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**HOLIDAY DANCE ...**  
A cultural show was among the highlights of the Tourism Malaysia 'Jom Cuti-Cuti Malaysia' expo at Aeon Mall in Shah Alam yesterday. — SYAZWAN KAMAL/THESUN



BY SIVANISVARRY MORHAN  
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# Uphill drive

**PETALING JAYA:** Metered taxi drivers are facing an uphill battle to stay competitive in this age of ride-sharing apps and on-demand transport.

As the industry rapidly evolves, they are grappling with a decline in business and struggling to adapt to the changing dynamics.

A researcher specialising in public transport said to fit in and be competitive, metered taxi drivers should explore ways to improve their business and adapt to the changing market. Some conventional taxi companies are already innovating by incorporating mobile apps of their own.

"People today are increasingly using technology to meet their needs, and this includes transport," said Fatin Nadiah Mohammad Rosdi, who does research in a private and public university-collaborated centre for low-carbon transport.

"Everything can be accessed via a mobile phone, so metered taxi drivers should adapt. In traditional taxis, fares are determined based on the distance travelled. An additional 10 sen is charged for every 115m travelled. If the taxi is stuck in traffic, the fare does not stay put.

"There is a lack of awareness regarding the metered taxi fare structure, leading to assumptions that taxi drivers may not be transparent. In contrast, e-hailing services provide transparent fare prices, allowing customers to know the exact cost of their trip at the time of booking."

She pointed out that the convenience and affordability of ride-hailing services add to the ease of booking and tracking rides through smartphone apps.

➤ Metered cab drivers need to innovate, adapt to remain relevant in face of tough competition from ride-hailing platforms: Expert

To this, metered taxi driver from Port Klang Elumalai Veerasingham said: "It has been challenging for me to generate sufficient income to cover my expenses, especially since I am not proficient in technology and struggle to use mobile devices and apps.

"I became a taxi driver following a tragic accident that took the lives of my wife and son in 2014. Back then, I earned approximately RM1,200 a month. But now, many of the drivers, including me, no longer enjoy the consistent income we once had, facing stiff competition for fares.

"It is becoming increasingly difficult to make a decent living, with so many (e-hailing) drivers flooding the streets. We are struggling to compete, leading to empty taxis and tougher financial times," added the 68-year-old.

Echoing Elumalai's sentiments, Mohammad

Ridzuan Zakariah, who has been a taxi driver for 13 years, said: "Metered taxi drivers are unable to earn a decent income daily like we used to back in the days when we started the business."

However, 57-year-old Ridzuan, who started off as a conventional taxi driver, became an e-hailing driver in 2020.

"By accepting the online bookings, I am able to earn approximately RM1,600 a month, compared with less than RM250 a week I earned through (physical hailing)," he said.

"I receive most of my bookings from passengers at bus and railway stations, especially during peak hours, as students and working individuals tend to seek ride services in those areas."

Fatin pointed out that to overcome the issues, some conventional taxi companies are innovating by incorporating their own

mobile apps.

"These apps aim to bridge the gap between the convenience of ride-hailing apps and the familiarity of conventional taxis, granting users the flexibility to book rides through a digital platform."

In doing so, she said metered taxi drivers are fighting to regain lost ground by offering their passengers a competitive alternative.

"It remains to be seen how the traditional taxi industry will adapt and survive. Undoubtedly, there will still be a loyal customer base that values the unique qualities of metered taxis," Fatin said.

"A segment of the population still prefers the familiarity and reliability of traditional taxis. These individuals appreciate the personal touch that comes with interacting with a professional driver who knows the city inside out.

"It is essential for metered taxi drivers to adapt to the changing market in order to stay relevant, attract customers and remain competitive in today's transport industry.

"By embracing technology, improving customer service and finding unique selling points, traditional taxi drivers can ensure their survival in the long run," she added.





## 'Reject parties raising 3R issues'

**MUAR:** Kelantan Wanita Amanah chief Dr Hafidzah Mustaqim has advised voters in Pulai and Simpang Jeram to reject parties harping on 3R (royalty, religion and race) issues in their campaign and to abandon politicians who indulge in name-calling.

Hadfifah, who is also Kelantan Wanita Pakatan Harapan (PH) deputy head, said Perikatan Nasional (PN) had opened its campaign in Simpang Jeram by filling its *ceramah* with uncouth language and giving unsavoury labels to certain individuals.

"We can fight this with Malaysia Madani but this concept has yet to be fully disseminated. Based on my experience in Kelantan, we are not fighting manifestos. We are fighting against the use of sentiments touching on religion, race and royalty," she said after accompanying the PH candidate in Simpang Jeram, Nazri Abdul Rahman, to the nomination centre on Saturday.

Hafidzah created an upset by snatching the Kota Lama seat from PAS in the recent state election, making her one of only two opposition assemblymen in the 45-seat Kelantan state assembly.

The Pulai parliamentary by-election sees PH's Suhaizan Kaiat taking on PN's Zulkifli Jaafar and independent candidate Samsudin Mohamad Fauzi, while the Simpang Jeram state by-election involves Nazri, PN's Dr Mohd Mazri Yahya and independent candidate S. Jeganathan. - Bernama

## BN machinery receptive to alliance

**JOHOR BAHRU:** The Barisan Nasional (BN) machinery in Johor, especially in the Pulai parliamentary constituency, is open and receptive to the new political platform involving the cooperation between BN and Pakatan Harapan (PH), said Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi.

Onn Hafiz said this acceptance is reflected during meeting sessions organised to explain the cooperation with the grassroots, adding that such efforts will be intensified throughout the campaign period, Bernama reported.

"Alhamdulillah, so far the journey (of understanding) with BN members is going well and they (grassroots) understand the need for government stability at the federal and state levels," he said after meeting with the BN machinery and grassroots in Kampung Sungai Danga, Pulai yesterday.

He also commented on the BN machinery's acceptance of the PH candidate for the Pulai parliamentary by-election Suhaizan Kaiat, who was also present at the meeting.

"Suhaizan has made significant contributions to the Johor people. I see that his track record in assisting the people is commendable.

"I believe that if the people give him a chance (to be their representative), he will serve them well and continue the legacy of the late Datuk Seri Salahuddin Ayub."

# Unity focus in Pulai polls

## PH candidate to explain dynamics of alliance with BN at grassroots level

being on opposite sides previously.

"During this campaigning period, I will go down to meet the voters and grassroots, especially Umno, to explain to them and plead for their support.

"At the BN and Umno level, their leader Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin (Johor BN chairman) is also actively providing clarification to their grassroots," he said after a briefing at the PH operations room in the Perlis state constituency on Saturday night.

He also said if they could continue to strengthen the PH-BN unity, PH could retain the parliamentary seat with a more comfortable majority in the Sept 9 by-election.

Meanwhile, Suhaizan also advised the PH-BN machinery not to be comfortable with the majority obtained by parliamentary seat incumbent, the late Datuk Seri Salahuddin Ayub.

"Don't become too comfortable with our majority in

the previous general election. We must continue the late Salahuddin's legacy and improve our performance," he said.

In the Pulai parliamentary by-election, Suhaizan will face a three-cornered fight against Zulkifli Jaafar of Perikatan Nasional and independent candidate Samsudin Mohamad Fauzi.

The Pulai parliamentary by-election and Simpang Jeram state by-election are being held following the death of Salahuddin, who was also domestic trade and cost of living minister, on July 23, Bernama reported.

The Election Commission set polling for the two by-elections on Sept 9, with early voting on Sept 5.



Lee receiving the award from Abu Hasan.

## Activist conferred honorary fellowship

**PETALING JAYA:** Alliance for a Safe Community chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye was conferred an honorary fellowship of the Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Malaysia (AOEMM) at its recent 17th annual general meeting.

The fellowship was granted to Lee in recognition of his remarkable achievements and contributions in the field of occupational safety and health (OSH).

The induction ceremony was conducted by AOEMM president Dr Abu Hasan Samad.

In his acceptance speech, Lee spoke of his efforts to work with occupational health doctors to serve the needs of the various industries.

He also reflected on the important role of occupational health doctors (OHD) to assess, diagnose, treat, prevent and manage occupational diseases and injuries.

Lee said OHD are educators who can impart knowledge and skills on OSH to workers, employers and professionals. They are also good advocates to champion the cause of OSH and influence positive

changes in the workplace and society.

He also pointed out that all OHD must continue to uphold professionalism and ethics in the practice of occupational medicine.

They should actively engage with other stakeholders in OSH through collaboration, consultation, communication and coordination.

They can work more closely with company management and HR teams to understand workplace conditions which will foster better relationship between OHD and the industry.

## Open toll collection system test run

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The IJM Toll Division is carrying out a pilot test of the Open Payment Toll Collection System (SPT) using credit or debit card on the two highways it operates, the Sungai Besi Expressway and Baru Pantai Expressway.

Its chief operating officer Chua Lay Hoon said the implementation of the pilot test, which began on Saturday, was in line with the government's initiative to provide alternative payment methods to highway users.

"The (SPT) system allows highway users to pay tolls by using a debit card, credit card or prepaid card in addition to existing methods such as Touch 'n Go (TnG), SmartTag and Radio Frequency Identification, thus offering new alternatives to road users in toll payment.

"During this pilot test period, lanes that provide SPT can be identified through special signs on the gantry to help motorists," she said in a statement on Saturday.

She urged highway users to ensure their card balance is sufficient for smooth toll payment.

In addition, she said users can use other bank cards or TnG cards if the transaction using a particular bank card fails.

"The IJM Toll Division hopes that the implementation of Open Payment Toll Collection System can provide convenience to highway users while also helping to launch new toll collection systems." - Bernama

## Role of varsities, colleges in curbing unemployment

**KOTA KINABALU:** Public universities and institutions of higher learning have an important role in dealing with the issue of high unemployment in Sabah by providing various programmes that meet the job market upon students' graduation.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) deputy vice-chancellor (academic and international), Prof Dr Shahril Yusof said in this regard, UMS plays a role in producing graduates with

high skills and entrepreneurial spirit so that they are accepted in various areas of the job market.

"UMS also plays a role in encouraging graduates' interest in the agricultural sector because we know that this sector is important to the country in terms of food security through the UMS faculty located in Sandakan," he said.

On Monday, Human Resources Minister V. Sivakumar said Sabah recorded the highest

unemployment rate at 169,800 people or 29% of the 588,700 unemployed in the country.

Shahril said the definition of work now is broad and not limited to office work that has employers and employees only, but also includes entrepreneurial aspects.

Thus, he said UMS requires undergraduates to take entrepreneurship subjects to train and get exposure to ways of starting a business, in addition to getting a

lot of new input from lecturers about the appropriate methods, places and platforms to use to start a business online.

Meanwhile, Kolej Teknologi Yayasan Sabah (KTYS) Human Resource Management lecturer Mohd Hanif Zakhilan said KTYS together with Yayasan Sabah, the State Economic Planning Unit and other industry partners have planned and implemented short-term courses for its students.

"It cannot be denied that one of the factors that caused the problem was the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic that weakened the economic sector. The situation now is in post-pandemic recovery mode.

"The situation indirectly reduced the employment opportunities that existed before as a result of employers not being able to hire workers for their respective businesses," he said. - Bernama



## Pilgrim turns down aid to help others

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Khatijah Ali made the selfless decision to turn down the Haj financial assistance offered by Lembaga Tabung Haji (TH) this year with the noble intention of extending it to prospective pilgrims in greater need.

The private sector retiree from Malacca viewed the decision as *sedekah* (charity) or as a contribution to help more people keen to perform the pilgrimage.

Khatijah, 63, decided to pay the full Haj cost of RM30,850 instead of the RM19,870 she was offered through the TH Haj financial assistance.

"I began saving with Tabung Haji on Feb 2, 2007, and registered for the Haj on Jan 7, 2009. I have enough savings so I decided not to take the offered assistance to help others," she said.

Haj financial assistance is an initiative introduced by TH to aid first-time pilgrims from the B40 and M40 groups. TH has allocated RM400 million this year to cover the cost of performing the Haj for the groups, and it will continue to assist in a targeted manner.

The cost of performing the pilgrimage has increased to RM30,850 this year from RM28,632 last year. - Bernama

# Enlisting SME in climate change issues

➤ Group aims to prompt entrepreneurs to examine production processes to focus on eco-sustainability

■ BY **ETHAN YEO**  
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The public may think that climate change does not affect them, but it brings a detrimental cost to our way of life, said the organiser of the National Climate Governance Summit 2023.

Climate Governance Malaysia (CGM) chairman Datin Seri Sunita Rajakumar, in explaining its chain reaction, is seeking to address one of the contributory factors to the global phenomenon.

"Heat trapped in our atmosphere causes sea levels to rise and warmer air will hold more moisture, which leads to higher rainfall and flash floods," she told *theSun*.

"It could also affect food security. Reliance on imported goods could

cause a rise in the cost of financing, and inflation would continue to rise. Altogether, it may cause an economical failure for Malaysia."

Sunita said raising awareness is no longer enough to overcome the issue of climate change.

"People can be aware and still choose not to participate in efforts to curb the impact of their businesses on climate change.

"There is so much more that can be done by private sectors. What we want to achieve is a call to action from key players that can effect change."

To enable a call for action, CGM organised the summit, which aims to target small and medium-sized enterprises (SME).

Sunita said one big gap identified in sustainable business practice is

the value chain of SME.

"When thinking of sustainability in terms of business, SME must identify and answer questions referring to their products. They must identify if there is a need for the product, how it will be produced and what will it be made with. They must also ensure that the product is reusable or recyclable.

"When all these questions can be answered, they will get the full picture of what can be further improved in terms of eco-sustainability. The summit will aim to arm SME with the knowledge to analyse their business practices."

Sunita said the main challenges faced by SME when it comes to climate governance is their mindset.

"There is a certain fear factor for change because people are comfortable with how they operate. But it is important to understand that sustainability is the direction that society is moving towards.

"SME must view this as an investment into the future of their businesses. It is an opportunity for them to take the first step ahead of

their competitors, because there will be a tipping point where sustainability becomes the norm."

Sunita added that the event will impart knowledge through key note speakers and workshops designed to address sustainable business practices.

"Workshops are a good way to acculturate a call for action. They will be run by locals on what SME can do to transition into sustainable practices. It is important for local representation as the information provided will be in local context.

"Each business has different needs. These workshops will help them address their individual needs to evolve themselves further. The workshops will also be recorded and be freely available for participants to review after it is over.

"Over 100 international and local speakers will be imparting their knowledge through question and answer sessions, which are focused on action instead of awareness."

Sunita said CGM hopes the conversation on ways to improve climate governance continues even after the event.

"It is nearly impossible to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, but we must continue mitigating the effects of climate change. Everyone must promote climate governance."

The summit will be held on Sept 5, while workshops will run over a span of two days starting from Sept 6 at Sasana Kijang in Kuala Lumpur.

For more information or to register, visit [www.cgmalaysia.com](http://www.cgmalaysia.com).

## Arches to mark historic timeline

**PUTRAJAYA:** Creating an arch depicting the timeline of Malaysia's independence using waste materials is an innovative approach to instil the spirit of patriotism as well as learning the history of the nation.

The Local Government Development Ministry legal division recently carried out an initiative in conjunction with the Public Sector Conducive Ecosystem Merdeka decoration competition as part of its efforts to liven up National Day.

Seven arches were created to reflect different eras of Malaysia's history, ranging from the Malacca Malay Sultanate (1400-1511), colonisation of Portuguese (1511-1641), Dutch (1641-1824) and British (1824-1957), Bukit Kepong incident in Muar, Johor (Feb 23, 1950), Japanese occupation (December 1941), post-Merdeka (Aug 31, 1957-1967), National Day celebration (Aug 31, 1957) and the country's milestones after achieving independence.

Legal division assistant senior legal officer Zazarina Dzulkifli said waste items formed more than 60% of the material used to construct the arches.

"We used recycled waste materials such as cardboard boxes, paper, rope, plastic spoons, polystyrene containers and straws. The arches are on display at Level 10 of the ministry's building." - Bernama

## Showing patriotic fervour with Merdeka decor

**PUTRAJAYA:** Every year in August, which is the National Month, residents of 17RK1 government quarters here will get together to decorate their neighbourhood with the *Jalur Gemilang*.

This year, about 500 *Jalur Gemilang*, including a gigantic one measuring 12m X 6m, are being used

to liven up the spirit of patriotism for National Day.

Precinct 17RK1 Rukun Tetangga chairman Mohd Faizal Mohd Zanan said decorating the housing area with the *Jalur Gemilang* has become an annual activity by the neighbourhood watch team.

"The close-knit community of

Precinct 17RK1 puts up flags at every quarters," he said yesterday.

The National Day celebration, themed Malaysia Madani: Tekad Perpaduan, Penuhi Harapan (Determination in Unity, Fulfilling Hope), will be held in Putrajaya on Aug 31.

Mohd Faizal said the National Day

decorations at Precinct 17RK1 attracts the attention of motorists, who stop and take pictures.

"It makes us proud that they actually stop to take pictures as we feel that all our hard work is appreciated.

"The *Jalur Gemilang* should be hoisted at all times as the sacrifices of our freedom fighters are priceless and must be commemorated."

"Precinct 17RK1 residents are very excited that they will be able to join the celebrations," he said.

He added that they also planned to have a colouring contest for children on Malaysia Day.

Mohd Faizal said this year's celebration in Putrajaya is expected to be merrier. The last time it was held in the federal administrative capital was in 2019.

Meanwhile, 17RK1 secretary Siti Fatimah Khairon, 39, said young people in the housing quarters are always reminded to respect the *Jalur Gemilang*.

"We teach the children to pick up any fallen flag as it is a symbol of the country's sovereignty and pride."

Precinct 17RK1 resident Nur Fadilah Othman, 59, said they will continue the tradition of putting up the *Jalur Gemilang* in the area as a symbol of love for the country.

"We put up these flags because we know how hard it was to gain independence. Our neighbourhood has been united in maintaining this tradition," she said. - Bernama



## Media centre ready for operation

**PUTRAJAYA:** The media centre for National Day will operate for four days starting today from 6.30am to 3pm at the Cempaka Sari Auditorium.

However, on Aug 30, it will begin operations from 10am to 3pm, said the 2023 National Day Media Centre coordinator Datuk E. Sivabalan.

He said the setting up of the media centre was 90% completed and ready to receive media personnel, who will cover

the celebrations.

"We encourage all media staff to come, but they need to have the media verification card issued by the Information Department.

"We will also create a temporary WhatsApp group and provide plug points and 5G Wi-Fi connections," he said yesterday.

Sivabalan advised media personnel to maintain their work ethics and abide by stipulated instructions. - Bernama

## Unique drum set to make debut

**PUTRAJAYA:** A performance by 400 drummers of various races is expected to rock the stage at the National Day celebrations at Dataran Putrajaya on Thursday.

The main attraction at the performance will be the "Achun Spinning Drum", which will be used for the first time at the celebration.

The drum, weighing 3kg and made of synthetic material, was designed by National Academy of Arts, Culture and Heritage music

faculty lecturer Shamsul Kamal Abd Rahman.

"It will be the first time the drum is used at a major national event. I designed the drum in 2015 after returning from a music festival in Korea. I've just obtained the patent for it," said Shamsul Kamal.

He obtained the trademark from the Malaysian Intellectual Property Corporation for the musical instrument this year.

He said he came up with the idea

of producing a rotating drum as the only drums available were all static.

"The drums that we have are made of wood and animal skin. There will be a problem when it rains as the drums cannot be wet. However, the drum I designed will not be affected as it is made of synthetic material."

