

Commodity prices rise led by oil

AFP, London

Commodity prices mainly rose this week, led by crude oil, which struck a record high above 112 dollars a barrel on the back of falling American energy stockpiles and the weak US currency, analysts said.

Other star performers included tin and maize, which also enjoyed lifetime peaks owing to tightening supplies.

Most dollar-denominated commodities gained ground because the weakening US currency makes them cheaper for foreign buyers and therefore tends to stimulate demand.

OIL: The price of New York oil rocketed to a record high 112.21 dollars per barrel on Wednesday after the US government announced heavy falls to its energy stockpiles.

London's Brent North Sea crude for May firmed struck a historic 109.98 dollars on

Thursday. Crude futures then fell Friday on forecasts of slower crude demand growth offset a tight supply situation for energy.

By Friday, New York's main oil futures contract, light sweet crude for delivery in May, jumped to 109.72 dollars per barrel from 105.75 dollars a week earlier.

Brent North Sea crude for May climbed to 108.20 dollars per barrel from 104.30 dollars.

PRECIOUS METALS: Gold and silver prices advanced, supported by the falling US dollar and inflationary concerns stemming from high oil prices.

China became the world's biggest producer of gold last year, overtaking South Africa which held top spot for 100 years, the independent precious metals consultancy GFMS said on Wednesday.

Gold had struck an all-time

peak of 1,032.70 dollars an ounce on March 17, four days after the yellow metal breached 1,000 dollars for the first time.

On the London Bullion Market, gold advanced to 927.75 dollars per ounce at Friday's late fixing from 905.50 dollars a week earlier. Silver climbed to 17.95 dollars per ounce from 17.45 dollars.

PLATINUM: Platinum prices gained ground, winning solid support from keen demand and ongoing supply issues in key producer South Africa.

On the London Platinum and Palladium Market, platinum rose to 2,019 dollars per ounce at the late fixing on Friday from 1,988 dollars a week earlier.

BASE METALS: Base metals mostly climbed, with tin scoring an all-time pinnacle and copper also surging in value.

On Thursday, tin hit a historic record of 20,990 dollars

per tonne. On the same day, copper came within a whisker of its record high of 8,820 dollars per ounce that was set on March 6.

GRAINS AND SOYA: Maize prices hit a record high 6.16 dollars per bushel on concerns over US output amid worsening weather conditions, before slipping on profit-taking.

By Friday on the Chicago Board of Trade, maize for May delivery eased to 5.92 dollars per bushel from 5.98 dollars a week earlier. May-dated soybean meal -- used in animal feed -- rose to 13.50 dollars from 12.77 dollars. Wheat for May delivery dropped to 9.23 dollars per bushel from 9.74 dollars.

SUGAR: Sugar prices rose in line with most commodity markets. By Friday on LIFFE, the price per tonne of white sugar for August delivery grew to 354.90 pounds from 339 pounds the previous week.

China's forex reserves hit \$1.682 trillion

AFP, Beijing

China's foreign exchange reserves, already the world's largest, climbed to 1.682 trillion dollars at the end of March, the central bank said Friday.

The figure reflects a rise of 39.9 percent from a year earlier, and a 10.1 percent increase from the end of 2007, according to data posted on the People's Bank of China's website.

The fast forex growth came amid rising official concerns of a fresh surge in hot money inflows.



Muhammad Ali, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd, and SM Intekhab Alam, managing director of Phoenix Finance and Investment Ltd, sign an agreement on Thursday in Dhaka. Under the deal, the bank will extend an investment facility worth Tk15 crore to Phoenix Finance for purchasing lease assets. Senior officials from both the sides were present.



Prof M Shamsul Haque, president of Trustee Board of Northern International Medical College, and Khandaker Omar Farhan, deputy general manager (Sales Division) of Grameenphone Ltd, sign a corporate agreement recently in Dhaka. As per the deal, the mobile phone operator will provide complete communication facilities under its 'Business Solutions' package to the medical college.



Mutual Trust Bank Ltd has recently hosted 'Customer Night' in Dhaka. Director of the bank Abdul Malek and Managing Director Kazi Md Shafiqur Rahman, among others, were present on the occasion.



