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Call for Animal Welfare Ministry

Specialised body can strengthen enforcement, improve coordination with NGOs, local councils, and ensure protection for man's best friends: Veterinarian



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A government body dedicated to animal welfare can play a crucial role in driving education and public awareness, shifting the national mindset from reactive cruelty to preventive, compassionate care. — AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THE SUN

Sultan Ibrahim stresses on policy consistency

King shares views on what brings stability to bilateral relations during meeting with Saudi crown prince.

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Costly to extend FlySiswa programme to private students

Providing RM400 flight vouchers to those from non-governmental education institutions a real challenge, says transport minister.

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Learn from history or risk repeating it: Perak Sultan

IPOH: Perak Ruler Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah said the current generation must see history as a reminder that without integrity, the nation's independence and sovereignty could be at risk.

His Royal Highness said the nation's history, particularly the fall of Malacca to the Portuguese in 1511, serves as a cautionary tale, not only due to external attacks but also because of internal betrayal arising from a loss of integrity.

"Therefore, all those entrusted with responsibility, be they in the public or private sector, politics, religious institutions, volunteer organisations, welfare or sports, should take history as their guiding teacher.

"Philosopher George Santayana once said, 'Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it'. It is worrying that this failure to learn from history seems to be happening right before our eyes," he said at the launch of the 2025 National Integrity Month at the Perak Darul Ridzuan Building yesterday.

Sultan Nazrin also said the nation's leadership has consistently worked to promote the importance of integrity, highlighted by the launch of the National Integrity Plan on April 23, 2004, alongside the establishment of the Malaysian Integrity Institute during the administration of former prime minister the late Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The Ruler said however, even after 20 years, the country's ranking on the Corruption Perceptions Index remains disappointing, with corruption and misconduct still prevalent.

He added that this is reflected in government reports, which show RM15.5 billion in public funds recovered from corruption and money-laundering over the past two years.

"Every day, newspapers report on arrests, investigations, prosecutions and trials related to corruption, breach of trust, resource leakages, cronyism and abuse of power.

"Newspapers have revealed cartels controlling the chicken, fish and rice industries, alongside a surge of undocumented foreign workers, illegal land encroachments, unlicensed factories, gambling dens, and entertainment outlets, as well as environmental pollution.

"The nation has been brought to shame by the largest financial scandal in its history, saddling it with debt and undermining both economic development and the value of its currency." – Bernama

King shares views on govt policy with Saudi prince

➤ Visit reflects continuous commitment to bilateral relations, cooperation: Istana Negara

RIYADH: His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim the King of Malaysia shared his views on the importance of consistent government policy implementation during his meeting with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

Sultan Ibrahim said the discussion at the Al-Yamamah Palace took place in a warm atmosphere and touched on various matters of mutual interest to both nations, Bernama reported.

"This is our first meeting, and Prince Mohammed is very knowledgeable about the various matters that were discussed. I also shared some of my views, especially regarding the importance of consistent policy implementation in the government and international relations.

"Consistent policy would bring stability to bilateral relations and provide confidence to attract investment to a country," His Majesty told the Royal Press Office after the meeting on Tuesday.

His Majesty also praised Saudi Vision 2030, which is an effort to develop the Holy Land to a better level through economic diversification, citizen empowerment and the provision of a vibrant environment for investors.

Earlier, Sultan Ibrahim was accorded a state welcome at the Al-Yamamah Palace in conjunction with his four-day state visit to Saudi Arabia, which began on Monday.

Accompanying His Majesty on the visit are Tunku Temenggong Johor Tunku Idris Iskandar Al-Haj, Tunku Panglima Johor Tunku Abdul Rahman Al-Haj and Defence Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin.

Sultan Ibrahim arrived at the Royal Terminal of the King Khalid International Airport at 12.30pm on Monday, marking the



Sultan Ibrahim walks alongside Prince Mohammed as they make their way through the Al-Yamamah Palace. – PIC COURTESY OF SULTAN IBRAHIM SULTAN ISKANDAR FACEBOOK

first state visit by a Yang di-Pertuan Agong to Saudi Arabia since the late Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah's trip in 1984.

According to a statement from Istana Negara, the visit reflects the continuous commitment of Malaysia and Saudi Arabia to strengthen bilateral relations, while expanding cooperation in various fields including economy, geopolitics, defence and

Islamic affairs.

In the first 10 months of this year, a total of 12 high-profile visits have taken place between Malaysia and Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom is Malaysia's 14th largest trading partner, with total trade valued at RM44.74 billion.

The state visit is the fifth by Sultan Ibrahim after Singapore, China, Brunei and Russia.

Malaysian passport ranks third globally

■ BY AZURA ABAS
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PETALING JAYA: Malaysia has once again proven its global standing, this time through the strength of its passport, which now ranks third in the world on the Global Passport Power Rank 2025.

According to the index by financial advisory firm Arton Capital, the Malaysian passport carries a Mobility Score of 174, offering visa-free access to 128 destinations, visa-on-arrival entry to 46 and electronic travel authorisation (eTA) access to seven more. Malaysians require visas for only 24 countries, giving the document an impressive world reach of 87%.

This marks a notable jump from eighth place last year, reflecting Malaysia's growing international recognition and travel freedom.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) retained its reign as the world's most powerful passport, granting its holders entry to 180 countries without a visa or with visa-on-arrival privileges. Singapore and Spain shared second place, underscoring their continued dominance in global travel freedom.

Malaysia now shares the third spot with a group of equally high-ranking nations, including Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Finland, Luxembourg, Italy, Denmark, Portugal, Switzerland, Greece, Austria, Norway and Ireland.

The Immigration Department said in a Facebook post the Malaysian passport continues to be a source of national pride, climbing to third place globally and allowing Malaysians visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 174 destinations.

"This achievement reflects the international trust and recognition of Malaysia's secure and reliable travel document, which continues to earn confidence on the global stage."

With a population of approximately 33.87 million, Malaysia now joins an elite club of nations whose citizens enjoy some of the broadest travel freedom globally.

The Global Passport Power Rank measures real-time mobility by assessing how many countries passport holders could enter without needing a visa in advance.

For Malaysian travellers, the latest ranking is more than just a statistic, it is a mark of pride and a reflection of the nation's growing global stature.

China trip to help *halal*, TVET sectors: Zahid

SHANGHAI: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said his four-day working visit to China aims to further strengthen the longstanding bilateral relations between Malaysia and China.

Ahmad Zahid, who is also Rural and Regional Development Minister, said on social media the visit would help enhance cooperation in the *halal* industry, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and trade, in line with the shared commitment to the New Golden Era of Malaysia-China Cooperation.

"During this visit, I am scheduled to attend the opening of the 8th China International Import Expo (CIIE) and to officiate at the Malaysia International Halal Showcase Shanghai 2025, which serves as a platform to promote Malaysia's *halal* industry in the global market.

"I will also visit the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia Pavilion, which symbolises the collaboration between Malaysian and Chinese business communities and witness several memoranda of understanding between Malaysian agencies and Chinese

industry players."

He expressed hope that the visit would reflect Malaysia's continued commitment to strengthening trust, driving innovation and opening new opportunities that benefit the people of both nations.

He arrived in Shanghai on Tuesday at the invitation of the Chinese government to attend the CIIE event, held at the National Exhibition and Convention Center.

The CIIE is a Chinese government initiative providing a platform for countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative to promote and export goods and services to China.

This marks his first attendance at the expo and Malaysia's second participation at the highest level since the event's debut in 2018.

Last year, the 7th CIIE was attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Ahmad Zahid is expected to attend the opening ceremony and witness the MoU exchange between Majlis Amanah Rakyat and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, one of China's top nine universities. He will also grace the opening of the CIDBH Information Centre. – Bernama

Govt open to expanding flight voucher programme

➤ Extending RM400 credit to private students could cost millions and would require substantial new funding: Loke

BY HARITH KAMAL
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PETALING JAYA: Financial constraints remain the main hurdle to expanding the FlySiswa flight voucher programme to include students from private institutions of higher learning, although the government is open to considering the move, said Transport Minister Anthony Loke.

He said while the initiative has benefited thousands of students from public universities, extending it to private institutions would significantly increase government expenditure.

"Each eligible student currently receives a RM400 flight voucher for travel between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan.

"Expanding it to students in private institutions is something we have considered, but financial limitations are a real challenge.

"At RM400 per person, 100,000 students would already cost RM40 million," he said in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Loke clarified that FlySiswa is not a fixed-

fare package, but a voucher system allowing students to redeem up to RM400 worth of flight tickets, with any unused balance applicable to future travel.

He said the initiative, launched in 2023 under the Transport Ministry and funded through allocations from the Finance Ministry, was introduced to ease travel costs for students studying far from home.

It is currently limited to students in public universities, polytechnics, matriculation colleges and teacher training institutes under the Education Ministry.

Loke also addressed complaints about high airline penalties for minor booking errors, urging passengers to submit specific cases to the ministry.

"If there are instances where the penalty exceeds the ticket price, please provide the details to the ministry. General complaints make it difficult for us to act."

In a separate matter, Loke said the ministry will work with airlines to develop a mechanism to inform passengers of the amount of government subsidy applied to their festive-season flight tickets.

He said this would help raise public awareness of the government's financial support in keeping airfares affordable during major festive periods.

This came in response to a question from Sandakan MP Vivian Wong Shir Yee, who asked about the average cost of one-way airfares between Kuala Lumpur, Tawau, Sandakan and Kota Kinabalu during festive seasons without the RM499 price cap.

"The ministry welcomes suggestions from Honourable Members and will discuss with airlines to develop a mechanism to inform passengers of the subsidy amount that benefits them," said Loke.

The festive flight subsidy programme caps one-way airfares between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan at RM499 during Chinese New Year, Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Gawai, Kaamatan and Christmas.

Loke said without this subsidy, ticket prices could exceed RM1,000, especially for flights to East Malaysia during peak travel seasons.

He also said last year the ministry spent RM11 million to subsidise nearly 27,000 tickets exceeding the RM599 ceiling, while this year's allocation rose to RM19.5 million to cover 39,744 tickets at an average of RM491 per ticket.

"This ensures passengers pay no more than RM499 even when the market price is almost double."



Zambry (centre) and other attendees exploring the exhibits at FOI 2025, an event which served as a platform to bring together thought leaders, experts and the public to exchange views and ideas.
— BERNAMAPIC

Build nation through knowledge and vision: Zambry

PUTRAJAYA: Youths must embrace creativity, innovation and knowledge to build "empires of the mind" and drive Malaysia's progress in a new era of ideas and imagination.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir said Malaysia's shared journey of progress and resilience highlights the power of vision and creativity in building a stronger nation.

"Today, standing together once again in service of our beloved nation reminds me how ideas, when nurtured with imagination, discipline and purpose, can truly transform life and destiny," he said on the second day of the Festival of Ideas (FOI) 2025 event held here yesterday.

Zambry said the world is witnessing a new era where the strength of nations is defined not by conquest or wealth but by knowledge, creativity and innovation.

"The world has seen the rise and fall of many empires built on conquest, wealth and power. (Sir) Winston Churchill once said: 'The empires of the future will be the empires of the

mind."

Zambry said today's greatest resources are no longer found beneath the ground, but within the human mind and societies which invest in ideas will lead the future.

"We now live in the age of such an empire, where knowledge, creativity and innovation define the strength of nations," he added.

Therefore, Zambry said gatherings like FOI, which is being held for the second year, are not mere ceremonial events but platforms for transformation – spaces where imagination takes shape and the seeds of tomorrow's progress are planted.

He said history has shown that every great leap forward begins with a single idea to change lives and shape the course of humanity.

Citing world-changing discoveries, he said progress often begins with imagination and perseverance, from Marie Curie's discovery of radiation to Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone and Thomas Edison's light bulb that illuminated the world.

Zambry noted that Malaysia, too, has produced remarkable innovators whose contributions have left a mark on the world.

"In Malaysia, we also celebrate our innovators and inventors. Dr Wu Lien-Teh, for instance, invented the first modern medical mask – not many people are aware that it was actually invented by a Malaysian."

Other local inventors include Muhd Razlan Dhamir Hamdan, the founder of Aphelia Space which develops wireless charging stations for satellites, Pua Khein-Seng, inventor of the world's first single-chip USB flash drive, Iris Corporation, known for creating the world's first electronic passport (e-passport) and Ganesh Kumar Bangah, who became the youngest CEO of a public-listed company at the age of 23.

The FOI Putrajaya 2025, which runs from Nov 4 until Nov 8, is expected to attract nearly 500,000 in-person visitors and about two million participants, including 1.5 million virtual attendees from around the world.
— Bernama

Authorities brace for northeast monsoon

PUTRAJAYA: The Works Ministry says it is fully prepared to respond to any disasters during the northeast monsoon (MTL) season, particularly incidents involving damage to roads and bridges across the country.

Minister Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi said the Public Works Department's disaster operations room had been activated recently to monitor the situation in near real time nationwide.

"Each time the MTL hits, we see major infrastructure damage – from collapsed bridges to damaged roads and affected slopes. That's why we always have action plans and monitoring teams ready to operate around the clock," he said after launching the JKR Greenday 2025 on Tuesday.

Nanta said preparations were also being made at the state and district levels, in collaboration with various government agencies. These include deploying additional assets such as temporary (Bailey) bridges and equipment for urgent repair works.

"We have increased the number of temporary bridges and other essential machinery to ensure routes can be restored quickly in the event of disruption."

Meanwhile, the Social Welfare Department said it is also ready to face the monsoon season, with several measures in place to ensure efficient disaster management and safeguard victims' welfare.

In a statement on Tuesday, the department said these include providing logistics and basic necessities – such as food, clothing, mats, blankets and baby supplies – at all state disaster depots and stores. Temporary relief centres nationwide have also been listed and placed on standby.

As the lead agency coordinating the management of the relief centres and the welfare of disaster victims, the welfare department said it has conducted preparedness training and simulation exercises with rescue agencies and local authorities.

It added that welfare volunteer teams – including the Sukarela Volunteer Team and Skwad Prihatin – are being mobilised to assist victims at affected locations.

The department has also introduced the Disaster Information Application (MyIBJKM), a digital platform designed to give the public easy online access to disaster-related information," it said in a statement. — Bernama

Media council to hold first AGM tomorrow

KUALA LUMPUR: The inaugural annual general meeting (AGM) of the Malaysian Media Council (MMC) will be held tomorrow to elect the governing board of the body, marking a key milestone in the establishment of a self-regulatory body for the media industry in the country.

MMC interim chairman C. Premesh, in a statement, said the governing board to be elected will consist of representatives from media companies, practitioners, organisations and individuals representing public interest.

"The board will have 12 elected members, joined by up to six appointed members and two government representatives, making a total of 20 board members, along with an appointed chairman. The board will serve for a two-year term.

"The meeting will also discuss several motions, including approving the Code of Ethics and Complaints Mechanism, as well as operational motions related to membership fees, allowances for the chairman and board and the council's budget."

The meeting is being organised by the council's founding board, which was appointed by Communications Minister Datuk Fahmi Fadzil last July.

Under the MMC Act, the board's mandate is to open membership, call the first general meeting and hold elections within six months of their appointment. Premesh also said the government allocated about RM120,000 for this year to fund membership development, the first general meeting and related activities. — Bernama

Partnership brings affordable health coverage to gig carers

► 'Move part of broader mission to professionalise, elevate industry'

BY IKHWAN ZULKAFLEE
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PETALING JAYA: Malaysia's first on-demand childcare service, Kiddocare, has teamed up with digital health provider HeyDoc Health to provide affordable and accessible healthcare coverage for its community of gig carers to address a long-standing gap in social protection for informal care workers.

In an exclusive interview with *theSun*, Kiddocare founder and CEO Nadira Yusoff said the collaboration with HeyDoc Health was formalised during the Selangor International Care Summit 2025 last month.

She said the move is part of the

company's broader mission to professionalise the care industry and bring dignity, stability and long-term value to care workers, while also elevating care work from a gig-based job to a respected and sustainable profession.

"Care workers are often underpaid, undervalued and work in stressful conditions. Professionalising care work is not only about upskilling or improving job delivery, but also about creating a dignified working environment that includes social protection. Healthcare is an important part of that."

Also present during the interview was HeyDoc Health CEO Dr Raymond Choy.

She added that under the new partnership, active Kiddocare carers would receive healthcare benefits, including access to online doctor consultations, medical certificates and essential medicines, covered by Kiddocare as part of its incentive scheme for active caregivers.

"We are providing this incentive

for our active carers. If they are committed and active in their work, Kiddocare will cover the cost of this healthcare benefit. It's our way of valuing and protecting those who care for others."

She said via the HeyDoc's telehealth platform, carers would be able to consult doctors virtually, making it easier for them to access healthcare without disrupting their work schedules, adding that they could also obtain medical certificates digitally, preventing conflict with clients when they are unwell and unable to work.

"Sometimes our carers fall sick and struggle to prove it to families they work with. This system gives them quick access to doctors and documentation, so they could rest and recover without being unfairly judged. It's a real solution to a real problem they face."

She said the partnership also covers basic medicines for common illnesses such as fever, cough and flu, ailments that carers are particularly

exposed to due to their constant interaction with children and families, adding that this would help reduce out-of-pocket medical costs that often burden gig workers.

Nadira believes this initiative could serve as a stepping stone towards broader social protection for Malaysia's gig workforce.

"This is just the first step. Once carers start seeing the value of healthcare coverage, we could expand this to include health check-ups, vaccinations and even paid leave or unemployment benefits. We want to ensure that our carers not only care for others but are also cared for."

Addressing common criticism that many gig platforms exploit their workers, Nadira said Kiddocare's approach is rooted in empathy and responsibility.

"We're a care company first and foremost. That means we must care for the people who deliver care. Even though they are not our employees in the traditional sense, they represent Kiddocare and in return, we must value and protect them."

She added that Kiddocare's philosophy is built on mutual respect between the platform and its carers.

"There must be a symbiotic relationship. The platform benefits from their work, and they must benefit from the platform's support. Safety, security and dignity are things we constantly work towards."

She also called on other gig platforms to rethink their approach to worker welfare, adding that humanising gig work should be the next evolution for the industry.

"Platforms grow because of their workers. So we must start looking at different ways to provide benefits and protection. When we care for our people, the quality of service naturally improves. That's the kind of ecosystem we want to build."

Nadira said with this partnership, Kiddocare hopes to set a new benchmark for how gig platforms could integrate social protection into their business models by putting care at the heart of the gig economy.

S'gor mulls extending tourism campaign

KLANG: The Selangor government aims to extend the Visit Selangor Year 2025 campaign to next year in an effort to further promote the state's interesting places.

State Local Government and Tourism Committee chairman Datuk Ng Suee Lim said the announcement would be made by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari soon.

He said the move aligns with the Visit Malaysia 2026 campaign to increase the number of tourists and diversify the promotion of interesting places, especially in Selangor.

"This is because Selangor plays an important role in ensuring the number of domestic and international tourists coming to Malaysia.

"It is a gateway to Malaysia. So, we have to work hard to ensure that we, Selangor, move forward together."

He was speaking at the Selangor Local Community Host Graduation Ceremony for the Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam districts in 2025, held on Tuesday.

He said the programme plays an important role as a small ambassador in empowering community-based tourism, in line with the state government's aspiration to make the sector a driver of agro-tourism, especially in rural areas.

Ng also plans to meet with homestay operators across the state to give an explanation regarding the legalisation process for homestays and lodging houses operating without valid licences.

He said this move was implemented to ensure that the business is carried out in an orderly manner and complies with the laws and conditions outlined by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and local authorities.

Meanwhile, he added that the state government would establish a committee under Tourism Selangor to prepare for the recognition of the Gombak-Hulu Langat Geopark as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Earlier, 49 participants in programme from Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam districts were celebrated at the event, while 18 companies and individuals received the Selangor Iconic Product Award 2024 and nine companies received the Malaysia Tourism Quality Assurance Certificate of Participation.

Launched in 2018, the programme provided an opportunity for the community to showcase the natural beauty, cultural heritage and rural experiences in Selangor, from the *padi* fields in Sekinchan to the fireflies in Kampung Kuantan, Kuala Selangor. — Bernama



Nadira and Choy at the Kiddocare Headquarters at Sunway Nexis. — ADIB RAWI YAHYA/THESUN

Online medical services for under RM10 per month

PETALING JAYA: HeyDoc Health CEO Dr Raymond Choy said under the collaboration with Kiddocare, the platform's active carers will gain access to HeyDoc Health's online healthcare services including unlimited teleconsultations with licensed doctors, electronic prescriptions and medication delivery for less than RM10 per month.

He said the cost of the plan will be fully covered by Kiddocare as part of its welfare initiative and ongoing effort to humanise gig work in Malaysia.

He added that the partnership was designed to close the healthcare accessibility gap faced by gig workers, many of whom operate outside the formal employment system and lack insurance or employer-provided

medical benefits.

"Healthcare costs are rising fast. Medical inflation is at about 15% this year and projected to hit 16% next year.

"It's becoming unsustainable even for the M40 and T20 groups, let alone gig workers. That's why we are offering Kiddocare carers an affordable plan," Choy told *theSun*.

He said HeyDoc Health sits "in between" the public and private healthcare systems, providing affordable, convenient access to quality medical care.

"In private clinics, you might pay RM40 to RM50 per visit, while in government clinics, patients pay RM1 but it is subsidised. We are offering full digital healthcare – consultations, e-prescriptions and medication, for less

than a cup of coffee."

The partnership aims to make healthcare access simpler for Kiddocare carers, who often juggle multiple caregiving jobs and cannot afford to spend hours at a clinic.

"If a carer is unwell, they could log in to the FutureCare app powered by HeyDoc Health, select their preferred doctor based on language or specialty and start chatting within 60 seconds. Our doctors handle about 2,000 to 3,000 consultations daily."

Once a virtual consultation ends, doctors issue digitally signed e-prescriptions compliant with the Poison Act 1952 (Act 366) and e-prescription law. Carers then receive a QR code, allowing them to either have medication delivered or pick it up from private partner pharmacies,

all within about 10 minutes.

Choy said the goal is to ensure that Kiddocare carers, many of whom are women working flexibly to support families, have the same level of healthcare access as full-time employees in major companies.

"Gig workers deserve medical benefits just like those in MNCs or SMEs. This partnership with Kiddocare is about empowering carers, ensuring that those who care for others are also cared for."

He added that HeyDoc's decade-long experience in telemedicine has built a "solid ecosystem" that combines affordability, accessibility and trusted medical care, values that align with Kiddocare's mission to professionalise and humanise the care economy. — By Ikhwan Zulkaflee

'M'sia should create govt body for animal welfare'

➤ Service could strengthen enforcement, improve coordination with NGOs and local councils: Specialist

■ BY KIRTINEE RAMESH
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PETALING JAYA: Malaysia should establish a ministry or department for animal welfare to ensure stronger protection, better coordination and more compassionate public policies for animals, said Ohana Vet Clinic and Surgery medical director Dr Jawahir Abdullah.

Animal welfare issues fall under the Veterinary Services Department, which also oversees livestock, food security and disease control.

Jawahir, better known as Dr Wawa, said this structure often dilutes the focus on animal protection.

"Right now, animal welfare is managed under the department, which has a very broad portfolio. With so many competing responsibilities, welfare issues could easily be overshadowed."

She said a specialised body focused solely on animal welfare could strengthen enforcement, improve coordination with NGOs and local councils, and ensure animal protection gets the attention it deserves.

She added that such a body could play a crucial role in driving education and public awareness, shifting the national mindset from reactive cruelty to preventive, compassionate care.

She also said Malaysia's animal welfare system suffers from overlapping jurisdictions between local councils, the department, NGOs and independent rescuers, which often leads to confusion and inefficiency.

"Councils handle stray management, the department looks at cruelty cases and licensing, but both rely heavily on NGOs for rescue and rehabilitation.

"When roles are not clearly defined, cases are delayed, resources get duplicated and animals end up suffering."

Wawa called for a unified national strategy that brings all stakeholders under one framework with clear accountability and communication channels.

"What we really need is an integrated system and faster, fairer and more effective enforcement that truly protects animals."

She acknowledged the Animal Welfare Act 2015 as a strong foundation but said its implementation remains inconsistent due to manpower shortages, limited resources and low public awareness.



Wawa called for a unified national strategy that brings all stakeholders under one framework with clear accountability and communication channels. – AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THE SUN

"The Act provides a solid framework, but its effectiveness depends on capacity, coordination and awareness.

"We have seen progress, but enforcement needs strengthening. With better resources, the Act could make a real, lasting difference."

She supports the creation of a specialised enforcement unit trained to handle animal cruelty cases, similar to how wildlife officers manage poaching investigations.

"Handling cruelty cases require specialised knowledge in animal behaviour and evidence collection.

"A dedicated unit would respond more quickly and professionally, ensuring investigations are fair, consistent and sensitive," she said.

She emphasised that such a unit must work closely with the department, local councils and NGOs to avoid duplication and ensure coordinated action rather than competition.

Wawa outlined three key recommendations for establishing a ministry or department for animal welfare:

- Establish a clear structure and mandate to ensure the new body complements the work of the department and local councils without overlapping responsibilities.
- Strengthen enforcement capacity by

providing proper training, facilities and resources for officers handling welfare and cruelty cases, ensuring actions taken are effective and compassionate.

- Promote public education and collaboration through greater community awareness, responsible pet ownership and strong partnerships with NGOs and local authorities.

"A successful animal welfare system is one in which animals are protected not just by law, but also by empathy.

"Prevention and education must go hand in hand with enforcement."

She reminded Malaysians that true animal welfare starts at the individual and community level.

"Laws and enforcement are important, but real change begins with compassion and understanding.

"Every act of kindness, such as adopting, rescuing, reporting cruelty or simply caring responsibly, contributes to a more humane Malaysia."

She said building a compassionate society reflects the nation's shared values of care and empathy.

"Together, we can create a Malaysia where animals are treated with the respect they deserve," she added.

RM11m illegal liquor, cigarettes seized

PETALING JAYA: The Customs Department has seized illegal white cigarettes and liquor valued at over RM11 million (including taxes).

It foiled two syndicates involved in distributing the contraband following raids in Shah Alam and Seri Kembangan.

Kuala Lumpur department director Wan Norizan Wan Daud said the first raid, conducted on Sept 29, uncovered a storage and supply operation for contraband cigarettes at a warehouse in Jalan Subang Permai, Shah Alam.

The operation led to the seizure of 11.6 million sticks of white cigarettes of various imported brands suspected to be uncustomed, valued at around RM2.32 million, with tax and duty estimated at RM7.89 million.

"A local man working as the warehouse caretaker was detained to assist in the probe."

She said the syndicate's *modus operandi* was to store and distribute the cigarettes in bulk at privately rented warehouses without markings.

On Aug 19, Wan Norizan said the department uncovered a contraband liquor distribution operation at a private warehouse in Taman Prima Tropika, Seri Kembangan, where officers seized 5,787 litres of imported liquor suspected to be uncustomed, with total value and taxes estimated at RM921,769.

Three foreign men were arrested and a five-tonne lorry was seized.

"The case is being investigated under Section 135(1)(d) of the Customs Act 1967 for possession of prohibited or uncustomed goods. The syndicate is believed to have repacked and supplied the liquor in bulk to industrial and construction areas."

She urged the public to provide information to help address smuggling activities by channelling information to the Customs toll-free line at 1-800-88-8855, adding that informants' identities would be kept confidential.

Separately, Wan Norizan said the department seized 53 containers of steel and aluminium scrap worth RM7.9 million imported without valid permits in a joint operation at Port Klang from Aug 28 to Sept 5.

"All containers were owned by the same company.

"The estimated value of the seized goods is RM7.93 million, with import duties and taxes of RM1,098,888."

No arrests have been made and the case is being investigated under Section 135(1)(a) of the Customs Act 1967. – Bernama

Police confiscate 115kg drugs in raid

JOHOR BAHRU: Police seized 115.09kg of drugs worth RM11.4 million in a raid on a house used as a storage facility in Taman Bukit Indah near Iskandar Puteri on Monday.

Johor police chief Datuk Ab Rahaman Arsaid said police arrested a 55-year-old local man, who was the storekeeper, in the operation.

He said the syndicate's *modus operandi* was to rent a gated and guarded terrace house to conceal its illegal activities.

"Investigations showed that the store is also believed to have been used to process powdered drugs into liquid form."

He said the drugs seized comprised 25.24kg of ecstasy pills, 23.10kg of *syabu*, 22.43kg of methylenedioxymethamphetamine powder, 13.4kg of ketamine, 11.51kg of ecstasy and 19.41kg of Erimin 5 pills.

"Various drug processing equipment, a car and RM10,000 in cash were also confiscated during the raid," he said.

Ab Rahaman said police are tracking down the mastermind and members of the syndicate, believed to have been distributing drugs since July.

"We believe the syndicate has a network for sourcing drug supplies within the country before distributing them to the local market."

He added that the storekeeper, who has previous criminal, drug and traffic offences, has been remanded for seven days. – Bernama

Namewee remanded over influencer's death

KUALA LUMPUR: Local rapper Wee Meng Chee, better known as Namewee, who surrendered himself to police yesterday has been remanded until Monday to assist in the investigation into the death of a Taiwanese female influencer here last month.

Dang Wangi police chief ACP Sazalee Adam said a remand application was made for Namewee yesterday after he turned himself in at the Dang Wangi district police headquarters after arriving from Johor Bahru.

Police had earlier said they were looking for Namewee in connection with the death of Taiwanese influencer Hsieh Yun Hsin, who was

found dead in the bathroom of a hotel room in Jalan Conlay on Oct 22.

In a Facebook post, Namewee said he turned up voluntarily and was prepared to fully cooperate with police to clarify the situation to the public and the victim's family.