The 400 drummers will comprise members of the academy and the Universiti Teknologi Mara *kompong* group, he said. - Bernama



# Man freed of beauty queen's murder in 1979 dies

BY ETHAN YEO  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Former psychology lecturer S. Karthigesu, who was acquitted of the murder of former Malaysian beauty queen Jean Perera Sinnappa 44 years ago, died yesterday at 8.40am. He was 81.

Karthigesu spent his last days at his home in Teluk Pulai, Klang and was reported to have suffered from a heart ailment and dementia.

His health was said to have deteriorated recently and he was admitted to a ward at a private hospital for several days before being discharged. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

Karthigesu was the prime suspect in the murder of Jean, and the case was widely covered by the media.

Two Malaysia Airlines aircraft engineers found the body of the

## ➤ Karthigesu-Jean Sinnappa case remains among most perplexing in Malaysian history

31-year-old victim on April 6, 1979 with stab wounds on her chest while still strapped to the seat of a car.

The vehicle was found at a secluded underpass along the Federal Highway, near what is now the Skypark Terminal at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport.

Karthigesu, then aged 37, was the driver and was found lying face down unconscious on the ground next to the car. He was Jean's brother-in-law and also her alleged lover at the time.

He claimed in his testimony that he had to make a stop on the side of the road to relieve himself, but was hit on the head from behind and could not recall what happened after that.

When police investigated the crime scene, they noticed that Karthigesu sustained no injuries and forensics failed to discover any traces of urine in the area.

He was arrested a few weeks after the investigations and subsequently charged at the High Court, where the trial ran for 38 days with 58 witnesses called.

Details of disloyalty in an affair Jean allegedly had with a Sri Lankan doctor were exposed through a large heap of love letters the duo had exchanged.

Jealousy as a result of a love triangle was speculated to be the prime motive behind the murder. The court found Karthigesu guilty

and sentenced him to death.

A close family friend, Bandhulanda Jayathilake, became a key witness when he testified that Karthigesu had confided in him that she deserved to die.

However, after Karthigesu had spent two years in prison, Jayathilake confessed that he had lied under oath and his testimony was false. Jayathilake was then charged with perjury and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, but died two years into serving his sentence.

On May 20, 1981, Karthigesu was vindicated and stepped out of prison a free man.

The case remains unsolved, with close to no new evidence and leads. It remains one of the most perplexing murder cases in Malaysian history and Karthigesu's death has not brought any closure to the mysterious affair.

## No decision yet on motorcycle licence upgrade

**PEKAN:** The proposal for an automatic upgrading of the B2 class motorcycle driving licence to B will be relayed to the Transport Ministry to be examined first, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He added that he did not see any problem for its implementation as motorcyclists with a B2 licence already have relevant riding experience.

"I don't think they need to go for another test because they are experienced riders and I do not see the need to impose strict conditions.

"I will bring it up to (the) transport minister first. I don't think there is going to be a problem because it is an administrative issue only," he said yesterday after flagging off 238 high-powered motorcycle riders from Superbikers Association Malaysia in the Kembara Merdeka 66 Convoy.

Also present were Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail and association president Datuk Abdul Halim Suleiman.

Abdul Halim earlier submitted a proposal for the automatic class upgrade of motorcyclists who have not committed serious traffic offences within three years after obtaining a B2 licence.

The Road Transport Department issues the B2 driving licence for motorcycles not exceeding 250cc, while class B involves all motorcycles.

The 1,366km Kembara Merdeka 66 campaign, which covers Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan, Perak, Kedah, Penang and the Klang Valley, will run until Aug 31. - Bernama

## Durian auction in Terengganu on Sept 1

**KUALA TERENGGANU:** Forty tonnes of durians, including premium grades, will be auctioned under the "Makan Durian Sampai Jeluok" event at Dataran Jambatan Angkat here on Sept 1 and 2, said state Agriculture Department director Datuk Zulkepli Amin Mat Jusoh.

He also said over 200 orchard owners would participate in the auction, that is a collaboration with the Kuala Terengganu City Council, adding that it will start at 3pm and end when stocks run out.

"There will be Musang King, Black Thorn, D2, Kucing Tidur and many other types at prices guaranteed to be lower than market rates. We expect more than 20,000 durian lovers to seize the opportunity."

Zulkepli Amin said apart from helping orchard owners to sell their produce, the event aims to allow lower income groups to enjoy premium durian at affordable prices.

"The durian season is not the same in all states. For example, it is over in Pahang but just starting in Terengganu. So, we can send the fruits to Pahang and other states, including Selangor.

"The Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority also has a central durian processing facility, so we are not worried about a surplus or glut." - Bernama



**TRUNK OBSTRUCTION ...** Road users experienced a traffic jam after a storm caused four large trees to fall onto the Sprint Highway near the Sime Darby Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. - ADIB RAWI YAHYA/THESUN

## Teen crashes MPV into food court

**MALACCA:** Diners at Medan Selera Tanjung Kling here experienced a shocking incident on Saturday when a teenager crashed his mother's MPV into the food court.

Central Malacca district police chief ACP Christopher Patit said in a statement the vehicle also hit a car

that was parked next to the premises.

"Prior to the incident at about 2pm, the 16-year-old boy was asked by his mother to start the MPV. But he accidentally stepped on the accelerator and reversed the vehicle into diners at the food court.

"The car sustained damage to its

doors, but the teenager was unhurt."

The exact number of diners involved in the incident or their condition is not known.

The case is being investigated under Section 43(1) of the Road Transport Act 1987 for reckless driving. - Bernama

## Financial sector top target of cyber attacks

**BALI:** According to global cyber security firm Kaspersky, Malaysia's financial sector has remained at the top spot in experiencing virtual attacks this year despite growing cyber resilience and awareness among financial institutions.

Kaspersky Southeast Asia general manager Yeo Siang Tiong said it was closely followed by the government and healthcare sectors, where phishing was the most prevalent form of cyber attack, adding that the

same trend was recorded in other Asean countries.

"The financial sector is where the money is. The government and healthcare sectors contain a lot of data, including personal data, which have a lot of value for cyber attackers to gain benefits from.

"There is also an espionage component in these sectors. Ransomware attacks were another form we saw often, in which attackers (deployed) ransomware as a service

or cryptojacking."

However, he said the financial sector registered some improvement in cyber resilience after Bank Negara Malaysia instructed banks to follow the Risk Management in Technology framework.

Yeo said there is a need for the government to address the issue from a regulation and policy standpoint.

"We are working closely with the National Cyber Security Agency and Cybersecurity Malaysia so we can

share information. They will then get early signals from us if we see anything happening."

Kaspersky said it detects an average of 400,000 new malicious attacks on a daily basis.

"There is no way for a cyber security company to process all these and that is why artificial intelligence rules come in as we detect the emergence of new malware or new ways of doing things involving cyber risk." - Bernama

## Crafts festival aiming for RM1m sales

**TELUK INTAN:** The Perak Crafts Festival that started on Aug 25 and runs until Sept 3 aims to collect RM1 million in sales, with a target of about 75,000 visitors, said Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry deputy secretary-general (culture) Mohd Yusri Mohd Yusoff.

During a visit to Dataran Menara Condong yesterday, he said 51 entrepreneurs from all over the country are participating in the carnival.

"It has been held since 2014 to promote and commercialise local craft products. With the theme of 'Ini Kraf Malaysia', it showcases a variety of crafts from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak in an effort to cultivate such arts in the daily lives of the people."

He expressed hope that the event would boost business for entrepreneurs and the craft community in the state, apart from providing direct benefits to the tourism sector chain.

"The ministry and Kraftangan Malaysia will continue to empower craft entrepreneurs in Perak and spur them to keep creating quality products to (attract) tourists, especially in preparation for Visit Perak Year 2024." - Bernama



**COSTLY CUPPA ...** Firefighters trying to extinguish a blaze which broke out on a train coach parked at a railway yard in the Indian city of Madurai after a passenger tried to make tea. At least nine people were killed. - AFP/PIIC



## Three US Marines die in Australia helicopter crash

**CANBERRA:** Three US Marines died during military exercises in northern Australia yesterday, in a helicopter crash that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese called "tragic".

Five others were "transported to Royal Darwin Hospital in serious condition", Marine Rotation Force - Darwin said in a press release.

It said they were among 23 Marines on a MV-22B Osprey helicopter during routine training exercises and that the cause of the crash was being investigated.

The crash occurred on the remote Tiwi Islands after 9am, said Northern Territory police commissioner Michael Murphy.

Australian personnel were not involved in the crash that occurred during *Exercise Predators Run 2023*, Albanese said.

"Our focus as a government and as a department of defence is very much on incident response and on making sure that every support and assistance is given at this difficult time," the prime minister told a previously scheduled press conference in Western Australia.

About 2,500 personnel from Australia, the US, the Philippines, Indonesia and East Timor were taking part in the exercises, Sky News reported.

The US and Australia, a key ally in the Pacific, have been stepping up military cooperation in recent years in the face of an increasingly assertive China. - Reuters

# Japan reports wave of Chinese phone harassment

▶ Govt says seawater radioactivity below limits near Fukushima

**TOKYO:** Tokyo has urged Beijing to "ensure the safety of Japanese residents in China" after a wave of telephone harassment targeting businesses in Japan sparked by the controversial discharge of Fukushima wastewater.

While Japan insists the release of the treated water is safe - a view backed by the UN's nuclear watchdog - China has staunchly opposed it and banned all Japanese seafood imports, saying it contaminates the ocean.

The Japanese government yesterday published new data showing waters off Fukushima continued to post radioactivity levels well within safe limits.

Calls from China began flooding Japanese businesses from Thursday,

when operator Tepco started releasing water used to cool the stricken nuclear reactors at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

Japanese businesses and groups, ranging from a concert hall in Tokyo to an aquarium in northern Iwate, reported that they had started receiving so many calls from Chinese speakers that they had difficulty conducting normal operations.

Hiroyuki Namazu, a senior Japanese diplomat in charge of Asian and Oceanian affairs, voiced his regret about the calls and told senior officials at the Chinese embassy in Tokyo to call for calm in China, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Similar incidents have also

occurred in China against Japanese facilities, Namazu told Chinese embassy officials.

"We strongly urge the Chinese government to take appropriate measures, such as calling on its citizens to act calmly, and to take all possible measures to ensure the safety of Japanese residents in China and Japanese diplomatic missions in China."

Tokyo's embassy in Beijing has separately urged its nationals there to refrain from speaking loudly in Japanese.

A Fukushima businessman told Kyodo news agency that his four restaurants and pastry shops received a total of about 1,000 calls on Friday, mostly from China.

His businesses had to unplug their phones, Kyodo said.

Fukushima mayor Hiroshi Kohata said in a Facebook post on Saturday that the city hall had received around 200 similar calls in two days, while

local schools, restaurants and hotels also became targets.

"I will report this to the Japanese government and demand action."

Chinese social media users shared videos of themselves making calls to Japanese numbers, including restaurants in Fukushima.

Tepco is releasing more than 500 Olympic swimming pools' worth of wastewater used to cool Fukushima's damaged reactors, three of which went into meltdown in March 2011 when they were hit by a massive earthquake and tsunami that killed about 18,000 people.

The water has been filtered of all radioactive elements except tritium.

The Japanese Environment Ministry said yesterday that a fresh test of Fukushima coastal water showed no elevated levels of tritium.

It said the water samples did not show signs of gamma radiation that can come from other radioactive materials such as caesium. - AFP

## Super typhoon brushes past Philippines

**MANILA:** More than a thousand people fled their homes as floods unleashed by *Super Typhoon Saola* swept through mainly rural villages in the northern Philippines, rescue officials said yesterday.

*Saola* brushed past the northeast of the main island of Luzon on Saturday night and continued south just off the Pacific coast packing winds of up to 185kph, the state weather bureau said.

No casualties or substantial damage have been reported.

Residents of coastal communities vulnerable to high winds and large waves were moved to higher ground on Isabela province's Pacific coast, as were those on the northern tip of Cagayan province to the north and Ilocos Sur province on Luzon's northwest coast, officials said.

"These coastal towns have no protection because they are directly

facing the Pacific," said rescue official Constante Foronda, putting the number of evacuees in Isabela at 372.

"It's raining constantly but the winds are not that strong.

"We got lucky."

In neighbouring Cagayan, rescue official Ruelie Rapsing said 388 people were evacuated amid flooding on several coastal municipalities on Luzon's northeast tip.

There were also widespread

electricity cuts across the province of 1.2 million people due to downed power lines, he added.

The provincial government's press office released photos of knee-deep floodwaters swamping homes in the municipality of Aparri.

The civil defence office in Manila also reported the evacuation of 421 people from four municipalities in Ilocos Sur, which were hit by a landslide and floods. - AFP

## North Korea eases Covid curbs, lets citizens abroad return

**PYONGYANG:** North Korea has allowed citizens stranded abroad by its strict Covid curbs to return home, state media reported yesterday, as the country moves towards a full reopening after three years of pandemic isolation.

The country had sealed its borders since early 2020 to protect itself from Covid-19, which prevented even

its own nationals from returning.

But there have been increasing signs of a shift in border control in recent weeks, including the resumption of international commercial air travel.

In a statement carried by the Korean Central News Agency, the State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters said North Korean

citizens abroad had been allowed to return home in line with "the eased worldwide pandemic situation."

"Those returned will be put under proper medical observation at quarantine wards for a week."

The move signals that North Korea will shift its stringent Covid policy and gradually ease quarantine measures, said Sejong Institute

researcher Cheong Seong-chang.

"With the latest announcement, it's expected that a large-scale return of North Koreans will be made via the land route as well."

Last month, Chinese and Russian delegations visited Pyongyang for a key anniversary celebration, the first foreign dignitaries allowed to visit the country in years. - AFP

BRIEFS

### MYANMAR EXPELS EAST TIMOR ENVOY

**BANGKOK:** Myanmar's junta yesterday ordered the expulsion of East Timor's top diplomat in the country over a meeting his government held with a banned shadow administration. The military has designated the shadow administration known as the National Unity Government (NUG) - dominated by exiled lawmakers working overseas to overturn the coup in February 2021 - as a terror organisation. Last month, East Timor President Jose Ramos Horta met with NUG Foreign Minister Zin Mar Aung in the capital Dili. Myanmar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday condemned the "irresponsible actions" of East Timor, ordering the country's charge d'affaires in Yangon "to leave no later than Sept 1, 2023". - AFP

### XI MAKES RARE VISIT TO XINJIANG

**BEIJING:** China President Xi Jinping made a rare visit to Xinjiang on Saturday, state media reported, calling on officials to conserve "hard-won social stability" in a troubled region where Beijing is accused of severe human rights abuses. State broadcaster CCTV said Xi travelled to regional capital Urumqi on Saturday, listened to a government work report and delivered a speech "affirming the achievements made in various tasks in Xinjiang". It was his first publicly known visit to Xinjiang since last July, when he made his maiden trip since the crackdown in the region was escalated. Xi "stressed that top priority must always be given to maintaining social stability", CCTV reported. - AFP





# Ukrainian forces 'break through Russian defences'

**KYIV:** Ukraine's forces believe they have broken through the most difficult line of Russian defences in the south and will now be able to advance "faster", a commander said.

Ukrainian forces said they had raised the national flag in the settlement of Robotyne in the southern Zaporizhzhia region, about 10km south of the frontline town of Orikhiv.

"We don't stop here," said a commander, Skala, who led some of the troops into Robotyne.

"Next we have (the town of) Berdiansk, and then more. I made it clear to my fighters at once: our goal is not Robotyne, our goal is (the Sea of) Azov."

Robotyne is about 100km from

## ► Putin orders Wagner fighters to sign oath of allegiance following Prigozhin plane crash

Berdiansk, a port on the shores of the Sea of Azov, and 85km from the strategic city of Melitopol.

Both are occupied by Russian forces following Moscow's full-scale invasion in February last year.

"We have passed the main roads that were mined. We are coming to those lines where we can go (forward). I'm sure we'll go faster from here," Skala said.

He said two houses were still under Russian control in Robotyne.

"We're fighting for them, and then

we'll have full control (of Robotyne)."

Meanwhile, President Vladimir Putin has ordered Wagner fighters to sign an oath of allegiance to the Russian state, amid anger in the mercenary group's ranks over their leader's apparent assassination in a plane crash near Moscow.

The decree was published on the Kremlin's website and signed with immediate effect by Putin, as his spokesman Dmitry Peskov insisted that claims Prigozhin had been killed on the Russian

president's orders were an "absolute lie".

The wording of the oath includes a line in which those who take it promise to strictly follow the orders of commanders and senior leaders, as questions hang over the fate of the mercenaries - many of whom had relocated to Belarus following their mutinous march on Moscow in June.

Russia has opened an investigation into the plane crash, but has not yet officially confirmed the identities of the 10 bodies recovered from the wreckage.

However, Putin has appeared to eulogise Prigozhin - using the past tense - as a "talented businessman" who made "serious mistakes". - The Independent



## CALL FOR JUSTICE ...

Rohingya refugees gathering for a rally marking the 6th anniversary of "genocide day" in the Bangladeshi town of Cox's Bazar. More than 700,000

Rohingyas fled from Myanmar to Bangladesh to escape military crackdown in August 2017, which is now subject to a genocide investigation at the International Criminal Court. - AFPIC

## Florida gunman driven by 'racial hate' kills three

**WASHINGTON:** A white man driven by racial hatred shot dead three black people in a Florida discount store on Saturday before taking his own life after a standoff with police, authorities said.

"He targeted a certain group of people and that's black people. That's what he said he wanted to kill. And that's very clear," Jacksonville sheriff TK Waters told a news conference about the gunman, who was in his early 20s.

According to the sheriff's office, the shooter, who has not yet been identified, entered a Dollar General

store wearing a tactical vest, armed with an AR-style rifle and a handgun.

Manifestos discovered by the gunman's family shortly before the attack "detail the shooter's disgusting ideology of hate", Waters said, and at least one of the guns had hand-drawn swastikas on it.

The shooting took place near Edward Waters University, a historically black college in the southern US state.

The university said in a statement that the shooter had been on campus earlier that day, though no one was harmed.

"An on-campus Edward Waters University security officer engaged an unidentified male in the vicinity of the Centennial Library on campus," it said.

"The individual refused to identify themselves and was asked to leave."

The university added that the individual - later identified as the shooter - left "without incident".

The FBI will investigate the shooting as a hate crime, said Sherri Onks, the bureau's special agent for Jacksonville, a city of nearly one million in the northeast corner of the state.

There was no evidence the shooter was part of a larger group, officials said.

"We know that he acted completely alone," Waters said.

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis decried the "horrific" shooting.

"He was targeting people based on their race, that is totally unacceptable," said DeSantis, who is vying to be the Republican Party's presidential candidate for 2024.

"This guy killed himself rather than face the music and accept responsibility for his actions and so he took the coward's way out." - AFP

## Conservative lawmaker quits with scathing attack on Sunak

**LONDON:** UK lawmaker Nadine Dorries has delivered a scathing attack on her Conservative Party's leader Rishi Sunak in her formal resignation letter, accusing the prime minister of running a "zombie Parliament" and lacking any political vision.

Dorries, a close ally of former leader Boris Johnson, had announced in June she would quit and then faced mounting criticism for not actually doing so, preventing

the election to replace her from being held alongside three other local votes last month.

Dorries formally quit on Saturday with a lengthy resignation letter that tore into Sunak.

The by-election to replace her will likely take place in the autumn, presenting the Conservatives with another test of their popularity when they are trailing the opposition Labour Party in opinion polls.

"Since you took office a year ago,

the country is run by a zombie Parliament where nothing meaningful has happened.

