

Unilever reports profit slump but sales rise

AFP, Rotterdam

Dutch food products and cosmetics giant Unilever reported on Thursday a 19.0-percent slump in net second-quarter profit on restructuring charges, but a rise in sales beyond analysts' forecasts.

Unilever, describing its performance as "good", said that the net figure for the quarter fell to 978 million euros (1.52 billion dollars) from 1.144 billion euros at the same time last year.

The price of shares in the group fell by 5.55 percent to 18.30 euros in early trading.

Pre-tax operating profit fell by 4.0 percent to 1.353 billion euros. Sales fell by 1.0 percent to 10.374 billion euros, but at constant exchange rates they rose by 6.0 percent.

Chief executive Patrick Cescau said this amounted to "a good performance in a challenging environment" and that the group stood by its forecasts for the year.

The fall in the net figure reflected mainly increased restructuring charges, the fact that tax factors had been more favourable in the comparable period last year, and the effects of the strength of the euro.

DSE indices fall for fourth day

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) price indices fell yesterday for the fourth consecutive day due mainly to a fall in the share prices of United Commercial Bankshares (UCB).

On the DSE yesterday, prices of UCB shares came down by 50.66 percent to Tk 3242.25 at the closing of the trade. A total of 54,275 shares of the bank worth Tk 16.53 crore were traded.

The market insiders said DSE share price indices were adjusted due to the fall in the UCB share prices.

The DSE General Index declined by 40.38 points, or 1.44 percent, to 2761.04 points, while the DSE All Share Price Index fell by 57.04 points, or 2.35 percent, to 2369.03 points.

Apart from the UCB share price slide, the insiders said, the investors' shakiness to invest in the stock market is another major reason behind the falling share prices.

Yesterday the market started with a steep fall in the price indices. The market fell for the

first one and half hours and then remained unchanged for next half an hour. However, in the last two hours of trading the market fell again at a steady rate.

Most of the share prices dropped yesterday. Of the total 227 issues traded on the premier bourse, 52 gained, 165 suffered losses and 10 remained unchanged.

The market turnover also came down to Tk 269.61 crore. A total of 1,78,17,440 shares were traded on the prime bourse yesterday.

The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE), however, closed mixed yesterday with the losers dominating the gainers.

The CSE Selective Categories Index rose by 60.76 points, or 1.08 percent, closing the day at 5517.57 points, while the CSE All Share Price Index declined by 9.8 points, or 0.11 percent, finishing at 8593.53 points.

A total of 4007035 shares worth Tk 39.35 crore changed hands on the port city bourse. Of the issues traded, 24 gained, 112 declined and four remained unchanged.

New SEVP of Dhaka Bank



Neaz Mohammad Khan has been promoted to senior executive vice-president (SEVP) of Dhaka Bank Limited.

Prior to his promotion, he was the local office manager of the bank's principal branch in Motijheel, says a press release.

Khan joined Dhaka Bank in 1995.

British American Tobacco posts higher profits

AFP, London

Cigarette maker British American Tobacco said on Thursday that profits raced higher in the second quarter, boosted by its emphasis on emerging markets.

Net profit rose 11 percent to 650 million euros (824 million dollars) in the three months to June, compared with 584 million pounds in the same period a year earlier.

The maker of Dunhill, Kent and Lucky Strike cigarettes added that group revenue rose by nearly 17 percent to 2.916 billion pounds.

"These very good interim results demonstrate the strength of British American Tobacco's business, as a result of the excellent growth from our Global Drive Brands, our leading market positions and our broad geographic spread," BAT chairman Jan du Plessis said in the release.

"While not immune from the consequences of an economic slowdown, we can certainly look to the future with more confidence than most."

Earlier this year, BAT won an auction for Turkey's state-owned tobacco company Tekel with a bid of 1.72 billion dollars.



SN Kairy, director of BRAC Bank Ltd is seen inaugurating a new service quality drive called the 'Moment of Truth', where customers will be able to rate the service, at the Gulshan branch of the bank, recently. AEA Mahmen, managing director and chief executive officer, Abdur Rahman Sikder, head of marketing and corporate affairs, Firoz Ahmed Khan, head of retail banking, and other high officials of the bank were also present at the event.



IPDC of Bangladesh Ltd and Etihad Airways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for IPDC Club Royal Privilege Services in Dhaka on Monday. Masih-ul-Huq Chowdhury, managing director and chief executive officer of IPDC, and Khondakar Ashraf Kabir, country manager of Etihad Airways, are seen exchanging documents after they signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organisations. High officials from both parties were also present.



