

# Stocks end slightly up

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Dhaka stocks gained marginally yesterday to shake off a losing streak that carried over from last week, but low turnover influenced by a liquidity crisis lingers.

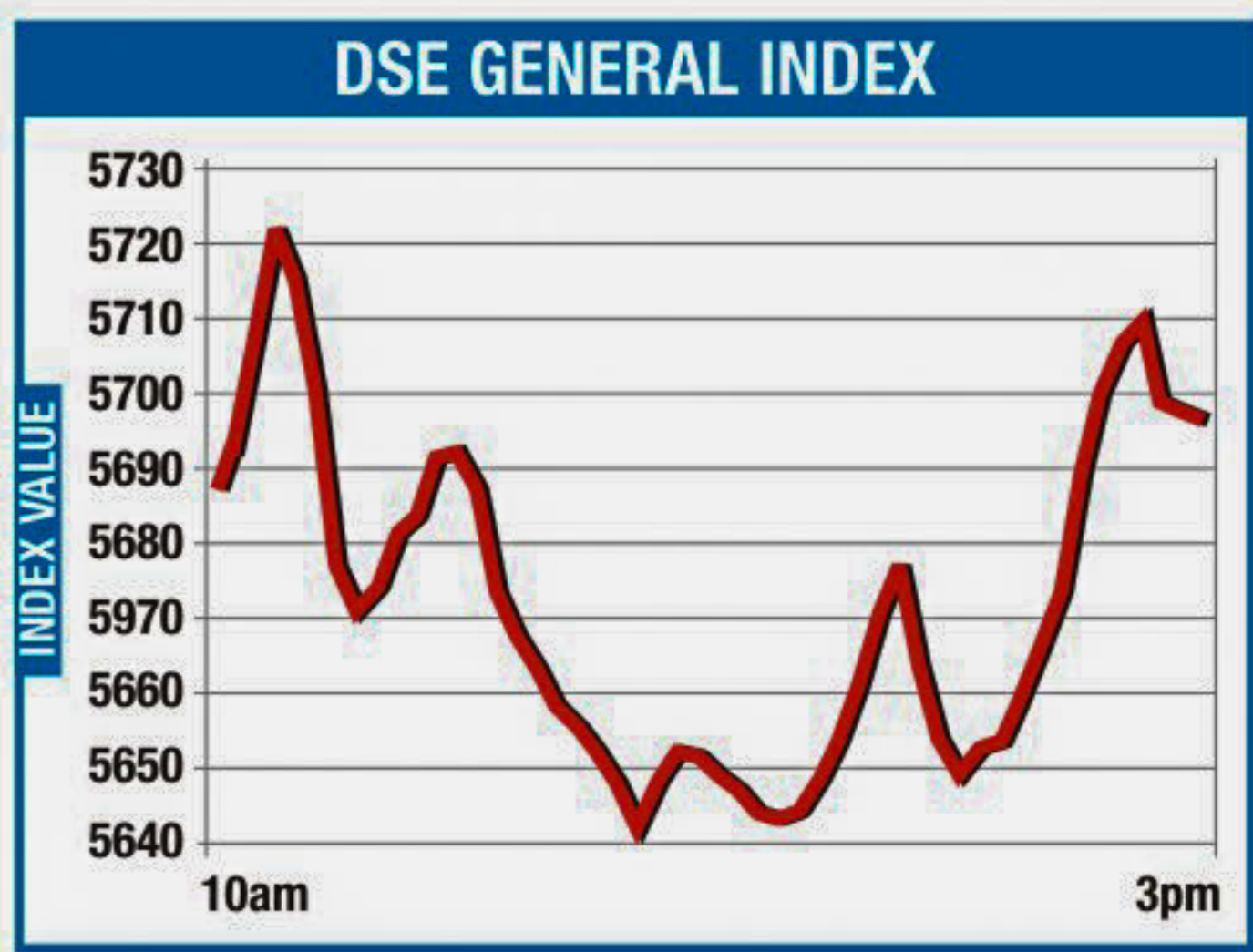
The General Index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DGEN) edged up 9 points, or 0.16 percent, to close at 5,695.

The Selective Categories Index of Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSCX) lost 18 points, or 0.18 percent, to end at 10,172.

Turnover on the country's premier bourse stood at Tk 341 crore, down 3.57 percent on the previous day, and the lowest in three weeks.

Trading started on an upbeat note, gaining 30 points in the first 15 minutes. The momentum however evaporated after the first hour.

