

## Study of free trade pact with India soon, says Singapore

AFP, Bangalore, India

Singapore President S.R. Nathan said Monday a study of comprehensive economic co-operation between India and Singapore, which will lead to talks for a free trade pact, will be completed early this year.

"It will be over during the first quarter of this year," Nathan told reporters in India's technology hub of Bangalore, where he inaugurated a new facility at the Information Technology Park.

"When it is over then bilateral talks will begin (for establishing a free trade pact)," he said.

Nathan on Saturday met Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and they discussed the possibility of a free trade pact between their two countries.

Singapore, one of the largest investors in India, is keen on building greater economic ties between New Delhi and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

India wants within 10 years to enter into a free trade agreement with ASEAN, which includes Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines and Cambodia.

"The prospects of doing business with India are great," Nathan said after the launch of a new block at the Information Technology Park, the largest information technology park in India.

The park, which has a developed

area of 1.6 million square feet (148,000 square metres), is a joint venture between Tata Industries, the Karnataka State government and a Singapore consortium led by Ascendas.

Around 100 companies, both Indian and foreign, are based there employing more than 8,500 IT professionals.

Nathan, who is on eight-day state visit to India, will also visit the southern Indian cities of Madras and Hyderabad during his stay.



PHOTO: DBBL  
**Md Yeasin Ali, managing director of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited, addresses a day-long workshop on "Prevention of Money Laundering" held at DBBL Training Centre in the city on Sunday.**



PHOTO: KUWAIT AIRWAYS  
**Fahel Aladwani, country manager, Nasimul Hassan Sufi, sales manager (passenger services), and Monsurul Haque, sales manager (cargo) of Kuwait Airways, are seen with participants of a familiarisation tour to Cairo, Egypt before departure at Zia International Airport, Dhaka. Kuwait Airways organised the trip for their top ten passengers and cargo agents recently.**



PHOTO: BANK ASIA  
**Syed Anisul Huq, managing director of Bank Asia Limited, inaugurates the induction ceremony of the newly-recruited management trainees of the bank held in the city on Thursday. Picture shows the management trainees with the managing director, senior executives and branch managers.**

## Introduction ceremony of Bank Asia's new recruits held

The induction ceremony of the newly recruited management trainees of Bank Asia was held on Thursday, says a press release.

Syed Anisul Huq, managing director of the bank, was present as chief guest on the occasion.

The ceremony was attended by senior executives, branch managers and management trainees.

Bank Asia recently recruited 20 management trainees through a competitive examination.

## DBBL holds workshop

Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited organised a day-long workshop on "Prevention of Money Laundering" on Sunday at the Bank's training institute, says a press release.

Md. Yeasin Ali, managing director of the bank, was present as the chief guest. A total of 22 bank officials took part in the workshop.

Md. Harunur Rashid Chowdhury, general manager, money Laundering Prevention Division of Bangladesh Bank, and Abdul Jalil Chaudhury, associate professor, of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management, also spoke on the occasion.

Among others, Executive Vice President of the bank Mominul Haque was also present.



PHOTO: GENERAL PHARMACEUTICALS  
**Dr Momenul Haq, managing director of General Pharmaceuticals Ltd, presides over the yearly sales conference 2002 of the company held at BIAM auditorium in the city on Sunday. All of the field force and head office executives were present at the meeting.**