"What exactly has been done or have you achieved?" said Dorries.

"You hold the office of prime minister unelected, without a single vote, not even from your own MPs.

"You have no mandate from the people and the government is adrift.

"You have squandered the goodwill of the nation, for what?"

A spokesman for the prime

minister declined to comment.

A former finance minister and investment banker, Sunak became prime minister in October last year after being the only candidate to be nominated in a party leadership contest.

That followed a series of scandals that forced Johnson to resign as prime minister, and economic turmoil that prompted his successor, Liz Truss, to quit after just six weeks. - Reuters

## BRIEFS

### 'THE CROCODILE' WINS NEW TERM

**HARARE:** Emmerson Mnangagwa, who became Zimbabwe's second president after outmanoeuvring long-time ruler Robert Mugabe with a military-backed coup in 2017 - won a second term on Saturday in a vote that international observers said fell short of democratic standards. Nicknamed "The Crocodile" because of his ruthlessness, the 80-year-old, who analysts judge more autocratic than his predecessor and lacking Mugabe's intellectual flair and ideological vision, won 52.6% of the ballots according to official results. He has presided over a collapsing economy marked by hyperinflation, unemployment and corruption allegations. - AFP

### FIRES FORCE CANADA TOWN TO EVACUATE

**OTTAWA:** Another town in Canada's Northwest Territories was forced to evacuate on Saturday as strong winds and rising temperatures gave new life to vast wildfires. The threat to Hay River, a town of about 4,000, was so great that even firefighters and essential workers were ordered to leave. The territorial government ordered everyone still in the town to travel to the local airport and await instructions. "Anyone who remains in Hay River is doing so at their own risk," a government statement said. "There will be no emergency services or response available." At this point, some two-thirds of the entire population of the Northwest Territories has been evacuated to neighbouring provinces. - AFP

## Gabon cuts internet as voting closes

**LIBREVILLE:** Gabon cut internet access and announced a nightly curfew as voting drew to a close on Saturday, and opposition leader Albert Ondo Ossa denounced "fraud" in his battle for the presidency against incumbent Ali Bongo Ondimba.

Ali Bongo and Ondo Ossa lead a race of 14 candidates vying for the top job in the oil-rich central African state.

But shortly after casting his vote, Ondo Ossa went live on a social media broadcast to denounce "the fraud orchestrated by Ali Bongo and his supporters".

Ondo Ossa called on Ali Bongo to step down, saying he could "guarantee" his security.

Barely two hours later, the internet was cut and Communications Minister Rodrigue Mboumba Bissawou went on state television to announce the cutting of the internet and a nightly 7pm to 6am curfew.

These actions were to "counter the spread of calls for violence ... and false information", he said.

In addition, three days notice will be required for any meeting or demonstration.

The country's broadcasting authority HAC also provisionally banned French channels France 24, Radio France Internationale and TV5Monde from the airwaves, state television reported.

HAC accused them of "a lack of objectivity and balance" in their election coverage. - AFP



# Relook proposal for children's citizenship

**I**N line with its commitment outlined in the election manifesto, the unity government proposed certain amendments to the Federal Constitution to address the issue of children being denied citizenship due to their birth in a variety of problematic circumstances.



**LAW SPEAK**  
BY GURDIAL SINGH NIJJAR

Foremost among these are children born overseas to Malaysian mothers with foreign spouses. They have been denied automatic citizenship by law.

However, such a right is accorded to children born of Malaysian fathers in exactly similar circumstances.

Two judges, one from the High Court and one (out of two) from the Court of Appeal, have ruled that children of Malaysian mothers should be accorded citizenship by law.

The case brought by Family Frontiers and six mothers is presently under appeal to the apex Federal Court.

Previous governments had promised to rectify this discriminatory practice.

However, despite assurances of forming a task force and a commitment to refer the matter to the Conference of Rulers, there has yet to be any concrete action.

This delay prolongs the anguish of these children and their parents. For when they return to Malaysia, these

children are forced into an existential penumbra.

They are denied similar rights accorded to citizens, such as access to schools, medical treatment, a passport or an identity card.

Furthermore, in later years, they face challenges in living in Malaysia and securing gainful employment.

At long last, our Law Ministry has come up with a set of proposals. However, these have been met with mixed reactions.

Firstly, the children born to these mothers will automatically receive citizenship by law. However, the acquisition of this right is qualified.

For example, there is a precondition that the child must renounce any citizenship from another country. If the child is not yet of legal age (at least 18 years), his renunciation is not possible.

Secondly, the renunciation must be valid by law of the other country and must be recognised as so effective. Predictably, ascertaining this will be a protracted process and operate to render illusory the claim for Malaysian citizenship.

The proposal also requires the child, who is rendered stateless, to apply for citizenship through a registration process. However, this proposal is riddled with significant issues and challenges.

To begin with, it negates the

*“Previous governments had promised to rectify the discriminatory practice regarding children's citizenship. However, despite assurances of forming a task force and a commitment to refer the matter to the Conference of Rulers, there has yet to be any concrete action.”*

provision of the Federal Constitution, which states that a person who is not born a citizen of any other country and is born in Malaysia, will automatically attain citizenship by law. This provision ensures that no person born within Malaysia will be rendered stateless.

However, the proposal places the child in an invidious position of remaining stateless and deprived of all rights, until the registration process is concluded, and even then, only if the registration application is approved.

As is widely recognised, the registration process takes an inordinately long time, with instances of waiting for a decade or more before any result emerges not being uncommon.

Furthermore, it negates the recent decision of the Federal Court, which held that in respect of such a child, unless the authorities can prove that he or she is not born within Malaysia, the child is a citizen by law.

The proposed amendment casts the burden of proof on the child to prove otherwise, which can be exceedingly difficult, especially if the child has been abandoned or is found in some public place, with no trace of his birthplace or parentage.

The ministry's proposals also fail to address the situation of children born out of wedlock.

For example, an Indonesian or Thai mother bears a child from a relationship with a Malaysian man,

and the child is born out of wedlock.

According to the Constitution, the child follows the nationality of the mother, presumably becoming an Indonesian or Thai citizen.

However, if the mother leaves the country and abandons the relationship and the child, he is placed in a hopeless situation.

The child is thrust to Indonesia or Thailand due to his legal status, but where should the child go when his only connection is with Malaysia?

In any event, he would need to obtain an Indonesian or Thai passport to go to these countries, but the child faces a roadblock because the respective embassies in Malaysia will require the mother's presence to make the application.

These are some of the intricate issues that need a solution and must be addressed.

It is essential to remember that the child is not responsible for this predicament.

Reportedly, there are thousands of children grappling with similar situations.

I urge the government to reconsider the proposals carefully.

As universally acknowledged, a child is undeniably the most invaluable treasure in one's life.

*The writer is a former law professor and immediate past president of the National Human Rights Society of Malaysia (Hakam).  
Comments: letters@thesundaily.com*

## LETTERS [letters@thesundaily.com](mailto:letters@thesundaily.com)

### Revive civic education to nurture responsible citizens

**T**HE tragedy of the recent Elmina plane crash has been made even more distressing by certain heartless and insensitive Malaysians, who have been viralling images of the victims on social media.

This had recently prompted the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission to issue a plea for them to stop these actions.

The question arises: Why is such behaviour taking place in our beloved country, which has, hitherto, been known for its long-standing reputation for promoting a compassionate society?

Nowadays, we encounter instances of people exhibiting insensitivity and inappropriate behaviour on various fronts, including littering, disregarding traffic signals, bullying in educational institutions, sensationalising tragic incidents and giving scant regard for social harmony.

These acts and behaviour stem from a lack of sensitivity and civic consciousness, which are crucial for sustaining and upholding a peaceful social order.

Granted, every society will inevitably have individuals who display selfish and antisocial tendencies. However, this does not mean we have to become passive or complacent.

Instead, we should develop and nurture our people, especially the young to be caring, law-abiding and sensitive to the needs of others. These virtues should be instilled in our children from their early school years.

To achieve this, it is imperative that we reinstate Civics as a mandatory subject within the school curriculum. Civics was initially introduced as a distinct subject by the Education Ministry in 1953.

However, as part of the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025, the subject was removed from the curriculum and incorporated into core subjects, such as Islamic History for some and moral studies for others.

Civics is important as a subject because it is an essential element in the development of responsible citizens. It is the foundation of citizenship education.

Children who understand their rights and responsibilities are more likely to become informed and engaged citizens, who will



Civics is important as a subject because it is an essential element in the development of responsible citizens. — BERNAMAPIC

participate in the democratic process.

Incorporating civic education will encourage the appreciation of diversity and the value of inclusivity.

When children learn about different cultures, backgrounds and perspectives, they are more likely to embrace tolerance and empathy, fostering a harmonious society.

Civic education empowers children to recognise their ability to make a positive impact.

Teaching children about civic duty will

instil a sense of social responsibility. They will learn that their well-being is interconnected with the well-being of their community, motivating them to contribute positively to society.

Civic education encourages critical thinking. Children will learn to analyse information, differentiate between reliable and biased sources and form informed opinions, which are essential skills in today's information-driven world.

By imparting an understanding of civic

values, encouraging active participation and nurturing a sense responsibility, we can mould a generation of citizens who are not just passive observers, but active contributors to positive societal transformation.

Through their knowledge, empathy and engagement, they can be the driving force behind a stronger, more just and inclusive society.

**Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye**  
Kuala Lumpur



**KUALA LUMPUR:** Mid-Autumn Festival is a special occasion celebrated by families and loved ones reuniting annually.

7-Eleven Malaysia is promoting a heartwarming message for this year's celebration with the "Bring the Bunnies Home" campaign through its limited-edition halal mooncake series.

In line with the celebration, 7-Eleven unveiled its delectable mooncakes, available in three all-time favourite flavours.

They include Red Bean (RM8.90), characterised by a slightly thin crust embracing rich, thick red bean paste that offers a sweet and smooth taste. The lingering flavour of red bean paste fills your mouth after each bite, delivering an exquisite experience.

Another classic is the Lotus flavour (RM9.90), renowned as a cherished Mid-Autumn Festival dessert.

Its creamy and silky lotus seed paste has a luxurious, rich texture, complemented by a caramelised aftertaste that lingers on the palate.

The lineup is completed by the Golden Starlight with Yolk (RM12.90), which features a slightly thin pastry enveloped by a rich, filling pandan paste.

The addition of salted egg yolk adds symbolism to the mooncake, evoking the moon's essence.

Currently packaged in trendy and whimsical designs, the mooncakes are available individually, each weighing 75gm, with a box size of 8cm long by 8cm wide and 5.5cm tall.

This ensures each mooncake offers a conveniently small portion, ideal for sharing with friends and loved ones.

The packaging concept combines typical Chinese oriental elements with modern touches, catering to a middle-aged consumer who appreciates creative elements.

Overall, the mooncakes' unique taste presents a delightful fusion of sweet and savoury notes, characterised by a soft texture that resonates with millions.

As the product is certified halal, Muslim consumers can be part of the celebration of togetherness alongside friends and family.

"Our mooncakes are now available at all our over 2,000 stores across peninsular Malaysia, making it convenient for consumers to purchase and relish in the spirit of togetherness during the Mid-Autumn celebration," said Malaysia's 7-11 general manager of marketing, Chin Hor Wai.

"These delectable treats offer the perfect way for friends and family members to come together and savour the joy of completeness."



The mooncakes are packed with trendy and whimsical designs.

## Heartwarming Mid-Autumn celebration at 7-Eleven

► 'Bring the Bunnies Home' theme and halal mooncakes inspires spirit of togetherness

At the same time, 7-Eleven's message for the celebration is carried out through a special AR filter game, where three bunnies are finding their way home.

The idea of this game is to promote reunion and togetherness, which is simply a message that carries thoughtfully for the Mid-

Autumn Festival.

To give this celebration another reason to look forward to at 7-Eleven, the AR filter game will reward up to 1000 My7E points (equivalent to RM10) when completing the mission.

To participate, just scan the QR code feature available on each of

the mooncake packaging boxes. And to stand a chance to win and redeem My7E points, participants will need to follow this simple step:

- ➔ Player has to complete the full race journey and ensure the bunnies are home.
  - ➔ The final score published on the mission board is the total My7E points that will be redeemed. Just screenshot the final score and post it on Instagram Stories.
- Finally, send a direct message to

7-Eleven Malaysia via Instagram and share details (name, contact number, and My7E number) in order to credit the points to My7E's account.

The contest commenced on Aug 21 and will end on Sept 30. The results will be announced via a 7-Eleven Instagram story. Winners will then be informed by Oct 1.

For more information, visit [7eleven.com.my](https://7eleven.com.my) or check out 7-Eleven Malaysia on Facebook and Instagram

## ASUS unveils new Vivobook S 15 OLED BAPE edition

This is a breakthrough for the latest Vivobook S 15 OLED BAPE edition, teaming up with trending street fashion brand A Bathing Ape (BAPE).



**KUALA LUMPUR:** ASUS unveiled the Vivobook S15 OLED BAPE edition, a remarkable collaboration with renowned streetwear fashion brand - A Bathing Ape (BAPE). The launch event was streamed online, and this limited-edition laptop will captivate streetwear enthusiasts and tech-savvy individuals alike.

It is also the first laptop bundle to feature an exclusive BAPE "camo" pattern.

The distinctive and iconic "camo" and Baby Milo print was exclusively created for this collaboration, whereby not only is it featured on the laptop but also on other accessories such as the mouse, carry bag, figurines, a mouse, and socks.

This comprehensive bundle truly captures the essence of the distinctive BAPE style.

### Power

The laptop is powered by up to an

Intel Core™ i9-13900H 13th Gen processor and 16GB of RAM, providing exceptional performance for seamless streaming work and entertainment.

### Performance

With Intel Evo™ verification, this laptop simplifies daily tasks with fast charging, extended battery life, high-speed connectivity, instant wake-up, and exceptional performance. Its compact performance ensures productivity on the go.

### Display and Sound

One can experience immersive viewing on the ASUS Vivobook S BAPE Edition's 2.8K 120Hz OLED display. With crystal-clear audio and a breathtakingly realistic soundscape for music and movies, certified by Harman Kardon and Dolby Atmos.



**INTER-PACIFIC**  
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**BURSA MALAYSIA TRADE STATISTICS 25/8/2023**

Participation %		Bought RM m	Sold RM m	Net RM m
27.6	Retail	718.1	753.2	-35.1
43.4	Institutions	1146.5	1165.8	-19.3
29.0	Foreign	799.7	745.3	54.4
100.0		2664.3	2664.3	0

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

# SunBiz

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**AUGUST 28, 2023**

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<b>0.26</b> KLCI 1,444.41	<b>9.16</b> STI 3,189.88	<b>255.79</b> HANG SENG 17,956.38	<b>18.17</b> SCI 3,064.07	<b>662.93</b> NIKKEI 31,624.28	<b>289.29</b> TSEC 16,481.58	<b>18.54</b> KOSPI 2,519.14	<b>66.90</b> S&P/ASX200 7,115.20
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## KL MARKET SUMMARY

August 25, 2023

INDICES	CHANGE
FBMEMAS	10,662.20 -6.31
FBMKLCI	1,444.41 -0.26
CONSUMER PRODUCTS	558.58 -1.74
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	169.03 +0.19
CONSTRUCTION	176.25 +2.46
FINANCIAL SERVICES	16,190.60 +3.75
ENERGY	824.15 +0.43
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	584.34 -2.86
HEALTH CARE	1,675.47 -14.00
TRANSPORTATION	931.44 +3.68
PROPERTY	822.05 +10.20
PLANTATION	6,958.83 -39.40
FBMSHA	10,888.90 -22.70
FBMACE	5,274.90 -39.80
TECHNOLOGY	63.19 -0.60

TURNOVER	VALUE
3.717 BIL	RM2.664 BIL

## 5 MOST ACTIVES

August 25, 2023

STOCK	VOL	CLSG (sen)	+/- (sen)
RGB	133,867,200	36.0	-1.5
BPLANT	115,920,700	149.0	+12.0
IWCITY	110,887,100	59.5	+11.0
EKOVEST	100,791,400	45.5	+2.5
EDUSPEC-WC	92,137,000	1.5	+0.5

## 5 TOP GAINERS

August 25, 2023

STOCK	VOL	CLSG (RM)	+/- RM
AIRPORT	8,555,300	7.20	+0.27
HAPSENG	5,599,000	3.66	+0.14
TROP	1,764,400	1.25	+0.14
UEMS-C83	83,500	0.79	+0.13
YTLPOWR	73,159,000	1.88	+0.13

## 5 TOP LOSERS

August 25, 2023

STOCK	VOL	CLSG (RM)	+/- RM
NESTLE	189,600	129.40	-1.30
KLK	2,929,200	21.74	-0.66
HEIM	288,400	24.92	-0.56
MPI	408,800	26.72	-0.28
MCEMENT	4,889,100	3.60	-0.25

## EXCHANGE RATES

AUGUST 25, 2023

Foreign currency	Bank sell TT/OD	Bank buy TT	Bank buy OD
1 US DOLLAR	4.7180	4.5850	4.5655
1 AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	3.0440	2.9240	2.9330
1 BRUNEI DOLLAR	3.4770	3.3770	3.3760
1 CANADIAN DOLLAR	3.4700	3.3790	3.3770
1 EURO	5.1040	4.9420	4.9450
1 NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR	2.8040	2.7030	2.7070
1 SINGAPORE DOLLAR	3.4770	3.3770	3.3760
1 STERLING POUND	5.9520	5.7670	5.7890
1 SWISS FRANC	5.3160	5.1950	5.2120
100 UAE DIRHAM	130.0400	123.3400	122.8900
100 BANGLADESH TAKA	4.4030	4.1170	3.9080
100 CHINESE RENMINBI	65.2900	62.5600	N/A
100 HONGKONG DOLLAR	60.8400	57.8400	57.5300
100 INDIAN RUPEE	5.8100	5.4600	5.2500
100 INDONESIAN RUPIAH	0.0320	0.0290	0.0239
100 JAPANESE YEN	3.2360	3.1350	3.1400
100 NEW TAIWAN DOLLAR	15.9000	N/A	N/A
100 PAKISTAN RUPEE	1.5900	1.4800	1.3000
100 PHILIPPINE PESO	8.4500	7.9600	7.7700
100 QATAR RIYAL	130.9700	124.3400	123.8900
100 SAUDI RIYAL	127.2600	120.8100	120.3800
100 THAI BAHT	14.0600	12.4800	12.1200

Source: Malayan Banking Berhad/Bernama

# pitchIN secondary market soft launch this week

Investors will be able to start trading on PSTX in the middle of September

BY GLORIA HARRY BEATTY  
[sunbiz@thesundaily.com](mailto:sunbiz@thesundaily.com)

**PETALING JAYA:** Pitch Platform Sdn Bhd via its equity crowd funding (ECF) platform pitchIN will soft launch its secondary market called pitchIN Secondary Trading Market (PSTX) this week and expects to host its first deal on its Initial Exchange Offering (IEO) platform in September.

Co-founders Sam Shafie and Kashminder Singh - who are also CEO and chief strategy officer respectively - disclosed this in an exclusive interview with *SunBiz*.

In March, the company was granted approval by the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) for its secondary market and was announced as one of two IEO platforms in the country. It will pioneer Malaysia's first approved digital assets and tokens fundraising platform.

Kashminder said PSTX is ready and its soft launch is scheduled for Wednesday, albeit dependent on several factors as it will need to upload data on its investors, companies as well as inform the regulators.

"But that's the target, August 30 will be the soft launch, but the actual trading will start on Sept 13," he added.

Investors will only be able to start trading activities in the following month as they need time to familiarise themselves with the market and the new exchange.

