

China premiere vows market opening after WTO entry

BEIJING, June 14: Premier Zhu Rongji said today China was ready for globalisation and would open its markets after becoming a member of the World Trade Organisation, says Reuters.

"All aspects of opening to the outside world will be accelerated and expanded," Zhu told a forum on China's economy in Beijing.

"As China is to gain entry to the WTO, we will take an active role in the process of economic globalisation."

China expects to join the body which sets global trade rules this year after it reached bilateral accession agreements with the United States last November and the European Union (EU) in May.

Zhu said China would gradually open a number of sectors, including banking, insurance and telecommunications.

Beijing would also encourage foreign investment in agriculture, infrastructure, environmental protection and high-technology, he said.

WTO entry will bring a wave of competition for Chinese companies as import tariffs drop and foreign investment is allowed in previously closed sectors of the economy.

"China cannot develop without Asia and the world," he said. "Likewise, Asia and the world need China for their development."

Zhu said China's economy had turned for the better this year with rapid growth and

strong foreign trade.

"This shows China's economy has already shaken off the impact of the Asian financial crisis," he said.

China's gross domestic product rose 8.1 per cent year-on-year in the first quarter and is forecast to rise at least seven per cent for the full year, against 7.1 per cent in 1999.

Singapore's Lee sees "creative destruction"

Singapore Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew said entry to the WTO would improve economic efficiency but it would also cause ailing Chinese firms to shut their doors and lay off workers.

"Chinese enterprises will learn from, work with and compete against the advanced

nations after joining WTO," Lee told the forum. "Global competition will increase the efficiency and productivity of domestic enterprise."

"But there will be creative destruction of out-dated industrial plants which will lead to unemployment and its social consequences."

China must reach agreements with a handful of countries, including Mexico, before starting formal procedures to join the WTO.

Mexican Trade Minister Herminio Blanco said on Monday that talks with China had made progress but Mexico wanted to be able to slap anti-dumping duties on imports of Chinese products which threaten its domestic industry.

Employers oppose draft convention New global maternity rights pact threatened

GENEVA, June 14: A new international treaty aimed at providing greater protection to pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers at work is under threat just days after being thrashed out, diplomats said yesterday, reports Reuters.

Employers' representatives are opposing the draft convention, which could render it useless, according to the diplomats.

The draft, hammered out in tough negotiations last week, is due to be voted on by the International Labour Organization's annual conference in Geneva on Thursday.

The UN agency's 174 member states, as well as employers and workers groups, vote on ILO Conventions under a complex voting system. A two-thirds majority is required for adoption.

"The big question is whether employers groups will abstain, which would mean no quorum. The employers are against it because its provisions are too strong in their view," a diplomat said.

"The convention could be nearly still-born because it would lack support. It wouldn't enter the world kicking and screaming," he added.

Workers' groups are lobbying governments to back the treaty, which they view as the last chance to improve ILO's current 1952 maternity protection treaty for at least a generation.

