

World stocks slide as oil storms to record \$100.10

World share prices tumbled on Wednesday as renewed worries about a global economic slowdown...

Japan's stock market closed down 3.25 percent after New York crude had reached an all-time peak of 100.10 dollars a barrel on Tuesday...

British Airways said on Wednesday it planned to raise the fuel surcharges it places on air fares, citing high oil prices.

Approaching the half-way point in European stock market trading, London's FTSE 100 index of leading shares showed a loss of 1.30 percent.

Elsewhere in stock market trade, Taiwan closed down over 1.5 percent and South Korea ended the day nearly two percent lower.

Further impact of oil over 100 dollars on the economy, said a trader at a European brokerage who requested anonymity.

On Wednesday oil prices fell on profit-taking but remained close to 100 dollars a barrel.

Concerns that high crude futures could stoke inflation and stall expected interest rate cuts in the ailing US economy helped send Australian stocks down more than two percent by the close.

There's a great deal of uncertainty out there, said Sydney-based Andrew Sekely, an equity analyst at Intersuisse.

Fears about a global economic slowdown, and possibly even a US recession, had already been stoked by the spreading of a global credit crunch caused by the US subprime mortgage crisis.

Reports on Wednesday that the squeeze on credit had hit US firm KKR Financial Holdings spooked investors and threw the spotlight back on the slowing global economy, dealers said.

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TV programmes on mobile phone soon

From the middle of next month mobile phone users in Bangladesh will be able to view live and on-demand television programmes through their handsets.

Any user with an internet enabling handset will get access to the service, which will be launched next month on test and formally from April.

SSE and Annex Communication Ltd are bringing the service using audio and video streaming technology with technical support from a US firm.

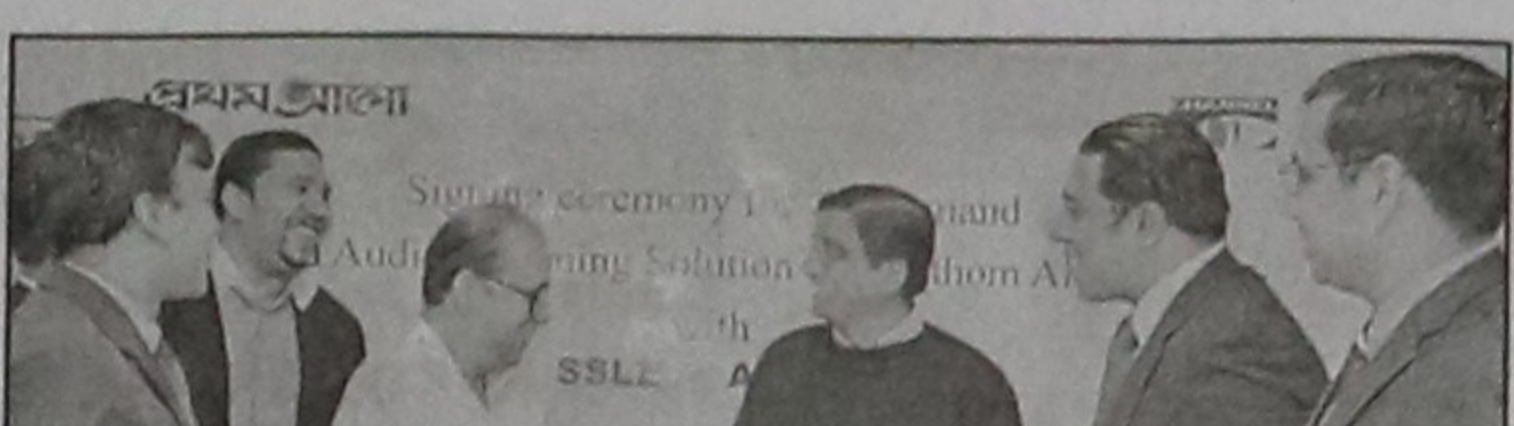
At the start, Channel i programmes and previously recorded the Daily Prothom Alo programmes will be available. FM radio services will also be made accessible.

To this effect, SSE and Annex Communication Ltd signed a deal with Prothom Alo and Channel i yesterday.

Matiur Rahman, the Prothom Alo Editor, Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director of Channel i, Rashek Rahman, organising partner of SSE, and Mahmud Rahman, chairman of Annex, signed the deal on behalf of their respective sides.