"So imagine, on August 30, I open the doors to the market and you can come in, have a look and you can prepare your money to buy or sell and check your balances ... then in mid September, you can put in your order and the market starts," Kashminder said, adding that investors can access the exchange via its website, which is



Kashminder (left) and Sam. - AMIRUL SYAFIQ/THE SUN

a unified platform.

Sam shared that for a start, PSTX will showcase 10 to 15 companies, that are made up of small and medium-sized enterprises and startups. In addition, the exchange will only be trading twice weekly, on Wednesday and Thursday.

"It's a start. One or two years down the road, when the market becomes more matured, then it could potentially be five days a week just like Bursa Malaysia.

On the difference between PSTX and Bursa, Kashminder said the latter is an active trading platform where most investors "go in speculatively", whereas the former is geared more towards "patient capital".

"Patient capital, a bit longer term investing, you're investing for the long-term growth of the company, so you get your best returns only when the company can grow significantly bigger," he said.

Kashminder explained that with the

launch, he expects more companies to sign up on pitchIN as it will have another platform or market to raise funds in the future.

"More companies are going to come to us because they are able to tell the investors, you can come and raise money on pitchIN ... there's an option later on ... so I think that brings a very strong liquidity option to the market," he said.

Sam opined that it is normal for potential investors to be careful in investing in a company in its early stages.

However, if the company does well, potential investors will be persuaded to invest because "all that early stage risk has already been addressed", and may even be able "to see its path towards potentially even an acquisition by PE (private equity) or an IPO (initial public offering) through buying shares in PSTX and are able to invest in its growth".

## Pos Malaysia expands electric motorcycle fleet

**PETALING JAYA:** Pos Malaysia Bhd, the national post and parcel service provider on a mission to be net zero by 2050, recently took delivery of 50 electric motorcycles from Motosikal Dan Enjin Nasional Sdn Bhd (Modenas), the assembler of MEV-1, and DRB-HICOM EZ-Drive Sdn Bhd (AVIS), the leasing provider of the MEV-1 programme.

Pos Malaysia group CEO Charles Brewer said: "This marks an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship. In addition to a total of 55 e-bikes already delivering across the Klang Valley, we will deploy these 50 Modenas e-bikes to other states, including Johor, Kedah, Penang and Perak. By the end of 2023, our aim is to have 200 e-bikes and 143 e-vans across Malaysia.

"We are fully committed to our purpose statement to be passionate about building trust to connect lives and businesses for a better tomorrow, and we aim to have converted all of our last-mile vehicles from ICE to electric by 2030. Simply put, we will deliver cleaner and greener."



From left: DRB-HICOM group strategic communications deputy head Cairil Irwan Mohd Amir Sharifuddin, automotive distribution head Akkbar Danial, Brewer, Modenas CEO Roslan Roskan, DRB-HICOM group strategic communications head Mahmood Razak Bahman and group risk management and sustainability head Cheah Chee Kong at the handover.

Pos Malaysia launched its sustainability roadmap earlier this year, laying out its plans to reduce its environmental footprint, targeting net zero carbon emissions for its operations by 2050.

It is a participating company of UN Global

Compact, a member of the International Post Corporation's Sustainability Measurement and Management System, and actively contributes to managing sustainability and reducing the carbon footprint of the post and parcel industry.





# Taiwan investment in Malaysia this year expected to surge to US\$400m

BY HAYATUN RAZAK  
sunbiz@thesundaily.com

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Taiwanese investment in Malaysia this year is projected to surge to US\$400 million (RM1.85 billion), up from US\$80 million in 2022, due to Taiwan's recognition of Malaysia as its vital partner in the high-tech sector.

In an exclusive interview with *SunBiz* in conjunction with Taiwan Expo 2023, Taiwan External Trade Development Council (Taitra) chairman James Huang said Malaysia's robust technology ecosystem, particularly in Kuala Lumpur and Penang, has made it an attractive destination for Taiwanese companies seeking to expand their presence and tap into new markets.

"Taiwanese investment in Malaysia has increased in a big way. According to Taiwanese government statistics, in 2022, Taiwanese investment in Malaysia amounted to US\$80 million. And

Robust technology ecosystem – especially in Kuala Lumpur and Penang – makes it an attractive destination for Taiwanese companies seeking to expand and tap into new markets

now, for the first half of 2023, from January to June, over six months, Taiwanese investment in Malaysia already exceeds US\$200 million.

"Many Taiwanese companies have come to Malaysia, establishing branches or subsidiary companies. However, these numbers were not included in the calculations, making the actual figures much larger. Therefore, I find it highly plausible that by the end of the entire year in 2023, the investment could easily reach US\$400 million – a substantial increase compared to the figures from 2022," he said.

Huang, taking the helm of

Taiwan's premier trade promotion organisation, emphasised that the island has continued to excel in various sectors amid challenging international economic conditions, particularly in areas such as ICT, semiconductors, green energy and smart manufacturing.

"Taiwan's innovative energy comes from its people, who are creative, resilient and adaptable," he said. The spirit is exemplified by the Taiwan Excellence Award, which enhances the global visibility of Taiwan's industries through self-promotion and collective marketing efforts.

Regarding business ties between



Huang pictured with Taiwan's finest innovations at Taiwan Expo 2023

Taiwan and Malaysia, Huang stated that Taiwanese companies are not only investing in semiconductors but also in precision manufacturing products and logistics in Malaysia. He also expressed Taiwan's high interest in assisting Malaysia in the electric vehicle (EV) industry.

"We have very good EV supply chain companies in Taiwan, and we collaborate with all major OEMs in the world, including car companies in Detroit, Europe, and Japan. We visited General Motors, Ford, and we were in Germany in April, visiting Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Volkswagen, Siemens and a few others. Last month, we were in Japan. Hence, we have a very good EV supply chain," he said.

Huang mentioned that for EV, if charging is inconvenient, it becomes an issue because people may hesitate to buy EVs. He said that Taiwanese companies are among the world's leaders in producing EV charging facilities with Delta being one of the most renowned companies in this field.

"We also have software companies that can provide charging and integration services for customers. So I see ample opportunity for Taiwanese companies to collaborate with their Malaysian counterparts in the EV industry. My team will be visiting Malaysia's Gentari, an establishment with a mission to promote green solutions and the EV industry," he said.

Looking ahead, Huang said Taiwan's strong standing in the semiconductor and high-tech industries positions it to support Malaysia's digital and green transformation endeavours.

He stressed the significance of trade and investment relations between Taiwan and Malaysia.

"The restructuring of global supply chains due to geopolitical changes is creating opportunities for Taiwanese companies to help establish supply chains worldwide. In particular, Malaysia's evolving semiconductor supply chain, centered in Penang, holds promise for future Taiwanese investments and collaborations," Huang said.



Taiwan Excellence is recognised as the industrial 'Oscar awards' for Taiwanese products. Huang (centre) and award-winning Taiwanese manufacturers collaborate to promote the high-quality manufacturing prowess that Made-in Taiwan represents.

## TM declares 9.5 sen interim dividend on strong Q2 results

**PETALING JAYA:** Telekom Malaysia Bhd (TM) recorded a stronger financial performance in the second quarter of the year ended June 30, 2023, compared with the same period in the previous year.

Operating revenue grew 0.3% to RM3.1 billion, propelled by Unifi's expansion which saw a substantial increase to 3.11 million fixed broadband subscribers. The growth was also due to TM Global's solid 10% revenue growth driven by higher demand for domestic and international data services.

Profit after tax and non-controlling interest rose 50.4% from RM378 million to RM568.7 million due to lower net finance cost and the recognition of tax credits from unutilised tax losses.

Meanwhile, earnings before interest and tax was lower by 10.3% at RM630 million from RM702.7 million, due to higher preventive maintenance costs to better serve its customers and higher depreciation from revision of asset useful life.

TM declared a higher interim dividend of 9.5 sen per share.

## Deductibility of illegal payments

**TAXATION** principles do not discriminate between legal and illegal activities. The fact that the income may be illegal or immoral is of no concern when it comes to taxation. As long as the income is of a business nature that arises from a profession, vocation or trade, the income is taxable.

The existence of corruption in the course of carrying on business transactions with the public sector or the private sector cannot be denied. Although it is not the norm, it is not uncommon for bribes to be given to obtain contracts or permissions. Such payments can be in the form of either cash payments, gifts or benefits in kind, special discounts given to the recipients, holiday trips disguised as business travel, etc.

The most common expense is usually a percentage of the contract given to certain parties

who may be instrumental in obtaining contracts.

### Where can you find these illegal payments?

Usually these payments are booked into the accounts as expenditure incurred in the course of carrying on the business. This is usually found in project costs, cost of sales, or it will be seen as payments made through the director's accounts. There are many other ways of including such costs into the accounts.

### Can you claim a deduction?

If the expenditure is incurred to obtain the business or to run the business, the expenditure, whether it is an illegal bribe or otherwise, will be deductible on the grounds that without incurring that expenditure, the taxpayer would not have been able to generate the income that

is taxable.

Since this expenditure is directly connected for the purpose of generating that income, the law allows the taxpayer to claim the expense as a deduction. Similar to the taxation of income, there is no discrimination of the deductibility of the expenditure between legal and illegal activities.

In practice, as long as the taxpayer can show that the expenditure has been incurred, he can claim the expenditure. However, there is a "catch" here. The taxpayer claiming the expenditure must be prepared to reveal the name of the recipient and the service provided by the recipient.

For example, in a project where the taxpayer wins the award, he has to show that the "bribe" paid was instrumental in helping him obtain the contract.

In most cases, the payer is reluctant to reveal the name of the recipient. In such a situation, the tax authority will

not allow the deduction since the taxpayer is unable to substantiate the authenticity of the payment.

Another important point to note is all information provided to the tax authority, whether illegal or not, is meant to be confidential. Therefore the tax authority cannot share such information automatically with other agencies. However, there are exceptional circumstances where such information can be shared.

The bottom line is the tax legislation equally applies to both legal and illegal activities. The taxpayer will not escape taxation but, in most cases, they will be denied the deduction of bribes since the majority of the taxpayers are unwilling to reveal the recipients.

**This** article was contributed by Thannees Tax Consulting Services Sdn Bhd managing director SM Thanneermalai ([www.thannees.com](http://www.thannees.com)).



TAX MATTERS  
BY S.M. THANNEERMALAI



# Govt's investment-friendly approach builds confidence

➤ It will attract foreign companies to enter Malaysian market, says semiconductor industry group

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia is expected to receive more investments going forward, supported by investors' confidence in the Madani Economy framework and from offshoots from existing investments, said Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA).

MSIA president Datuk Seri Wong Siew Hai said the investment-friendly approach practised by the current government will attract foreign companies to enter the Malaysian market.

"We can see Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim) working very hard to attract investments from all over the world, including China, the United States and even (lending his personal touch) with

Tesla's Elon Musk. There were other investment announcements from European semiconductor firms. Investors will view these approved investments positively.

"US companies did expand their footprint in Malaysia. We have companies like Intel Corp. We also have new companies coming in. So, investors are confident about Malaysia but we want (more) quality investments," he told Bernama.

US ambassador to Malaysia Brian McFeeters said US companies made investment pledges totalling RM100 billion in various sectors over the last 18 months.

He said these involve significant investments in areas where the US wants to strengthen its presence,

namely electronics and semiconductor sectors, as well as data centre segment which is a big growth area.

McFeeters said US investments are coming strongly into Malaysia after discovering that Malaysia is a key part of the world's supply chain during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"A lot of US factories depend directly on something made in Malaysia. So we have a mutually beneficial economic relationship that has been developed to this day," he said.

Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz has said that Malaysia would prioritise improving the ease of doing business in the country to lure quality investments.

He said the government will continue to streamline processes and monitor and track these investment processes closely and in real time through a project management and delivery unit within the ministry.

Meanwhile, Bank Muamalat

Malaysia Bhd chief economist and social finance head Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid opined that Malaysia has always portrayed itself as non-partisan and has been accommodative to bilateral ties.

"In today's world, threats of deglobalisation are seen to be taking root which can be counterproductive if allowed.

"Therefore, forging economic alliances with various (countries) should signify Malaysia's commitment to remain open to foreign direct investments," he said.

More importantly, Mohd Afzanizam said, investments by foreign companies could be a catalyst for infrastructure development as well as transfers of technology.

On the electrical and electronics sector outlook, Wong said industry players are expecting demand to pick up in 2024.

"Everyone is expecting a pick-up next year but we don't know when. We need to observe the trend," he said.

## WARRANTS WATCH

### Domestic issues MyEG, UMW actively traded

**TURNOVER** on the Malaysian warrants market edged down 3% week-on-week (w-o-w) to RM287.2 million for the five days ended Aug 25. Warrants over the Hang Seng Index (HSI) continued to be the main focus, dominating the weekly turnover with a substantial contribution of RM199 million, accounting for 69.3% of the total while warrants over Malaysian stocks made up about 26.9%.

HSI futures opened the week lower, falling 1.4% to 17,615 points on Monday amid news of a lesser than expected rates cut from China's central bank. Over the next two days, the futures rebounded 1.4%, before surging 1.9% to trade above the 18,000 level, finishing at 18,196 on Thursday. They then snapped the three-day gains, closing 1.3% lower on Friday at 17,954 on mixed

Top stock warrants by volume traded:				
Warrant name	Volume (mil)	Issuer	Exercise level	Expiry date
HSI-CRN	507.6	Macquarie	20,400	29 Nov 2023
HSI-HN3	215.7	Macquarie	17,600	30 Aug 2023
HSI-CRF	84.7	Macquarie	20,800	30 Oct 2023
HSI-HNS	53.9	Macquarie	17,000	29 Sep 2023
MYEG-C3M	46.8	Maybank	RM0.800	30 Aug 2023

corporate earnings, among others.

Call warrant HSI-CRN recorded 507.6 million units traded for the week, topping the most active list. The warrant also posted the highest weekly turnover, logging up RM93 million. Put warrant HSI-HN3 was the second most actively traded warrant with 215.7 million units. HSI-HSI-HN3 will be expiring on Wednesday, with its last trading date

today. Investors may check their warrants portfolio and plan their trading strategies accordingly as warrants that are expiring soon will experience a higher rate of time decay.

On the domestic front, call warrant MYEG-C3M was popular among investors, recording 46.8 million units traded. Another call warrant, UMW-C42, saw investors

trading 45.3 million units following news of the deal between Sime Darby and UMW Holdings, resulting in the UMW's share price gaining 2.8% w-o-w, closing at RM4.74 (+2.6%), the highest since September 2019.

To view the full list of structured warrants available on Bursa Malaysia, visit [malaysiawarrants.com.my](http://malaysiawarrants.com.my).

*Provided for Malaysian residents' information only. This commentary has not been reviewed by the Securities Commission Malaysia. It is not an offer or recommendation to trade and is not research material. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. You should make your own assessment and seek professional advice.*

*The warrants will not be offered to any US persons.*

### Alrajhi Bank Malaysia rolls out AHAM Shariah Gold Tracker Fund

**PETALING JAYA:** Al Rajhi Banking and Investment Corporation (Malaysia) Bhd (Alrajhi Bank Malaysia) has partnered with AHAM Asset Management Bhd (AHAM Capital, formerly known as Affin Hwang Asset Management Bhd) to expand its suite of shariah-compliant wealth offerings.

The partnership will combine Alrajhi Bank Malaysia's wide business network and AHAM Capital's investment capabilities to provide greater value to clients in building a globally diversified portfolio that is capable of weathering fluctuating market cycles.

Alrajhi Bank Malaysia has onboarded the AHAM Shariah Gold Tracker Fund, which is an open-ended retail feeder fund that aims to provide investors with investment results that closely track the performance of gold prices.

The fund feeds into an exchange-traded fund, TradePlus Shariah Gold Tracker, which is managed by AHAM Capital. It is suitable for investors who seek exposure into gold through a shariah-compliant structure and have a moderate risk tolerance level.

Alrajhi Bank Malaysia CEO Arsalaan (Oz) Ahmed said: "We are pleased to roll out the AHAM Shariah Gold Tracker to the market, as this will enhance the bank's overall product offerings and provide a broader suite of solutions for our investors. For investors, the fund will provide them a shariah-compliant initial access to gain exposure to gold, which is a commodity during financial crises. It will also provide investors with investment results that closely mirror the movement of gold prices."

Established in 2001, AHAM Capital is an independently managed, institutionally owned asset and wealth management company. With total assets under administration of RM80 billion as at June 30, the company has served the needs of corporates, institutions, pension funds, high-net worth individuals, and the mass affluent over the years to build and preserve wealth.



## DISCOVER NEW FRONTIERS OF INDUSTRIAL PARK GROWTH

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## Australia monitoring Chinese economy 'very closely'

**SYDNEY:** Australian Treasurer Jim Chalmers said yesterday the government was closely watching China amid "concerning" signs of economic weakness that could weigh on Australia's economy.

"I share the pretty substantial concerns that people have voiced about the Chinese economy," Chalmers told Sky News television.

"It is concerning to see the weakness, the softness, in the recent weeks and months in the Chinese economy because it has obvious implications for us here in Australia."

China is the top trading partner for raw-materials exporter Australia, with annual trade of A\$285 billion (RM850.2 billion), although Canberra has urged exporters to become less reliant on China amid diplomatic tensions.

"In China they're dealing with slower growth, they've got deflation, there are concerns in their property sector and to some extent in their banking sector, their exports have slowed as well," Chalmers said. "Our concerns for China in particular is something that we're monitoring very closely."

Australia's growth "will be substantially weaker" due to China's slowdown and Australian interest rates rises, he said. - Reuters

## Evergrande posts narrower net loss for January to June

**HONG KONG:** Property developer China Evergrande Group yesterday reported a January-June net loss of 33 billion yuan (RM21 billion) versus a 66.4 billion yuan loss in the same period a year ago.

Evergrande is at the centre of a crisis in China's property sector that since late 2021 has seen a string of debt defaults.

The world's most indebted developer posted a combined net loss of US\$81 billion for 2021 and 2022 in a long-overdue earnings report last month, having posted an 8.1 billion yuan profit in 2020.

Over that two-year period, revenue fell 55% to 230.1 billion yuan. Liabilities reached 2.4 trillion yuan, up 23%, while its assets were worth 1.8 trillion yuan, down 20%.

On Friday, Evergrande said it had "adequately" fulfilled exchange guidance for the resumption of trade of its Hong Kong-listed stock and had applied for trade to resume today. Trading of the stock has been halted since March last year. - Reuters

# US economic growth could pose global risks

**JACKSON HOLE:** US economic growth, still racing at a potentially inflationary pace as other key parts of the world slow, could pose global risks if it forces Federal Reserve (Fed) officials to raise interest rates higher than currently expected.

The Fed's aggressive rate increases last year had the potential to stress the global financial system as the US dollar soared, but the impact was muted by largely synchronised central bank rate hikes and other actions taken by monetary authorities to prevent widespread dollar funding problems for companies and offset the impact of weakening currencies.

Now Brazil, Chile and China have begun cutting interest rates, with others expected to follow, actions that international officials and central bankers at last week's Jackson Hole conference said are largely tuned to an expectation the Fed won't raise its rate more than an additional quarter percentage point.

While US inflation has fallen and policymakers largely agree they are nearing the end of rate increases, economic growth has remained unexpectedly strong, something Fed chair Jerome Powell noted in remarks on Friday could potentially lead progress on inflation to stall and trigger a central bank response.

That sort of policy shock, at a moment of US economic divergence with the rest of the world, could have

➤ Federal Reserve officials remain puzzled, and somewhat concerned, over conflicting signals in incoming data

significant ripple effects.

