

In absence of Wall Street, Europe shows little life

AFP, London

Leading European stock exchanges showed few signs of life Friday in sluggish trade still affected by disappointing US employment figures from the previous day.

Markets were also listless in the absence of direction from Wall Street, where there was no trading ahead of the Independence Day holiday weekend.

The London FTSE 100 index edged up 0.05 percent to end the week at 4,236.28 points while in Paris the CAC 40 added 0.10 percent to close at 3,119.51.

The Frankfurt Dax fell 0.2 percent to finish at 4,708.21.

Elsewhere there were gains of 0.67 percent in Madrid, 0.07 percent in Milan, 0.14 percent in Brussels and 0.4 percent in Amsterdam. The Swiss Market Index fell 0.31 percent.

Trading volume was "strikingly weak", said Yves Marcais of Global Equities in Paris.

He said the market appeared to be in a holding pattern, awaiting the publication of company financial results for the second quarter.

At Meeschaert Gestion Privee, fund manager Guillaume Garabedian said that from March to May the Paris market underwent a "technical rally" as it recovered from heavy losses stemming from the global finance crisis.

But from early June, he added, investors have no longer been simply "hoping for a recovery" and have been looking for hard evidence of a rebound.

Such evidence was hardly to be found in US employment data released Thursday, which cast a cloud over prospects of a bounce-back in the world's most influential

market.

The US Labor Department reported that job losses surged to 467,000 in June, pushing the unemployment rate to a new 26-year high of 9.5 percent.

President Barack Obama called the "sobering" but said there were continuing signs that the "recession is slowing".

"As I've said from the moment I walked into the door of this White House, it took years for us to get into this mess and will take us more than a few months to turn this around," the president said.

Analysts had expected a smaller June number of 365,000 job losses, but a higher unemployment rate of 9.6 percent. The jobless rate in May was 9.4 percent.

In Paris corporate news, drug maker Sanofi-Aventis added 1.15 percent to close at 42.81 euros on its plans to double sales in emerging market countries by 2013 and news that US authorities had approved its heart medicine EMD.

Energy group EDF gave up 4.49 percent to reach 31.96 euros after Morgan Stanley lowered its recommendation on the stock.

Banks in Paris were well-supported, with Credit Agricole gaining 1.33 percent to close at 9.10 euros and BNP Paribas adding 1.98 percent to reach 46.76 euros.

In Frankfurt auto maker Volkswagen climbed 0.12 percent to 229.12 euros. VW head Martin Winterkorn said Friday that group sales had risen about 6.0 percent in June compared with the same month last year and that VW would likely produce its first electric car in 2013.

Asia's markets turned in a mixed performance as investor confidence took a blow with the worse-than-expected US job figures.



Lub-ref BD Ltd., the manufacturing company of Bangladesh National Oil (BNO) Lubricants, organised a marketing and sales training for its employees in Dhaka recently. Among others, Salahuddin Yousuf, director of BNO, M Anwarul Huq, media personality, Abu Zahur Nizam, managing director of Wave Media Ltd. were also present.

Dollar climbs

AFP, London

The dollar climbed against the euro Friday after eurozone retail figures slipped back into a rut and as fresh worries about the health of the US economy supported the "safe-haven" greenback.

In late afternoon trading here, the European single currency weakened to 1.3987 dollars from 1.3997 dollars in New York late on Thursday.

Against the Japanese currency, the dollar also edged up to 96.00 yen from 95.94 yen on Thursday while the euro rose to 134.44 yen from 134.30 yen previously.

Trading activity was limited however because US currency markets were closed for a public holiday ahead of the July 4 Independence Day celebrations.

Oil prices drop further

AFP, London

Oil prices fell further on Friday, but losses were less severe than a day earlier when traders had sold heavily on fresh worries about the weakness of the US economy.

Meanwhile oil market officials here launched a probe into an alleged rogue trader who this week helped push prices to eight-month peaks, costing his company nearly 10 million dollars (7.15 million euros).

