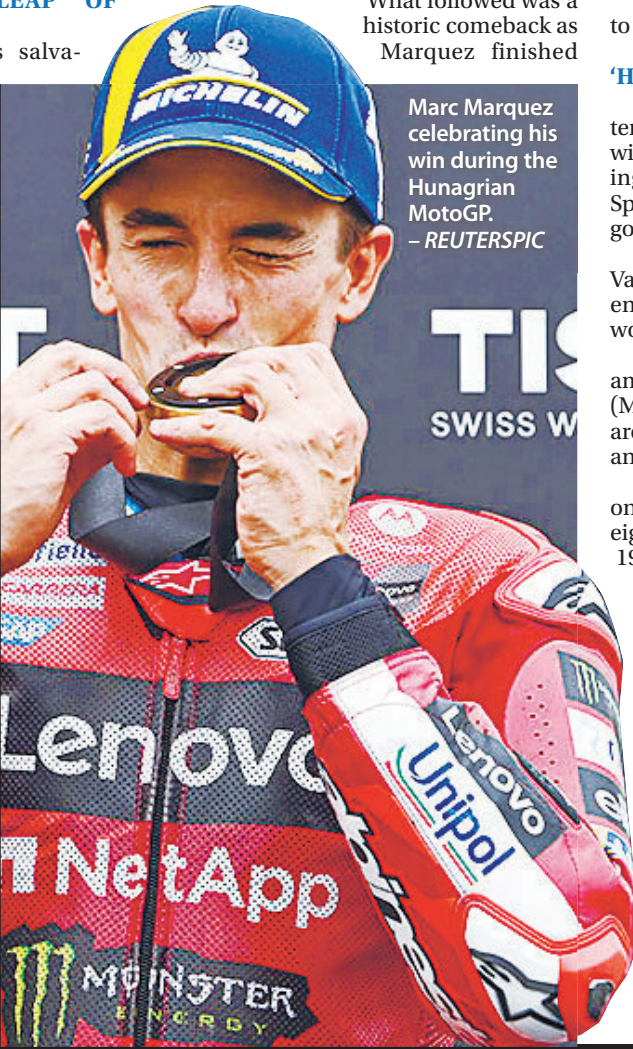
"In 2023, I decided to follow my instinct. I had a very nice talk with Honda, with all my people.

"When I moved to Gresini, they had the best bike, the Ducati," Marquez told reporters on Monday.

"I wanted to be competitive to continue my career and that answer was positive. When you arrive on the best team, with the best bike, with the best technology – it's in your hands.

"From that winter, I knew it was my best chance to fight for the championship... I told Gresini I'll ride for free to see if I can fight with the top guys."

What followed was a historic comeback as Marquez finished



Marc Marquez celebrating his win during the Hunagrian MotoGP. – REUTERS/SPIC

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT SHAH ALAM

IN THE STATE OF SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN

COMPANIES (WINDING-UP)

NO.: BA-28NCC-537-08/2025

In the matter of Deccan Shipping & Logistics Sdn. Bhd. [Company No.: 201801005314 (1267328-T)]

And

In the matter of Sections 464(1) (b), 465(1)(e) and 466(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016

BETWEEN

NOBLE CONTAINER LEASING SINGAPORE PTE. LTD. [UEN No.: 200303845Z] ...PETITIONER

AND

DECCAN SHIPPING & LOGISTICS SDN. BHD. [Company No.: 201801005314 (1267328-T)] ...RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for Winding-Up of the above named Company by the High Court dated 6th August 2025 presented by Noble Container Singapore Pte Ltd (UEN No.: 200303845Z) of 11 Collyer Quay Unit 19-01 The Arcade Singapore 049317, the above said Petitioning Company and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the High Court of Malaya at Shah Alam at 9:30a.m., on the 5th November 2025; and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desiring to support or oppose the making of an order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing by himself or his Counsel for that purpose and a copy of the Petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same by the undersigned on payment to the regulated charge for the same.

The Petitioner's address is at 11 Collyer Quay Unit 19-01 The Arcade Singapore 049317.

The Petitioner's solicitors are Messrs Natarajan & Chee of S-13-3, Wisma YNH, Kiara 163 SOVO No. 8, Jalan Kiara 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

Dated 23rd September 2025

MESSRS NATARAJAN & CHEE Solicitors for the Petitioner

NOTE – Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above named Solicitors for the Petitioner notice in writing of his intention to do so. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their Solicitors (if any) and must be served, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above named not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 4th November 2025 (the day before the day appointed for the hearing of the Petition).

Watson 'ashamed' of rowdy Ryder Cup fans

US golf legend Tom Watson yesterday condemned unruly Americans fans who taunted European players during their Ryder Cup victory, saying he was "ashamed" by their behaviour.