"On the seven previous occasions I was called by authorities, I voluntarily came forward to give my statement. I have never fled."

On Tuesday, Kuala Lumpur police chief Datuk Fadil Marsus was reported as saying the case, which was initially classified as sudden death, is being reclassified as murder under Section 302 of the Penal Code.

He said the investigation showed that the musician was the last person with the victim and is considered crucial to the probe.

Media reports said Hsieh's body was found by Namewee at 1.40pm before being sent to the Kuala Lumpur Hospital for post-mortem.

In the same probe, Namewee was detained after police found nine blue pills, believed to be ecstasy, weighing 5.12g in the hotel room.

He was charged in a Kuala Lumpur court on Oct 24 with drug-related offences.

Police are awaiting the full post-mortem and toxicology reports to determine the exact cause of death of the 33-year-old. – Bernama



Barriers hinder adoption of green standards

LANGKAWI: Fragmented enforcement, limited incentives and uneven understanding among tourism operators are among the main barriers that slow down the adoption of sustainability standards in the hotel sector.

Malaysian Association of Hotel Owners executive director Shaharuddin M. Saaid said while many hotels acknowledge the need to reduce energy use, waste and water consumption, adoption depends on whether owners and staff understand the benefits and long-term returns of sustainability investments.

"Before cost or infrastructure, we must get buy-ins from stakeholders. Staff must also accept and carry out the initiative. If only one or two staff care, the system would not work. Sustainability needs alignment between owners, management and workers."

He said while proven examples, such as the Frangipani Langkawi Resort's wetland systems and rainwater harvesting model, have been shared, some operators are unsure how to adopt these measures within their constraints.

Shaharuddin added that the industry may eventually have no choice but to comply as global tourism markets increasingly require sustainability certification and carbon reporting.

"If you wait until it becomes mandatory, you cannot implement it overnight. Hotels need to start now to be ready."

However, he said inconsistent policies and utility charging structures remain significant obstacles, pointing to disputes over the commercial water bill model.

Commercial bills are calculated partly based on property valuation, in addition to a percentage of monthly water usage, even for businesses that have invested in systems to reduce wastewater discharge.

"The value of a building has nothing to do with the amount of wastewater produced. Even if a hotel reduces usage or improves efficiency, the charges could increase because the calculation is tied to property valuation. The principle does not match the service used."

"We have raised this many times. Instalments were allowed, but the total remained. It is not encouraging for businesses trying to stay afloat or invest in efficiency."

Shaharuddin said the association has submitted a memorandum to the federal government and engaged relevant regulators, but any structural revision would also require adjustments at the legislation and policy level.

— By **Faiz Ruzman**

Sustainability system built by hotel reduces pollution

BY **FAIZ RUZMAN**
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

LANGKAWI: While rising pollution threatens island tourism nationwide, a longtime hotelier here has built low-cost sustainability systems that work, but says Malaysia is unable to realise what is at stake.

Frangipani Langkawi Resort and Spa group managing director Adj Prof Anthony Wong said his resort has managed to lower its energy spending to around 4% of operating costs, compared with the 8% to 12% common among hotels that rely on conventional utility systems and waste management methods.

Wong, who has operated the resort for two decades, said the approach is based on practical, low-cost measures that can be replicated elsewhere.

"Many people are not aware of the need to protect the

Wastewater naturally filtered before reaching sea, creating self-reliant aquatic ecosystem: Resort director

environment. There is a 'no worries' mindset. The belief is that everything would be handled by the government.

"When I started, I wanted to show people how it could be done. If they know how, it is not expensive. It is practical and it saves money."

He said the investment was initially projected to deliver returns in about eight years, but rising water tariffs shortened the period to around six and a half years.

The resort plans to expand this with an additional 1.5 million litres of underground rainwater capacity, which he estimates

would reduce water bills by 40% to 50% over the coming years.

"All hotels have monsoon drains. I use the monsoon drains to harvest water. I put a cover so people do not fall in, I keep fish in it, and I use the water for the garden. The system works!"

He explained that a planted wetland system allows wastewater to be naturally filtered before reaching the sea, reducing odour and pollution while creating a self-sustaining aquatic ecosystem.

"Wastewater rushes via monsoon drains to the sea. You can run parallel planted drains so that water soaks into the land first,

benefitting the plants, then overflows to the sea.

"Water hyacinth is hardy and removes heavy metals. In a planted water body, fish eat mosquito larvae, fish waste feeds the plants and plant photosynthesis oxygenates the water.

"I do not need to feed the fish. They live off algae on the roots. It forms a small circular ecosystem."

Wong said the resort does not send organic waste to landfill, relying instead on composting and integrated food production systems involving chicken, ducks, edible coastal plants and fish reared in constructed wetlands.

He noted that the wetland system has taken over 26 years to gain formal acceptance, mainly due to institutional fragmentation.

"The system has been approved by the Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Ministry. It is recognised as one of the most efficient systems."

He said in locations without centralised treatment access, operational gaps in wastewater management have resulted in repeated sludge release episodes, impacting nearby beachfront hotels.

"We have submitted reports multiple times. The 'solution' we are told is to build a wetland to stop it going straight to sea.

"So I proposed to discharge into a constructed wetland first. The wetland cleans the sludge. It saves money in the long term and creates green jobs."

He emphasised that while government coordination is needed, the transition would depend on changing mindset.

"Our life is short. When our grandchildren ask what we did for the environment, we should have an answer."



Wong showing upcycled bathtubs repurposed as plant beds at the resort. — **FAIZ RUZMAN/THE SUN**

EDUCATION

FOCUS 2025

Education matters remain an important component of Malaysian society. Today the landscape is fast paced with new exciting developments in technology such as AI, coding, virtual reality, and cybersecurity, leading the way for changes in curriculum development. To showcase the latest and most updated content, we invite you join us in 2025, and be part of our Education Focus!



Typhoon death toll soars past 100

► Flooding linked to corruption scandal

CEBU: The death toll from *Typhoon Kalmaegi* in the central Philippines climbed past 100 yesterday as the devastating impact on Cebu province became clearer after the worst flooding in recent memory.

Floodwaters described as unprecedented had rushed through the province's towns and cities a day earlier, sweeping away cars, riverside shanties and even massive shipping containers.

Cebu spokesman Rhon Ramos told AFP that 35 bodies had been recovered from flooded areas of Liloan, a town that is part of provincial capital Cebu City's metro area. The grim news brought the toll for Cebu to 76.

On neighbouring Negros Island, at least 12 people were dead and 12 more were missing after *Kalmaegi's* driving rain loosened volcanic mudflow which then buried homes in Canlaon City, police Lieutenant Stephen Polinar said.

"Eruptions of Kanlaon volcano since last year deposited volcanic material on its upper sections. When the rain fell, those deposits rumbled down onto the villages," he said.

Only one Negros death had been included in an earlier government tally of 17 deaths outside Cebu.

That figure included six crewmembers of a military helicopter that crashed while on a relief mission.

In nearby Talisay, where an informal settlement along a riverbank was washed away, AFP found 26-year-old Regie Mallorca already at work rebuilding his home.

"This will take time because I don't have the money yet," he said as he mixed cement and sand.



Canlaon City firemen rescue a woman amidst surging flood waters yesterday. – AFPPIC/ BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION-CANLAON

The area around Cebu City was deluged with 183mm of rain in the 24 hours before *Kalmaegi's* landfall, well over its 131mm monthly average, said weather specialist Charmagne Varilla.

In total, nearly 800,000 people were moved from the typhoon's path.

The catastrophic loss of life in Cebu comes as the public seethes over a scandal involving ghost flood-

control projects believed to have cost taxpayers billions of dollars.

Cebu Governor Pamela Silagan Baricuatro suggested a connection between the corruption scandal and what her spokesman later called "unusual" flooding in a cluster of subdivisions.

"You begin to ask the question why we're having terrible flash floods here when you have US\$452 million

(RM1.9 billion) for flood control projects (in the national budget)," she said in an interview with ABS-CBN.

"Definitely we have seen projects here ... that I would say are ghost projects," she said, adding her inspection team had not seen a single structure built to standards.

A spokesperson at the Department of Public Works and Highways, the government entity at

the centre of the scandal, said department head Vince Dizon was in Cebu to inspect typhoon damage.

"After his inspection there, maybe he will comment," the spokesperson said.

The Philippines is hit by an average of 20 storms and typhoons each year, routinely striking disaster-prone areas where millions live in poverty. – AFP

Taiwan detains 25, seizes US\$150m

TAIPEI: Prosecutors here said on Tuesday they had detained 25 people and seized US\$147.09 million (RM616.5 million) in assets tied to the Prince Group.

The assets include 26 high-end cars, properties as well as bank accounts, tied to the network and Cambodian businessman Chen Zhi in relation to money laundering and forced labour offences, the prosecutors said in a statement.

"Through scam compounds set up across Cambodia, the group has carried out investment fraud involving cryptocurrencies and online gambling," they said.

"The proceeds were transferred through shell companies established by the Prince Group and laundered by buying luxury goods and real estate, thereby concealing the criminal gains."

Reuters was not able to reach Chen or a representative for comment.

Last month, Singapore police seized more than S\$150 million (RM481 million) in assets tied to the group.

The seizures in Singapore and Taiwan came after Britain and the US sanctioned the network, which has been accused of operating online "scam centres" that used trafficked workers to defraud victims.

Taiwan has said some of its citizens have been tricked into going to Cambodia and Myanmar to work in the centres. – Reuters

Singapore scrutinises family offices

SINGAPORE: Authorities here have blocked 3% out of 1,300 applications filed in the past three years to set up tax-exempt wealth management vehicles for rich families, an official said yesterday, responding to questions about family offices involved in criminal activity.

National Development Minister Chee Hong Tat, who is also deputy chair of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, told parliament that the central bank has already clawed back the tax incentives given to two family offices linked to Prince Group,

a multinational network accused of running vast scam centres.

Family offices are one-stop firms that manage the investments, taxation, wealth transfer and other financial matters of the super-rich.

Prince Group is tied to Cambodian businessman Chen Zhi and was sanctioned by Britain and the United States in October for running scam centres using trafficked workers to defraud victims around the world.

Singapore police seized over S\$150 million (RM481 million) in assets tied to the group, including

six properties, bank accounts, securities accounts and cash, police said last week.

Singapore has benefited from strong inflows of wealth due to policies favourable to family offices and trusts, low taxes and its location as a gateway to the growing Southeast Asian markets.

Some of the inflows have been linked to crime, including a S\$3 billion money laundering ring in 2023, the largest ever in the city-state, with the tax incentives of six single family offices revoked because their links to the case.

Chee said that family offices linked to money laundering offences "represent a very small proportion of the overall sector, at less than 1%".

The number of family offices almost tripled to more than 2,000 at the end of last year from 700 in 2021, government data showed.

Singapore has tightened scrutiny of the financial sector following the 2023 money laundering scandal with lenders spending more time on due diligence checks and even closing the accounts of some clients. – Reuters

Hong Kong freezes US\$354m in assets linked to group

HONG KONG: Authorities here have frozen assets worth US\$354 million (RM1.5 billion) believed to be proceeds of crime linked to a Cambodian conglomerate whose founder is accused of running forced labour camps, police said.

The US Justice Department unsealed an indictment last month against Chen Zhi, whose Prince Holding Group was accused of serving as a front for "a transnational criminal organisation".

The Hong Kong law enforcement action came on the heels of similar moves by Taiwan and Singapore.

Cyberscam hubs have proliferated across Southeast Asia in recent years, luring foreigners to work in scam hothouses that swindle people with online romance and crypto investment cons.

Hong Kong police said on Tuesday they acted after an investigation into a "syndicate suspected of involvement in

international cross-border telecommunications fraud and money laundering".

Police valued the frozen assets at approximately US\$354 million, which they said were believed to be the proceeds of crime and included "cash, stocks, and funds held by individuals or companies".

Prince Holding Group was the target of the law enforcement measures, a police source told AFP. No arrests had been made by

Tuesday afternoon.

US and UK authorities unveiled sanctions last month freezing Chen's businesses and properties in both countries, while Washington's indictment charges Chen with fraud and money laundering involving Bitcoin worth about US\$15 billion (RM62.9 billion).

The two countries allege Chen directed the operations of forced labour compounds across Cambodia. – AFP



New Zealand plans satellite fleet

WELLINGTON: New Zealand is planning a national space mission which could see a small fleet of state-owned satellites launched into the skies over the Pacific nation.

"Actions to progress to a large-scale mission are being advanced," Minister for Space Judith Collins said.

The mission would involve sending up "one or more government-owned satellites" for "regular coverage of areas of national interest, such as humanitarian and disaster response or monitoring for illegal fishing".

"This would reduce the government's reliance on external providers for this important information," she said.

Documents obtained by AFP pitch the mission as a boon for the nation's science sector and a commercial opportunity.

The mission would involve "all parts of the sector, from research and development of new sensors, to manufacturing satellite components, to launch and then crucially to the downstream use of data".

"A mission is an opportunity to support the development of innovative products for future commercialisation and export," the documents said.

They do not share a price estimate for the mission.

And the space minister said it would need a compelling business case for funding to go ahead.

"Space missions are complex endeavours which take years of work to develop and validate before they are ready to build, launch and operate," Collins said.

New Zealand is also home to launch company Rocket Lab, second only to Elon Musk's SpaceX for the number of private launches it oversees.

Since 2017, it has sent dozens of its Electron rockets carrying small satellites into orbit from its Mahia Peninsula launch pad on New Zealand's east coast. – AFP

Smoke and flames rising from the site of the plane crash outside Louisville International Airport. – AFP/LEVI DEAN HANDOUT



UPS plane crashes in fireball

➤ At least seven dead

WASHINGTON: A UPS wide-body cargo plane crashed on Tuesday and erupted into a fireball moments after takeoff from the international airport in Louisville, Kentucky, killing seven, including all three aboard, and injuring 11 on the ground.

Flames from the crash, shortly before sundown, ignited a string of fires in an industrial corridor next to the airport, forcing authorities to halt flights.

The Louisville airport is home to UPS Worldport, a global hub for the shipping company's air cargo operations and its largest package-handling facility worldwide.

Two runways were strewn with debris from the crash.

UPS said in a service alert delivery schedules for airborne and international packages "may be affected" by the disruption.

"Contingency plans are in place to help ensure that shipments arrive at their final destinations as quickly as conditions permit," it said.

The triple-engine plane was fuelled for a flight to Honolulu. It had a crew of three, UPS said. None survived, officials said.

Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg told reporters at a late-night news briefing that four deaths were confirmed on the ground, with 11 injured people taken to hospitals.

It was the first UPS cargo plane to crash since August 2013, when an Airbus aircraft went down on a landing approach to the international airport in Birmingham, Alabama, killing both crew.

Television channel WLKY, a CBS affiliate, showed video of Tuesday's crash, with flames visible as the plane took off, and the fireball erupting as it hit the ground.

Several buildings in an industrial area beyond the runway were on fire after the crash, with thick, black smoke seen rising into

the evening sky.

Stricken facilities on the ground included a petroleum recycling centre and a car parts business.

One key question for investigators is why one engine appeared to have separated from the plane before the crash, a person briefed on the matter said, pointing to video images of airfield debris.

The cause and origin of the fire before the aircraft went down were also unknown.

Fires on the ground burned for hours afterwards, with authorities warning the public within a 8km radius of the scene to stay indoors to guard against air-quality hazards.

The crashed plane, an MD-11 freighter, was 34 years old.

Boeing, which shut down the MD-11 programme after acquiring it in a merger with McDonnell Douglas, said it was concerned for the safety and well-being of those affected, and it would provide technical support to the investigation. – Reuters

BRIEFS THREAT TO CLOSE U.S. AIRSPACE

WASHINGTON: Transport Secretary Sean Duffy said on Tuesday that if the federal government shutdown continues, there will be "mass chaos" and it is possible that some US airspace would close. He said many of the nations' air traffic controllers can manage to miss one pay cheque, which they already have, but "none of us can manage missing two pay cheques". He blamed the Democrats for the shutdown while the Democrats have blamed the Republicans and the Trump administration. Duffy predicted that if the government remains closed for another week "you will see mass chaos". The public would also "see mass flight delays, you'll see mass cancellations, and you may see us close certain parts of the airspace because we just cannot manage it, because we don't have the air traffic controllers". Duffy said he would shut down the entire system if flight safety could no longer be guaranteed. – Bernama

EIGHT KILLED IN TRAIN CRASH

NEW DELHI: At least eight people were killed and several injured when a passenger train collided with a goods train in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, officials said. The goods train was stationary at the time of the accident, and the passenger train crashed into it from behind, damaging the passenger train's first few carriages, said Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao. Television footage showed the mangled first carriage of the passenger train partially perched atop the last carriage of the goods train, as police and rescue teams tried to pull out survivors and a crowd watched from the parallel tracks. Railway authorities said there would be a detailed inquiry into the incident. India's railway network is the fourth largest in the world and has been undergoing a US\$30 billion (RM125.7 billion) transformation with new trains and modern stations. – Reuters

Australia adds Reddit, Kick to under-16 ban list

SYDNEY: Social media website Reddit and streaming giant Kick will be added to a list of websites banned for under-16s in Australia from next month, Canberra said yesterday.

Australia will from Dec 10 force social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and Tiktok to remove users under the age of 16, slapping hefty fines of up to A\$49.5 million (RM134.7 million) if they fail to do so.

Streaming platform Kick and online forum Reddit will also be included in the new legislation, Minister for Communications Anika Wells said yesterday.

"Online platforms use technology to target children with chilling control," Wells said.

"We are merely asking they use that same technology to keep children safe online. We want children to have a childhood and we want parents to have peace of mind."

There is keen interest in whether Australia's sweeping restrictions can work as regulators around the globe wrestle with the dangers of social media.

On paper, the ban is one of the strictest in the world. But some experts are concerned that the law will be merely symbolic.

So far, platforms like Roblox, Discord and WhatsApp will not be banned, but streaming site Twitch is under review.

But Wells said the list of banned platforms

was not static and could change.

And eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant said while age restrictions were one "really potent solution" to stopping social media harm, they were not a quick fix.

A Kick spokesperson said: "Australia represents a small share of our global audience, but Kick was built here and we'll keep backing our local creators."

"We'll continue engaging constructively on these new rules to support fair outcomes: protecting online safety without compromising privacy or limiting the creative freedom that drives Australia's creator economy," the spokesperson said. – AFP

TURN THE VOLUME UP, TRUMP TOLD

NEW YORK: City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani wasted no time calling out President Donald Trump. "Since I know you're watching, I have four words for you: turn the volume up!" he said during a speech to supporters shortly after being declared the victor. "If anyone can show a nation betrayed by Donald Trump how to defeat him, it is the city that gave rise to him. And if there is any way to terrify a despot, it is by dismantling the very conditions that allowed him to accumulate power. This is not only how we stop Trump, it's how we stop the next one." Mamdani acknowledged his win poses a challenge implementing what he calls "the most ambitious agenda to tackle the cost-of-living crisis this city has seen" since the 1940s – including a proposed rental freeze, universal childcare and other actions targeting the private sector. – Reuters

MAYOR-ELECT CALLED 'HAMAS SUPPORTER'

TEL AVIV: Israel's diaspora minister yesterday slammed New York's leftist mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani as a " Hamas supporter" and called on the city's Jews to move to Israel following his victory. "The city that once stood as a symbol of global freedom has handed over its keys to a Hamas supporter," right-wing Minister of Diaspora and Combating Antisemitism, Amichai Chikli, wrote on X. Mamdani, 34, has in recent months made a point of vocally denouncing antisemitism as well as the Islamophobia he has suffered. Mamdani is a long-standing supporter of the Palestinian cause. His positions on Israel, which he has called an "apartheid regime" while branding the war in Gaza a "genocide", have drawn the ire of some in the Jewish community. – AFP

FRENCH PAIR RELEASED BY IRAN AWAIT RETURN HOME

PARIS: A French pair released by Iran after over three years in prison on espionage charges were awaiting permission to be allowed to return to France. Meanwhile an Iranian citizen arrested in France in February on charges of promoting "terrorism" on social media, and who Tehran had said could be swapped in the case, was now at Iran's embassy in Paris. Cecile Kohler, 41, and Jacques Paris, 72 were arrested in May 2022. They were freed from Tehran's Evin prison late on Tuesday in what the Iranian authorities described as a conditional release and immediately taken by French diplomats to France's mission in Tehran. Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said they had been granted "conditional release" on bail by the judge in charge of the case and "will be under surveillance until the next stage of proceedings." – AFP

18 HELD IN CRACKDOWN ON ONLINE FRAUD

WIESBADEN: An internationally coordinated action against alleged online fraud and money laundering networks that included German payment service providers resulted in 18 arrests. Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office and prosecutors said that between 2016 and 2021, the suspects used credit card details of 4.3 million individuals from 193 countries, racking up damages of more than €300 million (RM1.4 billion). The suspects siphoned funds via subscriptions to fake websites designed for streaming, dating and entertainment. The defendants compromised four major German payment service providers. The firms weren't named. Authorities said they had searched buildings in Germany, Italy, Canada, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, the US and Cyprus. – Reuters



Mamdani and his wife Rama Duwaji in Brooklyn. – REUTERS/SPIC

Cheers across New York as Mamdani wins

➤ Push back against the establishment

NEW YORK: Donald Trump had decisively won the US presidential election last November and very few people outside New York's leftist circles knew Zohran Mamdani, who had just declared his longshot mayoral candidacy.

What a difference a year can make.

Crowds across the city chanted Mamdani's name on Tuesday as champagne and tears flowed for the democratic socialist from Queens turned New York mayor-elect.

"Mamdaniiiiiii," one group exclaimed, substituting the 34-year-old's name for the customary "cheese" as they posed for a photo at a Brooklyn bar watch party.

Voters gathered there in cautious optimism, sporting Mamdani merch as they anxiously awaited the evening's results, classic songs such as Frank Sinatra's *New York, New York* and edgier tracks from Lou Reed blasting from the speakers.

"It's like, too scary to be hopeful," said Michelle Dimuzio with a nervous laugh before the polls closed.

However, Dimuzio's trepidation proved unwarranted as early results began to roll in with Mamdani soundly in the lead.

The entire bar erupted in cheers and even a toddler joined in the applause, uttering a newly learned word that met the moment – "bravo!"

And when the race was called for New York's first Muslim mayor, barely half an hour later, the excitement was palpable at bars across Brooklyn and Queens, where street parties raged, and in Manhattan, where the owner of a posh brasserie ordered celebratory glasses of champagne for everyone on the house.

It was a win by New Yorkers, for New Yorkers, Ben Parisi said.

The 40-year-old said the night stood in stark contrast to Republican Trump's election a year ago.

It was a "local victory" that offered a means of "resisting and pushing back" against the political establishment in Washington, Parisi said.

"A lot of us worked hard in one way or



Supporters of Mamdani celebrate at Brooklyn Paramount Theatre. – AFPPIC

another to make this happen," Parisi said, "and here we are ... we get to celebrate."

Elsewhere in Brooklyn, a packed concert venue danced to Mamdani's once-obscure, now-viral hip hop track *Nani*, which the young politician recorded years ago under his rap name "Mr Cardamom".

Supporters at Mamdani HQ greeted him with a deafening ovation as their incoming mayor walked onstage, flashing his megawatt smile that has lit up the city through his nonstop campaigning.

The once-improbable candidate claimed victory for his campaign but also for those who "made this movement their own" – his acknowledgments included Yemeni bodega owners, Mexican abuelas, and Uzbek nurses.

He also cited Eugene Debs, who at the turn of the 20th century was one of the best-known American socialists.

And he thanked young constituents who catapulted his candidacy, "the next generation of New Yorkers who refused to accept that the promise of a better future was a relic of the past."

"We will fight for you," Mamdani promised,

"because we are you."

He had criss-crossed the city again and again with his relentless ground game and, in his final days on the trail, Mamdani was seen traversing the Brooklyn bridge, doing tai chi with seniors and out at clubs till dawn.

Mamdani brought with him a message of affordability that 37-year-old Dimuzio said struck a chord with New Yorkers.

Dimuzio described living pay cheque to pay cheque despite a full-time job, and said Mamdani's focus on making New York a more financially feasible place to live spoke to her in a way she said politicians on both sides of the aisle rarely do.

"He sticks to his message," she said, and "he doesn't just give the political tossed salad."

Mamdani repeated that message on Tuesday night, leading a raucous call-and-response of his promises, which include freezing rent and institutionalising universal child care.

"Our greatness will be anything but abstract," Mamdani told the crowd. "If tonight teaches us anything, it is that convention has held us back." – AFP



COMMENT by Samuel Lau and Harith Helmi

CLP exam: Assessing or gatekeeping?

THIS year, only 189 candidates passed the Certificate in Legal Practice (CLP) examination, the lowest number in the past five years. This figure has raised eyebrows and questions alike, prompting a closer look at possible underlying causes.

Is the persistent low passing rate due to the incapability of Malaysia's law graduates to achieve that 40% passing threshold per subject or does it point to a deeper issue of an institutional imbalance within the framework that systematically disadvantages particular groups of aspiring lawyers?

Tale of two pathways
In Malaysia, the road to becoming a lawyer is not the same for everyone.

Graduates from public universities such as UM, UKM, IIUM, USIM and UITM are exempted from the CLP exam and may proceed directly to their nine-month pupillage.

In contrast, those from private universities (as listed on LPQB's "List of Universities") must sit for this notoriously difficult qualifying exam before their pupillage.

This dual-track system immediately raises questions of equity.

Public university students can qualify as lawyers after completing their four-year programmes. Even if they fail one or two of their CLP subjects along the way, they can simply retake those papers.

Meanwhile, private university graduates must sit for all five subjects

of the CLP papers and if they fail more than one, they must retake the entire exam, offered only once a year.

This means even strong candidates who pass three out of the five subjects face an additional year of delay, financial strain and emotional toll.

The real problem

It is easy to dismiss the low passing rate by saying that CLP candidates simply aren't good enough for the exam.

But let's be realistic. Not all these students can afford to study abroad or pursue the Bar in the UK, where the passing rates are much higher. Most CLP candidates are middle-class Malaysians who are unable to afford to study overseas or are not fortunate enough to secure a spot in public universities.

They attend private institutions, often working part-time to support themselves, and still strive to meet the same legal standards as everyone else.

Even among those who managed to pass, whether with a full or conditional pass, many are also top scorers from their top-tier programmes, such as the University of London or other prestigious law schools.

It makes one wonder how these high-performing students, who excelled in internationally recognised degrees, often barely scrape with a "P" (40%) in most CLP subjects.

When only 189 out of thousands pass (with 157 others on conditional



Our legal education system requires attention as it affects fairness and opportunities for all Malaysians. — AFPPIC

"Are we measuring competence or perpetuating inequality? If the purpose is to ensure quality, the same standard should apply to all, not just those from private institutions."

pass), the question we must ask is: Is this exam really assessing legal competence or has it become a gatekeeping mechanism?

Question of intent

The official narrative is that the CLP maintains the quality and integrity of the Malaysian Bar.

But if the goal is to ensure high standards, why are public university students not required to sit for the same test? And if they did, would they all pass?

It is also worth asking whether the CLP's rigidity serves to limit the number of practising lawyers rather than to elevate standards.

An example of unfairness

Consider a recent case in which a law graduate from a private university was barred from sitting for the CLP exam because his pre-university qualification was considered insufficient as determined by the LPQB.

Ironically, the same qualification once earned him an offer from IIUM, a public university that exempts its students from the CLP exam entirely. If he was "qualified enough" for IIUM, why is he now "unqualified" for the CLP?

This contradiction exposes the inconsistencies and even the absurdities of our current system.

Time for honest reflection

Malaysia must ask itself: What are we really testing through the CLP? Are we measuring competence or perpetuating inequality?

If the purpose is to ensure quality, the same standard should apply to all, not just those from private institutions.

Recently, Malaysia may be heading in the right direction by exploring the implementation of a Common Bar Course, where all public and private university law graduates would have to complete a three-year law degree and then sit for

the same qualifying examination together.

However, the question remains: Will this reform face resistance or setbacks that will make implementation difficult?

Too often, discussions about the CLP turn personal, as if questioning the system means targeting certain groups or universities; it is not.

This is an issue with our legal education system that requires attention, as it affects fairness and opportunities for all Malaysians.

The LPQB must observe clearly and honestly, for it raises serious questions about equality, access and meritocracy in our system.

Until these disparities are addressed, many aspiring lawyers will continue to ask the same painful question: "Is it really that tough to be a lawyer in Malaysia or is the system just designed to make it so?"

Comments:

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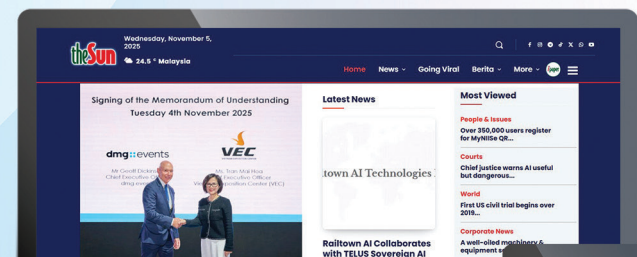
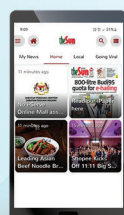
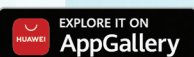
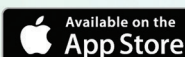


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The poison we sip without knowing

THERE are poisons we drink willingly every day – not from a glass but from our thoughts. Suspicion, doubt and jealousy are among the most potent, and yet, the most silently consumed. They don't shout; they whisper.

They move quietly through the corridors of the mind, coating perception with fear and twisting the way we see others and ourselves.

If we were to rank these poisons, suspicion would come first – it is the seed. It begins as a faint discomfort – a question that creeps in when the mind can't sit with uncertainty.