Women would be entitled to longer maternity leave, 14 weeks at two-thirds pay instead of 12 weeks, and rights including guaranteed breaks for breast-feeding.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong port						
Berth position and performance of vessels as on 14.6.2000						
Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Petrina	Wheat(P)	Alba	call	22/5	15/6
J/2	Al Shams	C.Clink	Padra	NWSL	4/6	15/6
J/3	Sai Kung	Sugar(G)	Kosh	Fortune	22/5	21/6
J/4	Top glory	Wheat(P)	Sing	Rinbow	30/5	21/6
J/5	Larok	Sugar(G)	Bang	SBS	2/6	18/6
J/6	Naumea express	Gl(Copra)	Sing	Aeka	4/6	19/6
J/7	Areopolis	C.Clink	Tuba	MBL	8/6	22/6
J/8	Jin Hong Hai	Wheat(P)	P. Said	OWSL	7/5	20/6
J/9	Yong Jiang	Gl	Silai	Bdship	1/6	16/6
J/10	Kota Naga	Cont	Sing	PiliBD	31/5	16/6
J/11	Chu Hong	Cont	Sing	QCSL	5/6	16/6
J/12	Osg Alpha	Cont	Sing	RSL	4/6	16/6
J/13	Green Island	Gl(Y Pe)	Sing	ROYAL	7/5	18/6
CCT/1	Banglar robt	Cont	Sing	BSC	10/6	15/6
CCT/2	Qc Pintall	Cont	Sing	QCSL	9/6	14/6
CCT/3	Jurong Balsam	Cont	Col	Everest	1/6	16/6
CSJ	Allgro	C.Clink	Kradi	RML	4/6	15/6
CSJ	Undok-1	Cement	Sing	SBS	22/5	19/6
TSP	Siam Ivory	R.Phos	Sing	ASA	7/6	17/6
RM/4	Verginia	Cdso	Kaki	Seacom	27/5	15/6
RM/6	Halia	Hsd	Aliu	ECSL	28/5	19/6
DDJ	Banglar Shourabh	C.Oil	-	BSC	R/A	17/6
DD	Ocean-1	Repair	Yang	SMSL	13/5	19/6
DDJ/1	Banglar Shikha	Repair	Sing	BSC	17/4	15/6
RM/9	Banglar Moni	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	20/6
Kalco(U)	New Mariner	Urea	Sing	Everett	9/6	16/6
BB	Vladi	Visit	Hong	Sinobn	9/6	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage						
Name of vessels	Date of Last arrival	Port	Local agent	Cargo	Loading	Port
Egasco Fortune	14/6	Const	BSL	Gl	-	-
Shun An	15/5	yang	RMSL	Gl	-	-
Sin Hai	15/6	Sing	RSL	Cont	-	Sing
Banga Bijo	15/6	-	Bdship	Con	-	-
Kota Cahaya	15/6	Sing	Pil (BD)	Cont	-	Sing
Actuaria	15/6	-	QCSL	Cont	-	Sing
Chong Gen	15/6	Sing	-	-	-	-
Ban Ann	19/6	-	Sbs	C.Clink	-	-
Developing Road	15/6	China	Karna	-	-	-
Qing Ann	12/6	Indo	HSL	-	-	-
Ong Argosy	16/6	-	Everest	Cont	-	Col
Wrestler-1	16/6	Koshi	ANCLC.Clink(Hyundai)	-	-	-
RimBun	18/6	Sing	PSALC.Clink(Diamond)	-	-	-
Kapitan Petko Vovoda	17/6	Col	BBA	Gl(ST.Col)	-	-
Da Fu	17/6	Cbo	Everbest	Cont	-	Sing
Da fa	17/6	Sing	RSL	Cont	-	Sing
Eagle Sky	18/6	Sing	NOL	Cont	-	Mgl
Xpress Makalu	18/6	-	RSL	Cont	-	Sing
Bay Pride	18/6	yang	SMSL	Gl(Log)	-	-
Qc Teal	19/6	-	QCSL	Cont	-	Sing
Xpress Resolve	19/6	-	RSL	Cont	-	Sing
Kota Singa	19/6	Sing	Pil (BD)	Cont	-	Sing
Gold Indus	20/6	-	Everett	Gl	-	-
Asian Leader	22/6	-	Jf	Vehi	-	-
Morning Rise	23/6	-	Everett	Vehi	-	-
Banga Biraj	23/6	P.Kel	Bdship	Cont	-	Sing
Banglar Maya	24/6	Jedda	FSC	-	-	-
An Da	25/6	-	Lutful	St.Rails	-	-

Vessels at Kutubdia						
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival		
Energy Exdplorer-IV	-	-	BBA	5/4		
Ismaya	-	-	BBBL	17/8		
Barge: Csk-6	-	-	BBAL	R/A (28/11)		
Tug Magrita	-	-	BBAL	R/A (28/11)		
Dea Champton	-	-	BSL	2/6		
Dea Conqueror	P.Mat	-	Arafen	R/A (2/6)		
Seabulk Command	-	-	IBS	R/A (19/4)		

Vessels at outer anchorage: Ready on						
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival		
Sulu Warrior	Gl (YPMs)	Uang	Rainbow	2/6		
Arabella	Cont	P.Kel	QCSL	7/6		
Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	PIL	9/6		
Orient Independence	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	10/6		
Jutha parichart	Cont	Sing	RSL	10/6		
Jaami	Cont	Sing	Cross	11/6		
Patty	Cont	Sing	Cross	11/6		
Banglar Doot	Cont	P.Kel	BSC	11/6		
Bayer Capt Cook	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	13/6		
Apex	Rice(P)	Saig	Cindy	10/6		
Pu Cheng	Ri(Maizee)	Chin	Porg	10/6		
Banga Birol	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	14/6		