Europe's win at Bethpage Black in New York on Sunday came after three days of fierce competition which saw US fans barrack European players relentlessly.

Rory McIlroy, who bore the brunt of the abuse, on Sunday described the conduct of American fans, who at one stage hurled a beer at his wife Erica, as "unacceptable."

In a post on social media yesterday, former US Ryder Cup captain Watson said the crowd behaviour had crossed a line.

third in the 2024 championship and earned a move to the factory Ducati team, where he dominated the 2025 season and won that elusive seventh title after 2,184 days.

'MOST DIFFICULT DECISION'

As an emotional Marquez sobbed after he crossed the finish line in Motegi on Sunday, the title sewn up, there was nothing but respect from Honda as their crew embraced the Spaniard in the paddock, acknowledging his remarkable comeback journey.

"It was the most difficult decision of my career in 2023, because we were coming from a very dark period of injuries. "I had to consider that decision of whether I should finish my career," Marquez added.

"The biggest help was all people from Honda gave me the chance to decide for myself.

"They gave me the confidence to decide."

'HONOUR TO EQUAL ROSSI'

Although Marquez shared a bitter rivalry with Rossi on the track, with the pair now barely on speaking terms in the paddock, the Spaniard said he was honoured to go level with him.

"It's a big honour to equal Valentino... to equal the most talented riders of the motorcycle world," Marquez said.

"When you see your name among legends – Rossi, Agostini, (Mick) Doohan – a lot of big names around me is something that leaves an impression."

Marquez has now set his sights on Agostini, the Italian who won eight 500cc titles between 1966 and 1975.

But the Spaniard said that after going through all the trials and tribulations to win the 2025 title, anything more would be a bonus after overcoming his darkest period.

"If I'm competing now it's because I feel competitive enough to fight for championships. Now I want to enjoy this one," he said.

"Next year, we will try again. If something arrives, it will be a present because the most challenging period of my career is done."

Reuters

"I'd like to apologize for the rude and mean-spirited behaviour from our American crowd at Bethpage.

"As a former player, Captain, and as an American, I am ashamed of what happened," the eight-time major champion wrote.

McIlroy repeatedly clashed verbally with spectators during Saturday's play, at one stage using an obscenity as he told them to "shut up" as he prepared to play a shot.

He also backed out of putts due to crowd noise, which at one point prompted tournament officials to station extra security including police dogs around the green. – AFP

Swiatek may skip events due to packed schedule

WORLD NO. 2 Iga Swiatek said the tennis season is too long and too intense and the smart option for her would be to cut back on her schedule for the sake of her health, even if that means skipping mandatory tournaments.

The men's and women's circuits have faced criticism due to their 11-month seasons, and both the tours have come under fresh scrutiny during the "Asian swing" with five matches at the China Open unable to be completed on Monday due to injuries.

Camila Osorio retired after she dropped the first set to Swiatek, while Lois Boisson, Zheng

Qinwen, Lorenzo Musetti and Jakub Mensik were unable to complete their matches in Beijing.

"I think people are more fatigued," six-times Grand Slam champion Swiatek told reporters.

"Unfortunately, the Asian Swing is the hardest part because you feel like the season is going to finish soon, but you still need to push.

"I don't know yet how my career is going to look like in a couple years. Maybe I will have to choose some tournaments and skip them, even though they are mandatory. The WTA, with these mandatory rules, they made this pretty

crazy for us."

Top players are obliged to compete in all four Grand Slams, 10 WTA 1000 tournaments and six WTA 500 events under WTA rules, with the punishment for missing them ranging from rankings points penalties to fines.

"I don't think any top player will actually be able to achieve this... It's impossible to squeeze it in the schedule," said Swiatek, who has committed to playing in all the mandatory events this year.

"We have to be smart about it, not really unfortunately care about the rules and think

what's healthy for us. It's tough."

The WTA told *Reuters* athlete welfare is a top priority and that it listened to views on the calendar, both through the players' council and their representatives on the WTA board, to improve the circuit structure in 2024 and boost compensation.

The WTA added it would continue to keep its tour structure under review based on feedback, while recognising that a review of the calendar requires coordination across governing bodies including the ATP, ITF and Grand Slams. – Reuters

Nepal thrash sorry Windies

NEPAL produced a stunning performance to bowl the West Indies out for just 83 in the second T20I in Sharjah yesterday and claim a 2-0 victory in their first-ever series against a Test-playing country with a game to spare.

After racking up 173 for six in their 20 overs with half-centuries for Aasif Sheikh and Sundeep Jora, Nepal, ranked 18th in the world skittled the West Indies in 17.1 overs to claim victory by a crushing 90 runs.

