

WTO warns delays at trade talks may scupper deal

WTO chief Pascal Lamy on Wednesday warned trading nations who are trying to revitalise talks on global commerce that they must settle key differences over coming days or they could jeopardise a deal.

WTO governments were scheduled to start four days of intensive talks at the organisation's Geneva base on Thursday, as they try to keep their struggling Doha Round trade liberalisation negotiations on track.



An agreement was signed between Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) and GETCO Ltd on Tuesday in Dhaka to set up a joint venture battery and tyre retreaded factory at BRTC's integrated central workshop in Joydebpur, Gazipur.



AKM Sazzadul Karim, director and chief operating officer of Palmal Group, a business house, and Tanvir Ibrahim, head of Corporate Sales of mobile phone operator Banglalink, exchange documents after signing a corporate agreement recently.

originally meant to end in 2004, aim to use trade to improve the lot of developing countries.

The goal at this week's talks is to reach a deal on the mathematics for cuts in rich nations' farm subsidies and tariffs on agricultural goods, as well as duties on manufactured goods, particularly those imported by developing countries.

Key players, notably the European Union, United States, Brazil and India, disagree on the concessions they would be required to make.

"Postponing decisions on cuts to subsidies and tariffs until later in the year is a recipe for failure," Lamy said. "We need the ministers to crack the nut now, not later."

The WTO is facing a "moment of truth" and the lack of a deal at the looming meeting would leave trading nations in a "risk zone," he added.

Air passenger traffic in Asia up 4pc: AAPA

Asia-Pacific airlines flew 10.5 million passengers in May, up four percent from a year earlier, the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) said Wednesday.

For the five months to May, passenger traffic increased five percent to more than 53 million passengers, the Kuala Lumpur-based industry group said in a statement.

Cargo traffic last month rose 3.4 percent to 4.28 million tonnes (4.71 tons) and in the first five months of the year, it was 5.2 percent higher at 21.39 million tonnes, AAPA said.

AAPA is a trade association of 17 international airlines based in the region including Air New Zealand, All Nippon Airways, Asiana Airlines, Cathay Pacific Airways, Singapore Airlines and Malaysia Airlines.



Mahbub-ul-Haque, director of Radio Today, and Tarik Sujat, managing director of i-Infomedia Ltd, pose for photographs at a function recently while signing a strategic content partnership agreement.



Mohd Ariful Azim, head of Operation of Rancon Motors Ltd, inaugurates a two-day service campaign for Mercedes-Benz passenger vehicles at 'Mercedes-Benz New Service Outlet' in Chittagong yesterday.

CURRENCY

Following is Wednesday's (June 28, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Table with columns: Sell, Buy, Currency, TT Clean, OD Sight/Doc, OD Transfer. Lists various currencies like USD, EUR, GBP, JPY, CHF, SEK, CAD, AUD, NZD, HKD, SGD, SAR, DKK, KWD.

Local Interbank FX Trading Local interbank FX market was active. USD rose slightly against Bangladeshi taka. Local Money Market Money market was active. Call money rate remained unchanged and ranged between 6.50 and 7.00 per cent.

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES June 28, 2006

Large table with columns: Company, DSE, CSE, Financial Performance, Last, EPS, CDPS, AGM. Lists various companies like BAKL, BRTC, GETCO, etc.

Market Highlights - June 28, 2006

Table with columns: Indicators, DSE, CSE, DSE All Share Index, DSE - 20 Index, CSE - 30 Index, CSE Selected Index, Turnover Leaders, Capital Gainers, Capital Losers, Book Closesr/AGM/Dividend/IPO.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 28/6/2006

Table with columns: Berth No., Name of vessels, Cargo, L. Port, Local agent, Dt of arrival, Leaving, Import/Export.

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L. Port, Local agent, Type of cargo, Loading ports.

Tanker due

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L. Port, Local agent, Type of cargo, Loading ports.

Vessels at Kutubdia

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Cargo call, Last Port, Local agent, Date of arrival.

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

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