

Stocks ride high for eighth day

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Stocks gained for the eighth day yesterday, riding on financial and power company shares.

DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, closed the day at 4,565.40 points, after gaining 46 points or 1.02 percent.

"Investors invested heavily in financial stocks with the expectation of a flexible monetary stance from the central bank, in order to stimulate the wounded economy," commented IDLC Investments in its regular market analysis.

The power sector gained 3.24 percent.

On the other hand, in spite of a series of government stimulus packages, investors remained sceptical about the textile sector's ability to report healthy profits, the investment

bankers said.

At this point, the market is still bullish with a sequence of high winning streaks for the last eight trading sessions.

"As some of the country's economic indicators have been pointing at marginal improvements, it seems investors are focused more on corporate earnings," stated LankaBangla Securities in its daily market analysis.

Rising from strenuous political confrontation, economic activities are presumed to revive on the backdrop of liquidity in the financial system, the stockbrokers said.

Turnover, the most important indicator of the market, advanced 10.03 percent to Tk 708 crore, compared to the previous day, which is the highest since December 11, 2013.

A total of 1.50 lakh trades were executed with 15.59 crore shares and mutual fund units changing hands on the Dhaka bourse.

All the major sectors performed well: banks gained 1.61 percent, non-bank financial institutions 1.02 percent, telecoms 0.57 percent and pharma 0.25 percent.

However, a slight correction was observed in some small cap sectors, including engineering 0.55 percent, information technology 1.49 percent and textiles 1.21 percent.

Meghna Petroleum saw the highest liquidity with 13.4 lakh shares worth Tk 34 crore changing hands.

Progressive Life Insurance Company was the highest gainer of the day, as it posted a 9.91 percent gain, while Rupali Life Insurance was the worst

Hybrid cars fail to ease Pakistan's gas woes

AFP, Islamabad, Pakistan

Pakistan last year announced measures to boost the hybrid car market, hoping they might help wean the country off its costly addiction to imported fuels, but seven months on the plan looks to have stalled.

Hybrid vehicles, which use a combination of an electric motor and regular fuel combustion, are touted in many countries as the environmentally friendly future of motoring.

But in Pakistan, the government hoped they might also address a more immediate concern - crushing winter gas shortages.

Compressed natural gas (CNG) is widely used as fuel by Pakistani motorists as a cheaper alternative to petrol, but demand far outstrips supply in winter.

The result is gas shortages that mean people cannot cook or heat their homes and which damage the economy by halting industrial work.

Last June, a month after winning the general election, the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said it would slash import duties on hybrids.

"Use of imported POL (petroleum, oils and lubricants) products as a major source of energy has not only led to high import bill(s), but has also created a negative environmental impact," Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said in his budget speech in June.



Officials of Robi hand over a bag and notebook to a student in Bandarban recently. The mobile operator distributed 600 school bags and 2,000 exercise books among the students of three primary schools and a madrasa in the area.



Faisul A Chowdhury, country director of Navana Petroleum, launches the upgraded API SJ Havoline Motor Oil by Chevron in Banani, Dhaka recently.



Nasir A Choudhury, chairman of Green Delta Capital Ltd, and Md Akter H Sannamat, managing director of Union Capital Ltd (UCL), attend the signing of an agreement to raise Tk 50 crore through issuing preference shares for UCL recently.



A Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia, launches the bank's agent banking (pilot phase) at Bhabanipur Bazar in Munshiganj on Friday. Dasgupta Asim Kumar, executive director of Bangladesh Bank, was also present.

Dhaka bourse to launch shariah index today

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Companies engaged in advertising and media, news or sports channel, newspaper, alcohol, cloning, tobacco, gambling and trading of gold and silver cannot be placed in the shariah index.

Even financial institutions except Islamic banks, Islamic financial institutions, Islamic insurance companies will not be eligible, Kaswa said. If more than five percent of a company's revenue comes from non-compliant activities it cannot be placed in the DSEX Shariah Index.