"If we get to a point where there is a need for ... doing more than what's already priced in, at some point markets might start getting nervous ... then you see a big increase in the risk premia in different asset classes including emerging markets, including the rest of the world," said International Monetary Fund chief economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas. "The risk of a financial tightening, a very sharp financial tightening, I think we cannot rule that out."

After the Covid-19 pandemic shock and the inflationary rebound that had most countries raising rates together, it is normal now for policies to diverge, Cleveland Fed president Loretta Mester (*pic*) told Reuters on the sidelines of the Jackson Hole conference on Saturday.

But a lot rides on the Fed getting it right.

"The economy is a global economy, right? It's an interconnected economy," she said. "What we do with

our policy - if we can get back to 2% in a timely way, in a sustainable way, if we have a strong labour market - that's good for the global economy."

Fed policymakers will deliver a crucial update to their economic outlook at a Sept 19-20 meeting, when they are expected to leave their policy rate unchanged.

If inflation and labour market data continue showing an easing of price and wage pressures, the current forecast for just one more quarter-point increase may hold.

Yet Fed officials remain puzzled, and somewhat concerned, over conflicting signals in the



incoming data. Some point to weakening in manufacturing, slowing consumer spending and tightening credit, all consistent with the impact of strict monetary policy and cooling price pressures.

But gross domestic product (GDP) is still expanding at a pace well above what Fed officials regard as the non-inflationary growth rate of around 1.8%. US GDP expanded at a 2.4% annualised rate in the second quarter, and some estimates put the current quarter's pace at more than twice that.

The contrast with other key global economies is sharp. The euro area grew at an annualised 0.3% in the second quarter, essentially stall speed. Difficulties in China, meanwhile, may drag down global growth the longer they fester.

US fiscal policy is driving some of the difference with US\$6 trillion (RM27.8 trillion) in pandemic-era aid still bolstering consumer spending. A recent investment push from the Biden administration is supporting manufacturing and construction.

But, Citigroup chief economist Nathan Sheets said, "when you hear economists give you three or four reasons for something, that's usually because we really don't know."

The longer the US economy outperforms, the more Fed officials wonder if they understand what's happening. - Reuters

## China halves stamp duty on stock trading to lift market

**BEIJING:** Profits at China's industrial firms fell 6.7% in July from a year earlier, extending this year's slump to a seventh month with weak demand squeezing companies as a post-pandemic recovery faltered in the world's second-biggest economy.

Earnings shrank 15.5% year-on-year for the first seven months, following a 16.8% decline in the first half of the year, data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showed yesterday.

Profits were down 8.3% in June,

according to the bureau, which only occasionally publishes monthly figures.

"Commodity prices are running low, the pressure on raw material costs in the midstream and downstream industries has eased. Unit cost of industrial enterprises has improved overall," NBS statistician Sun Xiao said in an accompanying statement, adding that unit costs in July posted the first year-on-year decrease since the beginning of this year.

Big Chinese manufacturers posted losses for the first half, with

engineering firm China Aluminum International reporting a net loss of 830.6 million yuan (RM529.1 million), compared with a year-earlier net profit of 123.6 million yuan.

Major banks have downgraded their growth forecasts for the year to below the government's target of about 5% as recovery sputters on a worsening property slump, weak consumer spending and tumbling credit growth, prompting the authorities to slash interest and promise further support.

State-owned enterprises saw

earnings tumble 20.3% in the first seven months of this year, foreign firms posted a 12.4% decline and private-sector companies recorded a 10.7% fall, a breakdown of the data showed.

Profits dived for 28 of 41 major industrial sectors during the period, with the ferrous metal smelting and rolling processing industry reporting the deepest slump at 90.5%.

Industrial profit numbers cover firms with annual revenues of at least 20 million yuan from their main operations. - Reuters





# Game on

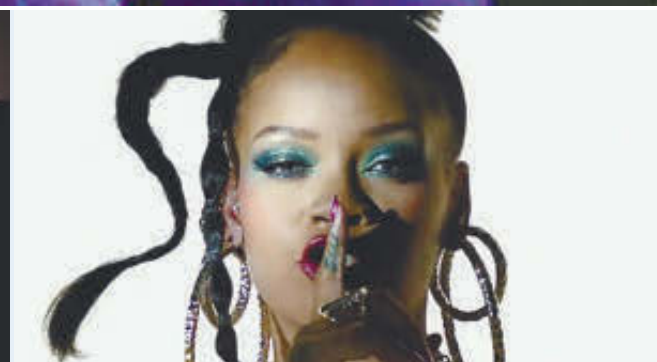
**Captivating Magic: the Gathering universe, a card of such remarkable power and formidable presence on page 17**



Dolly, Paul and Ringo say *Let It Be* on page 15



The world's fifth fashion capital on page 18



Rihanna newest family member on page 14





Experience laughter, action and intrigue in this unmissable Korean series. – DISNEY+ HOTSTAR

## Korean action comedy

**DISCOVER** a captivating twist on the conventional crime drama with *Han River Police*. Journey to the heart of Seoul's cherished locale as we blend action, wit and criminal intrigue to create an uproariously entertaining Korean series.

When a quick-tempered police officer is paired with a carefree slacker, prepare for a roller-coaster ride as this dynamic duo dives head-first into a web of criminal plots right by the Han River's edge. The ground-breaking Korean action comedy series is arriving exclusively on Disney+ Hotstar on Sept 13.

Embark on a mission to safeguard Seoul's iconic leisure hub as Sergeant Dujin and Lieutenant Chunseok, stalwart characters played by Kwone Sangwoo and Kim Hiewon, patrol the Han River's precincts. From thwarting terrorists to rescuing accident victims and cracking various cases, this atypical team navigates through a series of bizarre situations that will leave you in stitches.

Brace yourself for a surge of excitement when their jurisdiction unravels a sprawling criminal conspiracy, putting their mettle to the ultimate test.

Witness the uproarious talents of a star-studded cast, including Kwone Sang-woo as the fiery Sergeant Han Du-jin, Kim Hie-won as the laid-back Lieutenant Lee Chun-seok and Lee Sangyi as the sinister Go Giseok.

Also featuring Bae Da-bin as Nahee and Shin Hyeon-seung as the fitness-obsessed Jisoo, *Han River Police* guarantees an unforgettable blend of action, humour and criminal enigma. – **BY THASHINE SELVAKUMARAN**



The artistes embrace parenthood a second time together. – PEOPLE

# Baby number 2

BY THASHINE SELVAKUMARAN

**A**DDING another chapter to their journey, fashion and beauty mogul Rihanna and rapper A\$AP Rocky have joyously welcomed the arrival of their second child.

The multi-talented Rihanna, who already shares a 15-month-old son named RZA with A\$AP Rocky, recently gave birth to their newest family member, as reported by various media sources.

The exciting news of her second pregnancy was unveiled during her captivating performance at the 2023 Super Bowl halftime show. Radiantly dressed in an all-red ensemble that elegantly showcased her baby bump, Rihanna confirmed the swirling pregnancy

## Rihanna and A\$AP Rocky welcome second child

speculation that had encircled her.

While keeping the specifics shrouded in secrecy, insiders reveal that the baby was born discreetly on Aug 3. The couple have yet to disclose the name they have chosen for their baby, although there are indications that it begins with the letter "R".

In a manner reminiscent of her initial pregnancy, Rihanna remained active and vibrant, gracing events in stunning and chic attire that beautifully accentuated her growing belly.

Similarly, in line with their previous pregnancy, the couple chose to maintain an air of mystery around the gender of their

second child.

Tracing back to their origins, Rihanna's connection with A\$AP Rocky traces back to their joint performance of Cockiness at the 2012 MTV Video Music Awards, which was followed by a collaborative tour the subsequent year.

Yet, it was only in 2020 that they publicly confirmed their romantic involvement, eventually making a prominent appearance at the illustrious 2021 Met Gala.

Heartfelt congratulations go out to the radiant couple as they embrace this new chapter of parenthood once again.

## David Ayer owns up to Joker tattoo

A LOT can and has been said about the Warner Bros *Suicide Squad* film from 2016, but one thing that has remained constant is the film's writer-director, David Ayer's fervent defence of the creative decisions made in the film, particularly Jared Leto's Joker.

Due to Ben Affleck already being revealed to play the DC Extended Universe's version of Bruce Wayne/Batman, fan expectations were riding high on who Ayer would cast as Joker.

So, when Leto's take on the Clown Prince of Crime was finally unveiled, with slicked back neon green hair, hip hop "grill" dental, and an entire body full of tattoos akin to a vandalised school table, fans and critics pounced like a pack of starving tigers.

However, out of all the design choices, the primary point of

contention was the "Damaged" tattoo on the forehead of Leto's Joker.

Now, seven years later, Ayer has admitted that the most controversial design choice was his own.

After one social media user tagged him in a post asking when the "Damaged" tattoo came into play, another responded that Ayer would never admit it if it was his idea.

"I own the tattoo idea 100%," he replied on X, formerly known as Twitter.

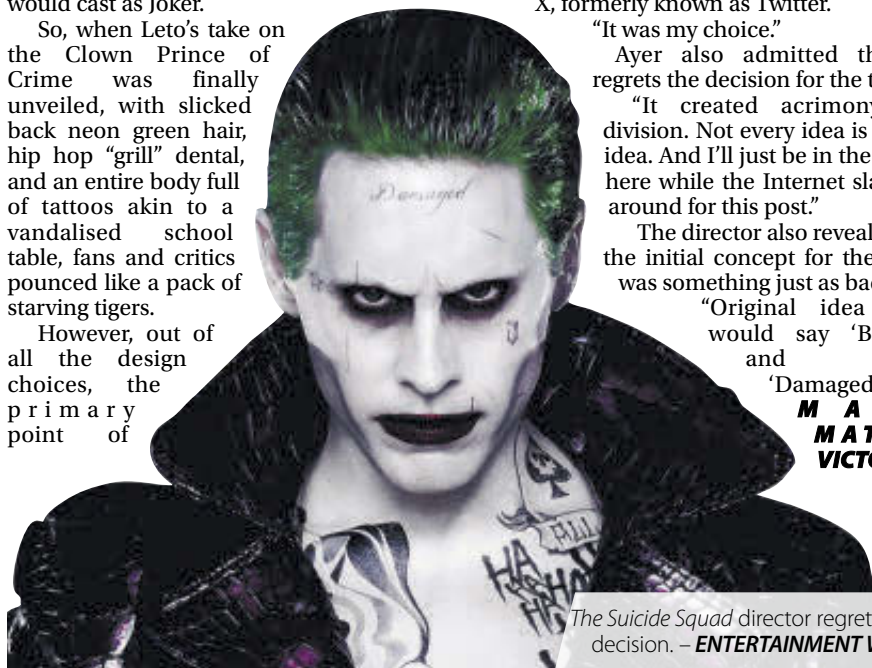
"It was my choice."

Ayer also admitted that he regrets the decision for the tattoo.

"It created acrimony and division. Not every idea is a good idea. And I'll just be in the corner here while the Internet slaps me around for this post."

The director also revealed that the initial concept for the tattoo was something just as bad.

"Original idea is it would say 'Blessed' and not 'Damaged.'" – **BY MARK MATHEN VICTOR**



The *Suicide Squad* director regrets tattoo decision. – ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

## Blue Beetle ends Barbie's long box office run

**AFTER** a full month in theatres, the top movie in the US was knocked off its perch. On its first day of release, Warner Bros' *Blue Beetle* topped the charts, relegating the studio's own mega-hit *Barbie* to second place for the first time in its record-breaking month-long run. *Blue Beetle* earned US\$10 million (RM46 million) on its opening day, including the US\$3.3 million (RM15 million) from last week's previews.

However, it is expected that the film will earn approximately US\$25 million (RM116 million) during its opening weekend, which is below average for superhero films. Nonetheless, *Blue Beetle* was reportedly produced at about half the cost of most major blockbuster movies today, with a budget of approximately US\$104 million (RM483 million), as per Deadline.

Originally intended as a direct-to-streaming title, *Blue Beetle* now serves as the second-to-last installment of a bygone era of the DC Extended Universe, which will be rebooted in 2025 with *Superman: Legacy* under the supervision of James Gunn and Peter Safran.

The current DCEU era will officially come to a close with *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom* later this year, which has a larger overall connection with the series, while *Blue Beetle* is a mostly standalone story.

The film's opening is comparable to *Birds of Prey* from several years ago. This film is widely regarded as having underperformed at the box office, grossing less than US\$100 million (RM464 million) domestically and less than US\$200 million (RM929 million) internationally.

While *Barbie* might help soften the impact, WB is still recovering from the disastrous run of three consecutive superhero movies namely



*Blue Beetle* tops charts on its release. – VARIETY

*Black Adam*, *Shazam! Fury of the Gods* and *The Flash*. *Blue Beetle*, despite its modest budget, is not the film that will turn the studio's superhero films around.

*Barbie* is anticipated to secure the second position with an estimated US\$20 million (RM93 million) in its fifth weekend, having grossed US\$6 million (RM28 million) last Friday. By Sunday, the film is expected to have accumulated a domestic box office total of US\$566 million (RM2.630 billion).

Shortly after, it is poised to surpass *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, which earned US\$574 million (RM2.667 billion) in its entire theatrical run, becoming the year's highest-grossing film.

This achievement is also expected to extend to the global box office, where *Barbie* has already grossed over US\$1.2 billion (RM5.5 billion). Notably, *Barbie* shared its release date with the third-ranked film on the Friday chart: Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer*. – **BY HAZIQUE ZAIRILL**



# d4vd comes to Malaysia

BY HAZIQUE ZARILL

THE rising American artist d4vd is ready to take his *Petal to Thorns* tour to Asia in November and December.

The tour, presented by Live Nation, will showcase his performances in various Asian countries including Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Japan and South Korea.

The *Petal to Thorns* tour is set to kick off in Jakarta, on Nov 23, followed by a performance in Singapore on Nov 27. On Nov 29, the *Romantic Homicide* singer will take the stage in Kuala Lumpur, and then head to Manila, for a show on Dec 4.

Wrapping up the tour, he will perform in Tokyo, on Dec 6, and conclude with a show in Seoul, on Dec 9.

Details regarding ticket sales for the Jakarta show are currently unavailable, but updates will be provided as soon as they are announced. For d4vd's concert in Singapore, general tickets will become available through Live Nation tomorrow.

However, dedicated fans can take advantage of Live Nation pre-sales, which starts today from 10am to midnight. This early access provides an opportunity for fans to secure their tickets before the general release.

Meanwhile, fans in Malaysia could secure their tickets for his Kuala Lumpur concert last Friday at 11am local time on go-live-asia.com. Details regarding ticket sales for his other Asian tour dates are forthcoming.

Earlier this year, David Anthony Burke, known professionally as d4vd, unveiled as the inaugural cover artist on *The Cover*, NME's newly launched weekly cover story featuring emerging talent from across the globe.

To celebrate *The Cover*, d4vd also curated a "songs for tour" playlist, featuring songs from Humberstone, Clairo, Billie Eilish and more.

Following the successful launch of his debut EP *Petal to Thorns* back in May, d4vd is building on this foundation with *The Lost Petals*. This newly announced collection comprises five songs that seamlessly fit within the sonic landscape of his debut EP.

These tracks capture a similar creative period in d4vd's musical journey, which he is eager to share with his fans before transitioning into the next phase of his musical evolution.

One of d4vd's earlier releases, the gradual and beachy ballad *Here With Me*, achieved significant recognition by entering the Billboard Hot 100 in January 2023 and swiftly earning RIAA Gold Certification.

*Petal to Thorns*, d4vd's inaugural EP, firmly establishes him as a versatile and innovative emerging artist. His inclusion in Billboard's 21 Under 21 list further underscores his rising stature in the music industry.



Official poster of *Petal to Thorns* Asia tour.



d4vd, a genre-defying multi-hyphenate, announces Southeast Asia tour dates.  
— PICS BY LIVE NATION MALAYSIA



Kim Seon-ho is a talented actor known for his charismatic performances.

# Seonho's splendid sojourn

➤ South Korean star charms Malaysia with smiles and surprises

BY THASHINE SELVAKUMARAN

IN a captivating turn of events, Malaysia played a starring role in the journey of Kim Seon-ho's Asia Tour, aptly named <One, Two, Three. Smile>. The beloved South Korean actor graced the media with his presence at a press conference preceding his much-anticipated inaugural visit to Malaysia.

From his initial foray into the entertainment world through the 2017 K-drama sensation *Good Manager*, Kim's star has continued to ascend. His name became synonymous with hits like *Start-Up*, where he shared the screen with luminaries like Bae Suzy, Nam Joo-hyuk, and Kang Han-na, and *Hometown Cha-Cha-Cha*, where his chemistry with Shin Min-a was nothing short of enchanting.

His undeniable acting prowess and magnetic charisma have propelled him to the forefront of the global entertainment stage, solidifying his status as a coveted gem in South Korea's showbiz realm.

Radiating infectious enthusiasm, Kim lit up the press conference with a genuine smile and warm greetings, reflective of his first encounter with the Malaysian landscape. To his pleasant surprise, he marvelled at Malaysians' adeptness in speaking Korean and expressed a genuine desire to embrace their language as well.

Heartfelt gratitude flowed from him towards his devoted fan base, the

"seonhohadas," whose unwavering support and smiles have become his driving force, propelling him to continually excel in his craft.

When the topic of his diverse roles surfaced, Kim revealed his ongoing curiosity about embodying both villainous and carefree characters. This curiosity, he confessed, guides his journey, allowing him to seamlessly adapt to any role that comes his way.



South Korea's heartthrob engages with Malaysian media.  
— PICS BY PULP

divulged his recent pursuit of reading, aimed at sharpening his script-reading skills for quicker memorisation.

In a refreshingly pragmatic twist, he encouraged everyone to embrace leisurely walks as a means of finding solace and relaxation in the hustle of life.

Seizing the spotlight on the big screen with the 2023 hit *The Childe*, Kim left an indelible mark on Malaysian audiences, vaulting the movie into the coveted top 10 list.

When pressed to identify his most cherished moment from the film, he fondly recalled the final scene, rich with memories.

The anticipation heightened as he offered a glimpse into his upcoming project, *The Tyrant*, a collaboration with director and producer Park Hoon Jung of *The Childe* and *The New World* fame.

Within this cinematic endeavour, Kim would step into the shoes of a high-ranking director, fulfilling a role he's long yearned to explore.

Brought to life by PULP Live World and Happee Hour, the fan meet extravaganza unfolded on Aug 18, at Kuala Lumpur's Mega Star Arena. The event

proved an overwhelming success, with Kim's unwavering dedication mirrored by the steadfast support, cheers, and affection from his adoring fans.

# Paul and Ringo join Dolly on *Let It Be*

PAUL MCCARTNEY and Ringo Starr have joined Dolly Parton in recording a version of the Beatles classic *Let It Be* for the country legend's upcoming album.

The track was released on Aug 18 and will feature on the 77-year-old Parton's upcoming album, *Rockstar*.

"Well, does it get any better than singing *Let It Be* with Paul McCartney, who wrote the song?" Parton said on her website, "Not only that, he played piano."

"Well, it did get even better when Ringo Starr joined in on drums, Peter Frampton on guitar, and Mick Fleetwood on percussion," she said. "I mean, seriously, how much better does it get? Thanks guys."

*Rockstar*, Parton's 49th album, will be released on Nov 17.

It features her renditions of 21 pop and rock classics along with nine original songs.

According to *Billboard*, other rockers joining Parton on the album include Elton John, Sting,

Lizzo, Pink, Debbie Harry, Steve Perry, Steven Tyler, Stevie Nicks, Pat Benatar, Joan Jett, John Fogerty, Miley Cyrus, and Ann and Nancy Wilson.

