

Mid-Day News (Asia)

July 30, 2010

China

China's stocks dropped, paring the benchmark index's biggest monthly advance in a year, on concern recent gains were excessive relative to earnings prospects. Yanzhou Coal dropped 2.9% to CNY17.87 after cutting its estimate for the likely increase in 1st-half profit to 35%, compared with an earlier estimated gain of more than 100%. The company said that fluctuations in the exchange rate of the AUD and USD resulted in a loss on a loan. Xishan Coal & Electricity Power Co. slid 1.4% to CNY21.90. The company's earnings per share of CNY0.54 in the 1st half is 17% less than the CNY0.65 average estimate of 3 analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. Northeast Securities retreated 1.1% to CNY24.14 after net income for the 1st half fell 77% from a year earlier to CNY110.4 million. Poly Real Estate, China's 2nd-largest developer by market value, dropped 1.5% to CNY12.95. China Vanke Co., the biggest, lost 0.8% to CNY8.23. Shanghai will announce tightening measures for the real estate market in the 2nd half of the year, the Oriental Morning Post reported. Aluminium Corp. of China Ltd., the nation's biggest producer of the metal, rose the most in more than 4 months after agreeing to buy a stake in Rio Tinto Group's Simandou iron ore project in Guinea. Chalco, as the Beijing-based company is known, gained 6.7% to CNY10.89, the biggest increase since March 19. The stock was suspended for the past 2 days.

Hong Kong

Hong Kong stocks fell as investors took advantage of the benchmark index's 8th straight days of gains to sell, and as coal producers slid after Yanzhou Coal Mining Co. cut its profit growth estimate. China Shenhua Energy Co., the nation's largest coal producer, declined as much as 1.3%. Yanzhou Coal, the 3rd-biggest Hong Kong-listed mainland coal supplier, dropped 1.9%. Brightoil Petroleum (Holdings) Ltd., a provider of marine bunkering services, plunged 7.1%, the sharpest slump on the Hang Seng Composite Index, after saying it will issue new shares.

Indices Asia	Last	Change
Nikkei225	9,510.54	-1.91%
KOSPI Comp	1,757.80	-0.74%
S&P/ASX200	4,492.30	-0.70%
Hang Seng	20,992.64	-0.48%
Shanghai Comp.	2,617.48	-1.16%
STI Singapore	2,983.80	-0.46%
Sensex India	17,935.07	-0.32%
SET Thailand	852.92	-0.20%
JCI Indonesia	3,086.84	-0.32%
KLCI Malaysia	1,356.66	-0.13%
Indices USA	Yesterday	Change
Dow Jones (Ind.)	10,467.16	-0.29%
S&P500	1,101.53	-0.42%
Nasdaq100	1,860.30	-0.66%
Indices Europe	Yesterday	Change
EuroStoxx50	2,752.93	-0.48%
SMI	6,220.65	-0.91%
DAX	6,134.70	-0.72%
FTSE100	5,313.95	-0.11%
CAC40	3,651.91	-0.50%
Currencies	Last	Change
USD/CHF	1.0398	-0.12%
EUR/USD	1.3063	-0.12%
GBP/USD	1.5609	-0.03%
USD/JPY	86.3800	-0.47%
AUD/USD	0.8993	-0.1222
NZD/USD	0.7218	-0.2763
USD/KRW	1,183.55	-0.25%
USD/HKD	7.7671	0.00%
USD/SGD	1.3619	-0.1247
USD/THB	32.2800	0.12%
USD/MYR	3.1858	-0.02%
USD/IDR	8,953	-0.38%
USD/CNY	6.7737	-0.04%
Treasury	Yield	Change
US10Y	2.73	0.13
US5Y	1.05	0.08
US2Y	0.21	0.02
JGP10Y	0.80	0.08
AUD10Y	5.14	0.28
NZD10Y	5.04	0.17
Commodities	Last	Change
Gold	1,169.28	0.09%
Silver	17.61	0.04%
Brent Crude Oil	77.32	-0.35%

Singapore
Time:

12:25:04 PM



Singapore

Singapore's Straits Times Index was little changed at 2,995.03 of 9:23 a.m. local time. Mandarin Oriental International Ltd., the operator of luxury hotels, slipped 1.4% to USD1.42. The company said 1st-half profit fell to USD13.5 million from USD74.2 million a year earlier. Exceptional gains boosted earnings the previous year, it said. Olam International Ltd., the supplier of agricultural commodities, rose 0.7% to SGD2.79. MCL Land Ltd., the Singapore homebuilder partly owned by Hongkong Land, climbed 1.61% to SGD1.89. The company said 2nd-quarter profit increased to USD114.2 million from USD36.7 million a year earlier. DBS Group Holdings Ltd., Southeast Asia's biggest bank, reported an unexpected 2nd-quarter loss as it booked a one-time goodwill impairment charge at its Hong Kong unit and lending margins narrowed. The loss of SGD300 million (USD220 million) compares with net income of SGD552 million a year earlier, the company said in a statement today. That missed the SGD572.9 million average of eight profit estimates from analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. The quarter's goodwill cost totalled SGD1.02 billion. Swings in stock and bond markets, and signs of economic headwinds in the US, Europe and China have deterred clients from making share sales, crimping profits at the Singapore-based bank. DBS was unchanged at SGD14.50.

