

# Japan likely to accept across the board farm tariff cuts

AFP, Tokyo

citing sources.

Tokyo wants to maintain high tariffs on a small number of products, such as rice, the nation's staple food, and pork, while agreeing to the across-the-board cuts on other items, the economic daily said.

The latest round of WTO free-trade talks has made little progress since being launched in 2001 in the Qatari capital Doha.

The Japanese government plans to convey its proposal to the United States as early as this week, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun said without

subsidies for agriculture and on access to markets -- key issues for poor countries unable to compete in the global marketplace.

Japan had teamed up with the European Union (EU) against food exporting countries led by the United States over ways to reduce tariffs on farm trade.

In July, however, the EU agreed with the United States to craft a joint WTO position on the farming proposal, making Japan increasingly

isolated in the multilateral negotiations.

WTO ministers are to meet in Cancun, Mexico, in September to try to boost the bogged-down negotiations toward an agreement topping global trade barriers by the end of 2004.

The Nihon Keizai said the talks were expected to yield a major breakthrough if Japan, the United States and the European Union agree on the across-the-board tariff cuts for farm products.



PHOTO: WSS

Syed Marghub Morshed, chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission and president of the Bangladesh Working Group on World Summit on the Information Society, inaugurates a Bangladesh Secretariat on World Summit on the Information Society at BTRC office in Dhaka. Karar Mahmudul Hasan, secretary of Science and ICT Ministry, was also present.

## CURRENCY

Following is yesterday's forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Selling		Buying		
TT/DD	BC	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
58.7500	58.8000	57.8200	57.6502	57.5812
67.4450	67.5024	64.9608	64.7700	64.6924
95.0634	95.1443	92.1535	91.8828	91.7729
39.3214	39.3548	37.2823	37.1728	37.1283
0.5005	0.5009	0.4844	0.4830	0.4824
43.5960	43.6331	42.2939	42.1697	42.1192
7.2099	7.2161	6.7362	6.7164	6.7084
42.8176	42.8540	41.5493	41.4273	41.3777
7.5403	7.5467	7.4060	7.3842	7.3754
33.6560	33.6847	32.8318	32.7353	32.6961
16.1259	16.1397	15.6152	15.5693	15.5507
15.7913	15.8048	15.2963	15.2514	15.2331
9.3318	9.3397	8.5146	8.4896	8.4794

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
45.95	57.65	97.145	41.795	7.2530	0.6372	3.80

Local Interbank FX Trading:

The local interbank foreign exchange market was subdued yesterday. Dollar/Taka remained unchanged in a thin trading day.

Local Money Market:

Liquidity position remained stable in the local money market. Call rate remained in the same range between 3.75-4.25 per cent.

International Market:

Yen eased from its three-week high against dollar and the euro amid worries that Japan may again intervene to cap the export-damaging rise in their currency. Earlier yen got a boost against other majors due to the surprisingly strong data on Japanese growth. Market awaits the Federal Reserve's interest rate decision later. Fed is widely expected to leave the rates unchanged at one per cent. However, analysts are more focused on the Fed's outlook on the US economy and reaction of the asset markets.

At 1635 hours on Tuesday, euro was at 1.1334/38, GBP at 1.6044/48 and yen at 118.62/66 against dollar.

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## SHIPPING

### Chittagong port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 12/8/2003

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J1	Jin Cheng (Liner)	Gl	S. Hai	Bdship	11/8	18/8	957
J2	Sonali	Rice/Wt/Sug	Kaki	Nsl	4/8	20/8	X
J4	Celje (Liner)	Gl	Sing	Prog	11/8	15/8	740
J5	Leo-T	Wheat (P)	Viza	Litmoni	5/8	21/8	297
J6	Myeell	Pulse/Maize	Yang	Total	1/8	14/8	541
J7	Continent-4	Sug/soda	Prog	Cla	31/7	15/8	X
J9	Gu Jiang	Rice(P)	Kaki	Total	2/8	21/8	X
J11	New Sea Star	Cont	P. Kel	Qcsl	11/8	14/8	152/422
J12	Banga Birol	Cont	Col	Bdship	10/8	14/8	224/261
J13	Apt Tulip	Cont	Sing	Nol	10/8	15/8	273/319
CCT/1	Orient Freedom	Cont	P. Kel	Pssl	9/8	13/8	350/X
CCT/2	Xpress Resolve	Cont	Col	Everbest	8/8	12/8	389/417
CCT/3	Banga Bonik	Cont	Col	Baridhi	10/8	13/8	71/X
RM/14	Bangla Kalol	Repair	-	Bsc	R/A	12/8	
RM/15	Ja Gang	Feret (Bag)	Sing	Bsc	R/A	18/8	
RM/5	Eagle Sagita	Hsd/Stk/Jet	Sing	Eosl	10/8	18/8	

Vessels due at outer anchorage Date: 12/8/2003

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Feng Shun Shan (Liner)	12/8	Kore	Bdship	Gl	-
Asimont	12/8	P. Kel	Seaborne	Cont	Sing
Amry Dp	13/8	Viza	Uniship	Wheat(G)	
Ocean Pride	13/8	Yang	Psal	Gl (Log)	
Santa Ynez	12/8	Batam	Rkship	-	
Chieftain-II	13/8	Indo	Nwsl Clink (Ara/Star/M)	Cont	Sing
QC Teal	13/8	P. Kel	Qcsl	Cont	Sing
QC Honour	14/8	P. Kel	Qcsl	Cont	Sing
Yasin	14/8	Mala	Uniship	Gl (Log)	
Kota Singa	14/8	Sing	Pil (Bd)	Cont	Sing
Bangla Moni	13/6	Sing	Bsc	Cont	Sing
Love Letter	14/8	Sing	Jf (2 Units Patrol Boat)	-	
Feng Tung	16/8	Chenn	Everett	Gl	
Jutha Vasana (Liner)	15/8	Yangon	Everett	Gl	
Magic Sky (Roro/24)6/9	15/8	P. Kel	Everett	Vehi	
Pagan	15/8	Yang	Mta	Gl (Pulses)	
Bosowa Sembilan	15/8	Kaki	Able	Rice (P)	
Banga Bijoy	14/8	P. Kel	Bdship	Cont	Col
QC Lark	15/8	P. Kel	Qcsl	Cont	P. Kel

### Outside Port Limit:

Dea Captain	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (6/8)
Onda	C/Oil	Sing	Ows	08/08
Bangla Jyoti	C/Oil	-	Bsc	R/A (11/8)

### Vessels at outer anchorage

#### Vessels ready:

Taganroga	Lbo	Alge	Eosl	11/8
Banga Biraj	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	11/8
Ocean Manta	Hsd/Ms	Sing	Mstpl	11/8

### Vessels awaiting employment/instruction:

Banga Borti	Repair	-	Bdship	R/A (5/8)
Bangar Robi	-	-	Bdship	R/A (11/8)

### Movement of vessels for 13/8/2003

Outgoing	Incoming	Shifting
J7	Continent	CCT/1 B. Biraj
CCT/1	O. Freedom	CCT/3 QC Teal
CCT/3	B. Bonik	J7 O. Pride
RM/5	E. Sagitta	Feng Shun Shan
DOJ:	B. Jyoti	J3 Al-Muztuba
		Taganroga
		DOJ: B. Shourab

The above are shipping position and performance of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by Family, Dhaka.

## STOCK



PHOTO: GREEN DELTA INSURANCE AQM Nurul Absar, chairman of Green Delta Insurance Company Limited, speaks at the half-yearly conference-2003 of the company in Dhaka on Sunday.