

Asian shares lower

AFP, Hong Kong
Asian stock markets were broadly lower Monday, with Tokyo tumbling more than six percent after last week's devastating earthquake and tsunami as well as fears of a nuclear reactor meltdown.

The yen hit a four-month high before Japan's central bank pumped a record amount of money into financial markets, while nuclear plant operator TEPCO dived almost 24 percent.

Auto makers were also hammered after being forced to halt production in areas hit by the quake and tsunami, which it is feared may have killed over 10,000 people.

Tokyo's Nikkei stock index slumped 6.18 percent, or 633.94 points, to 9,620.49, its sharpest percentage loss since December 2008 at the height of the global downturn.

The index is also at its lowest level in four months.

Among carmakers, Toyota and Nissan plunged more than 10 percent at one point before recovering slightly.

At the end of the day Toyota was down 7.92 percent to 3,310 yen, Honda dropped 6.49 percent to 3,095, and Nissan lost 9.52 percent to 722 yen.

Sydney ended 0.40 percent, or 18.4 points, lower at 4,626.4 and Taipei closed 0.56 percent, or 47.80 points, off at 8,520.02.

However, steel companies and construction firms in Seoul, Shanghai and Tokyo got a boost on hopes for a pick-up in demand following the quake and tsunami.

Hong Kong closed 0.41 percent, or 96.10 points, higher at 23,345.88 and Shanghai added 0.13 percent, or 3.83 points, to end on 2,937.63.

Seoul staged a late rebound and closed 0.80 percent, or 15.69 points higher at 1,971.23.

As the Nikkei sank to lows not seen since November, the Bank of Japan injected 15 trillion yen (\$182 billion) into the short-term money market to support confidence.

In early European trade, the dollar was sitting at 81.79 yen against 81.91 in New York late Friday. The euro traded at 114.09 yen, compared with 113.89 in New York.

Oil slipped on concerns that demand from Japan will drop off. New York's main contract, light sweet crude for delivery in April, dipped \$1.33 to \$99.83 per barrel, and Brent North Sea crude for April delivery was down \$1.81 to \$112.03 in the afternoon.

Gold closed at \$1,427.00-\$1,428.00 an ounce in Hong Kong, up from Friday's close of \$1,415.00-\$1,416.00.

In other markets:
Singapore closed down 0.41 percent, or 12.63 points, at 3,030.86.

DBS Bank rose 0.70 percent to Sg\$14.46, while SingTel fell 0.34 percent to Sg\$2.95.

Kuala Lumpur closed flat, edging down 0.27 points to 1,495.35. Bangkok rose 1.57 percent, or 15.83 points, to 1,022.89.

Mumbai closed 1.46 percent, or 265.39 points, higher at 18,439.48.



Md Humayun Kabir, managing director of Sonali Bank, opens the bank's 1191st branch on Maolana Vasani Science and Technology University campus in Tangail on Sunday. M Nurul Islam, the university's vice chancellor, was also present.



Syed Manzur Elahi, founding chairman of Mutual Trust Bank, launches the bank's new service, Privilege Banking, at MTB Centre at Gulshan in Dhaka on Sunday. Anis A Khan, managing director, was also present.

Qatar to buy 6.16pc of Spain's Iberdrola

AFP, Madrid
Spanish power giant Iberdrola said Monday that Qatari investment fund Qatar Holding will buy a 6.16 percent stake in the group for 2.2 billion euros (\$3.1 billion).

Qatar Holding subscribed to a capital increase and then bought additional shares, said Iberdrola, which is raising extra funds to cover recent acquisitions.

"Consequently, Qatar Holding through its subsidiary will hold 6.16 percent of the share capital of Iberdrola outstanding after the capital increase."

The two companies "will cooperate for the purpose of developing new business opportunities in different areas of the global electricity value chain with a focus on high-growth and emerging markets," the group said.

Iberdrola also intends to establish a regional headquarters as well as research and development operations in Qatar.

The capital increase will reinforce Iberdrola's balance sheet and avoid any large increase in debt following the January acquisition of the Brazilian company Elektro in a deal worth \$2.4 billion, the company said.

Trading in Iberdrola and its renewable energy subsidiary Iberdrola Renovables was suspended on the Madrid stock market ahead of the announcement.