Before oil struck 100 dollars, analysts said there was growing speculation that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which supplies about 40 percent of the world's oil, could cut output at its meeting on March 5.

Opec had been expected to cut to prevent oversupply since demand for heating fuel was set to fall as winter ends in the northern hemisphere, said Dariusz Kowalczyk, a strategist at CFC Seymour Securities in Hong Kong.

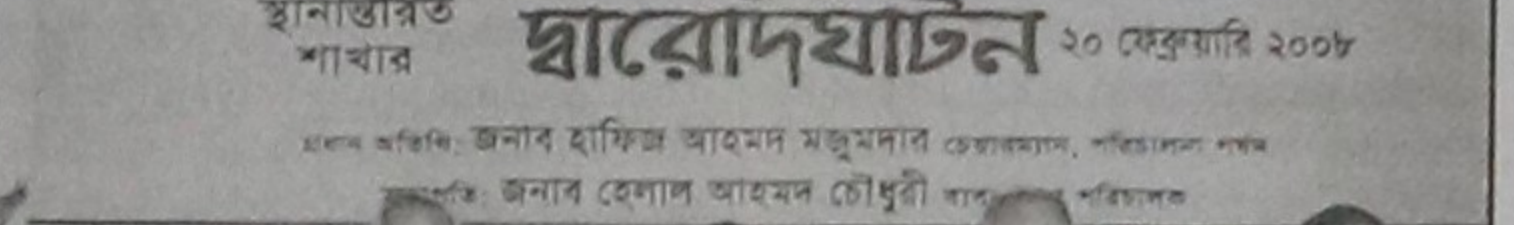


Matiur Rahman, the Prothom Alo Editor, and Faridur Reza Sagar, managing director of Channel i, exchange documents after signing an agreement yesterday.

As per the deal, Channel i programmes and previously-recorded programmes of the daily will be made accessible for mobile phone users from next month.

Pubali Bank Ltd shifted its BB Avenue corporate branch to a new premises in Dhaka yesterday.

Chairman of the bank Hafiz Ahmed Majumder, directors Moniruddin Ahmed, Ahmed Shafi Chowdhury and Mustafa Ahmed, and Managing Director Helal Ahmed Chowdhury were present at the inauguration of the shifted corporate branch.



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Bangladesh Association of Banks (BAB) and IFC-SEDF have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) and a corporate agreement for jointly conducting training programmes on banking sector-related issues for bank officials.

Grey dhaka nominated for int'l award

Grey dhaka, one of the leading communications agencies in Bangladesh, has been nominated for the Effie, one of the most coveted advertising industry awards, says a press release.

The Effie is awarded by the Global Effie, The Euro Effie, Effie Asia Pacific, and more than 35 national Effie programmes. As a finalist under the Effie Asia Pacific programme, Grey dhaka was pitted against other industry professionals from across the Asia Pacific.

Grey Worldwide Bangladesh is a concern of Grey Worldwide South Asia.

Grey operates branded independent business units in many communications disciplines including general advertising, public relations, direct marketing, internet communications and online and offline media services.

The Effie Asia Pacific award giving ceremony is to take place in Singapore on February 28.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Table with columns: Berthing position, Name of vessels, Cargo call, L. Port, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving, Import disch.

Vessels at Kutubdia

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last Port, Local agent, Date of arrival.

Vessels at outer anchorage

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last Port, Local agent, Date of arrival.

Vessels not entering

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L. Port, Local agent, Type of cargo, Loading ports.

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L. Port, Local agent, Type of cargo, Loading ports.

The above are the shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by (DD) Family, Dhaka.

CURRENCY

Following is Wednesday's (February 20, 2008) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Table with columns: Major currency exchange rates, Exchange rate of some currencies, Per USD, BDT per Currency.

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES February 20, 2008

Large table listing traded issues with columns: Company, FV/ML, Price, Turnover, Last AGM, EPS, CDS.

Turnover Leaders

Table listing turnover leaders with columns: Company, Turnover (Vol, M.Tk, %T, BigLot).

Market Highlights

Table listing market highlights with columns: DSE All Share Index, DSE - 20 Index, CSE All Share Index, CSE - 30 Index.

Capital Gainers

Table listing capital gainers with columns: Company, Price Chn, Close, Turnover.

Not Traded Issues

Large table listing not traded issues with columns: Company, FV/ML, DSE, CSE, Last AGM, EPS, CDS.