Australia

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 Index dropped as of 10:20 a.m. in Sydney. Energy Resources of Australia fell 3.8% to AUD13.80 after reporting 1st-half net income of AUD22.7 million. The company cut its 2010 uranium oxide-output guidance to between 4,300 tons and 4,700 tons from expectations it would be "broadly similar" to the 5,240 tons produced in 2009. Macquarie Group Ltd. plunged 4.9% to AUD36.50. Australia's biggest investment bank said its advisory, securities, fixed income and commodities businesses are set to report lower earnings as global markets falter and deals dwindle.

Japan

Nikkei 225 index fell. Japan's unemployment unexpectedly rose for a 4th straight month and industrial production fell the most in more than a year, signalling the economic expansion is poised to slow. The jobless rate climbed to a 7-month high of 5.3% in June, a statistics bureau report showed today in Tokyo. Economists forecast the unemployment rate would stay at 5.2%, according to the median estimate in a Bloomberg survey.

Thailand

The SET Index fell as of 10:15 a.m. in Bangkok, headed for the 1st loss in 7 days. IRPC PCL, Thailand's 2nd-biggest petrochemical maker by market value, fell 0.5% to THB3.88. The company said yesterday 2nd-quarter profit fell 51% to THB1.19 billion (USD36.9 million). Thai-German Ceramic PCL, a producer of building materials, rose 7.4% to THB3.18, headed for its highest close since April 2006. The company today said 2nd-quarter profit increased almost 6-fold to THB75.3 million. Siam City Cement PCL, Thailand's 2nd-biggest cement maker, increased 2.7% to THB226, the highest since April 9. The company said yesterday that 2nd-quarter profit increased 5.2% to THB731 million as sales expanded. The company, in a statement today, said it will pay an interim dividend of THB6 per share.

Malaysia

Malaysia's benchmark stock index, the Kuala Lumpur Composite Index, fell as at 9:05 a.m. Declines in the Kuala Lumpur Composite Index were led by Tenaga Nasional, Sime Darby Bhd and Ytl Power International. About 22.09 million shares changed hands in Malaysia. Sinotop Holding Bhd, which fell MYR0.05 to MYR0.26, was the most active stock by value in Malaysia. The next most-active issues were Eastern & Oriental Bhd, which rose MYR0.01 to MYR1.16, and Ranhill Bhd, which rose MYR0.05 to MYR0.82.

Indonesia

Indonesia's Jakarta Composite index slid as of 10:35 a.m. local time. PT Ramayana Lestari Sentosa, an Indonesian retailer, fell 2.3% to IDR860, sliding for a 3rd day. Ramayana said 1st-half net income declined to IDR48.93 billion from IDR79.61 billion a year earlier.



Korea

South Korea's Kospi index fell as of 9:19 a.m. in Seoul, set to post 0.5% gain for the week. CJ CheilJedang Corp., South Korean sugar processor, fell 5.9% to KRW243,000. The company was downgraded to "hold" from "buy" at Deutsche Bank AG by analyst Ji-Hyun Song and Jeremy Kim. Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's largest automaker, rose 1.7% to KRW146,500. The company said it plans to buy back 1.69 million shares to give to employees.

New Zealand

New Zealand's NZX 50 Index rose 0.3% to 3,042.31 in Wellington.

Asia Currencies

AUD and NZD slid against the JPY as Asian stocks ended 5 day of gains, damping demand for higher-yielding assets. AUD slipped 0.2% to USD89.82 as of 10:42 a.m. in Sydney from USD0.9005 cents in New York yesterday. The AUD is still headed for a 6.9% advance this month. It dropped 0.5% to JPY77.77. NZD declined 0.3% to USD0.7214 from USD0.7238 in New York yesterday and USD0.7273 cents on July 23. It fell 0.6% to JPY62.46.

IDR appreciated 0.2% to trade at IDR8,960 per USD as of 10:37 a.m. in Jakarta, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The IDR reached IDR8,933, the highest level since June 2007.



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