Mohammad Sharfuddin, director of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) poses with the participants of certificate-awarding programme of the five-day trading course on 'Tour Management for Tour Operators' at the DCCI Business Institute on July 24. Experienced resource personnel, Taufiq Rahman, Sayed Ghulam Qadir, and Faruque Hasan were also seen on the occasion.



Southeast Bank Ltd organised a two day long workshop on 'Credit Risk Management and Credit Risk Grading' for the credit officers of the bank at its Training Institute from July 16-17. Mohammed Gofran, senior executive vice president, MA Muhith, deputy managing director, Mustafizur Rahman, senior vice president and Pritish Kumar Sarker, senior vice president are seen with the participants.

Shipping Chittagong Port

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/2	Ka Chi Bong	Rice(g)	Kaki	HSA	2/17	3/17	1333
J/3	Xiang Jiang	Gl	Xing	Cosco	2/17	3/17	487
J/4	Sea Power	Rice(g)	Kaki	FSL	8/7	5/8	1227
J/5	Badulla Valley	Rice(g)	Kaki	Cla	1/17	2/8	996
J/6	Bangladesh	Rice(g)	Kaki	FSL	15/7	4/8	1087
J/7	Orchid Express	Vehi	Sing	Nyk	2/17	3/17	348
J/8	Bangladesh	Rice(g)	Kaki	BSC	5/7	3/17	142
J/9	Asian Star	Cont	Pip	MDL	30/7	1/8	681
CT/1	Bangladesh	Cont	Sing	Bdshp	29/7	1/8	-
CT/2	Arabian Express	Cont	P. Kal	Season	29/7	1/8	-
NCT/1	Cape Bonavista	Cont	Sing	Bdshp	29/7	1/8	-
NCT/3	Med Wind	Repair	Blair	Cla	20/8	3/17	-

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Outside port limit				
Wira Keris	Crude Oil	—	IBSA	R/A (28/7)
Navajo Spirit	Crude Oil	Rast	SSST	18/7
Banglar Jyoti	C. Oil	—	BSC	R/A (30/7)
Vessels at outer anchorage				
Vessels ready				
Madina-ke-chand	Rice(g)	Kaki	Cla	18/7
Zhong Ye-5	CPO	P. Guda	MMSL	30/7
Chemical Progress	CPO	Belwa	Jnshp	31/7
Vessels not ready				
Xoh Paek	Rice(g)	Kaki	HSA	29/7
Hodasco-15	Rice(g)	Kaki	HSA	29/7
Kumanna Valley	Rice(g)	Kaki	Cla	30/7
Induruwa Valley	Rice(g)	Kand	Cla	31/7
Vessels awaiting employment/instruction				
Bolany Tradition	Ballast	Hald	Intraport	25/6
Hilal-1	Idle	Niko	KSM	14/6
Vessels not entering				
Alhos	C. Clink	Sing	Saraf	13/6
Supertec	C. Clink	Okke	ANCL	23/7
F. Jahan	Raw Sugar	Tuli	BRSL	28/7
Gang Qiang	Raw Sugar	Santo	Rainbow	28/7

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

Currency

The following is the forex rate of Thursday's (July 31) provided by Standard Chartered Bank

Major currency exchange rates		Exchange rate of some currencies	
BC Sell	TT Buy	Per USD	BDT per Currency
US dollar	69.05	68.05	
Euro	109.11	104.52	Indian rupee 42.12 1.63
Pound	138.40	133.10	PAK rupee 71.50 0.96
Australian dollar	66.58	62.89	Lankan rupee 107.53 0.64
Japanese yen	0.66	0.63	Thai baht 33.52 2.05
Swiss franc	67.20	63.24	Malaysian ringgit 3.27 21.00
Swedish krona	12.19	10.71	
Canadian dollar	68.80	65.73	
Hong Kong dollar	8.67	8.70	
Singapore dollar	51.77	49.55	
UAE dirham	18.95	18.38	
Saudi riyal	18.56	18.00	
Danish krona	15.21	13.51	
Kuwaiti dinar	256.70	250.93	

