

# Wall Street takes a roller coaster ride amid gloom

AFP, New York

Wall Street's roller coaster ride showed no sign of ending over the past week as the market churned lower and waited for help from Washington in easing the deep economic crisis.

In the week to Friday, the main indexes lost ground as investors appeared confused by the Obama administration's bank rescue plan and awaited implementation of a massive economic stimulus.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 5.2 percent over the week to end Friday at 7,850.41, reversing course after gains in the prior week.

The tech-rich Nasdaq composite fell 3.6 percent to 1,534.36 and the broad-market Standard & Poor's 500 tumbled 4.8 percent to 826.84.

The sputtering action on Wall Street, which gets a respite with the Presidents Day holiday Monday, has been a reaction to news from Washington as economic reports show the recession deepening.

The markets saw renewed turmoil after Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner unveiled a bank rescue plan that was short on details, disappointing many investors. The indexes were unable to recover in the week from Tuesday's slide.

"The problem with Secretary Geithner's announcement -- and the reason for an almost five percent drop in stocks after it was announced -- is the continued lack of detail on exactly how the plan will be implemented,"

said economist Ethan Harris 'at Barclays Capital.

"Even with aggressive policy action, the markets will punish any lack of clarity or sign of hesitation from policy makers."

Harris said the market's fragility "comes from repeated false recoveries in the market and the sense that aggressive policy is the only thing preventing a much more severe recession and capital markets sell-off."

"The policy playbook is simple: don't promise more than you can deliver, don't promise big programs without explaining how they will work, and don't outline how bad the economy is unless you immediately offer a clear, credible turnaround plan," he added.

Michael Jones, chief strategist at Riverfront Investment Group, said the new administration "missed a golden opportunity to restore market confidence."

John Ryding at RDQ Economics pointed out that the markets were disappointed but could recover as details of the plan to help banks remove toxic assets from their balance sheets emerge.

"We are looking forward to getting more information on the (plan) in the very near future and, if properly designed, we think it will be well-received by the markets," Ryding said.

David Kotok, at Cumberland Advisors said the stock market is losing confidence in the new administration.

"We see a Washington in disarray. We see repeated failure in assembling a cabinet," he said.

"What we don't see is a stimulus bill that will put people back to work promptly."

Fred Dickson, market strategist at DA Davidson, said markets remain nervous about the impact of the massive economic stimulus and reports that the administration will unveil a new program to help struggling homeowners facing defaults.

"We hope the administration rapidly comes forward with the details of a mortgage subsidization program, if one indeed is being proposed," Dickson said.

"Market anxiety over big rumored programs, particularly as they pertain to housing or the banking system, typically produces abnormal price volatility."

Dickson said however he sees the market holding in its trading range until a new catalyst comes along.

"Most stocks are holding well above their fall lows, an indication of market resiliency in the face of the steady flow of bad economic news, disappointing earnings news, and the growing number of companies simply refusing to provide an outlook regarding the current quarter due to the difficult economic conditions," he said.

Bonds gained as investors sought shelter from the turmoil. The yield on the 10-year Treasury bond fell to 2.882 percent from 2.979 percent a week earlier, and that on the 30-year bond eased slightly to 3.682 percent from 3.683 percent. Bond yields and prices move in opposite directions.



SHAHJALAL ISLAMI BANK

Muhammad Ali, managing director of Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd, and Muzaffar Ahmed, chief executive officer of Credit Rating Information and Services Ltd (CRISL), exchange documents after signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) recently. Under the MoU, CRISL will rate the bank.



BANK ASIA

Anisur Rahman Sinha, chairman of Bank Asia, speaks at the bank's Annual Conference 2009 in Dhaka yesterday.

## Japan welcomes US stimulus package

AFP, Tokyo

Japan's prime minister Saturday welcomed the approval of a US stimulus package and expressed envy at its speedy passage through Congress.

Taro Aso said he had high hopes for President Barack Obama's 787-billion-dollar package of tax cuts and fresh spending to salvage the US economy.

Aso also took the oppor-

tunity to criticise Japan's opposition parties, which control the legislative upper house and have attempted to block many stimulus measures proposed by the ruling party proposed.

"It has been our great interest to see the United States offers a good policy package and see it becomes effective. I am somewhat hopeful that this will lead to good things," he told reporters.