Mohammad Aadil Alam took 4-24 while Kushal Bhurtel took 3-16 in just 2.1 overs of leg spin.

It marked the biggest winning margin for an associate member nation against a full member while West Indies' total of 83 is the lowest a full member has mustered against an associate.

"We are very happy. It took a lot to win against a Test-playing country," said Nepal captain Rohit Paudel whose side won the opener on Saturday by 19 runs.

"After two days, winning a bilateral series feels really great. The way we've been playing the last two or three years, lots of eyes are on us.

"We want to continue this way and play more against Test-playing nations."

Nepal's total was built on a 100-run fourth-wicket partnership between opener Aasif Sheikh, who batted through for 68 not out, and Jora, who clubbed five sixes in his 39-ball 63.

West Indies were quickly in trouble at 23 for three. They rebuilt to 63-4 in the 12th over before collapsing to 83 all out.

The humiliation comes two months after the West Indies' Test team was bowled out for just 27 by Australia, the second-lowest score in Test history.

The two-time T20 World Cup winners also failed to qualify for the 50-over World Cup in 2023 and are currently outside the qualifying places for the next edition in 2027. – AFP

Sinner passes De Minaur test

Gauff survives tense Bencic match to reach Beijing quarterfinals



Jannik Sinner (left) and Coco Gauff.
– AFP/REUTERSPIC

JANNIK SINNER underlined his dominance on hardcourts in the Asian swing of tournaments by outlasting Australian third seed Alex de Minaur 6-3 4-6 6-2 yesterday to reach his third straight China Open final.

In the title clash, the four-times Grand Slam winner will take on either American 19-year-old Learner Tien or former US Open champion Daniil Medvedev.

"I have one night to recover. I'm going to be fine," Sinner said.

"In the finals you have even more adrenaline and more will to play as best as you can.

I'm looking forward to it, finals are very special.

"It's another final for me this season. It's a great result again. Let's see who it's going to be."

Sinner made a typically fast start in his bid to secure an 11th straight

victory over De Minaur, breaking the world No. 8 to love for a 4-2 lead, but he had to battle hard in the next game to hold serve.

The 2023 champion had no trouble wrapping up the first set from there but ran into trouble early in the next, appearing to struggle physically at times, before tight holds helped him level at 3-3 and 4-4.

De Minaur persevered to win only his second ever set against the Italian with a gutsy performance in the 10th game but Sinner regrouped in the decider, breaking in the first game and holding off his opponent to reach a ninth straight final on hardcourts.

"I felt like it (the level) was very high," Sinner added.

"Many great rallies, many chances both ways. I had my chances in the second set, couldn't take them. He had more chances, so it was quite an even match.

"In the third set I tried to raise my level. I broke him very early, which gave me a bit of confidence to serve better at times. I'm very happy about today. It was a different match than usual against him."

Defending champion Coco Gauff fought back to beat Belinda Bencic 4-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2 in a tense encounter yesterday and reach the China Open quarterfinals.

Gauff next plays either Eva Lys of Germany or fellow American McCartney Kessler in Beijing.

"It was a tough match," Gauff said. "I had chances in the first to close it out but overall I'm happy with how I fought. She was being really aggressive."

There were frustrations on both sides of the court at a largely empty stadium as the players switched between one half darkened by shade and the other in the blazing sun.

There was a flashpoint between the two players during a changeover in the second set when Switzerland's 15th seed Bencic said: "Your team is chatting. I'm too old for these mind games, okay?"

"You're the one playing the mind games," Gauff, the second seed, shot back.

With her last-16 victory, Gauff qualified for the WTA Finals in Saudi Arabia in November.

"Happy to qualify once again. Happy to be back in Riyadh and I'm glad I was able to do it here," Gauff told the on-court interviewer.

"It's been a tough tournament so far, but I'm happy to get through." – Reuters/AFP

England bowler Woakes retires

PACEMAN Chris Woakes yesterday announced his retirement from international cricket after England indicated he was no longer in their plans.

Woakes's final match was last month against India at the Oval, where he walked out to bat one-handed with his arm in a sling, having dislocated his shoulder in the field.

He did not face a ball in his short time at the crease as India won by six runs to level the series at 2-2.

That injury ruled him out of consideration for the upcoming Ashes tour to Australia and, at the

age of 36, effectively brought down the curtain on his England career.

Woakes, who made his Test debut for England in 2013, took 192 wickets in 62 games and scored more than 2,000 runs at an average of 25.

He also featured in 33 T20 internationals and 122 one-day internationals, playing a key role as England won the 2019 World Cup.

Rob Key, managing director of men's cricket

at the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), said last week that Woakes was unlikely to feature again and the all-rounder has opted to call time on his international career.

