

Asian stocks close mostly up after US share rally

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian stocks closed mostly up Thursday following a Wall Street rally but concerns about the ailing US economy continued to overshadow sentiment.

Taiwan rose more than two percent, the best performance among major markets, driven in part by optimism that the winner of upcoming presidential polls will seek better ties with rival China.

The Japanese market rallied a little under two percent, with Australia, China and South Korea also posting gains.

Asian markets had fallen heavily at the start of the week on fears of a US economic slowdown and expectations of more measures to cool China's economy.

But investors shrugged off comments from China's central bank Thursday that there was scope for the country's borrowing costs to rise further.

HONG KONG: Hong Kong share prices closed 0.99 percent higher, dealers said.

The Hang Seng index closed up 228.39 points at 23,342.73.

Turnover was low at 69.55 billion Hong Kong dollars (8.92 billion US).

"While the market ended up today, it's worth noting the continuing drop in turnover and the index's fall in the afternoon session from a 500-point gain at morning close," said Linus Yip, strategist at First Shanghai Securities.

SHANGHAI: Chinese share prices closed 1.59 percent higher, dealers said.

The benchmark Shanghai Composite index, which covers both A and B shares, rose 68.33 points to 4,360.99.

The Shanghai A-share index was up 1.60 percent to 4,575.64. The Shenzhen A-share index rose 0.50 percent to 1,461.15.

The weighted index closed up 174.69 points at 8,658.64, a three-month high. Turnover was 188.84 billion Taiwan dollars (6.13 billion US).

SEOUL: South Korean share prices finished 1.21 percent higher, dealers said.

The key KOSPI index closed up 20.34 points at 1,697.44 on volume of 349 million shares worth 5.0 trillion won (\$5.27 billion dollars).

"Strong regional markets helped the local market to briefly break away from its tight trading range," said Bookook Securities analyst Kim Min-Sung.

SINGAPORE: Singapore share prices closed 0.25 percent higher, dealers said.

The main Straits Times index closed up 7.15 points at 2,917.92.

Singapore Exchange added six cents to 7.64 dollars. The bank DBS Group fell 22 cents at 17.00 dollars. Property firm City Developments fell 12 cents to 11.10 dollars.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian share prices closed 1.5 percent higher, dealers said. The Kuala Lumpur Composite index closed up 19.46 points at 1,299.69.

BANGKOK: Thai share prices closed 0.33 percent higher, dealers said.

The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) composite index rose 2.73 points to 827.71 and the blue-chip SET-50 gained 2.21 points to 596.73.

Ad agency Grey wins int'l award

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

A local advertising agency Grey Dhaka has won Asia Pacific Effie award for successful promotion of an international brand, Nokia, in local voice.

"We tried to promote in local voice with the insight of a true Bengali at heart, which brought us the success," said Gousul Alam Shaon, general manager of the agency, at a press conference in the capital yesterday.

"Getting a prestigious award for campaigning in very local voice is really inspiring," he added.

Prem Chand, managing director of Nokia Bangladesh, said a successful promotion of any brand in a certain region is much dependent on cultural understanding.

Nirvik Singh, chairman and CEO of Grey Advertising South Asia, and Samrat Das Gupta, manager of the agency, were also present at the programme.

Grey Dhaka won the silver Asia Pacific Effie.

Gold, silver and bronze awards were presented to agencies responsible for the successful campaigns in five categories: food and beverage, non-food fast-moving consumer goods, consumer durables, consumer services, and government, cultural issue campaigns.

Asia Pacific Effie Awards, which recognize the most effective advertising and marketing campaigns across the region, were presented in Singapore on 29th February.

Some 150 campaigns from 18 countries were submitted for the Asia Pacific Effie Awards. Of the 24 campaigns listed as finalists, nine were from countries, which do not yet have their own domestic Effie Award programmes.



Mahbubur Rahman, president of International Chamber of Commerce-Bangladesh, speaks at a function to mark the launch of 'FIT (Finance of International Trade) Initiative' in Dhaka on Wednesday.



MA Hakim, general manager of Polli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), and Ruhul Qudus, general manager of Rural Services Foundation (RSF), sign a MoU on Tuesday in Dhaka. Under the deal, PKSF will help RSF to identify eligible students for RSF Model School and College at Shahajahan in Bogra. RSF is a social development initiative of Rahimafrooz group.



Finance Director of Apollo Hospital Dhaka Shahjahan Majumdar and Managing Director of Delta Life Insurance Limited Das Deba Prasad sign a deal in Dhaka recently. Under the deal, Apollo Hospital will provide special corporate benefits on medical services to employees of Delta Life Insurance.

