

## US trade crisis won't harm economic link with China, other Asian states

BEIJING, Mar 3: Washington's trade tensions with Beijing and Tokyo are no barrier to the aggressive expansion of US economic involvement in China and other Asian countries, a senior US trade official said Wednesday, reports AFP.

Speaking during the Beijing leg of an Asian tour that includes stops in Singapore, Indonesia and Japan, US Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Jeffrey Garten said his main brief was to underline Washington's commitment to the Asian region.

"The United States will definitely remain a military stabiliser" in the region, Garten

said, while at the same time "aggressively increasing our economic and commercial involvement."

Whatever the outcome of the long-running Sino-US debate over China's Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) trading status, Garten stressed that the Chinese and US economies were already inextricably linked because of their size and mutual importance.

"It is inconceivable to me that there will not be a lot of business under any circumstances," he said, adding that both sides stood to reap enormous benefits from closer commercial links "regardless of what tensions might exist in the short term."

US President Bill Clinton

must decide in June on whether China has achieved the significant progress in human rights that Washington has made a precondition of MFN renewal.

Garten's stopover in Beijing coincides with the visit here of US Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights John Shattuck.

The Chinese market, which also includes Hong Kong and Taiwan, is one of the four — together with Indonesia, South Korea and India — targeted by the Clinton administration's national export strategy.

During his Asian tour, Garten said he was lobbying for US businesses to win contracts totalling 12 billion dollars, half

of which involved telecommunications, power generation and transportation agreements in China.

In talks with China's Foreign Trade Ministry, he said both sides had agreed to revive the work of the Sino-US joint committee on commerce and trade which is scheduled to meet in Washington in April.

The agenda for that meeting will focus on problems facing US businesses in China, such as limited market access and intellectual property rights violations, and discuss further cooperation in the information technology, energy, transport, financial services and chemical sectors, Garten said.

## China aims to attract foreign investment

BEIJING, Mar 3: Beijing aims to attract investment from some 200 to 300 transnational companies in the next few years in a bid to bring a fast development to the local economy, reports Xinhua.

That is part of a package of plans announced by Lu Yucheng, vice-mayor of Beijing, in a recent meeting here. The plans are expected to help the capital reach the goal of a relatively comfortable life three years earlier than the nation's schedule.

So far, more than 60 well-known transnational firms have come to Beijing to invest according to the latest statistics.

The investment fields that the municipal government

tries to attract foreign investment in cover infrastructural construction, renovation of outdated houses, high-tech and new-tech sectors, economic and technological development zones, the service industry and modern commercial buildings.

In addition, the government attempts to lure foreign investment into such fields as high-efficiency farming, tourism and financial sectors.

Lu said Beijing also plans to expand its foreign trade by over two billion US dollars this year through building more export-oriented firms and factories. Last year's total exports topped 1.68 billion US dollars. The shareholding system will be promoted in more trade companies.

## Beijing supports DPRK's economic reform

TOKYO, Mar 3: China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping has instructed his country's policymakers to fully support North Korea's economic reform policy, a news report said yesterday, reports AFP.

Deng has also asked the policymakers to arrange a visit to China by North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, Japan's Kyodo news service said, quoting a diplomatic source in Seoul.

The source said Deng issued the call after being briefed on North Korea by Ding Guangen, a member of the Chinese communist party politburo.

Ding had met Hwang Jang-Yop, a North Korean parliamentary committee chairman, who made a trip to China in January leading a five-member delegation.

Hwang, Chairman of the foreign affairs committee of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly (parliament), told Ding that his country intended to adopt a Chinese-

style open economic policy, according to the source.

During his stay in China from January 15 to 23, Hwang exchanged opinions with Chinese leaders of North Korea's economic policy and Kim's planned visit to China, the source said.

North Korea unveiled in 1991 a plan to set up free economic zones in Najin and Sonbong in its northeast.

'Economic sanctions be ineffective'

Another report adds: any economic sanctions against North Korea over its suspected nuclear weapons programme will be ineffective, Russian military officers were quoted as saying here yesterday.

The Russian officers told their Japanese counterparts in a meeting that the North Korean nuclear issue should be settled through dialogue, official sources said.

An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) team arrived in Pyongyang Tuesday to inspect North Korea's seven declared nuclear facilities.

## UAE to host int'l gas conference

ABU DHABI, Mar 3: Officials from the Gulf, Asia, Europe and the United States are to gather in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for a conference on the prospects for gas demand, organisers said yesterday, reports AFP.