Vessels not ready						
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival		
Joinny-L	Wheat(P)	Jedd	OWSL	18/5		
Mega	Cement	Turb	SBS	3/6		
NegoLombok	Dpeas	Hako	Litmond	4/5		
Bay Fortune	Gl(BIT)	b.Abs	SMSL	5/6		
Esco Virgo	Gl	Sing	Prog	8/6		
Fua Kavenga	Gl(Copra)	Sing	Allseas	8/6		
Norbulk Oak	C.Clink	Padra	NWSL	8/6		
Al Sabiyah	Hsd	Kuwa	Atlantic	9/6		
Pu Cheng	Gl(Maizee)	Chin	Porg	10/6		
Pott	Hsd/Jp-1	Baba	Atlantic	12/6		
Altairss	Sugar(G)	Kohs	Litmond	12/6		

Vessels awaiting instruction						
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival		
Xing ye	Rice(G)	-	MECSL	20/1/99		
Banglar Gourab	-	-	BSC	R/A (12/5)		
Professor Pavlenko	-	-	SMSL	4/5/2000		
Banglar Jvoti	-	-	BSC	R/A (13/6)		

Vessels not entering						
Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival		
Accord	Cement	Sing	Viking	5/4		
Delos-1	Cement	T Prk	PSAL	26/5		
Paulina	-	-	Fortune	R/A (6/6)		
Revenge	-	-	Sunshine	R/A (9/11)		
Karya Sentosa	Rice(G)	-	USTC	R/A (18/9)		

Movement of vessels for 15 & 16.06.2000						
Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting				
15/06						
J/1	Petrina	J/1 B. Doot				
J/2	Al Shams	J/2 Norbulk Oak				

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

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Labour & Employment Planning Cell (Labour) No. PC (Labour)-4(55)/99/2009 Dated: 04-06-2000 Tender Notice for Purchase of One Set Teak Sofa

Sealed tenders are invited from trade licence-holder bonafide traders/suppliers for purchase of one set Teak Sofa for Action Programme titled 'Strengthening the Planning Cell (Labour) of the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

- Terms & Conditions:**
- The teak sofa should be manufactured as per the schedule supplied by the Action Programme Authority.
 - Tender schedule can be purchased on cash payment of Tk 200/= (two hundred) only (non-refundable) per set from the Planning Cell (Labour) of this Ministry (Building No-6, 12th Floor, Room No-1101) within office hours up to 28-06-2000.
 - Tenderers shall have to submit the proposal consisting financial proposal in a sealed cover.
 - No advance payment will be made for this work.
 - A design for manufacturing the proposed sofa should be submitted with the tender.
 - Tenderers shall have to deposit earnest money (refundable) at the rate 2.5% of the quoted amount with the tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft on Agrani Bank, Press Club Branch in favour of Action Programme titled 'Strengthening the Planning Cell (Labour) of the Ministry of Labour & Employment.
 - Tenders will be received in tender box kept at the office of Deputy Chief (Labour) (Building No-6, Room No-1101), Ministry of Labour & Employment, Bangladesh Secretariat up to 12-00 Noon of 29-06-2000 and be opened on the same day at 12-30 PM in presence (if any) of the attending tenderers.
 - The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
 - In case of any doubt or controversy arising in any matter, the decision of the authority will be treated as final.
 - Supply order/work order will be issued subject to approval of tender committee to one or more lowest tenderer on the basis of item & qualitative standard.
 - Goods should be supplied to this office at own cost within 30 (thirty) days of supply order.

DDP-14411-7/6
G-1166
Latifur Rahman
Deputy Chief (Labour).

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer, R&H Narayanganj Road Division Shimrail, Narayanganj R&H Tender Invitation Notice