Bank of Italy takes over Libyan-controlled bank

AFP, Milan
The Bank of Italy said Monday it has taken temporary command of Banca UBAE SpA, a Rome-based bank controlled by Libya's Central Bank, as part of EU sanctions on Moamer Kadhafi's regime.

The Central Bank (BCL) and the Libyan Foreign Bank (LFB) have majority stakes in the Italian trade-financing bank. The move will not prevent the UBAE from carrying out its normal activities, the Bank of Italy said in a statement.

The measures follow Italy's decision on March 5 to freeze Libyan assets as part of a wider European move. The European Union has ordered asset freezes and visa bans against the Libyan leader and 25 other associates.

STOCK

Relative Strength Index (14) Report 14-Mar-2011

Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI	Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI	Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI
BANK				BD Autocars -B	367.25	19.25	49.44	PAPER & PACKAGING			
Prime Bank-A	46.10	1.90	27.44	Bangladesh Lamps -A2060.00	96.75	50.11	50.11	Hakkani P& Paper -B	46.60	1.40	51.18
Utterra Bank -A	101.10	-8.50	29.3	National Tubes -A	1072.00	33.00	50.14	SERVICE			
Bank Asia -A	516.75	15.25	31.86	Renwick Jajneswar-B798.50	47.25	50.53	Eastern Housing -A	808.75	24.25	48.92	
UCBL -A	86.40	6.30	31.94	Rangpur Foundry -A	95.30	4.70	51.29	Samorita Hospital-A	1212.00	-28.25	49.28
One Bank -A	565.75	-306.25	32.27	Olympic Ind. -A	1614.75	94.75	51.7	Summit A. Port -N	130.40	8.50	53.55
National Bank -A	70.40	4.10	33.66	Singer BD -A	5580.50	201.25	51.73	Ocean Containers-A	121.90	4.20	57.11
Southeast Bank-A	324.75	10.75	36.64	BD. Thai Alum -A	854.50	55.75	53.29	LEATHER			
Brac Bank -A	482.00	13.00	38.62	BSRM Steels-A	1601.75	92.25	54.44	ApexAdelchi Ftr -A	3167.25	91.25	49
Eastern Bank -A	61.80	1.40	38.78	Atlas BD-A	332.50	16.00	54.54	Legacy Footwear -Z	37.00	1.60	52.62
Mercantile Bank -A	323.75	8.50	39.51	National Polymer -A	709.00	14.25	55.43	Apex Tannery -A	1374.75	29.00	53.2
MutualTrust Bank-A	374.00	11.50	40.64	Golden Son -A	84.30	7.50	56.11	Bata Shoe Ltd. -A	568.50	17.10	54.62
Dhaka Bank -A	47.10	1.20	40.66	Navana CNG-A	173.80	14.70	56.58	Samata Leather -Z	188.00	3.50	56.4
ICB Is. Bank-Z	14.00	0.70	43.61	Aftab Auto -A	287.30	23.10	57.52	CERAMIC			
Shahjalal Islami -A	58.30	2.60	45.18	Deshbandhu Polymer-N81.10	7.30	58.83	RAK Ceramics(BD) Ltd-N121	604.90	50.44		
Rupali Bank -Z	1362.25	-1.00	48.48	Quasem Drycells -A	107.10	9.70	58.96	Monno Ceramic -A	707.50	47.50	50.79
First Secu. Bk-A	31.70	1.50	50.21	FOOD & ALLIED				Standard Ceramic -B457.50	22.75	51.16	
Trust Bank-A	543.00	19.75	50.94	Chittagong Veg.-A	2382.00	113.00	38.44	Fu-wang Ceramic-A	396.00	20.50	51.89
AB Bank -A	1123.00	39.75	50.99	Shampur Sugar -Z	13.90	0.00	40.27	Shineapukur Cera-A	93.40	8.40	57.36