*Let It Be* rendition is a rare collaboration between the two surviving Beatles, *Billboard* said.

McCartney, 81, joined Starr, 83, in 2020 for a song on the drummer's album *Zoom In*, and Starr made a surprise appearance in 2019 at one of McCartney's concert tour stops. — AFP



The revived song will feature on Parton's latest album, *Rockstar*. — VARIETY





# Carlsberg Smooth Draught fires up the senses

➤ Don't miss the exciting return of 'Real Spicy, Real Smooth'

BY PRISCILLA EMMANUEL

**B**UILDING on its success in captivating the taste buds of avid foodies last year, Carlsberg Smooth Draught's Real Spicy, Real Smooth festival returns to the fore with an even more enticing and thrilling food and beer escapade.

As a brand that takes pride in delivering memorable exBEERiences, the Real Spicy, Real Smooth campaign promises a new take on the unique gastronomic expedition, crafted to evoke a harmonious union between fiery delicacies complemented by the smoothness of Carlsberg Smooth Draught.

Brewed using an innovative cold hopping technique, Carlsberg Smooth Draught delivers a signature easy finish along with the smooth sensation of freshly tapped beer.

The brand celebrates the consumer's love affair with local spicy food with a more inclusive and

extensive activation at JioSpace, Petaling Jaya, from Aug 18 to Sept 2, and it is open to all beer lovers.

Consumers will be treated to a fresh, cold Carlsberg Smooth Draught as a special welcome drink before embarking on a journey of discovery and culinary delight. Homegrown culinary maestro, Monster Chef founder KC Choong, will also offer delectable edibles ranging from Devil's Curry Pocket Buns, Nasi Lemak Bomb, Mala Sui Yoke, and "Stinky" Popiah to turn up the heat.

There is also Churn's Beer-Gato, an artisanal affogato drowned in a duvet of smooth beer, alongside Bean Jr's three-level explosive Mala Tau Fu Fa, all perfect pairings with Carlsberg Smooth Draught.

"Last year, Carlsberg Smooth Draught's Real Spicy, Real Smooth delivered a VIP exBEERience to 200 lucky winners in collaboration with a Penangite Michelin-starred chef. This year, Carlsberg Smooth Draught is back with an even larger and

'smoother' celebration of beer and local spicy flavours with an enhanced and curated experience that celebrates the perfect blend between spice and smoothness.

"The Real Spicy, Real Smooth campaign is all about making flavorful food and smooth beer accessible to all," commented Managing Director of Carlsberg Malaysia Stefano Clini.

An exclusive cocktail workshop with Jason Julian, the mastermind behind all the top-notch flavours of Soma's Bar's concoctions, adds further flair to the Real Spicy, Real Smooth event where consumers can try their hand at creating their own signature concoctions.

The party picks up pace when the clock strikes happy hour, featuring a "Tap Your Own Beer" bar, a sip and snap photo booth that creates unique Instagram-worthy photos, as well as fun AR games that land winners exclusive prizes.

The evening pumps up even more once the DJs take over the decks with special scheduled performances by Inquisitive, Singapore's most influential DJ and producer, local maven Ramsey Westwood and DJ Kenji, and many more.

Carlsberg Smooth Draught has



Cocktail Workshops are available every weekend at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7pm.

also lined up cool collaborations with APOM, the quirky label that produces 'punny' yet aesthetically pleasing t-shirts and trinkets, and Gumme, the makers of customised phone charms for its passionate followers.

Consumers can purchase not just exclusive merchandise but also join the specialty workshops, conducted by Gumme every Saturday, throughout the campaign duration, or try their hand at customising their very own tote bags.

Beer enthusiasts, spice lovers, and all those seeking an unforgettable experience will not want to miss this installment of Carlsberg Smooth Draught's Real Spicy, Real Smooth, which opens its doors daily from 5pm

to 11pm on weekdays and 11am to 11pm on weekends as well as on public holidays.

Pet parents will also be able to bring their furry friends along to Carlsberg Smooth Draught's pet-friendly "pawty" happening on the weekends, from 11am to 2pm.

Filled with "pawsome" activities, animal lovers and their four-legged companions will be in for a purring, tail-wagging good time.

To register for the Real Spicy, Real Smooth event, visit [realspicyrealsmooth.com/](https://realspicyrealsmooth.com/) for more information, and be sure to "Like" and "Follow" @CarlsbergMY on Facebook and Instagram for Carlsberg's latest activities and giveaways.



(Left) Discover the Real Spicy, Real Smooth menus, including Devil's Curry Pocket Bun, Nasi Lemak Rice Bomb, Mee Goreng Sotong, Mala Siew Yoke and "Stink" Popiah. - PICS BY CARLSBERG MALAYSIA



(Right) Avid foodies queuing up for local fusion spicy food.

## Harmonising delights

BY THASHINE SELVAKUMARAN

**LE MIRCH** has officially opened its doors, located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur. This culinary haven seamlessly weaves together the intricate threads of Indian cuisine, infusing them with a contemporary flair and promising an enchanting dining escapade for those in pursuit of unforgettable gastronomic journeys.

The moniker "Le Mirch" derives from the Hindi term for "the chilli," emblematic of the passionate spectrum of flavours awaiting patrons. The meticulously curated menu, a labour of in-house artistry, is a symphony of taste that accentuates the multifaceted palette of each dish, turning every visit into a culinary exploration.

Le Mirch stands poised to deliver an unparalleled selection, thoughtfully catering to both vegetarians and non-vegetarians, igniting the senses of its cherished patrons. This restaurant boasts an extensive and diverse menu that caters to every palate.



Hyderabad chicken biryani.

With an array of options that seem almost boundless, patrons are treated to an abundant selection that caters to various tastes and preferences.

From traditional classics to contemporary culinary creations, the menu offers a plethora of choices that promise to delight and intrigue.



Chaat trolley.

Moreover, the restaurant's aesthetic charm makes it a perfect canvas for Instagram-worthy moments, ensuring that every visit becomes a visual feast as well.

Complementing this delightful culinary experience are their refreshingly invigorating drinks,

carefully crafted to harmonise with the flavours of the cuisine, further enhancing the overall dining indulgence.

Beyond the realm of flavours, Le Mirch transports guests into an immersive world of Indian aesthetics harmoniously entwined with

modern, sleek designs. This fusion creates an inviting ambience, radiating warmth and refinement.

Amidst the urban buzz, Le Mirch provides a respite atop Avenue K, where one can unwind with a panoramic KLCC view. The signature menu promises a sensorial odyssey, uniting authentic spices, seasonal ingredients, and innovative techniques.

My personal encounter with Le Mirch left me awestruck. The interior exuded splendour, and the panoramic view of the KL Tower was simply breathtaking. The hospitality extended to guests was exceptionally welcoming, making me anticipate my return to indulge in a full-fledged dining experience.

Even the tantalising snippets I sampled were sufficient to underscore the extraordinary quality of the cuisine. Every aspect, from the flavours to the atmosphere, conveyed a tale of tradition intertwined with modernity.

I am eagerly looking forward to my next visit, eager to savour an entire meal that I am certain will be nothing short of exceptional.



# Loaded Pokemon DLC



The radical redesign of Raikou into Raging Bolt sparked viral memes.

➤ New info on upcoming Pokemon Scarlet and Violet

BY MARK MATHEN VICTOR

**D**ESPITE all the Pokemon news we got at last week's Pokemon Presents live stream, it seems Game Freak and The Pokemon Company had even more news on Scarlet and Violet's upcoming DLC.

At the Pokemon World Championships on the second week of August, Game Freak and The Pokemon Company revealed new information on the upcoming *Pokemon Scarlet and Violet* DLC through a new trailer.



Every starter from previous games can be caught in the DLC. – NINTENDO

The second part of the DLC, titled *The Indigo Disk*, will have returning fan-favourite Pokemon, new moves and a nineteenth "Tera Type".

Firstly, every first partner Pokemon (commonly called "starters") from previous Pokemon generations will return in the expansion.

For most games in the mainline Pokemon games, starters can only be received at the start of the game, and only one of three can be picked. These starters are also exclusive

specific to that particular game's region.

In recent years, starters (or their later evolutions) from other regions could be received or caught through certain events or activities.

However, all these change with the *Pokemon Scarlet and Violet* DLC; all the starters are available to capture at the Blueberry Academy.

The trailer also gave proper names and types to the new paradox Pokemon teased in the previous trailer.

Raging Bolt (based on Raikou) is an Electric/Dragon type, while Iron Crown (based on Cobalion) is a Steel/Psychic type. Two new moves were also revealed: the damage-dealing Psychic Noise also prevents the target from healing, and Upper Hand will always strike before a foe's priority move.

Finally, the trailer teased a nineteenth Tera Type.

*Pokemon Scarlet and Violet's* "The Indigo Disk" will release at the end of the year.

## Xbox 360 Store is shutting down

BY MARK MATHEN VICTOR

**NEARING** 20 years since it was first released, the Xbox 360 is an aged piece of hardware, which for many – particularly in the West – was the gateway console into gaming.

This November will mark the Xbox 360's 18th year of existence, and next year, the console will lose support from its company.

On Aug 17, an Xbox Wire announcement revealed that the Xbox 360 store will close July next year; July 29 will see Xbox supporting the ability to purchase new games, DLC, and other entertainment content from the Store and the Xbox 360 Marketplace.

Additionally, the Microsoft Movies & TV app will no longer function on the console, meaning TV and movie



The Xbox 360's large library of games is owed due to release during the "Golden Era" of gaming. – MICROSOFT

content will no longer be viewable on the Xbox 360 after July 29.

That said, any content bought before everything goes offline will still be playable.

For multiplayer games, players can still play and connect with friends, but this depends on whether that particular game's publisher still supports the online servers.

As for those that want to buy and play Xbox 360 games that are

backwards-compatible, this still possible on the Xbox One and Series X/S.

"We believe in celebrating gaming's rich history and have worked hard to preserve as many games as possible through our backward-compatibility program," the post stressed.

There are allegedly over 600 games released on the Xbox 360 that are backwards-compatible.



*Ever Crisis's* battle system draws from the original game's gameplay. – SQUARE ENIX

## New Final Fantasy mobile game

BY MARK MATHEN VICTOR

**ANNOUNCED** over two years ago, *Final Fantasy VII Ever Crisis* finally has a release date.

The RPG retelling of the *Final Fantasy VII* saga will drop on iOS and Android next month, Sept 7.

As a free-to-play single-player, chapter-structured RPG, *Ever Crisis* will span the entire *FFVII* timeline, with players being able to relieve key elements of the original 1997 game.

The game will also feature new story elements written by *Final Fantasy VII Remake's* story and scenario writer, Kazushige Nojima. These will center on a young Sephiroth.

A distinction between *Ever Crisis* and *Remake* is that the former will be closer to the original events from the 1997 game, while *Remake* (and its sequels) diverges from the original game.

Gameplay for *Ever Crisis* will be

through active-time battles, and yes, there will be microtransactions.

*Ever Crisis* is Square Enix's latest attempt at porting *FFVII* content over to mobile gaming; the earlier *Final Fantasy VII The First Soldier*, a mobile battle royale game, was shut down in January.

The game will surely whet the appetite of fans awaiting *Final Fantasy VII Rebirth*, which is set to release next year on consoles.



Wizards of the Coast (SEA) is proudly presenting Gadwick's First Duel. – CHRIS SEAMAN/WIZARDS OF THE COAST

## Wizards's Exclusive: Gadwick's First Duel

BY YASMIN ZULRAEZ

**PREPARE** for an unparalleled wave of excitement as Wizards of the Coast (SEA) introduces Gadwick's First Duel, an enchanting upcoming card featured in *Magic: The Gathering Wilds of Eldraine* launch.

With great enthusiasm, Wizards has generously unveiled this sneak peek card, offering fans a chance to further immerse themselves in the captivating

*Magic: The Gathering* universe.

There's no denying that a card of such remarkable power and formidable presence will undoubtedly inject a wealth of new gameplay into the already highly-praised card game.

To express your anticipation alongside us, remember to employ the hashtag #MTGEldraine across all social media platforms and tag @MagicTheGathering.apac on Facebook.





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An endless array of cutting edge street styles. – **VOUGE**



Copenhagen Fashion Week street styles. – **VOUGE**

**O**NCE upon a time, the fashion world looked exclusively to New York, London, Milan and Paris; now Copenhagen is shaking things up. In just a few years, the Danish capital has established itself as the world's fifth fashion capital, thanks to its numerous commitments to sustainability.

For its latest Fashion Week, which ran until Aug 11, we take a look at how exactly the world's greenest fashion week works, plus a preview of the runway show of London-based Paolina Russo, winner of the first-ever Zalando Visionary Award, which awards creativity, innovation, social impact and sustainability.

The Scandinavian country may not (yet) enjoy the same reputation as Paris or Milan when it comes to ready-to-wear, but it can already claim a significant lead in terms of sustainability.

Some may say that this is due to the smaller number of shows – 31 scheduled for this August, compared to a hundred or so in Paris – but it's actually the result of a rigorous action plan implemented starting in 2020, under the leadership of Cecilie Thorsmark, the event's CEO. The exacting standards to which brands must adhere – or they risk being banned from this fashion week – have made Copenhagen Fashion Week a benchmark in the field.

#### Requirements in terms of sustainability

Until now, no Fashion Week has imposed such rigorous sustainability-oriented requirements as Copenhagen, with no fewer than 18 action points to which brands must adhere as of the Autumn-Winter 2023 season.



Sustainable fashion on the catwalks. – **TEEN VOGUE**

## World's fifth fashion capital



Copenhagen is establishing itself as the capital of sustainable fashion.  
– **ETX STUDIO**

### ➤ Exploring Copenhagen: capital of sustainable fashion

These include not destroying unsold merchandise from previous collections, finding a second life for samples, being totally transparent with customers, banning fur, creating 50% of collections from sustainable, recycled or upcycled materials, banning single-use plastic packaging in stores or for online orders, organising zero-waste fashion shows, and offsetting the carbon footprint of shows.

A long and detailed list that testifies to the event organisers' determination to not make fashion a burden on the environment.

And while these objectives may at first appear difficult for such an event to achieve, keep in mind that Copenhagen Fashion Week has set the bar very high. According to its annual sustainability report, presented in December 2022, it has achieved 35 of its 37 objectives. The only area where it fell short was in terms of carbon emissions: Copenhagen Fashion Week was unable to reduce these as much as it had hoped, in particular due to the fact that guests arrived via international flights.

However, the event intends to remedy this

problem with its new summer edition, this time dedicated to the spring-summer 2024 season.

#### Recognising designers committed to the cause

Indeed the brands invited to show at Copenhagen Fashion Week must meet strict sustainability requirements, but they must also be committed to creativity and innovation and having a positive social impact.

These three essential values are not (necessarily) included in the event's action plan, but they are at the heart of the Zalando Visionary Award, the successor to the Zalando Sustainability Award.

The very first edition of this new award honored London-based Paolina Russo in June.

A long-term partner of this fashion week, the e-commerce platform awards prizes ahead of the event to forward-looking designers who distinguish themselves through innovative production techniques and commitment to diversity, equality and inclusion, both in-house and through their campaigns and collections.

Plus without forgetting compliance with sustainability standards, essential for taking part in Copenhagen Fashion Week.

"With the Zalando Visionary Award, we want to put the spotlight on initiatives that positively contribute to the fashion industry," explained Director of Designer & Luxury at Zalando Lena Sophie Röper, in a statement.

This past June, London-based Paolina Russo won the very first Zalando Visionary Award, presented by an international jury including Cecilie Thorsmark.

The label, founded in 2021 by Paolina Russo and Lucile Guilmard, won a prize of 50,000 euros, and a precious invitation to present its new collection on Aug 9 as part of the official fashion

show program.

A blend of artisanal techniques and industrialised manufacturing, this young brand already stands out for its futuristic aesthetic and innovative knitwear – ethically produced – with sportswear accents.

#### A tech-savvy fashion week

Thirty-one fashion shows will take place in Copenhagen during this week dedicated to the spring-summer 2024 season, alongside a host of events, presentations and discussions.

And the comprehensive program is not exclusively the preserve of hand-picked guests, but accessible via the Copenhagen Fashion Week YouTube channel or directly on the home page of its online platform.

An initiative that not only helps to propel the creative talents of this fashion week onto the international stage, but also (and above all) enables the public to discover the new season's shows live, all over the world.

This year, Copenhagen Fashion Week has also teamed up with Snapchat to offer a series of unique experiences around the event.

In addition to a special mirror welcoming guests at Copenhagen airport, this partnership will see the launch of a guide with the runway show program and the presentation of brands participating in the 'CPHFV NEWTALENT' program, which aims to support emerging Nordic brands.

It will also highlight the use of augmented reality, particularly at the American social network, within the fashion and beauty sectors – and there are many. Sustainable, inclusive, committed and connected, Copenhagen Fashion Week has everything it takes to establish itself as the capital of sustainable fashion. – **ETX STUDIO**



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## Pickles Auctions

Bank Repossessed bikes and cars for sale by auction. All auctions are conducted via eBidding on **Wednesday, 30 August at 10.00am (bikes) and 11.00am (cars)**. All are invited to join our PUBLIC AUCTION. Viewing and inspection on every **Tuesday from 9.30am - 5.30pm**. Download Pickles Auctions app to view all auction listings or visit [www.pickles.my](http://www.pickles.my)

Item	Reg No	Make Model	Price
1	TBC9881	2011 PROTON PERSONA	8500
2	QLB2325	2015 NISSAN ALMERA	25000
3	NDH1618	2017 NISSAN ALMERA	29000
4	VAL7025	2017 NISSAN ALMERA	29000
5	WA1362U	2014 NISSAN ALMERA	20000

For more information contact us at 016-6991770 | 012-5553727 (WhatsApp) [www.pickles.my](http://www.pickles.my) | info@pickles.my



PICKLES ASIA SDN BHD [1231292-D] Lot 19391, Batu 8 1/2, Jalan Klang Lama, Taman Desa, 46000 Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

### COMPANIES ACT 2016 SECTION 117(1) NOTICE OF PROPOSED REDUCTION OF SHARE CAPITAL HUP BEE CO. SDN. BHD. Registration No. 201601030313 (1201254-U)

HUP BEE CO. SDN. BHD. [Registration no.201601030313 (1201254-U)] ("Company") hereby gives notice that a special resolution to reduce the share capital of the company has been passed on the 23rd day of August 2023. The extract of the special resolution is set out below:

### SPECIAL RESOLUTION PROPOSED CAPITAL REDUCTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 117 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2016

"THAT approval be and is hereby given for the Company to undertake and effect the proposed capital reduction of RM4,368,000.00 in the paid-up share capital of the Company by the reduction of capital that is in excess of the needs of the Company and such reduction of RM4,368,000.00 be effected by returning to the shareholders the amount equivalent to RM28.00 per share payable in cash ("Proposed Capital Reduction").

AND FURTHER THAT the Directors be authorized to do all such acts, deeds and/or things as they may consider fit, necessary and/or expedient in the best interest of the Company in order to implement, finalise, complete and to give full effect to the Proposed Capital Reduction, including to execute any documents, to enter into any arrangements and/or agreements with any party and to give any undertakings.

Dated this 28th day of August 2023  
Place: Melaka

Yang Pang Chee  
Chairman

# On collision course

## Djokovic, Alcaraz poised for US Open showdown

**N**OVAK DJOKOVIC and Carlos Alcaraz are on a US Open collision course as the final Grand Slam tournament of season gets under way today with American teenager Coco Gauff chasing a breakthrough first major title.

