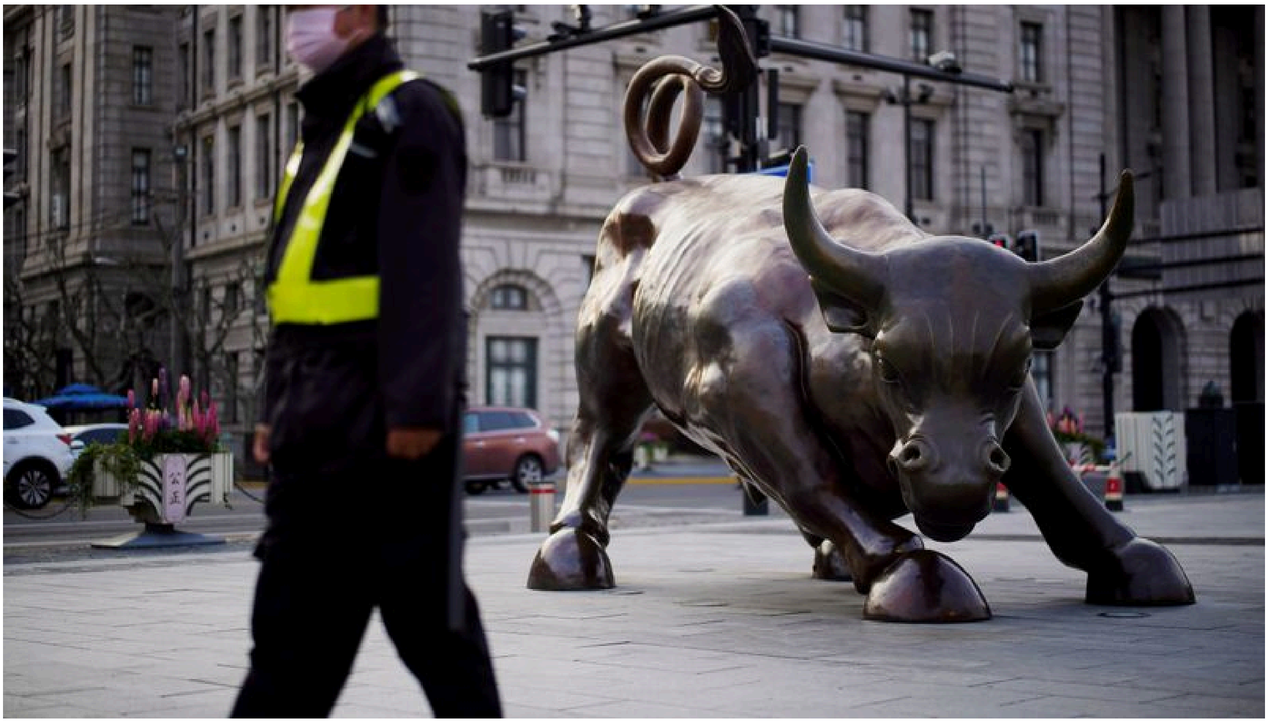
Asia stocks up: China jumps on PBoC rate-cut pledge; Trump trade

Ojha Author Ayushman Ojha

Published 03/13/2025, 11:17 PM



JP225	HK50	JKSE	KS11	SSEC	TOPX
0.73%	2.40%	-1.57%	-0.28%	1.77%	0.65%

Investing.com-- Most Asian stocks advanced on Friday as Chinese shares surged to over a two-month high on the central bank’s vow to cut interest, however, gains in other regional markets were capped by concerns over escalating trade tensions.

Major U.S. stock indexes closed sharply lower on Thursday, with the S&P 500 slipping into correction territory, battered by President Donald Trump's tariff announcements.

Chinese stocks jump on PBoC rate-cut pledge

China's Shanghai Composite jumped 1.5% on Friday, reaching its highest level since December 31, 2024. The Shanghai Shenzhen CSI 300 index surged 2.2%.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index climbed 1.9% as of 03:08 GMT.

In response to mounting economic pressures, China's central bank, the People's Bank of China (PBoC), announced plans on Thursday to implement additional monetary tools aimed at stimulating growth.

These measures include potential interest rate cuts and maintaining the stability of the yuan amid a challenging global economic environment.

The central bank plans to utilize the seven-day reverse repo rate as its main policy instrument, reflecting a move towards market-based approaches to liquidity management.

These developments come amid concerns over deflationary pressures, sluggish household demand, and ongoing trade tensions with the U.S.

China's annual parliamentary meeting "Two Sessions" concluded on March 11, with policymakers setting a 5% GDP growth target for 2024 while pledging pro-business reforms, increased fiscal stimulus, and support for the property sector.

Optimism surrounding the world's second-largest economy spilled over into other regional markets, contributing to broader gains.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.4% on Friday, while the Philippines' PSEi Composite gained 0.5%.

Japan’s Nikkei 225 advanced 0.4% due to a weaker yen, while TOPIX rose 0.5%.

Markets in India were closed for a public holiday.

Investors cautious as Trump trade war heats up

Trump heightened trade tensions on Thursday, warning of a 200% tariff on European alcoholic beverages, including wines and champagnes, if the EU proceeded with its planned 50% tariff on American whiskey.