"The moment has come, and I've decided that the time is right for me to retire from international cricket," he wrote in an *Instagram* post.

"Playing for England was something I aspired to do since I was a kid dreaming in the back

garden.

"And I feel incredibly fortunate to have lived out those dreams.

"Representing England, wearing the Three Lions and sharing the field with teammates over the last 15 years.

"Many of whom have become lifelong friends, are things I'll look back on with the greatest pride."

The Warwickshire bowler said he looked forward to continuing to play the county game and exploring opportunities in franchise cricket. – AFP



Ekitike reveals true thoughts playing alongside Isak

■ BY RICHARD JOLLY

HUGO EKITIKE said it is a “good question” of how Liverpool use him and Alexander Isak after spending £200 million (RM1.13 billion) on new strikers this summer but has insisted they can play together.

Ekitike joined from Eintracht Frankfurt for an initial £69 million (RM390m) and Isak followed from Newcastle for a British record £125 million (RM707m) but the pair are yet to be on the pitch together.

In part because the Swede lacked match fitness after his arrival was delayed until deadline day while the Frenchman was suspended for

Saturday’s defeat to Crystal Palace.

Manager Arne Slot has preferred to operate with one striker, flanked by two wingers, but Ekitike formed a prolific partnership with Omar Marmoush at Frankfurt in the first half of last season.

Ekitike scored in his first three games for Liverpool, all before Isak signed, but said he welcomed the competition from the newer signing even as he wondered how they will both be accommodated.

“Good question,” he said. “It is good, you know? We play in such a big club. I can’t see any big clubs playing with just one striker in the squad.

It is good that Alex is here. For me, at my age, I have a lot of things to improve and learn.

“It is good that he is here. It is for the coach to decide how we want to play. I have been playing in a two-striker composition, one striker, I can do a lot of things. If we have to play together, I can do that.”

Ekitike was sent off against Southampton last week, when his first booking was for dissent and his second for taking his shirt off.

He has vowed there will be no repeat of a dismissal Slot had called “needless” and “stupid”.

“That was not smart,” he added. “Obviously, I punished myself a lot. I felt disappointed to watch the boys from home on Saturday. As I said,

I apologise to everybody, to my teammates. It won’t happen again. I just move on now, I am looking forward.”

Slot said Ekitike and Isak were his two top choices in the summer and explained he wanted to get both after the tragic loss of Diogo Jota.

“Because of an enormous tragedy with Diogo Jota, in the end we had to bring in two No 9s,” he said.

“We always thought we’d replace Darwin Nunez with one No 9, but we had to bring in two.

“We have always looked for very good players but it was always clear to us that from the start we wanted these two (Isak and Ekitike) if we needed two.” – The Independent

PSG’s first big test

Parisians facing injury crisis as Barcelona knock on door

PARIS Saint-Germain face their biggest test of the season so far when the Champions League title-holders visit Barcelona this week, but Luis Enrique’s side come into the game in the midst of an injury crisis affecting several of their biggest stars.

The headline absentee is Ousmane Dembele, fresh from winning the *Ballon d’Or* last week as recognition for his magnificent 2024/25 campaign, in which the France winger scored 35 goals.

How Dembele would have loved to come up against the Catalans, the club he left in 2023 after six years in which he showed moments of brilliance but struggled for consistency – and with injuries.

The 28-year-old could have taken on Lamine Yamal, the teenager who he pipped to the *Ballon d’Or* award but who did win the Kopa Trophy for the best player in the world last season U-21.

But Dembele is still recovering from a thigh injury picked up on international duty with France at the beginning of the month, and is not

expected back for at least another couple of weeks.

“It is going well. I will be back very soon,” Dembele told French television after taking the acclaim of the PSG support with the *Ballon d’Or* trophy following Saturday’s 2-0 win against Auxerre.

Coach Luis Enrique has also been missing Desire Doue, the thrilling 20-year-old attacker who finished second to Yamal in the Kopa Trophy ranking – he has not played since suffering a calf injury on France duty at the same time as Dembele.

Then there is centreback and captain Marquinhos and all-action Portuguese midfielder Joao Neves, who are nursing thigh and hamstring injuries respectively.

Playmaker Vitinha, third in the *Ballon d’Or*, came off before halftime at the weekend while Khvicha Kvaratskhelia was withdrawn at the interval.

PSG’s hope is that both players were taken off early enough to prevent any lasting

damage, but suddenly Luis Enrique’s options are being drastically reduced.

“We have to stay positive because we need to be able to manage this situation,” the coach, a former Barcelona player and manager, said on Saturday after the win against Auxerre.