USD forward rate against BDT

Buy	Sell
1M	68.30 69.29
2M	68.55 69.63
3M	68.81 69.98
6M	69.59 71.04

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES									
Company	FV/MV (Tk.No)	Price	Turnover	Price	Turnover	Last AGM	EPS	CDPS	Other Info
DSE									
BANK									
City Bank * - A	100/5	940.50	-2.32	962.00	61510	942.00	-2.05	961.75	13613
AB Bank * - A	100/5	559.75	-2.18	572.25	13835	553.00	-2.73	568.50	1300
IFIC Bank * - A	100/5	1192.00	-1.12	1205.50	19708	1198.50	-0.95	1210.00	2495
Islamic Bank BD * - A	1000/1	6260.75	-2.73	6436.75	5538	6305.50	-1.62	6409.50	467
National Bank * - A	100/20	1033.25	-2.43	1079.50	28162	1040.00	-3.34	1085.25	3732
Pabuli Bank * - A	100/5	375.50	4.38	383.75	32772	373.75	5.27	380.00	12039
Rupali Bank * - A	100/10	2686.50	-2	2780.00	16272	2655.00	-0.79	2855.00	10
UCBL Bank * - A	100/5	3242.25	-50.66	6571.25	54277	3200.50	-51.06	6540.00	9350
ICB Islamic Bank * - Z	100/5	1659.50	-0.55	1668.75	3641	-	Not Listed	-	-
IDLC Finance * - A	100/20	3207.50	-0.51	2919.25	2611	2309.25	-1.58	2346.25	48
Eastern Bank * - A	100/10	299.00	4.16	332.50	9513	286.00	1.38	357.00	1126
United Leasing * - A	100/20	764.50	-2.24	782.00	5867	-	Not Listed	-	-
Uttara Finance * - A	100/5	845.00	-2.31	865.00	7957	836.00	-2.71	859.25	50
Al Arafia Islamic Bank * - A	100/10	410.00	-1.44	416.00	22919	412.25	-0.84	415.75	2770
Prime Bank Ltd * - A	100/5	588.00	-0.93	593.50	9637	582.25	-1.61	591.75	440
Southeast Bank * - A	100/5	400.25	-1.17	405.00	23542	397.75	-1.24	402.75	1182
Dhaka Bank * - A	100/5	453.00	-1.09	458.00	5309	444.25	-1.51	458.25	102
N C Bank * - A	100/5	401.50	-0.62	404.00	53462	401.00	-0.56	403.25	3944
Social Invest Bank * - Z	100/5	425.25	-1.45	431.00	43101	426.00	-1.19	431.00	500
Dutch Bangla Bank * - Z	100/5	3469.00	-1.39	3517.75	3378	3490.00	-0.27	3500.00	100
Middle Finance * - A	100/5	468.00	-1.37	474.50	6323	469.00	Not Traded	-	-
Mercantile Bank * - A	100/5	373.75	-1.71	382.50	7976	375.00	-1.46	379.00	815
First Leasing * - A	100/5	367.50	-2.52	377.00	5450	360.00	-1.43	365.00	300
Standard Bank * - A	100/5	2332.50	-1.69	2365.50	28483	2331.00	-1.38	2362.50	7800
One Bank * - A	100/5	371.50	-0.68	378.75	18007	370.75	-0.47	388.50	300
Bank Asia * - A	100/5	386.50	-1.90	394.00	6180	392.00	-0.25	393.00	162
Mercantile Bank * - A	100/5	299.00	-1.16	302.50	7995	298.00	-1.41	302.25	420
Export Import Bank * - A	100/5	330.00	0.15	330.00	23528	329.50	0.46	328.00	440
People's Leasing * - A	100/5	404.50	-6.35	443.25	46880	404.75	-7.17	436.50	500
Prime Finance * - A	100/5	1144.25	-2.30	1171.50	11915	1144.75	-2.70	1176.50	1550
Premier Leasing * - A	100/5	243.25	-5.99	258.75	10919	247.50	-4.81	260.00	1320
Lanka Finance * - A	100/5	297.00	-3.41	307.50	3405	293.50	-2.49	301.00	302
Humana Bank * - A	100/5	252.75	-32.88	185.50	9311	840.50	-39.91	1398.75	2600
LankaBangla Finance * - A	100/5	209.10	-1.04	211.00	43560	208.80	-2.48	211.00	9100
BIF C * - A	100/5	300.00	-0.81	329.00	35515	300.75	-0.82	327.25	700
IPDC Bank * - A	100/5	381.50	-2.49	391.25	14747	384.50	-2.04	392.50	123
