

# Asian stocks close mixed ahead of Fed meeting

Asian stocks closed mixed Tuesday as investors looked ahead to a key US central bank meeting expected to cut American borrowing costs. Japan, Asia's biggest bourse, was shut for a public holiday. But among other major regional markets, Taiwan tumbled more than two percent, with South Korea and Singapore also ending down.

HONG KONG: Hong Kong share prices closed 0.97 percent higher, dealers said.

The Hang Seng index closed up 247.86 points at 25,914.15. Turnover was 88.68 billion Hong Kong dollars (11.38 billion US).

SHANGHAI: Chinese share prices closed 1.40 percent higher, dealers said.

The benchmark Shanghai Composite Index, which covers A and B shares, closed up 48.68 points at 3,523.41 on turnover of 99.6 billion yuan (14.2 billion dollars).

"Stocks rebounded as risks were settled after large-caps including PetroChina and Bank of China announced first-quarter results," said Zhang Gang, an analyst at Central China Securities.

TAIPEI: Taiwan share prices closed 2.07 percent lower, dealers said.

The weighted index closed down 187.86 points at the day's low of 8,991.74. Turnover was 148.14 billion Taiwan dollars (4.87 billion US).

Michael Hsu, an assistant vice president at Taiwan Life Asset Management, said politics and futures-related pressure convinced investors to offload some holdings after yesterday's gains.

SEOUL: South Korean shares closed 0.6 percent lower, dealers said.

The KOSPI index ended down 11.66 points at 1,811.51. Volume was 268 million shares worth five trillion won (4.99 billion dollars).

SINGAPORE: Singapore share prices closed down 0.91 percent, dealers said.

The blue chip Straits Times Index fell 29.27 points to 3,172.36 on volume of 1.21 billion shares worth 1.38 billion Singapore dollars (1.01 billion US).

# GSP Finance declares 5pc cash, 10pc stock dividends

GSP Finance Company (Bangladesh) Limited has declared 5 percent cash and 10 percent bonus shares for the shareholders for the year 2007.

The dividend was announced at the 13th annual general meeting of the company held in Dhaka recently, says a press release.

The meeting was presided over by Ramaswamy Sundararajan in absence of Sutham Chansrichawla, chairman of the company.

Feroz U Haider was elected chairman of the company in the subsequent Board of Directors' meeting.

GSP Finance Company (Bangladesh) Limited is a joint venture Financial Institution of Hong Kong, Thailand, Republic of Vanuatu and Bangladesh.

Its foreign and local shareholding is 74.97 percent and 25.03 percent respectively and total shareholders equity of the company is Tk 480.00 million as on December 31, 2007.

Foreign shareholdings belong to institutions, eminent bankers and persons having big business houses in Fareast and Southeast Asia.

Directors Feroz U Haider, Colonel (Retd) M Nurul Islam, Gurdist Malhotra (representing GSP Finance Co Ltd Hong Kong), Siraj U Haider and Moin U Haider, besides other shareholders and managing director (incharge) Md Helal Uddin attended the meeting.



Ghalib Ahmed Ansari, chief operating officer of TRUE Communication, signs an agreement with Anwar Hossain, managing director of Chemor Telecommunications Ltd, in Dhaka recently. Under the deal, TRUE will provide Chemor with high-speed internet connectivity and IT solutions.



SM Firoz Alam, deputy commissioner of Khulna, hands over a 50 inch Samsung television to the first prize winner of a promotional campaign 'Samsung Big Bang Offer', organized by Singer Bangladesh Ltd, at the Singer Plus Shop in Khulna recently.



Fazle Hasan Abed, chairman of BRAC Bank Limited, presides over the 9th annual general meeting (AGM) of the bank in Dhaka on Thursday. The AGM agreed 10 percent stock dividend for its shareholders.

# Correction

In a news item headlined 'Trust Bank enlists AB Bank Foundation as brokerage house' published on this page on Tuesday, the designation of Sajedur Seraj was not correct. In fact, he is the vice chairman of AB Bank Ltd. We regret the mistake.

# Currency

Following is Tuesday's (April 29, 2008) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Major currency exchange rates	Exchange rate of some currencies				
US dollar	69.25	68.25	PerUSD	BOTper	
Euro	109.88	105.27	Indian rupee	40.05	1.71
Pound	139.30	134.12	Pak rupee	64.55	1.06
Australian dollar	66.23	62.52	Lankan rupee	107.89	0.64
Japanese yen	68.23	64.18	Thai baht	31.66	2.17
Swiss franc	124.00	108.88	Malaysian ringgit	3.15	2.17
Canadian dollar	69.63	66.51	USD forward rate against BDT		
Hong Kong dollar	8.91	8.74	Buy	Sell	
Singapore dollar	52.22	50.00			
UAPE dirham	19.01	18.43	1 M	68.48	69.74
Saudi riyal	18.61	18.05	2 M	68.73	69.81
Danish kroner	15.31	13.63	3 M	69.00	70.17
Kuwaiti dinar	257.06	251.29	6 M	69.79	71.24

Local Market FX  
Local inter-bank FX market was active on Tuesday. The market slightly tightened as the demand for dollar increased. The BDT remained almost unchanged against the USD.