“Paris Saint-Germain are not the only team with injuries. It is the case for every team with such an intense calendar.”

The Parisians played 65 games during 2024/25, in a season spanning 11 months. That included 17 matches in the Champions League and seven in the Club World Cup, where their marathon campaign concluded with a 3-0 loss to Chelsea in mid-July.

It seems the effort is catching up with individual players: Dembele has played 99 games for PSG since signing just over two years ago, and 20 for France over the same period.

Vitinha has made 113 appearances for PSG since the start of 2023/24 and 21 more for Portugal.

For PSG’s star rightback Achraf Hakimi the figure over the same time is 131 games between club and country – and he has the Africa Cup of Nations coming up this season as well as the World Cup next year.

Luis Enrique needs to give these players more of a rest, and figures within football insist too many games damages the product.

“We

think club owners are beginning to realise that this is bad for business,” pointed out Alex Phillips, the secretary general of FifPro, last week.

A Champions League showdown between the Spanish champions and the reigning French and European champions is the sort of stage on which the newly crowned best player on the planet should be featuring.

Instead PSG may need to dig deep into their resources, although their squad depth is being exposed as perhaps not as strong as it needed to be.

Despite that Luis Enrique’s side head to Catalonia off the back of a big 4-0 win against Atalanta in their European opener a fortnight ago.

In any case, a defeat here may not prove to be a big setback in terms of achieving their main goal of reaching the knockout stage – after all, there will be more than enough games remaining in the league phase.

– AFP

South Africa lose World Cup qualifying points

SOUTH AFRICA have forfeited a 2026 World Cup qualifying match against Lesotho for fielding an ineligible player, world football governing body Fifa announced yesterday.

South Africa’s 2-0 victory on March 21 in Polokwane has been replaced with a 3-0 defeat meaning they drop to second place in Group C of the African qualifiers, behind Benin on goal difference, while Lesotho remain fifth.

South Africa violated Article 19 of the Fifa Disciplinary Code by playing Teboho Mokoena after the midfielder had accumulated two yellow cards against Benin and then Zimbabwe, the football body’s disciplinary committee said.

South African sports minister Gayton McKenzie said the sanction was “deeply regrettable and has brought embarrassment to our nation”.

“We acknowledge that this situation has brought South Africa into disrepute, and we must take full responsibility for addressing it,” he said.

“We thank Fifa for swift action and not making us wonder and wait in agony about our fate.

“However, our immediate focus must be on rallying behind our national team as they prepare for their crucial final two matches in October.”

The South African FA, which can still appeal the decision, must also pay a fine of 10,000 Swiss francs (RM52,856). – AFP



Lamine Yamal.
– REUTERS/SPIC



Ousmane Dembele.
– AFP/PPIC

Rooney has ‘no faith’ that Amorim can revive Red Devils

MANCHESTER UNITED’S all-time leading scorer Wayne Rooney says the club has lost its soul and has voiced concerns about manager Ruben Amorim’s ability to turn things around after a woeful start to the season.

Amorim, who has overseen nine wins, 17 defeats, and seven draws in his 33 league games in charge, has faced mounting pressure with United 14th in the Premier League with seven

points from six matches.

Speaking on his “The Wayne Rooney Show” podcast, yesterday, Rooney said: “I have tried my hand in management and it didn’t work out too well, I get it.

“Amorim is my age, and I’m sure he still has a massive future, but what’s going on at Man United, this is not Man United.

“I honestly hope he can turn it round and he

does. But if you’re saying to me, ‘do you believe he will?’, then, after everything I’ve seen, honestly, I’ve got no faith in it.”

Minority owner Jim Ratcliffe, who holds roughly 29% of United and oversees football operations, has rolled out cost-saving measures including staff reductions, higher ticket prices and the scrapping of free lunches at staff canteens.

And Rooney, who won five league titles during his time at United between 2004-2017, said there was more than just the performances on the pitch to be concerned about.

“It’s everything about the club that needs fixing... The soul has gone from the club,” he added. “It needs a new engine, a new lease of life. It needs something to kick-start that football club.” – Reuters

RESULTS & STANDINGS

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE: **Everton 1** (Keane 18) **West Ham 1** (Bowen 65).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	6	5	0	1	12	7	15
Arsenal	6	4	1	1	12	3	13
Crystal Palace	6	3	3	0	8	3	12
Tottenham	6	3	2	1	11	4	11
Sunderland	6	3	2	1	7	4	11
Bournemouth	6	3	2	1	8	7	11
Man City	6	3	1	2	14	6	10
Chelsea	6	2	2	2	11	8	8
Everton	6	2	2	2	7	6	8
Brighton	6	2	2	2	9	9	8
Fulham	6	2	2	2	7	8	8
Leeds	6	2	2	2	6	9	8
Brentford	6	2	1	3	9	11	7
Man Utd	6	2	1	3	7	11	7
Newcastle	6	1	3	2	4	5	6
Aston Villa	6	1	3	2	4	6	6
Nottm Forest	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
Burnley	6	1	1	4	6	13	4
West Ham	6	1	1	4	6	14	4
Wolves	6	0	1	5	4	13	1

ITALIAN SERIE A: **Genoa 0** **Lazio 3** (Cancellieri 4, Castellanos 30, Zaccagni 63), **Parma 2** (Pellegrino 36-pen, 72) **Torino 1** (Ngonge 50).