A little more than six weeks after world No. 1 Alcaraz defeated Djokovic in an enthralling finale to the Wimbledon championships, the two men could meet again at Flushing Meadows if the seedings go to play over the next fortnight. Djokovic and Alcaraz whetted the tennis world's appetite for another blockbuster showdown at the Cincinnati Open last week, with 23-time Grand Slam singles winner Djokovic downing the 20-year-old Spaniard in a four-hour classic.

Second seed Djokovic opens his campaign on the Arthur Ashe main arena against France's Alexandre Muller today while Alcaraz faces Germany's Dominik Koepfer in the

first round tomorrow.

Djokovic will reclaim the world No. 1 ranking with a victory over Muller today, regardless of how Alcaraz performs in the tournament.

The Spaniard, meanwhile, must navigate a tricky route to the final that could include 2021 US Open champion Daniil Medvedev and Italy's Jannik Sinner.

In the women's tournament meanwhile, all eyes will be on the in-form 19-year-old Gauff, who is chasing a first Grand Slam title that would make her only the fifth Black woman in the open era to win the US Open.

She won the Washington Open in early August, reached the quarterfinals of the Canadian Open in Montreal and then scored a superb victory in the Cincinnati Open - her first WTA 1000 title.

The win in Cincinnati included a morale-boosting first ever victory over world No. 1 Iga Swiatek, the defending US Open champion.

Gauff, who could face Swiatek in the quarterfinals in New York, says her late season resurgence is the result of a shift in mindset.

"I think now I'm going in with a lot more confidence," the sixth-seeded teenager said on Saturday.

"I feel like no matter the scoreline in the match, I can be able to problem solve and troubleshoot my way out."

Poland's Swiatek meanwhile says she is gradually learning to live with the fact that as world No. 1, she is the player everyone wants to beat.

"If you want to be the best player in the world, you have to be ready for that," Swiatek said.

"You shouldn't really overanalyse it or think about it. You should just play the game the same way as you would if your ranking would be lower.

"You just have to use the experience and the confidence, but still remember that the most important thing is to develop as a player." - AFP

# Red-hot Hovland in driver's seat

**VIKTOR HOVLAND** shrugged off severe heat and a storm delay to seize a six-stroke lead after the third round of the US PGA Tour's season-ending Tour Championship.

The 25-year-old Norwegian fired a 4-under 66 to stand on 20-under after 54 holes at East Lake in Atlanta with American Xander Schauffele a distant second.

"I can't remember (when) I've led by that many shots," Hovland said.

Temperatures soared near 37.7°C before a late-round storm stoppage, but neither weather nor rivals could slow fifth-ranked Hovland, who won last week's BMW Championship and became the man to beat for the US\$18 million (RM82m) top prize.

"I don't think I've ever played this well before, with this stretch, just putting all the short game and stuff together," Hovland said.

"I feel like I've hit the ball better than I have this week and even last week, but it's just about putting it all together and it seemed like the good weeks that I've had before I've always managed to

short-side myself or chip a couple times and end up out of contention.

"This year I feel like I've just become a little bit more complete, and I don't have to hit it my best to be in contention. I don't have to hit every shot pure. I can miss it slightly and get up-and-down and move on."

Americans Collin Morikawa and Keegan Bradley shared third on 13-under with Masters champion Jon Rahm of Spain sharing fifth on 11-under with top-ranked Scottie Scheffler and his US countryman Wyndham Clark, the US Open champion.

Starting scores in the FedEx Cup playoff finale were staggered based on season points, with top-ranked Scheffler at 10-under, Hovland next at 8-under and rivals at lesser levels.

Hovland shot 68 and 64 to share the lead after the first and second rounds, aided by the unique format.

Now he longs to join such past Cup winners as Tiger Woods, Dustin Johnson and Rory McIlroy.

"To win the FedEx Cup is pretty cool," Hovland said. "The list of names that's been on that trophy is pretty special. It would be awesome to have my name on there." - AFP



Hovland. - USATODAYPIX

# Khang closes in on first LPGA title

**A LATE** birdie burst saw Megan Khang hold off a hard-charging Kim Sei-young yesterday, taking a three-shot lead in the LPGA CPKC Women's Canadian Open over the South Korean whose two eagles included a hole-in-one.

America's Khang, chasing a first LPGA title, birdied four of the last five holes on the way to a 4-under 68 in the third round Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club.

She built an 11-under total of 205 and despite a mid-round wobble ably withstood the pressure Kim piled on with a 5-under 67 for eight-under 208.

Former world No. 1 Ko Jin-young was alone in third after a 71 for 210 while Georgia Hall and Yuka Saso shared fourth

on 211.

"Honestly, (I'm) relieved that the day is over," Khang said. "It was kind of like you look at the leaderboard and you know who is behind you and you try to ignore it as much as you can, but it's kind of scary."

On a day when low scores were hard to come by, Kim launched her climb by gaining four strokes in the space of three holes, sandwiching birdies at seven and nine around her hole in one at the 184-yard par-three eighth.

"I took the five-iron and hit it really solid, ball flight really awesome. A lot of people got, like, louder so it sounded like it's got in, so I was like, 'Oh, my body is like goosebump,'" said Kim. - AFP

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### DALAM MAHKAMAH TINGGI MALAYA DI KUALA LUMPUR (BAHAGIAN DAGANG) GUAMAN NO.: WA-22NCC-524-07/2023

ANTARA

Maple Amalgamated Sdn. Bhd. (Dalam Penyelesaian) [No. Pendaftaran: 200701022745 (780760-P)]

Plaintif

DAN

Solid Suncity Sdn. Bhd. [No. Pendaftaran: 201501030346 (1155670-V)]

Defendan

### NOTIS

Kepada -

Solid Suncity Sdn. Bhd. [No. Pendaftaran: 201501030346 (1155670-V)] 231, Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur

Ambil perhatian bahawa tindakan telah dimulakan terhadap kamu, Solid Suncity Sdn. Bhd [No. Pendaftaran: 201501030346 (1155670-V)] oleh Maple Amalgamated Sdn. Bhd. (Dalam Penyelesaian) [No. Pendaftaran: 200701022745 (780760-P)] yang beralamat di pejabat penyelesaian di 12-1A, Jalan Perdana 4/3, Pandan Perdana, 55300 Kuala Lumpur yang mana tuntutan Plaintiff dalam Writ Saman bertarikh 25.7.2023 (Writ) dan Pernyataan Tuntutan bertarikh 25.7.2023 (PT) terhadap kamu adalah seperti berikut -

(a) Defendan membayar kepada Plaintiff jumlah penghakiman sebanyak RM6,480,000 setakat pada 30.6.2023 (Jumlah Penghakiman) dalam tempoh 7 hari dari tarikh penghakiman ini;

(b) Defendan hendaklah menyerahkan kepada Plaintiff (deliver) dan/atau memberikan (furnish) dan/atau menyampaikan (serve) Akaun Hartanah Bulanan dari April 2018 sehingga Jun 2023 kepada Plaintiff dalam tempoh 7 hari dari tarikh penghakiman ini;

(c) Defendan membayar faedah pada kadar 5% setahun atas Jumlah Penghakiman dari tarikh pemfailan tindakan ini sehingga tarikh pembayaran penuh Jumlah Penghakiman;

(d) kos tindakan ini; dan

(e) apa-apa relief lain atau selanjutnya seperti mana yang difikirkan sesuai dan wajar oleh Mahkamah yang Mulia ini.

DAN SETELAH DIPERINTAHKAN BAHAWA penyampaian Writ dan PT dalam tindakan ini kepada kamu kena dilaksanakan secara penyampaian ganti dengan memasukkan pengiklanan Notis ini dalam satu (1) iklan keluaran akhbar tempatan "The Sun" dan bahawa segala pengiklanan setelah tamat tempoh empat belas (14) hari selepas tarikh akhir pengiklanan tersebut adalah disifatkan sebagai penyampaian yang sempurna dan cukup bagi Writ dan PT tersebut ke atas kamu. Jika kamu berhasrat untuk membela dalam tindakan ini, kamu mestilah dalam masa empat belas (14) hari dari tarikh tersiarnya iklan ini, termasuklah hari penyiaran itu memasukkan kehadiran di Pejabat Pendaftaran Mahkamah Tinggi Kuala Lumpur. Jika ingkar memasukkan kehadiran, penghakiman boleh diberikan atau perintah dibuat terhadap atau berhubungan dengan dirinya sebagaimana yang difikirkan adil dan suai manfaat oleh Mahkamah.

Bertarikh pada 23 Ogos 2023.

Pegum Cara bagi Plaintiff

Notis ini disediakan oleh Tetuan Wilson Lim, Suite 19-9, Commerce One (Menara K1), Lorong 3/137C, Jalan Klang Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur, pegum cara bagi plaintiff yang dinamakan di atas. [No. Tel.: 03.7772.9090 / No. Faks: 03.7772.9981 / No. Ruj.: WL/MAO/448/2022]

### IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1965 AND IN THE MATTER OF JUBILEE MARKETING SDN BHD [201101033643 (961778-H)] (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE OF THE FINAL MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Final General Meeting of the members of the company will be held at the office of the liquidator, No. 7, Jalan 3/116D, Kuchai Entrepreneur's Park, Jalan Kuchai Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur on 11th September 2023 at 12.00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the accounts and report of the Liquidator in relation to the winding up of the company.

Tan Ooi Han Liquidator

Kuala Lumpur

Dated this 28th August 2023

### Proxies

A member of the company entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote on his behalf and such proxy need not be members of the company. The instrument appointing a proxy or proxies must be deposited at the registered office at least 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting.

### IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF BUMI METAL RECOVERY SDN. BHD. [201401017384 (1093471-T)] (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 459(2) of the Companies Act, 2016 that the Final Meeting of the Members of the abovementioned Company will be held at Suite 12B-23, Level 12B, Wisma Zelan, No. 1 Jalan Tasik Permaisuri 2, Bandar Tun Razak, Cheras, 56000 Kuala Lumpur on 2nd October 2023 at 11.00 a.m. for the following purposes:

(1) To receive the Liquidator's Statement of Accounts showing how the winding-up has been conducted and the assets of the Company disposed off and to hear any explanations that may be given by the Liquidator.

(2) To determine the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidator shall be disposed off.

SURDASS @ VIPIN KUMAR Liquidator

Dated: 28 August 2023

Kuala Lumpur

### Note:

A member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. The instrument appointing a proxy must be deposited at the Liquidator's office not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting.

322 Notices

### IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF XIN LONG WORKSHOP SDN. BHD. (Company No. 201901008153 (1317481-M)) (In Members' Voluntary Winding Up)

At a General Meeting of the Members of the abovementioned Company, duly convened and held at #01-25, Jalan Austin Perdana 2/22, Taman Austin Perdana, 81100 Johor Bahru, Johor on 25 August 2023, the following Special Resolution was duly passed:-

"That the Company be wound up voluntarily pursuant to Section 439(1) (b) of the Companies Act, 2016 and that Mr Liang Hui Kuan of c/o #01-25, Jalan Austin Perdana 2/22, Taman Austin Perdana, 81100 Johor Bahru, Johor, be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up with all powers given by Section 456 of the Companies Act, 2016.

And that the Liquidator be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred in or sustained by him in the execution and discharge of his duties as Liquidator and in relation thereto."

LIANG HUI KUAN Director

Dated this 28 August 2023

### IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2016 AND IN THE MATTER OF XIN LONG WORKSHOP SDN. BHD. (Company No. 201901008153 (1317481-M)) (In Members' Voluntary Winding Up)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Creditors of the abovementioned Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required within 30 days of this notice to send in their names and addresses with particulars of their debts and claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any) to the undersigned liquidator at #01-25, Jalan Austin Perdana 2/22, Taman Austin Perdana, 81100 Johor Bahru, Johor and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, by their solicitors or personally, required to come in and prove their debts and 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 and claims are proved.

LIANG HUI KUAN Liquidator

Dated this 28 August 2023

322 Notices

### IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1965 AND IN THE MATTER OF SECONDREAM ENTERPRISE SDN BHD [201301011691 (1041529-H)] (In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE OF THE FINAL MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Final General Meeting of the members of the company will be held at the office of the liquidator, No. 7, Jalan 3/116D, Kuchai Entrepreneur's Park, Jalan Kuchai Lama, 58200 Kuala Lumpur on 11th September 2023 at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the accounts and report of the Liquidator in relation to the winding up of the company.

Tan Ooi Han Liquidator

Kuala Lumpur

Dated this 28th August 2023

### Proxies

A member of the company entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote on his behalf and such proxy need not be members of the company. The instrument appointing a proxy or proxies must be deposited at the registered office at least 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting.

LIANG HUI KUAN Liquidator

Dated this 28 August 2023

# Major controversy as Usyk retain heavyweight titles

**OLEKSANDR USYK** retained the unified heavyweight titles against Daniel Dubois yesterday, in a hugely controversial fight in Poland. Usyk dropped Dubois at the end of the eighth round and did the same midway through the ninth, with referee Luis Pabon waving off the bout after the second knockdown.

However, many viewers felt that Dubois was denied a genuine knockout win in the fifth round.

Ukrainian Usyk crumpled to the mat after a right hook to the body by Dubois, with the punch appearing to land right on the belt line. However, Pabon ruled it an illegal shot,

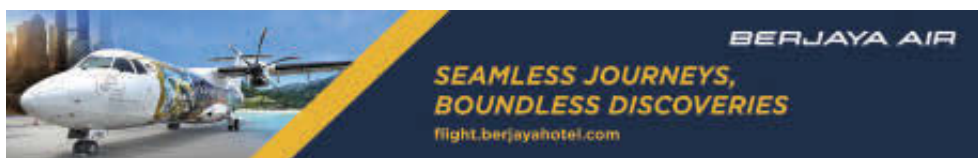
suggesting it was a low blow.

Rules dictate that a fighter is allowed five minutes to recover from such a punch, and Usyk, 36, used four of them before resuming the main event in Wroclaw's Tarczyński Arena.

In the following rounds, Usyk turned the screw, fighting well behind his jab and increasingly crafting combinations that troubled Dubois.

Usyk spoke to Dubois in the ring, paying respect to the beaten challenger, who said in an interview moments later: "I didn't think that was a low blow. I thought that landed, and I've been cheated out of victory tonight. But, you know, what else can I say?" - The Independent





SPORTS

**C**RISTIAN PULISIC continued his bright start at Serie A leaders AC Milan with another goal in yesterday's 4-1 win over Torino, while Roma slumped to a 2-1 defeat at Verona.

A second strike in as many games by Pulisic since signing from Chelsea in the 33rd minute got Milan on their way to their second straight win, this time in front of a packed San Siro watching a new-look team for the first time this season.

Olivier Giroud was also on target with a penalty in each half while Theo Hernandez struck with a brilliant finish as Milan put on an entertaining display.

"You can see on the pitch how much we have fun," said Giroud to DAZN.

Giroud said they now have more strength in depth and can challenge for both the Scudetto and the Champions League.

"We can compete in both competitions, in Serie A and the Champions League. We have a lot of quality, we have a lot of weapons and

# Pulisic on target again

... as Milan beat Torino while Mourinho-less Roma crash at Verona

attacking solutions."

Milan boss Stefano Pioli added: "It's the characteristics of the players, because now we have midfielders who are more attack-minded and push up, so there are effectively five players attacking."

"We also have alternatives, as Pulisic can play behind Giroud, for example. Let us at the moment try to gain some consistency and do these things regularly, but it is always an advantage for the coach to have

different options.

"This is a great group of players to work with. They are prepared to sacrifice themselves fully for the team and that is the foundation we can build on."

Ondrej Duda and Cyril Ngonge struck in the first half to keep Verona level on a perfect six points with Milan with a surprise win over Roma, who are waiting to see if Romelu Lukaku will sign on loan from Chelsea.

Lukaku's potential arrival has Roma fans excited but their team looked

in need of more than just a goalscorer after conceding two sloppy strikes to lose at the Stadio Bentegodi.

Jose Mourinho's side have collected one point from their first two games in the absence of their suspended coach and have only won one of their last 10 Serie A matches.

Despite conceding twice, Gianluca Mancini was one of the best performers for Roma. But he was aware of the depth of the problem his teammates are in after only two matches.

"It is a difficult start, we struggled today, and it is clear that seeing Roma with one point after two rounds is unacceptable," Mancini said.

Earlier promoted Frosinone got their first win of the new campaign, 2-1 over Atalanta, while a fine Andrea Colpani brace gave Monza a 2-0 success over bottom side Empoli. - AFP/Agencies



Lionel Messi of Inter Miami jumps for the ball during yesterday's match against New York Red Bulls. - AFP/PIX

SHORTS

**Messi stars as Miami down at Red Bulls**

**LIONEL MESSI** came off the bench and scored as Inter Miami began their push for the Major League Soccer playoffs with a 2-0 win at New York Red Bulls yesterday.

After a week in which Miami won the Leagues Cup and reached the final of the US Open Cup, Messi was left on the bench by coach Gerard "Tata" Martino but came into the game on the hour mark.

The Argentine World Cup winner had limited involvement after entering with former Barcelona teammate Sergio Busquets but made his mark on his regular season debut with an 89th-minute goal.

Jordi Alba acrobatically hooked the ball into the box to Messi who twisted and turned then slipped a sublime pass with the outside of his foot to Benjamin Cremaschi whose low first-time cross was tapped in by the seven-times Ballon d'Or winner.

Messi has now scored 11 goals in nine appearances in all competitions since joining Inter Miami.

"He's unbelievable, every day it's something new, on and off the field," said Miami's 19-year-old defender Noah Allen.

"He's an amazing person to play with and I am so blessed to play with him."

Martino defended his decision to start his 36-year-old compatriot on the bench despite the hopes of the crowd.

"I understand the desire of the people who want him to play, this will happen everywhere we go," he said.

"But as the coach, I cannot be guided by those fans' desires. My job is to make sure Leo takes care of himself," he said.

**Malen rescues point for Dortmund**

**DONYELL MALEN'S** second half goal salvaged a point as Borussia Dortmund were held at local rivals Bochum 1-1 yesterday.

Dortmund fell behind early as Bochum's Kevin Stoeger unleashing a rocket from the edge of the box to catch the visiting defence off guard.

Malen replied early in the second half, his third goal in his past three matches, to level the scores.

The goal sparked Dortmund into action but Bochum held firm. English teenager Jamie Bynoe-Gittens had a late chance to win it for the visitors, but he missed from close range.

Despite the point, the draw raises more questions for Dortmund coach Edin Terzic, with his side's attacking riches failing to find fluency up front.

Dortmund goalie Gregor Kobel said Bochum "overran us in the first half."

Captain Emre Can admitted that "a lot is missing" from his side's performances at present.

In yesterday's late game, Bayer Leverkusen continued their stellar form under manager Xabi Alonso as striker Victor Boniface hit a double in a 3-0 win at Borussia Monchengladbach.

Boniface headed Leverkusen in front after 18 minutes for his first Bundesliga goal before defender Jonathan Tah scored just before the break. Boniface latched onto a perfect Florian Wirtz pass to bring up his brace early into the second stanza.

Wirtz, who ran more than any other player on the field as he pulled the strings for Leverkusen's win, deflected praise after the match.

"The team's performance was better than my own - the team showed how well we can play football."

