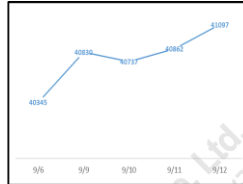


Daily Focus

Market Overview

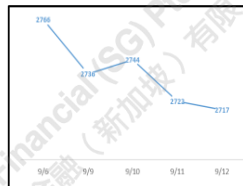
USA

U.S. equities rose on Thursday. Dow Jones, NASDAQ and S&P500 gained 0.58%, 1.00% and 0.75% respectively.



China

Chinese equities fell on Thursday. The Shanghai Composite Index dropped 0.17% or 4.67 points to 2,717.12.



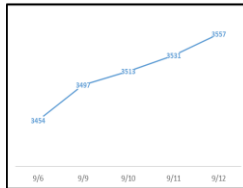
Hong Kong

Hong Kong equities rose on Thursday. The Hang Seng Index gained 0.77% or 131.68 points to 17,240.39.



Singapore

Singapore equities rose on Thursday. The Straits Times Index gained 0.72% or 25.36 points to 3,556.53.



Major Market Indexes

Market	Price	Change	Change%
USA			
DJIA	41096.77	↑ 235.06	0.58%
Nasdaq	17569.68	↑ 174.15	1.00%
S&P500	5595.76	↑ 41.63	0.75%
Europe			
FTSE100	8240.97	↑ 47.03	0.57%
CAC40	7435.07	↑ 38.24	0.52%
DAX	18518.39	↑ 188.12	1.03%
STOXX600	512.08	↑ 4.06	0.80%
Asia			
Nikkei 225	36833.27	↑ 1213.50	3.41%
Shanghai	2717.12	↓ -4.67	-0.17%
Hang Seng	17240.39	↑ 131.68	0.77%
STI	3556.53	↑ 25.36	0.72%
JCI	7798.15	↑ 37.20	0.48%
TWSE	21653.25	↑ 111.82	0.52%
Forex			
EURUSD	1.11	↑ 0.0062	0.56%
GBPUSD	1.31	↑ 0.0081	0.62%
USDJPY	141.82	↓ -0.5400	-0.38%
USDCNH	7.12	↓ -0.0103	-0.14%
USDHKD	7.80	↑ 0.0045	0.06%
USDSGD	1.30	↓ -0.0028	-0.21%
USDIDR	15439.00	↑ 37.00	0.24%
Commodity			
Gold	2557.10	↑ 38.10	1.51%
WTI Oil	68.97	↑ 1.66	2.47%



China is poised to cut interest rates on outstanding mortgages as early as this month, according to people familiar with the matter, as it accelerates a move to reduce borrowing costs for millions of families to spur consumption. Some banks are making final preparations for the upcoming adjustments on mortgage rates, said the people, asking not to be identified discussing a private matter. Some homeowners may enjoy up to 50 basis points of immediate rate reduction, one of the people said. The timeline has yet to be finalized and could still change, said the people.



Bank of Japan Board Member Naoki Tamura indicated that the central bank needs to raise its benchmark rate more aggressively than many economists have been expecting, noting that the neutral policy rate in Japan is 1% or higher. Tamura said in a speech to local business leaders in Okayama, western Japan. "We need to raise the short-term rate to at least around 1%, that's needed to contain upside price risks and for achieving the stable and sustainable inflation target."



South Korea's top financial regulator said it plans to lift the ban on short selling at the end of March and will ensure that necessary rule revisions are in place by then. The objective is to allow the strategy across all equities, not just in a limited number of stocks, Financial Services Commission chairman Kim Byoung-hwan said Thursday. While the country had previously said that the prohibition would be extended to March 30, there was uncertainty about whether the popular trading practice would resume afterward.



The UK economy stagnated for a second month in July, suggesting that a rapid recovery from recession is now losing momentum in a blow for Prime Minister Keir Starmer. GDP was unchanged after flatlining in June, the Office for National Statistics said. Economists were forecasting a 0.2% increase. Declines in production and construction were offset by the powerhouse services industry.

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