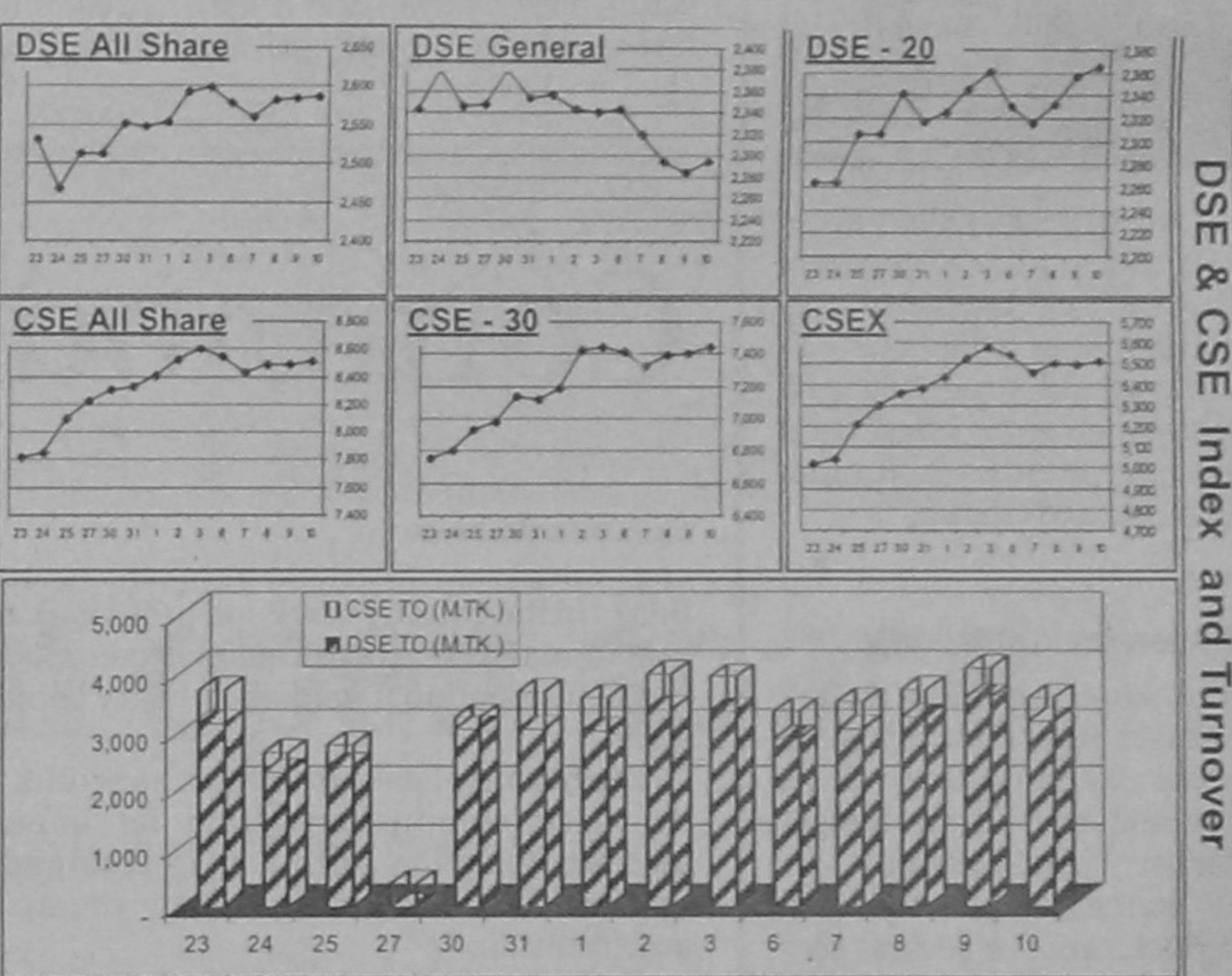
Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam and Managing Director of Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd (DBBL) Md Yeasin Ali, among others, visit a cleft-lipped patient at Popular General Hospital in Pabna on Friday. The bank has organised a 4-day plastic surgery programme for cleft-lipped children under its 'Smile-Brighter Programme' at the hospital that will end on Monday.