TOP 6	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	5	4	0	1	9	3	12
Napoli	5	4	0	1	10	5	12
Roma	5	4	0	1	5	1	12
Juventus	5	3	2	0	9	5	11
Inter Milan	5	3	0	2	13	7	9
Atalanta	5	2	3	0	10	4	9

Ren Bao wins Best Asean stage three title

IT WAS a ride-or-die situation for Malaysia's Tsen Ren Bao, who threw everything on the line in yesterday's third stage of the Le Tour de Langkawi (LTdL) 2025 from Gerik to Pasir Puteh to finish as the best local rider and claim the Best Asean stage three rider yesterday.

Ren Bao, who rides for Australian outfit St George Continental, finished 28th in the same group as stage winner Matteo Malucelli (XDS Astana Team).

The 22-year-old said he was tempted to go hard early on but reined in his efforts to ensure he could finish strong.

"I told the boys (teammates) if none of them (two best Malaysian sprinters) in our group I'm going all in. I don't care if I crash or die today because I really want it and took all the risk and yeah I got it," he said when met after the race.

Ren Bao who is the son of a former Malaysian road rider Tsen Seong Hoong said that yesterday's title has given him a strong boost of motivation to face the remaining five stages of the LTdL.

"It feels so good, If my dad's watching this, I'm one up on you right now. This is a good beginning for me, it definitely helps to boost my motivation," he said.

The Stage Three victory enabled Malucelli to retain the Green Jersey (Overall Leader) and the Orange Jersey (Sprint) for the third consecutive stage.

The White Jersey (Best Asian Rider) changed hands as Terengganu Cycling Team's (TSG) Vadim Pronskiy took over from his teammate Nur Aiman Rosli.

Meanwhile, the Polka Dot Jersey (King of the Mountains) also changed hands, with Patrick Eddy of Team Picnic PostNL taking the lead after tying on 15 points with Jambalamts Sainbayar of Burgos-BH.

Stage Four of the 2.Pro status race continues today over 141.5km, featuring three sprint zones in Marang, Dungun and Paka, as well as a climb zone at Kajai. – Bernama

Fifa decision pending

Sports minister says KBS awaits outcome of FAM appeal, wants to prevent recurrence

THE Youth and Sports Ministry (KBS) is awaiting the outcome of the Football Association of Malaysia's (FAM) appeal to Fifa over the sanctions imposed by the world governing body before issuing any official statement.

Youth and Sports Minister Hannah Yeoh said FAM, as a large and experienced sports association, is believed to have the capacity and sufficient legal team to manage the appeal process.

Yeoh said any enquiries or further information regarding the case should be directed to FAM as the national football body has the latest updates on its appeal.

"I will only make an official statement after Fifa's decision on

the appeal.

"I want to make sure that if there were any mistakes, we have room to rectify them so this does not happen again. But at the moment, it is premature as I need to know the status of the appeal to Fifa first before making any further comment," she said.

She added that there is no need at this stage for KBS to extend additional assistance to FAM for the appeal process as the

association has its own resources.

Last Friday, FAM and seven heritage players were sanctioned by Fifa's Disciplinary Committee for breaching Article 22 of the Fifa Disciplinary Code relating to document falsification.

Fifa, in a statement, said FAM submitted falsified documents to certify the eligibility of the players, enabling them to feature in the third-round qualifiers of the 2026 World Cup.



Hannah Yeoh.
– BERNAMAPIC



Iskandar Zulkarnain.
– BERNAMAPIC

Iskandar Zulkarnain returns to BAM

FORMER national shuttler Iskandar Zulkarnain Zainuddin has credited national singles coaching director Kenneth Jonassen's persistence for his return to the Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) as the women's singles head coach.

He said Jonassen personally reached out to him and often shared updates on the national squad even while he was still serving as a coach in Ireland.

"One of the main reasons is coach Jonassen. He contacted me himself, always kept me updated. From there I could see his determination to have me back. I really appreciate that," he said when met at Academy Badminton Malaysia, Bukit Kiara, yesterday.