Suspicion is a fragile thing; it doesn't need evidence, only imagination. Left unchecked, it births doubt – the second poison.

Doubt corrodes trust, both in others and within ourselves. It makes every silence sound sinister, every difference feel dangerous.

Together, suspicion and doubt prepare the perfect soil for the third and most visible poison: jealousy.

Jealousy is simply doubt turned outward. It is the mind saying, "They have what I don't," instead of asking, "Why do I feel incomplete?"

Unlike suspicion, jealousy has a face. It can be seen in comparisons, gossip and quiet resentment that masquerades as politeness.

It's the poison that doesn't just damage individuals; it weakens relationships, institutions and even nations.

We see these patterns everywhere – in workplaces where envy replaces collaboration, in friendships that collapse under imagined betrayals, in social media threads fuelled by projection and comparison.

A recent survey found that 67% of Malaysians or their family members have experienced bullying in the past year, with workplaces topping the list.

Beneath the numbers lies an emotional epidemic – insecurity masked as aggression, suspicion feeding on silence and jealousy masquerading as ambition. And it doesn't end there.

The surge in online scams and manipulation that has cost Malaysians over RM700 million this year is another form of collective poison.

People fall, not because they are foolish, but because suspicion and

MIND THE MIND



BY DR PRAVEENA RAJENDRA

"We often speak of cleaning the environment but the dirtiest pollution sometimes lives within – in thoughts unfiltered, unchecked and unquestioned. And the antidote isn't found in silence or denial but in consciousness."

doubt blur into false trust.

The same mechanism plays out in corruption scandals and unethical shortcuts – the quiet voice that says, "No one will notice," is born from doubt in accountability, from suspicion that integrity doesn't matter and from jealousy towards those who seem to advance faster by bending the rules.

These poisons spread subtly. You can't always see them but you can feel their residue – tension in conversations, cynicism in leadership and the slow erosion of joy. When left unexamined, they become part of our cultural air.

To heal, suspicion must first be arrested, as it is the origin. Every false story the mind tells begins with suspicion – that faint, untested discomfort that turns imagination into evidence.

The moment we learn to pause before assuming, the entire chain reaction breaks. Doubt loses fuel. Jealousy loses ground.

It begins with awareness. When suspicion arises, name it, ask it for proof. When doubt whispers, question its source. And when jealousy appears, meet it with

curiosity rather than shame.

The moment you turn attention inward, the poison loses its taste. Because in truth, the world doesn't become toxic by chance; it becomes toxic when we refuse to examine the chemistry of our own minds.

Suspicion may start small but it is enough to cloud judgement, distort relationships and corrupt systems. Arrest it early and you reclaim clarity. Arrest it late and it arrests your peace.

We often speak of cleaning the environment but the dirtiest pollution sometimes lives within – in thoughts unfiltered, unchecked and unquestioned. And the antidote isn't found in silence or denial but in consciousness.

Awareness is the purifier of perception. So mind your mind before the next thought turns into a toxin, and the next doubt becomes a disease.

Dr Praveena Rajendra is a certified mental health and awareness practitioner specialising in narcissistic abuse recovery. Comments: letters@thesundaily.com

For Gen Z jobseekers, it pays to take the long way home

COMMENT
by Elman Mustafa El Bakri

LET'S not sugarcoat it. If you are a fresh graduate in 2025, the entry-level job market is rough. In Malaysia, youth unemployment is hovering around 10%.

Globally, entry-level openings are down, hiring requirements are rising and AI is replacing many of the tasks that used to be stepping stones into full-time roles.

Here is what I've been telling young jobseekers I meet: don't get stuck playing a short game in a long-game world. It is tempting to panic when applications go unanswered or when even "entry-level" roles demand years of experience. But the real opportunity now isn't just about getting hired; it is about getting noticed, and more importantly, getting ready for the next five years, not just the next five months.

Reports show that while hiring is tight, there is growing demand in areas like digital technology, healthcare, sustainability and the green economy. The challenge is that employers are no longer focused on what is written on paper. They are looking for something harder to quantify – readiness. And increasingly, that means two things: adaptability and AI literacy.

The second one needs to be taken seriously. AI literacy today is not about typing clever prompts into ChatGPT or generating funny images to share online. It is about understanding how AI is changing workflows, business models, customer behaviour and showing that you know how to apply it, not just experiment with it.

If you are a fresh grad right now, waiting around for job openings may not be your best move. You need to create visibility through real, self-initiated work.

Start with something small. Build



The real opportunity now isn't just about getting hired; it is about getting noticed, and more importantly, getting ready for the next five years, not just the next five months. – **SUNPIC**

a basic productivity tool, create a data dashboard using public datasets or explore a resume-scoring script using one of the many free low-code platforms available. And once you have built something, share your process and progress. One well-written LinkedIn post explaining what you have done can sometimes reach more decision-makers than 10 polished resumes.

Recruiters may not call after your 30th application but someone may message you after your third post. That is the new landscape. You are not just applying anymore but also attracting.

Many graduates I meet feel stuck because they are conditioned to

believe opportunity only comes through formal channels like job portals, interview panels or internship programmes. But informal visibility now moves faster and more meaningfully than traditional routes.

You don't need a title to start adding value – just start. Document your learning, ask thoughtful questions and be generous in giving credit to others. Over time, this will become your professional presence.

That doesn't mean giving up on the job market. Keep applying, tailor your applications, explore platforms like Maukerja, JobStreet and LinkedIn, and take freelance or short-term roles if they help build relevant experience. But while you are doing

that, keep your long-term strategy in mind.

The long game means upskilling with intention. You don't have to learn everything, focus on what is aligned with growing sectors like AI, environmental solutions, cloud infrastructure or health innovation.

Build personal projects that reflect these interests and show what you can do, not just what you have studied. Reach out to peers, mentors, former lecturers or alumni. Your next opportunity could come from a recommendation, not a listing.

Most importantly, document your growth. Let people see not just your outcomes but how you are thinking and improving.

And stay consistent. Momentum takes time but visibility grows with every honest, thoughtful post, every project update and every conversation you start or respond to. This is what long-term thinking looks like in 2025.

Mindset matters too. I left a comfortable general manager role in a private hospital to build a business with no safety net, just a clear purpose and the relationships I had built over time. It didn't happen overnight; it took focus, adjustment and plenty of patience. But the belief was simple: the only way to build something meaningful is to keep showing up for it.

If you are just starting your career, you may not land your dream job immediately. You may accept something that is not ideal just to get going. That is okay, just don't stay idle. Use every opportunity to learn. Keep a record of what you are learning. Ask questions, even if you feel unsure and always have a side project that keeps you challenged: not just for your resume but for your confidence.

Malaysia's job market will eventually recover. The AI transition will stabilise. New industries will mature. But those who spend these in-between years building a portfolio, a network and a reputation for learning will be in a far stronger position when those doors open.

You are not just waiting for someone to offer you a seat at the table; you are shaping your own space so that when they do, you will already have something to bring.

Play the long game, kids. It still works.

Ts Elman Mustafa El Bakri is CEO and founder of HESA Healthcare Recruitment Agency and serves on the Industrial Advisory Panel for the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Universiti Malaya. Comments: letters@thesundaily.com

KUALA LUMPUR: Johor Bahru has emerged as Malaysia's strongest growth region in 2025, according to new property demand data revealed at the 12th PropertyGuru Asia Awards Malaysia in partnership with iProperty.

For the first time, the awards combined expert judging, market data, and consumer preferences to provide a data-driven picture of the property market – highlighting where Malaysians are looking to buy and invest, and which developers have successfully earned their trust.

Drawing from millions of searches across PropertyGuru.com.my and iProperty.com.my, the awards reflect a nationwide shift in demand patterns – from urban cores towards well-connected regional growth corridors, particularly in Johor and Selangor. This year's findings paint a clear picture: Malaysians are gravitating towards integrated townships, mixed-use developments, and ESG-driven projects that combine lifestyle appeal, long-term value, and sustainable living – which are trends that align with evolving affordability considerations, infrastructure connectivity, and changing work-life priorities.

The inaugural Consumer Demand Awards celebrated eight projects most sought-after by property seekers. Leading the list are R&F Princess Cove and Leisure Farm, reflecting Johor Bahru's increasing appeal among buyers. Johor also performed strongly in the office segment, with City Square Office Tower named Most In-Demand Office for Lease (Johor), while Kuala Lumpur's The Exchange 106 topped

Johor Bahru emerges as strongest growth region

➤ The 12th PropertyGuru Asia Awards Malaysia reflects nationwide shift in demand trends towards integrated townships, mixed-use and sustainability-driven projects

Most In-Demand Office for Lease (Kuala Lumpur).

PropertyGuru Group real estate intelligence head Dr Lee Nai Jia said, "The data shows that Malaysian home seekers are increasingly looking beyond traditional hotspots in the Klang Valley. Johor Bahru's dominance across multiple categories reflects the city's transformation into a vibrant regional hub, supported by large-scale infrastructure investments such as the RTS Link and the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone. These factors are enhancing cross-border accessibility and driving confidence among local buyers and investors. We're also seeing rising engagement for well-planned, self-contained communities where residents can live, work, and play

within the same precinct. This shift towards integrated and sustainable townships, often outside the city centre, signals a more mature property market where value, connectivity, and liveability drive purchasing decisions, not just location alone."

The People's Choice Awards, determined through nearly 28,000 public votes, recognised 10 developers most trusted by Malaysian consumers. The winners are Berinda Group; CPI Land; Gunung Impian Development Sdn Bhd; Mah Sing Group Bhd; Malton Bhd; Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Selangor (PKNS); Platinum Victory; Tiland Group; Tropicana Corporation Bhd; and TRX City Sdn Bhd.

The winners were voted for by the public from a shortlist of 30

leading developers.

These results reaffirm that consumers continue to place their trust in established and consistently performing developers that offer reliable quality and long-term value. The insights offer developers, investors, and policymakers actionable information on which projects are in demand and which developers enjoy the highest levels of consumer trust.

JLand Group emerged as Malaysia's most decorated winner, securing the Best Developer (Malaysia) title alongside Best Developer (Southern Malaysia) and Best Industrial Developer.

Its flagship project Bandar Dato' Onn in Johor Bahru, earned multiple awards including Best Township Development (Malaysia), highlighting JLand Group's leadership in integrated community development.

Public developer PKNS stood out as an ESG frontrunner, earning both Sustainable Design Champion and Low Carbon Champion honours. The recognition underscores the state developer's strong commitment to environmentally conscious design through projects such as Linkar 52,

Aludra Residensi, and Galeria SA Sentral.

PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards and Events general manager Jules Kay said: "These awards capture more than excellence, they reveal what the market values most. Developers are setting benchmarks for sustainability, connectivity, and livability, while consumer data shows clear demand for quality developments. There's a visible move towards livable, well-connected communities, especially in regions like Johor and Selangor where large-scale townships and mixed-use developments are reshaping the property landscape. At the same time, sustainability is no longer optional, developers are leading by embedding ESG principles into every project. This alignment between innovation, data, and consumer needs is what will define Malaysia's property success stories in the coming years."

A total of 73 categories honoured outstanding achievements in Malaysian real estate: from luxury residences to affordable housing, as well as innovative commercial developments nationwide.

KIP REIT adds Bintulu industrial asset to portfolio

KUALA LUMPUR: Pacific Trustees Bhd, the trustee of KIP Real Estate Investment Trust (KIP REIT), has recently completed its acquisitions of an industrial property in Bintulu, Sarawak, for a purchase consideration of RM28.7 million.

This milestone marks the group's first expansion into East Malaysia, underscoring the group's commitment to broadening its geographical footprint and reinforcing its long-term growth strategy.

The fully occupied 15-year-old property comprises a double-storey office integrated with a six-storey processing plant, with a total net lettable area of 207,315 sq ft and an appraised value of RM28.8 million as at June 28, 2024. The acquisition was fully funded through cash consideration, reflecting KIP REIT's prudent capital management and robust balance sheet.

The property is tenanted by Hextar Solutions Sdn Bhd under a 3-year fixed-term agreement, with automatic renewals for four consecutive 3-year terms, ensuring long-term rental stability. Hextar Solutions is principally involved in the manufacturing and marketing of a wide range of fertilisers, further diversifying the group's industrial tenant base with a strong and reputable occupier.

Following this acquisition, KIP REIT's portfolio now comprises 17 properties across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

TA Global breaks ground on RM3 billion Ativo Annexe

KUALA LUMPUR: A new chapter of urban living commenced in Bandar Sri Damansara as property developer TA Global Bhd recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for three transformative components within Ativo Annexe: Amaya Residences, The Arden, and DA Central Mall.

The event marked a pivotal moment in the evolution of the award-winning 48-acre Damansara Avenue master plan.

As the newest and most anticipated phase of Damansara Avenue, Ativo Annexe is a 15-acre mixed-use development poised to become the focal point for living, work, and leisure in the vicinity. With a GDV of RM3 billion, it seamlessly integrates residential towers, corporate offices, a vibrant retail mall, an international hotel, and a dedicated wellness hub.

A direct link bridge to the Sri Damansara Sentral MRT station enhances connectivity and brings Damansara Avenue's vision of a truly integrated, transit oriented community to life.

TA Global CEO Tiah Joo Kim said the groundbreaking is more than a construction milestone; it is the physical realisation of their aspiration to craft a human-centric community where the rhythm of daily life is effortless, inspiring, and deeply connected.

"With Amaya Residences, The Arden, and DA Central Mall, we are creating a thriving ecosystem where lifestyle, business, and connectivity converge seamlessly. It reflects our confidence in the market and our



Featuring Amaya Residences, The Arden, and DA Central Mall, Ativo Annexe brings lifestyle, business, and connectivity together in one vibrant community.

dedication to setting a new benchmark for integrated urban living in Greater Kuala Lumpur."

Amaya Residences: The RM1 billion signature residence expresses the concept of "Urban Resort Living" through its design and experience. Its two towers, each soaring 68 storeys, will house 1,268 homes. Inspired by modern Japanese minimalism and biophilic principles, Amaya Residences is designed as a personal oasis amid the conveniences of city life.

The Arden: This RM446 million, 38-storey Grade-A strata office tower offers 455 flexible suites, catering to businesses ranging from innovative start-ups to established multinational corporations.

DA Central Mall: It will feature 420,000 sq ft of curated retail and culinary experiences within lush greenery and nature-infused architecture. Direct MRT access ensures constant footfall and vibrancy, establishing the mall as the central gathering place for the wider Damansara Avenue community.

The contract for Amaya Residences, valued at approximately RM494 million, has been awarded to Taghill. The corresponding contract for The Arden and DA Central Mall, valued at RM666 million, has been secured by Pesona Metro.

Valued at a combined RM1.16 billion, these superstructure main building construction contracts for Ativo Annexe highlight a year of

powerful momentum for TA Global. Together with the recently announced RM993.5 million contract to HAB Construction for CloutHaus Residences and Paradox Hotel in Kuala Lumpur City Centre, TA Global has awarded three major construction contracts totalling RM2.15 billion this year. Collectively, the projects represent over RM6 billion in GDV and reaffirm the company's robust pipeline and continued expansion across the Klang Valley.

Speaking on the partnership, Taghill managing director Wong Yih Ming stated, "To be entrusted with a residential project as ambitious as Amaya Residences is a genuine honour.

Its design calls for a high level of precision and craftsmanship, which aligns perfectly with our commitment to quality and attention to detail. We are proud to play a part in realising TA Global's vision for elevated urban living through Amaya Residences."

Echoing this sentiment, Pesona Metro managing director Wie Hock Beng said, "The Arden and DA Central Mall form a defining part of the masterplan's identity. Constructing these two interlinked and complex structures is a challenge we embrace with enthusiasm. We share TA Global's dedication to quality and are excited to deliver a commercial hub that will stand as a landmark for generations."

Construction is underway, with the three components scheduled for progressive completion in 2028.



M'sians unite to fight financial crime

➤ Regulators and banking industry put in place robust network of collaboration, data sharing and technology, while public engagement remains strong

BY JOHN GILBERT
sunbiz@thesundaily.com

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia continues to lead a coordinated response to financial crime, uniting regulators and financial institutions in a robust ecosystem of collaboration, data sharing and next-generation technology.

Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers (AICB) chairman Tan Sri Azman Hashim said the domestic banking industry - led by The Association of Banks in Malaysia, Association of Islamic Banking and Financial Institutions Malaysia - and Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) have collectively blocked RM780 million in suspicious online transactions between 2023 and 2024 through enhanced security measures and widespread outreach.

Meanwhile, he said, public engagement has continuously been strong, with nine in 10 Malaysians actively reading scam alerts and demonstrating readiness to act.

"Yet with over 47,000 scam cases and RM1.9 billion in losses reported up to September 2025, a whole-of-nation response remains critical," Azman told delegates at the International Conference on Financial Crime and Counter Terrorism Financing 2025 (IFCTF 2025) yesterday.

He said globally, anti-money-laundering fines exceeded US\$6

billion (RM25 billion) last year, while cyber-enabled fraud in East and Southeast Asia caused estimated losses of up to US\$37 billion.

In Malaysia, scams cost more than RM573 million in just the first quarter of 2025, a 13% increase from the previous year. In the same quarter, the Royal Malaysia Police recorded 12,110 cases of online fraud nationwide, resulting in losses of RM573.7 million.

"Behind every statistic lies a story - a retiree's savings lost, a business disrupted, a community's trust shaken," Azman said.

With the support of BNM, the Securities Commission Malaysia and the Labuan Financial Services Authority, the AICB and its Compliance Officers' Networking Group hosted the 15th IFCTF 2025, gathering over 50 leading global and regional experts and more than 1,200 banking professionals.

Themed "The Future is Now: Tech-driven Compliance in the Fight Against Financial Crime," this year's discussions examine how artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and advanced analytics are transforming compliance and risk management.

Key topics include AI-enabled fraud detection, machine learning-driven compliance, the rise of virtual assets, terrorism and proliferation financing, and anti-bribery and AML (anti-money laundering) frameworks,



Abdul Rasheed (centre) and Azman (second, left) at the International Conference on Financial Crime and Counter Terrorism Financing 2025 in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. - BERNAMAPIC

all set against a backdrop of tightening global enforcement and rising digital-fraud threats.

BNM governor Datuk Seri Abdul Rasheed Ghaffour said the amendments to AMLA (Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing, Anti-Restricted Activity Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001), which were gazetted in May 2025, enhance the supervision and regulation of reporting institutions, as well as investigation and prosecution procedures.

Also, the findings from various thematic reviews and risk assessments, including the National Risk Assessment, have strengthened the understanding of illicit financial activities and their risks to Malaysia's financial system.

"These insights will help the central bank design more focused policies, supervision and enforcement actions," Abdul Rasheed said.

He highlighted that financial crimes operate without regard for borders or jurisdictions.

"As such, efforts to cement close cooperation among Asean countries in combating transnational financial crimes are paramount to ensure the security, stability and safety of the region and the well-being of its people," Abdul Rasheed said.

He noted that Malaysia has made strong progress in modernising its payment systems, ranking second globally in Quick Response payment adoption, with DuitNow becoming a common feature in daily life.

"While we have seen digital technology develop at an unprecedented pace and improve our lives, there has also been a sharp increase in cybercrime. Bad actors use these same technologies to evade detection and manipulate the system, including through propaganda, disinformation, fraud and cyber-attacks.

"Businesses, including financial institutions, have also become targets of sophisticated scams involving AI-generated impersonation. Even my own image has been used to create such deepfakes. Such incidents highlight the

increasing risks posed by advanced technology and the fact that anyone can fall prey," Abdul Rasheed said.

Over the years, Malaysia's financial industry has weathered numerous challenges - at times some seemed unbeatable, he said. "Yet through resilience and collaboration, we have continued to move forward. The financial industry must continue to address new challenges and safeguard the integrity of our financial ecosystem."

Further, the evolving digital and financial landscape requires greater agility and collaboration to combat threats.

"Swift sharing of information and expertise is essential in our fight against financial crimes. Collaboration is also essential in fighting emerging crimes. Nowadays, we are witnessing the rise of crimes facilitated by technology, particularly through social media and streaming platforms.

"These new crimes are fuelled by the advent of new technologies. Tackling these emerging crimes is not the sole responsibility of law enforcement agencies alone.

"Every one of us must remain vigilant in detecting and reporting such activities. As fraud schemes become increasingly sophisticated, empowering consumers with knowledge becomes pertinent," Abdul Rasheed said.

He added that in 95% of scams in Malaysia, victims knowingly transfer money to people who turn out to be scammers.

This demonstrates a critical gap in awareness and emphasises the importance of consumer education.

"Regulators, financial institutions and customers each must also play a stronger role in protecting the integrity of our system," Abdul Rasheed said.

Berjaya Land's Four Seasons Okinawa gets US\$70m Exim Bank financing



Syed Ali (left) and Exim Bank chief business officer Faizah Mustapa at the signing of the financing agreement.

PETALING JAYA: Export-Import Bank of Malaysia Bhd (Exim Bank) has extended a US\$70 million (RM293 million) Islamic Overseas Investment Financing Facility to Berjaya Okinawa Investment (S) Pte Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Berjaya Land Bhd, to support the development of the Four Seasons Resort & Private Residences Okinawa, Japan (Four Seasons Okinawa).

The project is led by Berjaya Okinawa Invest TMK, a wholly owned subsidiary of Berjaya Okinawa Investment (S), serving as the project developer responsible for the overall planning and execution of Four Seasons Okinawa.

Berjaya Land previously delivered the acclaimed Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto, one of Japan's most prestigious hospitality developments. The Kyoto property has received multiple international accolades, including the HICAP Reggie Shiu Development of the Year Award and Hospitality Design Magazine's HD Awards for Best Spa and Best Upscale/Luxury Guestrooms and Suites.

The same core construction team behind the Kyoto success is now being mobilised for the Okinawa project.

The financing agreement was signed by Berjaya Land group CEO Syed Ali Shahul Hameed on behalf of Berjaya Okinawa Investment (S), and was witnessed by representatives from Exim Bank and officials of Berjaya Land subsidiaries.

Spanning 32 acres of pristine beachfront, Four Seasons Okinawa, which has a projected gross development value of US\$1.12 billion, will offer 279 units of luxurious accommodation, including 127 resort rooms, 124 high-end condominiums, and 28 exclusive private villas.

Main construction is in progress and completion is expected in July 2027 followed by a three-month hotel pre-opening phase.

The partnership between Exim Bank and Berjaya Group spans more than a decade, beginning in 2010. Over the years, Exim Bank has supported two major overseas projects, reflecting a shared vision of

excellence and long-term value creation. This initiative underscores Exim Bank's strategic commitment to supporting Malaysian investments abroad, particularly in established and high-potential markets.

The Four Seasons Okinawa project exemplifies the bank's mission to promote Malaysia's global footprint and elevate the presence of Malaysian enterprises on the international stage.

Looking ahead, Exim Bank will continue to leverage its strategic financing programmes to support the growth of Malaysian businesses abroad. This includes initiatives such as the RM500 million *Skim Eksport Lonjakan*, aimed at scaling up Malaysian exporters, and the Malaysia Global Connect Go Export Cover Programme, which provides protection for businesses expanding into strategic international markets.

Both schemes were announced under Budget 2026. These efforts aim to accelerate private sector investment and enhance Malaysia's presence in non-traditional markets.

Bursa and AmInvest unveil nation's first SRI-qualified ETF

BY DEEPALAKSHMI MANICKAM
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KUALA LUMPUR: Bursa Malaysia and AmInvest yesterday launched the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia ETF, the country's first Sustainable and Responsible Investment-qualified (SRI-qualified) exchange-traded fund (ETF), marking a major milestone in Malaysia's ESG-driven capital market.

The fund, managed by AmFunds Management Bhd under the AmInvest brand, tracks the performance of the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index, which consists of 160 public-listed companies screened for environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices.

In his speech at the launch, Bursa Malaysia CEO Datuk Fad'l Mohamed (represented by chief regulatory officer Julian M. Hashim), said the new ETF demonstrates the exchange's commitment to expanding sustainable investment options and diversifying Malaysia's marketplace.

"This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to product innovation, investor empowerment and the advancement of sustainability in Malaysia's capital market," he said.

"Bursa Malaysia is building a marketplace that offers greater choice, deeper liquidity and more opportunities for investors to achieve their financial goals."

Fad'l said Bursa currently lists 15 ETFs, comprising seven syariah-compliant and eight conventional ETFs, showing the growing diversity of products available.

He noted that retail participation in ETFs has grown steadily, with the number of retail accounts investing in ETFs rising from 4,700 in 2024 to over 6,100 by October this year, while average daily trading value climbed 53% year-on-year to RM1.41 million.

"ETFs have become an integral part of today's investment landscape, offering transparency, cost efficiency and diversified exposure through a single instrument," he said.

The FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index was first introduced in 2014 as part of the exchange's efforts to advance ESG standards among listed companies and promote responsible investing.

As at June 2025, the index had 160 constituents drawn from the FTSE Bursa Malaysia Emas Index, with an average ESG rating of 3.6 out of 5.0. Bursa has also expanded the availability of FTSE4Good ESG ratings to ACE Market PLCs since June this year to encourage more inclusivity and transparency.

"This strategic move reflects our commitment to creating a more attractive and inclusive capital market - one where sustainability is embraced across companies of all sizes," said Fad'l.

"Today's launch is a meaningful step forward in strengthening Malaysia's position as a sustainable investment destination."

AmFunds Management CEO Kevin Wong said the launch combines AmInvest's two core

➤ Exchange traded fund tracks performance of FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index, which consists of 160 public-listed companies screened for ESG practices



Julian (left) and Ling at the launch of Malaysia's first SRI-qualified ETF yesterday.

strengths - being Malaysia's leading ETF provider and the top SRI fund manager. "This is the first SRI-qualified ETF in Malaysia. It gives investors exposure to companies recognised for strong ESG practices while maintaining diversification across sectors."

He added that investors can buy the ETF at an affordable entry level of around RM172 per unit, with a minimum investment of 100 units, making it accessible to retail participants.

The fund's composition mirrors the FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia Index, with 33% of its weight in financials, followed by consumer staples, healthcare, telecommunications and utilities, offering a diversified exposure to resilient sectors of the Malaysian economy.

Wong said the FTSE4Good Index has outperformed both the FBM KLCI and the FBM 100 by about 10 percentage points over the past five years, underscoring the financial strength of companies with strong ESG initiatives.

"With this ETF, investors can align their portfolios with responsible practices while encouraging listed companies to raise the bar on ESG performance. Financial returns and positive societal impact can, and should, go hand in hand," he said.

AmInvest is Malaysia's largest ETF provider, managing about RM1.8 billion in ETF assets and commanding 75.4% market share. It also leads as the foremost manager of SRI-qualified funds, with RM4.3 billion AUM and around 28% market share, overseeing nine SRI-qualified funds.

AmBank Group CEO Jamie Ling described the launch as a "meaningful milestone" that reflects the group's long-standing commitment to embedding sustainability into its operations.

"This ETF not only broadens our suite of responsible investment solutions but also reinforces our ambition to lead the market in shaping a more sustainable financial ecosystem," he said. "As investors increasingly seek purpose-driven opportunities, we believe capital can and must, be a catalyst for positive change."

Meanwhile, AmBank Group Wealth Management managing director Goh Wee Peng said the new ETF was introduced in response to growing demand for ethical and sustainable investments.

"With a low initial investment of only 100 units, investors can easily access Malaysian companies that demonstrate strong ESG leadership," she said. "It's as simple as buying a stock on Bursa Malaysia."

Both Bursa Malaysia and AmInvest view the launch as a significant step towards building a sustainable financial ecosystem that aligns with the nation's aspirations for a lower-carbon economy.

"Together, we are shaping a marketplace that is inclusive, resilient, and future-ready—one that creates long-term value for investors, businesses, and the economy," said Fad'l.

The FTSE4Good Bursa Malaysia ETF officially began trading on Bursa Malaysia Securities yesterday under the ticker "F4GBM-ETF".

Australia backs Malaysia's new policy framework for care economy

PETALING JAYA: Australia, as a natural friend and partner, supports Malaysia on the launch of its Care Strategic Framework and Action Plan 2026-2030.

The policy framework is aimed at boosting the national care services sector and increase women's labour force participation, in line with the 13th Malaysia Plan and Malaysia's National Ageing Blueprint.

The framework and action plan is also aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the World Economy Forum's Care Economy White Paper to promote and foster care economy models that can support the needs of the country and region.

The development of this policy framework was supported through the Australia-Malaysia Reform Partnership (AMRP), delivered by The Asia Foundation.

The Australian government also supports the Care Economy Conference, otherwise known as the New Frontiers in the Care Economy Conference 2025 (CareCon 2025), a global platform that aims to transform and shape sustainable, inclusive, responsive, and equitable care models for Malaysia and the broader region.

The three-day CareCon 2025, which commenced on Tuesday in Kuala Lumpur, is hosted by Malaysia's Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development. It is a flagship event under Malaysia's Asean chairmanship and seeks to position Malaysia as a regional hub for the care economy, fostering collaboration across government, private sectors and civil society.

Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia Danielle Heinecke, said, "Australia is proud to support this Care Economy Conference, which builds on our ongoing support to care economy reforms across Asean. Strengthening care economies is a shared challenge - and as such, opportunities for regional exchange and momentum-building are essential. Everyone - from government, business to civil society - has a role to play in expanding innovative and effective care solutions."

"As such, collaboration and investing in a sustainable care economy together are important to the broader economic prosperity in our region. Australia is also pleased to extend our congratulations to Malaysia for the launch of its Care Strategic Framework and Action Plan 2026-2030. We look forward to continuing supporting Malaysia in advancing the care economy in the region."