The conference, opening on March 21, comes as several producers in the Middle East embark on major projects to boost output and a growing trend to switch from oil to gas as a cleaner source of energy.

The conference will focus on obstacles blocking development of the Arab gas industry, the outlook for demand, financing problems, supplies and transport, the organisers said.

"The discussions will cover the strategic, economic and political dimensions of exploitation of gas in the region," said Jihad Al-Omari of the British-Middle East consultants, which is organising the meeting.

"It will provide an opportunity for producers and consumers to sit and exchange views about the future of this vital commodity. It is specifically important because dependence on gas is steadily increasing," he told AFP.

## Jakarta's trade surplus \$ 8.66b last year

JAKARTA, Mar 3: Indonesia had a trade surplus last year of 8.66 billion dollars, up 29.9 per cent over 1992, Information Minister Harmoko said yesterday, reports AFP.

Exports in 1993 were worth 36.82 billion dollars with imports 28.162 billion dollars, Harmoko said after a monthly cabinet meeting on the economy.

Inflation in February was 1.76 per cent, up .51 per cent on the January figure and bringing the cumulative rate for the 11 months of the fiscal year which ends in March, to 6.34 per cent, Harmoko said.

He said the increase was mostly due to higher food prices because of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan which began in February 14.

Food consumption of Indonesian Muslims, who make up 88 per cent of the country's 186 million population, rose during the month because of the traditional meals served at the end of the day.



A customer buys a pack of foreign rice while TV crews film the scene at a super market in Osaka, Japan, yesterday. The super market sells foreign rice, mostly from Thailand, for a price of one US dollar (104 yen) per kilogram. — AFP photo

## Malaysia's boycott unjustified: Major

LONDON, Mar 3: British Prime Minister John Major said today that Malaysia's decision not to grant new government contracts to British companies was shortsighted and unjustified, reports Xinhua.

Malaysia declared the boycott last Friday to demonstrate its anger over British media accusations that Malaysian officials received bribes from British firms, and that British aid for a Malaysian dam project was linked to arms sales.

Major, returning from a visit to the US, said I don't believe what the Malaysian government has done to British companies is remotely justified.

I believe it is shortsighted to have acted as they have done and I believe over time

they may be seen to have damaged the Malaysian interest as much as the British, he told BBC radio.

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee that a link between an arms deal and an aid package for Malaysia was "incorrect".

Hurd said a protocol which former Defence Secretary George Younger signed in March 1988 reflected Malaysia's wish to link the arms sale to a set percentage of aid.

But after consultation, Lord Younger wrote to the Malaysians in June 1988 to say this was not possible.

The commons committee is investigating press allegations.

## Taiwan dumping threaded pipe fittings on US market

WASHINGTON, Mar 3: Taiwan is dumping threaded pipe fittings on the US market, according to a preliminary determination from the Department of Commerce, reports USIS.

A spokesman said March 2 the department estimated the dumping margins ranged up to 1.25 per cent. In January-November 1993 US imports of threaded pipe fittings from Taiwan amounted to \$15.7 million.

Imposing anti-dumping duties requires affirmative final determinations both from Commerce that dumping is taking place and from the US International Trade Commission (USITC) that the imports are injuring US industry.

## Gore announces partnership with semiconductor industry

WASHINGTON, Mar 3: The Clinton administration has announced a new government-industry partnership that calls on four federal agencies to work closely with US firms to develop semiconductor technology for the 21st century, according to USIS release.

Administration officials and

industry leaders told reporters March 2 that a Semiconductor Technology Council composed of top government and industry executives and leading academicians will be created later this year to oversee the partnership.

Vice President Gore said that under the initiative the Departments of Commerce, Energy, Defence and the National Science Foundation will collaborate with the semiconductor industry on pre-competitive technology while US firms continue to "compete fiercely" in the marketplace.

Gore said the partnership's priorities have been established in a road map of long-term technology goals developed by a group of industry and government experts.

Officials said that the initiative will be based on, but bigger than, the existing government-computer industry partnership known as Sematech.

This successful consortium consists of 11 semiconductor manufacturers working with the national laboratories and US universities to create fundamental changes in manufacturing technology.

Gore said the semiconductor industry is important for both economic and national security reasons.

"Leadership in microelectronics is critical to America's economic future," Gore said. "Our announcement today underscores this administration's commitment to invest in technology to create jobs and strengthen our ability to compete and win in today's global marketplace."

Under the partnership, the Commerce Department will establish a 25-million dollar, five-year national metrology programme to develop ever-smaller measuring tools for use in advanced microelectronics manufacturing.

