

## FREE TRADE AREA BY 2010

# China, Asean reach basic consensus

AFP, Beijing

Negotiations on the establishment of a China-Asean free trade area set to wind up ahead of schedule next month after the parties reached a basic consensus that would create the world's biggest trade zone, state press reported Friday.

China and the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) are in agreement on a trade arrangement which would cover 1.7 billion consumers with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of two trillion dollars, the China Daily said, quoting sources close to the talks.

The free trade area is expected to be launched by 2010.

Agriculture, information and communication technologies,

human resources development, investment and the development of the Mekong River were identified as priorities for co-operation between the 11 countries, the newspaper said.

Observers said the climate for the negotiations was good although some reservations remain among some of the Asean nations -- Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

"The technical negotiations are not the biggest block to the FTA (free trade area), compared to worries about a 'China threat' in some Asean member countries," the newspaper quoted Zhao Jinping, an official with China's Development Research Centre of the State Council, as saying.

# New Indian govt's allies may slow WTO talks

AFP, New Delhi

The coming to power of an Indian government reliant on communists for support could slow WTO talks and harden Third World demands for cuts in rich nations' farm export handouts, analysts said.

Indian communist leaders say they want the new Congress government led by Manmohan Singh to take a tougher stand in World Trade Organisation (WTO) talks over agriculture, as the livelihood of millions of poor farmers is at stake.

"We won't have any flexibility in agriculture talks," Biswajit Dhar, head of WTO studies at New Delhi's Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, said Thursday.

"It'll be impossible to have any movement on WTO issues without anything in return," Dhar said.

"Until now our position has been that we've made some commitments and been trying to make progress around the structure of

agreements based on that. The Left has indicated we need to go beyond the structure," Dhar said.

Differences over the future of agricultural export subsidies have been a key sticking point stalling efforts to eliminate global trade barriers through the so-called Doha Round of WTO negotiations.

India is a key player in global trade forums and banded with other developing countries at the failed WTO talks in Cancun last September.

Agriculture is suddenly sharply in focus in India due to the stunning upset electoral defeat of the ruling Hindu nationalists who were swept out on a tide of rural anger about not benefiting from India's economic boom.

Communist leaders, whose support is crucial to the Congress government to remain in power, said India's whole WTO stance should be revisited.