Shipping

Chittagong port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 6/3/2008

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/4	Jin Cheng	Gl	Inch	Costco	2/3	9/3	2572
J/4	Fokus	Gl(S, Ash)	P. Band	HSA	4/3	9/3	1233
J/5	Hoang Son	Rice(p)	Col	Cla	3/3	7/3	-
J/6	Banga Bori	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	2/3	6/3	-
J/8	Madina-ke-chand	Rice(p)	Yang	Cla	2/2	7/3	3421
J/11	Donglai Fortune	Cont	Col	Season	5/3	7/3	469
J/12	Tabago Bay	Cont	Sing	MDDL	4/3	6/3	-
J/13	Marira Veller	Cont	Sing	APL	4/3	6/3	-
RM/9	Banglar Maya	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	15/3	-
RM/10	Banga Bijoy	Repair	Col	Bardhi	2/3	10/3	-
CUFLJ	Banglar Mamata	Repair	S. Loren	BSC	1/2	7/3	-

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Nor Sea	-	-	IBSA	R/A (4/3)
Cs Safe	-	-	IBSA	R/A (3/3)
Sea Service	-	-	IBSA	R/A (4/3)
Sun Rose	Crude Oil	Jebel	DSL	26/3
F. Jahan	Raw Sugar	Chern	BRSL	4/3

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready:

Name of vessels	Cargo	Col	APL	Barwil	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3
Cape Henry	Cont	Col	APL	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3	
Stoff Rindo	CPO	Kuan	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3		
Eagle Pride	Cont	Yang	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3		
Phu Tan	Cont	P. Kel	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3		
Asrar-a-mostafa	Rice(p)	Yang	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3		
Smooth Sea-3	CPO	Dumai	5/3	CT	BSC	Cla	3/3	MMSL	6/3		

Vessels not ready:

Name of vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival	
Shwezey Yar Aung	Rice(p)	Yang	TCL	5/3

Vessels awaiting employment/instruction:

Name of vessels	Cargo	Local agent	Date of arrival	
Anatolia	-	-	Rship	R/A (20/2)
Bulk Energy	Idle	Mumb	BRSL	16/2
Yaad-e-mostafa	-	Kaki	Intraport	12/2

To above are the shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by ICC Family, Dhaka.

Currency

Following is Thursday's (March 6, 2008) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Major currency exchange rates	Exchange rate of some currencies		
BC Sell	TT Buy	PerUSD	BDTPer
Currency	Currency		
US dollar	69.10	68.10	
Euro	107.08	102.53	
Pound	139.04	133.86	
Australian dollar	65.95	62.26	
Japanese yen	0.68	0.65	
Swiss franc	67.91	63.87	
Swedish kroner	12.08	10.62	
Canadian dollar	71.52	68.26	
Hong Kong dollar	8.68	8.72	
Singapore dollar	51.06	48.93	
UAE dirham	18.97	18.39	1M
Saudi riyal	15.58	16.03	2M
Danish kroner	14.93	13.29	3M
Kuwaiti dinar	250.88	247.76	6M

USD forward rate against BDT	Buy	Sell
1M	68.33	69.33
3M	68.57	69.66
6M	68.86	70.01
9M	69.75	71.15

All currencies are quoted against BDT. Rates may vary based on nature of transaction. The forward rates are indicative only and fixed dated.



(from left) MA Maruf, Gousul Alam Shaon, Samrat Das Gupta, Upal Roy Chowdhury and Javed Akter Suman of Grey are seen at the Asia Pacific Effie Awards festival in Singapore.

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES March 06, 2008

Company	FV/ML (Tk.No.)	Price (Tk.)	Turnover (Mk.)	Price (Tk.)	Turnover (Mk.)	Last AGM (%)	EPS (%)	Divs (%)	Company	FV/ML (Tk.No.)	Price (Tk.)	Turnover (Mk.)	Price (Tk.)	Turnover (Mk.)	Last AGM (%)	EPS (%)	Divs (%)	
DSE																		
AB Bank	1000	3434.25	2.97	3335.25	10920	4440.75	1.24	2331.50	14575	6069.07	71.5	68.00	2980	65.00	Not Traded	-	27/12/07	-13
ACI Bank	1000	210.00	0.16	617.25	12701	415.25	0.24	2131.50	1255	4069.07	71.5	68.00	2980	65.00	Not Traded	-	27/12/07	-13
AD Bank	1000	2913.00	0.34	2903.25	12701	2926.50	0.31	2896.00	5701	4069.07	71.5	68.00	2980	65.00	Not Traded	-	27/12/07	-13
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