According to Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, making computer chips in the future will require the ability to detect a single particle no more than three nanometers, or 3,000 millionths of a meter in size.

Among other things, the initiative also called for creating a center for the simulation and modeling of semiconductor materials, manufacturing processes and chip design. The centre will be built under a five-year, 100-million dollar cost-sharing agreement between the Department of Energy's national laboratories and the Semiconductor Research Corporation.

Gore said that collaboration between the government and the semiconductor industry can have wide-ranging implications. He pointed out, for example, that semiconductors are the "brains" of the global electronics industry, which boasts over 700 million dollar in annual sales and is projected to grow to \$2,000,000 million in sales by the year 2000.

## Bomb attack on bank in Egypt

CAIRO, Mar 3: Suspected Islamic militants opened fire and hurled a bomb at a bank in southern Egypt. Shattering windows but causing no casualties, the Interior Ministry said yesterday, reports AFP.

It said that guards at the Misr Bank in Abu Tig, a town in the troubled province of Asyut, fired back and forced the three gunmen in the attack late Tuesday to flee.

A bomb exploded earlier the same night near the Misr Bank in the suburb of Cairo, but there were no casualties and damage was light, police said.

## Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on March 3, 1994

## Index rises by 3 points

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index rose by over three points while the gainers continued domination on the floor on Thursday, the closing day of the week.

The price index reached 554.17858 from 551.00646 showing a gain of 3.17 per cent.

The Beximco Synthetic dominated the 36 gainers out of 58 issues traded in terms of volume.

The Synthetic's 4060 shares were traded at the rate of Taka 222.93 as against Taka 222.09.

The Atlas Bangladesh (3790), Zeal Bangla Sugar (2800), Eagle Star Textile (1900), Ambee Pharma (1000), Beximco Ltd (2600), Quasem Silk (1800) and the BGIC (3540) also experienced remarkable gains in terms of volume.

Only nine issues, led by the Quasem Drycells, incurred losses.

The Drycells' 2700 shares changed hands at the rate of Taka 11.56 as against Taka 11.60, the previous closing rate. The 6th ICB M Fund 1030 also suffered significant loss.

The share prices of 13 issues remained unchanged.

A total of 33017 shares changed hands at Taka 4525741.00 as against 39428

shares worth Taka 6605282.00 of the previous day. The changes meant falls of 16.26 and 31.48 per cent in the DSC volume and value respectively.

## Trading at a glance

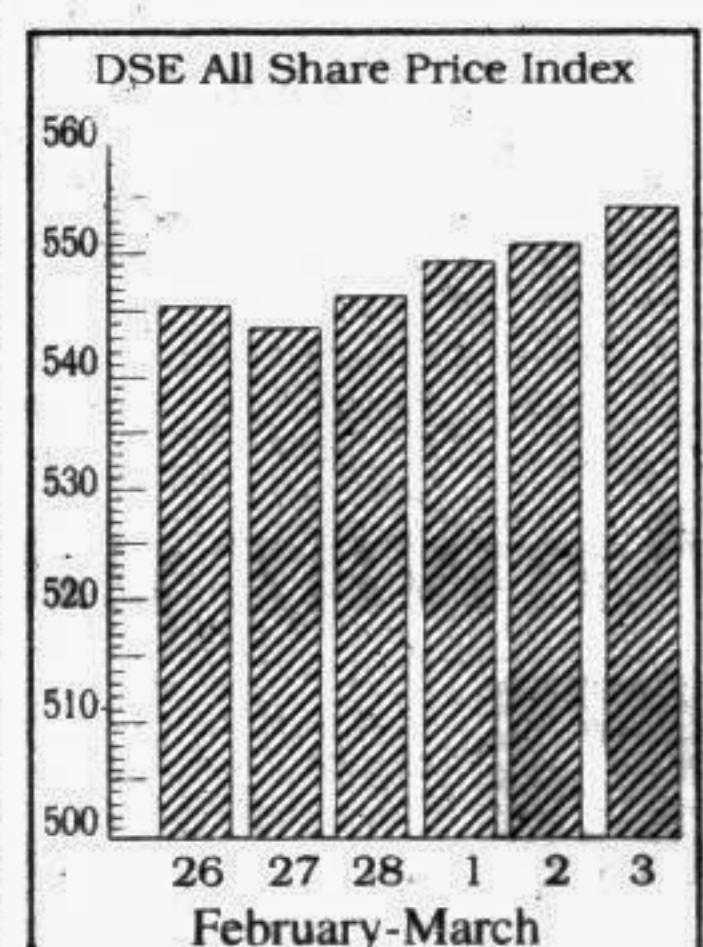
DSE All share price index: 554.17858  
Market Capitalisation: 25211181068.39  
Turnover in Volume: 33017  
Turnover in Value: Tka 4525741.00