In late afternoon London trade, Brent North Sea crude for delivery in August dropped 52 cents to 66.13 dollars a barrel.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for August delivery, dipped 47 cents to 66.26 dollars per barrel.

International Markets

The currency market continued to remain highly volatile this week. Thin trading in the markets contributed to sharp moves in a few currencies, with the pound experiencing sharp moves up against the dollar, and then a swift correction which erased most of the earlier gains. The market continued to remain in anticipation of the US jobs data due to come out on Thursday. The dollar rose on Thursday, recovering from a near three-week low against the euro as traders booked profits on short positions in the US currency ahead of key US unemployment figures due later in the day. Also helping to support the dollar were comments from a Chinese Foreign Ministry official who quelled speculation about currency reserves diversification, while traders also awaited a European Central Bank policy announcement. Analysts said traders were adjusting short positions taken in the dollar, which fell on Wednesday after G8 sources told Reuters China had asked for a debate on proposals for a new global reserve currency.

Local Money Market

The Call money rate traded at very low rates this week and was in range of .1-.25. A few stray deals traded were done at higher rates. Excess liquidity was the cause of such low rates.

Local Market FX

The USD remained steady against the BDT throughout the week. The market was active and there was ample liquidity.

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STOCK

Weekly Market Highlights

June 21 - July 02, 2009

DSE All Share Index: 2568.78256 (+ 6.28%)
DSE General Index: 3069.70997 (+ 6.18%)
DSE - 20 Index: 2509.62991 (+ 7.04%)
CSE All Share Index: 10642.8778 (+ 5.87%)
CSE - 30 Index: 8526.1054 (+ 6.01%)
CSE Selected Index: 6892.5052 (+ 6.41%)
Indicators DSE CSE
Total Turnover (Taka) 35,486,852,569.90 5,071,479,984.05
Total Turnover (Volume) 172,610,764 32,714,444
Number of Contract 648,715 126,761
Total Traded Issues 266 198
No. of Issue Gains (Avg. Price Basis) 195 158
No. of Issue Loss (Avg. Price Basis) 72 40
No. of Unchanged Issue (Avg. Price Basis) 1 1
Market Cap (Taka) 976,621,945,498 928,942,468,465
Market Cap (US\$) 14,257,254,679 13,354,634,576
Price Earning Ratio 19.76 19.58
Earning Per Share (%) 28.13 27.75

Weekly Turnover Leaders

Company	Turnover (Vol.)	(M.TK.) (%)	Closing Av. Pr.
Beimco Pharma Ltd.*	14,615,337	28.144	7.97
Beimco Ltd.*	7,747,476	28.086	7.98
Titas Gas TCO Ltd.*	3,799,250	25.825	4.06
AB Bank*	1,482,244	15.844	1.33
BEXTEL Ltd.*	1,767,319	12.654	3.46
Summit Power*	874,000	12.036	3.29
LankaBangla Fin.*	3,674,424	10.196	2.79
Power Grid Co.*	1,157,250	8.936	2.44
Shinipur Ceramics*	1,816,525	7.9736	2.18
Premier Bank*	2,410,473	7.5271	2.06

Weekly Capital Gainers/Losers

Company	Price Chn.	Closing	Turnover
Beimco Pharma Ltd.*	14,615,337	28.144	7.97
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Weekly News Highlights from Trade Sources

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Weekly TRADED ISSUES June 21 - July 02, '09

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S Note: Capital Gains/Losses are prepared on the basis of the closing price of the traded issues. EPS-Earning per Share, BV-Book Value per Share, * indicates CDRL Listed. Category is mentioned below company name after CDRL mark. All EPS & BV are disclosed (in applicable cases). Year end is mentioned below the declared dividend figure which may not reflect to the year end of EPS & BV. EPS & BV will be updated after the audited annual report of that financial year. EPS/BV of Life Insurance was calculated by special formula which is appropriate just to compare those figures among the companies under the same industry. These figures could not be compared with other industry's figures.