

# Asian shares lower

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian shares tumbled Thursday, led by Hong Kong and Shanghai after Chinese growth and inflation data pointed to more tightening by Beijing, while weak US earnings hurt financials in Tokyo.

Shanghai slumped 2.92 percent, or 80.45 points, to 2,677.65, while Hong Kong fell 1.70 percent, or 415.92 points, to 24,003.70.

Sydney lost 1.05 percent, or 50.9 points, to end at 4,783.7 and Tokyo ended 1.13 percent, or 119.79 points, lower at 10,437.31.

Seoul slipped 0.43 percent, or 9.03 points, to 2,106.66 a day after hitting a record high.

At Bangladesh's volatile exchange, regulators halted trading after it lost 8.6 percent in six minutes, the fastest fall in the bourse's history. After trading closed, investors attempted the latest in a series of protests outside its offices.

China said its consumer inflation stood at 4.6 percent in December. While that was down from November's 5.1 percent.

The losses in Shanghai and Hong Kong followed strong gains on Wednesday after a leaked report by Hong Kong-based Phoenix Television previewed the inflation and growth figures.

Analysts said the still-high inflation figure in December supported the case for further interest rate hikes and bank lending restrictions, after a slew of measures taken by Beijing over the past year to cool the red-hot economy.

Asian trade got off to a poor start after financial shares on Wall Street tumbled. Banking giant Goldman Sachs reported a 52 percent fall in

fourth-quarter profit and a 38 percent drop over the year.

The Dow fell 0.11 percent, the broad-market S&P 500 lost 1.01 percent and the tech-rich Nasdaq dropped 1.46 percent.

On foreign exchange markets the euro fell against the dollar on profit-taking after it hit a two-month high, dealers said.

The euro bought \$1.3452 in Tokyo afternoon trade, down from \$1.3470 in New York late Wednesday.

Against the Japanese currency the euro edged up to 110.50 yen from 110.47 in New York, while the dollar changed hands at 82.14 yen, compared with 82.20 yen.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for February delivery, dropped 10 cents to \$90.76 a barrel and Brent North Sea crude for March delivery was off 29 cents at \$97.87.

Gold closed at \$1,364.00-\$1,365.00 an ounce in Hong Kong, down from Wednesday's close of \$1,374.50-\$1,375.50.

In other markets: Singapore fell 1.13 percent, or 36.48 points, to 3,205.48.

Singapore Airlines was down 0.92 percent at S\$15.12. Wellington slid 0.20 percent, or 6.73 points, to 3,339.29.

The losses came after data showed the December quarter inflation rate hit 2.3 percent, the highest in almost 22 years.

Bangkok fell 1.22 percent, or 12.64 points, to close at 1,022.16.

Kuala Lumpur was closed for a public holiday.

Mumbai rose 0.36 percent, or 68.22 points, to 19,046.54.



Kanetoshi Oda, chief executive officer of Nippon Poly-Glu Company, Japan, meets AAMS Arefin Siddique, Dhaka University vice-chancellor, at the latter's office in Dhaka on Wednesday.



Sajeeb Group recently launched a consumer offer, Sajo Sornalongkare Maato Bhuna Khichurir Saday, at National Press Club in Dhaka. MA Hashem, chairman of Sajeeb Group, was present on the occasion.

## Shipping

### Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 20/01/2011.

Table with columns: Berth No., Name of vessels, Cargo, L. Port call, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving arrival, Import disch.

#### Vessels not ready

Table listing vessels not ready for berthing, including Bk Ace, Banglar Robi, Green Ocean 1, etc.

#### Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Table listing vessels awaiting employment, including Banga Lanka, Banglar Gourabh, Banga Borak, etc.

#### Vessels not entering

Table listing vessels not entering port, including Jebel-e-rahmat, Ocean Pearl, Vii Atlantic, etc.

#### Vessels due at outer anchorage

Table listing vessels due at outer anchorage, including Toll Eagle, Ctp Fortune, Gingko, etc.

Positions of Chittagong Port vessels in line with a berthing sheet of the CPA provided by ITC

## STOCK

### Relative Strength Index (14) Report Jan 20, 2011

Large table with columns: Company, CloseP, Dev., RSI, and sub-sections for BANK, SERVICE, LEATHER, CERAMIC, CEMENT, FOOD & ALLIED, FUEL & POWER, TEXTILE, PHARMA & CHEMICAL, and INVESTMENT.

### AGM/EGM/Dividend/Right/IPO

Table with columns: Company, RD/BC, SPOT Start, Dividend Right, Yend, AGM Meeting /EGM Date, VENUE, Time, and IPO Draft Prospectus Submitted SE.

### News from Trade Servers

ATLASBANG: The Company has informed that it has credited the Stock Dividend for the year ended 2009-2010 to the respective shareholders' BO Accounts on 18.01.11.
PRIMEINSUR: Following the change of the denomination of shares and market lot with effect from 20.01.11 (record date), the new face value of the shares of the company will be Tk. 100.00 instead of Tk. 100.00 per share...

### India's TVS Motor net jumps

REUTERS, Mumbai jumped to 16.13 billion rupees from 10.72 billion rupees, it said. Net profit of TVS Motor Co, India's third-largest two-wheeler maker, more than doubled in Oct-Dec, riding high on a booming auto market in the country. It reported a net profit of 557.5 million rupees compared with 235.4 million rupees a year ago. Net sales