## SHIPPING

**Chittagong port**  
Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 07.01.2003.

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disc
J/1	Eltanin	Sugar(P)	Mumb	Mutual	23/12	10/1	1574
J/2	Ocean Pride	GI	Yang	PSAL	20/12	7/1	301
J/3	Jon Jin	Sugar(P)	Kaki	Sstl	25/12	12/1	990
J/4	Pinya	GI(Y Ma)	Yang	Mta	24/12	6/1	882
J/5	GIEM	C.Clink	Lumut	OLM	20/12	7/1	1798
J/6	Altair-SS	TSP(P) BAG	QINZ	Unique	31/12	8/1	2280
J/7	Estrilia Etsrna(Roro/24)	VeHi	Sing	Everett	4/1	6/1	759
J/8	Yong Jiang (Liner)	GI	Mank	BdShip	31/12	7/1	2952
J/9	Under Dredging a Feeder Flting	2. W.E.F.	23/12/02				
J/10	Dolly	GI(Y Pe)	Pira	Mutual	19/12	9/1	1410
J/11	Orient Freedom	Cont	P.Kel	Pssl	1/1	6/1	451/451
J/12	Oc Pintail(Ebb)	Cont	P.Kel	Qosl	3/1	7/1	X/186
J/13	Jaami	Cont	Col	Everbest	3/1	7/1	66/x
CCT/1	Banga Bonik	Cont	Col	Bdship	3/1	6/1	55/x
CCT/2	Banga Biroi	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	30/12	7/1	112/x
CCT/3	Xpress Manaslu	Cont	P.Kel	RSL	3/1	8/1	
339/268+700							
RM/14	Taraman Bibi	IDLS	Mumb	Mutual	23/11	7/1	
RM/15	Tarpon Santiago	Sugar (P)	Zant	Litmond	24/12	7/1	
CCJ	Hanei Sun	C.Clink	Tarj	Bsl	22/12	8/1	
TSP	Pearl of Ajman	R Phos(G)	Hamn	Seacom	14/12	9/1	
DD:							
DDJ/1	Danglar Shikha(SBB) Repair		Sing	Bsc	1/12	7/1	
	(R/On:7/1)						
DDJ/2							
RM/8	Banglar Jyoti	Repair	-	Bsc	R/A	8/1	
RM/5	Banglar Gourab	Repair	-	Bsc	R/A	10/1	
RM/10	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	-	Bsc	R/A	10/1	
SM/10	Dredger Gemini	Ballast	Chand	Karna	-	15/1	
Custom	Jetty: Tug Sbm-1	Ballast	Sing	Otbl	9/12		
	Tug Jubilee Dua	-Do-	Sing	Otbl	9/12		
	(Ceased by Custom)						

## Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Banga Biraj(Cont)26/12	6/1	Sing	Bdship	Cont	L/Sing
Banga Borak (Cont)2/1	6/1	Mong	Baridhi	Cont	L/Sing
Aft Section Maxita	5/1	Sing	Otbl For Demolition		
Britoil-8	8/1	Sing	Otbl/D/VI: A S Maxita		
Tug Titan-4	6/1	Indo	Otbl D/VI:H Barge		
3 Hopper Barge	6/1	Indo	Otbl For Demolition		
Dimitris-Y	7/1	Sing	Rainbow	R.Seed	-
An Guang Jiang (Liner)	8/1	Busan	Bdship	GI	-
Kota Berjaya(Cont)28/12	7/1	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont	L/Sing
Gladiator-1 (Liner)	8/1	Sin	Prog	GI	-

## Tanker due

1. Pranedyta Ditya	7/1/03	Sing	SCSL	W/Ld	F.Oil-
2. Duke	8/1/03	Baha	SCSL	SKO/JP-1(8500 W/LT)	
3. Gaz Master	10/1	Hald	Mbl	W/Ld	
Ammonia(K/A)					
4-Danat Qatar	10/1	Rast	Uss	Cruds/Oil	

## Vessels ready:

Mysik	GI (Maize)	Yangs	MTA	31/12/ at 1551
Chip Sam	(Wheat(p)	Kaki	SSTL	2/01 st 0600
Banga Borti (Cont)(0000/5th)Cont	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	2/01 at 1942
Banga Lanka (Cont)	Cont	P. Kel	Ssaborne	3/01 at 2206
Amanat Shah	Sugar(P)	Mumb	Clw	4/1 at 1200

## Vessels Awaiting Employment/Instruction

Banglar Doot	-	-	Royal	R/A(26/12)
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## Movement of vessels for 07.01.2003

	Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J/2	O. Pride	Banga Borti	J/13
J/5	Giem	K. Singa	J/11
J/8	Yong Jiang	Banga Lanka	J/8
RM-15-T. Santiago			J/11
			Florida
			J/5

The above are shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

## CURRENCY

Following is yesterday's forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

TT/OD	Selling		Buying		
	BC	Currency	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
59.2500	59.3000	USD	58.3500	58.1786	58.1090
62.7161	62.7691	EUR	59.9838	59.8076	59.7360
96.0798	96.1609	GBP	93.1908	92.9171	92.8058
34.3354	34.3644	AUD	32.6177	32.5218	32.4829
0.5023	0.5028	JPY	0.4854	0.4839	0.4834
42.7551	42.7912	CHF	41.5214	41.3994	41.3499
6.8119	6.8177	SEK	6.6907	6.6711	6.6631
38.1299	38.1620	CAD	37.0971	36.9881	36.9438
7.6048	7.6112	HKD	7.4742	7.4522	7.4433
34.1873	34.2161	SGD	33.3791	33.2811	33.2412
16.2636	16.2773	AED	15.7579	15.7116	15.6928
15.9250	15.9391	SAR	15.4365	15.3912	15.3727

## Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	58.215	Pak rupee	96.74	Lankan rupee	42.885	Thai baht	6.9391	Nor kroner	0.5279	NZ dollar	3.80	Malaysian ringgit	
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## STOCK