The sudden fall forced a number of investors under the banner of Bangladesh Share Market Oikyo Parishad



to stage a sit-in in front of the DSE building at 2:10pm.

The government should take steps to increase liquidity supply to the market to bring back normalcy, said an angry investor.

Market insiders said investors lost confidence following a speculation of a deep slump in the stock market.

The rumour became stron-

ger particularly after the government, in its budget, made it clear that it would not allow investment of untaxed money in the stockmarket.

"Market rhythm has been affected by the post-budget situation. Besides, the institutional investors have adopted a wait-and-see policy due to a lack of funds," said an analyst. Also yesterday, top officials

of the Securities and Exchange Commission and DSE discussed the demutualisation issue, a major recommendation made by the government-sponsored probe committee on the stockmarket debacle.

Demutualisation means separating regulatory affairs from the business activities of stock exchanges.

DSE arranged the meeting with the regulator and discussed the issue of demutualisation, said Prof M Khairul Hossain, chairman of SEC.

"We also discussed ways to list some companies to increase supply to the market," he said.

Shakil Rizvi, president of DSE, said: "We have discussed ways to ensure effective coordination between SEC and DSE."

The DSE and SEC will work together to bring normalcy back to the market, he added.

Three SEC members were also present at the meeting.

## JSD for social assessment committee to boost revenue collection

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal yesterday demanded the government form an area-based social assessment committee to strengthen the revenue collection drive.

The committee will provide necessary information on taxable people of the area, which will help tax officials assess an individual's income statement correctly, the party said. As a result, taxable people will have little scope to evade tax, the left-leaning party said.

"Socially admirable and well-known people of an area are generally aware of wealth and income status of the inhabitants," said Abdul Malek Ratan, general secretary of JSD, in a press briefing on the budget in Dhaka.

"If they share the information with tax officials, the government will be able to collect the right amount of tax," he said.

JSD President ASM Abdur Rob urged the government not to impose 1.5 percent tax at source on exportable goods.

The party leaders also opposed a 5 percent tax on poultry firms proposed in the budget for fiscal 2011-2012, saying it would further increase the prices of poultry products.



Nasir Ur Rahman Sinha, chairman of ACME Group, inaugurates the first outlet of "me & mom", an exclusive outlet for mothers and children, at Shampa Market on Mohammadpur Ring Road in Dhaka recently. Matiur Rahman Sinha, managing director of Sinha Group, was also present.

## Gold gives up gains, eurozone crisis lingers

REUTERS, London

Gold gave up early gains on Monday but was still supported by eurozone debt woes after ministers delayed a decision on emergency loans to Greece, while bullion priced in sterling struck a lifetime high.

Eurozone finance ministers postponed to July a final decision on extending a further 12 billion euros in emergency loans to Greece, saying Athens would first have to introduce harsh austerity measures.

Spot gold was at \$1,537.21 by 0930 GMT (5:30 a.m. ET) compared with \$1,538.40 a tonne late in New York on Friday, having risen above \$1,541 on Friday -- its biggest one-day gain since May. Gold is still below a lifetime high around \$1,575 touched in early May.

"It's trading water, you're not going to get too much movement either way until we get more clarification as to what happens on Greece," Credit

## Oil down on eurozone, US fears

AFP, London

Oil fell sharply on Monday because of continuing fears over Greece's debt crisis and concerns over the US economy, analysts said.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) light sweet crude for July delivery, dropped \$1.35 to \$91.66 a barrel.

Brent North Sea crude for August shed \$1.44 to \$111.77 a barrel in London morning deals.

"Oil prices continue to be worn down by pressures concerning the Greek debt crisis, which is affecting markets globally," said Victor Shum, an analyst with Purvin and Gertz international energy consultancy in Singapore.

European finance chiefs on Sunday launched crunch talks to avert the default of debt-stricken Greece



Abu Hena Mohd Razee Hassan, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, speaks at a workshop on anti-money laundering, organised by Eastern Bank, in Dhaka recently. Muklesur Rahman, deputy managing director of the bank, was also present.



Banglalion Communication and Standard Chartered Bank have recently signed a corporate deal under which the bank's credit and debit cardholders can pay their Banglalion Wimax bills through Auto Bills Pay. Neil Graham, chief executive officer of Banglalion, and ANM Mahfuz, managing director for consumer banking of Standard Chartered Bank, attended the programme in Dhaka.

## FBCCI woos Thai investors

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Thailand is interested to invest in communication, rubber and plastic sectors in Bangladesh.

