

# German inflation accelerates

AFP, Frankfurt

German inflation accelerated sharply in May, preliminary data showed Wednesday, adding to worries about Europe's largest economy and further dashing hopes of a cut in eurozone interest rates.

According to an official projection based on data from six of Germany's 16 states, consumer prices were 3.0 percent higher than May last year. In April they had risen 2.4 percent.

The main culprit was energy, with prices for heating oil rising as much as 13.3 percent just between April and May, and soaring by as much as 64.6 percent compared to May 2007, the statistics office said.

Prices Germans paid for diesel rose as much as 8.7 percent from April and by as much as 27.5 percent compared to the year-earlier period.

Food, another major item in monthly budgets, was also considerably dearer, rising as much as 0.7 percent from last month and as much as 9.2 percent in 12 months.

# Bank shares up at DSE

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka stocks continued gaining for a second day yesterday with the benchmark index hitting all time high at 3167.99 points led by banking sector shares.

The DSE General Index rose by 39.32 points, or 1.25 percent over the previous day's closing. The DSE All Share Price Index also increased by 32.61 points, or 1.23 percent to 2682.88 points.

Market experts said though the bearish trend in banking sector shares ended on Wednesday, almost all the banks shares gained yesterday.

"It is good that investors are coming back to the banking sector shares," said Yawer Sayeed, managing director and chief executive officer of AIMS of Bangladesh.

Trading volume on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was also higher than the previous day with the turnover reaching Tk 479.94 crore. A total of 2,61,80,954 shares changed hands.

# Oil retreats but stays above \$130

AFP, Singapore

World oil prices retreated but stayed above 130 dollars in Asian trade on Thursday amid growing jitters about falling US gasoline consumption spooked by skyrocketing pump prices, dealers said.

New York's main oil futures contract, light sweet crude for July delivery, fell 77 cents to 130.26 dollars per barrel.

The benchmark contract shot up 2.18 dollars to close at 131.03 dollars on Wednesday at the New York Mercantile Exchange.

London's Brent North Sea crude for July delivery slid 80 cents to 130.13 dollars a barrel, after settling at 130.93 dollars on Thursday. The contract had rallied 2.62 dollars at the close.

Values struck records above 135 dollars late last week. Tony Nunan, of Mitsubishi Corp's international petroleum business in Tokyo.

# Dollar edges higher

AFP, Tokyo

The dollar posted modest gains in Asian trade on Thursday, supported by better-than-expected durable goods orders which helped to calm market jitters about the US economy, dealers said.

The dollar was at 104.84 yen in Tokyo afternoon trade, up slightly from 104.71 yen in New York late on Wednesday.

The euro slipped to 1.5627 dollars after 1.5641 while firming to 1.6389 yen from 1.6373.

"Better-than-expected economic data combined with surging crude oil prices sent US Treasury note yields higher, prompting investors to buy back the dollar," said Minoru Shioiri, forex manager at Mitsubishi UFJ Securities.



Mike Cowell, managing director of Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd, distributes over 30 arsenic filter kits to affected families around its cement plant at Chhatak in Sunamganj on Monday for ensuring arsenic-free water. Lafarge Surma Cement distributed the filters under its corporate social responsibility programme.



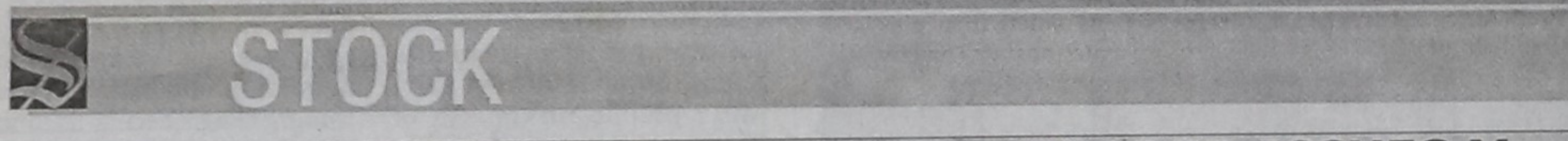
Syed Anwar Ali, head of Procurement of Ectetera Bangladesh (Pvt.) Ltd, and Dr. Anand Rajasingham, head of Marketing of Citycell, sign an agreement on behalf of their sides. Under the deal, Citycell customers will get special discount on books, gift items and toys at all the outlets of Ectetera in Dhaka. Other officials of both the organizations were also present.