Bank Asia * - A	100/5	387.25	-1.51	396.00	11900	387.50	-1.20	395.25	4493
Shakalat Islamic Bank * - A	100/5	313.75	-1.72	319.25	2990	314.25	-1.41	318.75	1218
Premier Bank * - A	100/5	229.00	-0.33	230.00	25590	229.00	-0.32	229.50	7650
Islamic Capital Ltd * - N	100/5	118.00	-2.40	116.00	213350	114.00	-1.72	116.00	7030
BD Finance * - A	100/5	305.50	-5.34	322.25	10105	314.00	-1.85	320.00	750
Int'l Leasing * - A	100/5	791.00	-0.50	795.50	8575	784.75	Not Traded	-	-
Phoenix Finance * - A	100/5	497.50	-0.75	501.25	10290	490.00	-2.18	504.00	350
Tri Bank * - A	100/5	497.25	-1.19	503.25	2645	501.25	-0.84	505.50	6445
Fidelity Assets * - A	100/5	269.00	-0.55	270.50	6300	267.00	-1.20	270.25	1440
Delta Bank IFCLN * - A	100/5	1322.75	0.32	1318.50	9200	1347.00	1.68	1324.75	1600
ICB A * - A	100/5	2190.25	-7.55	2369.00	1210	2325.00	Not Traded	-	-
2nd ICB M F A * - A	100/5	1908.25	-4.97	2006.00	730	2000.00	Not Traded	-	-
3rd ICB M F A * - A	100/5	1227.75	-0.41	1232.75	740	1220.00	Not Traded	-	-
4th ICB M F A * - A	100/10	1233.50	-0.14	1236.75	940	1245.00	Not Traded	-	-
5th ICB M F A * - A	100/10	1288.75	-0.66	1522.00	2070	1275.00	-0.25	2200.00	10
6th ICB M F A * - A	100/10	590.00	-5.98	622.25	6610	620.00	-1.20	627.50	70
7th ICB M F A * - A	100/5	1285.50	0.34	1316.75	2645	1285.50	0.34	1316.75	2645
8th ICB M F A * - A	100/5	548.50	-15.35	648.00	6693	677.00	Not Traded	-	-
1st BSRF M F A * - A	100/5	713.75	-2.83	734.00	7900	680.00	-5.85	722.25	200
ADMS First * - A	100/5	111.4	-3.97	116.00	18500	111.38	-3.97	117.00	10750
ICB AMCL 1st M F A * - A	100/5	442.75	-1.88	451.25	12550	442.25	-1.88	451.25	100
ICB AMCL 2nd M F A * - A	100/5	497.50	-0.75	501.25	10290	490.00	-2.18	504.00	350
ICB AMCL 3rd M F A * - A	100/5	106.75	-0.05	107.00	75000	106.60	-0.51	112.70	15300
ICB AMCL 4th M F A * - A	100/5	306.75	-1.55	310.00	25000	303.75	-1.46	308.00	300
ICB AMCL 5th M F A * - A	100/5	171.50	-3.52	177.50	178150	171.45	-4.05	179.00	3550
ENGINEERING									
Alpaz Industries * - A	100/5	414.00	-0.54	416.25	8174	415.00	-0.77	421.00	410
Apex Zippers * - A	100/5	188.75	-0.53	189.75	1330	202.75	Not Traded	-	-
Olympic Industries * - A	100/5	394.50	-4.19	411.75	9045	405.25	-2.56	420.00	110
Bangladesh Lamps * - A	100/5	98.00	-0.98	99.75	560	102.00	Not Traded	-	-
Eastern Cables * - A	100/10	608.00	-1.12	601.00	400	607.00	Not Traded	-	-
Shakalat Islamic Bank * - A	100/5	313.75	-1.72	319.25	2990	314.25	-1.41	318.75	1218
Singer Bangladesh * - A	100/5	1870.25	-0.94	1888.00	972	1835.50	-3.39	1900.00	15
Adas Bangladesh * - A	100/5	367.50	-1.31	382.50	19769	-	Not Listed	-	-
BD Autocars * - B	100/5	171.00	-1.10	169.50	930	21.00	Not Traded	-	-
Jaumun Drycells * - A	100/5	45.00	-2.90	44.90	36460	43.10	-4.01	44.90	51000
Regional Resources * - A	100/5	100.00	-4.80	91.00	4400	116.00	-3.81	32.00	130
National Tube * - A	100/10	2530.25	-0.54	2516.75	2362	-	Not Listed	-	-
BD Thai Union * - A	100/10	352.75	1.39	300.50	6134	290.00	Not Traded	-	-
Asear Galvanizing * - Z	100/10	108.25	-1.81	110.25	600	106.00	0.00	106.00	100