Companies incorporated and managed in a completely shariah compliant manner, having a shariah supervisory board and doing transactions (business and financial) in accordance with shariah principle will be eligible, he said.

EU weighs new climate goals, economic needs

AFP, Brussels

The EU will announce climate change targets for 2030 next week but sharp differences over priorities and an unwillingness to take the lead while global rivals hang back may result in a modest compromise deal.

The 2020 programme is widely judged a success but some argue this means the European Union can now actually ease up to focus on a struggling economy while others want a more ambitious package to keep the momentum going.

European Commission head Jose Manuel Barroso will unveil the new package on Wednesday, ahead of a March EU leaders summit, and is also expected to propose new rules on the controversial 'fracking' extraction of shale gas.

Mobile banking marks robust growth

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The total number of agents providing such services across Bangladesh stood at 1.88 lakh until December 31, up from 59,559 in January last year, the data shows.

As part of the government's financial inclusion programme, the central bank allowed 28 banks to provide mobile-banking to date, 19 have launched the service.

There is a lot of enthusiasm with mobile banking, as the banking regulator is promoting commercial banks to develop the financial service.

Launched in 2011 by two private banks in the country, mobile banking services have now become popular.

A customer can transfer money, receive salaries or pay bills from their accounts through mobile banking without visiting any bank branch.

South Africa's weak rand draws few tourist complaints

AFP, Cape Town

Clutching shopping bags, quaffing wine, and lounging on pristine beaches, foreign tourists visiting South Africa are getting more bang for their buck from the country's weak rand.

The teetering rand, a victim of ongoing emerging market volatility, is tipped to remain on the back foot after hitting a fresh five-year low of around 10.87 against the US dollar.

The plunge comes as tourists flock to Cape Town -- named as the world's top place to visit in 2014 by The New York Times -- for the peak southern hemisphere summer season armed with hard currency.

"From a visitor perspective, it all bodes well for international visitors coming to Cape Town," said Cape Town Tourism CEO Enver Duminy.

Foreigners spent an estimated \$1.2 billion (12.7 billion rand) last year in the city and the industry is already pointing to a rosier season.

Official figures for December are still being tallied but feedback from hotels, tour operators and restaurants is that things look "a lot better" than the previous summer.

"If you look at our key source markets -- UK, US, Germany, Netherlands -- the exchange rate is in the favour of those travellers," said Duminy.

"Which is great news for us which means that we become a

lot more affordable for a lot more people wanting to leave Europe or the US."

While recent market darlings, emerging economy currencies like South Africa have been hammered by moves in the US Federal Reserve to ease its stimulus package.

Added to this are domestic challenges such as sizeable twin deficits and spending needs, after a run of turbulent strikes.

"It's largely a global story of which South African characteristics play a part and certainly the depreciating trend is strong," said Peter Kent, portfolio manager at Investec Asset Management.

"We wouldn't be surprised to see it depreciate some more but on a sort of medium term horizon I would expect some stability, possibly a small rally."

"Wow, it's so cheap here!"

In the meantime tourists like Norwegian Vidar Woldengen, 47, are getting a welcome surprise.

"When people in Europe find out, I'm sure they will bring their money here as soon as they find out because I was really surprised," he said while browsing a popular African craft market.

"Now they can afford it."

Foreign arrivals were up by 14.5 percent year on year in November and hotels are reporting strong occupancy rates.

For the area's famed wine farms, the exchange rate is a boost but long-term impacts are also being eyed.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

PWD E/M Division-3

Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Phone: 9555305, Fax No- 88-02-9555305

Website: www.pwd.gov.bd

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

Tender No: 80(2013-2014)