### Currency

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

Major currency exchange rates	Exchange rate of some currencies				
BC Sell	TT Buy	Per USD	BDT per Currency		
US dollar	69.10	68.10			
Euro	109.70	105.10	Indian rupee	42.47	1.62
Pound	138.30	133.14	Pak rupee	67.83	1.01
Australian dollar	67.84	64.10	Lankan rupee	107.69	0.64
Japanese yen	0.68	0.65	Thai baht	32.42	2.12
Swiss franc	67.81	63.79	Malaysian ringgit	3.24	21.18
Swedish kroner	12.39	10.87			
Canadian dollar	71.24	67.98			
Hong Kong dollar	8.87	8.71			
Singapore dollar	52.01	49.80			
UAE dirham	18.97	18.1M	68.35	69.34	
Saudi riyal	15.30	13.83	68.61	69.69	
Danish kroner	15.30	13.83	68.88	70.05	
Kuwaiti dinar	257.91	252.02	6M	69.71	71.16

Kazi Md Shafiqur Rahman, managing director of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd (MTB), inaugurates the first co-branded ATM booth, installed by Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd (DBBL), on the premises of the Dhanmondi branch of MTB in Dhaka on Wednesday. Md Yasmin Ali, managing director of DBBL, was also present.



# TRADED ISSUES May 29, 2008

Company	EV/ML (Tk.No.)	Price	Turnover	Last AGM	EPS	CDPS	Div (%)	Company	EV/ML (Tk.No.)	Price	Turnover	Last AGM	EPS	CDPS	Div (%)
		Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)			Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)	Chng (%)
<b>BANK</b>															
AB Bank*-A	1005	343.00	-0.75	345.00	73393	3507.00	-3.92	365.00	2100	06/09/07	71.6	—	—	—	—
City Bank*-A	1005	601.25	5.44	570.00	19323	601.00	5.48	569.75	8025	04/08/08	20.2	—	—	—	—
ITC Bank*-A	1005	1401.50	2.15	1372.25	19800	1406.50	2.20	1376.25	3675	28/05/08	71.9	—	—	—	—
Islami Bank BD*-A	1005	594.00	0.55	590.00	3053	594.00	1.19	587.50	1879	31/08/07	34.7	15.0	—	—	—
National Bank*-A	10020	98.10	8.15	90.75	33625	97.75	7.35	90.00	7618	30/03/08	66.1	—	—	—	—
Pabna Bank*-A	1005	882.50	5.94	833.00	20708	887.75	6.19	826.25	8415	31/01/08	25.2	—	—	—	—
UCBL*-Z	1005	657.00	2.68	640.25	9700	653.00	1.99	638.00	731	31/01/08	25.2	—	—	—	—
Uttara Bank*-A	1005	287.75	3.92	277.25	28330	287.75	3.78	278.00	2070	15/05/08	51.2	—	—	—	—
Uttara Finance*-A	10020	267.25	-1.05	270.75	12533	266.50	-1.43	270.25	1157	30/03/08	10.0	—	—	—	—
Eastern Bank*-A	10020	972.00	3.35	936.00	1790	972.00	3.88	935.00	3000	25/05/07	30.1	—	—	—	—
United Leasing*-A	10020	1079.75	-3.33	1140.50	36623	—	—	—	—	25/03/08	62.5	20.0	—	—	—
Uttara Finance*-A	10020	895.00	-3.66	929.00	44821	908.20	-2.73	934.00	2550	16/04/08	81.8	30.0	—	—	—
Al Arifa Islami Bank*-A	10050	46.10	16.10	39.75	9906	46.75	16.65	39.50	3090	13/05/07	40.7	—	—	—	—
Prime Bank Ltd*-A	10050	655.00	5.41	626.75	9935	651.00	3.98	623.75	750	06/04/07	17.8	—	—	—	—
Southern Bank*-A	10050	438.50	1.12	425.25	4767	437.50	3.72	431.00	3204	28/04/08	44.8	15.0	—	—	—
Dhaka Bank*-A	10020	487.75	8.37	460.00	19899	485.25	7.37	451.00	6675	21/04/08	36.3	—	—	—	—
NCC Bank*-A	10020	393.00	3.91	360.00	20836	396.25	9.61	361.50	5526	20/04/08	38.5	—	—	—	—
Social Invest. Bank*-Z	10050	350.75	1.02	327.75	8530	360.50	9.24	330.00	15000	10/09/07	51.5	—	—	—	—
Dutch Bangla Bank*-A	10050	970.25	1.54	966.25	5470	975.00	2.79	968.25	300	17/04/08	47.9	—	—	—	—
