

Asian stocks mostly rise

AFP, Hong Kong
Asian stocks were mixed on Friday with Tokyo suffering a late sell-off as traders grew nervous over the nation's utility companies and the state of the economy.

Regional markets had started on a high after a rally on Wall Street provided a lift to investor sentiment despite a batch of downbeat data from the United States.

The Nikkei index closed 0.14 percent, or 13.74 points, lower at 9,607.08 after spending much of the day in positive territory on the back of a weaker yen.

Elsewhere, Sydney gave up 0.51 percent, or 24.2 points, to end at 4,732.2 while Shanghai ended flat, edging down 1.12 points to 2,858.46.

Hong Kong was 0.16 percent, or 36.01 points, higher at 23,199.39 and Seoul added 0.72 percent, or 15.99 points, to 2,111.50.

Traders went into sell-off mode on concerns over utilities and the economy after data Thursday showed Japan had sunk into a technical recession because of the effects of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Japan's utilities have been under pressure over concerns they could face a tough future as the country endures widespread power shortages.

News that the Bank of Japan had kept interest rates on hold at zero to 0.1 percent had little impact on the Nikkei.

The Nikkei had been given some support by a weaker yen after Thursday's data showed the Japanese economy shrunk the equivalent of 3.7 percent on an annualised basis in the January-March period.

The Dow rose 0.36 percent, the broader S&P 500 gained 0.22 per-

cent and the tech-heavy Nasdaq climbed 0.30 percent.

The dollar rose to 81.78 yen in Tokyo trade from 81.60 yen in New York late Thursday and the euro gained to 117.02 yen from 116.82.

The euro bought \$1.4307, virtually unchanged from \$1.4308 in New York, but much higher than the \$1.4265 in Asia on Thursday.

The single currency has risen on expectations the European Central Bank will hike interest rates soon, although lingering concerns over Greece's debt troubles capped any strong advances.

Oil rebounded in afternoon trade, with New York's main contract, light sweet crude for July delivery, advancing 30 cents to \$99.23 a barrel, while Brent North Sea crude for July gained 14 cents to \$111.56 in the afternoon.

Gold closed at \$1,503.00-\$1,504.00 per ounce, up from its Thursday close of \$1,494.00-\$1,495.00.

In other markets: Singapore closed 0.13 percent, or 4.02 points, lower at 3,168.54. Financial group DBS dipped 0.81 percent to Sg\$14.74 and Singapore Airlines lost 0.14 percent to Sg\$14.44.

Bangkok edged down 0.42 percent or 4.56 points to 1,072.94.