Company's name Change Number (per share) traded

**Gainers (36)**  
National Bank 5.60 166  
IDLC 9.03 240  
2nd ICB M Fund 6.92 52  
3rd ICB M Fund 1.60 25  
4th ICB M Fund 6.14 70  
Afrah Automobiles 1.71 20  
Azz Pipes 10.00 50  
BD Lamps 23.26 43  
Atlas BD 1.01 3790  
BD Autocars 4.39 440  
National Tubes 1.00 10  
Amam Sea Food 78.75 5  
BTC 2.64 166  
Dhaka Vegetable 1.10 190  
Zeal Bangla Sugar 0.15 2800  
Modern Dyeing 2.00 365  
Eagle Star Textile 0.97 1900  
Tallu Spinning 0.25 100  
Tanjuddin Textile 2.24 320  
Ambee Pharma 0.40 1000  
Pharmaco 0.48 55  
Therapeutics 3.00 47  
Kohinoor Chemical 2.64 350  
Rahman Chemicals 4.92 50  
Beximco Synthetic 0.84 4060  
GG Ball Pen 6.30 125  
Monno Ceramic 1.71 20  
Umanisa Glass 1.62 5  
Savar Refractories 0.37 20  
Beximco Ltd 2.44 2600  
Cig Cement 3.60 1110  
Apex Footwear 0.62 640  
Quasem Silk 1.92 1800  
BGIC 2.00 3540  
United Insurance 1.92 270  
Beximco (Debt) 0.91 11

**Losers (9)**  
5th ICB M Fund 0.13 1030  
Eastern Cables 0.37 365  
Quasem Drycells 0.04 2700  
B Thai Aluminium 0.24 290  
Bengal Food 1.40 405  
BD Oxygen 1.70 124  
Beximco Pharma 7.98 50  
Ibnsina 1.00 80  
Quasem Silk (Debt) 10.00 1

**Issues (13) unchanged**  
5th ICB M Fund (160),  
Renwick Jaineswar (100), Apex  
Food (15), Rupon Oil (100), Cig  
Vegetable (30), Sonali Ansh (15),  
Ashraf Textile (250), Dulamia  
Cotton (80), Padma Textile (100),  
Apex Tannery (355), Bata  
Shoe (180), Green Delta (260),  
Beximco Pharma (Debt) (12).



