

Land claims against Gallant units dropped

By **JANICE HENG**

INDONESIAN property developer PT Rafflesia Matrawisata's land ownership claims against Gallant Venture's subsidiaries have been rejected, according to Gallant yesterday.

Gallant shares rose by as much as 7.4 per cent on the news, to a high of \$1.30 early yesterday. They later eased to close five cents up at \$1.26, with 17 million shares changing hands.

In an announcement,

Gallant said that PT Rafflesia's claims were rejected by Bintan's Tanjung Pinang District Court, after its failure to substantiate them.

In April 2006, PT Rafflesia sued two Gallant subsidiaries — PT Buana Megawisatama and PT Bintan Resort Cakrawala — and a third company, PT Bintan Lagoon Resort, for the ownership of 963,353 square metres of land in Bintan Resorts and some \$10 million in damages.

Gallant confirmed the previously undisclosed lawsuit on March 26, 2007, after BT ran a report on it. Gallant holds titles to 863,353 sq m of the land in question, which is on the north shore of Bintan Island. The remaining 100,000 sq m was the subject of dispute between PT Rafflesia and PT Bintan Lagoon Resort. In October 2006, the court granted an interim injunction barring transactions on the land in

question. The injunction has been lifted, and PT Rafflesia will bear all costs relating to the lawsuit.

In its announcement, Gallant said: "As previously announced, the Gallant group has land title certificates for their land in Bintan Resorts, including the above land which is the subject of the suit, and will defend any claims to the contrary vigorously."

Gallant listed on the SGX-Sesdaq on June 6,

2006, at an initial public offer price of 50 cents. It has business in utilities, industrial parks, resort operations and property development. On May 22, 2007, Gallant was granted in-principle approval for a transfer to the SGX main board. It also received a waiver of Listing Rule 212(1), which requires an issuer to be listed on Sesdaq for at least two years before being eligible for a mainboard transfer.