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES of the WEEK April 06 - 10, 2008									
Company	FV/ML (Tk No.)	Price	Change (%)	Pre-Wk	Turnover	Share	Price	Change (%)	Pre-Wk
BANK									
AB Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
INDUSTRIAL									
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
PHARMA & CHEM.									
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
FOOD & ALLIED									
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
POWER									
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00
Alfa Bank	100.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00	35.00	0.00	35.00	230.00

Market Highlights Week April 06 - 10, 08

DSE All Share Index	2586.65699	(-0.45%)
DSE General Index	3075.44688	(-0.29%)
DSE - 20 Index	2364.83640	(+0.15%)
CSE All Share Index	8514.32200	(-1.03%)
CSE - 30 Index	7440.18740	(+0.00%)
CSE Selected Index	5513.79460	(-1.20%)



Turnover Leaders

Company	Vol.	Turnover	C Avg	Price
AIMS First	73,827,000	9,235,76	5.70	12.51
Square Pharma	155,541	8,679,24	5.36	4.67
AB Bank	280,000	8,176,50	5.08	6.53
IFIC Bank	252,251	7,681,26	4.75	2.96
Ultra Bank	78,840	4,570,09	2.83	5.73
Power Grid Co	67,651	4,479,00	2.76	6.29
Keya Cosmetics	64,372	4,329,43	2.67	6.71
Grameen MF One	3,150,010	4,219,91	2.68	13.51
Seamless Pharma	4,832,174	3,956,68	2.47	8.21
LinkaBangla Finance	2,845,000	3,538,90	2.18	12.34

Capital Gainers

Company	Price Chn	Close	Price	MTK
Peoples Insurance	101.10	113.56	887.25	74.93
Reliance Insurance	48.98	44.28	913.25	24.45
Pragati Gen. Insu	37.34	34.56	4421.50	42.84
Int. Leasing	28.34	26.56	678.50	82.01
Rahim Textile	28.23	26.27	473.50	0.22
Rupali Insurance	27.72	22.38	638.25	19.47
Arami	25.18	25.51	204.56	0.32
Green Delta Insu	21.88	18.44	242.48	0.49
ISN Ltd	20.75	18.77	32.00	30.78
Keya Cosmetics	20.53	18.97	68.70	432.04

Capital Losers

Company	Price Chn	Close	Price	MTK
Northern Jute	-30.67	-30.60	20.80	0.109
NBC Bank	-34.02	-34.42	338.25	81.95
Southeast Bank	-21.76	-21.61	438.50	64.22
Shahjalal Islami Bank	-17.65	-17.66	238.75	64.22
Chittagong Vegetable	-16.20	-16.13	45.25	0.2374
BLTC	-15.23	-15.22	270.00	0.112
Arman Sea Food	-13.01	-13.02	29.00	0.056
Therapax	-13.46	-13.44	496.00	0.571
Modern Dyeing	-12.76	-12.61	87.00	0.024
Dandy Dyeing	-12.50	-13.00	35.00	0.0105

Non Traded Issues

Company	FV/ML (Tk No.)	LCP	DSE	LTD	LCP	CSE	LTD	Last	EPS	DPS	(Tk No.)
Chic Text	100.00	2.70	16/01/08	2.50	15/01/08	30/12/04	0.05	---	---	---	---
Rupali Bank	100.00	2904.25	01/11/07	2826.75	31/10/07	05/12/07	11.58	---	---	---	---
The Oriental Bank	100.00	928.00	21/06/08	Not	Not	15/09/05	481.2	---	---	---	---

FOOD & ALLIED

Fahad Industries Ltd	100.00	Not	Not	5.00	27/03/08	29/12/07	-1.26	---	---	---	---
E.L. Camella	100.00	5787.50	21/06/07	Not	Not	08/05/07	61.00	25.0	---	---	---
Yousuf Flour	100.00	23.80	10/03/08	Not	Not	19/12/07	0.58	---	---	---	---
Hill Plantation	100.00	1120.00	13/03/08	Not	Not	26/12/07	18.77	12.0	---	---	---
Modern Industries	100.00	25.75	25/03/08	Not	Not	07/06/07	-3.59	---	---	---	---

JUTE

Jute Spinners	100.00	1001.00	02/04/08	Not	Not	26/12/07	34.74	20.0	---	---	---
Sonali Bank	100.00	245.00	02/04/08	Not	Not	27/12/07	28.45	---	---	---	---
Phoenix Leather	100.00	360.00	23/01/07	Not	Not	27/12/07	-30.31	---	---	---	---
Al-Haj Textile	100.00	60.00	29/10/07	Not	Not	27/12/07	2.76	---	---	---	---
MGH Indl. Corp	100.00	30.30	19/02/06	Not	Not	08/03/06	-6.51	---	---	---	---

Note: Capital Gainer and Loser tables are prepared on the basis of the average price change of the traded issues. In the trade table price change is calculated between closing prices. CDPS = Cash Dividend Per Share in %; EPS = Earnings Per Share; DPS = Dividend Per Share corresponding to the Last AGM report that held on the date mentioned in the last AGM call. ** CDRL Listed Companies