Date: 16-01-2014

Memo No.-E/M Divn-3/1879

01.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Housing & Public Works.			
02.	Agency	Public Works Department.			
03.	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-3, Dhaka.			
04.	Procuring entity code	Not use at present.			
05.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
06.	Invitation for	Works			
07.	Invitation Ref. No. and date	Tender Memo No-1879 Date- 16-01-2014.			
KEY INFORMATION					
08.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).			
09.	Budget & source of fund	GOB.			
10.	Project name	Vertical Extension of Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh (IDE) Central Bhaban Complex (3rd Phase).			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
11.	Tender last selling date	09-02-2014 during office hour.			
12.	Tender closing date & time	10-02-2014 up to 12:00noon.			
13.	Tender opening date & time	10-02-2014 at 12:30pm.			
14.	Name & address of the offices selling tender document	Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-3, Dhaka.			
i) Principal	PWD E/M Division-1/2/4/5/6/7/8/E/M Workshop Division/Wood Workshop Division/Dhaka PWD Division-1, Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.				
ii) Others'	PWD E/M Division-2, Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. Phone: 9555305.				
15.	Name & address of the office receiving tender document	PWD E/M Division-3, Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. Phone: 9555305.			
16.	Name & address of the office opening tender document	PWD E/M Division-3, Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. Phone: 9555305.			
17.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Not applicable.			
18.	INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
19.	Eligibility of tenderers	This invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderers as mentioned below. a) All tenderers regardless of whether enlisted or not enlisted with the employer/authorized local agents of lifefire protection, detection system manufacturer/bonafide firm having valid ABC license from electrical license board/trade license/VAT/TIN & bank solvency certificate and having experience as per special terms and conditions attached with the tender documents. b) Must have experience of successfully completed the similar works as described in STD in a single tender amounting to Group-1 Tk 63.00 lac during last 10 (ten) years & Group-2 Tk 50.00 lac during last 5 (five) years (minimum) under any govt/semi-govt/autonomous organization. i) In case of work done under PWD the certifying and authenticating authority shall be the concern Executive Engineer. ii) In case of work done under any govt/semi-govt/autonomous other than PWD the certifying authority shall be the officer of the organization (not below the ranks of Executive Engineer) and the same should be duly authenticated by the concerned Executive Engineer of PWD of that area under whose jurisdiction the work has been executed. c) The tenderers must have a minimum average annual turnover more than to Group-1 Tk 341.00 lac & Group-2 Tk 246.00 lac for last five years & liquid Assets Group-1 Tk 85.00 lac & Group-2 Tk 60.00 lac. iii) Other conditions as mentioned in the tender documents.			
20.	Brief description of works	As per BOQ.			
	Tender No.	Identification of group			
21.	80 (2013-14)	Location	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks/months
	Group-1	160/A, Kakrail, Dhaka	1,500/- thousand	(one five hundred) only	2,50,000/- 04 (four) months
	Group-2	160/A, Kakrail, Dhaka	1,000/- thousand	(one hundred) only	1,65,000/- 04 (four) months

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

22.	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Ali Asgar.
23.	Designation of official inviting tender	Executive Engineer.
24.	Address of official inviting tender	PWD E/M Division-3, Putra Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.
25.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel No. 9555305 Fax No. 88-02-9555305.
26.	The procuring entity reserves right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason at any time prior to contract award.	
27.	Special Instruction	<p>(a) Rate must be quoted in figures & in word for all item of works in the attached schedule in Section-6 up-to two digits beyond decimal point.</p> <p>(b) The tender security shall be in the form of a Bank Draft or Pay Order in favour of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-3, Dhaka from a scheduled bank of Bangladesh.</p> <p>(c) If the tenderer submit any false, incorrect or forged certificate, the tender security may be forfeited.</p> <p>(d) The original money receipt of purchasing tender document, attested copy of TIN & VAT registration certificate, bank solvency certificate & other certificates mentioned in Clause-22 must be submitted with the tender.</p> <p>(e) For any unavoidable reason if the office remain closed at the date of last selling, receiving & opening, the tender will be sold, received and opened in the next office day at the same time.</p>

Md. Ali Asgar
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-3, Dhaka
Phone: 9555305



Mahtabuddin Ahmed, chairman of PRAN-RFL Group, inaugurates the central service centre of Vision Electronics at Tejgaon industrial area in Dhaka recently. Golam Shahriar, chief operating officer of Vision Electronics, was also present.

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