

Higher oil prices unlikely to have severe impact on Asia

SINGAPORE, Mar 23: Deflation at home will minimise the impact of higher oil prices on crisis-hit Asian economies...

been mired in a recession for almost a decade. "oil distributors see less demand as users in the heavy machinery industry are burdened with excess capacity..."

million barrels a day to bolster prices. Seven of the 11 OPEC members have already confirmed publicly the level of cuts they intend to implement from April...



A delegation from Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI), headed by its President Mahbub Jamil, met World Bank Country Director Frederick T Temple to discuss problems of the manufacturing sector at the World Bank office in the city yesterday.

- MCCI photo

Exchange Rates

Table with columns: Currency, Selling TT & OD, Selling B/C, Buying T, T Clean, Buying OD Sight Export Bill, Buying OD Transfer. Lists rates for various currencies like US Dollar, Pound, Deutsche Mark, etc.

Bill buying rates: TT Doc, 30 Days, 60 Days, 90 Days, 120 Days, 180 Days.

US Dollar London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) as of March 23, 1999

Table with columns: Buying, Selling, Currency, 1 Month, 3 Months, 6 Months, 9 Months, 12 Months. Shows LIBOR rates for USD, GBP, EUR.

Exchange rates of some Asian currencies against US dollars

Table with columns: Indian Rupee, Pak Rupee, Thai Baht, Malaysian Ringgit, Indonesian Rupiah, Korean Won. Shows exchange rates against US dollars.

Amex notes on Tuesday's market: The demand for US dollar was lower while the inflow was higher which forced the USD/BDT rates to come down...

The dollar was firmer by late afternoon on Tuesday, aided by a sharp fall in Tokyo share prices and comments by senior Finance Ministry officials who spoke out against excessive strength in the yen...

The euro stood at \$ 1.0899/96 as of 0675 GMT compared with \$ 1.0914/18 in late New York trade on Monday.

At 08:10 GMT the majors were traded against US \$ at 118.52/62 JPY, 1.7970/75 DEM, 1.4673/78 CHF, Euro at \$ 1.0880/83 and GBP at \$ 1.6262/67.

Shipping Intelligence: Berth position and performance of vessels as on 23.3.99

Table with columns: Berth No, Name of vessels, Cargo, L port call, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving. Lists various shipping vessels and their schedules.

Vessels due at outer anchorage: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L port call, Local agent, Cargo, Loading port.

Tanker due: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L Port call, Local agent, Date of arrival.

Vessels at outer anchorage: Ready on: Conny, CDSO, R Union, Seacome, 19/2.

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

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়

বাংলাদেশ ইউনেস্কো জাতীয় কমিশন ১ এশিয়ান মহাসড়ক, পলাশী-নীলক্ষেত ঢাকা-১২০৫

নং-বিএনসিইউ/কাল/৩/৯৯/১৪৪/-শিক্ষা তারিখঃ ১৮-০৩-৯৯ইং

বিষয়ঃ "Hirayama Silk Roads" 1999 Fellowships Programme

UNESCO Integral Study of the Silk Roads Fellowship-এর আওতায় জাপান সরকারের উদ্যোগে ইউনেস্কো সদস্য রাষ্ট্রের জন্য প্রতি বছর ১০ (দশ) টি করে বৃত্তি প্রদান করা হয়।

প্রতি সদস্য রাষ্ট্র হতে সর্বাধিক ২ (দুই)। এ বিষয়ে এসএসসি থেকে মাস্টার্স পর্যন্ত পরীক্ষা প্রথম শ্রেণী প্রাপ্ত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট থেকে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

২। প্রার্থীগণ নিম্নলিখিত বিষয়ের যে কোন একটির জন্য আবেদন করতে পারবেনঃ

- History of Civilization
Philosophy and History of Religions
History of Art
History of Archaeology
Ethnology
Museumology
Museology
Anthropology
Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage
Environmental Studies and related disciplines

৩। প্রয়োজনীয় যোগ্যতাঃ সর্বনিম্ন এমএ অথবা সমমানের ডিগ্রি।

৪। প্রার্থী যে দেশে গবেষণা কর্ম চালাতে ইচ্ছুক সে দেশের ভাষা দক্ষতা থাকা বাধ্যতামূলক।

৫। বয়স সর্বোচ্চ ৪৫ বছর।

৬। শারীরিক ও মানসিক সুস্থতার আধিকারী।

৭। ফেলোশীপ সংক্রান্ত (এমএ ভাড়া) বায়তাব মিটারের জন্য ১০,০০০ (দশ হাজার) মার্কিন ডলার থেকে বরাদ্দ দেয়া হবে। উল্লেখ্য বিদেশে অবস্থানকালে বৃত্তিপ্রাপ্ত ব্যক্তি গবেষণা কর্ম পরিচালনা করলে উক্ত অর্থ উদ্যোগী সংস্থাকে ফেরত প্রদান করতে হবে।

৮। প্রার্থীর ৩ (তিন) প্রাপ্ত UNESCO Application Form প্রাপ্তকর্তার স্বাক্ষর করত হবে। আবেদনপত্রের সাথে নিম্নলিখিত তথ্যাদি সংযুক্ত করতে হবেঃ