## BANKWISE LENDING RATE (PERCENTAGE PER ANNUM) May, 2004

Name of the Banks	Agriculture	Term loan to large & medium scale industry	Term loan to small industry	Working Capital to industry	Export	Trade Financing	Housing loan	Consumer credit	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>NCBs</b>									
1.SONALI	5.00-9.00	11.00	10.00-10.50	11.00	7.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	10.00-12.00
2.JANATA	10.00	9.00-11.00	10.00	10.00-11.00	7.00	12.50	11.00-12.00	12.00	12.50
3.AGRANI	8.00	10.00-11.00	10.50	11.00	7.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	13.00
4.RUPALI	9.00	11.25	10.00 & 10.50	11.50	7.00	12.00 & 12.50	12.00	12.00	10.00-12.00
<b>DFIs</b>									
5. BKB	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	7.00	12.00	-	-	10.00-12.00
6.BSB	10.00	9.00-11.00	9.00-11.00	10.00-11.00	7.00	12.00-12.50	12.00	-	10.00-14.50
7.RAKUB	8.00	10.00	10.00	9.00	7.00	14.00	6.00	-	11.00-12.00
8.BSRS	-	10.00-11.00	10.00	12.00	7.00	12.00	12.00-12.50	12.50	10.00-13.50
9.BASIC	9.00-9.50	11.00	10.00-11.00	10.00-12.00	7.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
<b>PCBs</b>									
10. PUBALI	8.00-10.00	13.00-14.00	11.00-12.00	13.00-14.00	7.00	-	13.00-14.00	14.00	12.00-14.00
11.UTTARA	10.00	13.00	12.50	14.00	7.00	14.00	14.00	13.50	12.50-14.50
12.AB-BANK	8.00-11.00	12.50-14.00	10.00-11.00	9.00-14.25	7.00	10.00-14.50	14.00-14.90	14.00-18.00	9.00-14.90
13.IFIC	10.00-12.00	13.00-14.50	13.00-14.00	13.00-14.50	7.00	13.00-14.50	13.00-14.50	14.50-16.00	13.50-14.50
14.ISLAMI	10.00	13.50	12.50	13.50	7.00	13.50-14.00	13.50-14.50	12.50-13.50	12.50-14.50
15.NBL	12.00-14.50	14.00-14.50	13.00-14.00	14.00-14.50	7.00	14.00-16.00	14.50-15.50	14.00	13.00-15.00
16.THE CITY	11.00-15.00	12.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	12.00-15.00	7.00	12.00-15.00	12.00-15.00	13.50	9.00-18.00
17.UCLB	10.00	14.00	12.00	14.00	7.00	13.50	15.00	-	13.00-15.00
18.ORIENTAL	12.00-14.00	14.00-16.00	12.00	14.00-16.00	7.00	14.00-16.00	16.00	15.00	14.00-16.00
19.EBL	10.00-15.00	11.25-14.50	12.00-15.00	9.00-14.50	7.00	11.50-15.00	11.50-15.00	13.25-15.00	11.50-15.00
20.NCCBL	10.00	12.00-13.00	10.00	12.00-13.00	7.00	12.00-15.00	12.00-14.00	15.00	13.00-15.00
21.PRIME	10.00-12.00	12.00-13.50	12.00-14.00	12.50-13.50	7.00	12.50-14.00	14.00	14.00-15.00	12.50-14.00
22.SOUTHEAST	7.00-10.00	12.00-13.00	11.50-12.50	11.50-13.00	7.00	12.00-13.00	12.00-13.00	13.00	12.00-13.00
23.DHAKA	7.00-10.00	10.00-13.00	9.00-12.00	10.00-14.00	7.00	11.00-14.00	11.00-14.00	16.00-19.00	10.00-15.00
24.AL-ARAFAH	10.00-14.50	13.00-15.00	10.00-15.00	12.00-14.50	7.00	12.00-15.00	12.00-14.50	12.00-14.50	12.00-14.50
25.SIBL	10.00	12.50-14.00	12.00-14.00	12.00-14.00	7.00	12.00-14.00	12.50-14.00	14.00	8.00-14.00
26.DUTCH-BANGLA	9.00	12.00	10.00	12.00	7.00	11.50-12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
27.MERCANTILE	10.00	11.50-14.50	11.50-14.50	11.50-14.50	7.00	11.50-14.50	11.50-14.50	15.00	11.50-14.50
28.ONE BANK	8.00-10.00	12.00-15.00	11.00-13.00	8.00-15.00	7.00	12.00-15.00			12.00-15.00
29.EXIM	10.00-12.00	13.00-14.00	12.00-13.00	13.00-14.00	7.00	13.00-14.00	14.00	13.00-14.00	13.00-14.00
30.PREMIER	11.50	12.00-14.00	11.50-13.50	11.00-13.50	7.00	12.00-14.50	12.00-14.00	10.00	13.50-14.50
31.FIRST SECURITY	12.00	14.00	13.00	14.00	7.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
32.STANDARD	8.00-10.00	12.50-15.00	14.00	12.50-15.00	7.00	12.50-15.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00
33.TRUST BANK	9.00	11.00-12.50	10.00-11.00	11.00-12.50	7.00	12.00-13.00	12.00	12.00	12.00-13.00
34.MUTUAL TRUST	8.00-9.00	12.00-13.50	10.00-11.00	12.00-13.50	7.00	12.00-13.50	13.00-13.50	13.00-13.50	12.00-13.50
35.BANK ASIA	9.00	14.00	12.00-13.00	14.00	7.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	11.50-14.00

