

ASEAN to reject linking social issues to trade

BANGKOK, Apr 25: South-east Asian leaders should jointly reject any effort by developed countries to limit trade over concerns about child labour and other social issues, a senior Thai official said Wednesday, reports AP.

Labour ministers from the seven-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations might adopt a united stand on the question when they meet in Bangkok Thursday, said Nitisana Theeravith, Deputy Permanent Secretary at Thailand's Labour Ministry.

"We should not accept that kind of linkage, and the ASEAN member countries should join together to express our concern," Nitisana said.

The United States and several European countries have tried to make trade with developing nations conditional upon improved standards for workplace safety, labour rights,

child labour and environmental protection in those nations. Western governments have raised the issue at the World Trade Organization and the International Labour Organization.

Developing countries say the criticism is a form of protectionism by governments worried about losing jobs to imports from lower-wage economies.

While acknowledging the need to improve social conditions, Nitisana objected to the Western practice of discussing the so-called "social clauses" on trade in different international forums.

"They are significant, but they should be dealt with in a constructive manner. One cannot raise the same issue all over the place," she said.

The International Labour Organization, based in Geneva, is "the most relevant organiza-

tion to consider this issue," Nitisana said in a telephone interview. By raising the issue elsewhere, developed countries are distracting rather than helping ASEAN members improve their social and labour conditions, she said.

ASEAN comprises Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Vietnam. Most of the countries depend heavily on international trade to propel their fast-growing economies.

Labour officials from the group, meeting in Bangkok ahead of the two-day ministers' conference, reviewed ways of improving social conditions.

Among other steps, they will recommend setting up training programme and an information centre to share ideas about improving job safety and the environment, Nitisana said.

Poverty alleviation Dozens of Asia, Pacific states to work together

BANGKOK, Apr 25: Dozens of Asian and Pacific nations agreed to work together on the region's most pressing problems, including rural poverty, representatives from a United Nations body said yesterday, reports Reuters.

"While our policy priorities may vary and our policy prescriptions also differ, the common theme of the need for sustained economic growth coupled with significant attention to poverty eradication binds us together," said Lina Laigo, Chairperson of the 52nd session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

Laigo said the 59 member countries of ESCAP adopted several resolutions in their week-long meeting, which ended on Wednesday.

Most of the resolutions were aimed at improving co-operation and economic and social condition in the region.

A report of the session noted that the poverty problems was interconnected with improving basic social services and health and education programmes.

The agreements, aimed at ensuring continued stability in the foreign exchange market, would allow the central banks to borrow cash using US securities as collateral.

Dollar higher, stocks mixed in Tokyo

TOKYO, Apr 25: The US dollar was trading higher against the Japanese yen at mid-afternoon Thursday, while prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange closed mixed in active trading, reports AP.

Traders said interbank buying pushed the dollar higher from its late level in New York overnight, but early trading was dominated by position adjustments ahead of Japan's annual "Golden Week" series of holidays.

In the afternoon, the dollar moved up after Japan's monetary authorities announced that they had concluded bilateral securities repurchase agreements with seven Asian nations or territories.

The agreements, aimed at ensuring continued stability in the foreign exchange market, would allow the central banks to borrow cash using US securities as collateral.

Meanwhile, the Tokyo Stock Exchange's main index started higher on buying by pension funds and investment trusts, but a fall in futures prices in late morning led players to unwind long arbitrage positions.

Some investors sold shares in the afternoon to take profits following the main index's recent climb to four-year highs, dealers said.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average shed 51.95 points, or 0.23 per cent, closing at 22,230.10. On Wednesday, the average had climbed 162.17 points, or 0.54 per cent, closing at 1,711.78.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section was up 2.25 points, or 0.13 per cent, to 1,714.05. It had closed at 1,711.78 points on Wednesday, up 9.17 points, or 0.54 per cent.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on April 25, 1996

Index continues to leap

Star Report

The Dhaka Stock Exchange All Share Price Index Thursday continued to leap, posting an increase of 5.30 points.

The index reached 830.50 from Wednesday's 825.20. Total market capital rose to Tk 5637.49 or from Tk 5601.53.

The transaction in volume increased by 47 per cent to 294884 from 200513 and the value showed a rise of 7.63 per cent, increasing to Tk 5.88 cr from Tk 5.46 cr.

Volume leaders of the day were: Beximco Pharma (93800), Reckitt and Colman (59950), Chic Tex (21500), Apex Weaving (17450) and Beximco Ltd (11900).

IDLC led the gainers with a rise of Tk 155.80 per share while Singer Bangladesh in-

curring a loss of Tk 37.90 per share, leading the losers. A total of 193 issues were traded.