(ক) প্রার্থীর জীবন বৃত্তান্ত।

(খ) সকল শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক প্রদানকৃত সনদপত্র ও মার্কশীটের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি।

(গ) প্রার্থী যে দেশে গবেষণাকর্ম করতে ইচ্ছুক সে দেশের ভাষা জ্ঞানের সনদপত্র।

(ঘ) Study plan।

(ঙ) দুজন দায়িত্বশীল ব্যক্তির (গবেষণা প্রকল্পের সাথে সম্পৃক্ত) সুপারিশপত্র।

(চ) প্রার্থীর প্রকাশনার তালিকা।

৯। আগামী ৪-৫ এপ্রিল, ১৯৯৯ইং তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর থেকে বায়তাব তথা সফর করে আগামী ১১-১২ এপ্রিল ১৯৯৯ইং তারিখের মধ্যে সচিব, বাংলাদেশ ইউনেস্কো জাতীয় কমিশন, ১ নং এশিয়ান মহাসড়ক, পলাশী-নীলক্ষেত, ঢাকা-১২০৫ এই ঠিকানায় আবেদনপত্রসমূহ জমা দেওয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। বিলম্ব প্রাপ্ত আবেদনপত্র বিবেচনার যোগ্য হবে না।

প্রফেসর কফিল উদ্দিন আহমদ

সচিব

বিএনসিইউ

ফোনঃ ৫০৬১৪৩

জিএফপি-৫৮৭৯-২২/৩

জি-৪৯৮

Thai govt wants to cut salaries, trim bureaucracy

BANGKOK, Mar 23: Faced with declining revenues and spiraling costs, Thailand's government wants to cut bureaucrats' salaries and eventually trim their ranks, the government said on Tuesday, reports AP.

Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai, meanwhile, admitted that Thailand's recession was causing pain and hardship, particularly for people in rural areas.

"If any leader could now think everything is fine, he is no leader", Chuan was quoted as saying by the Bangkok Post.

Akaphol Sorasuchart, a spokesman for the government, said government salaries were eating up more than 50 per cent of Thailand's budget.

"It should not be more than 40 per cent," he said. "In the short term, we would like to cut salaries. In the long term, we would like to reduce the number of government officials, to re-structure the government."

He gave no specific targets for the reductions.

Thailand is in the midst of its worst economic crisis in modern times and is receiving a \$ 17.2 billion bailout from the International Monetary Fund.

The nation's economy contracted about 7 per cent in 1998, but the government predicts 1 per cent growth for this year.

Others are less sanguine. Barclays Capital regional economist Desmond Supple told Dow Jones Newswires the dollar could be at 50 baht

within 12 months. Supple warned that Thailand's recovery could be further away than most people think because of the continuing fall in asset prices.

But other analysts say recent legislative achievements by Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai's coalition government, international aid and a new economic stimulus package due to be announced on March 30 have given the country a chance of escaping a deflationary spiral.

That would probably lead to just a moderate decline in the baht.

Deputy Premier Supachai Panitchpakdi last week floated the idea of pursuing a weaker baht to help improve sluggish exports, although central bank Governor Chatu Mongkol Sornakul said the interests of exporters had to be balanced against those of debtors.

The Financial Sector Restructuring Authority, or FRA, raised 18 cents on the dollar at an auction of 220 billion baht (\$5.86 billion) worth of loans from closed financial companies.

"With more asset sales expected over the coming years

Value of baht poised to drop

BANGKOK, Mar 23: Thailand's currency will weaken slightly over the next few months before stabilising as the economy begins to recover, several economists said Tuesday, reports AP.

But a few bearish forecasters warn the currency's slide could accelerate if the expected recovery doesn't materialise soon.

Thailand, battling its worst economic crisis in modern times, was forced to turn to the International Monetary Fund for a \$17.2 billion bailout after the value of its currency, the baht, plummeted in 1997.

The crisis was set off when Thailand floated the baht in July of that year. The currency dropped as low as about 57 baht to the dollar but has since rebounded to around 37.5 baht.

Many observers say the Thai currency will likely drift lower to about 40 baht to the dollar by the end of this year. It should stabilise at that level as Thailand's economy starts to grow, they say.

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Government of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer (RHD)

Road Division, B'baria.

Notice Inviting Tender

- 1). Tender Notice No : 27/EE RHD, Road Division, B'baria 1998-99.
2). Name of work : Providing 50mm thick bituminous Carpeting & Seal Coat after repairing the potholes, depressions, side broken etc. of the existing pavement at diff. KM of B'baria-Companyonj Road under B'baria Road Division during the year-1998-99.
3). Estimated cost : As per group list.
4). Earnest Money : Tk. As per group list in BD/CDR/Pay Order from any scheduled bank to be deposited in favour of the undersigned.

Table with columns: Gr. No, Name of work & location, Estimated cost, Earnest money, Time allowed, Eligibility of contractor. Lists two tender items with details.

Md. Abdus Salam Executive Engineer (RHD) Road Division, B'baria.

