

## WORLD CAPITAL MARKETS SYMPOSIUM



Some of the participants at the **World Capital Markets Symposium** in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Pic by Aizuddin Saad

# Positive local market trend set to continue

**ENCOURAGING:** Capital-raising estimated to be worth RM75b this year

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**M**ALAYSIA'S capital market is expected to continue its encouraging momentum despite the prevailing uncertainties plaguing emerging markets globally.

Securities Commission (SC) Malaysia chairman Datuk Ranjit Ajit Singh said despite slower global economy, capital-raising in the local bond and equity markets were estimated to be worth about RM75 billion this year.

Overall, he said, the local bond market continues to perform with capital raised so far this year amounting to about RM70 billion while the equity market is estimated to generate a capital of between RM4 billion and RM5 billion.

"Last year, the capital raised from the bond market and the initial public offering as a whole reached RM90 billion.

Therefore, the figures recorded so far this year are very encouraging with regard to the current economic environment," Ranjit said after launching the World Capital Markets Symposium (WCMS), here, yesterday.

The two-day symposium themed "Technology and Market: The Future of Driving Growth Through Innovation", was launched by Prime



SC chairman **Datuk Ranjit Ajit Singh** says investors acknowledge that Malaysia has built a strong capital market and financial system. Pic by Muhd Zaaba Zakeria

Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Ranjit said the Malaysian capital market performance this year showed that it is very resilient and

capable of handling the challenges and has the ability to form a diversified financial system.

He said Malaysia has a RM1 trillion

bond market and an equity market worth RM1.7 trillion while domestic institutions have strong liquidity amounting to between RM600 billion and RM700 billion.

"All these figures are seen by market observers as providing resilience to the local market.

"As such, it gives Malaysia the ability to address market volatility and allows us to continue our efforts to develop the market and encourage greater participation in the market," he said.

Ranjit added that confidence in the Malaysian capital market was also reflected by net sales in the mutual fund industry.

At the same time, he said, the country's fund management industry continues to grow as investors continue to put money into a wide range of launches.

"Investors acknowledge that Malaysia has built a strong capital market and financial system. Based on that, we believe that markets are prone to adjustments and will correct themselves and will pick up again," he said.

Elaborating further, Ranjit said uncertainties in the emerging markets are a global phenomenon and this had impacted many markets around the world.

"The uncertainty in today's environment affects all open markets, which are committed to the participation of investors either domestically or from abroad."