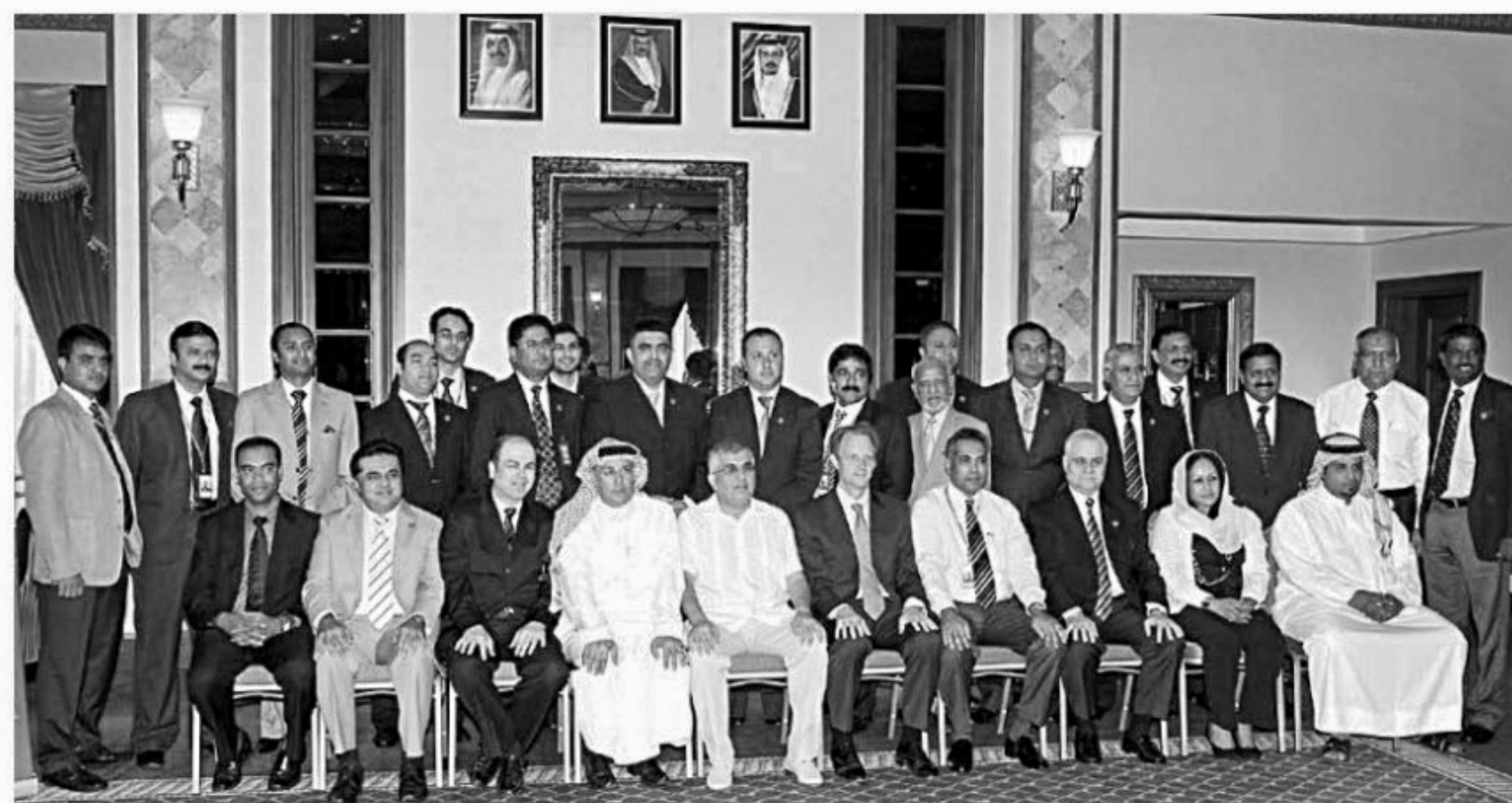
Mumbai rose 1.02 percent. The benchmark 30-share Sensex index closed up 184.69 points at 18,326.09.

Engineering firm Larsen and Toubro rose 3.68 percent or 58.65 rupees to 1,653.55 a day after the firm said quarterly profit rose 17 percent to 16.86 billion rupees (\$374 million).

India's leading motorcycle maker Bajaj Auto rose 3.33 percent or 42.95 rupees to 1,334 while the world's seventh largest steel maker Tata Steel rose 2.68 percent or 15.1 rupees to 577.9.



PERSONA
Magician Jewel Aich inaugurates the fourth outlet of Persona Adams, a beauty care saloon, at Banani in Dhaka recently. Persona's Managing Director Kaniz Almas Khan was also present.



BAHRAIN AIR
Captain Ibrahim Alhamer, managing director of Bahrain Air, poses with the participants of a two-day regional strategic management workshop, organised by the airline, in Bahrain recently.

Weekly Currency Roundup

May 15-19, 2011

International Markets

The US dollar continued to remain strong this week.

The dollar had hit a three-week high versus a currency basket on last Thursday as a rout in commodities prompted an unwinding of dollar-funded bets on risky assets, dragging the euro through technical support to a five-week low.

The single currency was also weighed down by euro zone debt worries; with concerns increasing that Greece's debt burden may be unsustainable.

The euro trimmed losses in choppy trade on Thursday with traders citing demand from hedge funds and Middle East accounts, but uncertainty about the implications of a possible Greek debt restructuring limited gains.

With Greece's debt problems seen coming to a head, the euro has taken a knock as investors cut back long positions in past weeks.

Earlier, Federal Reserve minutes were interpreted as suggesting US monetary policy tightening was still some way off, even as some officials saw a rise in inflation risks.

But analysts said further rises in the euro were contingent on euro zone data or comments from ECB officials that would point to further rises in euro zone interest rates. Gains in commodity and equity markets also encouraged investors to buy riskier currencies again.

The dollar hit a three-week high against the yen.

Analysts argue that investors will remain reluctant to load up heavily on risk just yet given uncertainty over how Greek will resolve its debt problems.

Local Money Market

Call money rates were in a similar range this week, and were in the 7-12% range.