Trading at a glance

DSE All Price Index	830.50
Market capital Tk	5637.49 cr
Transaction in volume	294884
Transaction in value Tk	5.88 cr
Total issues traded	193
Issues gained	59
Issues incurred losses	31
Issues unchanged	13

Company name	change (per share)	number of shares traded
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National Bank	10.50 (G)	50
IDLC	155.80 (G)	940
United Leasing	11.18 (L)	400
2nd ICB MF	17.81 (G)	258
3rd ICB MF	5.00 (G)	125
4th ICB MF	4.52 (G)	312
5th ICB MF	4.36 (G)	100
6th ICB MF	2.18 (L)	490
7th ICB MF	8.85 (L)	1007
Aziz Pipes	3.84 (G)	2635
Bengal Carbide	19.48 (G)	620
Bangladesh Lamp	92.67 (G)	845
Apex Foods	1.03 (L)	315
Singer Bangladesh	37.90 (L)	348
Alfa Bangladesh	3.86 (G)	830
Quana Drycell	1.37 (G)	1300
National Tubes	47.98 (G)	210
B Thai Aluminium	3.16 (G)	380
Alpha Tobacco	.50 (L)	20
Annam Sea Food	4.26 (L)	47
Apex Foods	62.14 (G)	100
Bangladesh Tobacco	.00	20
Dhaka Vegetable	.00	1250
Zeal Bangla	.00	2100
Rupun Oil	.35 (L)	450
Cig Vegetables	2.32 (G)	2100
Bengal Fisheries	.54 (G)	100
Bengal Biscuits	1.41 (G)	120
Meghna Shrimp	1.74 (G)	500
Rupun Oil	14.94 (G)	555
AMCL Pan	23.46 (G)	589
BC Bangla	84.86 (G)	840
Shine Pulp	.15 (L)	1850
Ashraf Textile	.18 (G)	2750
Quasem Textile	2.00 (G)	100
Stylcraft Ltd	40.00 (G)	100
Eagle Star	10.00 (G)	1000
Dulana Cotton	5.60 (G)	40
Apex Spinning	5.00 (G)	40
Deanna Knitting	1.33 (G)	340
Deanna Textile	1.81 (G)	500

Mithun Corporation	1.60 (G)	100
Delta Mills	3.13 (G)	220
Delta Mills	3.13 (G)	980
Apex Weaving	.73 (L)	17450
Dandy Dyeing	.61 (L)	200
Sonargang Textiles	.25 (L)	250
Beximco Textiles	3.40 (G)	350
BD Zipper	3.52 (G)	150
Beximco Denims	3.31 (G)	1950
Prime Textile	.25 (L)	300
M Hossain Garments	.71 (G)	1000
Sajit Knitwear	2.00 (G)	800
Chic Tex	2.31 (G)	21500
Sreepur Textile	1.17 (L)	1500
Monno Fabrics	1.31 (L)	550
Beximco Pharma	1.28 (L)	93800
ACL Limited	.79 (G)	250
Reckitt and Colman	8.47 (L)	59950
Kohinoor Chemical	.36 (G)	5
Ibn Sina Pharma	.00	50
Rahman Chemicals	.00	30
Bangladesh Chemical	.50 (G)	560
Wata Chemical	2.71 (G)	220
Beximco Infusions	2.63 (G)	190
National Polymer	8.00 (G)	4360
Beximco Synthetic	2.24 (L)	20
Orion Infusion	.44 (G)	820
Square Pharma	6.62 (G)	100
Map Paper	1.00 (L)	100
Apex Tannery	6.25 (L)	275
Bata Shoe	8.03 (G)	8080
G Ball Pen	1.29 (G)	3645
Monno Ceramic	12.18 (L)	80
Umanisa Glass	5.77 (G)	550
Milton Tanneries	.00	100
Beximco Ltd	1.28 (L)	11900
Chittagong Cement	26.14 (G)	4762
Apex Footwear	2.21 (G)	760
Eastern Housing	2.45 (G)	4680
Confidence Cement	1.79 (L)	1500
Meghna Cement	7.78 (G)	5150
Lexco Limited	30.72 (L)	850
BGC	.00	40
Peoples Insurance	.00	10
Phonix Insurance	1.35 (G)	240
Eastern Insurance	2.31 (G)	60
Central Insurance	.00	160
Karnaphuli Insurance	.00	440
Rupali Insurance	3.50 (L)	240
Federal Insurance	.56 (L)	150
Reliance Insurance	2.00 (G)	650
Parul Insurance	14.00 (G)	150
Delta Life Insurance	1.00 (L)	200
Pragati Insurance	6.88 (G)	400
Sandhani Life	2.46 (G)	850
B Fisheries (Deb)	11.59 (G)	17
B Knitting (Deb)	16.76 (G)	34
B Textiles (Deb)	4.64 (G)	28
BD Zipper (Deb)	.00	201
Beximco Pharma (Deb)	.00	8
Eastern Housing (Deb)	4.55 (L)	22

