

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 enterprises."

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 this week.

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	Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Petrina	Wheat(P)	Alba	MSA	22/5	15/6
J/2	Al Shams	C.Clink	Pada	NWSL	4/6	15/6
J/3	Sai Kung	Sugar(G)	Kosh	Fortune	22/5	21/6
J/4	Top glory	Wheat(P)	Sing	Rainbow	30/5	21/6
J/5	Larak	Sugar(G)	Bang	SBS	2/6	18/6
J/6	Naumea express	G(Copra)	Sing	Aeka	4/6	19/6
J/7	Aeropolis	C.Clink	Tuba	MBL	8/6	22/6
J/8	Jin Hong Hal	Wheat(P)	P.Said	OWSL	7/5	20/6
J/9	Yon Jiang	G	Sila	Bdship	1/6	16/6
J/10	Kota Naga	Cont	Sing	Pili(BD)	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	G(I) Pe	Sing	ROYAL	7/5	18/6
CCT/1	Bangler robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	10/6	15/6
CCT/2	Qc Pintail	Cont	Sing	QCSL	9/6	14/6
CCT/3	Jurong Balsam	Cont	Col	Everest	1/6	16/6
CCJ	Allbrog	C.Clink	Kradi	RML	4/6	15/6
GJ	Undok-1	Cement	Sing	SBS	22/5	19/6
TSP	Siam Ivory	R.Phos	Sing	ASA	7/6	17/6
RM/4	Virginia	Cds	Kalk	Seacom	27/5	15/6
RM/6	Halia	Hsd	Aliu	ECNL	28/5	19/6
DOJ	Bangler Shourab	C.Oil	-	BSC	R/A	17/6
DD	Ocean-1	Repair	Yang	SMSL	13/5	19/6
DDJ/1	Bangler Shikha	Repair	Sing	BSC	17/4	15/6
RM/9	Bangler Moni	Repair	-	BSC	R/A	20/6
Kafco(U)	New Mariner	Urea	Sing	Everett	9/6	16/6
BB	Vladi	Visit	Hong	Sinoben	9/6	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Last Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading Port
Egasco Fortune	14/6	Const	BSL	G	-
Shun An	15/5	yang	RMSL	G	-
Sin Hai	15/6	Sing	RSL	Cont	Sing
Banga Bijoy	15/6	-	Bdship	Con	-
Kota Cahaya	15/6	Sing	Pili(BD)	Cont	Sing
Actuaria	15/6	-	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Chong Gen	19/6	-	Sbs	C.Clink	-
Ban An	15/6	-	China	Karna	-
Developing Road	15/6	-	HSL	G	-
Qing Ann	12/6	Indo	-	Everets	Cont
Osg Argosy	16/6	-	SMSL	Gil(Log)	-
Wrestler-1	16/6	Koshi	ANCLC Clink(Hyundai)	-	-
RimBun	18/6	Sing	PSALC Clink(Diamond)	-	-
Kapitan Petko Votvoda	17/6	Col	BBA	G(ST.Coll)	-
Da Fu	17/6	Cbo	Everest	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	Gil(Log)	-
Qc Teal	19/6	-	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Xpress Reslove	19/6	-	RSL	Cont	Sing
Kota Singa	19/6	Sing	Pili(BD)	Cont	Sing
Gold Indus	20/6	-	Everett	G	-
Asian Leader	22/6	-	Jf	Vehi	-
Morning Rose	23/6	-	Everett	Vehi	-
Banga Biral	23/6	P.Kel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Bangler Maya	24/6	Jedda	BSC	G	-
An Da	25/6	-	Lutful	St.Rails	-

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Energy Explorer-IV	-	-	BBA	5/4
Ismaya	-	-	BBAL	17/8
Barge: Csk-6	-	-	BBAL	R/A(28/11)
Tug Magita	-	-	BBAL	R/A(28/11)
Dea Champion	P.Mat	-	BSL	2/6
Dea Conqueror	-	-	Araefen	R/A(2/6)
Seabulk Command	-	-	IBS	R/A(19/4)

Vessels at outer anchorage:

Ready on					
Sulu Warrior	Gi (TP)Ms	Uang	Rainbow	2/6	
Arabella	Cont	P.Kel	QCSL	7/6	
Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	PIL	9/6	
Oriente Independence	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	10/6	
Juitra parichart	Cont	Sing	RSL	10/6	
Jaam	Con	Sing	Cross	11/6	
Patty	Cont	Sing	Cross	11/6	
Bangler Doot	Rice(P)	Kara	BSC	8/6	
Bokher Capt Cook	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	13/6	
Apex	Rice(P)	Sing	Cindy	10/6	
Pu Cheng	Rt(Maize)	Chin	Porg	10/6	
Banga Biral	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	14/6	

Vessels not ready

Outgoing	Ready on	Incoming	Shifting
15/06			
J/1	Petrina	J/1 B. Doot	
J/2	Al Shams	J/2 Norbulk Oak	

Movement of vessels for 15 & 16.06.2000					
Outgoing					
15/06					
J/1					