aunching Ceremony

present.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Charles Hulac, man-

aging director and

head of Citi's Asia

Pacific Ratings Advi-

sory Group, is sched-

uled to arrive in Dhaka

today for one-day

visit, says a statement.

advice to clients at all

stages of the ratings

Hulac provides

cker Service

AL Gooneratne, managing director of Commercial

Bank of Ceylon, hands keys to a customer of the

bank's Safe Deposit Locker Service in Dhaka

recently. S Prabagar, country manager, was also

Citi high official in town

## FULL LIST OF CIPs

	Name	Designation	Company/Organisation
1	AK Azad	President	Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry
2	Abul Kasem Khan	Former president	Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry
3	M Anis Ud Dowla	Former president	Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
4	Shahedul Islam	Former president	Bangladesh Chamber of Industries
5	AM Hamim Rahmatullah	President	Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry
6	M Abdul Latif	President	Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry
7	Sheikh Md Abdus Sobhan	President	National Association of Small and Cottage Industries of Bangladesh
8	Abdul Hai Sarker	Former president	Bangladesh Textile Mills Association
9	Nazmul Haque	President	Bangladesh Jute Mills Association
10	Rokia Afzal Rahman	President	Bangladesh Employers' Federation

Large	-scale	indust	rialist	awardees	3

Simeen Hossain, third

from right, managing

director of Transcom

Distribution, the local

**Prickly Heat Powder;** 

Vipin Purohit, fourth from

(exports and institutional

right, general manager

sales) of Nycil Powder;

Zahid Hussain, second

manager of Transcom

Morshed, third from left,

Heinz, attend the launch

of Nycil Powder, a brand

Hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

of Heinz, at Radisson

Distribution; Golam

country manager of

from left, general

distributor of Nycil

	Name	Designation	Company/Organisation
	Samson H Chowdhury	Chairman	Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd
2	Nurul Islam	Managing Director	Zaber and Zubaer Fabrics Ltd
3	Rupali Chowdhury	Managing Director	Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd
1	Shakhawat Hossain	Managing Director	Western Marine Shipyard Ltd
5	Parvez Rahman	Managing Director	BRB Cable Industries Ltd
;	Manzurul Islam	Chairman	Aftab Bahumukhi Farms Ltd
7	Nazmul Hasan	Managing Director	Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd
3	Abdul Monem	Managing Director	Abdul Monem Ltd
)	Nasir Uddin	Managing Director	Jeans 2000 Ltd
0	Mirza Salman Ispahani	Managing Director	MM Ispahani Ltd

	Name	Designation	Company/Organisation
11	Arif Dowla	Managing Director	Advanced Chemical Industries Ltd
12	Anjan Chowdhury	Managing Director	Square Consumer Products Ltd
13	Badsha Mia	Managing Director	Badsha Textiles Ltd
14	Ali Hossain Akber Ali	Managing Director	Bangladesh Steel Re-rolling Mills Ltd
15	Taufique M Seraj	Managing Director	Sheltech (Pvt) Ltd
16	KM Rezaul Hasanat	Managing Director	Viyellatex Group
17	Abdur Razzaque Sattar	Managing Director	Utah Group of Companies
18	Kutub Uddin Ahmed	Chairman	Envoy Group

#### Madium-ecale industrialist awardage

	Name	Designation	Company/Organisation
1	Abdul Wahid	Managing Director	Naheed Cotton Mills Ltd
2	Khatib Abdul Zahid Mukul	Managing Director	Zaheentex Industries Ltd
3	Mohammad Elias	Managing Director	J&J Fabrics and Textiles Ltd
4	Mojibur Rahman	Managing Director	Smart Jeans Ltd
5	Tanveerul Haque Probal	Managing Director	Building for Future Ltd
6	Iftekhar Uddin Farhad	Chairman	Farr Ceramics Ltd
7	Sirajuddin Ahmed	Managing Director	Gulshan Spinning Mills Ltd
8	Masud Zaman	Managing Director	Baly Yarn Dyeing Ltd
9	Mosharraf Hossain	Chairman	Mosharraf Spinning Mills Ltd

#### Small-scale industrialist awardees

у.	Official Societ industrialist awardoos					
	Name	Designation	Company/Organisation			
1	Rezaul Karim Ansari	Managing Director	Karim Leathers Ltd			
2	Bazlur Rahman	Managing Director	Julia Sweater Composite Ltd			
3	ABM Kawsar	Managing Director	Gomoti Textiles Ltd			
4	Syed Mohammad Tanvir	Director	Universal Jeans Ltd			
5	ZM Gulam Nabi	Managing Director	Bashumati Real Estate Ltd			

## Android tops BlackBerry in US

AFP, Washington

Google's Android has surged past Blackberry maker Research in Motion to become the leading smartphone platform in the United States, market tracking firm comScore said Monday.

Google's Android operating system captured the top spot in the United States for the first time with a 31.2 percent smartphone market share for the three months ending in January, comScore said.

RIM was next with a 30.4 percent market share, followed by Apple with 24.7 percent, Microsoft with 8.0 percent and Palm with 3.2 percent.



process, with a focus on both first-time issuers and already rated clients.

Prior to joining Citi in 1998, he was a ratings advisor at Merrill Lynch in London for two years. Before working at Merrill Lynch, he worked in ratings advisory at Citi and was with Nomura for three years in private placements and corporate credit/ratings advisory.

Based with Citi Hong Kong for the past ten years, he has also worked as sovereign ratings advisor to the Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Indonesia and was the advisor to Government of Mongolia on initial ratings exercise in 2005.

Hulac is a postgraduate in international management from the American Graduate School of International Management in Arizona ("Thunderbird").