## STOCK

### Weekly Market Highlights February 08 - 12, 2009

Indicators	DSE	CSE
Total Turnover (Taka)	11,650,851,664.00	1,962,184,616.00
Total Turnover (Volume)	91,559,921	20,886,176.00
No. of Contract	331,077	58,751
Total Traded Issues	276	186
No. of Issue Gain (Avg. Price Basis)	58	38
No. of Issue Loss (Avg. Price Basis)	218	147
No. of Unchanged Issue (Avg. Price Basis)	1	1
Market Cap. (Taka)	800,155,796,566	766,476,945,627
Market Cap. (US\$)	11,681,106,519	11,189,444,462
Price Earning Ratio	17.85	17.96
Earning Per Share (%)	25.65	25.37

### Weekly Turnover Leaders

Company	Turnover (Vol.)	(M.Tk.)	(%)	Av. Pr.
Shinepukur Ceramics*	6,707,300	719,358.0	6.13	107.25
BEXIMCO Ltd-A	4,962,522	636,983.9	5.93	199.05
Beximco Pharma* -A	4,261,069	687,012.5	5.85	161.23
Titas Gas TDCI 'N	1,094,350	514,257.4	4.38	469.92
Uttara Bank -A	191,719	4,685.69	4.16	2,548.36
Altab Auto -A	491,779	4,261.66	3.63	866.58
Altab Auto -A	610,211	3,822.33	3.26	626.39
Southeast Bank 'N	1,277,121	342.54	2.92	268.38
National Bank -A	414,161	3,114.96	2.65	752.11
Grameen1Scheme* -A	6,054,000	3,085.12	2.63	50.96

### Weekly Capital Gainers/Losers

Company	Price Chn. (%)	Close	Turnover	M.Tk.
Sonali Anch -Z	D 71.05	74.31	692.75	0.263
Habibul Paper -B	-52.05	52.09	37.10	1.985
BLTC -Z	41.87	41.87	11.75	0.009
Monni Jutex -A	37.24	35.12	2,065.75	1.979
Eagle Star Tex -Z	28.89	28.32	11.60	0.057
Banges -A	27.44	24.05	610.75	6.795
Ramgati Food -Z	17.28	12.81	95.00	4,913
Meq Paper -Z	-21.05	-23.63	26.25	0.857
BCIL -Z	-19.57	-20.16	47.25	0.282
Quasim Textile -Z	-18.60	-19.33	7.00	0.146

Company	Price Chn. (%)	Close	Turnover	M.Tk.
Altab Auto -A	C 30.77	22.88	654.50	22.546
Habibul Paper -B	27.27	27.27	21.00	0.277
Chittagong Veg -Z	21.62	21.62	45.00	0.005
Sreepur Textile -Z	19.40	19.40	2,000	0.002
Rahima Food Corp -Z	18.13	18.19	94.50	0.052
Standard Insurance -N	18.07	18.14	17.91	19.00
AB Bank -A	145.19	94.01	2.74	67.62
Eastern Bank -A	4,950.00	707.36	3.55	14.29
Metro Spring -A	16.84	15.26	45.80	2.437
Altab Auto -A	16.87	16.67	55.00	0.00
Ramgati Food -Z	-16.67	-20.35	5.50	0.35
Mona Food Ind -Z	-14.77	-16.07	37.50	0.18

### Weekly News Highlights from Trade Servers

BOTHAI - SEC has given consent to the company under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Commission (Issue of Capital) Rules, 2001 for raising the paid-up Capital to Tk 11,17,52,000 (taka eleven crore seven lac one thousand) only through issue of 1,000,000 (taka one million) shares of Tk 11,17,52,000 (taka eleven crore seven lac one thousand) only through issue of 1,000,000 (taka one million) shares of Tk 100/- each at an issue price up to Tk 12,72,00 per share (including a premium of Tk 15/- per share) for a period of 12 months from the date of issue.									
<b>APEXWEAV -</b> APEXWEAV has received consent to the company under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Commission (Issue of Capital) Rules, 2001 for raising the paid-up Capital to Tk 10,00,000 (taka ten lakh) only through issue of 1,000,000 (taka one million) shares of Tk 100/- each at an issue price up to Tk 12,72,00 per share (including a premium of Tk 15/- per share) for a period of 12 months from the date of issue.									
<b>SPCERAMICS -</b> As reported by the Issue Manager of the company, total 2,53,27,800 shares were sold up to 11,02,09.									
<b>RAHIMAFOOD -</b> Trading of the shares of Rahima Food Corporation Ltd, will remain halted for market enquiry by the DSE SECRET ORDER: SEC has informed that "A member can extend credit facilities to its approved clients to the extent double the amount deposited (i.e. 12,00,000) in accordance with the provision of the said Margin Rules, 1999."									
<b>BERGERPLB -</b> The company has informed that it has purchased land measuring 2.4 acres at Savar, Dhaka at total price Tk 29,77 million.									
<b>BIGBAL -</b> BIGBAL has been informed that due to differences in positions, Brac Bank Ltd (BBL) and GSP Finance Company Ltd. could not reach an agreement on some key areas. Accordingly, BBL has decided not to proceed with the transaction and withdrew its offer of acquiring 51% shares of GSP Finance Company Ltd.									

- Standard Chartered Bank

### CDRL mark Category Mark Face Value Market Lot /EPS/BV/Last Dividend -Year End

DSE/CSE W/Closing Off Change % Last Week | Average | Week High / Low | Trade Volume