

News monitored for: Kotak Securities

# THE ECONOMIC TIMES

## It's biz as usual on D-Street despite bandh

### Though Volumes Were Down, Business Continuity Plan By SEs, Brokers Ensures Smooth Functioning

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MUMBAI

flood, can't  
trades



ITP have set a norm of presence of the company's several key members at all times monitoring orders, what makes the dealing room in a broking firm a buzzing place on normal trading days. This was missing on Monday, when trading in stocks was disrupted due to the call for a nation-wide bandh by the Opposition parties to protest rising fuel prices.

This led to a significant fall in business volumes, due to the lack of active participation of investors, even though essential staff managing key functions such as surveillance, dealing room and IT support were present in strength, thanks to the business continuity plan (BCP) implemented by leading stock brokers and exchanges.

BCP implementation was smooth, thanks to a series of earlier operations among even such

under BCP, problem of disruption is not to be an worry as a team is set with a change the others identified, a team leader appointed, who is given responsibility to guide the members with a set of guide and procedure to be followed deal with the emergency situation.

A leading Mumbai-based investment banking firm's stock broking arm was successfully implemented BCP during several critical days such as in the 26 hours in Mumbai and days when a national was called in Mumbai. "We had 100% attendance of dealers. IT employees, too, also 100% on duty. Staff, particularly security, remained alert," said an official with a broking firm.

The strike did not have

level in most of our branches said D Karmali, managing director, Kotak Securities, one of the leading firms in the country. Managing broking firms are difficult in such situations, as we made travel or stay arrangements to ensure that we still don't see any difficulty in reaching offices," he said. Attendance, including security, was 100% in Mumbai though the overall trading volumes were affected substantially on Monday. "While it is difficult to estimate the loss in business, the fall in volume should not have been more than 50% or even much less," added M Karmali.

was sharp fall in volumes (quantity of shares traded) and turnover value of shares traded on Monday. While volumes fell to 12.6 crore shares in

turnover declined to Rs 2.85 crore from Rs 4.35 crore. The broader market, however, was in a range bound, with the Sensex moving in a narrow range between the day's high of 17,790 and low of 17,424, before ending flat at 17,441.

The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) also implemented BCP because of which most of its employees did get their leave and settlement services and IT functions were present, as existing in a top exchange office. He, however, said the attendance even in other department was low because of the strike.

The overall volumes at the exchange were impacted due to lower investor participation," he said. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) is known to have offered overnight accommodation facilities to its essential staff housed close to its headquarters located in Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex.