



KINONDONI ROAD,
1ST FLOOR, TOGO TOWER
P.O. BOX 4441,
DAR ES SALAAM-TANZANIA
TEL: +255 22 266 6031
EMAIL: info@optimacorporate.co.tz
WEBSITE: www.optimacorporate.co.tz

Bharti Airtel plans to exit East Africa, cites sustained losses

BHART Airtel, the parent company of Airtel Africa has finally announced it is in the process of exiting Tanzania, Kenya and Rwanda markets, citing sustained losses over the years hence depressing its income from the continent. The third largest mobile telephone operator in Tanzania, with market share of 26 per cent by September this year according to Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), sees the market in the East African region as a drag in profit. It is focused on Nigeria where it has expressed interest in buying 9mobile (formerly, Etisalat Nigeria) the fourth largest mobile carrier in Nigeria. Analysts say if it will succeed to buy 9mobile, it would become the largest telco by subscribers in a market that is Bharti's largest in Africa and generates 30 per cent of its revenues in the continent. In an interview with India's Economic Times, the telco's chairman, Sunil Mittal said the three East African markets have been dragging-down its Africa operations. He told the ET that Bharti Airtel needs to exit these three African markets, and is in active discussions to explore a mix of an intra-country sale, a purchase or a merger. *"Daily News, Business Standard Pg.11"*

TBL share price rally lifts Dar bourse trading

TBL lifted Dar es Salaam bourse to close the week up 0.9 per cent to 3,862.32 as tracked by domestic listed stocks Index (TSI), in the process adding investor wealth by 88.1bn (US\$39 million). Market capitalization for domestic listed stocks closed the week ending 8th Dec 2017 at 10.1 tri/- (\$4.50bn) up 0.9 per cent from 10.03tri/ (\$4.46 million) the week before. However, All share Index which tracks all listed stocks on the Dar es Salaam Stock Ex- change lost 45 points to close the week at 2,162.27 from 2,207.27 weighed down by cross-listed counters which lost value on their respective primary-listed Exchanges. The main notable loser being ACACIA shedding 9.8 per cent of its translated price from 5,420 to close the week under review at 4,890. ACACIA price is translated from GBX (UK pence sterling), the trading currency on London Stock Exchange to Tanzanian shilling. ACACIA price volatility could not be related to any notable event or corporate announcement, nor could it be associated with exchange rate fluctuation between GBP and TZS was just 0.2 per cent shilling strengthening during the week. *"Daily News, Business Standard Pg.12"*

Domestic debt swells by 24pc

The domestic debt stock has increased by 24 per cent to 12.37tri/- in a year ending September from 10.1tri/-. The Central Bank's monthly economic review for October showed that treasury borrowed through the government securities Treasury bills and bonds issued in September for budget financing. According to the report the amount borrowed directly from government securities amounted to 630bn/-, out of which, 417.5bn/- were T-bills and 212.6bn/- Treasury bonds. The central bank statistics further showed that commercial banks are leading lenders to the government with 43.3 per cent share followed by pension funds with 29.5 per cent stake. It shows that the composition of domestic debt stock by holders remained the same as in August and last September positions. "Banks remained dominant, holding of the debt stock followed by pension funds and BoT," the MER report said. *"Daily News, Business & Finance Pg.19"*

TEL

EMAIL

WEB