

## G8 summit a last chance for ailing WTO talks: Blair

AFP, London

A Group of Eight (G8) summit in Russia this weekend may be one of the last chances to restart a crucial round of global trade talks, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said on Wednesday.

Blair told parliament it was "extremely important" to kick start the talks and secure agreements between rich and poor countries.

"One of the single most important issues that will run throughout the summit, even if not formally, will

be the World Trade Organisation (WTO) talks, which at the moment are stalled," he said during a weekly session of prime minister's questions.

"This weekend may be one of the last opportunities we have got to restart those talks productively and get the right agreement between Brazil and India and the developing countries on the one hand and America, Europe and Japan on the other."

A crunch WTO session in Geneva fizzled out at the start of the month as a long-standing rift

between rich and poor countries appeared to deepen in the Doha Round negotiations on tearing down barriers to global commerce.

In a sign of movement, however, the leaders of China, India and Brazil are due to attend a special meeting on Monday with the G8 leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, hosts Russia and the United States.

The annual G8 summit is due to open on Saturday in Saint Petersburg.

Turning to other issues, Blair

said a further commitment to helping Africa and climate change -- central themes of last year's summit hosted by Britain -- would also be on the agenda.

"It is important that we recommit to the objectives in helping Africa and there will be a particular focus on education at the G8," he said.

As for global warming, the summit will pay particular attention to energy security, said Blair.

"Nonetheless again I think it is important that we focus on climate change as well," he added.



PHOTO: MAPLE INTERNATIONAL

Rungwit Isarapandh, regional manager of Thailand-based I-Mobile International Co Ltd, inaugurates a customer care centre of the company recently in Gulshan-2, Dhaka. Senior officials of Maple International Ltd, the authorised distributor of i-mobile brand handsets in Bangladesh, among others, were present.



PHOTO: BGMEA

A delegation of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA) led by its President Tipu Munshi calls on US Ambassador to Bangladesh Patricia A Butenis on Tuesday in Dhaka to discuss various RMG industry-related issues with the envoy.



PHOTO: BLFCA

Chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Faruq Ahmad Siddiqi and other SEC members are seen at a meeting with the newly elected office bearers of Bangladesh Leasing & Finance Companies Associations (BLFCA) including its Chairman Anis A Khan on Tuesday in Dhaka.

## Global oil demand to grow 1.8pc next year: IEA

AFP, Paris

Global demand for oil will grow by 1.8 percent in 2007 and increase by an average of 2.0 percent annually during the five years to the end of 2011, the International Energy Agency forecast on Wednesday.

The IEA said that the current high prices of crude oil were constraining demand, but that economic expansion in Asia and rising consumption in the Middle East would outweigh this effect during the period to 2011.

Overall and in the medium term, increases in supplies of oil, mainly from OPEC countries, would outstrip increases in demand every year until 2010.

This would add spare capacity to the global production system, the IEA said.

Oil traders have been concerned about a lack of spare capacity, or a so-called reserve capacity cushion, in the global system. In the last two years this cushion has been compressed and this has been one of the key drivers of rising prices.

The assessments were published in two reports by the IEA, one being the regular monthly assessment of the oil market and the other a medium-term outlook.



PHOTO: BANK ASIA

Syed Anisul Huq, president and managing director of Bank Asia Ltd, gives away a certificate to a participant in a foundation course organised by the bank for its management trainees at a function in Dhaka recently.

## CURRENCY

Following is Wednesday's (July 12, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

TT/OD	BC	Currency	Buy		
			TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
70.2700	70.3000	USD	69.0500	69.0270	68.9810
90.8099	90.8487	EUR	86.8511	86.8221	86.7642
130.9130	130.9689	GBP	125.8436	125.8017	125.7178
53.7884	54.0115	AUD	51.1522	51.1352	51.1011
0.6243	0.6246	JPY	0.5997	0.5995	0.5991
57.9690	57.9937	CHF	55.7439	55.7253	55.6882
10.2101	10.2145	SEK	9.2321	9.2291	9.2229
62.7299	62.7567	CAD	60.3689	60.3488	60.3086
9.0581	9.0620	HKD	8.8605	8.8576	8.8517
45.5028	45.5222	SGD	43.6004	43.5859	43.5568
19.2885	19.2968	AED	18.6481	18.6418	18.6294
18.8867	18.8948	SAR	18.2667	18.2606	18.2484
12.5540	12.5594	DKK	11.3330	11.3293	11.3217
239.6812	239.7857	KWD	237.0976	237.0209	236.8675