Govt plans to set up dedicated data centre

KUALA LUMPUR: The government plans to establish a dedicated data centre to store all national data to protect information sovereignty, said Deputy Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Liew Chin Tong.

He said the data centre will comply with existing standards under the Digital Ecosystem Acceleration Scheme under the Investment, Trade and Industry Ministry and the Malaysian Investment Development Authority.

"There have been no issues about sovereignty or government information being released by any data centre so far. Moving forward, we will have a dedicated facility or data centre for government data to ensure the security and sovereignty of national information," he said in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

He was responding to a supplementary question from Oscar Ling Chai Yew (PH-Sibu) on the reliability of data centres, national data sovereignty and the measures taken to prevent data leaks. - Bernama

Petronas, Pertamina sign pact on North Sumatra opportunities

PETALING JAYA: Petrolia Nasional Bhd (Petronas), through wholly owned subsidiary Vestigo Petroleum Sdn Bhd, has signed a key principles agreement (KPA) with PT Pertamina Hulu Energi for North Sumatra Offshore (NSO) development opportunities.

The partnership brings together two leading national and international energy players, combining complementary technical strengths, marginal field expertise and a shared commitment

to responsibly unlock new energy resources in support of Indonesia's sustainable growth.

Through the KPA, Vestigo and Pertamina formalised their mutual intentions and guiding principles for collaboration in identified areas of interest within the NSO production sharing contract. This agreement builds upon the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between both parties in March to explore potential partnership opportunities in the

upstream oil and gas sector.

In a statement yesterday, Petronas said these collaborations underscore their commitment to expanding its upstream portfolio through trusted partnerships built on shared ambitions and mutual strengths.

PT Pertamina Hulu Energi North Sumatra Offshore is a subsidiary of PT Pertamina Hulu Energi, responsible for managing the NSO Block under the PSC which is valid until 2038.

SD Guthrie nine-month net profit surges past RM2b

➤ Upstream and industrial gains boost earnings, aided by stronger CPO prices and land sales

PETALING JAYA: SD Guthrie Bhd delivered a net profit exceeding RM2 billion for the nine months ended Sept 30, 2025 (9M'25), a 44% increase from the previous corresponding period.

The group's year-to-date (YTD) performance was driven by sustained strong contributions from the upstream segment as its profit before interest and tax grew by 53% year-on-year (YoY), further complemented by promising contributions from the industrial development segment.

Net profit for the quarter (Q3'25) rose to RM935 million, a 22% YoY increase against the RM766 million recorded in Q3'24. Higher average realised crude palm oil (CPO) and palm kernel prices and productivity improvements in the group's upstream operations drove the improved results.

Meanwhile, encouraging performance from the group's upstream operations in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Malaysia contributed to the group's rise in fresh fruit bunch production.

SD Guthrie International, the group's downstream segment, recorded higher

margins in its Asia Pacific bulk operations and enjoyed an increased demand of products in the Oceania region resulting in a PBIT of RM154 million in Q3'25, an 18% YoY increase from RM130 million in Q3'24.

The industrial development business vertical demonstrated promising progress, recording gains in its share of profits from the sale of land to Eco Business Park 7 Sdn Bhd, Guthrie's tripartite joint venture with Eco World Development Group Bhd and NS Corporation to develop an integrated industrial park on 1,195 acres of land in Bukit Pelandok, Negeri Sembilan.

The gains further contributed to the segment's RM432 million PBIT in Q3'25.

Chairman Tan Sri Dr Nik Norzrul Thani Nik Hassan Thani said: "I am encouraged by Guthrie's resilience and adaptability in navigating the volatile and uncertain global operating environment. With its strong foundation, I am optimistic that Guthrie will sustain its momentum and deliver sustainable growth and long-term value to our stakeholders."

Group managing director Datuk Mohamad Helmy Othman Basha said as they continue to build stability across their emerging new business pillars, they remain focused on their core operations.

"Operational excellence across our integrated value chain will continue to be a key driver of sustainable performance for the group in the foreseeable future," he added.

In the coming weeks, CPO prices will be supported positively by expectations of tighter supply as the industry enters a seasonally low output cycle. Despite palm oil's narrowing price competitiveness against other vegetable oils, demand is expected to remain resilient, as Indonesia reaffirmed plans to launch its B50 biodiesel mandate. However, volatility in the vegetable oil market is likely to persist amid macroeconomic headwinds, policy and regulatory shifts, and global trade uncertainties.

Building on the positive momentum from its new business verticals, the group is actively progressing several promising collaborations. These initiatives are set to further strengthen the group's position in its adjacent industrial development and renewable energy business, with a clear focus of unlocking value from its strategic landbank assets.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the group is optimistic in delivering a strong performance in FY25.

Measat adviser receives lifetime achievement award

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's premier spacetechnology solutions provider Measat Global Bhd adviser Balakrishnan Doraisamy has received the 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award from Asia Pacific Space Community Council (APSCC) in Taipei, in conjunction with the 26th Annual APSCC Space Conference and Exhibition.

APSCC, a non-profit international association representing all sectors of the satellite and space-related industries, including private and public companies, government ministries and agencies, and academic and research entities, holds the APSCC Awards yearly.

The event recognises visionaries and trailblazers in the satellite and space industry across Asia Pacific, celebrating individuals and organisations for their leadership, technological breakthroughs and strategic initiatives that drive the industry forward.

In particular, the Lifetime Achievement Award honours a veteran whose contributions across their career have had a profound and enduring influence on the satellite and space industry in the Asia Pacific.

Currently serving as adviser at Measat since 2024, Balakrishnan is continuing his legacy in shaping the space and satellite industry by guiding strategic direction, investor engagement and business growth initiatives focusing on innovating satellite verticals.

At Yhsat, where Balakrishnan was group chief financial officer and adviser to the CEO, he was instrumental in its transformation into a globally recognised satellite provider. His financial leadership and strategic approach paved the way for the creation of Space42, formed through the merger between Yhsat and geospatial analytics firm Bayanat.

"It is a great honour to receive this recognition from APSCC. For more than three decades, I have dedicated the best of my abilities to advancing the space and satellite sector – growing with Measat in Malaysia and Yhsat in the UAE, as well as other companies globally, in line with my personal conviction of this industry's potential. I sincerely believe there is a place for regional satellite operators amidst the challenges from global operators and large LEO constellations, thus we should stay the course to ensure that we continue to contribute positively towards the new space economy," Balakrishnan commented.

Homegrown IC designer Silicon X powers up Malaysia's first FPGA chip

GEORGE TOWN: Silicon X Sdn Bhd, a homegrown integrated circuit (IC) design company, has achieved a major milestone in Malaysia's semiconductor industry with the successful power-on of its proprietary Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) chip, marking a significant step forward in the nation's high-tech ambitions.

Its managing director Ng Meng Wah said the power-on marks the beginning of the chip's ready-testing phase as the company moves towards mass production, targeted for the first half of 2026.

"This is a major milestone for us. Our chip is now being tested and perfected before mass production.

"We are also currently in advanced discussions with several potential customers from Japan, China, and Malaysia, and will make the necessary announcements once agreements are finalised," he told a press conference yesterday.

Ng said the typical life cycle of an FPGA chip is about eight years, and Silicon X plans to continue developing subsequent chip generations to sustain growth.

The first chip is expected to generate between RM200 million and RM300 million in revenue over the next eight years, with applications for Silicon X's FPGA chip including automotive systems and LED billboard displays, and other sectors. – Bernama



From left: MRCA retail pillar head Patrick Sim, Phua, Ooi, MRCA council member Christine Tan and Xilnex Holdings Sdn Bhd business development director Tan Wei Kit at the MRCA and Xilnex workshop.

Xilnex, MRCA push AI to enhance retail resilience

PETALING JAYA: As Malaysia's retail sector grapples with escalating operating costs, the Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA) and Xilnex Holdings Sdn Bhd are urging retailers to accelerate adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) and data analytics to enhance efficiency and improve profitability.

At a joint workshop organised by MRCA and retail software company Xilnex Holdings Sdn Bhd, MRCA members were introduced to the real-world benefits of using Data Scientist as a Service (DSaaS), which help retail businesses leverage AI and predictive analytics without needing in-house data teams.

The event highlighted the growing urgency for data-driven decision-making in the retail sector and demonstrated how even small to mid-sized retailers can leverage data-driven tools.

According to MRCA, the increase in the Sales and Service Tax (SST), which now applies to commercial property rentals – has further intensified financial strain on retail chains.

With landlords passing down the additional tax burden to tenants, retailers are experiencing higher fixed costs alongside

rising electricity tariffs, a higher minimum wage, and new requirements for mandatory Employee Provident Fund (EPF) contributions for foreign workers. The combination of these factors is reshaping Malaysia's retail landscape and forcing business owners to rethink how they manage costs.

MRCA president Datuk Dr Ken Phua said, "The expanded SST and manpower expenses have pushed many retailers to their limits. We have consistently called for a gradual rollout of SST to avoid destabilising the sector. However, retailers must now look inward and leverage technology to become more efficient. Technology and data analytics are no longer optional – they are essential for survival and growth. MRCA fully supports our members to adopt innovative solutions so they can maintain competitiveness in this more challenging cost environment."

Echoing this, Xilnex Holdings Sdn Bhd CEO Ooi Boon Sheng remarked, "While costs are increasing, data is the one asset that can consistently deliver returns—if used well. Data and AI can help optimise every part of the

business – allowing decision-makers to move from reactive to predictive operations. Additionally, with DSaaS, retailers can access expert analytics and ready-to-use retail data models to forecast sales, optimise inventory, and improve margins. We want to help Malaysian retailers make smarter decisions backed by real-time insights."

He added that Xilnex's DSaaS, part of the Xilnex Insights platform, provides hundreds of prebuilt retail analytics models that allow businesses to turn raw data into actionable strategies – from workforce scheduling to promotional planning – without long development cycles or steep investment costs.

"In today's challenging retail landscape, it's crucial for retail businesses—large or small—to adopt data-backed operations," Ooi emphasised. "Our goal with MRCA is to make AI and predictive analytics accessible to everyone, not just big brands."

The workshop is part of Xilnex's ongoing collaboration with MRCA to raise digital literacy and empower Malaysian retailers through practical, scalable technology adoption.

HONG KONG: Tech companies led a sell-off across Asia yesterday as investors grow increasingly worried about an AI bubble following a rally this year that has seen valuations hit record highs.

Global markets have soared this year as an eye-watering flood of cash piled into companies linked to artificial intelligence, including US titans Nvidia, Amazon and Apple as well as Asian firms Samsung and Alibaba.

But despite strong earnings releases in recent quarters, traders have started questioning the wisdom of chasing ever-higher prices, with cash mostly funnelled into a handful of big-name companies.

The gains have also been helped by an easing of US trade tensions and expectations that the Federal Reserve will continue to cut interest rates into the new year.

However, last week's warning from the US central bank that another reduction in December was not a foregone conclusion jolted sentiment.

After an uncertain start to the week Monday, Wall Street tumbled on Tuesday, with the tech-rich Nasdaq down more than 2% and the S&P 500 off more than 1%.

US software firm Palantir slumped 8% despite reporting a 63% surge in revenue and profit.

Traders were also spooked by a slump in New York-listed Super Micro Computer in after-hours business and disappointing forecasts from Advanced Micro Devices.

Asia took up the baton in the morning, with Seoul and Tokyo the hardest hit, having just hit record highs.

However many markets recovered as the day wore on and pared many of the losses.

Asian markets sink as tech bubble fears grow

➤ Uncertainty also felt in crypto universe, where bitcoin briefly fell below US\$100,000

Seoul tanked 6% at one point - with chip giants Samsung and SK hynix taking a beating - but ended the day down 2.9%.

"I view today's decline as a correction to cool off an overheated market - a phase of adjustment," Chung Hae-chang, analyst at Daishin Securities, told AFP.

"The recent rally was extremely steep, so this is the counterbalance."

He also warned Seoul's Kospi index could decline 5% further and that "SK hynix and Samsung may also see corrections proportional to their earlier gains."

Tokyo finished 2.5% off, having dived more than 4%. Tech investment giant SoftBank still lost 10% and Sony more than 1%.

Nintendo, however, finished up more than 6% a day after the gaming firm hiked forecasts for its Switch 2 console and annual profits.

Taipei was off more than 1% as market heavyweight and chip-maker TSMC gave up 3%.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney, Manila, Bangkok and Jakarta also fell but Shanghai and Wellington edged up.

London, Paris and Frankfurt opened lower. "In the lead-up to the session, traders had been rotating out of the lower-quality end of the market and into the higher-quality plays, and this dynamic resulted in poor breadth within the US equity indices," said Chris Weston at Pepperstone.

He added that dynamic had changed and traders were "cutting back on their winners and locking in performance, with the Magnificent Seven (leading tech stocks) basket and AI plays driving equity risk lower."

And Mike Gitlin, president and chief executive officer of Capital Group, said that while earnings are strong "what's challenging are valuations", according to Bloomberg.

His comments came at a financial summit organised by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority on Tuesday, where other business leaders including Morgan Stanley chief executive Ted Pick and Goldman Sachs' David Solomon warned of a big correction.

Saxo Markets' Charu Chanana said two questions were echoing across portfolios.

"Those who've ridden the rally from early 2023 are sitting on substantial gains and wondering if it's time to lock in profits (and) those still on the sidelines are feeling the pull of fear of missing out, questioning if they've missed the best entry point."

"Both are fair concerns. The AI boom has pushed the 'Magnificent' names to new highs, but under the surface, their stories have begun to diverge between companies monetising AI today and those still investing for tomorrow."

The uncertainty across markets was also felt in the crypto universe, where bitcoin briefly fell below US\$100,000 for the first time since June, a month after topping out at a record high above US\$126,000. - AFP

Toyota raises profit outlook, bets it can ride out tariffs



A Toyota bZ5 is seen at the 8th China International Import Expo in Shanghai yesterday. - AFP/PIIC

TOKYO: Toyota raised its full-year profit forecast yesterday, as the Japanese automaker bet solid performance outside the United States would help it ride out the impact of US President Donald Trump's import tariffs.

The world's top-selling carmaker now expects operating profit of ¥3.4 trillion (RM95 billion) for the financial year to end-March, up 6% from the ¥3.2 trillion it previously forecast.

US tariffs have dealt a body blow to an industry already smarting from fierce competition from China's EV makers and a once-in-a-century upheaval brought by the advance of new driving technology.

Toyota estimated the tariffs would cost it ¥1.45 trillion in the current financial year.

"North America is facing a very tough

situation due to the impact of tariffs," chief financial officer Kenta Kon told a results briefing.

While conditions "were not easy" in other markets such as China, Europe, Asia and Africa, both profitability and sales volume remained "solid", he said.

For the quarter, operating profit tumbled 27% to ¥839.6 billion, falling short of the ¥863.1 billion average in a survey of eight analysts by LSEG. That marked its second straight decline in quarterly profits.

In a sign of the strain from tariffs, Toyota's North American business swung to a loss of ¥134 billion for the first half of the year, even as demand for its vehicles in the region remained strong, leading to tight inventories.

Kon's deputy Takanori Azuma told the briefing that markets such as India were

increasingly becoming important to profits and helping offset the battering in the United States.

A decade ago, Toyota's profit structure was heavily dependent on North America, with nearly half of profits coming from there, Azuma said.

"If tariffs had become an issue under those circumstances, the impact would have been much greater," he said.

Toyota said last week its worldwide production increased by more than 10% in September and rose for a fourth straight month, as both sales and output increased in the U.S., its top market.

Toyota shares stayed deep in negative territory yesterday, closing down 3.65% versus a loss of 2.5% in the Nikkei index. - Reuters

Indonesia's economic growth slows in Q3

JAKARTA: Indonesia's economic growth decelerated slightly in the third quarter, official data showed yesterday, highlighting a challenge for the government to boost growth to 8% by 2029.

Growth slowed to 5.04% in the third quarter from 5.12% in the second quarter.

That means the fourth quarter will be key if the country is to meet its full-year target of 5.2% and carry that momentum into 2026, which has a goal of 5.4% growth.

President Prabowo Subianto has pledged to lift growth to 8% by 2029.

A Reuters poll had expected the economy to expand 5% in the third quarter, which included deadly anti-government protests across the country.

In early September, economist Purbaya Yudhi Sadewa was brought in to replace Sri Mulyani Indrawati, a conservative, as finance minister.

Growth in household spending, which makes up more than half of Indonesia's gross domestic product, cooled slightly to 4.89% in the third quarter from 4.97% in the previous quarter, according to Moh. Edy Mahmud, a senior official with Statistics Indonesia.

While manufacturing, agriculture and trade contributed to third-quarter growth, mining - a key sector in resource-rich Indonesia - contracted, Edy said, which was attributable to a slump in global demand for coal and a drop in copper production in the Papua region.

He did not mention the Grasberg gold and copper mine run by Freeport Indonesia, but a mudflow disaster, which killed seven people, hit the mine, one of the world's largest, in September. Operations have been halted since.

Investment grew 5.04% from a year earlier in the third quarter, decelerating from a four-year high of 6.99% in the previous quarter, supported by investment in machinery, Edy said.

Government spending was up 5.49% after logging a narrow contraction in the previous quarter. Meanwhile, exports were up 9.91% thanks to shipments of vegetable oil, steel and automotive products.

On a non-seasonally adjusted, quarter-on-quarter basis, gross domestic product growth eased to 1.43% in the third quarter, Statistics Indonesia said. - Reuters

Canada unveils 'historic' budget to jumpstart economy

➤ Funds to be allocated to national projects that are key to economic sovereignty

OTTAWA: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's government on Tuesday unveiled a "historic" budget aimed at overhauling an economy that is reeling from US tariffs and expected to slow in 2025 and 2026.

Economists surveyed by the government have lowered their projections.

They are now forecasting growth of 1.1% this year (down from 1.9% a year ago) and 1.2% in 2026 (down from 2.1% a year earlier).

"This is not a simple transition. It is a rupture, a change of historic significance taking place over a short period. This new reality is transforming our economic foundations," the government said as it released the budget.

Under the proposed 2025-26 spending plan, Canada's deficit would nearly double from last year, reaching C\$78.3 billion (US\$55.5 billion) – as part of Carney's efforts to reform Canada's economy, officials said.

"We are facing headwinds," Finance Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne said at a press conference as he defended the move to widen the deficit.

"There is a big difference between spending and investment.

"What you see today is an investment budget."

Under the plan, Ottawa plans to save C\$60 billion over five years in its public service, and reinvest the money freed up in infrastructure, defence and housing to help Canada navigate the global economic upheaval caused by the US tariffs.

Carney is focusing his government's first budget on investing in major infrastructure projects and boosting military spending to inject new life into a national economy shaken by the protectionist shift of the United States under President Donald Trump.

In Canada, Trump's tariffs have hit hard, driving up unemployment and squeezing businesses in crucial targeted sectors like autos, aluminum, and steel.

Carney's Liberal government says the budget will address the stark new geopolitical realities facing Canada.

Budget highlights include major increases in defence spending to bring Canada in line with Nato targets.

Funds will also be allocated to a series of national projects that Carney has said are key to Canada's economic sovereignty, given the "rupture" in economic relations with the US.

These range from port expansion to energy production and the infrastructure needed to boost extraction of critical minerals from remote areas.

Carney, who replaced Justin Trudeau as prime minister in January before being elected to a full term in April, has consistently warned

Canadians that the Trump-era disruptions in US-Canada relations are not a passing phase.

He said this weekend that the budget would help "reduce our reliance on the United States," but noted that such a transformational shift "can't happen overnight."

Carney's April election win left his Liberals three seats short of a majority in Parliament.

That means the government needs opposition support – or abstentions – to pass its budget.

Because the budget is a confidence vote, its defeat would trigger fresh elections.

The Conservatives, the largest opposition party in Parliament, may be the least likely to help.

Party leader Pierre Poilievre has made a range of demands in exchange for his support, including deficit reduction.

But University of Ottawa public policy expert Genevieve Tellier told AFP she expects the deficit to be "very large."

The left-wing New Democrats, who no longer have official party status in Parliament after a dismal election performance in April, may prove reluctant to trigger another vote and could abstain on Carney's budget.

Tellier said she saw "little chance" of the government falling.

Asked over the weekend if he was confident his budget would pass, Carney said: "I am 100% confident that this budget is the right budget for this country, at this moment."

"This is not a game," he added, voicing readiness to defend his proposals in an election if necessary. – AFP



Carney applauds as Champagne concludes his speech after tabling the federal budget in the House of Commons. – REUTERS/PIC

Novo Nordisk lowers 2025 outlook after tepid results

COPENHAGEN: Wegovy-maker Novo Nordisk lowered its full-year profit and sales forecast yesterday in an early blow to the Danish drugmaker's new CEO while it strives to claw back lost ground in a fierce obesity drug market battle.

The Danish drugmaker is going through a tumultuous period marked by a sharp share price plunge and slowing sales growth, which have prompted a change of CEO and a board shake-up.

Fuelled by rapid sales growth of its blockbuster obesity drug Wegovy, Novo became Europe's most valuable firm last year, but sales growth has slowed this year.

It now expects full-year operating profit – measured in local currencies – to grow between 4% and 7% in 2025, compared with its earlier forecast of between 4% and 10%, Novo Nordisk said in a statement yesterday.

CEO Mike Doustdar, who took the helm in August, said the lower guidance was due to "the lower growth expectations for our GLP-1 treatments", referring to the company's best-selling weight management and diabetes medications.

"We aim to accelerate on all fronts to be able to compete better in dynamic and increasingly competitive markets," Doustdar said.

Doustdar, who presents his first quarterly results as CEO, is facing intense scrutiny from investors who have seen Novo's stock slide 50% this year under pressure from competition from US rival Eli Lilly and compounded copycat drugs custom-made from the same ingredients as branded drugs.

The company warned yesterday that "unsafe and unlawful mass compounding has continued" in the third quarter.

The company expects sales growth in local currencies of between 8% and 11% this year, compared with its previous 8%-14% range, it said.

Third-quarter sales of Wegovy rose by 18% to 20.4 billion crowns globally from a year ago, compared with the 20.9 billion that analysts expected.

Its total sales in the quarter rose 5% to 75.0 billion Danish crowns (RM49 billion), compared with 76.2 billion forecast by analysts in a company-compiled poll.

Sales grew 11% measured in local currencies, which eliminates exchange rate fluctuations, compared with 11.4% growth expected by analysts in a company-compiled consensus.

Operating profit fell 30% to 23.7 billion crowns in the quarter, below the 24.6 billion crowns expected by analysts. – Reuters

New lawsuit alleges Spotify allows streaming fraud

LOS ANGELES: A new lawsuit alleges streaming giant Spotify turns a blind eye to vast networks of bots that inflate streaming figures to benefit megastars such as Drake at the expense of lesser-known artists.

The legal action, filed in a US federal court on Sunday, claims the Canadian rapper gets millions of dollars in revenue from such fake streams, while Spotify garners significant commercial value from appearing to have more users than it really does.

"This mass-scale fraudulent streaming causes massive financial harm to legitimate artists, songwriters, producers and other rightsholders," says the lawsuit, filed by rapper RBX – Snoop Dogg's cousin.

Spotify uses a pro-rata model to pay artists from a central pot of income derived from subscriptions and advertising.

Inflated streaming figures for high-profile performers would therefore diminish the proportion of money available for other artists.

"Data analysis shows that billions of fraudulent streams have been generated with respect to songs of 'the most streamed artist of all time' ... professionally known as Drake," the suit says.

"But while the streaming fraud with respect to Drake's songs may be one example, it does not stand alone."

The class action suit – in which Drake is not named as a defendant and which does not allege any wrongdoing on the part of the *One Dance* hitmaker – is "brought on behalf of Plaintiff and a similarly situated class of music recording artists, songwriters, performers, and other music rights holders."

"Plaintiff gives a voice to more than one hundred thousand rightsholders who, among other things, may be unable or too afraid to challenge Spotify, a powerful force in the music business whose failure to act has caused significant problems and great financial harm."

Spotify is the only defendant named in the suit, which focuses on the company's alleged unwillingness to clamp down on fraud.

"To satisfy constant pressure from shareholders to grow the business and increase stock prices, Spotify needs an ever-expanding population of users to engage on its platform," the suit says.

"The more users (including fake users) Spotify has, the more advertisements it can sell, the more profits the company can report, all of which serves to increase the purported value delivered to shareholders."

The suspicion of streaming fraud has beset services like Spotify since they displaced downloads as the main way music is consumed.

A company spokesperson told AFP that they were unable to comment on pending litigation, but denied Spotify benefited from such fraud.

"We heavily invest in always-improving, best-in-class systems to combat it and safeguard artist payouts with strong protections like removing fake streams, withholding royalties, and charging penalties," the spokesperson said.

The lawsuit is not the first legal action on streaming fraud.

Last year Drake accused record label Universal Music of conspiring to inflate streaming figures for a diss track by rival Kendrick Lamar.

That case – part of a high-profile beef between the two men – was dismissed in October.

Drake is appealing the decision. – AFP



Amazon **sues** Perplexity over AI shopping tool

► Tech giant accuses startup of covertly accessing private customer accounts

SAN FRANCISCO: Amazon sued Perplexity AI on Tuesday over the startup's "agentic" shopping feature, which uses automation to place orders for users, saying it covertly accessed Amazon customer accounts and disguised automated activity as human browsing.

The clash highlights an emerging debate over regulation of the growing use of AI agents and their interaction with websites, aiming to make them more autonomous and capable of handling everyday online tasks.

Perplexity, which has grown rapidly amid the boom in AI assistants, has previously rejected the US shopping giant's claims, saying it was using its market dominance to stifle competition.

The startup did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment on Amazon's lawsuit filed in the US district court for the northern district of California.

In the suit, Amazon accused Perplexity of

covertly accessing private Amazon customer accounts through its Comet browser and associated AI agent, and of disguising automated activity as human browsing.

Perplexity's system posed security risks to customer data, Amazon added, and the startup had ignored repeated requests to stop.

"Rather than be transparent, Perplexity has purposely configured its Comet AI software to not identify the Comet AI agent's activities in the Amazon Store," it said.

"Perplexity's misconduct must end," Amazon added.

"Perplexity is not allowed to go where it has been expressly told it cannot; that Perplexity's trespass involves code rather than a lockpick makes it no less unlawful."

Perplexity earlier said it had received a legal threat from Amazon demanding that it block the Comet AI agent from shopping on the platform, calling the move a broader threat to user choice and the future of AI assistants.

"Bullying is when large corporations use legal threats and intimidation to block innovation and make life worse for people," the company wrote in a blog post.

In the complaint, Amazon accused Perplexity's Comet AI agent of degrading customers' shopping experience and interfering with its ability to ensure customers who use the

agent benefit from the tailored shopping experience Amazon curated over decades.

Third-party apps making purchases for users should operate openly and respect businesses' decisions on whether to participate, Amazon said in an earlier statement.

Perplexity is among many AI startups seeking to reinvent the web browser around artificial intelligence, aiming to make it more autonomous and capable of handling everyday online activities, from drafting emails to completing purchases.

Amazon is also developing similar tools, such as "Buy For Me," which lets users shop across brands within its app, and "Rufus," an AI assistant to recommend items and manage carts.

The AI agent on Perplexity's Comet browser acts as an assistant that can make purchases and comparisons for users.

The company said user credentials remain stored locally and never on its servers.

"Easier shopping means more transactions and happier customers," it added.

"But Amazon doesn't care, they're more interested in serving you ads."

The startup said users had the right to choose their own AI assistants, portraying Amazon's move as a bid to protect its ad-driven business model. - Reuters

Concerns at ILO over expected appointment of close Trump adviser

GENEVA: The expected appointment of a close Donald Trump adviser to a top post at the International Labour Organisation has sparked criticism internally, with Washington owing the UN agency tens of millions in dues.

Several well-informed sources told AFP that Nels Nordquist, a former top economic adviser to the US president, would soon be named the ILO's deputy director-general - a position usually held by a US national.

The organisation itself declined to comment.

But the expected appointment has caused unease in Geneva, after his wife Jennifer Nordquist - also a former Trump adviser - took up the role of deputy head of the World Trade Organization (WTO) last month, which is also headquartered in the Swiss city.

"We have many questions about the situation," Severine Deboos, head of the ILO staff union, told AFP.

"We are in a very particular situation with a Trump administration that has very firm positions on aspects at the heart of the ILO's mandate," she said, pointing among others to "the right to strike and the rights of migrant workers".

It was all the more perplexing, she said, that this was happening after the United States - traditionally the agency's biggest donor - halted its voluntary contributions, forcing the suspension of several ILO programmes.

"We are still dealing with the consequences."

Deboos also pointed to the Trump administration's "rather virulent positions" against the ILO in a memo published in August.

The document initially described the ILO as an organisation that "works to unionise foreign workers and punish US corporate interests abroad", although those words and a decision to cancel US\$107 million in funding to the agency later mysteriously vanished from the text.

The American Enterprise Institute, a conservative think-tank, has meanwhile listed the ILO among organisations that "do not support major US policies or priorities".

A source at the ILO, speaking on condition of anonymity because she was not authorised to comment publicly on the situation, confirmed to AFP that there was "real concern internally".

The appointment of someone "from the MAGA administration (was) very contested", she said, referring to Trump's Make America Great Again movement.

"There is a fear that there will be very direct consequences" on departments, she said.

The concern also stems from the fact that the ILO, unlike most other UN agencies, only has one deputy director-general.

"We are looking for a balanced situation at ILO, in particular in key positions," a Geneva-based diplomatic source, who did not wish to be named, told AFP.

A number of other sources also said discussions were under way with the organisation about the expected appointment.

"For a scenario of a single, powerful DDG we seek assurances that the normative role of the ILO, (for instance on) labour standards, is strengthened, not weakened, the diplomatic source said.