Local Market FX

USD/BDT rates were steady this week.

- Standard Chartered Bank



BSRM
Md Abdus Salam Bhuiyan, president of Bangladesh Society for Human Resources Management, and M Zulfikar Hussain, chief executive officer of grow n excel, inked a deal in Dhaka on Monday under which both the organisations will work together for the development of human resources practices in the country.



DHAKA BANK
Khondker Fazole Rashid, managing director of Dhaka Bank, launches a new school-banking product of the bank, Edu Savings Plan, at a programme in Dhaka recently.

STOCK

Weekly News from Trade Servers

New Listing: EBL NRB Mutual Fund: Trading of the units of EBL NRB Mutual Fund will start at DSE on 23.05.11 under 'A' category. DSE Trading Code for EBL NRB Mutual Fund is "EBLNRBMF" and DSE company code # 12186. Southeast Bank 1st Mutual Fund: Trading of the units of Southeast Bank 1st Mutual Fund will start at DSE on 23.05.11 under 'A' category. DSE Trading Code for Southeast Bank 1st Mutual Fund is "SEBL1STMF" and DSE company code # 12185. M.I. Cement Factory Limited: Trading of the shares of M.I. Cement Factory Limited will start at DSE with effect from 22.05.11 under 'N' category. DSE Trading Code for M.I. Cement Factory Limited is "MICEMENT" and DSE Company Code # 21644. Barakatullah Electro Dynamics Ltd.: Trading of the shares of Barakatullah Electro Dynamics Ltd. started at DSE on 19.05.11 under 'N' category. DSE Trading Code for Barakatullah Electro Dynamics Ltd. is "BEDL" and DSE Company Code # 15313.

DSE NEWS: The following companies have failed to submit their quarterly accounts for the 1st quarter ended on March 31, 2011 within the stipulated time as per SEC Notification No. SEC/CMRRCD/2008-183/Admin/03-34 dated September 27, 2009: (1) Eastern Insurance Company Ltd., (2) GQ Ball Pen Industries Ltd., (3) Meghna Cement Mills Ltd., (4) National Tea Company Ltd., (5) Salvo Chemical Industry Ltd.

SAFKOSPINN, MONNOSTAF, MONNOJTX: In response to a DSE query, the company has informed that there is no undisclosed price sensitive information of the company for recent unusual price hike.

BRACSCBOND: Subordinated 25% Convertible Bonds of BRAC Bank Ltd. will be placed in "A" category from existing "N" category with effect from 16.05.2011 in view of submission of compliance report on 1st Interest distribution of Subordinated 25% Convertible Bonds of BRAC Bank Ltd. by BRAC Bank Ltd., Sponsor of the Bond. The Stock Brokers and Merchant Bankers are requested not to provide loan facilities to purchase Subordinated 25% Convertible Bonds of BRAC Bank Ltd. between 1st to 30th trading day after change of categorization of the said bond i.e. starting from 16.05.2011 as per SEC Directive No. SEC/CMRRCD/2001-43/169 dated October 01, 2009 and SEC Order No. SEC/CMRRCD/2001-50/167 dated October 01, 2009.

JANATAINS: The Board of Directors has recommended stock dividend @ 15% for the year ended on December 31, 2010. Date of AGM: 26.07.2011, Time: 11:30 AM. Record Date: 29.05.2011. The venue of the AGM to be notified later. The Company has also reported EPS of Tk. 18.06, NAV per share of Tk. 139.66 and NOCFPS of Tk. 7.13 for the year ended on December 31, 2010.

PURABIGEN: The Board of Directors has recommended stock dividend @ 15% for the year ended on December 31, 2010. Date of AGM: 27.07.2011, Time: 12:00 Noon, Venue: LGED Auditorium, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. Record Date: 25.05.2011. The company has also reported EPS of Tk. 90.50, NAV per share of Tk. 233.91 and NOCFPS of Tk. (8.55) for the year ended on December 31, 2010.

NTC: The Board of Directors has recommended cash dividend @ 25% for the year ended on December 31, 2010. Date of AGM: 29.07.2011, Time: 10:00 AM, Venue: 'Members Club' of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, Dhaka. Record Date: 22.06.2011. The Company has also reported Net Profit after Tax of Tk. 175.48 million, EPS of Tk. 265.87, NAV per share of Tk. 740.00 and NOCFPS of Tk. 398.00 for the year ended on December 31, 2010.