**SPORTS TOTO RESULTS**

DRAW NO: 5683/2023 DATE: 27/08/2023 (SUN)  
STM LOTTERY SDN. BHD.  
196901000090 (8420-D)

**TOTO 4D PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL**

1st Prize	3771
2nd Prize	1414
3rd Prize	9151

Special	Consolation
1781 0842	4435 1651
4091 4366	3982 9348
1892 3814	9700 7030
7251 8052	5280 0316
7234 2102	1969 5949

**4D JACKPOT**

Jackpot 1 **RM 16,323,957.22**

3771 1414	1414 3771
3771 9151	9151 3771
1414 9151	9151 1414

Jackpot 2 **RM 224,730.88**

Winning combination of any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of Special prizes.

**4D Zodiac**

1st Prize	3771	+	GOAT
2nd Prize	1414	+	
3rd Prize	9151	+	
4th Prize	Special Prize	+	
5th Prize	Consolation Prize	+	
6th Prize	Any 4D drawn number		

**TOTO 5D & 6D PRIZE PAYMENTS GUARANTEED IN FULL**

5D	1ST	9 2 7 1 8
	4TH	2 7 1 8
	2ND	5 0 4 0 4
	5TH	7 1 8
	3RD	8 8 2 5 8
	6TH	1 8

6D	1ST	4 4 5 6 1 2
	2ND	4 4 5 6 1 or 4 5 6 1 2
	3RD	4 4 5 6 or 5 6 1 2
	4TH	4 4 5 or 6 1 2
	5TH	4 4 or 1 2

**TOTO GAMES GIVES YOU MORE WINNING CHANCES!**

**SUPREME 6/38** 14 22 24 25 44 50  
Jackpot **RM 25,331,115.40**

**POWER 6/35** 15 24 29 39 40 45  
Jackpot **RM 9,105,619.67**

**STAR 6/50** 3 6 33 34 38 44 + 28  
Jackpot 1 **RM 5,060,317.42**

Jackpot 2 **RM 100,000.00**

Toto 4D Jackpot 2  
**RM 409,957**

Toto 4D Jackpot 2 (i-System)  
**RM 26,291**

won on 26/08/2023!



Visit [www.sportstoto.com.my](http://www.sportstoto.com.my) for e-Results and more info.

**WINNING NUMBERS** dama cai

PAYMENT GUARANTEED IN FULL  
Draw Date: 27/08/23 (Sun) Draw No: 5630/23 Venue: PERAK TURF CLUB

**1+3D SUPER 1+3D**

1st Prize	2117
2nd Prize	4035
3rd Prize	6751

Starters	Consolation
8149 3616	3494 3925
9171 0459	4893 9617
6543 0166	3606 6476
7375 2644	7059 2289
6309 2724	5831 1002

**1+3D Jackpot**  
Jackpot 1 **RM8,866,687.30**

2117 + 4035	4035 + 2117
2117 + 6751	6751 + 2117
4035 + 6751	6751 + 4035

Jackpot 2 **RM328,180.10**

Winning pair matches any 1 of Top 3 & any 1 of 10 Starter Prizes.

**3-3D Bonus**

1st Prize Bonus **RM1,910,327.50**  
272 117 + TIGER

2nd Prize Bonus **RM1,796,527.70**  
314 035 + OX

3rd Prize Bonus **RM2,488,691.30**  
086 751 + HORSE

Starters	Consolation
208 149 543 616	113 494 143 925
229 171 530 459	694 893 609 617
346 543 920 166	763 606 476 476
277 375 982 644	347 059 192 289
206 309 852 724	715 831 421 002

**3D**  
1st Prize 117 2nd Prize 035 3rd Prize 751

**3D Jackpot**  
Jackpot **RM687,234.40**

117 + 035 + 751	035 + 751 + 117
117 + 751 + 035	751 + 117 + 035
035 + 117 + 751	751 + 035 + 117

Winning combination matches the Top 3 Prizes in any order.

**Don't miss out the Special Draw on 29 August 2023!**



The Community Chest is an independent, not-for-profit, non-governmental charitable organisation which supports education for the sole benefit of the Malaysian community and is primarily funded by the profits of Da Ma Cai.

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RESULTS & STANDINGS

**ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE: Bournemouth 0 Tottenham 2** (Maddison 17, Kulusevski 63), **Arsenal 2** (Saka 70-pen, Nketiah 72) **Fulham 2** (Pereira 1, Palhinha 87), **Brentford 1** (Schade 18) **Crystal Palace 1** (Andersen 76), **Manchester United 3** (Eriksen 17, Casemiro 52, Fernandes 76-pen) **Nottingham Forest 2** (Awoniyi 2, Boly 4), **Everton 0 Wolves 1** (Kalajdzic 87), **Brighton 1** (Gross 81) **West Ham 3** (Ward-Prowse 19, Bowen 58, Antonio 63).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham	3	2	1	0	7	3	7
Tottenham	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Arsenal	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Brighton	3	2	0	1	9	5	6
Man City	2	2	0	0	4	0	6
Man Utd	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Brentford	3	1	2	0	6	3	5
Liverpool	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Chelsea	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Crystal Palace	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Fulham	3	1	1	1	3	5	4
Newcastle	2	1	0	1	5	2	3
Aston Villa	2	1	0	1	5	5	3
Nottm Forest	3	1	0	2	5	6	3
Wolves	3	1	0	2	2	5	3
Bournemouth	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
Sheff Utd	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Burnley	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Luton	2	0	0	2	1	7	0
Everton	3	0	0	3	0	6	0

**CHAMPIONSHIP:** Birmingham 2 Plymouth 1, Cardiff 2 Sheffield Wednesday 1, Coventry 0 Sunderland 0, Huddersfield 0 Norwich 4, Ipswich 3 Leeds 4, Millwall 1 Stoke 0, Preston 2 Swansea 1, Rotherham 1 Leicester 2, Southampton 2 QPR 1, West Brom 4 Middlesbrough 2.

TOP 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Leicester	4	4	0	0	7	3	12
Norwich	4	3	1	0	13	6	10
Birmingham	4	3	1	0	6	2	10
Southampton	4	3	1	0	10	7	10
Preston	4	3	1	0	6	3	10

**LA LIGA:** Cadiz 1 (Hernandez 59) Almeria 1 (Fernandes 90+5), **Granada 3** (Angel 12, Zaragoza 46, Uzuni 70-pen) **Mallorca 2** (Prats 38, Costa 87), **Sevilla 1** (Gudelj 45+2) **Girona 2** (Herrera 16, Garcia 56).

**SERIE A:** **Frosinone 2** (Harroui 5, Monterisi 24) **Atalanta 1** (Zapata 56), **AC Milan 4** (Pulisic 33, Giroud 43-pen, 65-pen, Hernandez 45+1) **Torino 1** (Schuurs 36), **Monza 2** (Colpani 45, 52) **Empoli 0**, **Verona 2** (Duda 4, Ngonge 45+2) **Roma 1** (Aouar 56).

**BUNDESLIGA:** Freiburg 1 Werder Bremen 0, Cologne 1 Wolfsburg 2, Bochum 1 Borussia Dortmund 1, Heidenheim 2 Hoffenheim 3, Darmstadt 98 1 Union Berlin 4, Borussia Moenchengladbach 0 Bayer Leverkusen 3.

**FRENCH LIGUE 1:** Paris Saint-Germain 3 Lens 1, Marseille 2 Brest 0.

**D**AVID MOYES was delighted to see West Ham end their Brighton hoodoo with a convincing 3-1 win at the Amex Stadium which took them top of the table.

Summer signing James Ward-Prowse scored his first Hammers goal in only his second start to set the visitors on course for a first ever Premier League win over the south coast side.

Moyes said: "I'm thrilled with the three points because usually we come here and struggle to get any points. We haven't won here for years. It's been the same coming here and not getting the results."

"Today was a well-deserved three points. Brighton did a good job, but we also did a good job in other parts of the game. Brighton have got an extremely good manager and his side are causing problems to plenty of teams, not just us. They are going to be hard for any manager to play against."

"They are very offensive, which is great, but that also means it can open up and give you chances on

# Moyes over the moon

Hammers manager delighted to end Brighton hoodoo

the counter. We worked hard on not getting picked off easily and we defended really well. Our counter-attacks were really good.

"Two or three years ago we were really good on the counter and we showed that. All the forward players made a really good contribution today."

Moyes led West Ham to their first trophy in more than 40 years by winning last season's Europa Conference League.

On their surprise early-season surge to the Premier League summit, the Scot said: "I didn't realise we had gone top. It has been a long time since any West Ham manager did that also."

Ward-Prowse got West Ham off to the perfect start when he opened

the scoring after 19 minutes. Michail Antonio was too strong for Brighton defender Adam Webster and picked out England international Ward-Prowse to tap in from two yards.

Jarrod Bowen added a second 13 minutes into the second half before he teed up Antonio to seal the points in the 63rd minute.

Brighton, who had 79% of the possession, got a goal back with nine minutes to play when German midfielder Pascal Gross chopped back onto his right foot to rifle home through a crowded penalty area.

West Ham goalkeeper Alphonse Areola made two crucial saves in the dying stages to keep out Joel Veltman's volley and Ferguson's

fierce drive.

"I'm disappointed with the result. It wasn't the best performance in my time at the club, but we didn't play badly," Brighton manager Roberto De Zerbi said.

"We shot 27 times and created 11 chances to score. In the second half I'm disappointed because we lost the balance of the game."

"I'm very proud of the performance, the attitude, the passion and the mentality to play well and get points."

"I can analyse how we conceded the goals and how we made a lot of mistakes in the last 20 metres and how we conceded so many counter-attacks, but it is not a problem. We will start on Monday working on the last week." - The Independent



Cardiff City midfielder Ryan Wintle (right) reacts after scoring the winning goal during the English Championship match against Sheffield Wednesday. - [cardiffcityfc.co.uk](http://cardiffcityfc.co.uk)

## Cardiff leave it late to silence Owls

**CARDIFF CITY** snatched a dramatic first win of the Championship season as Ryan Wintle's penalty in the eighth minute of added time consigned Sheffield Wednesday to a fourth defeat from four games.

Ike Ugbo fired Cardiff in front early in the second half with a fine touch and finish, before Callum O'Dowda spurned a great chance to make it two.

Wednesday responded strongly and scored a deserved equaliser as captain Barry Bannan curled in from 20 yards.

But just as the Owls looked set to earn their first point of the campaign, former Cardiff midfielder Will Vaulks conceded a penalty for handball and Wintle punished the mistake by calmly converting his spot-kick to prompt jubilant celebrations from the home crowd.

It was a remarkable way for Erol Bulut to

earn his first league victory as Cardiff manager, and an equally cruel manner in which to deny Xisco Munoz his maiden point in charge of Wednesday.

"I didn't expect it [first win] to be so difficult," Cardiff manager Erol Bulut said via *BBC Sport*.

"After three games, we were unlucky at Leicester and Leeds, conceding last-minute goals, so confidence was not like before. That is why this game was really important for us."

"We could have been 2-0 up if O'Dowda or Meite could have taken their chances. I think we deserve the win. Everybody fought and we really wanted these three points."

"Sometimes it's not enough to play well. Today, for 90 minutes we were really fighting and we had our moments to make it easier for ourselves but I'm really happy we got three points for the morale of the team." - Agencies

## Spurs give Postecoglou early birthday present

■ GEORGE SESSIONS

**ANGE POSTECOGLOU** toasted his new-look Tottenham team for providing an early birthday present with a 2-0 win at Bournemouth and backed "bargain" James Maddison to get even better.

Maddison pulled the strings on the south coast and opened his account for Spurs with his 17th-minute goal, which helped make it back-to-back victories in the Premier League for the visitors.

Dejan Kulusevski added a second after halftime to end his goal drought stretching back to January to keep the feelgood factor around Tottenham despite losing record marksman Harry Kane to Bayern Munich on the eve of the new campaign.

Postecoglou has overseen an impressive seven-point haul from a possible nine since he took over and admitted he could now enjoy his 58th birthday yesterday.

"Yeah, I'm 58. We always put birthday celebrations on hold depending on the result but I'm sure my wife is scrambling to arrange something for tomorrow," the Australian smiled.

"It'll be nice. Short turnaround to Fulham so still got to go into work tomorrow but it'll be nice to spend some time with the family and now another click closer to that 60 mark, mate."

Maddison moved from Leicester in June for an initial £40 million (RM232m) deal that could rise in add-ons and during a summer where midfielders have transferred for more than £100m (RM580m), it appears a steal.

Postecoglou added: "A £45 million (RM261m) bargain? I don't know what world you live in mate, but I know what you mean and relatively so."

"There wasn't anyone happier than me when we got him. I was delighted. I wouldn't say I'm surprised, but I'm overjoyed at the footballer I've got. The way he's embraced the whole club, where he's at in his life."

"He really wants to be the person. He's that creative force for us. He works hard, he wins the ball back, presses."

"He only had one session with us, but for him to put on a performance like that is credit to him."

"He's going to keep improving. If we got him in the bargain bin, that's great for us." - The Independent

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7312	6641	8623	1104
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6600	7330	5198	7561
8357	0516	5659	3096

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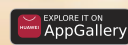
Jackpot 1 **RM2,139,037.58**  
 Jackpot 1 - Group 1 + Golden Number

Jackpot 2 **RM181,466.73**  
 Jackpot 2 - Group 2 + Golden Number

GROUP 1	9 5 0 1 9 3
GROUP 2	9 5 0 1 9 OR 5 0 1 9 3
GROUP 3	9 5 0 1 OR 0 1 9 3
GROUP 4	9 5 0 OR 1 9 3
GROUP 5	9 5 OR 1 9 3
	OR 0 1
GOLDEN NUMBER	0 1

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## Ten Hag hails Devil's spirit after horror start against Forest

■ SIMON PEACH

**ERIK TEN HAG** was delighted by his players' response to their "horror start" as Manchester United overcame a two-goal deficit to beat 10-man Nottingham Forest.

After stumbling to victory against Wolves in their Premier League opener and seeing a fine start fade in last weekend's defeat at Tottenham, things unravelled in the opening four minutes at Old Trafford.

Taiwo Awoniyi scored a decent opener on the break just 86 seconds after kickoff and Willy Boly added another in the fourth minute – the earliest United have ever trailed by two in a Premier League game.

But they dug deep and pulled one back through Christian Eriksen, with Casemiro equalising after the break and Bruno Fernandes scoring a spot-

kick to decide the contest shortly after Forest's Joe Worrall was dismissed.

"We want to give the fans something, eh? Of course it is a horror start, giving them two goals and making mistakes," Ten Hag said with a wink.

"But I am very pleased with the comeback, with the leadership, how we stayed calm and composed.

"We stick to the plans, stick to the belief and turn it around and I think we played in the meantime very good football out of our plan and out of our principles and rules. We scored good goals."

Asked if he views the comeback win more positively than negatively, the Dutchman said: "I think every team in the start (of the season) have areas where they have to improve.

"Definitely we have also some and

we have to progress there if you want to be successful.

"But also you see this team has big character, big personality, there is a very good spirit in this team, there is energy and they found a way to win so, for today, big compliment for the team."

Fernandes, appointed captain in the summer, was at the heart of United's comeback.

The skipper provided the assist for Casemiro's leveller, drew the foul that saw Worrall sent off and fired home the match-winning penalty a week on from being criticised for his role in the Spurs loss.

"I think in almost all the aspects, moments of football, he played a very good game at the highest level," Ten Hag said.

"Keeping calm, for instance, emotions under control but in the

right moment using his emotions.

"He was brilliant in attacking, making the difference, so (I'm) very pleased with his performance."

Ten Hag is unsure whether Raphael Varane has suffered a noteworthy injury having come off at halftime due to "complaints" and was coy about Dean Henderson's future.

The PA news agency understand the goalkeeper is travelling to Crystal Palace for a medical despite the terms of the deal yet to be ironed out, with Fenerbahce's Altay Bayindir lined up as replacement.

The goalkeeper spent last season on loan under Steve Cooper, who was left aggrieved by some of the decision-making but said he was "biting my tongue".

"I just think in games like these, you need a bit of... I don't even want to say good luck to go your way, you

just want things to be as they should," the Forest manager said.

"I think on the decisions, I am not going to talk too much because I don't want to get into trouble.

"But the only thing I was surprised about is how quickly the decisions were made at that moment in time.

"I think you sort of see now on decisions that can define a game, you tend to see referees take a bit more time, particularly at the top, top level. I was just really surprised looking at it, how quick it all happened.

"Of course there was a decision to be made, I understand that, and it's plain to see on the cameras and I'm hearing what everyone is saying.

"But I was just surprised how quickly the officials sort of (decided). It was split-second stuff, wasn't it?" – The Independent



Manchester United's Antony (right) and Nottingham Forest's Ola Aina in action during Saturday's English Premier League match at Old Trafford. – AFPPIX

■ ROBERT O'CONNOR

**M**IKEL ARTETA insisted it has not become a psychological issue for Arsenal after they conceded in the first minutes of a home game for the third time this year against Fulham.

Bukayo Saka's blind pass let in Andreas Pereira to score for the visitors after just 57 seconds in front of a stunned Emirates, after the team made similarly poor starts against Southampton and Bournemouth last season.

The hosts had looked to have done enough to seal a fine comeback victory when substitute Eddie Nketiah slotted past Bernd Leno from Fabio Vieira's cross 18 minutes from the end.

That was two minutes after Saka made amends for his early error and equalised from the penalty spot, with defender Kenny Tete penalised for tripping Vieira as he charged into the box from Gabriel Martinelli's pass.

And when Calvin Bassey was shown a second yellow card for bringing down Nketiah near the halfway line, Fulham's hopes seemed to have gone until Joao Palhinha found space inside the box to hook Harrison Reed's corner beyond Aaron Ramsdale in the 87th minute.

Arteta lamented that his side had gifted Fulham a point by giving away two poor goals, but praised the way the players regathered their composure and went at their opponents after yet another bad start.

## Starting problem

*Conceding early not playing on our minds, says Gunners boss Arteta*

"When in the first minute you make a mistake that we made and you give a goal to the opponent, the game becomes much more difficult," said Arteta.

"The reaction after that, even the first half, the number of situations and chances we generated, we didn't give anything away. We controlled the game for full periods, but we didn't score the goal.

"In the second half we made some changes. The dynamic changed, we had better relationships.

"I think the subs (Nketiah and Vieira) made a huge difference and impact. I loved the determination and confidence they brought to the team.

"We go 2-1 up and then you have to defend the box with your life. You cannot concede a goal after everything we've done, because we should have scored five, six, seven.

"We had a big (error) here last year against

Fulham where we gave a goal to (Aleksandar) Mitrovic. It's part of football.

"I haven't seen it (playing on the players' minds). I don't see that afterwards, the way the team played.

"In any other sport you would win by a hundred points difference, but this is football.

"We drew, we conceded two very, very poor goals. In the Premier League, when you give something (away), you're going to get punished, and we were today.

"If I compare the game we played against Fulham this season and last season, we were at least 10 times better today than last season. We were much better than last season. Last season we won 2-1 in the last minute, today we drew 2-2."

Gabriel Jesus, who returned to training last week after surgery, was kept in reserve until being brought on in added time, a decision Arteta defended.

"The way we generated chance after chance I didn't think it was necessary (to bring on Jesus earlier)," he said.

"In the last minute we decided to bring him in, he's only had a few days of training sessions after the surgery."

Fulham boss Marco Silva reflected on a point hard earned as his side recovered from the disappointment of their 3-0 home loss to Brentford last time out.

"Really tough and emotional," he said.

"After the last defeat against Brentford – a harsh result for us – we wanted to react.

"People said that (the Emirates) was not the best place to show a reaction. Our idea was completely different, that it was the best place for us to show a reaction.

"In my opinion Arsenal are going to be even stronger than last season. The quality that they have is impressive. I have to say they are going to be contenders again." – The Independent