IFIC Bank -A	990.75	33.00	51.26	Zeal Bangla Sugar -Z	15.40	-0.10	42.84	CEMENT			
Pubali Bank -A	77.90	0.80	51.47	Bangas -A	1169.00	68.25	45.71	LafargeS Cement-Z	405.25	23.50	50.06
Standard Bank -A	444.50	11.25	51.48	Meghna PET Ind. -Z	18.80	0.40	49.03	HeidelbergCement -A3024.75	96.00	51.08	
Dutch Bangla B-A	1441.00	84.75	51.93	Rahima Food -A	397.50	12.75	49.07	Aramit Cement -A	1094.75	39.50	51.32
Islami Bank -A	649.50	27.00	52.47	Fu-Wang Food A	53.10	4.60	50.51	Confidencement -A237.00	18.00	52.51	
City Bank -A	700.75	15.50	52.5	National Tea -A	4848.75	19.75	50.61	MeghnaCement -A	254.60	20.40	57.17
Jamuna Bank -A	44.40	1.60	53.17	Beach Hatchery -A	73.90	4.90	52.24	IT INDUSTRIES			
N C C Bank -A	56.90	5.00	53.23	Apex FoodsA	881.50	10.50	52.65	Agni Systems -A	47.90	2.90	53.88
Social Invest. B-A	47.10	2.00	53.75	AMCL (Pran) -A	1377.25	52.00	52.79	ISN Ltd. -A	34.80	2.30	54.69
EXIM Islami-A	52.70	3.30	56.01	Fine Foods Z	75.20	5.70	54.39	In Tech Online -A	32.10	1.70	55.99
Al Arafat Islami B-A	53.20	3.30	56.89	Meghna Con. Milk -B	54.30	4.20	55.57	Daffodil Comp.-A	30.80	1.30	56.87
Premier Bank -N	58.20	4.40	58.07	GambiniSeaFood A	1935.25	12.75	57.42	BDCOM Online-A	43.80	2.60	58.03
NBFI				BATBCL -A	701.30	-5.00	59.76	GENERAL INSURANCE			
IDLC Fin. -A	2718.25	104.25	33.19	FUEL & POWER				Rupali InsurA	143.90	11.70	25.23
LankaBangla Fin. -A	245.00	11.90	33.31	Bangladesh Welding -A79.50	7.20	37.53	Prime Insur -A	102.10	9.20	29.49	
Prime Finance-A	233.20	15.60	33.93	Eastern Lubricants -A475.70	11.10	40.8	Peoples Insur -A	69.70	6.20	33.47	
Intl. Leasing-A	1426.75	66.00	35.66	Power Grid Co. -A	749.00	17.25	48.46	City G Insu. -A	107.10	9.30	34.84
Bay Leasing-A	1875.00	33.25	39.97	DESCO Ltd. -A	1601.25	29.00	48.71	Phoenix Insur -A	116.10	10.40	36.58
Midas Financing-A	1209.50	13.75	45.46	Titas Gas A	779.50	16.25	49.22	Continental Insur. -A	470.50	37.00	46.78
Fidelity Assets-A	582.75	9.50	48.96	Padma Oil Co. -A	624.90	32.90	51.5	Asia Insu. -A	86.10	5.60	47.51
B I F C -A	788.50	36.75	49.82	Meghna Petroleum -A193.60	10.10	53.44	Islami Ins.BD-Z	521.00	25.50	47.85	
United Leasing -A	1287.00	50.25	49.97	Summit Power -A	121.20	5.30	54.12	Janata InsurA	1318.50	77.00	49.08
Phoenix Fin.-A	1502.50	82.00	50.32	Jamuna Oil -A	266.30	18.70	54.8	Dhaka Ins. Ltd.-A	2076.75	95.25	49.39
First LeaseA	1119.50	60.25	50.66	BOC (BD) Ltd. -A	634.30	40.70	57.27	Purabi G Insu.A	1554.25	80.25	50.37
Islamic Finance-A	668.50	26.75	51.04	Khulna Power-A	109.30	7.70	60.04	Pragati Gen. I -A	1071.75	35.50	50.88
National H Fin.-N	895.25	8.25	51.37	JUTE				GreenDeltainsu -A	246.60	19.50	53.75
Delta Brac HFCL-N	1790.75	90.50	51.51	Jute SpinnersA	1242.00	61.50	42.85	United Insur -A	1412.25	61.00	54.01