The ILO plays an important role in setting rules and regulations.

For example, it is working on regulating digital labour platforms with a view to adopting international standards next year, guaranteeing decent working conditions.

"Internally, we have been told there is no need for concern that the person comes with strong support from the Trump administration since they must, once in office, remain loyal to the organisation," an ILO official told AFP.

Concerns have also been raised about the United States lagging behind on its 2024 and 2025 ILO membership dues, with over US\$173 million unpaid. - AFP

US govt shutdown becomes longest in history

WASHINGTON: The US government shutdown became the longest ever yesterday, topping the 35-day record set during Donald Trump's first term, as his administration warned of holiday air travel chaos and threatened Americans' benefits in a bid to force a resolution.

Federal agencies have been grinding to a halt since Congress failed to approve funding past Sept 30, and the pain has been mounting as welfare programmes - including aid that helps millions of Americans afford groceries - hang in limbo.

There were in recent days the first fragile signs of progress in Congress in the search for an off-ramp, although - for now - 1.4 million federal workers, from air traffic controllers to park wardens, remain on enforced leave or working without pay.

Hours before the shutdown record toppled at midnight, the Trump administration sounded the alarm over turmoil at airports nationwide if the crisis drags beyond a sixth week, with worsening staff shortages snarling airports and closing down sections of airspace.

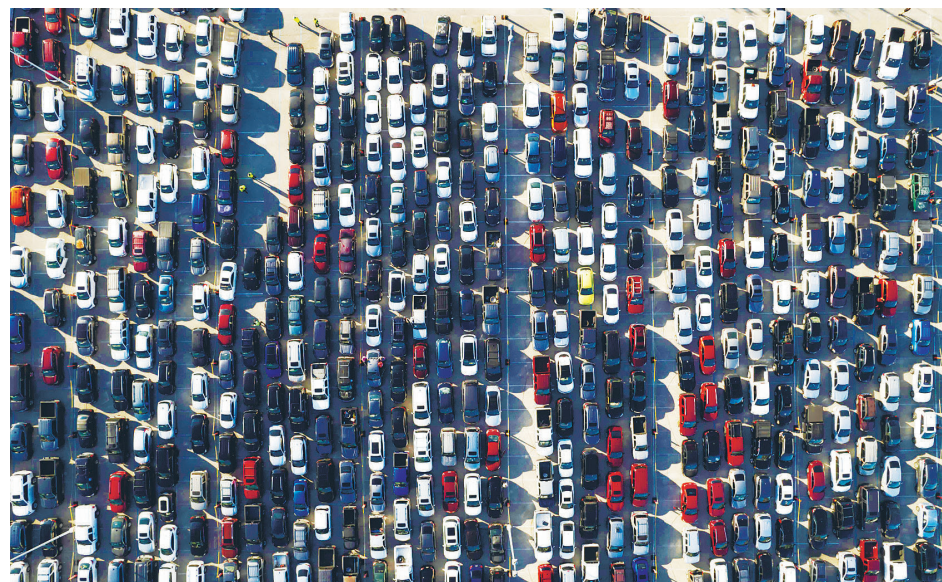
"So if you bring us to a week from today, Democrats, you will see mass chaos ... you will see mass flight delays," Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy told a news conference in Philadelphia.

"You'll see mass cancellations, and you may see us close certain parts of the airspace, because we just cannot manage it because we don't have the air traffic controllers."

More than 60,000 air traffic controllers and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers are working without pay, and the White House has warned that increased absenteeism could mean chaos at check-in lines.

Airport workers calling in sick rather than working without pay - leading to significant delays - was a major factor in Trump bringing an end to the 2019 shutdown.

Both Democrats and Republicans remain unwavering however over the main sticking point in the current stoppage - healthcare spending.



Americans line up in their cars for a special free food distribution by the Houston Food Bank at the NRG Stadium in Texas. Approximately one in eight Americans receive food stamp benefits from the US government, a programme at risk of not being funded due to the government shutdown. - AFP/IC

Democrats say they will only provide votes to end the funding lapse after a deal has been struck to extend expiring insurance subsidies that make healthcare affordable for millions of Americans.

But Republicans insist they will only address healthcare once Democrats have voted to switch the lights back on in Washington.

While both sides' leadership have shown little appetite for compromise, there have been signs of life on the back benches, with a handful of moderate Democrats working to find an escape hatch.

A separate bipartisan group of four centrist House members unveiled a compromise framework on Monday for lowering health insurance costs.

Democrats believe that millions of Americans seeing skyrocketing premiums as they enroll into health insurance programmes for next year will pressure

Republicans into seeking compromise.

But Trump has held firm on refusing to negotiate, telling CBS News in an interview broadcast on Sunday that he would "not be extorted".

The president has sought to apply his own pressure to force Democrats to cave by threatening mass layoffs of federal workers and using the shutdown to target progressive priorities.

Trump on Tuesday repeated his administration's threat to cut off a vital aid program that helps 42 million Americans pay for groceries for the first time in its more than 60-year history, even though the move was blocked by two courts.

The White House later clarified, however, that it was "fully complying" with its legal obligations and was working to get partial SNAP payments "out the door as much as we can and as quickly as we can". - AFP

MARKET ROUND-UP: NOV 5

5-Nov-2025

Bursa Malaysia

Trade Statistics

Net (in RM million):

Participation

Retail **-64.12** **18.24%**Institutions **-74.28** **39.41%**Foreign **+138.40** **42.35%**

Source: Bursa Malaysia, Berjaya Research
Preliminary statistics (excluding trade amendments). For final data, please refer to
www.bursamalaysia.com.

Inter-Pacific Securities Sdn. Bhd. is now rebranded as Berjaya Securities Sdn. Bhd.



Berjaya Securities (formerly known as Inter-Pacific Securities Sdn Bhd)

- Quick updates on market news, statistics & information
- Monthly Traders' Talk for directions & positioning
- Company coverage & trading insights
- One-to-One trading coaching (available upon request)



QR Code to register for 1-to-1 Coaching



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	12,048.90	-5.24
FBMKLCI	1,621.55	-1.95
CONSUMER PRODUCTS	533.54	-1.21
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	168.84	-1.07
CONSTRUCTION	309.47	+0.13
FINANCIAL SERVICES	18,423.70	-27.63
ENERGY	761.83	-4.92
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	492.43	+0.01
HEALTH CARE	1,614.64	-10.22
TRANSPORTATION	1,018.38	+9.23
PROPERTY	1,023.02	+2.40
PLANTATION	8,051.34	+26.54
FBMSHA	12,049.60	-5.82
FBMACE	5,076.95	+0.86
TECHNOLOGY	61.27	+0.04

TURNOVER: 4.768 bil **VALUE: RM2.695 bil**

Bursa ends slightly lower, tracking regional markets

BURSA Malaysia pared earlier losses to close marginally lower yesterday, mirroring most regional markets, as continued selling in selected heavyweights further dampened market sentiment.

At 5pm, the FBM KLCI fell 1.95 points, or 0.12%, to 1,621.55 from Tuesday's close of 1,623.50.

The benchmark index opened 1.26 points lower at 1,622.24, moved between 1,614.30 and 1,623.16 throughout the trading session.

The broader market was negative with 752 losers thumping 427 gainers, while 576 counters were unchanged, 887 untraded, and eight suspended.

IPPPA Sdn Bhd director of investment strategy and country economist Mohd Sedek Jantan said the slide in the FBM KLCI was led by declines in selected consumer counters, but the weakness was not broad-based, as several other consumer-related counters within the index continued to show resilience.

"As we move toward 2026, corporate earnings profiles, domestic consumption dynamics, and sectoral outlooks remain broadly constructive. Near-term volatility is more likely a recalibration of positioning rather than a shift in the medium-term trajectory of the local market," he told Bernama.

Among the heavyweights, Maybank edged down three sen to RM9.92, CIMB Group slid five sen to RM7.50, Tenaga Nasional dipped 10 sen to RM13.20, while Public Bank gained eight sen to RM4.34, and IHH Healthcare was flat at RM8.28.

On the most active list, NexG Bina (formerly Classita) slipped half-a-sen to four sen, MMAG fell 3.5 sen to 10.5 sen, while NexG gained two sen to 30 sen and Tanco perked up 3.5 sen to 88.5 sen. Borneo Oil was flat at half-a-sen.

Top 20 Actives

STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('000)
NEXGBINA	0.040	-0.005	-11.11	3,065,396
HSI-PWLQ	0.095	-0.005	-5.00	2,886,210
HSI-PWLH	0.175	-0.010	-5.41	2,776,118
MMAG	0.105	-0.035	-25.00	2,618,360
HSI-CWKJ	0.145	-0.005	-3.33	2,596,873
HSI-CWKT	0.070	-	-	1,462,742
NEXG	0.300	+0.020	+7.14	903,288
TANCO	0.885	+0.035	+4.12	762,960
BORNOIL	0.005	-	-	739,148
PTRANS	0.295	-0.015	-4.84	690,978
HSI-CWKL	0.060	-	-	574,132
HSI-CWIQ	0.355	-0.015	-4.05	547,225
HSI-CWKO	0.410	-	-	480,832
ALIBABA-C49	0.150	-0.005	-3.23	462,783
ZETRIX	0.820	-	-	422,330
OCR	0.035	-0.005	-12.50	422,306
DNEX	0.315	-0.005	-1.56	369,561
HSI-PWLC	0.275	-0.010	-3.51	367,264
TWL	0.025	-	-	367,057
PHARMA	0.230	-0.010	-4.17	315,920



Top 20 Gainers (By RM)

STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	VOLUME ('000)
NESTLE	116.000	+3.000	1,528
UTDPLT	25.460	+0.460	2,496
HSI-PWNE	0.400	+0.250	801
VSTECs	4.050	+0.250	6,088
WPRTS	5.350	+0.250	119,182
TIMECOM	5.050	+0.210	11,709
PETDAG	22.800	+0.200	2,887
CHINTEK	10.600	+0.180	98
PPB	11.620	+0.120	4,829
PRKCORP	0.835	+0.085	2,725
ASIAFLE	1.450	+0.080	1,024
HLIND	14.200	+0.080	1,388
KLK	21.080	+0.080	2,643
PBBANK	4.340	+0.080	142,385
BPURI-WB	0.195	+0.070	51
DUFU	2.060	+0.060	109,181
IJM	2.460	+0.060	138,885
MANULFE	2.180	+0.060	25
NIKKEI-HT	0.525	+0.060	3,631
PETGAS	18.700	+0.060	3,438

Top 20 Gainers (By %)

STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('000)
HSI-PWNE	0.400	+166.67	801
BCMALL	0.010	+100.00	101,283
ITRONIC-WA	0.010	+100.00	5,250
TRIVE-WD	0.010	+100.00	2,135
VS-WC	0.010	+100.00	7,200
WPRTS-C36	0.010	+100.00	1,000
EVD-PA	0.025	+66.67	1
TEOSEN-CE	0.065	+62.50	2,878
BPURI-WB	0.195	+56.00	51
ALIBABA-H1F	0.030	+50.00	10,050
CWG-WA	0.030	+50.00	1,600
IJM-C1J	0.030	+50.00	9,880
MESTRON-WA	0.015	+50.00	16,206
SG	0.015	+50.00	8,119
EDEN-WC	0.035	+40.00	5,500
BPPLAS-WA	0.020	+33.33	360
HIBISCS-C81	0.020	+33.33	20,000
HSI-PWJZ	0.020	+33.33	7,749
SUPERMX-C5D	0.020	+33.33	700
TAWIN	0.020	+33.33	56,836

World Stocks/Commodities

INDEX	CLOSING	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY CHANGE (%)
DJIA [US]	47,085.24	-251.44	-0.53
S&P 500 [US]	6,771.55	-80.42	-1.17
NASDAQ [US]	23,348.64	-486.08	-2.04
NYSE [US]	21,282.71	-133.88	-0.63
EURO STOXX 50 [EUR]	5,644.39	-15.81	-0.28
FTSE 100 [UK]	9,722.61	7.65	0.08
DAX [GER]	23,864.51	-84.6	-0.35
NIKKEI 225 [JPN]	50,212.27	-1284.93	-2.5
TOPIX INDEX [JPN]	3,268.29	-41.85	-1.26
HANG SENG INDEX [HK]	25,935.41	-16.99	-0.07
CSI 300 [CHN]	4,627.26	8.56	0.19
MSCI ASIA PACIFIC	227.47	-2.23	-0.97
SHANGHAI SE COM [CHN]	3,969.25	9.06	0.23
KOSPI INDEX [SK]	4,004.42	-117.32	-2.85
SENSEX INDEX [IND]	83,459.15	-519.34	-0.62
ASX 200 [AUS]	8,801.95	-11.75	-0.13
ALL ORDINARIES INDX [AUS]	9,071.20	-26.99	-0.3
FBM KLCI	1,621.55	-4.96	-0.31
STRAITS TIMES INDEX [S'PORE]	4,414.03	-8.69	-0.2
WTI [US\$/BBL.]	60.58	0.02	0.03
BRENT [US\$/BBL.]	64.47	0.03	0.06
GOLD [COMEX] [US\$/T OZ]	3,992.40	31.9	0.81
SILVER [COMEX] [US\$/T OZ]	47.72	0.42	0.93
PLATINUM [US\$/T OZ]	1,547.22	7.05	0.48
COPPER [COMEX] [US CENTS/LB.]	496.35	1.5	0.29
COPPER 3MO [LME] [US\$/MT]	10,663.50	-191.5	-1.76
CORN [US CENTS/BU.]	431.5	0	0
WHEAT [US CENTS/BU.]	549.25	-1	-0.18
SOYBEAN OIL [CBOT] [US CENTS/LB.]	49.75	0.22	0.44
COCOA [ICE] [US\$/MT]	6,600.00	41	0.63
RUBBER [S'PORE] [US CENTS/KG]	167.7	-0.1	-0.06

As at 6pm, Nov 5.

Top 20 Losers (By RM)

STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (RM)	VOLUME ('000)
PJBUMI	1.250	-0.520	26,554
F&N	27.800	-0.380	235
SP500-C58	0.600	-0.300	45
HLBANK	20.960	-0.280	5,467
HSI-CWKI	0.190	-0.135	3,000
NIKKEI-CT	0.820	-0.135	6,739
SUNCON	5.670	-0.130	25,945
CATL-C1	0.445	-0.125	28,000
MPI	30.440	-0.120	1,412
WPRTS-C40	0.045	-0.105	1,366
CARLSBG	16.400	-0.100	585
HLFG	17.120	-0.100	628
KERJAYA	2.700	-0.100	38,473
NATGATE-C2	0.050	-0.100	400
TM	7.200	-0.100	41,927
TENAGA	13.200	-0.100	19,794
CHINAETF-MYR	5.750	-0.100	71
HSI-CWK3	0.235	-0.095	320
IJM-C1R	0.060	-0.090	1,100
AMBANK	5.770	-0.080	71,561

Top 20 Losers (By %)

STOCKS	CLOSING (RM)	+/- (%)	VOLUME ('000)
HSI-CWI6	0.025	-72.22	500
WPRTS-C40	0.045	-70.00	1,366
HSI-PWLX	0.010	-66.67	20,000
NATGATE-C2	0.050	-66.67	400
NEXG-C80	0.025	-66.67	100
PCEM-C10	0.040	-63.64	1,350
HSI-CWI9	0.015	-62.50	893
IJM-C1R	0.060	-60.00	1,100
NEXG-C77	0.045	-59.09	40
HSTECH-C36	0.025	-58.33	3,800
JADI-WB	0.005	-50.00	7,390
NDX-HM	0.025	-50.00	7,144
NEXG-C68	0.005	-50.00	500
RL-WA	0.005	-50.00	7,202
ZENTECH	0.005	-50.00	985
IJM-C1L	0.040	-42.86	8,000
SIME-C1E	0.055	-42.11	80
HSI-CWKI	0.190	-41.54	3,000
CKI-CC	0.030	-40.00	14,840
EKOVEST-C76	0.015	-40.00	1,450

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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UMW Toyota posts sales of 9,141 units in October

SHAH ALAM: UMW Toyota Motor (UMWT) recorded 9,141 units sold in October 2025, bringing year-to-date sales to 79,559 units.

Guided by its "Mobility for All" philosophy, Toyota continues to meet the real-world needs of Malaysians through a diverse line-up of passenger cars, SUVs, and electrified options, supported by after-sales care and long-term ownership value.

"Toyota's strength lies in meeting people where they are, offering relevant technologies, trusted performance, and peace of mind," said president Datuk Ravindran K. "Our aspiration to be the 'Best in Town' means earning genuine trust via every experience from innovation and service to community engagement as we continue supporting Malaysia's aspirations while contributing to regional progress."

Toyota's leadership in innovation took centre stage at the Japan Mobility Show 2025, where the company unveiled its three-year regional strategy to advance next generation mobility across Asia. Anchored on carbon neutrality, intelligent safety, and inclusive mobility, the plan reinforces Toyota's mission to deliver practical progress through its Multi-Pathway Approach, ensuring no one is left behind in the transition towards a carbon-neutral future.

At the Toyota Motor Asia Media Day, key announcements included the introduction of over 10 new electrified (xEV) models in the next three years, local BEV production in Thailand and Indonesia by end-2025, and the "30 by 30 Mission" targeting 30% xEV sales in Asean by 2030, equivalent to 1.5 million cumulative units or the environmental impact of 25 million trees planted/8 million tonnes of CO₂ reduction.

Toyota's commitment to Mobility for All is not just a product promise, but it is a long-term vision of how Malaysians move, thrive and grow.

Ringgit rises against dollar ahead of OPR announcement

THE ringgit closed higher against the US dollar yesterday ahead of the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) announcement today. Bank Negara Malaysia's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is expected to maintain the OPR, according to market consensus.

At 6pm, the ringgit climbed to 4.1890/1925 against the US dollar from Tuesday's close of 4.1950/1985.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid told Bernama the anticipation for no change in the OPR today seems to have contributed to the local note's strength.

Besides, he said the latest US ISM Manufacturing Index, which fell to 48.7 points in October from 49.1 in September, suggests business sentiments are still weak as a result of the higher import tariffs contributing to higher operating costs, weighing on the greenback.

At the close, the ringgit traded higher against most major currencies.

It rose against the British pound to 5.4612/4658 from 5.4795/4841 at Tuesday's close, climbed versus the euro to 4.8106/8147 from 4.8238/8279, and up against the yen to 2.7254/7279 from 2.7331/7355 previously.

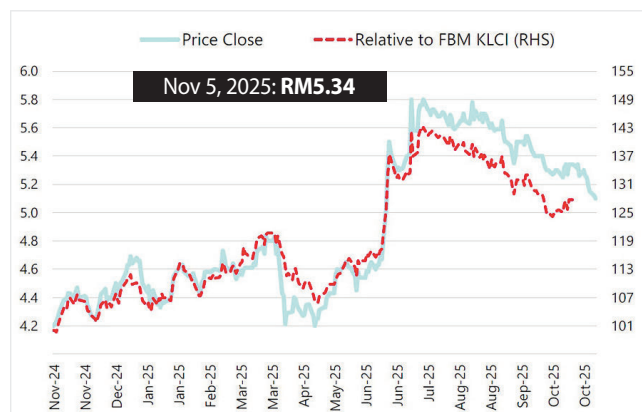
The local note also traded higher against Asean currencies. It strengthened against the Singapore dollar to 3.2055/2085 from 3.2131/2160 at Tuesday's close, and advanced vis-a-vis the Thai baht to 12.8730/8893 from 12.8859/9026 on Tuesday.

The ringgit was also slightly higher against the Indonesian rupiah at 250.5/250.9 from 251.0/251.4 and went up against the Philippine peso to 7.12/7.13 from 7.16/7.18 previously.

Exchange Rates			
FOREIGN CURRENCY	SELLING TT/OD	BUYING TT	BUYING OD
1 US Dollar	4.2710	4.1260	4.1160
1 Australian Dollar	2.7730	2.6620	2.6460
1 Brunei Dollar	3.2600	3.1600	3.1520
1 Canadian Dollar	3.0200	2.9360	2.9240
1 Euro	4.9040	4.7470	4.7270
1 New Zealand Dollar	2.4130	2.3240	2.3080
1 Singapore Dollar	3.2600	3.1600	3.1520
1 Sterling Pound	5.5580	5.3820	5.3620
1 Swiss Franc	5.3080	5.0820	5.0670
100 UAE Dirham	117.4000	111.3300	111.1300
100 Bangladesh Taka	3.5690	3.3240	3.1240
100 Chinese Renminbi	60.1700	57.6400	57.6400
100 Danish Krone	67.3500	61.9800	61.7800
100 Hongkong Dollar	55.4000	52.6500	52.4500
100 Indian Rupee	4.8800	4.5800	4.380
100 Indonesian Rupiah	0.0264	0.0239	0.0189
100 Japanese Yen	2.7920	2.6920	2.6820
100 New Taiwan Dollar	14.8000	N/A	N/
100 Norwegian Krone	42.7500	39.3300	39.1300
100 Pakistan Rupee	1.5400	1.4300	1.2300
100 Philippine Peso	7.3700	6.9400	6.7400
100 Qatar Riyal	118.2300	112.2300	112.0300
100 Saudi Riyal	114.9000	109.0800	108.8800
100 South Africa Rand	25.1800	22.7400	22.5400
100 Sri Lanka Rupee	1.4400	1.3200	1.120
100 Swedish Krona	45.8500	41.7600	41.5600
100 Thai Baht	13.6700	12.1300	11.7300

Source: Malayan Banking Bhd/Bernama

Westports Holdings Bhd Neutral. Target price: RM5.14



Source: Bloomberg

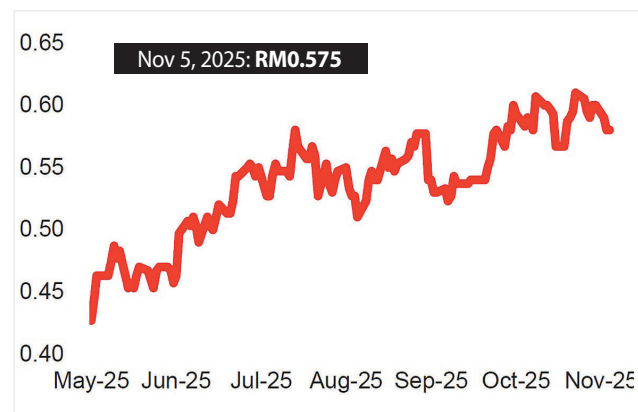
WESTPORTS reported Q3'25 operational revenue of RM667 million (+9.7% QoQ, +16.4% YoY), bringing 9M'25 operational revenue to RM1.9 billion (+11.9% YoY). The stronger performance was underpinned by high restow requirements, mainly from the repositioning of empty containers back to the Far East. In tandem with the higher operational revenue, Q3'25 core profit rose to RM273 million (+17.6% QoQ, +19.8% YoY), lifting 9M'25 core earnings to RM727 million (+14.3% YoY) on stronger volume and a 15% tariff adjustment that has been effective since July. The results were in line with our and consensus' estimate at 76% and 77%.

Total throughput stood at 2.9 million TEUs (-0.3% QoQ, +6.3% YoY) in Q3'25, bringing 9M'25 volumes to 8.4 million TEUs (+4.2% YoY). Growth was mainly driven by a 7.8% YoY increase in transshipment volumes, while gateway volumes remained flatish YoY. Overall, 9M'25 container volumes were within our expectation at 77%. Geographically, intra-Asia trade remains the largest contributor (62% of total container volumes) despite a 3.2% YoY drop. This is due to earlier-year port congestion and service realignments, as shipping lines reallocated capacity to capture more profitable front-loading opportunities in 1H'25.

Despite several external headwinds – including the potential impact of the US government's shutdown and cumulative/lagged effects of recent trade tariff changes – global container demand and major consuming economies have remained resilient. Meanwhile, Asia's economic dynamism, regional trade diversification, and the current operating model of major liner alliances continue to underpin steady transshipment activity.

Neutral with RM5.14 TP. – **RHB Research, Nov 5**

UUE Holdings Bhd Outperform. Target price: RM0.73



Source: PublicInvest Research

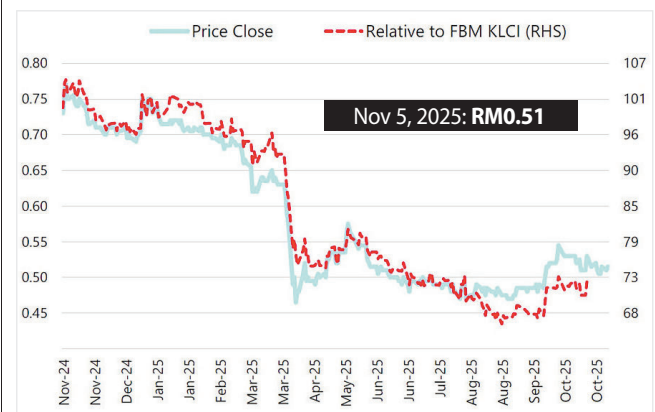
UUE Holdings (UUE) has secured a subcontract worth S\$20.9 million (RM67.3 million) from Wee Guan Construction for the installation of HDPE pipes using the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) method in Singapore. This represents the largest single contract win in Singapore to date, following the earlier S\$8.4 million (RM28.1 million) award in April 2025, lifting its orderbook to a new record high of RM521.9 million. The latest win validates management's upbeat tone during the recent Q2'26 briefing, highlighting that UUE continues to benefit from spillover opportunities under the new capex cycles of TNB in Malaysia and SP PowerAssets in Singapore, driven by infrastructure modernisation and rising energy demand.

Meanwhile, the manufacturing segment posted a 52.5% utilisation rate in Q2'26, with a temporary peak of 70% in August 2025 as customers front-loaded orders ahead of the SST implementation. Nevertheless, we expect its utilisation to trend higher in tandem with rising project execution from the engineering segment.

Singapore contributed RM5.5 million in Q2'26 (vs RM1.1 million in Q1'26), reflecting a steady recovery in activity levels. Management shared that 8–10 project teams are now deployed on-site, higher from only 2 teams in July 2025. The new subcontract award has lifted UUE's Singapore orderbook to a record high of RM111.5 million, scheduled for completion within two years. Assuming average annual recognition of RM55.8 million, this represents more than double FY25's Singapore of RM25.8 million.

Outperform with RM0.73 TP. – **PublicInvest Research, Nov 5**

TASCO Bhd Buy. Target price: RM0.70



Source: Bloomberg

Q2'26 results came in below expectations, mainly due to a higher-than-expected effective tax rate (ETR) of 23.5% (vs 17.5% in Q1'25). This was primarily because the Q1'26 ETR of the cold chain segment was understated and subsequently adjusted in Q2'26. Going forward, management expects a normalised ETR of 20%.

The exit of several customers affected overall numbers but boosted margins. Air freight forwarding (AFF) revenue fell 61% YoY in 1H'26 as the group reduced low-margin jobs from a major customer. Despite the topline decline, PBT expanded 18% YoY. Similarly, the contract logistics (CL) segment recorded a 22% YoY rise in revenue, while PBT nearly doubled (+99%) following the cessation of a low-margin solar panel customer.

TASCO continues to diversify its customer base with several new wins across segments. In the cold supply chain business, it has secured a new F&B client, while a regional semiconductor hub in Penang is expected to commence operations in July 2026. The group also added a fashion retail customer for its logistics centre, which began operations in Oct 2025, alongside another newly secured client that started operations in late Oct 2025. These additions are expected to underpin growth momentum in FY26 and beyond.

As at 1H'26, the group has unutilised tax credits of RM33.4 million, available for use over the next eight years. Benefiting from the ILS tax incentive, the group expects to record a lower-than-statutory-tax rate, providing cushion to the bottomline.

Buy with RM0.70 TP. – **RHB Research, Nov 5**



Meowvellous gala

Malaysia hosts biggest cat
award show - **P22**



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

INSIDE

p23

Glimpse into
Mr Bean's goofy world

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Fan Bingbing sings praises
of Mother Bhumis crew

p25

Irish pop group Westlife
to drop new music



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MALAYSIA



Diamond Rag Honey Aleah (Ragdoll), owner Leung Pak Hei, Chan Kwan To



Mirumkitty Mini J of Zeus Ragdoll (Ragdoll), owner Yu Zhang-Judit Jozan.

A-meow-zing felines

Malaysia hosts first-ever Cat Fanciers' Association World Show (Awards & Banquet 2025)

BY VERONICA ELANKOVAN

IN the bustling city of KL, cat lovers from all over Southeast and West Asia gathered to pick the belle of the ball - the best kitty in town.

For the first-time ever, Malaysia hosted Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) World Show (Awards & Banquet 2025) - International, Division & China, in conjunction with Visit Malaysia 2026, last Sunday.

"Your confidence in our nation reaffirms our belief - that Malaysia has both the passion and the capability to shine on the world stage," said Pet Universe Nourish CEO Patrick Chin.

With 119 years worth of legacy, the CFA's decision to hold the award show in our country marks a momentous chapter in the feline industry that has been growing steadily.

CFA is an avenue for cat aficionados "who loves and admires the beauty, charm and



Triple-9 Enfant (Persian), owner Nassha Chaimano-Tomorn Thongnumwon.

companionship of cats."

The weekend's event was nothing short of splendour, but at heart of it was the education on the importance of pet nutrition.

"As we celebrate excellence, we also uphold the values of responsibility, compassion and integrity in how we care for and manage the animals we love.

"Our mission is simple yet meaningful - to humanise pet nutrition and to put pets at the heart of everything we do," shared Chin, adding that pets are not just companions but they are family.