Money Market  
Money market was active on Tuesday. The call money market eased a little and most deals ranged between 8.00 and 9.00 per cent compared to 8.00-10.00 per cent on Monday.

# Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 29/4/2008

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo call	L Port	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/2	Kachi Bong	Sugar	Chenn	Hsa	R/A	29/4	1753
J/5	Jai Vakkali Meenakshi	Rice(g)	Gopal	Hsa	29/4	30/4	1485
J/10	Donglai Fortune	Cont	Col	Seacon	26/4	29/4	131
J/12	Oei Singapore	Cont	Sing	Seacon	27/4	29/4	91
J/13	Hansa London	Cont	P. Kel	Psai	26/4	29/4	188
Co/1	Merkur Bridge	Cont	Sing	Apri	27/4	1/5	-
Co/2	Josso View	Cont	P. Kel	Rsl	28/4	1/5	-
Top	Banglar Mamata	Repair	Bsc	Rsa	27/4	1/5	-
Dd/7	Santia Suria	Naupha	Kand	Prda	27/4	30/4	-
Dd/8	Pravara Suria	Repair	Kant	Seacon	11/4	30/4	-
Dd/1	Banglar Shourabh	-	-	Bsc	R/A	1/5	-

Vessels due at anchor age date: 29/4/2008

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Ikal	29/4	Damm	Litmond	Urea(bioc)	-
An Tao Jiang	30/4	Dall	Cosco	Gr	14 Rly Coash
Banga Bodor	30/4	P.kel	Bandhi	Cont	P. Kel
Cape Henry	29/4	Cbo	Apri	Cont	Col
Tabago Bay	29/4	Pip	Mdbi	Cont	Pip
Kinship Lucky	30/4	Okha	Seacon	G(s, Ash)	-
Phu Tan	30/4	P.kel	Buca	Cont	Sing
Rookaway Belle	30/4	Lumut	Litmond	C. Clink	-
Athos	1/5	Sing	Saraf	G. Slag	-
Pagan	1/5	Yang	Mta	G(10g)	-
Igw1	2/5	Nant	Mbi	C. Clink	-
Hudson Strait	2/5	-	Mdbi	Cont	Pip
Hohenf	1/5	Pkl	Psai	Cont	Sing
Oel Enterprise	1/5	Col	Psl	Cont	Col
Kola Raja	1/5	Sing	P(bd)	Cont	Sing
Thor Guardian	2/5	-	Everest	G(p, Cargo)	-
Marina Star-2	3/5	-	Bsca	Cont	Yang
Eagle Pride	2/5	-	Cl	Cont	Sing

# STOCK

## TRADED ISSUES April 29, 2008

Company	FV/ML (Tk.No.)	Price (Closing)	Turnover (Chg. %)	Price (Closing)	Turnover (Chg. %)	Last AGM	EPS	CDPS	Other Info
<b>BANK</b>									
AB Bank - A	10005	3817.25	1.06	3777.25	4575	3836.75	1.58	3777.00	8990
City Bank - A	10005	614.00	-0.14	607.25	6607	611.00	0.00	611.00	3395
ITC Bank - A	10005	2866.50	-0.11	2929.25	2407	2975.75	0.05	2974.25	2695
National Bank - A	10002	5752.25	-0.17	5779.75	3000	5775.25	0.21	5782.00	350
Public Bank - A	10005	4902.50	-0.44	5244.00	1338	5225.25	0.21	5185.50	2101
UB Bank - A	10005	55.00	-0.75	56.10	1353	55.75	-0.70	56.15	1187
UB Bank - Z	10005	4902.50	-0.44	5244.00	1338	5225.25	0.21	5185.50	2101
UB Bank - A	10005	2957.00	-0.33	2964.50	1391	2981.75	-0.10	2964.25	1710
UB Bank - Z	10005	2957.00	-0.33	2964.50	1391	2981.75	-0.10	2964.25	1710
UB Bank - A	10005	3372.50	-0.13	3372.50	1391	3372.50	0.00	3372.50	1391
UB Bank - Z	10005	3372.50	-0.13	3372.50	1391	3372.50	0.00	3372.50	1391
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