- Tender notice : 145/Narayanganj Road Division, year 1999-2000.
- Name of work : Work of beautification of the office including construction of pucca drain for smooth drainage, latrine, generator room and pavement for car-parking in the Divisional Office under Narayanganj Road Division during 1999-2000 fiscal year.
- Estimated cost : Tk 8,12,429/-.
- Earnest money : Tk 17,841/- in the form of Bank Draft/Treasury Challan/Protirakkha Sanchay Patra/5-year Term Bangladesh Sanchay Patra & Bonus Sanchay Patra from any scheduled bank in favour of the undersigned.
- Time allowed : 15(fifteen) days from the date of issue of work order.
- Eligibility of contractors : 'A' to 'D' general class.
- Offices where tenders will be available : Executive Engineer (R&H), Road Division, Dhaka/Manikganj/Munshiganj/Gazipur/Narsingdi/Narayanganj/Bridge Design Division-1(Eastern Zone), Bridge Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Planning & Design Division, Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka and Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Vitikandi/Nara-yanganj Road Sub-Division 1/2.
- Offices where tenders will be received : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Dhaka Road Circle Dhaka/Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Dhaka Zone, Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka/Monitoring & Evaluation Circle (P&D), Sarak Bhaban, Dhaka and Executive Engineer (R&H), Narayanganj Road Division, Shimrail, Narayanganj. 21-6-2000 till office hours.
- Last date and time of selling tender : 22-6-2000 at 12:30 PM.
- Date and time of receiving tender : 26-6-2000 at 1:00 PM at office of the Executive Engineer (R&H), Narayanganj Road Division.
- Date and time of : 27-6-2000 at 1:00 PM.
- Official to approve estimate : Superintending Engineer (R&H), Dhaka Road Circle, Dhaka.
- Head of : 168-Repair.
- Cost of tender : Tk 500/- per set (non-refundable).

DDP-14754-11/6
G-1164
Md Abdul Muktedir
Executive Engineer R&H
Narayanganj Road Division
Shimrail, Narayanganj.



Dhaka Bank Ltd has joined the Shared ATM Network, being set up by Electronic Transactions Network Ltd, through signing a contract. Picture shows Zahir Ahmed, Chairman, ETN, Salahuddin Imam, MD, ETN, A.I.M. Ifikar Rahman, MD, Dhaka Bank, Md Mokhesur Rahman, DMD, Dhaka Bank Ltd, M Nazrul Islam, EVP, Dhaka Bank, A. H. Anwar Hussain, Company Secretary, Dhaka Bank, Hayatuzzaman Khan, Vice-Chairman, Dhaka Bank, Abdul Hai Sarker, Chairman, Dhaka Bank, and K M A Shamim, Director, ETN, at the signing ceremony.

US Senate postpones vote on trade row with EU

WASHINGTON, June 14: At the urging of the White House, Senate leaders said yesterday they agreed to put off a vote on a controversial resolution that would have urged the United States and the European Union to settle a thorny dispute over a multibillion-dollar US export programme, reports Reuters.

The Senate Finance Committee had been scheduled to vote on Wednesday on the resolution, asking President Bill Clinton to press for a settlement at next month's summit in Japan of the Group of Eight industrialised nations.

"Based on some very productive conversations we have had with the administration, we

have agreed to defer action on the resolution, pending further negotiations with the European Union," said Senate Finance Committee Chairman William Roth, a Delaware Republican.

Passage of the resolution, while non-binding, might have antagonised the European Union, making it harder for negotiators to work out their differences, aides said.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) ruled in February that the US Foreign Sales Corporation (FSC) programme — which offers tax breaks to US exporters — was an illegal export subsidy and gave Washington until October 1 to revise it.

The existing FSC pro-

gramme covers hundreds of billions of dollars of exports and was expected to provide US companies, including many leading multinationals, with tax breaks totalling \$4.1 billion in 2001.

To bring it in line with WTO rules, the Clinton administration has offered to repeal the FSC programme and replace it with special income tax rates for both export and non-export foreign sales by eligible manufacturers.

But the EU said that, under the proposed reform, US-based companies would still have to export to benefit from the scheme — the very aspect of the original programme that was condemned by the WTO.

Nevertheless, the Clinton administration said it would ask Congress to swiftly approve legislation based on the US proposal, despite EU opposition.

"We are heartened by the administration's efforts to work with Congress to resolve this matter," Roth said in a statement.

"We are continuing discussions with the administration regarding the resolution and their FSC replacement proposal."

Dhaka Bank joins Electroways ATM Network

Dhaka Bank Ltd. became the sixth bank to join the Electroways Shared ATM Network being established by Electronic Transactions Network Ltd (ETN) through signing a contract recently, says a press release.

The ATM Network, which is expected to go into operation by the fourth quarter of this year, will enable customers of the member banks to avail the services of 20 ATMs in the first phase, with double that number being deployed by the next year. In addition to cash withdrawal, the customers of the member banks can expect to pay their utility bills at the ATMs.

This service, which uses advanced software and communications technology, will be offered by ETN, a joint-venture between IFS International Inc., USA, one of the world's leading Electronic Funds Transfer specialist companies, and the local shareholders, the United Group. AIM Ifikar Rahman, Managing Director of Dhaka Bank said: "Our bank has always believed in the concept of a Shared ATM Network which will enable us to