The winners of the CFA World Show include 705 cats from Malaysia,

Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Taiwan, China and West Asia (Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi). The champions of the main categories are: Best Cat of the Year International Division - Triple-9 Enfant (Category: Adult Championship)

• Best Kitten of the Year International Division - Monthercare Akiko of Gradus (Category: Kitten)

Best Premier of the Year International Division - Diamond Rag Honey Aleah (Category: Premier)

• Best Household Pet of the Year - Bella (Category: Adopted, Rescued Cat)

• Best Cat of the Year China Division - Sauce Cute Leo (Category: Adult Championship)

• Best Kitten of the Year China - Mirumkitty Mini J of Zeus Ragdoll (Category: Kitten)

• Best Premier of the Year China Division - Leopard of Morning (Category: Premier)

To further "nourish" the pet industry in Malaysia, Pet Universe Nourish (Malaysia) has also signed a partnership with International Pet Food Company Limited (IPE, Thailand), a subsidiary of CP Foods.

The cat show and the new partnership are a glimpse into the future of the pet (feline) industry in Malaysia, which is lucrative and thriving.

To all the feline who won the awards, a meow-tastic job done!



Sauce Cute Leo (British Short Hair), owner Zhao-Jie-Chih-Wen Shih.



Leopard of Morning (Exotic Long Hair), owner Mulin Yang.



Monthercare Akiko of Gradus (Selkirk Rex Long Hair), owner Loh Wai Leong, Yuki Tan.



Bella (No breed), owner Grace Chong Wei Teng.



The lime green Mini from the Mr Bean series, complete with the rooftop armchair setup.

Step into Mr Bean's world

➤ Exhibit serves dose of nostalgia

BY AMEEN HAZIZI

THE Mr Bean Experience at Pavilion Bukit Jalil's Acolab delivers exactly what it sets out to do: a nostalgic, lighthearted journey through some of the show's most memorable scenes.

It invites visitors of all ages to step directly into the strange yet familiar world of Mr Bean, recreated with attention and affection that long-time fans will immediately recognise.

Spread across eight themed exhibits, the experience guides visitors through a sequence of rooms that mirror key settings from the series. It begins in Mr Bean's bedroom, recreated with all the visual clutter and charm of his on-screen flat. From there, guests move through the art studio, a London street, mini-golf course, laundromat and barbershop, each designed to evoke a distinct moment from the show's original run.

One of the clear highlights is his lime green Mini, displayed in full glory with the famous armchair strapped to the roof and a spotlight above it for visitors to pose under.

Every corner of the space is accompanied



To mark the 35th anniversary of the world's most beloved comedy icon, Acolab brings Mr Bean to Malaysia for the very first time. – ACOLABPIC

by the Mr Bean theme tune, looping gently in the background. It adds to the surreal feeling of being transported into the television universe that shaped a generation's sense of humour. The set recreations feel vivid and lived-in, with enough small details to reward observant fans.

Visitors are encouraged to take their time and snap as many photos as they like, although the overall walkthrough is relatively short unless you linger at each display.

Children will enjoy the playful atmosphere, while adults are more likely to appreciate how closely the organisers have captured the tone and look of the 1990s classic.

The experience concludes at the gift shop, which overflows with themed merchandise and memorabilia from the live-action and animated series. Shelves of plush toys, collectible figurines and novelty items line the space, although prices can be on the higher side.

The adjoining cafe adds a nice touch of immersion, serving themed dishes and desserts while playing classic episodes of Mr Bean on a large screen for diners to enjoy.

While a few more exhibits from the animated series would have been welcome, such as the UFO scene featuring multiple Beans, the exhibition still delivers a heartfelt dose of nostalgia and fond childhood memories.

The Mr Bean Experience succeeds as a loving tribute to one of British comedy's most enduring creations. It offers a memorable stroll through the world of a character who continues to bridge generations through silent humour and visual storytelling.

Diners at the themed cafe watching classic episodes of Mr Bean on the big screen while enjoying their meals. – AMEEN HAZIZI/THESUN



Preserving LKY's home

SINGAPORE plans to preserve the long-time home of Lee Kuan Yew, the country's first prime minister and widely credited founding leader, as a National Monument that may eventually become a public heritage space, Xinhua reported.

In a joint statement on Monday, Singapore's National Heritage Board (NHB) and the Singapore Land Authority (SLA) said the site at 38 Oxley Road "bore witness to pivotal events in the 1950s that marked Singapore's transition from a colony to an independent nation".

The NHB launched a formal assessment of the site on Oct 24, 2024. Based on its findings, the board has recommended that the site be preserved.

Culture, Community and Youth acting minister David Neo has accepted the recommendation and intends to gazette the site as a National Monument.

If a Preservation Order is issued, the government intends to acquire the site "to safeguard it and preserve it in keeping with its historic significance and national importance," the statement said. Upon acquisition, the site will be converted into a public space, with one possible outcome being a heritage park.

The NHB has issued a written notice to the owner and occupier of the site, who will be given "a reasonable period to submit any objections".

Local media have reported the property is owned by Kuan Yew's youngest son Lee Hsien Yang, the younger brother of Singapore's senior minister Lee Hsien Loong.

The statement added that "preserving the site does not obligate the government to preserve all the buildings and structures on the site in their current state". Once access is obtained, authorities will conduct a detailed study to determine how to proceed.

"Regardless of the option taken, the government will respect Lee Kuan Yew's wishes, and will remove all traces of (Kuan Yew) and his family's private living spaces from the buildings," it said.

The Oxley Road house was the home of Kuan Yew from 1950 until his death in 2015. – Bernama-Xinhua

BRIEFS

YEAR-END CAMPAIGN CELEBRATING INNOVATION, EVERYDAY COMFORT

Hisense Malaysia is ushering in the festive season with its "Innovating A Brighter Life" year-end promotion, offering Malaysians a rewarding opportunity to upgrade their homes with cutting-edge technology and exclusive gifts. Customers who purchase selected Hisense products from authorised retail outlets during the campaign period will enjoy exclusive free gifts and rewards, including Touch 'n Go eWallet credits worth up to RM5,000, Hisense Soundbars and Colour King cookware depending on the model purchased. The promotion runs until Dec 31, while the gift redemption is open until Jan 31 next year.

FEEL EVERY GOAL WITH TOSHIBA TV MALAYSIA

Toshiba TV Malaysia is ending the year on a high note with its "Feel Every Goal" year-end promotion, inviting Malaysians to experience a new level of immersive home entertainment. Running until Dec 31, this campaign rewards customers with exclusive free gifts and the opportunity to win premium prizes through the Grand Strike Lucky Draw. Adding to the excitement, those who purchase Toshiba 75" TVs and above during the promotion period will automatically qualify for the Grand Strike Lucky Draw, where five lucky winners will take home amazing prizes. Customers who purchase selected Toshiba TV models will receive exclusive free gifts such as Touch 'n Go eWallet credits, TS218 Soundbars and TV stands.



Babah in the limelight at FFM34. – PIC FROM INSTAGRAM @BABAHFILM

Six awards for Babah, also best picture at FFM34

THE film *Babah* won six awards, including Best Film at the 34th Malaysia Film Festival (FFM34) last Saturday.

The film beat four other finalists for Best Film – *Soloz: Game of Live* (Key Billions Sdn Bhd), *Takluk: Lahad Datu* (Multimedia Film Productions Sdn Bhd), *Reversi* (Act 2 Pictures Sdn Bhd, Clover Film Sdn Bhd, Golden Screen Cinemas Sdn Bhd & K-Movie Entertainment) – and took home a trophy, along with the Creative Content Fund incentive worth RM1,000,000.

Communications Minister Datuk Fahmi Fadzil presented the award in the presence of Deputy Communications Minister Teo Nie Ching, Communications Ministry secretary-general Datuk Seri Mohamad Fauzi Md Isa, National Film Development Corporation (Finas) chairman Datuk Hans Isaac and Finas CEO Datuk Azmir Saifuddin.

The film's leads, Qi Razali and Sweet Qismina, won the Best Actor and Best Actress Awards respectively, while the film also won Best Screenplay, Best Original Story and director Mohd Shah Faizul Ibrahim won the Most Promising Director Award.

Besides *Babah*, *Blood Brothers: Bara Naga* also stood out with six awards, while *Ejen Ali The Movie 2* and *Takluk: Lahad Datu* won the Special Jury Awards and veteran actor Datuk Ahmad Tarmimi Siregar was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the film industry. – Bernama

Fan Bingbing highlights Malaysian filmmakers at TIFF

➤ Homegrown quality, global acclaim

INTERNATIONAL actress Datuk Fan Bingbing has graced film sets around the world, but her recent experience working on *Mother Bhumi*, a Malaysian-directed and produced film seems to have left a lasting impression on her.

The Chinese actress and global fashion icon, best known for her roles in *X-Men: Days of Future Past* and *I Am Not Madame Bovary*, said the warmth and professionalism exuded by the Malaysian crew at the shoot in Kedah last year, made her feel right at home.

"I was really inspired by their energy. Everyone was so committed and supportive and the atmosphere was just so positive," she told Bernama recently, when met at the 38th Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF).

Fan, who was also nominated for Best Actress for her role in *Mother Bhumi*, noted that collaborating with a Malaysian crew felt like a breath of fresh air, after her previous international projects.

The acclaimed star, who portrays a rice farmer and shaman from Malaysia's minority Siamese community, praised the team's dedication and spirit, saying their enthusiasm motivated her to deliver her best performance on set.

"It's rare to find such genuine teamwork. Everyone trusted and respected one another, and that made every day on set meaningful," she added.

Fan, who won the Best Actress award at the 2010 TIFF for *Buddha Mountain*, said the experience opened her eyes to the growing talent within Malaysia's film industry.

"There's so much potential in Malaysia... the creativity, the work ethic, the passion. I truly believe these filmmakers can make their mark on the international stage,"

she said.

She also expressed her admiration for *Mother Bhumi* director Chong Keat Aun, praising his creative approach and calm leadership during filming.

"He's a wonderful director to collaborate with," Fan said, adding that she would be delighted to work with him again in the future.

Meanwhile, Chong also praised the dedication of the international actress, who arrived in Malaysia ahead of schedule to learn the local language, interact with buffaloes, master farming techniques and understand Siamese ceremonial rituals — all in pursuit of portraying her character with greater authenticity.

"As a director, I personally hope Fan wins the Best Actress award. Her commitment and effort as an actress is truly inspiring and exceptional, and I am extremely satisfied with her performance," Chong said.

Having received positive feedback, including a round of thunderous applause during the film's screening, the Kedah-born filmmaker said he hopes his work will shed light on the lesser-known stories of Malaysia's rural communities, all while honoring local cultures on the international stage.

"Through this film, I want audiences to feel real village life, understand village traditions and appreciate the richness of Malaysia's unique cultural heritage," Chong added.

Mother Bhumi made history by being one of the 15 films selected for the main competition at the 38th TIFF, which ended yesterday.

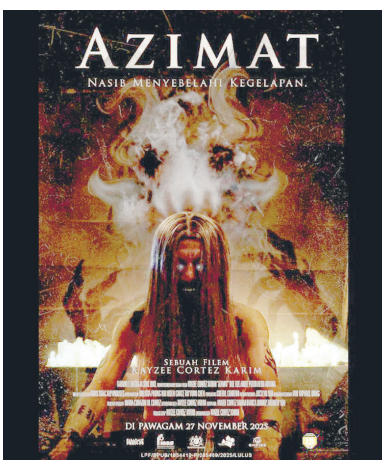
The film received six nominations in the festival's main categories for Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Cinematography.



Fan gracing the TIFF red carpet. – PICS FROM FACEBOOK @FAN BINGBING



Chong (seated, second from left), Fan and the *Mother Bhumi* team at TIFF.



Azimat features an all-Sarawakian cast.

Horror movie Azimat delivering chills straight from Bumi Kenyalang

FARADALE Media-M Sdn Bhd has released a psychological horror film titled *Azimat*, which tells the story of a charm necklace that is said to be able to change a person's bad luck.

Featuring an all-Sarawakian cast and crew, the film directed by Kay Rezza Karim is set to make an appearance at cinemas nationwide beginning Nov 27 this year.

Azimat, which began shooting in 2019, brings its own blend of uniqueness as it combines local mystical elements with human emotional conflicts that are loaded with symbolism and life messages,

said Kay Rezza.

"We are trying to produce a horror story that is not only scary, but also reflects the emotional and spiritual conflicts of a person who is on the verge of despair," he said during the pressmeet for the movie.

Azimat tells the story of a girl, Hanna, who acquires a charm necklace that is believed to be able to change her bad luck, after meeting an Iban shaman.

The film uses three main languages, namely Sarawakian Malay, Iban and English, in an effort to maintain the authenticity of local

culture, in addition to making Kuching the main filming location.

"We want to highlight Sarawak not only as a tourist location, but also as a center for producing quality works of art and for that reason, we kept the filming mainly around Kuching," explained Kay Rezza.

Kay Rezza hopes that *Azimat* will not only entertain the audience, but also convey a message of hope and bring awareness to the consequences that each and every choice and decision made in life has.

The director also shared his experience of facing strange

incidents throughout the 37 days of filming, including equipment malfunctions and strange noises that added to the film's 'mystical aura'.

"Regardless, filming went smoothly and I consider everything that happened to be a valuable experience. The mystical atmosphere at the shooting locations definitely added a lot of realism to the film," he said.

Among the film cast are Dee Dee Aine Peter as Hanna, Heidi Abbyana (Jasmine), Fadzril Afandy (Dr Roger Tiong) and Rusdi Mornie Daud (Encik Bonsu). – Bernama

Silver jubilee!

► Irish pop group Westlife on 25 years, new music, tour

WESTLIFE celebrates 25 years with a new album and tour that they say will take fans down memory lane, as well as treat them to “the best show” the Irish pop group have ever done.

The boy band, formed in 1998 when its original five members were teenagers, has sold more than 55 million records worldwide and scored 14 UK number one hits with songs such as *Swear It Again*, *Flying Without Wings* and *Uptown Girl*.

A foursome since 2004, members Shane Filan, Nicky Byrne, Kian Egan and Mark Feehily parted ways in 2012 before reuniting in 2018.

They released their single *Chariot* last month, one of four new songs on upcoming album *25 - The Ultimate Collection*, that is set to come out in February. The boyband also expanded its 2026 *Westlife 25: The Anniversary World Tour*, which marks 25 years since its first world tour.

Feehily, who in recent years has suffered health-related issues, will not be joining the others on tour but

is featured on the album.

In an interview with Reuters, Filan, Egan and Byrne spoke about the tour, recording with Feehily and looking back on 25 years.

Below are excerpts edited for length and clarity.

What can fans expect from the tour?

Filan: “We want to put on the best show we’ve ever done... and picking the setlist is always the hardest part, because every fan has a different memory for a song. But the tour will be full of hits, obviously, and we’re going to elevate it from a of visual aspect as well.”

What was it like working all together on the album?

Filan: “It was great to have Mark on there. Obviously, he can’t tour with us at the moment, he’s unable to. But it was important that he was on the songs and he’s singing better than ever... one of the songs coming out is some of his best vocals... We can’t wait to have him back when he’s ready.”

You recently performed at the Royal Albert Hall. What was that like?

Byrne: “It just felt like an event... the Oscars meets a brilliant wedding and we were on fire... And now it’s like, ‘Wow, did that just happen?’



Westlife performs during the annual German film and television awards ‘Golden Camera’ (‘Die Goldene Kamera’) of German TV magazine ‘HoerZu’ in 2019. – **REUTERSPIC**

We’re tired today, but by next Saturday we’ll be going ‘Right lads, how do we do this again? Where could we go next?’ And the truth is, who knows? Can it be ... Madison Square Garden? Can it be the Sphere? There are no rules.”

How does the success you imagined in those early days compare to the reality?

Egan: “I don’t think any of us would have ever been able to say to our young selves ‘This is what you’re going to be doing when you’re 45...

We like to think we’re normal guys... yes, we’re in this big pop act and we travel around the world... but we go home and we live quite normal lives... We’ll be back to taking the bins out tomorrow.” – Reuters

Netflix turns *Splinter Cell*'s goggles on, uncanny crossover for gamers

MOVIE REVIEW

BY **MARK MATHEN VICTOR**

AFTER retiring his signature three-lensed multi-vision goggles in *Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell: Blacklist* over a decade ago, Sam Fisher has returned, sort of. Rather than making a grand comeback in a new *Splinter Cell* game, Sam instead stars in Netflix's rather good *Splinter Cell: Deathwatch* animation series.

Set a decade after *Blacklist*, Sam (Liev Schreiber) is brought out of retirement to provide support to Fourth Echelon agent Zinnia McKenna (Kirby) as she attempts to deliver a device containing sensitive data back to Fourth Echelon, while Eastern European mercenaries are hot on their heels.

At the same time, Diana Shetland (Kari Wahlgreen) accelerates her

plans to rebrand the image of her company, Displace International from its former image as a private military company into a green energy company.

Fourth Echelon commander Anna Grimsdottir (Janet Varney), Sam and Zinnia eventually begin to piece together the connection between the device, the mercenaries and Displace International.

Weak co-lead, predictable plot

Though *Deathwatch* is obviously not a *Splinter Cell* videogame, the new Netflix series, created by *John Wick*'s Derek Kolstad and directed by Guillaume Dousse, nonetheless bears most of the game's hallmarks, even if they do not necessarily reach the heights in quality of said hallmarks.

The espionage and spy thriller aspects are there, but they are largely undercooked and more often than

not, come across as generic. If the *Splinter Cell* characters and aesthetics are removed, *Deathwatch* is just a pastiche of other similar franchises like *Jason Bourne*, *Jack Reacher* and *Mission: Impossible*.

Additionally, Zinnia's characterisation as a hotheaded Splinter Cell agent does the story no favours, for whenever she goes rogue against directives by Sam and Anna, it breaks the canon that Fourth Echelon agents are meant to embody extreme discipline.

After the umpteenth time that she allows her emotions and base

impulses to jeopardise the mission, *Deathwatch* becomes a chore to watch. The only silver lining here is that Zinnia could have been worse: she could have been the generic fast-talking sidekick to Sam.

Strong action, great animation

With the negatives out of the way, the series has to be praised for its impressive action and animation. For a genre within this medium, the hand-to-hand fights and gunfights are certainly inventive in *Deathwatch*.

For example, the first action sequence on Sam's farm unravels

from the perspective of those hunting him in the dark: the games were the opposite, where the perspective is on gamers playing as Sam sneaks around in the shadows.

As a second season has already been greenlit, the course of Netflix's *Splinter Cell* ship could be corrected by steering away from the generic spy action island, or it may very well crash head on into it. One way or the other, it will not change the reality that as Ubisoft continues to fumble with the development of the next *Splinter Cell* game, fans will only have the series to be content with.



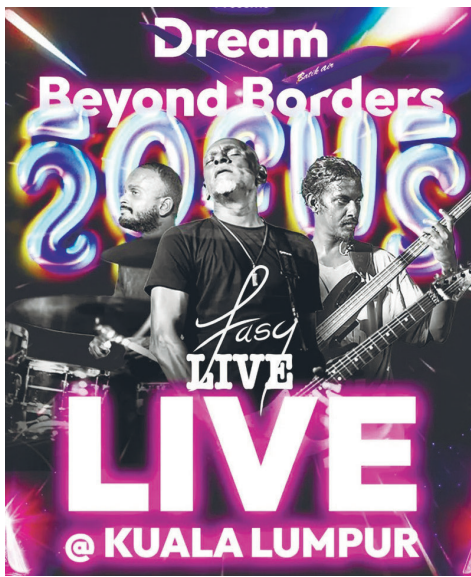
Diana's father Douglas once started a third world war. – **PICS FROM NETFLIX**



Zinnia (left) and Sam spend most of the season in an unruly mentee-mentor relationship.



EVENTS LISTING



Dream Beyond Borders
Date: Nov 7
Time: 8pm
Venue: Petaling Jaya Performing Arts Centre (PJPAAC)
Entry fee: RM106-RM200
Dream Beyond Borders is a Maldivian music showcase celebrating unity and creativity through the universal language of music. Featuring 2ofus, FasyLive, Spitball and Heyvalla Boduberu Group alongside Malaysia's Tone Conspirators, the concert blends island rhythms, fusion sounds and contemporary rock. The event marks the first large-scale Maldivian music show in Malaysia, highlighting cross-cultural collaborations and artistic exchanges between both nations.

Somewhere, Quietly by Ong Jian Yang
Date: Nov 13-27
Time: 11am to 8pm
Venue: Awegallery, Taman Paramount, Petaling Jaya
Entry fee: Free
Emerging Malaysian artist Ong Jian Yang presents his debut solo exhibition Somewhere, Quietly, a contemplative collection of watercolour works that capture fleeting moments of stillness and emotion. Through subtle light, space and movement, Ong explores the beauty of silence and introspection in everyday life. The showcase invites visitors to pause and reconnect with the quiet tenderness of the world around them, reflecting the artist's meditative approach to art and self-expression.



KL Seni & STEM Festival 2025
Date: Nov 21-23
Time: 10am to 10pm
Venue: Plaza 20008, KLCC Park
Entry fee: Free
Presented by Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and Petrosains, this three-day fusion-festival of arts, culture and science festival invites the public to experience a vibrant blend of creativity and discovery. Featuring local artisans, heritage crafts, cultural performances and interactive STEM showcases, the event celebrates Malaysia's artistic and scientific spirit under the theme "Where Arts, Heritage and Science Unite." Visitors can enjoy science shows, family-friendly workshops and cultural shows that highlight innovation and tradition.

Guitar Serenade
Date: Nov 22
Time: 8pm
Venue: Dewan Filhamonik Petronas, KLCC
Entry fee: RM229-RM499
The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra presents Guitar Serenade, a Spanish-themed concert led by conductor John Axelrod, featuring guitarist Jose Maria Gallardo del Rey. The programme includes Rimsky-Korsakov's Capriccio espagnole, Ravel's Pavane for a Dead Princess, Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez and Ravel's Mother Goose. A special guitar workshop with del Rey will also take place on Nov 20, offering audiences a rare chance to learn from a world-renowned Spanish guitarist.



Wah Chan Run2Love, Love2Run
Date: Nov 30
Time: 6am
Venue: Wisma Wah Chan, Petaling Jaya
Entry fee: RM30-RM100
Held as part of Wah Chan Jewellery's 70th anniversary celebration, the Run2Love, Love2Run is a 5.5km fun duo run inviting couples, families and friends to celebrate love, health and connection. Participants will receive exclusive race shirts and finishing medals, with prizes for the best-dressed and most-spirited duos. The event will also feature a romantic proposal segment and special giveaways, creating a memorable experience that reflects Wah Chan's legacy in love and togetherness.



Resorts World Genting National Luminous Dragon King Championship
Date: Dec 14
Time: 10am to 7pm
Venue: Arena of Stars, Resorts World Genting
Entry fee: RM30-RM100
The first gathering of its kind, 20 of Malaysia's top dragon dance troupes will compete for the coveted Dragon King title. Introducing a creative props segment, teams are to blend storytelling, choreography and craftsmanship into breathtaking performance arts. Organised in consultation with the Catholic High School Alumni Association Dragon & Lion Dance Troupe, the event marks a new chapter in Malaysia's performing arts, where heritage meets creative innovation.

UPSI revives Konsert Gendang Pati with M. Nasir, two decades later

UNIVERSITI Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) will stage the Konsert Gendang Pati @ UPSI on Jan 17, 2026, at the Dewan Tuanku Canselor, featuring Malaysian music legend Datuk Dr M. Nasir.
Organised by the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts (FMSP), the concert is a continuation of the original Gendang Pati performance staged by M. Nasir more than two decades ago. This time, it will be refreshed to suit contemporary times and the university's setting.
M. Nasir said the concert is not merely a stage performance, but an opportunity for students to gain real industry-level exposure and learn about professional standards and work discipline in the music field.
"Performing at the industry level certainly differs from performing at the student level. So I want to give students an exposure — something truly valuable. They will learn how the

professional world operates without needing to go far from campus," he told a press conference for the concert announcement here earlier this week.
He added that the concert will also involve UPSI students from various groups, including Devokalis, the university's official choir ensemble, as well as percussion and dance teams who will accompany the main performance.
He said the concert will bring together a lineup of his iconic works spanning generations, such as *Apokalips*, *Melawan Arus*, *Tanya Sama Itu Hud-Hud* and many other songs that have shaped the local music landscape for more than four decades.
"If a storyline is needed, we can build a narrative within the performance. I usually include storytelling elements so the journey of the songs is more structured and

the audience can truly feel the message," he said.
Meanwhile, FMSP Dean Associate Prof Dr Muhammad Fazli Taib Saarani said the concert is not merely an entertainment event, but a practical learning platform for students to understand technical, artistic and large-scale event management aspects.
He said a special workshop with M. Nasir will be held prior to the concert, serving as an exclusive platform for music, theatre and dance students to gain real industry experience, including stage technicalities.
"In addition to providing direct experience for students, proceeds from ticket sales will be channelled to the university's education endowment fund and music student scholarships," he said, adding that 30% of tickets have already been sold.
Ticket prices range from RM88 to RM308. — Bernama



M. Nasir making a comeback with Konsert Gendang Pati. — BERNAMAPIC



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theSun Malaysian Paper
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 - Lead the IT team in delivering effective support and services across the group. Plan and manage the IT budget, including resource allocation, expenditure tracking and cost optimization.
 - Assist the IT team in delivering effective support and services across the group.
 - Develop, implement, and manage IT strategy, infrastructure, and operations.
 - Provide technical support and resolve hardware and software issues.
 - Monitor system and website performance, ensuring data security and integrity.
 - Undertake any other assignments as directed by management.
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 - Executive/Senior: Minimum 1+ years' working experience in IT.
 - Strong knowledge of systems, networks, and software applications.
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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.

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

322 **Notices**

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT PENANG COMPANIES (WINDING-UP) PETITION NO. PA-28NCC-154-10/2025

In the matter of Section 465 Companies Act, 2016
And
In The Matter of Companies (Winding-Up) Rules
And
In the matter of Kean Tuck Tower Crane Sdn Bhd (No. 1091657-W)

BETWEEN
IBEC(PG) SDN BHD (No. Syarikat: 856005-V) ...PETITIONER
AND
KEAN TUCK TOWER CRANE SDN. BHD. (No. Syarikat: 1091657-W) ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION
Notice is hereby given that a Petition for the winding-up of the abovenamed company by the High Court was on 13.10.2025 presented by IBEC(PG) Sdn Bhd (No. 856005-V) and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting in Penang at 9.00 in the morning, on the 15th day of December 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; 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 business address is at No. 30 Hamilton Road, 11600 Penang.

The Petitioner's Solicitors is Messrs Sunny Khoo & Company at No. 2D-1-2 Medan Angsana Satu, Bandar Baru Air Itam, 11500 Penang.

Dated this 16th day of October 2025
Sgd Messrs Sunny Khoo & Company 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 abovenamed Petitioner's Solicitors, notice so to do. 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 abovenamed not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 14th day of December 2025.
[Ref: IBEC(k)/Lit/616/25/SK]

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MALACCA | SEREMBAN
MR. Rajah
TEL: 012-628 2844
FAX: 06-764 2051

JOHOR BAHRU
MS. Anne Lim
TEL: 013-770 6699
FAX: 07-355 5549

322 **Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AMAZING GREAT VISION SDN BHD (201001005612) (890230-T) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP)

At a General Meeting of the abovenamed Company held on 29th October, 2025 the following resolutions were passed as special resolutions:-

- That the company be wound up voluntarily pursuant to Section 439(1) (b) of the Companies Act 2016.
- That Mr. Yapp Hock Hoe of No. 25-4-05, Level 4, Plaza Prima, Batu 4 1/2, Jalan Kelang Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur be appointed liquidator to act for the purpose of winding-up of the company's affairs and distributing its assets.
- That the liquidator be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred in or sustained by them in the execution and discharge of their duties as liquidators and in relation thereto.

TAN AIK TECK
Director
Date: 06th November 2025

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF AMAZING GREAT VISION SDN BHD (201001005612) (890230-T) (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 15 December 2025 to send in their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and their names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned liquidator at No. 25-4-05, Level 4, Plaza Prima, Batu 4 1/2, Jalan Kelang Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said liquidator, are by their solicitors or personally to come in and prove the said 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.

YAPP HOCK HOE
Liquidator
Date: 06th November 2025

DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET BANDAR BARU BANGI DALAM NEGERI SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN, MALAYSIA GUAMAN CIVIL NO. BI-A72NCCV-685-07/2025

ANTARA
TENAGA NASIONAL BERHAD (No. Syarikat : 199001009294) ...PLAINTIF
DAN
SANTHI A/P KARISHAN (No. K/P: 690608-05-5378) ...DEFENDAN

NOTIS PENYAMPAIAN GANTI-BENTUK IKLAN
Kepada,
SANTHI A/P KARISHAN
No. 27, Lake Vista 1,
Jalan Tasik Prima 4/5,
Puchong Utama,
47100 Puchong,
Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Dalam perkara Writ yang dikeluarkan pada 28 Julai 2025.

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa suatu tindakan Writ telah dikeluarkan terhadap Defendan berkenaan pemeriksaan pemasangan meter/meter yang dijalankan di Premis tersebut pada 06/06/2021, secara alternatif, restitusi bagi jumlah sebanyak RM21,208.55 bagi jumlah kehilangan hasil termasuk kos operasi dan cukai berkaitan berkenaan pemeriksaan pemasangan meter/meter yang dijalankan di Premis tersebut pada 06/06/2021, secara alternatif, faedah atas jumlah penghadaman pada kadar 5% setahun dari tarikh penghadaman sehingga tarikh penyelesaian penuh, kos dan adalah dipertimbangkan bahawa sesalanan Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan kedua-duanya bertarikh 23 Julai 2025 ("Writ tersebut") disampaikan kepada kamu melalui Penyampaian Ganti Ialtu dengan menampalkan sesalanan Writ tersebut di Papan Notis Mahkamah Majistret Petaling Jaya, di alamat terakhir Defendan yang diketahui iaitu di No. 27, Lake Vista 1, Jalan Tasik Prima 4/5, Puchong Utama, 47100 Puchong, Selangor Darul Ehsan (selapas dari ini "alamat Defendan") berdasarkan kepada Perintah bertarikh 23 September 2025 dan juga mengklankannya sekali (1) dalam surat khabar tempatan dan saya percaya bahawa penyampaian itu menjadi penyampaian yang sempurna dan cukup ke atas Defendan tersebut empahabes (14) hari selepas dari tarikh pengklankan dan penampalan tersebut yang mana terkemudian.