Asked about his plans for the women's singles shuttlers, he said

they would undergo a more intensive training regime, with shorter sessions but involving more sets and repetitions to boost intensity.

"It's heavier, faster, but we give shorter sessions with more sets and reps," he said.

"In Malaysia, I understand – because I was also a BAM player before – sometimes you become stale. So we need to give them more motivation and intensity in training. For me, it's about focusing on quality over quantity," he said.

However, he expressed admiration for the attitude and discipline shown by the women's singles squad, especially in the run-up to next week's World Junior Championships.

He is now guiding 17 players, comprising nine seniors and eight

juniors, with greater focus on the senior squad in preparation for the 2025 SEA Games in Thailand this December.

"Of course, I also have to take care of the juniors. But for now, my focus will be more on the seniors ahead of the SEA Games. But I haven't met them yet as they're in Abu Dhabi," he said.

Iskandar Zulkarnain had won major honours for Malaysia, including silver medals in the men's singles and mixed team events at the 2009 BWF World Junior Championships.

He also contributed to Malaysia's team bronze medal at the 2014 Asian Games, was men's singles runner-up at the 2016 Malaysia Masters and was part of the squad that won the Thomas Cup bronze in 2016. – Bernama

Asian Cup against Vietnam on June 10.

The seven sanctioned heritage players are Gabriel Felipe Arrocha, Facundo Garcés, Rodrigo Holgado, Imanol Machuca, Joao Figueiredo, Jon Irazabal and Hector Hevel.

Last Sunday, FAM secretary-general Datuk Noor Azman Rahman admitted there had been a technical error in the submission of documents by the association's administrative staff.

Noor Azman said FAM views the matter seriously and stressed that the players involved are legitimate Malaysian citizens.

He added that FAM is now awaiting Fifa's full written judgment before filing an appeal through the proper legal channels. – Bernama

Field best pairs if target is gold, says coach Herry

NATIONAL men's doubles head coach Herry Iman Pierngadi has stressed that only the best pairs should be sent to the 2025 Thailand SEA Games if Malaysia's target is to clinch the gold medal.

He said currently four national pairs are in the provisional list for the biennial Games – 2022 world champions Aaron Chia-Soh Wooi Yik, Man Wei Chong-Tee Kai Wun, Wan Arif Wan Junaidi-Yap Roy King and Choong Hon Jian-Muhammad Haikal Nazri.

"It depends on the target set by BAM (Badminton Association of Malaysia). If the target is gold, then we have to field the best. That is my view.

"For the SEA Games, perhaps Coach Rexy (Mainaky) will announce later as we just had a meeting. We submitted the names of three or four pairs, but the final decision will probably be made next week or next month," he told reporters at the Academy Badminton Malaysia yesterday.

Herry Iman added that only two pairs are expected to be fielded at the Games, taking into account the player quota, which also covers the team event.

"So, we wait for BAM's directive first. As a coach, I must follow the target set.

The players are always ready, including Aaron-Wooi Yik. They are always prepared to compete," he said.

The 2025 Thailand SEA Games are scheduled to take place from Dec 9 to 20. – Bernama

Sivasangari, Aira march into Classic quarters

NATIONAL squash ace S. Sivasangari and 2023 World Junior Squash Championships runner-up Aira Azman had successfully checked into the last eight of the Qatar Classic 2025 in Doha, yesterday.

Seventh seed Sivasangari came

out tops against Nele Gilis of Belgium 11-8, 11-8, 11-5, in 34 minutes in the second round of the tournament held at Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex.

A stern test awaits Sivasangari next as she is set to play second

seed Hania El Hammamy after the 2023 champion from Egypt came from behind to oust Jasmine Hutton of England 8-11, 11-6, 11-2, 11-9.

In the meantime, the 21-year-old Aira took 29 minutes to see off Egypt's Zeina Mickawy, 11-8, 11-7, 13-11.

She will set up the last eight clash against Amina Orfi.

The Professional Squash Association squash tour platinum tier event offers a total prize pool of US\$231,500 (RM976,000) each for men's and women's category. – Bernama



Major road closures in eight districts of Selangor from Oct 2

SEVERAL major roads in eight districts in Selangor will be closed and traffic diverted in stages to make way for Stages 5, 6 and 8 of the Le Tour de Langkawi (LTdL) 2025, starting tomorrow.

Selangor police chief Datuk Shazeli Kahar said the districts involved are Hulu Selangor, Ampang Jaya, Kajang, Shah Alam, North Klang, South Klang, Kuala Langat and Sepang, involving a total race distance of 162km.

He said the road closures and traffic diversions would be implemented according to the schedule and stage of the cycling race as

well as the location of the route being travelled by participants.