The EU’s move, set to take effect on April 1, is a response to the U.S.’s recent 25% tariffs on imported steel and aluminum, which came into effect this week.

As tariffs disrupt global supply chains, Asian economies—many of which rely on exports to both the U.S. and Europe—face consequences.

South Korea’s KOSPI was largely unchanged, while Indonesia’s Jakarta Stock Exchange Composite Index slipped 1%.

Latest comments

Write your thoughts about Asia stocks up: China jumps on PBoC rate-cut pledge; Trump trade war caps gains

Post

Comment Guidelines

Luis Martins Freitas

29 minutes ago

In less 60 days the traitor and liar Trump destroyed the alliance military and commercial between U.S. and Europe,Canada and Mexico, the stock market in U.S. already down between 10 to 15%, the GDP of first quarter of 2025 will be -2,8% , Trump made the impossible, a recession in U.S. betrayed the best allies of U.S , choise help Russia in warr against Ukraine, now already began a big reaarm of Europe to be completely independent of weapons of U.S.. Already began boycotting new buys of US weapons like cancel F35 purchases, Trump achieved the impossible, he woke up a sleeping dragon, Europe will face Russia and the US , because Europe has the technology and money to become a military power, countries like Canada and Turkey will join with European countries because U.S. Is not more a trusted country.

Reply 1 0 ...

DJC1

35 minutes ago

Investing.com now seems to be a media proxy for the dems with these slanted titles. today was all about the dem driven shutdown. not tariffs on champagne

Reply 0 1 ...

Show all comments

Next Article

Hong Kong's AIA misses VONB estimates, unveils $1.6 billion buyback

Published 03/14/2025, 02:28 AM

Updated 03/14/2025, 02:51 AM

View all comments (0)

HK50 2.40%

1299 -2.71%

By Adwitiya Srivastava and Aaditya GovindRao

(Reuters) - Hong-Kong based insurer AIA on Friday posted an 18% rise in annual value of new business (VONB) but missed estimates, while announcing a $1.6 billion share buyback that analysts said fell short of market expectations.

The company's shares fell as much as 4.2% by 0615 GMT, hitting their lowest level since March 5. The stock was also the top loser on the Hang Seng Finance Index, which was up 1.6%.

AIA approved a new $1.6 billion buyback plan, citing its strong financial position. Analysts at Jefferies, however, said the buyback fell short of expectations.

The company had last approved a share buyback program in April 2024, extending it by about $2 billion.

It also declared a final dividend of 130.98 Hong Kong cents per share, up from 119.07 Hong Kong cents declared last year.

"In aggregate, AIA's dividends and buybacks thus offer investors a total yield that is surprisingly competitive with lower growth global insurance peers," Jefferies said.

AIA’s VONB, which gauges expected profit from new premiums and is a key measure of future growth, rose to $4.71 billion on a constant currency basis for the year ended December 31, from $4.03 billion a year earlier.

It, however, missed a Visible Alpha consensus estimate of $4.78 billion, according to Jefferies.

Its key onshore China business logged a 20% rise in VONB for the year, while the Hong Kong division jumped 23%.

The firm’s VONB margin grew by 1.9 percentage points, owing to a favourable product mix shift and repricing efforts in Hong Kong and China, its main markets.

(This story has been refiled to add the dollar symbol in the headline)

Latest comments

Write your thoughts about Asia stocks up: China jumps on PBoC rate-cut pledge; Trump trade war caps gains

Post

Comment Guidelines

Next Article

Install Our App

Scan QR code to install app

Google Play

App Store

Blog

Mobile

Portfolio

Widgets

About Us

Advertise

Help & Support

Authors

Risk Disclosure: Trading in financial instruments and/or cryptocurrencies involves high risks including the risk of losing some, or all, of your investment amount, and may not be suitable for all investors. Prices of cryptocurrencies are extremely volatile and may be affected by external factors such as financial, regulatory or political events. Trading on margin increases the financial risks.
Before deciding to trade in financial instrument or cryptocurrencies you should be fully informed of the risks and costs associated with trading the financial markets, carefully consider your investment objectives, level of experience, and risk appetite, and seek professional advice where needed.
Fusion Media would like to remind you that the data contained in this website is not necessarily real-time nor accurate. The data and prices on the website are not necessarily provided by any market or exchange, but may be provided by market makers, and so prices may not be accurate and may differ from the actual price at any given market, meaning prices are indicative and not appropriate for trading purposes. **Fusion Media** and any provider of the data contained in this website will not accept liability for any loss or damage as a result of your trading, or your reliance on the information contained within this website.
It is prohibited to use, store, reproduce, display, modify, transmit or distribute the data contained in this website without the explicit prior written permission of Fusion Media and/or the data provider. All intellectual property rights are reserved by the providers and/or the exchange providing the data contained in this website.
Fusion Media may be compensated by the advertisers that appear on the website, based on your interaction with the advertisements or advertisers.

Terms And Conditions   Privacy Policy   Manage Cookies   Risk Warning