Sekiranya kamu berhajat untuk membuat sembelan terhadap tindakan tersebut, kamu mestilah diwakili oleh Peguambela kamu di hadapan Mahkamah Majistret Petaling Jaya pada 4/11/2025 (secara E-Review) jam 9.00 pagi.
Sekiranya kamu gagal berbuat demikian maka Penghadaman Ingkar boleh diberikan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 31 hbarulan Oktober 2025
.....t.t.....
Tetuan Sandosh Anandan
Peguamcara bagi Plaintiff

Notis Penyampaian Ganti Bentuk Iklan ini dikeluarkan oleh Tetuan Sandosh Anandan, Peguamcara bagi pihak Plaintiff yang beralamat di Unit A502, Blok A, Kelana Square, No. 17, Jalan SS7/26, Kelana Jaya, 47301, Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan.
Tel: 03-78065819 / 03-7804607
Fax: 03-78807409
(Ruj: /SAL/TNB/SANTHI/21/12/2025/SA)

322 **Notices**

DALAM MAHKAMAH MAJISTRET BANDAR BARU BANGI DALAM NEGERI SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN, MALAYSIA GUAMAN CIVIL NO. BI-A72NCCV-87-08/2025

ANTARA
LEMBAGA KUMPULAN WANG SIMPANAN PEKERJA ...PLAINTIF
DAN
1. GAN KOK BOON (NO. K/P: 811010-14-5289)
2. GAN THIAM LEONG (NO. K/P: 630620-10-7447) ...DEFENDAN-DEFENDAN

NOTIS
Kepada:-
1. GAN KOK BOON (NO. K/P: 811010-14-5289)
No 7, Jalan Desa Kenanga 2/2
Taman Desa Kenanga 2
43500 Semenyih
Selangor
dan/atau
No. 10, Jalan PUJ 6/3
Taman Puncak Jalil
Bandar Putra Permai
43300 Seri Kebangsan
Selangor
dan/atau
No. 11-2, Jalan CJ 3/13-2
Taman Cheras Jaya
43200 Cheras
Selangor
2. GAN THIAM LEONG (NO. K/P: 630620-10-7447)
No 3, Jalan Desa Kenanga 2/2
Desa Kenanga 2
43500 Semenyih
Selangor
dan/atau
Anggerik Blok A, AG 1-3
Jalan Putra
Taman Putra Budiman
43000 Kajang
Selangor
dan/atau
No. 11-2, Jalan CJ 3/13-2
Taman Cheras Jaya
43200 Cheras
Selangor

SILA AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa suatu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu dalam Mahkamah Majistret Bandar Baru Bangi dalam Writ Saman No. BI-A72NCCV-87-08/2025 oleh **LEMBAGA KUMPULAN WANG SIMPANAN PEKERJA** yang beralamat ibu pejabat di Seksyen Pendakwaan dan Litigasi, Jabatan Undang-Undang, Tingkat 4, Menara KWSP No. 1, Persiaran Kwasa Utama, Kwasa Damansara, Seksyen U4, 40150 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan dalam mana tuntutan Plaintiff adalah untuk suatu Penghadaman, termasuk tetapi tidak terhad kepada perintah-perintah seperti berikut:-

- Bayaran tunggakan caj lewat bayar sebanyak RM11,767.00 bagi tempoh Jun 2016, Julai 2019 sehingga September 2019, Januari 2020 sehingga September 2020, November 2020 sehingga Julai 2021 dan September 2021 sehingga Januari 2022 yang terakru ke atas tunggakan caruman bulanan KWSP
- Kos bagi tindakan ini; dan
- Lain-lain relif yang Mahkamah yang mulia ini fikir wajar dan suaimanfaat,

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 bertarikh bertarikh 06.08.2025 dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 05.08.2025 dan Perintah Penyampaian Ganti bertarikh 08.10.2025 di alamat-alamat seperti yang dinyatakan di atas dan melalui pengklankan dalam surat akhbar harian tempatan, 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 pengklankan sedemikian itu dilaksanakan, dan kos permohonan ini hendaklah menjadi kos dalam kaedah.

Kamu boleh mendapatkan Writ Saman dan Penyata Tuntutan ini dengan memohon di Mahkamah.

Bertarikh pada 8 Oktober 2025
t.t.
Tetuan Ahmad Fuad Abi & Aidil
Peguamcara Plaintiff

NOTIS IKLAN ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Ahmad Fuad Abi & Aidil, peguamcara Plaintiff yang dinamakan dengan alamat penyampaian di I-91-1, Jalan Teknologi 3/9, Bistari "De" Kota, Kota Damansara, P.U.5, 47810 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan.
Tel: 03-2774 6324 I
Emel: officed@afaa-law.com
[Ruj: JFAAA/24/LIT/1274/KWSP(12)-5/AM]
[Ruj. KWSP: 9/4/2-0395-02(L)/KJG/2025/0002]

322 **Notices**

SENI OTO EDARAN SDN. BHD. (Company No. 199301011417 (266154-X)) (Incorporated in Malaysia) (Under Members' Voluntary Winding Up)

NOTICE OF FINAL MEETING UNDER SECTION 459 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Final Meeting of the members of the abovenamed company will be held at Suite A24, 2nd Floor, Podium A, Plaza Pekeliling, 50400 Kuala Lumpur on **8 December 2025 at 11.00 a.m.** for the following purposes: -

AGENDA

- To receive the Liquidator's account of receipts and payments and statement of distribution among the contributories and to hear any explanations that may be given by the liquidator.
- To approve the following ordinary resolution:
Disposal of books records pursuant to Section 518(3)(b) Companies Act, 2016

That the books, accounts and documents of the company and of the Liquidator thereof shall be destroyed upon the expiration of three (3) months after the date of the final meeting.

Dated this 6 November 2025
LEE OOI CHOO
Liquidator

NOTICE is hereby given that an adoption application in respect of a child who was placed in the care of Selvam A/L Chukor Niaman and Susilah A/P Neelan Poosary on 17th September 2024 at 07-01-11 Jalan Metafasa U16/3 Pangsapuri Melati Taman Bukit Subang 40160 Shah Alam Selangor is currently being handled by Tetuan Tan Choon Hong & Associates, solicitors for the adoptive parents. We hereby call upon the biological parents of the said child to contact our firm within **fourteen (14) days** from the date of this notice at the following address:

Tetuan Tan Choon Hong & Associates
No. 7A, Lorong Sentosa 4,
Taman Bayu Klinggi,
41200 Klang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan.
Tel: 017-3499807
Email: tchoonhong07@gmail.com

322 **Notices**

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI SHAH ALAM DALAM NEGERI SELANGOR DARUL EHSAN, MALAYSIA GUAMAN NO. BA-22NCC-145-07/2025

ANTARA
1. CHEE CHOONG YIN (No. KP: 620401-08-5779)
2. FERN HEALTH RETAIL (No. Pendaftaran : JR1033174-M) ...PLAINTIF
DAN
1. LEE YU FEN (No. KP : 730323-08-6692)
2. CHOO SZE CHIAN (No. KP: 880905-08-6576)
3. JOME ENTERPRISE (No. Pendaftaran : 201303089806) ...DEFENDAN

NOTIS PENYAMPAIAN GANTI-BENTUK IKLAN
Kepada :
DEFENDAN PERTAMA - LEE YU FEN
7B-1-3 Meranti Terrace, Jalan Anggerik Vanda 31/166,
Kota Kemuning Seksyen 31
40460 Shah Alam Selangor

DEFENDAN KEDUA -
CHOO SZE CHIAN dan
DEFENDAN KETIGA -
JOME ENTERPRISE
16 Jalan PU 10/3,
Taman Puchong Utama
47100 Puchong Selangor

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa satu tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu oleh CHEE CHOONG YIN dan FERN HEALTH RETAIL beralamat di 26 Jalan Garcia 1/3, Taman Kundang Bolanik Rawang 47800 Selangor di dalam Mahkamah Tinggi Shah Alam dibawah Guaman No. BA-22NCC-145-07/2025 Plaintiff-Plaintif menuntut bayaran balik wang yang telah dibayar dan diterima dan juga deklaras, sepertimana dibuktikan didalam Pernyataan Tuntutan bersama faedah dan kos dan apa-apa relif selanjutnya yang difikir wajar oleh Mahkamah Yang Mulia ini, Mahkamah telah memerintahkan kamu di 23.10.2025 bahawa Writ, Pernyataan Tuntutan dan Perintah bertarikh 23.10.2025 diserahkan kepada kamu secara penyampaian ganti dengan menampalkan diatas Papan Notis Mahkamah Tinggi Shah Alam dan juga dialamat terakhir kamu yang diketahui Plaintiff-Plaintif iaitu di 7B-1-3 Meranti Terrace, Jalan Anggerik Vanda 31/166, Kota Kemuning Seksyen 31 40460 Shah Alam Selangor bagi Defendan Pertama, dan di No.16 Jalan PU 10/3, Taman Puchong Utama, 47100 Puchong Selangor bagi Defendan Kedua dan Ketiga dan adalah juga diperintahkan bahawa Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut disampaikan secara pengklankan sekali di akhbar harian dan selanjutnya diperintahkan bahawa penyampaian dan pengklankan tersebut dianggap sebagai penyampaian yang sempurna dan cukup terhadap kamu selepas 14 hari tarikh terakhir penampalan dan/atau pengklankan dilakukan ("Tarikh Serah"). Jika kamu bernaik untuk membela tindakan tersebut kamu mestilah menyerah dan memfailkan Notis Kehadiran kamu di Mahkamah Tinggi Shah Alam dalam masa 14 hari dari Tarikh Serah. Jika kamu ingkar sedemikian, Penghadaman akan diberi terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh 4 November 2025
-t-
Penolong Kanan Pendaftar
Mahkamah Tinggi Shah Alam

Notis Penyampaian Bentuk Iklan ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Tan Ah Lak & Co yang beralamat di Tingkat 7 Bangunan Yee Seng, 15 Jalan Raja Chulan, 50200 Kuala Lumpur (Ref: G/1074/25)

322 **Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF UNIFIED WAY SDN BHD (Registration No.: 200301004025 (606445-P)) (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 439(2)(b) of the Companies Act 2016, that the Resolution set out below was duly passed by the Members of the Company on 31 October 2025:

SPECIAL RESOLUTION - MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY WINDING UP

"That approval be and is hereby given for the Company to proceed with a members' voluntary winding up pursuant to Section 439(1)(b) of the Companies Act 2016.

And that pursuant to Section 445(1) of the Companies Act 2016, Mr Cheai Weng Hoong and Ms Ooi Wooi Kean, both of No. 1 Jalan Lasam, 30350 Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan be and are hereby appointed as the Liquidators to act for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the Company and distributing its assets at a remuneration to be determined by the directors."

Cheai Weng Hoong
Ooi Wooi Kean
Company Secretaries
Ipoh
Date: 6 November 2025

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF UNIFIED WAY SDN BHD (Registration No.: 200301004025 (606445-P)) (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 5 December 2025 to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidators of the abovenamed Company; and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidators, either 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 benefits of any distribution made before such debts are proved or such priority is established or as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Ipoh
Date: 6 November 2025

322 **Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF UNIFIED WAY SDN BHD (Registration No.: 200301004025 (606445-P)) (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 5 December 2025 to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidators of the abovenamed Company; and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidators, either 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 benefits of any distribution made before such debts are proved or such priority is established or as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Ipoh
Date: 6 November 2025

322 **Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF UNIFIED WAY SDN BHD (Registration No.: 200301004025 (606445-P)) (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 5 December 2025 to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidators of the abovenamed Company; and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidators, either 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 benefits of any distribution made before such debts are proved or such priority is established or as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Ipoh
Date: 6 November 2025

322 **Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF UNIFIED WAY SDN BHD (Registration No.: 200301004025 (606445-P)) (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 5 December 2025 to send their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned Liquidators of the abovenamed Company; and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidators, either 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 benefits of any distribution made before such debts are proved or such priority is established or as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Ipoh
Date: 6 November 2025

WORLD NO. 1 Aryna Sabalenka earned a 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 win over Jessica Pegula, while defending champion Coco Gauff put on a clinical performance to beat Jasmine Paolini 6-3, 6-2 and eliminate the Italian in Riyadh yesterday.

Sabalenka, who has won two matches in a row in the round-robin Group Steffi Graf, is on the verge of qualifying for the semifinals. Gauff and Pegula, who have one win each, also remain in contention for the last four.

"(Pegula) is an incredible player. She always pushed me to the limit... I was thinking, I'm gonna go after my shots, stay aggressive, put all of that speed back on her and hope that I get my chance," said four-time Grand Slam champion Sabalenka.

Sabalenka got the first break with a chip across the court to go 4-2 up, but Pegula soon broke back to make it 5-4.

Pegula saved three set points in the next game, but a persistent Sabalenka clinched a decisive break with a powerful forehand from the baseline.

The US Open champion, who had beaten Paolini on Monday, grew frustrated as she made 13 unforced errors, nearly twice as many as



Sabalenka overpowers Pegula

... as Gauff eliminates Paolini in Riyadh WTA Finals

Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka (left) and Jessica Pegula of the US shake hands after their group stage match. —REUTERSPIC

Pegula, as the American got two breaks to build a 5-2 lead before saving two break points to secure the second set.

Sabalenka struggled with double faults as Pegula broke early in the third set. However, the Belarusian responded with returns near the

sidelines to get two straight breaks, building a 4-2 lead that proved unsailable for Pegula.

Two-time Grand Slam winner

Gauff, who made 17 double faults when she lost to fellow American Jessica Pegula in her first game in Group Steffi Graf on Monday, committed only three double faults this time as she dominated the eighth seed earlier in the evening.

The 21-year-old American took just over 10 minutes to build a 3-0 lead in the first set before Paolini went through a nine-minute battle to fend off three break points and win her first game.

Paolini got a break but Gauff drew the Italian into backhand rallies and won points with precise cross-court shots to claim the next game and take a 5-3 lead before holding to win the set.

The French Open champion's strategy of making Paolini run constantly from one side of the court to the other paid off again when Gauff got back-to-back breaks to go 5-2 up in the second.

She secured victory with a powerful serve that Paolini could only hit into the net. Paolini was eliminated from the tournament with two straight defeats.

"I knew today's win was important to keep myself in the tournament. If I lost, I would have been out," world No. 3 Gauff said. — Reuters

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF REJOB TRADING SDN. BHD. (IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
[REGISTRATION NO. 201401029229 (1105315 - W)]
SECTION 525
NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of Rexob Trading Sdn. Bhd. (In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation) ("the Company") having a claim present or future, certain or contingent, that -

If you have not submitted your claim yet, you are required to submit an affidavit verifying debt together with all documents to substantiate your claim to the Liquidator of the Company at the following address not later than **5.00 p.m., Thursday, 27th day of November 2025**:

Address:
The Liquidator
Rexob Trading Sdn. Bhd.
(In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation)
c/o Messrs Rodgers Reidy & Co. (NF 2243)
K-3A-09, No. 2, Jalan Solaris Solaris Mont Kiara
50480 Kuala Lumpur

Telephone No : (03) 6204 0928
Fax No : (03) 6204 0428

Failure to submit your abovementioned affidavit to the Liquidator by the stipulated date can result in your claim being excluded from the benefit of any distributions made before the debt or claims are proved and from objecting to the distributions.

By Order of the Liquidator
LIM TIAN HUAT
Liquidator
Dated this 6 November 2025

Note:
1. Please do not submit an affidavit if you have submitted once before.
2. If you have submitted an affidavit but have not received any response from the Liquidator, please contact them at the above address.
3. Creditors who have not responded to the Liquidator's request for further documents and/or particulars relating to their claims are reminded to submit the further documents and/or particulars without delay or risk having their claims rejected.

322 Notices

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR DALAM WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN KUALA LUMPUR
GUAMAN NO.: WA-22M-1710-09/2025

ANTARA
MBSB BANK BERHAD (NO. PENDAFTARAN: 200501033981 (716122-P)) ... PLAINTIF

DAN
1. CHESTER FITNESS SDN BHD (NO. PENDAFTARAN: 201101017754 (945890-T))
2. IMAN FONG (NO. K/P: 620712-06-5281)
3. CHONG YEW CHAI (NO. K/P: 630520-10-6949) ... DEFENDAN-DEFENDAN

NOTIS
Kepada:
CHONG YEW CHAI (No. K/P: 630520-10-6949) Block J 1-06, Jalan Batu Nilam 34 Bandar Bukit Tinggi

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa satu tindakan telah dikeluarkan terhadap kamu, **CHONG YEW CHAI** di Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur oleh **MBSB BANK BERHAD** di mana pihak Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu sebagai Defendan Ke-3 seperti yang tertera di dalam Writ bertarikh 11.9.2025 dan Permintaan Tuntutan bertarikh 11.9.2025 ("Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut").

DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN bahawa Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut disampaikan terhadap kamu secara penyampaian ganti dengan menampalkan sesalinan Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut bersama-sama dengan sesalinan Perintah untuk penyampaian ganti pada Papan Notis Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur dan pada suatu tempat yang terang di premis alamat terakhir kamu yang diketahui di **BLOCK J 1-06, JALAN BATU NILAM 34, BANDARBUKITTINGGI, 41200 KLANG, SELANGOR** dan dengan mengiklankan Notis ini dalam suatu surat khabar tempatan iaitu "The Sun", dan penampalan dan pengiklankan sedemikian hendaklah dianggap sebagai penyampaian sempurna keatas kamu tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh akhir penampalan dan/atau pengiklankan tersebut.

Sekiranya kamu berhasrat untuk membela tindakan ini, kamu dikehendaki dalam tempoh dua puluh satu (21) hari selepas tarikh akhir penampalan dan pengiklankan memasukkan kehadiran di Pejabat Pendaftaran Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur dan menyampaikan sesalinannya kepada Peguamcara Plaintiff. Jika kamu ingkar berbuat demikian, suatu Penghakiman boleh dikenakan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 6 November 2025
t.t.
Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Mahkamah Tinggi Kuala Lumpur

NOTIS ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Kee Sern, Siu & Huey, peguamcara Plaintiff yang mempunyai alamat penyampaian di No. 468-11E(2), 2nd Floor, Block C, Rivercity, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 51200 Kuala Lumpur. (603) 9212 2688 (603) 4044 0448 Email: general@kshlegal.com [Ruj: LH/LPT/GL/MSB-CFSB/250457]

322 Notices

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR DALAM WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN KUALA LUMPUR
GUAMAN NO.: WA-22M-1710-09/2025

ANTARA
MBSB BANK BERHAD (NO. PENDAFTARAN: 200501033981 (716122-P)) ... PLAINTIF

DAN
1. CHESTER FITNESS SDN BHD (NO. PENDAFTARAN: 201101017754 (945890-T))
2. IMAN FONG (NO. K/P: 620712-06-5281)
3. CHONG YEW CHAI (NO. K/P: 630520-10-6949) ... DEFENDAN-DEFENDAN

NOTIS
Kepada:
IMAN FONG (No. K/P: 620712-06-5281) 25, Jalan 17 Lorong 48, Off Jalan Meru 41050 Klang, Selangor

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa satu tindakan telah dikeluarkan terhadap kamu, **IMAN FONG** di Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur oleh **MBSB BANK BERHAD** di mana pihak Plaintiff menuntut terhadap kamu sebagai Defendan Ke-2 seperti yang tertera di dalam Writ bertarikh 11.9.2025 dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 11.9.2025 ("Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut").

DAN TELAH DIPERINTAHKAN bahawa Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut disampaikan terhadap kamu secara penyampaian ganti dengan menampalkan sesalinan Writ dan Pernyataan Tuntutan tersebut bersama-sama dengan sesalinan Perintah untuk penyampaian ganti pada Papan Notis Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur dan dengan mengiklankan Notis ini dalam suatu surat khabar tempatan iaitu "The Sun", dan penampalan dan pengiklankan sedemikian hendaklah dianggap sebagai penyampaian sempurna keatas kamu tujuh (7) hari selepas tarikh akhir penampalan dan/atau pengiklankan tersebut.

Sekiranya kamu berhasrat untuk membela tindakan ini, kamu dikehendaki dalam tempoh dua puluh satu (21) hari selepas tarikh akhir penampalan dan pengiklankan memasukkan kehadiran di Pejabat Pendaftaran Mahkamah Tinggi di Kuala Lumpur dan menyampaikan sesalinannya kepada Peguamcara Plaintiff. Jika kamu ingkar berbuat demikian, suatu Penghakiman boleh dikenakan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh pada 6 November 2025
t.t.
Penolong Kanan Pendaftar Mahkamah Tinggi Kuala Lumpur

NOTIS ini difailkan oleh Tetuan Kee Sern, Siu & Huey, peguamcara Plaintiff yang mempunyai alamat penyampaian di No. 468-11E(2), 2nd Floor, Block C, Rivercity, Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 51200 Kuala Lumpur. (603) 9212 2688 (603) 4044 0448 Email: general@kshlegal.com [Ruj: LH/LPT/GL/MSB-CFSB/250457]

322 Notices

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA (COMMERCIAL DIVISION)
COMPANY WINDING UP PETITION
NO.: WA-28NCC-1015-09/2025

In the matter of the Companies Act 2016 (COMPANY NO.: 202301000162 (1494081-H))

And

In the matter of Sections 465(1)(e) and 466(1)(a) of the Companies Act 2016

And

In the matter of the Companies (Winding Up) Rules 1972

BETWEEN

VISUAL RANGKAIAN SDN. BHD. (Company No.: 201801022303 (1284322-M)) ... PETITIONER

AND

CKL VERITAS SDN. BHD. (Company No.: 202301000162 (1494081-H)) ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for the Winding-Up of the abovementioned Company by the High Court was on the 26th day of September 2025, presented by **VISUAL RANGKAIAN SDN. BHD.** (Company No.: 201801022303 (1284322-M)) and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the High Court of Malaysia sitting at Kuala Lumpur at 9.00 a.m. on the 1st day of December 2025; and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desiring to support or oppose the making of an order on or 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 L1-100@KSL City Mall, No.33, Jalan Seladang, 80250 Johor Bahru, Johor.

The Petitioner's Solicitors are Messrs. Law Chambers of Lee J. X., having an address for service at No. 15-1, Jalan PJS 8/11, Dataran Mentari, 46150 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

Signed
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 Messrs. Law Chambers of Lee J. X. at No. 15-1, Jalan PJS 8/11, Dataran Mentari, 46150 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, a 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 day of January 2026.

Tel No.: 03-6411 9388
Fax: 03-6411 9389
Ref: **KMW.KRE-20240135**
Email: **info@mingpartners.com**

322 Notices

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA AT KUALA LUMPUR IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA (WINDING-UP)
NO. WA-28NCC-1069-10/2025

In the matter of the Companies Act 2016

AND

In the matter of Section 465 and Section 466 of the Companies Act 2016

AND

In the matter of HRA Teguh Sdn Bhd [Company Registration No. 198201013811 (93574-X)]

BETWEEN

LYSAGHT CORRUGATED PIPE SDN BHD [Company Registration No. 197201001314 (12941-P)] ... PETITIONER

AND

HRA TEGUH SDN BHD [Company Registration No. 198201013811 (93574-X)] ... RESPONDENT

ADVERTISEMENT OF PETITION

NOTICE is hereby given that a Petition for the Winding-Up of the abovementioned Company, **HRA TEGUH SDN BHD** by the High Court was, on the 14th day of October 2025, presented by **LYSAGHT CORRUGATED PIPE SDN BHD**, and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the High Court of Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur at 9 o'clock, on the 5th day of January 2026; 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 registered address is at No. W11-21 11th Floor, Ampcorp Business Suite, Menara Melawangi, No. 18, Jalan Persiaran Barat, 46050 Petaling Jaya, Selangor and business address is at Lot No. P7302 Jalan Johan 1/7, Kwsan Perindustrian Pengkalan II, Fasa II, Off Jalan Pusing, 31550 Pusing, Perak.

The Petitioner's solicitors are Messrs. Ming & Partners of S-7-12, Wisma YNH, Kiara 163, No. 8, Jalan Kiara, Mont' Kiara 50480 Kuala Lumpur.

MESSRS. MING & PARTNERS
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 abovementioned 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 abovementioned not later than twelve o'clock noon of the 4th day of January 2026.

Tel No.: 03-6411 9388
Fax: 03-6411 9389
Ref: **KMW.KRE-20240135**
Email: **info@mingpartners.com**

322 Notices

DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR DALAM WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN, MALAYSIA (BAHAGIAN KELUARGA) PETISIYEN PERCAERAIAN
NO: WA-33-260-07/2025

ANTARA
YUWARAJ A/L SEENEVASAN (NO. K/P XXXXXX-XX-5129) ... PEMPETISIYEN

DAN
LATHA A/P RAGU (NO. K/P: XXXXXX-XX-6394) ... RESPONDEN

NOTIS IKLAN
(Penyampaian Ganti)

Kepada:
LATHA A/P RAGU (NO. K/P: XXXXXX-XX-6394) No. XXX, Jalan XXX, Ipoh, Perak

AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa suatu Petisyen Perceraian telah dikemukakan terhadap kamu di Mahkamah oleh **YUWARAJ A/L SEENEVASAN** (No. K/P XXXXXX-XX-5129) yang beralamat di No. XXX, Jalan XXX, Taman XXX, Kuala Lumpur dan Mahkamah telah memerintahkan supaya Petisyen Perceraian tersebut disampaikan kepada kamu bersama-sama dengan salinan Perintah itu menerusi penyampaian Ganti dengan menampalnya di Papan Notis Mahkamah Tinggi Kuala Lumpur dan menampalnya di alamat terakhir kamu yang diketahui seperti di atas, mengeposnya ke alamat terakhir kamu yang diketahui seperti di atas dan dengan menyiarkan sekali Notis Iklan dalam akhbar tempatan dan bahawa penampalan, pengposan dan penyiaran sedemikian adalah penyampaian yang baik dan mencukupi ke atas kamu selepas 14 hari dari tarikh pelaksanaan akhir penyampaian ganti tersebut.

DAN SELANJUTNYA AMBIL PERHATIAN bahawa jika kamu ingin membela Petisyen Perceraian tersebut, kamu hendaklah dalam tempoh 14 hari selepas cara penyampaian yang berkesan ke atas kamu termasuk hari penyampaian tersebut, memberi notis niat untuk membela dengan memfailkan Pengakuan Penyampaian seperti yang telah dihantar ke alamat terakhir kamu yang diketahui seperti di atas, di Pejabat Pendaftaran Mahkamah Tinggi Kuala Lumpur (Bahagian Keluarga), Jika tiada notis sedemikian diterima, dekri nisi dan perintah boleh diberikan terhadap kamu.

Bertarikh 5 November 2025
T.T.
PEGUAMCARA PEMPETISIYEN

NOTIS IKLAN (Penyampaian Ganti) ini telah dibuat oleh Tetuan Fadzil Naidu & Co, Peguambela & Peguamcara yang beralamat di No. 3-1 (Tingkat Atas), Jalan Lesung Batu Jaya Utama, Taman Lesung Batu Jaya Utama, 78000 Alor Gajah, Melaka.
No tel: 012-6816153
email: fadzil1946@gmail.com [Ruj: Raj.Div.2/25]

TRAMLINES

Djokovic in tears after tribute to late coach

NOVAK DJOKOVIC fought back tears after his second-round win at the Hellenic Championship in Athens yesterday after tournament organisers played a tribute video to his former coach Nikola Pilic, who died in September aged 86.

In his playing days, Croatian Pilic was runner-up at the French Open in 1973 and after turning to coaching captained Germany to three Davis Cup titles between 1988 and 1993.

Djokovic, who joined Pilic's academy in Germany when he was 12, was visibly moved during the video, which played after the 24-times Grand Slam champion defeated Alejandro Tabilo 7-6(3), 6-1.

"It was an emotional moment," the 38-year-old told the ATP website.

"Considering what he meant to me and my family - privately, also professionally - he was my tennis father as I like to call him, someone who has played a fundamental, integral role in my development as a tennis player and as a human being.

"It was really sad news when I heard that he passed away."

Djokovic, who has won 100 ATP titles, said he would keep Pilic's legacy alive.

"As long as I play tennis and as long as I live, I'll celebrate his name," he added. "He deserves it. He was a special man."

Venus to orbit Auckland at 45

SEVEN-TIME Grand Slam champion Venus Williams will play in January's Auckland Classic at the age of 45, tournament organisers announced yesterday.

Williams has been awarded a wild card for the Australian Open warm-up event from Jan 5-11 after only returning to the circuit in August at the US Open after a 16-month break.

"She is one of the great players in the modern era and her performances on the court speak for themselves," said tournament director Nicolas Lamperin, who added that she was in "remarkable shape and form".

Williams, who won the Auckland Classic in 2015 when she beat Caroline Wozniacki in the final, has lifted five Wimbledon singles titles, two US Opens and an Olympic gold, in Sydney in 2000. Lamperin said it was a "privilege" to have Williams back at the tournament.

"All sports fans should take this opportunity to watch one of the sport's all-time greats in action."