The country also wants to recruit Bangladeshi labour force for its industries, a Thai business delegation told the leaders of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) at a meeting in Dhaka yesterday.

Secretary General of Thailand Board of Investment Atchaka Sibunruang said they have a plan to increase Thai-Bangladesh trade to \$1 billion by 2012.

A number of Thai business entities are interested to invest in Bangladesh, the leader of the trade delegation said. She said after the activation of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) the facilities would be open for the trade bodies and trade gap would be decreased.

Md Jashim Uddin, acting president of FBCCI, said the Thai businessmen are interested to relocate their factories in Bangladesh.

"They also want to help us with

their expertise in business," he said.

A number of businessmen from both the countries took part in the meeting at the Federation Building in Motijheel.

According to FBCCI data, Bangladesh exported goods worth \$20.52 million to Thailand in fiscal 2009-10, while Thailand exported products worth \$633.36 million. During the period between 1977 and 2010, a total of \$48.42 million foreign direct investment came in Bangladesh from Thailand.

The 33-member delegation that came to Dhaka on Sunday on a five-day visit has representatives from major sectors including jewellery, steel pipe, melamine, paper, textile products, construction, agricultural machinery, home appliance, lubricant, leather, electronics and electricity, automobile parts and footwear.

The FBCCI sought Thai investment in power generation, infrastructure development, pharmaceuticals, tourism, agro-based industry, shipbuilding and ship breaking, renewable energy, and ICT and ICT-based services in joint venture or in the form of FDI.

The apex trade body and Bangladesh Board of Investment will provide the investors with necessary support," said Jashim Uddin.

He said the government has taken a number of steps to facilitate and expedite investment through online cargo clearance in all customs stations, setting up one-stop service desks and introducing payment of all government dues online and on mobile phone.

He said the Thai investors could utilise the existing facilities in export processing zones for setting up industries. The government is also going to declare seven economic zones in the country. Thailand can take the opportunity, said Jashim Uddin.

President of Thai-Bangladesh Business Council Mingpant Chayavichitslip, President of Bangladesh-Thai Chamber of Commerce and Industry MA Momen, and Charge d'Affaires of Thai Embassy Suwamong Sirisorn also spoke.

In September last year, another high-level trade delegation from Thailand visited Dhaka to explore business opportunities.

## Wal-Mart wins Supreme Court sex-bias case ruling

REUTERS, Washington

The Supreme Court ruled for Wal-Mart Stores Inc on Monday in the largest sex-discrimination lawsuit in history, saying class-action status for female employees seeking billions of dollars had been improperly granted.

The justices overturned a U.S. appeals court ruling that more than a million female employees nationwide could join in the lawsuit accusing Wal-Mart of paying women less and giving them fewer promotions.

The Supreme Court agreed with Wal-Mart that the class-action certification violated federal rules for such lawsuits.

The high court accepted Wal-Mart's main argument that the female employees in different jobs at 3,400 different stores nationwide and with different supervisors do not have enough in common to be lumped together in a single class-action lawsuit.

The Supreme Court only decided whether the 10-year-old lawsuit can proceed to trial as a group, not the merits of the sex-discrimination allegations at the heart of the case.

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer and the largest private U.S. employer, has denied the allegations and said it has operated under a policy barring discrimination.

The ruling in the biggest business case of the high court's 2010-11 term could affect other class-action lawsuits against the tobacco industry and Costco Wholesale Corp. It also was the court's most important job-disrimination dispute in

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Higher Secondary Female Stipend Project (Phase-4)  
Directorate of Secondary & Higher Education  
16, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000

Memo No-HSFSP-4/Data Processing/2011-12/52/11/254

Date: 16/06/2011

### Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of Firm for Data Entry, Processing and Data Management

The Ministry of Education has been allocated public fund from Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) toward the cost of the Data Entry Processing and Data Management of the Higher Secondary Female Stipend Project (Phase-4) (2<sup>nd</sup> revised) and it intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of the fund to payments under the contract for "Data Entry, Processing and Data Management for Higher Secondary Female Stipend Project (Phase-4) (2<sup>nd</sup> revised)".

The services include: To carry out this services the firm will be required to prepare the database in Bangla for the sessions 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. The work will be done in 4 (four) phase i.e. Sep-October 2011, October-November 2011, January/2012 and March-2012. The following inputs will be provided by the PIU: (a) Institution Profile form for institutions registered as eligible for Stipend & Tuition Program in 64 districts, approximate No 0.061 lakh (six thousand one hundred), (b) Monitoring of Student Data forms (FSP-2) approximate no 6.90 lakh (six lakh ninety thousand), i.e. (1.60 lac + 1.60 lac + 1.85 lac + 1.85 lac), (c) Students file and Institutions file, (d) Location file etc. Data of the system are to be copied on Diskette or CD and supplied to PIU in the desired format following every update as and when necessary.