Taiwan economy heading for stronger growth

TAIPEI, Mar 23: Taiwan's economy is heading for stronger growth, helped by the recent stock rebound and an improved trade performance, a senior official said Tuesday, reports AP.

"The worst is over," Finance Minister Paul Chiu said. The economy is in the process of a recovery after last year's slowdown.

Better growth is expected in the second half of this year. Chiu said in an interview with Associated Press Television News and Dow Jones Newswires.

Chiu said the stock rally indicated a government stimulus package announced last month has helped to resume investor confidence.

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Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong port Berth position and performance of vessels as on 23.3.99

Berth No, Name of vessels, Cargo, L port call, Local agent, Date of arrival, Leaving.

J/1 Devan-1 Rice(P) Kara AmI 17/3 24/3

J/2 Vitally Krutchna Rice (P) Kara SMSL 22/2 25/3

J/3 Hill Peachy Rice(G) Bank Amnet 15/2 25/3

J/4 Grigory Kovalevch Urea - USTC 24/3

J/5 A.A. Venture Rice(G)/GI Kara Cba 11/3 30/3

J/7 Shun An GI Sing RML 15/3 25/3

J/8 Orion Glory GI Kaus Prog 16/3 31/3

J/9 Sarah-1 Rice(P)/GI Kara SMSL 7/3 28/3

J/10 Banga Biraj Cont Sing Bshp 21/3 25/3

J/11 Sea Coral Rice(G) Kand USTC 17/2 27/2

J/12 Gc Teal Cont Sing QCSL 18/3 23/3

J/13 Pacific Career Wheat(G) Suez ANCL 21/2 10/4

CCT/1 Bonga Mas Enam Cont Pikel EOSL 15/3 23/3

CCT/2 Bonga Mas Enam Cont Pikel EOSL 17/3 25/3

RM/14 Sun Ocean Cement Inda USTC 8/3 24/3

RM/15 Viva Treasure Cement Pada USTC 14/3 28/3

CGJ BUTI C.Clink Bank RML 11/3 27/3

GSJ Topaz Wheat(G) KDa LMS R/A 25/3

TSP Good Faith R. Phos China Cosmos 11/3 27/3

RM/4 Griza Cibo Darb TSL 28/2 26/3

RM/5 Koo Yong HSD Sing QCSL 18/3 23/3

RM/6 Stavanger Pride Hsd Sing ECSSL 18/3 24/3

DOJ Youngling Cement Pada 7/3 28/3

DIJ Banglar Robi Repair BSC R/A 23/3

DIJ/1 Tanany Star Idle Para PSAL BSC R/A 30/3

DIJ/2 Banglar Gearup Repair BSC R/A 23/3

RM/8 Sea World Repair BSC R/A 23/3

RM/9 Banglar Urmi Repair BSC R/A 23/3

P.Jetty Tug Ocean Silver-8 - ILAFSL R/A -

CFLJ Mary Nour Cement Pada BSL 15/3 26/3

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L port call, Local agent, Cargo, Loading port.

Darya Ma 22/3 Cal MSA Wheat(P)/GI

Sun Falcon 24/3 - EOSL Rice

Lynagun (Cont) 23/3 Viza PSAL Cement

Ingenity (Cont) 17/1 23/3 Sing RSL Cont Sing

Tug Green Ville-11 23/3 Sing OTHL -

Equator Pearl 23/3 Sing OTHL Scraping

Wcl Shan 24/3 - USTC Cement

Tug De Qiang 25/3 Kuch OWSL -

Zhong Ren-1 25/3 Kuch OWSL -

Tug Midbest-1 25/3 Kuch OWSL -

Braze: Midbest-2 25/3 Kuch OWSL P.Cargo

Ocean Priti 24/3 Sing PSAL Cement

Jaya Mars (Cont) 18/3 24/3 CBO Baridhi Cont Col

Rota Cahaya 15/3 24/3 Sing PI (BD) Cont Sing

Eka Lestari 25/3 - PSAL C.Clinker

Sea Amelita 25/3 - Porg GI

Dragon Kalimantan (Cont) 25/3 Sing NOI Cont Sing

Humber 25/3 - ABLE Cement

QC Mallard 18/3 26/3 - Simni Scraping

Alandia Nord 26/3 - Simni Scraping

Trimbackeshwar 26/3 - SLL GI

Tae Dong Gang 27/3 - PSAL Cement

Halina 27/3 - MHCSL Rice(G)

Mizoram 27/3 - SLL Cont Sing

Banga Birol (Cont) 15/3 28/3 Sing BD Ship Cont Sing

QC Pintail (Cont) 18/3 27/3 Sing QCSL Cont Sing

Orient Lily (48) 18/3 27/3 - Everett GI

Sin Hai (Cont) 18/3 28/3 Sing RSL Cont Sing

Kota Benjaya (Cont) 18/3 28/3 Sing PI (BD) Cont Sing

Ming Jiang 28/3 - BD Ship GI

Coral Hero (48) 18/3 29/3 - Everett GI

Bunga Mas Lapan 21/3 29/3 - Everett GI