KAY&QUE: The company has further informed that the 27th AGM of the company will be held on 23.06.11 at 10:30 AM at Samarai Convention Centre, 23/G/7 Panthapath (Opposite to Bashundhara City), Dhaka. Other information of the AGM as announced earlier.

UCBL: The Bank has further informed that the 28th AGM of the Bank will now be held at Radisson Water Garden Hotel, Dhaka instead of Army Golf Club, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka on 30.05.11 at 10:30 AM.

Consolidated NPAT = Tk. 207.29 million with basic consolidated EPS of Tk. 2.55 as against Tk. 168.61 million and Tk. 2.08 respectively for the same period of the previous year. However, considering proposed bonus share @ 20% for the year 2010, restated consolidated EPS will be Tk. 2.13 as on 31.03.2011 and Tk. 1.73 as on 31.03.2010. REPUBLIC NPAT = Tk. 11.54 million, EPS = Tk. 7.00, restated EPS = Tk. 6.36, PREMIERBAN Consolidated NPAT = Tk. 180.56 million, Consolidated EPS = Tk. 0.62, restated consolidated EPS = Tk. 0.47, PARAMOUNT NPAT = Tk. 5.40 million, EPS = Tk. 3.28, restated EPS = Tk. 2.98, IBNSINA NPAT = Tk. 10.67 million, EPS = Tk. 9.88, restated EPS = Tk. 8.23, BGIC NPAT = Tk. 26.18 million, EPS = Tk. 0.57, restated EPS = Tk. 0.51, PRAGATIINS NPAT = Tk. 41.11 million, EPS = Tk. 9.64, restated EPS = Tk. 9.18, BAYLEASING NPAT = Tk. 96.46 million, EPS = Tk. 15.76, restated EPS = Tk. 10.17, ILFSL Consolidated NPAT = Tk. 48.11 million, Consolidated EPS = Tk. 5.90, GREENDELTA Consolidated NPAT = Tk. 81.02 million, Consolidated EPS = Tk. 1.98, NPAT = Tk. 70.91 million, EPS = Tk. 1.74, STANDBANK Consolidated NPAT = Tk. 291.11 million, Consolidated EPS = Tk. 9.17, consolidated restated EPS = Tk. 7.17, AGRANINS NPAT = Tk. 5.14 million, EPS = Tk. 2.83, R. EPS = Tk. 2.58, PRIMEINSUR NPAT = Tk. 13.90 million, R. EPS = Tk. 0.52, GOLDENSON NPAT = Tk. 121.16 million, EPS = Tk. 1.26, R. EPS = Tk. 1.14, RUPALIBANK NPAT = Tk. 122.51 million, EPS = Tk. 9.80, R. EPS = Tk. 8.91, UTTARABANK Con. NPAT = Tk. 386.02 million, Con. EPS = Tk. 1.61, Con. R. EPS = Tk. 1.34, FIRSTSBANK NPAT = Tk. 135.21 million, EPS = Tk. 0.45, R. EPS = Tk. 0.40, EXIMBANK Con. NPAT = Tk. 228.37 million, Con. EPS = Tk. 0.33, Con. R. EPS = Tk. 0.25, PIONEERINS NPAT = Tk. 34.77 million, EPS = Tk. 18.54, R. EPS = Tk. 14.84, BDTHAI NPAT = Tk. 27.67 million, EPS = Tk. 8.41, R. EPS = Tk. 6.73, CMCKAMAL NPAT = Tk. 9.90 million, EPS = Tk. 0.52, R. EPS = Tk. 0.47, PURABIGEN NPAT = Tk. 1.38 million, EPS = Tk. 1.90, R. EPS = Tk. 1.65, INTECH NPAT = Tk. 0.88 million, EPS = Tk. 0.06, KPCL Con. NPAT = Tk. 98.58 million, Con. EPS = Tk. 0.41, Con. R. EPS = Tk. 0.34, NPAT = Tk. 100.26 million, EPS = Tk. 0.42, R. EPS = Tk. 0.35, BIFC NPAT = Tk. (37.19) million, EPS = Tk. (8.40), R. EPS = Tk. (6.72), BEXIMCO NPAT = Tk. 1,302.46 million, EPS = Tk. 7.87, R. EPS = Tk. 5.25, BEACH-HATCH NPAT = Tk. 33.23 million, EPS = Tk. 1.35, R. EPS = Tk. 1.17, LEGACYFOOT NPAT = Tk. 3.08 million, EPS = Tk. 0.43, R. EPS = Tk. 0.39, BXSYNTH NPAT = Tk. 20.43 million, EPS = Tk. 3.43, R. EPS = Tk. 2.98, BEXTEX NPAT = Tk. 761.71 million, EPS = Tk. 1.63, R. EPS = Tk. 1.42, SPERAMICS NPAT = Tk. 45.44 million, EPS = Tk. 0.47, R. EPS = Tk. 0.41, PHENIXINS NPAT = Tk. 38.77 million, EPS = Tk. 1.57, R. EPS = Tk. 1.26, CENTRALINS NPAT = Tk. 14.68 million, EPS = Tk. 7.51, R. EPS = Tk. 6.53, ISLAMIINS NPAT = Tk. 6.59 million, EPS = Tk. 4.39, R. EPS = Tk. 3.67, NORTHRINS NPAT = Tk. 21.71 million, EPS = Tk. 10.94, R. EPS = Tk. 9.77, UCBL Con. NPAT = Tk. 277.65 million, Con. EPS = Tk. 0.95, Con. R. EPS = Tk. 0.64, NPAT = Tk. 276.33 million, EPS = Tk. 0.95, R. EPS = Tk. 0.63, PLFSL NPAT = Tk. 226.67 million, EPS = Tk. 2.08, restated basic EPS = Tk. 1.19, JANATAINS NPAT = Tk. 4.14 million, EPS = Tk. 5.09, restated basic EPS = Tk. 4.43, SONARGAON NPAT = Tk. 3.69 million, EPS = Tk. 3.39, restated EPS = Tk. 3.08.

