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INSIDER MOVES

BY CINDY YEAP

Notable filings

Datuk Tony Tiah Thee Kian's continued purchases of TA Enterprise Bhd shares from the open market were among the notable filings from Oct 28 to Nov 1.

Filings show that Tiah, the company's co-founder and non-executive chairman, bought 4.27 million shares between Oct 24 and 30 at prices ranging from 71.8 sen to 72.8 sen apiece. This raised his direct holdings to 505.87 million shares or a 29.55% stake as at Oct 30, compared with 488.87 million shares or 28.56% equity interest as at May 6, according to TA Enterprise's latest annual report. His spouse, Datin Alicia Tan Kuay Fong, who is managing director and CEO, had a 0.31% stake as at May 6.

Tiah's holdings increased further to 29.73% as at Nov 4 after he purchased 1.27 million shares at 76 sen apiece — bringing the number of shares he has acquired since early July to 20 million shares for RM14.16 million or an average of 70.79 sen apiece. Of this amount, 11 million shares were acquired between Oct 21 and Nov 4 for about RM7.94 million or an average of 72.2 sen apiece, filings show.

TA Enterprise closed at 77 sen on Nov 4, about 0.44 times its net asset per share of RM1.75 as at July 31. The stock fell to 51.5 sen at its recent low on May 6.

Over at NTPM Holdings Bhd, filings show managing director Lee See Jin and non-executive chairman Datuk Teoh Boon Beng @ Teoh Eng Kuan paring their stake in late October.

Between Oct 28 and 31, Lee sold 1.78 million shares in the maker of Premier tissue paper at between 67.5 sen and 69.3 sen apiece, cutting his direct holdings from 30.16% as at July 31 to 333.05 million shares or 29.65% on Oct 31. His deemed interest is unchanged at 138.47 million shares or 12.47%.

Meanwhile, Teoh disposed of 1.19 million shares at 68.5 sen apiece on Oct 29 and 30, paring his direct holdings from 1.95% as at July 31 to 20.45 million shares (1.82%) while deemed

interested in 181.34 million shares (16.34%). NTPM closed at 65 sen on Nov 4.

Notable filings were also seen at Protasco Bhd, which on Oct 23 won a RM578.5 million contract from Putrajaya Corp to build 1,680 apartments under the 1Malaysia Civil Servants' Housing Programme. Tey Por Yee

sold 2.5 million Protasco shares on Oct 24, paring his holdings to 55.05 million shares (17.76%), while Lembaga Tabung Haji disposed of two million shares on Oct 24 and 25, cutting its holdings to 18.05 million shares or 5.8%.

Notable movements

In just two months, shares of BHS Industries Bhd moved from the 80 sen levels to close at RM1.10 on Nov 1. Filings show Datuk Lim Thiam Huat emerging as a substantial shareholder of the Petaling Jaya-based printing company on Oct 29 with a 12.48% stake after acquiring nine million shares off market.

The transacted price was not disclosed but stock market data show that five million shares changed hands in a married deal off market on Oct 29 at 98 sen apiece, near the lower end of the 97 sen to RM1.05 apiece it changed hands at on the open market that day.

The seller may be BHS managing director Heng Song Khoon, who sold 15 million shares on Oct 29 at undisclosed prices. This cut his direct holdings to 6.4 million shares or 8.88% and indirect stake to 19.23 million shares or 26.67%.

Shares of Bonia Corp Bhd have also been appreciating of late, moving from the RM3 levels to as much as RM3.50 in October alone. The stock gained 103% over six months, if measured between its recent low of RM1.72 on May 7 and its recent high of RM3.50 on Oct 21.

Recent buyers of the stock include Albizia Asean Opportunities Fund, which bought 246,000 shares on Oct 30, raising its holdings to 12.18 million shares or a 6.04% stake. **E**