Kay & Oue (BD) * - B	100/5	310.25	-1.74	315.75	5250	370.00	Not Traded	-	-
Regional Resources * - A	100/5	100.00	-4.80	91.00	4400	116.00	-3.81	32.00	130
Kangpur Food * - A	100/5	70.00	-1.94	72.00	151000	70.00	-2.22	72.00	9500
S. Alam C R Steels * - A	100/5	362.75	-1.36	367.75	4800	362.75	-1.16	367.00	2650
Golden Son * - A	100/5	26.25	-1.92	26.10	265000	25.90	-0.38	26.00	15500
FOOD & ALLIED									
Alpaz Industries * - A	100/5	10.50	-1.87	10.70	50	13.00	Not Traded	-	-
Asian Steels Food * - Z	100/5	160.00	0.00	160.00	10	-	Not Traded	-	-
Apex Foods * - A	100/5	990.00	-1.07	1001.25	3355	1100.00	2.11	995.00	50
Bangas * - A	100/5	455.00	-1.59	460.00	20	645.00	Not Traded	-	-
BLTC * - Z	100/5	110.70	-10.47	191.00	45	-	Not Traded	-	-
CRIBCL * - A	100/5	333.60	-0.51	329.25	3228	233.90	-0.71	257.50	70
CRIBCL * - A	100/5	560.00	-0.72	560.00	25	-	Not Traded	-	-
National Tea Co. * - A	100/5	1753.25	-1.09	1772.50	230	1396.00	Not Traded	-	-
Other Info									
Zig Zag Bangladesh * - Z	100/10	155.50	-	-	-	06/07/08	85.3	-	-
Tulip Dairy Sugar * - Z	100/10	18.90	-	-	-	04/06/07	20.2	-	-
Shampur Sugar Mills * - Z	100/10	12.00	-	-	-	31/05/07	15.0	-	-
Bengal Biscuits * - Z	100/27	57.00	-	-	-	29/08/08	5.9	-	-
AMCL (Pram) * - Z	100/10	990.00	-	-	-	30/03/08	66.1	-	-
Shampur Sugar Mills * - Z	100/10	12.00	-	-	-	31/03/07	40.2	-	-
Rahima Food Corp. * - Z	100/10	48.00	-	-	-	05/12/07	11.5	-	-
Mona Food * - Z	100/10	32.25	-	-	-	31/01/07	9.3	-	-
Gaghghata Aqua * - Z	100/5	10.50	-	-	-	15/05/08	5.1	-	-
Bionic Seafood * - Z	100/5	2.50	-	-	-	30/03/08	10.0	15.0	-
Pu-Wang Food * - Z	100/5	2.00	-	-	-	24/05/08	30.1	-	-
Meghna Condensed Milk * - Z	100/50	7.80	-	-	-	16/04/08	81.8	30.0	-
Bhat Hatchery * - Z	100/10	148.20	-	-	-	13/07/08	25.1	-	-
Fine Foods * - Z	100/5	74.00	-	-	-	30/03/08	49.2	10.0	-
FUEL & POWER									
Palms Oil Co * - A	100/10	1661.30	-	-	-	29/04/08	38.5	-	-
Eastern Lubricants * - A	100/5	454.00	-	-	-	15/09/05	48.1	-	-
Bangladesh Welding * - Z	100/5	19.00	-	-	-	30/03/08	44.8	15.0	-
Summit Power Ltd * - A	100/5	589.75	-	-	-	17/04/08	47.9	-	-
DESCO Ltd * - A	100/5	872.00	-	-	-	13/12/07	17.6	5.00	-
Power Grid Co. * - A	100/10	318.00	-	-	-	05/06/08	16.8	-	-
Meghna Petroleum * - Z	100/10	148.20	-	-	-	29/04/08	38.5	-	-
Titas Gas TDCILN * - Z	100/5	100.00	-	-	-	10/09/07	5.15	-	-
JUTE									
Shakti Corp * - Z	100/20	27.00	-	-	-	24/06/08	31.1	-	-
Ashtat Textile * - Z	100/10	8.90	-	-	-	13/12/07	17.6	5.00	-
Sylkerat * - A	100/5	1801.50	-	-	-	30/03/08	30.0	-	-
Rahim Textile * - A	100/5	3432.00	-	-	-	29/06/08	29.8	-	-
Saham Textile * - A	100/10	132.00	-	-	-	16/06/08	18.6	15.0	-
BEXTEL Textile * - A	100/5	64.00	-	-	-	09/09/07	20.6	-	-
Apex Spinning * - A	100/5	64.00	-	-	-	14/05/08	23.9	10.0	-
Dynamic Textile * - Z	100/20	22.00	-	-	-	29/04/08	42.7	-	-
Mithun Knitting * - Z	100/20	193.75	-	-	-	28/05/07	19.8	15.0	-
Mita Textiles * - Z	100/20	42.00	-	-	-	13/06/08	18.6	15.0	-
Delta Textiles * - A	100/20	177.75	-	-	-	21/07/08	24.8	-	-
Apex Weaving * - A	100/5	147.25	-	-	-	25/06/08	21.1	-	-
Dandy Dyeng * - Z	100/5								