As per un-audited quarterly accounts for the 3rd quarter ended on 31st March 2011: MIRACLEIND NPAT = Tk. 5.16 million, EPS = Tk. 0.25, BEDL NPAT = Tk. 119.67 million, Pre-IPO EPS = Tk. 1.81, Post-IPO EPS = Tk. 1.39, IMAMBUTTON NLAT = Tk. (16.26) million, EPS = Tk. (21.11). Accumulated profit/(loss) of the company was Tk. (24.17) million as on 31.03.11.

As per un-audited half yearly accounts ended on 31 Dec'10: BEDL NPAT = Tk. 81.69m & Pre-IPO EPS(Basic) = Tk. 1.24 & Post-IPO EPS = Tk. 0.95. **ASLAINS, SHAHJABANK, MPETROLEUM:** The Company has informed that it has credited the Stock Dividend for the year 2010 to the respective shareholders' BO Accounts on 15.05.11.

BEXTEX: The EGM of the Shareholders of the Company will be held on 30.06.11 at 12:15 PM at Bextex Industrial Park, Sarabo, Kashimpur, Gazipur for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving with or without modification a Scheme of Amalgamation proposed to be made between Bangladesh Export Import Company Ltd. (the Transferee Company) and Bextex Ltd. (the Transferor Company). Record date for EGM: 30.05.11.

BEXIMCO: The EGM of the Shareholders of the Company will be held on 30.06.11 at 10:15 AM at Beximco Industrial Park, Sarabo, Kashimpur, Gazipur for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving with or without modification a Scheme of Amalgamation proposed to be made between Bangladesh Export Import Company Ltd. (the Transferee Company) and Bextex Ltd. (the Transferor Company). Record date for EGM: 30.05.11.

BRACBANK: The Bank has informed that the Board of Directors of the Bank has decided in principle to acquire further 25% shares of BRAC EPL Investments Limited and 39% shares of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited from the respective Shareholders of both companies. The company has also informed that after acquiring the above shares the total holding of BRAC Bank Limited will stand 76% shares of BRAC EPL Investments Limited and 90% shares of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited.

Sponsor's Buy/Sell: SONARGAON Mr. A.K.M. Azizur Rahman has intention to sell 25,000 shares. CONTININS Khansons Group Ltd. has intention to sell 10,000 shares. FEDERALINS Mr. Neo G. Mendes has intention to sell 50,000 shares. BANKASIA Mostafa Steel Galvanising Plant Ltd. has intention to sell 30,000 shares. EXIMBANK Engr. Aminur Rahman Khan has intention to sell 3,000,000 shares.