Utterra Finance -A	280.40	19.10	51.78	Northern Jute -Z	37.90	0.00	51.14	AsiaPasificInsu. -A	618.25	42.00	54.2
Premier Leasing-A	821.50	55.50	52.25	Sonali Ansh -A	1555.75	91.25	55.24	Pioneer Insur -A	1339.25	71.25	54.64
I P D C -A	473.00	17.00	52.52	TEXTILE				Agrani Insur -A	631.00	44.00	54.68
BD Finance-A	186.40	16.80	52.52	Modern Dyeing -Z	300.00	0.00	19.27	Global Insur -A	620.25	42.50	54.96
Union Capital -A	223.30	17.80	54.87	Stylecraft -A	4670.00	0.00	19.93	Provati Ins.-Z	555.25	27.50	54.99
People's Leas.-A	280.20	22.50	57.74	CMC Kamal Tex. -A	68.40	6.20	35.8	Paramount Insur-A	573.75	40.00	55.13
INVESTMENT				Rahim Textile A	1847.25	-96.75	38.78	Eastern Insur A	969.50	62.00	55.28
3rd ICB M F-A	1985.00	0.00	20.76	Saiham Tex.A	91.00	7.80	41.79	Mercantile Insur -A	973.50	59.50	55.5
5th ICB M F-A	1709.00	0.00	26.44	Mithun Knitting -A	1093.25	22.25	45.57	BGIC -A	62.20	4.70	55.63
1st ICB M F -A	9400.00	-100.00	36.57	Alltex Industries -Z	138.25	3.25	48.09	Republic Insu.-A	642.25	44.25	56.21
MBL 1st M. F.-A	9.70	0.20	41.6	H.R. Textile -A	464.25	28.00	49.2	SonarBanglainsu. -A	578.25	40.00	56.34
ICB AMCL1stMF-A	543.75	15.75	45.35	Safko Spinning-Z	446.25	17.50	50.23	NorthernGinsur-A	612.75	40.75	56.45
Prime Bk 1st MF-A	10.70	0.30	46.23	Tallu Spinning -A	456.50	33.50	50.52	Central Insur -A	796.50	54.25	56.75
AMCL 2nd MF-A	133.50	4.75	47.01	Desh Garments -B	374.00	23.00	50.67	Reliance Insur -A	1312.00	60.75	56.81
ICB A. IslamicMF-A	323.00	8.00	47.26	Sonargaon Tex -A	854.50	58.75	50.85	Takaful Islami Insu-A	842.75	58.00	57.04
6th ICB M F-A	641.00	17.00	47.45	Al-Haj Textile -Z	57.70	3.30	51.24	Federal Insur.-A	181.90	16.50	58.04
ICB AMCL2nd NRB MF-A	10.70	0.30	49.07	Dulamia CottonZ	246.25	4.25	51.8	Karnaphuli Insur -A	80.90	7.10	58.73
ICB A. 1st NRB -A	192.75	6.50	48.66	Beximco Syn.-A	468.00	37.25	52.06	RupaliLife Insu. -A	2393.25	112.25	51.16
EBL 1st MF-A	14.00	0.60	48.7	Square Textile -A	183.20	10.40	54.38	PragatiLife Insu. -A	3403.75	143.50	51.38
DBH 1st MF-A	12.70	0.50	48.82	Anlima Yarn -A	315.25	17.50	54.66	Prime Is. Life -A	326.00	25.90	54.33
ICB -A	3335.25	-3.25	48.98	Delta SpinnersA	468.75	19.75	55.39	MeghnaLifeIns. -A	327.00	26.20	55.07
1st BSRS M F-A	1446.25	52.25	48.96	Prime Textile -A	527.00	37.00	55.67	Fareast Is. Life -A	336.80	26.40	56.46
AIMS First -A	7.78	0.45	49.01	BEXTEX -A	66.80	5.00	56.72	TELECOM			
Green Delta M.F.-A	9.70	0.30	49.05	Malek Spinning-A	77.40	7.60	57.13	Grameenphone-A	184.20	12.10	50.33
Prime Fin. 1st MF-A	24.20	1.20	49.39	Maksons Spin-A	57.50	5.10	57.18	TRAVEL & LEISURE			
8th ICB M F-A	748.00	33.25	49.68	Dacca Dyeing-A	69.30	6.30	57.22	UNITED AIR-B	61.80	5.40	37.74
1st Janata Bank MF-A	9.70	0.30	49.80	Metro Spinning-A	75.20	6.40	57.62	BD.Service -A	11.70	0.00	98.84