Shazeli said the road closures would begin with the fifth stage in Hulu Selangor involving the Jalan Gap route towards Bukit Fraser and Fraser's Hill starting at 1.49pm tomorrow.

"The sixth stage of the race will continue the next day with participants being released at 9am from Dataran Kemerdekaan Shah Alam via Persiaran Sultan, Sri Andalas, Sijangkang, Telok Panglima Garang, Jenjarom, Sungai Manggis and Telok Datok.

"Next, the cyclists will proceed to Banting,

Kanchong Darat, Morib, Kampung Batu Laut, Tanjung Sepat, Sungai Pelek and Pekan Sepang before ending in Port Dickson," he said in a statement yesterday.

Shazeli said for the eighth stage on Sunday (Oct 5), the race spans the route from Beranang to Semenyih, Jalan Sungai Lalang, Sungai Tekala, Jalan Hulu Langat, Jalan Ampang up to KLCC, covering the Kajang and Ampang Jaya areas with road closures starting at 2.55pm.

He said a total of 392 officers and police personnel, along with 235 Team Sahabat

members including local authorities (PBT), will be stationed along the route to ensure smooth traffic flow throughout the event.

"In this regard, motorists are advised to avoid the routes affected during road closures, besides planning their journey to reduce inconvenience," he said.

LTdL2025 will travel through all 12 states in Peninsular Malaysia over the course of eight stages of the competition, covering a total distance of 1,243.5km starting on Langkawi Island and ending in front of KLCC in Kuala Lumpur on Oct 5. – Bernama

Signs of life

Nuno makes his point as West Ham rescue Everton draw thanks to Bowen's goal

NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO started his West Ham reign with a 1-1 draw against Everton thanks to Jarrod Bowen's second half equaliser on Monday.

Nuno was taking charge of his first match as Hammers boss just 48 hours after being hired to replace the sacked Graham Potter.

The former Nottingham Forest manager watched as Michael Keane gave Everton the lead in the first half at the Hill Dickinson Stadium.

England forward Bowen ensured Nuno avoided a debut defeat when he netted after the interval.

It was only the second time in seven games in all competitions this season that West Ham had managed to escape without a loss.

The east London club remain second bottom of the Premier League with four points from their first six games.

"We did a lot of good things. We competed well but there is a lot of work to be done. We started the second half on the front foot, the desire was there," Nuno said.

"We have to build on that. Now it is about keeping it simple and trying to give the boys a good identity. We will get there."

With valuable experience of successfully navigating a relegation battle after keeping Forest and Wolves in the top-flight, Nuno has been tasked with guiding West Ham to safety.

The 51-year-old will be encouraged by this battle display after just two training sessions working with his new players since taking charge.

"It is three days, we are in the process of knowing each other. But it's nice to be back. It's what we live for – to compete."

Potter was dismissed on Saturday after only eight months in charge, with the club languishing in 19th place following a 2-1 defeat against Crystal

Palace in his last match in charge.

Nuno had been sacked himself earlier this season after falling out with Forest owner Evangelos Marinakis over the club's transfer policy.

Nuno had masterminded Forest's return to European competition for the first time in 30 years after an impressive seventh place finish last term.

Ironically, Everton are managed by former West Ham boss David Moyes, who won the Uefa Conference League in 2023 to end the Hammers' 43-year trophy drought.

Moyes was not retained by West Ham after the 2023-24 season following fan unrest about the Scot's negative tactics, but many have been pining for his acumen of late.

The Hammers had conceded seven goals from set-pieces this season and Nuno was unable to fix their aerial flaws as Everton took the lead in the 18th minute.

West Ham keeper Alphonse Areola punched a corner to the edge of the area but the ball was worked wide to James Garner under little pressure and his cross reached the poorly marked Keane for a header that flashed into the roof of the net from 12 yards.

Nuno scratched his head in frustration as he watched a replay of the goal on the bench while West Ham's travelling fans chanted "sack the board".

If West Ham owner David Sullivan was shifting awkwardly in his seat, the viewing nearly got more uncomfortable when Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall's glancing header fizzed just wide.

West Ham finally showed signs of life when Crysencio

Summerville's shot was tipped wide from Jordan Pickford.

It was a warning Everton failed to heed as Nuno's men snatched the equaliser in the 65th minute.

El Hadji Malick Diouf whipped a cross into the Everton area and Bowen pounced, sizing up his options before unloading a powerful strike that deflected in off Keane's head.

– AFP



West Ham's Jarrod Bowen (top) and manager Nuno Espirito Santo celebrates after the match. – REUTERS/PIC

Gamble pays off



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Sinner passes De Minaur test



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Iskandar Zulkarnian returns to BAM



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