Coventry get promotion push back on track

COVENTRY got their bid for promotion to the Premier League back on track as the Championship leaders beat Sheffield United 3-1 yesterday.

Frank Lampard's side had seen their unbeaten start to the season ended in a surprise loss at Wrexham on Friday.

The Sky Blues were in trouble again when Sam McCallum put the Blades ahead in the first half at the CBS Arena.

But Tatsuhiro Sakamoto, Bobby Thomas and Brandon Thomas-Asante scored in a second half goal spree that secured Coventry's ninth win this season and lifted them four points clear at the top.

BY JAMIE GARDNER

MIKEL ARTETA praised the maturity of Champions League record-breaker Max Dowman as Arsenal cruised to a 3-0 victory over Slavia Prague.

Arteta brought Dowman on with the game effectively wrapped up, after Bukayo Saka scored a first half penalty and makeshift forward Mikel Merino grabbed a second-half double.

Dowman's appearance at the age of 15 years and 308 days broke the Champions League record previously set by Youssoufa Moukoko at Borussia Dortmund, and Arteta was again full of warm words for his young star.

"The first ball he gets, he takes people on. He starts to dribble and gets a foul. That is personality, that is courage," the Gunners head coach said.

"You cannot teach that – you either have it or you don't. It doesn't matter what his passport says, you throw him in this context and he is able to adapt and have a good performance."

Arteta also had praise for two-goal Merino. The Spain international has adapted to playing as a centre-forward after first being called on to do so last season, and has again been thrown into the role following a concerning muscular injury suffered by Viktor Gyokeres at Burnley.

His second-half double helped Arsenal secure a fourth straight Champions League win and claim a club record-equalling eighth clean sheet in a row, plus a 10th consecutive victory in all competitions.

Arteta said: "It's a joy to have (Mikel). It's his versatility on the pitch, the things that he can do.

"It's his mindset, it's his leadership, it's the way he is as a person. Today we are missing a lot of attacking players and we have to find different solutions. He comes in in the Champions League and scores two goals. You have to invent options. You can always have options if you invent them."

"I'm delighted with how the players have managed to win that game," Lampard said to *BBC Sport*.

"It was absolutely deserved of course but it was brilliant character and when you think of the details of the game and how it went we were outstanding.

"It was great to get an early goal because that gives the players and the stadium a real belief."

Luke Ayling's stoppage-time header salvaged third-placed Middlesbrough's 1-1 draw at Leicester after Jordan Ayew converted a first-half penalty for the hosts.

Languishing in 13th place after last season's relegation from the

Premier League, Leicester were booed off for a second successive home game following last weekend's defeat against Blackburn.

Lewis Baker scored twice as Stoke crushed Oxford 3-0 at the Kassam Stadium to move up to second place.

Sonny Carey hit Charlton's stoppage-time winner as they defeated West Bromwich Albion 1-0 at the Valley to move back into the Championship play-off places.

Charlton captain Greg Docherty's first-half penalty was saved by Joshua Griffiths.

But Carey's 30-yard drive deflected under Griffiths as Charlton extended their unbeaten run to five

league matches.

Birmingham recorded a 4-0 victory for the second time in four days as they thrashed Millwall at St Andrew's.

Chris Davies' side were in clinical form as they followed up Saturday's thumping of Portsmouth with another impressive win on home turf.

Ipswich fought back to rescue a 1-1 draw against Watford at Portman Road. Imran Louza netted for Watford after 16 minutes, but Jaden Philogene grabbed Ipswich's equaliser soon afterwards to leave both teams in mid-table.

Lars-Jorgen Salvesen's first goal for Derby sealed a 2-1 win against Hull at Pride Park, while Yuki Ohashi fired Blackburn to a 1-0 victory at Bristol City. – AFP



David Raya (left), Max Dowman (centre) and Gabriel Magalhães celebrate after the match. – AFP/IC

Merino's first was a classic striker's goal, turning in a volley from Leandro Trossard's left-wing cross.

"Obviously, Mikel hasn't played there before in his career but we had a good experience of last season and the way he reacted and performed in that position," Arteta added.

"My view was always he had really good timing and capacity to finish in the box, especially one touch.

"And then talking to him and making sure that he plays closer to the box and he identifies the opportunities, the timing, the way he needs to attack the spaces in relation to how they defend

the box."

The run of clean sheets appeared in danger late on when the referee first gave Slavia a penalty after a challenge by Ben White on Provod, but overturned it after a VAR review.

Arteta said: "I wasn't happy at all. I clearly saw that there could never be a penalty, but he made the decision. So, yes, well done because (the referee) was really honest. I think, obviously, it's not a penalty. I want to maintain that (record) because I think that gives you something to defend as well and to merit.

"It would have been a bit sloppy to give it away that way." – The Independent

SHORTS

LIV Golf switching to 72-hole format

LIV GOLF will abandon its abbreviated 54-hole format in favor of 72-hole tournaments in 2026, officials said yesterday.

The Saudi-backed circuit, whose name is derived from the Roman numeral for "54", had previously touted its three-round tournaments as a core distinction from traditional golf events.

However the 54-hole format prevented LIV events from earning Official Golf World Rankings points, making it harder for LIV players to qualify for golf's majors.

A statement from LIV yesterday said the circuit's events will now be played over four days, with most starting on a Thursday.

The decision to adopt the 72-hole format also boosts the chances of LIV reaching an agreement with the PGA Tour over unifying golf.

The two circuit's different formats had reportedly been a key stumbling block in ongoing negotiations.

The circuit's decision was welcomed by LIV's biggest stars, with former world No. 1 Jon Rahm describing it as "a win for the League and the players."

Two-time major champion Bryson DeChambeau said he hoped the move would enable more LIV players to compete in majors.

"Everyone wants to see the best players in the world competing against each other, especially in the majors.

"And for the good of the game, we need a path forward," DeChambeau said.

Pakistan edge Proteasa in tense finish

PAKISTAN overcame a late South African fightback to win the first one-day international by two wickets in a tense last over finish in Faisalabad yesterday.

The home team were cruising towards victory at 241-4, chasing a 264-run target, until South Africa grabbed four wickets for just 22 runs to set up a tense finish at Iqbal Stadium.

Pakistan entered the last over needing four runs with three wickets standing but lost Mohammad Nawaz off the third ball with the scores tied.

Tail-ender Naseem Shah took a sharp single off the next ball to give Pakistan a 1-0 lead in the three-match series, with the final two matches today and Saturday, also in Faisalabad which was hosting its first international cricket in 17 years.

"That always happens in cricket but we'll try to make it not happen again," said Pakistan captain Shaheen Shah Afridi.

"It was a special occasion of cricket returning to Faisalabad so we are happy that we won."

Pakistan had bowled out South Africa for 263 in 49.1 overs despite half-centuries from openers Quinton de Kock and teenager Lhuan-dre Pretorius.

"I think we were 20-30 runs short," said Matthew Breetzke, who was leading the team for the first time. "We lost wickets in clusters but still there are a lot of positives." – AFP

Frank hails Tottenham 'bounce-back' mentality

BY GEORGE SESSIONS

THOMAS FRANK brushed off criticism by *Sky Sports* pundit Jamie Carragher after Tottenham registered the biggest victory of his short tenure with a 4-0 thrashing of Copenhagen.

A goal of the season contender by Micky van de Ven helped Spurs provide boss Frank with much-needed home comforts after a difficult Saturday evening in north London against Chelsea.

Boos followed a 1-0 loss at home to Chelsea, with an unfortunate flashpoint as Van de Ven and Djed Spence ignored Frank's instructions to applaud the fans. Both apologised on Tuesday but later that day Carragher blasted Tottenham.

Carragher claimed Spurs' performance against Chelsea was

"like watching a League Two team against a Premier League team in the FA Cup."

Frank witnessed Tottenham produce the perfect response as Brennan Johnson's smart 19th-minute opener was followed by emphatic second-half efforts by Wilson Odobert, Van de Ven and Joao Palhinha to claim a crucial three points at home.

"I didn't see (Carragher's) comments, so not too much to say to that," Frank insisted.

"They need to say something about the games. I've been a pundit myself sometimes. Put it this way, I know it's easier to be that than stand down there.

"I saw a good performance today, which I'm happy with. We talk a lot about that bounce-back mentality because in life and football there will

be setbacks.

"Every team will experience that and it's how we react to that to come out after a bad game or a bad spell and come back to it. That's part of a good team. I'm very happy with the response the players came with."

Not even Johnson's controversial red card in the 57th minute could sour the occasion as the Wales international was penalised for a tackle which caught the achilles of Marcos Lopez.

The game was in the balance at that point with Spurs only two up, but Van de Ven clinched the points with a sensational solo effort.

Van de Ven received the ball on the edge of his area and burst past a number of Copenhagen players before he drilled into the bottom corner. He celebrated in front of the South Stand and his name echoed

around the stadium.

Frank joked: "He can keep walking past me if he's angry after a game! It seems like we had Lionel Messi turned into Micky van de Ven, roaring down from his own goal all the way to the other end and scored a fantastic goal.

"I think he's our top scorer in all competitions, so he can keep going."

Frank was reluctant to point to the victory over a team from his native Denmark as a turning point after a difficult spell of one win in five, but it lifts the mood ahead of Saturday's visit of Manchester United.

He added: "It was important. You want your bad performance to get out of the way straight away and the quicker you can bounce back, the better. I was happy with the response." – The Independent

SHORTS

Juve held by Sporting Lisbon

JUVENTUS were held to a 1-1 draw by Sporting Lisbon yesterday as Luciano Spalletti's new team failed to claim a first win in this season's Champions League.

Dusan Vlahovic (pic) earned Juve a point in Turin by poking home Khephren Thuram's low cross in the 34th minute and cancelling out Maximiliano Araujo's early opener for the Portuguese champions.

Juve are hovering dangerously above the elimination places in the league table with just three points from four fixtures in Europe's elite

club competition.

"We had a difficult start but then took control of the game," Spalletti told Sky Sports.

"What gives me satisfaction and hope is that we have a good squad because there are players with real quality."

Sporting meanwhile are nicely tucked in the playoff positions at the halfway point of the league phase with seven points.

"We're not happy with the result because we think we could have done more. We played well, we were better than them and they're a good team," said Vlahovic.

"We were just missing that second goal, it is

what it is. I hope we continue in this vein, but also winning matches."

Stalemate in Naples

NAPOLI and Eintracht Frankfurt played out an uneventful goalless draw yesterday which did little for their stuttering Champions League campaigns.

There was little goalmouth action in Naples where both teams ended their evenings on a paltry four points from four matches in this season's competition.

Scott McTominay missed the best chance of a frustrating night for the Serie A champions when he blasted over from close range.



Perfect Bayern

Diaz hero and villain as Munich maintain 100% record

LUIS DIAZ (pic) scored twice and was sent off as Bayern Munich maintained their perfect record this season with a statement 2-1 win away to Paris Saint-Germain yesterday in a glamour Champions League tie marred by an injury to Achraf Hakimi.

The Colombian gave Bayern a fourth-minute lead at the Parc des Princes and pounced on slack defending to score again just after the half-hour mark.

However, the former Liverpool winger was shown a red card in first half stoppage time following a rash challenge on Hakimi which forced PSG's Moroccan star off in tears.

Joao Neves pulled one back for PSG but Bayern held on despite playing the entire second half a man down, and despite Harry Kane failing to add to his 25 goals for club and country this season.

Bayern's sensational start to the campaign has seen them win all 16 games in all competitions, including four in the Champions League - they are one of only two clubs with 12 points in Europe's elite competition alongside Arsenal.

"I know the Champions League winner is not decided now, otherwise PSG would not have won it last season," said Bayern coach Vincent Kompany.

"But now it is just about getting to the next round and this was a very important three points."

As Bayern march on, it remains to be seen what the consequences for PSG will be of the injury to Hakimi, who is

due to lead Morocco into the Africa Cup of Nations on home soil next month.

PSG also saw Ballon d'Or winner Ousmane Dembele come off in the first half, cutting short just his second start in two months after a hamstring injury.

"We need to be watchful and we are trying to improve the physical condition of the players but it is not easy when you see how many games we have to play," PSG coach Luis Enrique told Canal Plus.

"We will have to wait until tomorrow to see the results of the tests to find out the extent of the injuries, but Ousmane's injury has nothing to do with his last one," said Enrique.

"That's football, it's a contact sport," he said, recalling the leg fracture suffered by Bayern's Jamal Musiala during the Club World Cup quarterfinal between the same teams in the United States in July.

"It's a shame because it is complicated for the players but I remember the injury Musiala got in the summer and it is just one of these moments of bad luck."

Enrique team, who won last season's Champions League final in style against Inter Milan in Munich, are being hampered now by fitness issues - Desire Doue, the best player in that final, was already missing here with injury.

The actual consequences of losing this encounter may be less problematic. However, PSG came into this midweek top of the Champions League standings and they remain well placed to qualify for the knockout rounds.

"I can't talk about the future. What we do know is that we have the hardest fixtures," said Enrique, with PSG facing Tottenham Hotspur next. - AFP



Luis Diaz (right) tackles PSG's Achraf Hakimi. - AFP/PPIC

SPORTS TOTO RESULTS
DRAW NO: 6044/2025 DATE: 05/11/2025 (WED)
STM LOTTERY SDN. BHD.
196901000090 (8420-D)

TOTO 4D PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL

1st Prize **9976**
2nd Prize **1224**
3rd Prize **5704**

Special	Consolation
7171 3674	8657 4600
0904 0945	5723 2001
0489 1336	8305 2403
4408 5556	7841 7908
5322 2094	5980 2461

4D JACKPOT
Jackpot 1 **RM 13,627,154.02**

9976 1224	1224 9976
9976 5704	5704 9976
1224 5704	5704 1224

Jackpot 2 **RM 244,437.82**
Winning combination of any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of Special prizes.

4D Zodiac

1st Prize 9976	+ RAT
2nd Prize 1224	
3rd Prize 5704	
4th Prize Special Prize	
5th Prize Consolation Prize	
6th Prize Any 4D drawn number	

TOTO 5D & 6D PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL

5D 1ST **6 2 6 4 7**
4TH **2 6 4 7**
2ND **7 3 0 1 8** 5TH **6 4 7**
3RD **6 3 8 2 4** 6TH **4 7**

6D 1ST **8 5 0 4 4 2**
2ND **8 5 0 4 4** or **5 0 4 4 2**
3RD **8 5 0 4** or **0 4 4 2**
4TH **8 5 0** or **4 4 2**
5TH **8 5** or **4 2**

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Jackpot 1 **RM 11,650,291.83**
Jackpot 2 **RM 100,000.00**

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Toto 4D Jackpot 2 **RM 295,823**
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WINNING NUMBERS
PAYMENT GUARANTEED IN FULL **dama cai**

Draw Date: 05/11/25 (Wed) Draw No: 5991/25 Venue: WISMA GENTING, KL

1+3D SUPER 1+3D

1st Prize	5082
2nd Prize	2244
3rd Prize	6429

Starters	Consolation
5470 1786	5665 0630
0336 9260	9369 3936
1913 0276	2866 7954
0743 3848	0041 1605
7211 1285	5128 7055

1-3D Jackpot
Jackpot 1 **RM8,193,531.50**

5082 + 2244	2244 + 5082
5082 + 6429	6429 + 5082
2244 + 6429	6429 + 2244

Jackpot 2 **RM161,691.00**
Winning pair matches any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of 10 Starter Prizes.

3-3D Bonus

1st Prize	Bonus	1st Prize Bonus
875 082 + RABBIT		RM80,000.00
2nd Prize	Bonus	2nd Prize Bonus
972 244 + ROOSTER		RM500,000.00
3rd Prize	Bonus	3rd Prize Bonus
426 429 + DRAGON		RM669,097.10

Starters	Consolation
735 470 621 786	765 665 850 630
840 336 849 260	749 369 063 936
721 913 900 276	272 866 617 954
410 743 473 848	350 041 431 605
577 211 361 285	145 128 707 055

3D

1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
082	244	429

3D Jackpot
Jackpot **RM609,378.40**

082 + 244 + 429	244 + 429 + 082
082 + 429 + 244	429 + 082 + 244
244 + 082 + 429	429 + 244 + 082

Winning combination matches the Top 3 Prizes in any order.

3D Jackpot RM842,631.90 won on 2/11/25!

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Delicate predicament

KBS will balance need to comply with international regulations and domestic demand for accountability: Yeoh

THE Ministry of Youth and Sports (KBS) will continue to balance the need to comply with international regulations and the demands for domestic accountability regarding the issue of documentation for seven national heritage football players.

Its Minister, Hannah Yeoh, said this step is crucial to ensure that the Football Association of Malaysia (FAM) strengthens its governance and restores public confidence in the integ-

ity and credibility of national football.

"Such a suspension would not only affect the main national team but also involve all age-group teams, as well as other parties like the Malaysian Football League (MFL), Amateur Football League (AFL), and the clubs competing in the Malaysian League.

"This action will affect the entire local football ecosystem," she said in a Facebook post on Tuesday night, adding that the government also needs to be cautious on this issue because any

form of intervention could lead to FAM being suspended by the International Federation of Association Football (Fifa).

Yeoh said that in the history of international football, several countries have faced suspension by Fifa due to government interference, including Indonesia in 2015, Zimbabwe (2022), Chad (2021), Benin (2015), and Brunei (2009).

She stated that these examples show that Fifa is firm in upholding

Statute 15(c), which stipulates that every football association must be free from any form of political or government interference, a fundamental principle of membership for any country under the organisation.

At the same time, she said that KBS, through the Sports Commissioner's Office, will work closely with the Independent Special Investigation Committee led by former Chief Justice, Tun Md Raus Sharif, on this matter.

"The results of this investigation will serve as the basis for the implementation of corrective and improvement measures that must be complied with by the FAM," she said.

On Tuesday, Fifa rejected the appeal made by FAM and the seven players involved, namely Gabriel Felipe Arrocha, Facundo Garces, Rodrigo Holgado, Imanol Machuca, Joao Figueiredo, Jon Irazabal, and

Hector Hevel.

The Fifa Appeal Committee upheld the sanctions imposed by the governing body's Disciplinary Committee against FAM and the seven heritage players for offences related to forgery of documents under Article 22 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC).

Following this, FAM was ordered to pay a fine of CHF350,000 (approximately RM1.8 million), while each player was fined CHF2,000 (around RM11,000). The seven players were also suspended for 12 months from all football-related activities.

FAM Acting President Datuk Mohd Yusoff Mahadi, who was surprised by the decision, said the association will write to Fifa to obtain the full details and written reasons for the decision before determining the next step to file an appeal with the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS). - Bernama

RESULTS & STANDINGS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: Napoli 0 Eintracht Frankfurt 0, Slavia Prague 0 Arsenal 3 (Saka 32-pen, Merino 46, 68), Atletico Madrid 3 (Alvarez 39, Gallagher 72, Llorente 90+6) Union Saint-Gilloise 1 (Sykes 80), Bodo/Glimt 0 Monaco 1 (Balogun 43), Juventus 1 (Vlahovic 34) Sporting Lisbon 1 (Araujo 12), Liverpool 1 (Mac Allister 61) Real Madrid 0, Olympiacos 1 (Martins 17) PSV 1 (Pepi 90+3), Paris Saint-Germain 1 (Nunes 74) Bayern Munich 2 (Diaz 4, 32), Tottenham 4 (Johnson 19, Odobert 51, Van de Ven 64, Palhinha 67) Copenhagen 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
B. Munich	4	4	0	0	14	3	12
Arsenal	4	4	0	0	11	0	12
Paris SG	4	3	0	1	14	5	9
Inter	3	3	0	0	9	0	9
Real Madrid	4	3	0	1	8	2	9
Liverpool	4	3	0	1	9	4	9
Spurs	4	2	2	0	7	2	8
Dortmund	3	2	1	0	12	7	7
Man City	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Sporting	4	2	1	1	8	5	7
Newcastle	3	2	0	1	8	2	6
Barcelona	3	2	0	1	9	4	6
Chelsea	3	2	0	1	7	4	6
Atletico	4	2	0	2	10	9	6
Qarabao	3	2	0	1	6	5	6
Galatasaray	3	2	0	1	5	6	6
PSV	4	1	2	1	9	7	5
Monaco	4	1	2	1	4	6	5
Atalanta	3	1	1	1	2	5	4
Frankfurt	4	1	1	2	7	11	4
Napoli	4	1	1	2	4	9	4
Marseille	3	1	0	2	6	4	3
Juventus	4	0	3	1	7	8	3
Club Brugge	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Athletic	3	1	0	2	4	7	3
R. Union SG	4	1	0	3	4	12	3
Bodo/Glimt	4	0	2	2	5	8	2
Pafos	3	0	2	1	1	5	2
Leverkusen	3	0	2	1	5	10	2
Slavia	4	0	2	2	2	8	2
Olympiakos	4	0	2	2	2	9	2
Villarreal	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Kobenhavn	4	0	1	3	4	12	1
Kairat	3	0	1	2	1	9	1
Benfica	3	0	0	3	2	7	0
Ajax	3	0	0	3	1	11	0

ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIP: Birmingham City 4 Millwall 0, Bristol City 0 Blackburn Rovers 1, Charlton Athletic 1 West Bromwich Albion 0, Derby County 2 Hull City 1, Ipswich Town 1 Watford 1, Leicester City 1 Middlesbrough 1, Oxford United 0 Stoke City 3, Coventry City 3 Sheffield United 1.

TOP 6	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	14	9	4	1	39	13	31
Stoke	14	8	3	3	21	9	27
Mid'boro	14	7	5	2	17	12	26
Millwall	14	7	3	4	16	19	24
Charlton	14	6	5	3	16	11	23
Preston	13	6	4	3	17	12	22



No pain, no gain, say Kai Wun

NATIONAL men's doubles player Tee Kai Wun (pic) is willing to "ignore" a calf injury on his left leg in pursuit of a slot at the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour Finals in Hangzhou from Dec 17 to 21.

Kai Wun said he and his partner, Man Wei Chong, are fully focused on qualifying for the season-ending tournament for the first time by collecting as many ranking points as possible at the 2025 Kumamoto Masters in Japan, which runs from Nov 11 to 16.

"We haven't qualified for the World Tour Finals yet, so we have to play at the Kumamoto Masters. There are still points to chase, and we must fight," he said when met during a training session in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

The 25-year-old admitted that the injury had affected him emotionally to some extent but said he was doing his best to push through the pain in his bid to realise his dream of competing in the World Tour Finals.

Kai Wun said the injury was detected before the 2025 Finland Open, forcing him and his partner to skip the tournament, but they made a return at the French Open last month. However, they showed good form by reaching the quarterfinals of the French Open and the semifinals of the Hylo Open in Germany recently.

The world No. 5 pair are currently ranked third in the BWF World Tour standings with 84,350 points.

Two other Malaysian pairs are also in the top eight of the BWF World Tour rankings - 2022 world champions Aaron Chia-Soh Wooi Yik in second place with 95,320 points and professional duo Goh Sze Fei-Nur Izzuddin Rumsani in seventh with 72,770 points.

Only the top eight singles players and doubles pairs in the BWF World Tour rankings will qualify for the season finale, with a maximum of two representatives from each country in every category. - Bernama

Emma Firiyana eyes place in quarterfinals

NATIONAL lawn bowler Emma Firiyana Saroji (pic) started the 2025 World Cup campaign convincingly after winning two out of three group stage matches in the women's singles yesterday.

In the action held at the National Lawn Bowl Centre in Bukit Kiara, the 39-year-old bowler managed to defeat New Zealand's Katelyn Inch 2-1 before losing narrowly 1-2 to England's Katherine Redhall in the second match held in the morning.

However, when the competition resumed in the afternoon, she charged back into the reckoning with a 2-0 win over Scotland's Caroline Brown.

"Thankfully, I was able to control the game well today. My main strategy was to make sure the first ball is close to the jack. Even one ball is enough if it is accurate because from there, I can control the pace of the game," she said after the end of the first day's matches.

The World Bowls Indoor Championships

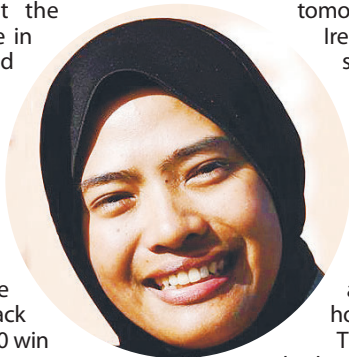
bronze medallist is now determined to chase two more important victories to ensure that her path to the quarterfinals remains clear.

"It's not yet official for the quarterfinals, because there are two more matches tomorrow against South Africa and Ireland. I have to win both to secure a place in the top two of the group," she said.

However, she is optimistic that she will be able to defeat South African Anneke Scheepers and Irish representative Lara Reaney going by a good past record against them before, as well as having the advantage of home ground as the host.

The Selangor-born bowler is also hoping that she can carry forward her excellent form in the singles to women's doubles action when she teams up with Nurul Alyani Jamil in the tournament.

A total of seven categories are contested, namely singles and pairs for men and women, para singles for men and women and para mixed in the five-day tournament. - Bernama



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8682	1936	0426	2041
2080	7312	6898	3005
1796	9228	3660	0845
8270	7554	6686	4284

4D Jackpot

Jackpot 1 **RM9,274,377.75**
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 6995 + 0242 | 6995 + 9828
 9828 + 0242 | 9828 + 6995

Jackpot 2 **RM283,970.92**
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Jackpot 1 **RM10,630,010.03** PARTIALLY WON
 Jackpot 1 - Group 1 + Golden Number

Jackpot 2 **RM120,095.61**
 Jackpot 2 - Group 2 + Golden Number

GROUP 1	4 2 9 5 2 8
GROUP 2	4 2 9 5 2 OR 2 9 5 2 8
GROUP 3	4 2 9 5 OR 9 5 2 8
GROUP 4	4 2 9 OR 5 2 8
GROUP 5	4 2 OR 9 5
GOLDEN NUMBER	0 2

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SCAN ME



Alexis Mac Allister (right) celebrates scoring Liverpool's first goal with Hugo Ekitike during their Champions League match against Real Madrid at Anfield. – REUTERSPIC

Back to winning ways

BY CARL MARKHAM & FLO CLIFFORD

Slot thrilled as Liverpool beat 'incredible' Real Madrid

LIVERPOOL head coach Arne Slot hailed an impressive performance against an "incredible" Real Madrid after Alexis Mac Allister's header secured a 1-0 Champions League win.

The hosts' domination was reflected in the statistics which saw them force Thibaut Courtois, the goalkeeper who broke their hearts in the 2022 final, to make nine saves from a total of 17 attempted shots.

By comparison a front five of Kylian Mbappe, who had scored in all but two of his matches this season, Vinicius Junior, Jude Bellingham, Arda Guler and Eduardo Camavinga managed just two on target between them.

"Impressive because we played against an incredible side that is in an unbelievable run of form, only lost once, won all the other games," said Slot, whose team have bounced back from six defeats in seven matches with back-to-back wins for the first time since September.

"If you can win against them but also put in the performance we had that is very positive.

"We had a very bad run of form in terms of results, no excuse in the world can make up for us losing so many games, but we had to play a lot of games in a small amount of time."

Rightback Conor Bradley had an impressive game against Vinicius, having done similarly a year ago against Mbappe in this fixture.

"Conor was outstanding, last season he was outstanding against Real Madrid," Slot added.

"Here, three days after Aston Villa (on Sunday) he was against Vinicius. Real have 26 goals in La Liga and Mbappe and Vinicius have 24 goal contributions but he defended very well."

Real boss Xabi Alonso, a former Liverpool midfielder, has now lost in back-to-back seasons at Anfield after being thumped as Bayer Leverkusen coach a year ago.

"I think we competed well. We played with a good rhythm," said the Spaniard, whose side's 100%t Champions League record was ended after four matches.

"What we lacked was to hurt them in the final third. It was just small details.

"We conceded lots of fouls, Thibaut Courtois wasn't able to save that header from a set-piece and it was difficult for us today but I am not going to complain about my team, we gave it a good go.

"We need to view this as an isolated defeat. We competed well; we were equal to

them. We'll learn from it"

Former Liverpool defender Trent Alexander-Arnold, who had been booed all night, came off the bench in the final 10 minutes but could not affect the game with his every touch jeered.

"It could be expected. He is professional and mature so he was ready for that," said Alonso.

Liverpool skipper Virgil van Dijk responded to criticism by several pundits and ex-players of Liverpool after their mixed start to the season, saying it has been "over the top at times".

Wayne Rooney was among the critical voices, with the former Manchester United player questioning Van Dijk and Mohamed Salah's leadership this season and suggesting their body language had a negative effect on other players.

Van Dijk responded after Liverpool stopped their barren run with a 2-0 League win over Aston Villa at the weekend, saying he could "only say positive things" about Rooney but felt the comment was "lazy criticism".

The pair discussed the issue in person after yesterday's match at Anfield. Van Dijk stood alongside Rooney as he was asked

about the impact of the players-only meeting after their defeat to Manchester United.

The Dutchman said: "It is easy to say now because we won twice in a row – in a world of chaos you have to stay calm and see perspective of things.

"At times the noise was a lot. It's very important to put things into perspective, get your head down and work."

When asked whether there were any specific pundits he was addressing, he said: "Not at all. But I think it's very important to put things into perspective."

On the outside noise, he continued: "For me personally it doesn't affect me but as a captain I am dealing with players that might be affected by it.

"Of course, if you lose four or five games in a row as a Liverpool player, that (criticism) is fair. It is normal in that sense.

"It's over the top at times as well, but that is because we live in a world where there are so many platforms, so many people can say stuff and will be picked up and made bigger than what it is.

"I think it would be good for ex-players that played at the highest level that dealt with difficult moments to put things in perspective." – The Independent