## DSE Shares and Debentures

Company	FV/ML (Taka)	Closing Rate (Taka)
<b>BANKS (12)</b>		
Al-Baraka Bank	1000/1	810.00
AB Bank	100/5	190.00
City Bank	100/5	292.00
Eastern Bank	100/20	110.00
IDL Ltd	100/20	293.98
IFIC	100/5	158.00
Islamic Bank	1000/1	1473.75
National Bank	100/5	125.60
Pubali Bank	100/5	100.00
Rupali Bank	100/10	80.00
U.C.B.L	100/5	108.00
Uttara Bank	100/5	90.00
<b>INVESTMENT (8)</b>		
1st ICB M Fund	100/5	110.00
2nd ICB M Fund	100/5	700.00
3rd ICB M Fund	100/5	186.92
4th ICB M Fund	100/10	174.14
5th ICB M Fund	100/10	136.00
6th ICB M Fund	100/10	104.42
ICB Unit Cert.		
Sales Price		119.00
Re-purchase		114.00
<b>INSURANCE (4)</b>		
BGIC	100/10	310.00
Green Delta	100/10	300.00
Peoples Insurance	100/10	405.00
United Insurance	100/10	294.78
<b>ENGINEERING (19)</b>		
Afrah Automobiles	100/5	242.80
Atlas Bangladesh	100/5	61.00
Azz Pipes	100/5	315.00
Bangladesh Autocars	100/5	45.39
Bangladesh Lamps	100/5	623.26
B Thai Aluminium	100/10	106.03
Bengal Carbide	100/5	502.56
Bengal Steel	100/5	20.00
Eastern Cables	100/5	91.62
Hawdler PVC	100/10	75.00
Karim Pipe	100/5	75.00
Metalex Corp.	100/5	38.00
Monno Steel Mills	100/5	280.00
Monno Tubes	100/5	1000.00
National Tubes	100/10	58.00
Panther Steel	100/5	8.00
Quasem Drycells	100/5	11.56
Renwick Jaineswar	100/5	77.00
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	1719.00
<b>FOOD &amp; ALLIED (28)</b>		
AB Biscuit	100/5	199.00
Alpha Tobacco	100/5	50.00
Amam Sea Food	100/5	400.00
Apex Food	100/5	900.00
Aroma Tea	100/5	45.13
Banges	100/5	140.00
B D Plantation	100/5	500.00
Bengal Food	100/5	189.48
BLTC	100/5	800.00
BTC	100/5	184.64
Cig Vegetables	100/10	98.00
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	98.87
E.L. Camella	100/5	1040.00
Frogleg Export	100/5	3.00
Gemini Sea Food	100/5	95.00
Hill Plantation	100/5	550.00
Modern Industries	100/5	410.00
N.T.C.	100/5	300.00
Rabeya Flour	100/10	20.00
Rupali Oil	100/10	5.00
Tulip Dairy	100/10	68.00
Yousuf Flour	100/5	20.00
Zeal Bangla Sugar	100/5	7.58
<b>FUEL &amp; POWER (4)</b>		
BD Oxygen	100/10	173.30
Eastern Lubricant	100/5	14.00
National Oxygen	100/10	70.00
Padma Oil Co.	100/5	51.17
<b>TEXTILE (30)</b>		
Alhaj Textile	100/5	NT
Arbee Textile	100/10	112.00
Ashraf Textile	100/5	27.00
Chand Textile	100/5	NT
Chand Spinning	100/5	NT
Desh Garments	100/10	50.00
Dulamia Cotton	100/10	100.00
Eagle Star Textile	100/5	16.97
GMC Ind Corp.	100/5	10.00
<b>DEBENTURES (6)</b>		
BCIL	2000/1	2600.00
Beximco	1665/1	1790.91
Beximco Infusion	1500/2	1652.00
Beximco Pharma	998/1	950.00
Beximco Synthetic	2500/2	2430.00
Quasem Silk	1500/1	1330.00

Note: FV = Face Value ML = Market Lot NT = Not Traded AL = Allotment Letter

## টেক্সটাইল নোটিশ

পূর্ত বিভাগ, বৃহত্তর ঢাকা বিদ্যুৎ বিতরণ প্রকল্প, ডেসা, ১নং আবদুল পনি রোড, ঢাকা অধীন ফটোকপিয়ার মেশিন হেভী ডিউটি জু-প্রেস পেশার কপিয়ার মেশিন এস, এক-২০২৭ জাপানের তৈরী সরবরাহের জন্য প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী/এজেন্ট এর নিকট হইতে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্রের সিডিউল (১) অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পরিঃ ও উন্নয়ন) বৃহত্তরবিঃ প্রকল্প, ডেসা, গুলশান, ঢাকা (২) তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সম্প্রসারণ ও বাস্তবায়ন) বৃহত্তরবিঃ প্রকল্প, ডেসা, গুলশান, ঢাকা এবং (৩) প্রকৌশলী ব্যাক, বৈদেশিক বাণিজ্যিক শাখা, মতিঝিল বা/এ ঢাকা হইতে প্রতি সেট ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ টাকা) মাত্র (অক্রেডিয়েন্স) মূল্যে আগামী ৭/৩/৯৪ইং পর্যন্ত পূর্ত অনুমতি সাপেক্ষে পাওয়া যাইবে।

উপরের ত্রিমিক নং (১) অতিরিক্ত প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পরিঃ ও উন্নয়ন) বৃহত্তরবিঃ প্রকল্প, ডেসা, গুলশান, ঢাকা (২) তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী (সম্প্রসারণ ও বাস্তবায়ন) বৃহত্তরবিঃ প্রকল্প, ডেসা, গুলশান, ঢাকা (৩) পরিচালক (পরিচালনা ও উন্নয়ন) ডেসা, বিদ্যুৎ ভবন (তৃতীয় তলা) ঢাকা এবং নিম্নাধিকারকারীর দপ্তরে আগামী ৮/৩/৯৪ইং তারিখে বেলা ১২.০০ মিঃ পর্যন্ত দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে এবং ঐদিন বেলা ১২.৩০ মিঃ সময়ে উক্ত দরপত্র টিকাদারদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হইবে। যে কোন দরপত্র কোন কারণ বা দর্শনীয় গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী

পূর্ত কাজ বিভাগ

চারবিঃ প্রকল্প

ডেসা, ঢাকা।

ডিক্রি (বা) ১৭২৬-২৭/২

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