DSE Shares and Debentures

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
Dynamic Textile	100/20	64.00		
Eagle Star Textile	100/10	13.30		
Mita Textile	100/20	80.00		
B Dyeing	100/20	172.82		
Delta Mills	100/20	91.58		
M Garments	100/20	89.56		
Mithun Corp	100/20	106.60		
Monno Dyeing	100/5	48.00		
Modern Dyeing	100/20	122.09		
IDLC Ltd	100/20	325.00		
Prime Textile	100/20	279.75		
Quasem Textile	100/10	24.00		
Rahim Textile	100/5	100.00		
S T M (ORD)	100/10	82.00		
S T M (GDR)	100/5	100.81		
Stylcraft	100/5	505.00		
Swan Textile	100/5	40.00		
Tallu Spinning	100/10	126.80		
Tamujuddin	100/10	199.00		
Dandy Dyeing	100/10	110.00		
Sonargang Textiles	100/10	110.00		
Beximco Textiles	100/10	107.00		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
1st ICB Fund	100/5	427.00		
2nd ICB Fund	100/5	1951.30		
3rd ICB Fund	100/5	688.43		
4th ICB Fund	100/5	445.00		
5th ICB Fund	100/5	639.52		
6th ICB Fund	100/10	360.30		
7th ICB Fund	100/10	235.18		
8th ICB Fund	100/10	177.59		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
Alfa Bangladesh	100/5	210.00		
Aziz Pipes	100/5	818.28		
Bengal Carbide	100/5	554.48		
Bangladesh Lamp	100/5	2713.00		
Bengal Steel	100/5	600.00		
Eastern Cable	100/5	227.87		
Howlader PVC	100/10	50.00		
Karim Pipe	100/5	150.00		
Metalex Corp	100/5	173.13		
Monno Jute	100/5	3420.00		
Monno Jute Staff	100/5	900.00		
Singer Bangladesh	100/5	8534.84		
Atlas Bangladesh	100/5	143.98		
Bangladesh Auto	100/5	97.75		
B Thai Aluminium	100/10	202.00		
BC Bangla	100/10	175.00		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
National Tubes	100/10	490.71		
Panther Steel	100/5	80.00		
Quasem Drycell	100/5	25.38		
Renwick Jute	100/5	72.00		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
A B Biscuit	100/5	110.00		
Alpha Bangladesh	100/5	76.00		
Annam Sea Food	100/5	3095.74		
Apex Foods	100/5	2855.00		
Arora Tea	100/5	55.00		
Bangas	100/5	310.00		
B D Plantation	100/5	870.00		
Bengal Food	100/5	182.49		
B L T C	100/5	780.00		
B T C	100/5	140.00		
N T C	100/5	250.00		
Dhaka Vegetables	100/5	103.00		
Zeal Bangla Sugar	100/5	6.00		
E I C	100/5	2300.00		
Frogleg Export	100/5	7.50		
Gemini Sea Food	100/5	298.00		
Modern Industries	100/5	121.00		
Rubaya Flour	100/10	10.00		
Rupun Oil	100/10	10.00		
Cig Vegetables	100/10	10.00		
Hill Plantation	100/5	1260.00		
B Fisheries	100/20	160.00		
Bengal Biscuits	100/20	143.24		
Meghna Shrimp	100/20	102.17		
Tulip Dairy	100/20	58.00		
Yamun Flour	100/10	13.00		
Rasput Food	100/20	328.09		
AMCL Pan	100/20	313.88		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
BOC Bangladesh	100/50	186.85		
National Oceanic	100/50	14.00		
Eastern Luggage	100/50	130.00		
Bangla Oil Co	100/50	160.00		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
Abul Jute	100/10	NT		
Anowara Jute	100/10	NT		
Delta Jute	100/10	8.50		
Gawra Jute	100/10	NT		
Islam Jute	100/10	NT		
Jute Spinner	100/5	145.00		
Mutual Jute	100/5	120.00		
Northern Jute	100/10	18.00		
Shamser Jute	100/5	100.00		
Specialized Jute	100/50	100.00		
Sonali Ausha	100/50	150.00		
Solex Carpet	100/200	5.00		

Company	Price/Share	Change	Volume	Value
QC Pintail	Cont	Sing	QCSL	22/4
Meng Lee	Cont	Sing	AML	23/4
Padma	Cont	Sing	RSI	24/4
Kota Bintang	Cont	Sing	PIL(B)	24/4
Dae Jin	Cont	Col	BDShip	25/4

Rupon Oil	10/100	4.85	National Insurance	112.0
Ctg. Vegetables	100/10	108.20	Federal Insurance	147.0
Hill Plantation	100/5	1260.00	Reliance Insurance	390.0
B Fisheries	100/20	160.00	Punabi Insurance	111.0
Bengal Biscuits	100/20	143.24	<u>Sandhani Insurance</u>	103.0
Meghna Shrimp	100/20	102.17	MISCELLANEOUS (24)	
		65.00	Apex Footwear	100/20 483.0