### Govt steps keep stocks afloat

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stocks ended higher for a fourth day as retail and institutional investors continued bulk buying of shares yesterday. The other reason was the news of a buyback system which will be put in place soon.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith on Monday announced that a buyback system will be introduced to prop up the stockmarket. The statement created optimism among the investors as most of them bought heavily into the market, said market insiders.

Buyback is usually considered a sign that the company's management is optimistic about their future and believes that the current share prices are undervalued, said Akter H Sannamat, a market analyst.

The purpose of buyback is to put unused cash to use, raising earnings per share, increasing internal control of the company, and obtaining stocks for employee stock option plans or pension plans, he added.

The benchmark general index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DGEN) advanced by 271 point or 4.7 percent to 6,051. In the last four trading sessions, DGEN gained 759 points or 13.66 percent.

The selective price index of Chittagong Stock Exchange gained 486 points or 4.6 percent, to close at 11,055.

The daily turnover at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) also increased as it stood at Tk 964 crore, up by Tk 142 crore compared to the previous session of trading.

The government's latest move to form a fund of Tk 5,000 crore to buy shares from the market also inspired the investors to go for fresh buying of highprofile, yet low-priced shares. The market started the day with a strong note

and the momentum continued until the closing of trading. Sannamat said: "It is not a good sign for the mar-

ket that some low profile share prices gained massively without any price sensitive news."

"It is very unfortunate that the government announced to implement the buyback system because some manipulators will use the system to manipulate the share prices," he added. "If the government decides to implement the

system to increase share prices, it is dangerous; but if the government implement the system to increase the companies' corporate returns, it is very positive for the market," Sannamat said.

Of the total 257 issues traded on the day, 243 registered gains, 11 incurred losses and three remained unchanged.

Share prices of all the major sectors such as banks, non-bank financial institutes, insurance companies, fuel and power, pharmaceuticals and chemicals, textiles and telecommunications gained on the day.

Two companies of the Beximco Group, Beximco and Betex, topped the turnover list. Beximco traded 18.50 lakh shares worth Tk 52.28 crore.

Eastern Bank was the highest gainer of the day, posting a 9.98 percent rise in its share prices, while Prime Finance and Investment was the worst loser, slumping by 39.59 percent.



# IBM plans to go big in Bangladesh

#### Training planned for engineering students

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

IBM, the world's largest provider of enterprise business software, is set to run free training programmes over the next three months for engineering students in Bangladesh to nurture batches of software developers in universities and research institutes. "We will train the engineering

students in IBM software at absolutely no cost in collaboration with the country's engineering colleges and universities to enhance their knowledge," said Pradeep Nair, director of IBM Software Group for South Asia region. Nair spoke at the Software

Universe, the first ever IBM software conclave in Bangladesh, called "Smarter Software for Smarter Planet" at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka. The company has planned to

start the training programme for the engineering students of Bangladesh over the next three months to build a community of software experts and thought leaders in Bangladesh, said Nair.

"The country has a huge prospect for software industry because Gartner has recently listed Bangladesh as one of the



Pradeep Nair, director of IBM Software Group for South Asia region, speaks at the first ever IBM software conclave in Bangladesh, "Smarter Software for Smarter Planet", at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

top 30 software outsourcing destinations in the world," said Gaurav Agarwal, a regional general manager of IBM Software.

Agarwal said IBM wants to invest in the IT sector of Bangladesh due to its rising economy and booming exports.

Besides, the country has around 70 million phone subscribers, with the numbers growing every month, he added.

Today, businesses across the world are going digital, infusing intelligence into everything from cars and roadways to agriculture, power grids and even clothes. However, this digitisation brings with it a number of challenges that can only be handled with the

help of smarter software which are quick and easy to implement, flexible, scalable, robust and cost-

effective in the long run, said Nair. implement cutting edge egovernance programmes. They

IBM, which operates in more than 170 countries, has a plan to work with the governmental agencies of Bangladesh to

customers flexibility and efficiency in business processes, empowering better decision making and enabling to work smart. IBM has been doing business in Bangladesh in partnership with Thakral Information Systems since 1998.

also want to partner with the

country's banking industry to

help implement BASEL guide-

Agarwal said, "IBM also plans

to replicate the success stories

like Bharti and Idea to propel the

Bangladesh telecom industry to

company discussed IBM's port-

folio of ready-to-work solutions.

Business Partners also joined the

conclave to gain insight into how

annual software sales showcased

its different software solutions

such as Lotus, Tivoli, Web Sphere,

Information Management, Ratio-

nal, Business Analytics, and

Industry Solutions to the business

partners at the daylong conclave.

software portfolio which is com-

pletely integrated with its hard-

ware and services offerings, giving

They also launched its smarter

IBM that boasts \$21 billion in

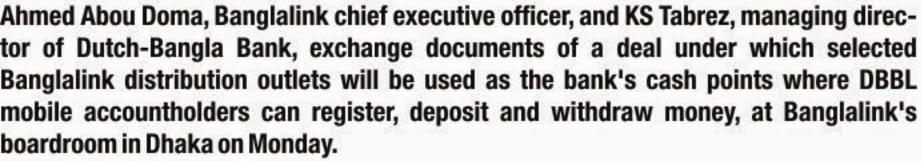
to increase profit margins.

At Software Universe, the

lines, said Agarwal.

newer heights.







Mohammad Mamdudur Rashid, deputy managing director of BRAC Bank, inaugurates the bank's "Grahok Adhikar" campaign to create awareness among customers about their rights and privileges, at Tongi SME Unit Office of the bank recently.