Midas Finance*-A	10050	460.25	1.38	454.00	93487	459.25	-3.72	477.00	6570	13/12/07	17.6	50.0	—	—	—
Mutual Trust Bank*-A	10050	437.00	5.36	414.75	2708	438.50	7.28	408.00	4309	17/05/07	47.9	20.0	—	—	—
First Lease*-A	10050	461.25	7.58	431.75	51104	441.75	4.99	433.75	750	06/04/07	17.8	—	—	—	—
Standard Bank*-A	10050	283.25	7.25	261.75	133544	280.50	6.96	262.25	3010	29/04/07	17.8	—	—	—	—
One Bank*-A	10050	531.00	3.41	513.50	5600	520.00	7.07	495.00	6000	01/04/07	33.3	10.0	—	—	—
Bank Asia*-A	10050	436.25	6.52	402.00	14124	421.50	6.17	397.00	1682	21/09/07	37.8	—	—	—	—
Mercantile Bank*-A	10050	311.00	4.71	297.00	41098	316.00	6.00	300.00	3250	30/03/07	18.1	12.5	—	—	—
Export Import Bank*-A	10050	411.00	4.21	394.00	107621	411.00	4.05	395.50	54070	03/06/07	36.1	20.0	—	—	—
People's Leasing*-A	10050	493.75	13.49	430.75	136121	485.25	17.36	432.00	10000	23/06/07	33.2	—	—	—	—
Prime Finance*-A	10050	330.00	-1.51	332.00	41972	332.00	-4.23	330.00	6570	30/04/08	42.7	—	—	—	—
Premier Leasing*-A	10050	326.00	4.54	312.75	96295	323.00	6.00	300.00	3250	07/06/07	18.1	12.5	—	—	—
Islamic Finance*-A	10050	415.25	2.26	402.75	76240	420.50	2.72	412.00	13700	30/04/07	18.1	12.5	—	—	—
Jamauna Bank*-A	10050	294.75	2.48	282.25	51866	294.00	-2.65	280.00	8330	29/05/07	20.6	—	—	—	—
Lanka Bangla Finance*-A	10050	178.25	2.59	173.00	89600	176.00	0.63	175.00	7150	09/09/07	1.91	10.0	—	—	—
BFC*-A	10050	363.50	10.74	328.25	80300	360.50	6.02	336.25	4350	14/05/08	46.8	—	—	—	—
IFDC*-A	10050	672.75	14.56	587.25	169381	679.25	10.90	610.00	12400	22/05/08	18.7	5.00	—	—	—
Braz Bank*-A	10050	203.25	9.51	188.75	223916	191.25	9.76	110.00	3000	04/08/08	46.8	—	—	—	—
Shahjalil Islami Bank*-A	10050	303.75	6.95	284.00	190610	302.25	6.71	283.25	6250	—	—	—	—	—	
Premier Bank*-N	10050	243.75	5.18	231.75	75016	241.75	4.99	232.00	2610	06/04/07	17.8	—	—	—	—
Union Capital Ltd*-N	10050	163.10	1.28	159.50	106000	167.00	1.13	150.00	6400	—	—	—	—	—	
BD Finance*-N	10050	404.25	14.76	352.25	105070	407.00	13.51	350.00	7295	20/04/08	28.3	50.0	—	—	—
Int'l. Leasing*-N	10050	977.25	20.78	998.50	11969	998.00	-4.27	1023.75	235	—	—	—	—	—	
Phoenix Finance*-N	10050	664.50	0.27	656.00	108950	658.25	1.22	651.50	7300	—	—	—	—	—	
Trust Bank*-N	10050	663.75	8.19	613.00	165040	669.00	8.38	617.25	4900	03/06/08	18.6	—	—	—	—
Fidelity Assets*-N	10050	295.25	4.29	280.50	47805	301.00	-3.83	313.00	2150	—	—	—	—	—	
Delta Bank HFCI*-N	10050	1361.00	0.28	1375.25	12200	1365.75	-1.27	1383.25	2200	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>INVESTMENT ENGINEERING</b>															
Afba Automobiles*-A	10050	4297.00	0.47	4276.25	3500	4797.50	0.27	475.00	5505	30/10/07	60.4	14.0	—	—	—
1st ICB M F*-A	10050	9270.25	-0.67	9320.75	705	9500.00	-1.04	9600.00	—	15/08/07	24.0	19.0	—	—	—
2nd ICB M F*-A	10050	4256.75	-1.37	4313.75	500	4221.00	-1.00	Not Listed	—	15/08/07	69.1	56.0	—	—	—
3rd ICB M F*-A	10050	1181.00	-0.77	1193.25	5211	1190.00	-1.10	1170.00	—	15/08/07	61.0	50.0	—	—	—
4th ICB M F*-A	10050	2267.00	-2.02	2311.75	600	2430.50	-2.00	Not Listed	—	15/08/07	61.0	50.0	—	—	—
5th ICB M F*-A	10050	3002.75	-2.86	3031.00	970	3125.25	-1.24	3050.00	210	15/08/07	41.0	33.			