The Project Director of Higher Secondary Female Stipend Project (Phase-4) now invites eligible Data Entry, Processing & Data Management Firms to indicate their interests in providing the services. Interested Firms are invited to provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar operating conditions, availability of appropriate professional, qualified and experienced staff, etc.). The experience resources and delivery capacity required are the consulting firms must have at least 3 years experience in data entry and processing for including report preparation in various relevant fields. Attested experience certificate must be provided with EOI. The consulting firms must have sufficient financial strength and manpower to handle the services required and timely delivery of output. Upon receipt of the EOIs, the procuring entity may verify the submitted documents, particulars and logistics & equipments physically if required and shall select a short-list of Consulting Firms who are considered to be best suited to undertake the assignment.

The short-listing shall be made on the basis of:

- ◆ Profile and details of the Firm(s), Organization(s) and Associated Institutions.
- ◆ List of experienced professionals, expertise (Team Leader, System Analyst, Programmers, Assistant Programmers, Data Entry Operators, Data checkers) in the relevant fields with their academic degree & experience.
- ◆ Experience in the similar assignments (evidence of relevant experience of similar professional task record should be provided). At least 3 (three) years experience certificate is required to be attached with EOI.
- ◆ Financial capacity (last 3 financial years annual turnover statement, attested copy of VAT registration certificate, Income Tax clearance certificate (2009-10) must be submitted with the EOI.
- ◆ Logistics & equipment: (Area of office space, area of computer lab, No. of computers, laser printers, line printers, photocopiers etc).

Letter of Invitation (LOI) will be issued only to the short-listed firms. Among them a firm will be selected using the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method in accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2006/PPR-2008. Interested firms may obtain further information by applying to the address below on or before 12/07/2011 during normal office hours from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

7 (seven) sets (one original) of Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted by the interested Consulting Firms to the Project Director, HSFSP-4, Directorate of Secondary & Higher Education, Shikha Bhaban (Block-A, Room No-101), Dhaka-1000 on or before 13/07/2011 at 2.00pm in a sealed envelope and be clearly marked "Request for Expression of Interest for selection of Local Firm for Data Entry, Processing and Data Management for the financial year 2011-2012 under HSFSP-4". The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs.

Md Abual Hossain  
Project Director

GD-2766

**মাইক্রোক্রেডিট রেগুলেটরী অথরিটি**  
এনএসসি টাওয়ার (১২তলা), ৬২/৩ পুরানা পল্টন  
ডাকা-১০০০।  
বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ১৮/২০১০-১১

**বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

মাইক্রোক্রেডিট রেগুলেটরী অথরিটির সহকারী পরিচালক পদে নিয়োগ পরীক্ষা প্রসঙ্গে।

মাইক্রোক্রেডিট রেগুলেটরী অথরিটির সহকারী পরিচালকের মঞ্জুরীকৃত শূন্য পদের বিপরীতে নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে আগামী ২৪ জুন, ২০১১ তারিখ শুক্রবার সকাল ০৯:০০ টায় সিদ্ধেশ্বরী গার্লস কলেজ, ১৪৮, নিউ বেইলী রোড (ভিকারুল্লাহ নুন স্কুলের বিপরীতে), ঢাকা -এ একটি লিখিত পরীক্ষা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। ইতোমধ্যে এমআরএ এর ওয়েব সাইটে (www.mra.gov.bd) পরীক্ষার প্রার্থীদের রোল নম্বরসহ তালিকা দেয়া হয়েছে। উক্ত তালিকায় বর্ণিত কোন প্রার্থী প্রবেশপত্র না পেয়ে থাকলে ১(এক) কপি ছবিসহ মাইক্রোক্রেডিট রেগুলেটরী অথরিটির অফিসে (এনএসসি টাওয়ার -১২ তলা, ৬২/৩ পুরানা পল্টন, ঢাকা-১০০০) ২৩/০৬/২০১১ তারিখে সকাল ১০:০০ থেকে বিকাল ০৪:০০ এর মধ্যে যোগাযোগ করতে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

এক্সিকিউটিভ ডাইস চেয়ারম্যান

GD-2774