

Euro is a 'credible, solid' currency: Lagarde

French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde Friday called the euro "a credible, solid" currency and expressed confidence that troubled eurozone member Greece will be able to cut its public debt.

She dismissed as "just a lot of rubbish" speculation about Greece's ability to repay its debts within the next 18 months.

"The plan that we've put together for Greece is a five-year plan, with a three-year grace period when they pay back nothing and then there are 24 monthly instalments over the next two years," Lagarde said.

"So let's not mess around with 18 months," she said, adding that Greece was "currently delivering against its commitments".

Greece has adopted austerity cuts to secure a 110-billion-euro (135-billion-dollar) bailout loan from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund and save itself from default.

It is struggling to reduce a debt of nearly 300 billion euros while mired in a deepening recession.



Rashidul Hasan, second from right, chairman of Uttara Finance and Investments Ltd, speaks at the company's 15th annual general meeting in Dhaka on Wednesday. The company approved 25 percent stock dividend for 2009 and 3:1 rights share. SM Shamsul Arefin, managing director, was also present.

Oil falls

Oil dipped in afternoon Asian trade Friday, surrendering earlier gains as investor mood turned pessimistic, analysts said.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for August delivery, fell 18 cents to 76.33 dollars a barrel.

Brent North Sea crude for August delivery dropped 38 cents to 76.09 dollars a barrel.

Both contracts were higher in earlier Asian trade as investors had focused on the better-than-expected US job claims data released Thursday by the Labor Department.

Iraq seeks \$20b for four new oil refineries

Oil Minister Hussein al-Shahrastani said yesterday that Iraq is seeking around 20 billion dollars to build four new refineries as it seeks to become a net exporter of petroleum products.

"The investment in the new refineries will be around 20 billion dollars. Each one will cost around five billion dollars," he told reporters at a conference attended by global energy and construction giants interested in bidding for the contracts.

Iraq aims to boost its refining capacity by 740,000 barrels per day (bpd) on top of the current 550,000 bpd through construction of the four refineries in the central province of Karbala, in the northern oil hub of Kirkuk and in Nasiriyah and Maysan in the south of the country.

"The investment will not be constrained - we are looking for real partners and in any ratio," Shahrastani said. "Any investor can invest in full or in partnership with Iraq," he added.



Abdul Matlub Ahmed, chairman of Nitol Insurance Company Ltd, speaks at the company's 11th annual general meeting in Dhaka Thursday. The company declared 12 percent stock dividend (bonus shares) for 2009.

Table with 3 columns: Company, Turnover (Vol., M.Tk.), Closing Price. Lists various companies like DSE All Share Index, BEXIMCO Ltd, etc.

Table with 4 columns: Company, Price Chn. (%), Close Price, Turnover M.Tk. Lists companies like Naena CNG, Reckitt Benckiser, etc.

Table with 4 columns: Company, Price Chn. (%), Close Price, Turnover M.Tk. Lists companies like BAYLE, SPICERAMICS, etc.

Weekly Market Highlights

Summary table for weekly market highlights including DSE All Share Index, CSE All Share Index, etc.

Weekly Category Gainers/Losers

Summary table for weekly category gainers and losers.

Weekly News Highlights from Trade Servers

Summary table for weekly news highlights from trade servers.

Table with 4 columns: Company, Change, Last Week, Volume. Lists various companies and their performance.

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Source: Capital Gains / Losses figures are prepared on the basis of the close price change of the traded issues. EPS-Earnings Per Share, BV-Book Value per Share, ** indicates CDBL Listed, Category is mentioned beside company name after CDBL mark. All EPS & BV are diluted/restated (in applicable cases). Year end is mentioned beside the declared dividend figure which may not related to the year end of EPS & BV & BV would be updated after getting the audited annual report of that financial year. EPS/BV of Loss Value was calculated by special formulae which is appropriate just to compare those figures among the companies under the insurance industry. These figures could not compare with other industry's figures.