


Did You Know?



According to NBC news, many pro-Brexit voters are regretting their decision after seeing it's economic and political consequences. Mainly, the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron. There is even a hashtag devoted to this sentiment: #WhatHaveWeDone.



Region edges up, building-related shares boost Saudi

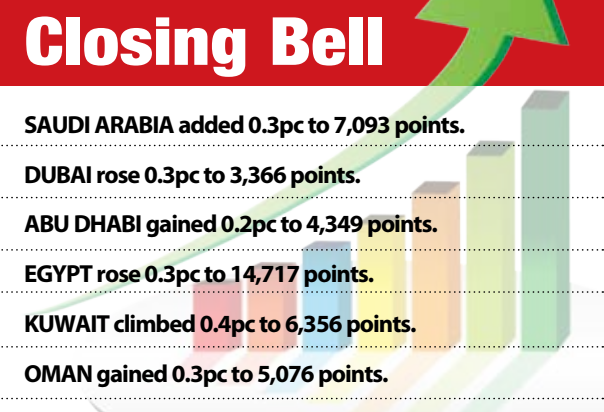
Dubai
Middle Eastern stock markets edged up in quiet trade yesterday, with construction and building materials stocks boosting Saudi Arabia ahead of the release of its 2018 state budget this week.

Saudi Arabia's index added 0.3 per cent as builder Khodari surged 7.6pc in its heaviest trade since January. Najran Cement gained 4.5pc and in addition to Khodari, the 10 best-performing stocks featured six cement producers.

The state budget, to be announced on Tuesday, is expected to be modestly expansionary and include a rise in infrastructure spending after two years of austerity.

Real estate firm Dar Al Arkan, the most heavily

Closing Bell



- SAUDI ARABIA** added 0.3pc to 7,093 points.
- DUBAI** rose 0.3pc to 3,366 points.
- ABU DHABI** gained 0.2pc to 4,349 points.
- EGYPT** rose 0.3pc to 14,717 points.
- KUWAIT** climbed 0.4pc to 6,356 points.
- OMAN** gained 0.3pc to 5,076 points.


In Egypt, the index climbed 0.3pc as Egypt Gas Co, which handles natural gas engineering and maintenance work, soared 10pc.

The company is expected to benefit from work related to Egypt's giant Zohr gas field, where pilot production of gas started this month.

At the end of last week

Egypt Gas forecast 2018 revenues of 2.61 billion Egyptian pounds (\$146 million) and net profit of 24.6m pounds, compared to revenue of 1.10bn pounds and a net loss of 57m pounds in the first nine months of this year.

Markets in Qatar and Bahrain were closed for national holidays. (Reuters)



BFC
CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2920	0.2896
BANGLADESH	0.00483	0.00458
CANADA	0.3018	0.2985
DENMARK	0.0627	
EGYPT	0.0241	0.0218
EURO	0.4501	0.4476
HONGKONG	0.04970	0.04930
INDIA	0.00582	0.00585
INDONESIA	0.00003017	0.00002855
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010964	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000300	
JAPAN	0.00352	0.003450
JORDAN	0.5362	0.5354
KOREA	0.00039646	
KUWAIT	1.254	1.254
MALAYSIA	0.0938	0.0936
NEW ZEALAND	0.2616	0.2616
NORWAY	0.0481	
NEPAL	0.00395	0.00365
OMAN	0.98220	0.98340
PAKISTAN	0.00366	0.00358
PHILIPPINES	0.00758	0.00747
QATAR	0.10386	0.10381
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10065	0.10071
SINGAPORE	0.2834	0.2814
SOUTH AFRICA	0.02850	0.02840
SRI LANKA	0.00283	0.00246
SWEDISH	0.0479	
SWITZERLAND	0.3891	0.3861
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0018
TAIWAN	0.013100	
THAILAND	0.011730	0.011710
TURKEY	0.1024	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.5076	0.5047
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102850	0.102870
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37790	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5738	0.3799	0.3354
KUWAIT	0.2855	32.0873	0.2877	0.2540
OMAN	0.3849	0.3820	0.3878	0.3425
QATAR	3.6420	3.6143	3.6699	3.2405
UAE	3.6730	3.6451	3.7011	3.2681
SAUDI	3.7500	3.7215	3.7787	3.3366

More than half of Britons now want to stay in EU - poll

Edinburgh
Apoll has found that 51 per cent of Britons would now keep European Union membership while 41pc want to leave the bloc, a near reversal of last year's referendum result.

The BMG poll of 1,400 people for The Independent published on the newspaper's website on Saturday came as Britain moves into a second phase of negotiations on exiting the EU, which will focus on trade.

The Independent said the lead for "remain" over "leave" was the biggest in any poll



People hold banners during a 'March for Europe' demonstration against Britain's decision to leave the European Union so far since the vote in June 2016.

But the head of polling at BMG, quoted in the

referendum, while around nine in 10 "leave" and "remain" voters were unchanged in their views. The survey was carried out from December 5 to 8.

In the referendum last year, 52pc of Britons voted to leave the EU and 48pc voted to remain.

Mike Smithson, an election analyst who runs the www.politicalbetting.com website who is also a former Liberal Democrat politician, said on Twitter it was "the biggest lead for Remain since (the EU referendum)." (Reuters)