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
46.02	60.43	103.945	37.855	6.2535	0.6179	3.65

## SHIPPING

### Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 12/7/2006

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/1	Vera	Wheat(p)	Ukra	Jnship	1/6	--	213
J/2	Santa Suria	GI(R Log)	Yang	AMBL	29/6	12/7	1052
J/3	Xuan Cheng	Gypsum/tp	Fang	Cosco	17/6	16/7	90
J/4	Huang Shan	GI	Chin	Cosco	3/7	16/7	342
J/5	African Protea	Slag	Viza	Move	30/6	12/7	1372
J/6	Long Grow	Sugar	Tuti	Litmond	5/7	16/7	192
J/7	Banga Borat	Cont	Sing	Bdship	5/7	16/7	30
J/8	Yong Jiang	GI	Inch	Cosco	5/7	15/7	415
J/9	Golden Star	Urea(BCIC)	Ruwei	PSAL	27/6	19/7	415
J/10	Kota Petani	Col	Sing	Pil(Bd)	5/7	13/7	79
J/11	New Sea Sar	Cont	Mala	QCSL	3/7	12/7	78
J/12	Banglar Robi	Cont	Ptp	BSC	5/7	14/7	172

### Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Hawaiian Eye	12/7	Ling	Prog	GI(Ht. St)	--
Amalia	12/7	--	Seacom	Raw Sugar	--
Atlantica-1	12/7	Toama	Safe	Scraping	--
Taji	12/7	Dali	AHZ	Scraping	--
Brave Royal	12/7	Krabi	Brsi	C. Clink	Royal
Banga Bortl	12/7	Sin	Bdship	Cont	P.kel
Carakajaya Niaga-III-4	12/7	Yang	Sunshine	GI(log)	--
Port Alice	12/7	--	Everett	Gr. Slag	--
Amer	13/7	P. Kel	CEL	Cont	Sing
Phu Tan	13/7	Col	PSSL	Cont	Col
Coastal Express	14/7	Kol	BSCA	Cont	L/viz
Xpress Resolve	13/7	CBO	Seacon	Cont	Col
QC Dignity	14/7	PKL	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Eastern Star	14/7	Sing	PML	Cont	Sing
Phu My	15/7	P.kel	RSL	Cont	Sing

### Tanker due

Lotus	20/7	Jebel	OWSL	Crude Oil
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### Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/A (7/7)

### Outside port limit

Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/A (7/7)
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### Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready				
Kanok Naree	Wheat(p)	Turk	Litmond	21/6
Banga Bijoy	Cont	Col	Baridhi	8/7
Cape Henry	Cont	Sing	APL	7/7
Emily-C	Cont	P.kel	Seacon	7/7
Kota Rajin	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	7/7
Kota Cahaya	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	8/7
OEL Excellence	Cont	Col	PSSL	8/7
Banga Biraj	Cont	Sing	Bdship	6/7

### Vessels not ready

Evangelos-I	Wheat(p)	Ukra	Pol	5/7
Continent-4	Sugar	Tuti	Cla	5/7
Isokaze	CPO	Batar	Rainbow	7/7
Maris	C. Clink	Krabi	Litmond	6/7
Al Kuwaitiah	Hsd/ms	Kuwa	MSTPL	7/7
Tu Qiang	GI	Vanc	Mutual	10/7
Al Badiyah	Hsd	Kuwa	MSTPL	10/7

### Vessels awaiting employment/instruction

Banga Barta	Ballast	Col	Baridhi	10/3
Banglar Shourabh	--	--	BSC	R/A (21/6)
Banglar Jyoti	--	--	BSC	R/A (24/6)

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

## STOCK