36.BCBL	10.00	13.50	13.50	13.50	7.00	13.50	14.00	15.00	12.00
37.JAMUNA	10.00	12.50-14.00	12.00-14.00	13.00-14.00	7.00	13.00-13.00	13.00-13.00	14.00	13.00-15.00
38.SHAHJALAL	10.00-13.50	12.00-15.50	12.50-15.50	7.00-15.50	7.00	10.00-15.50	12.50-15.50	12.50-15.50	12.50-15.50
39.BRAC	9.00-12.00	13.00-15.00	16.00-18.00	13.00-15.00	7.00	13.00-24.00	-	-	12.00-17.00
<b>FBs</b>									
40.AMEX	-	10.50-13.75	-	8.00-12.50	7.00	8.25	-	10.00-13.00	7.00-15.00
41.COMMERCIAL B.	7.00-9.00	9.50-12.50	8.00-10.00	7.75-12.00	7.00	9.50-12.50	-	-	10.00-13.00
42.ST.CHARTERED	7.00-12.00	10.00-13.25	10.00-13.75	7.25-13.00	7.00	9.00-13.50	-	7.00-19.50	7.75-15.00
43.HABIB	7.00	12.00-13.00	12.00-13.00	12.00-14.50	7.00	12.00-14.00	-	12.00-14.00	12.00-13.00
44.SBI	10.00-11.00	11.50-13.50	11.00-12.00	11.50-13.50	7.00	11.50-13.50	12.50	-	15.00-15.00
45.NBP	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	7.00	14.00-16.00	-	-	14.00-16.00
46.CITI N.A.	10.00-12.00	11.50-13.50	9.00-11.00	8.50-14.00	7.00	9.50-14.00	-	-	8.50-14.00
47.WOORI	7.00-12.00	10.50-14.00	10.00-11.00	7.00-14.00	7.00	12.00-14.00	-	-	11.00-14.00
48.SHAMIL	8.00	12.00-14.00	10.00-12.00	8.50-12.00	7.00	11.00-13.00	-	-	11.00-13.00
49.HSBC	-	10.00-14.00	-	7.90-14.00	7.00	-	14.00	8.00-15.00	-

Banks are permitted to differentiate in lending rates to individual borrowers not more than 3% in the same lending category.

## BANKWISE DEPOSIT RATE (PERCENTAGE PER ANNUM) May, 2004

Name of the Banks	Savings Deposit	Fixed Deposit				
		3 months but<6 months	6 months but<1 year	1 year but<2 years	2 years but<3 years	3 years and above
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>NCBs</b>						
1.SONALI	3.50	5.25	5.50	6.00	6.25	-
2.JANATA	3.50	5.25	5.50	6.00	6.25	-
3.AGRANI	3.50	5.25	5.50	6.00	6.25	-
4.RUPALI	3.75	5.50	5.75	6.25	6.50	-
<b>DFIs</b>						
5. BKB	4.50	6.25	6.50	7.00	7.25	7.25
6.BSB	3.50	5.25	5.50	6.00	6.25	6.25
7.RAKUB	4.50	6.25	6.50	7.00	7.25	7.25
8.BSRS	4.50	6.25	6.50	7.00	7.25	7.50
9.BASIC	5.00	6.00	6.25	6.75	7.00	7.00
<b>PCBs</b>						
10. PUBALI	4.25	6.00	6.25	6.75	7.00	-
11.UTTARA	5.50	7.00	7.25	7.50	8.00	8.25
12.AB-BANK	-	8.00	8.25	8.50	7.75	-
13.IFIC	6.50	7.75-8.50	8.00-8.75	8.25-9.00	-	-
14.ISLAMI	5.50	6.50	6.80	7.20	7.30	7.50
15.NBL	7.00	8.00-10.00	8.25-10.25	8.50-10.50	9.25-11.25	9.25-11.25
16.THE CITY	5.50-6.00	7.50-8.50	7.75-8.75	8.00-9.00	8.00-9.00	8.00-9.00
17.UCLB	6.50	7.50	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.00
18.ORIENTAL	7.50	8.50	9.00	9.50	10.00	10.50
19.EBL	5.50-6.50	8.25-8.75	8.25-8.90	7.30-9.00	8.00-8.90	7.00
20.NCCBL	5.50	8.00-8.50	8.50-9.00	9.00-9.50	-	9.50
21.PRIME	6.00-7.00	8.00-8.50	8.25-8.75	8.50-9.00	8.50-9.00	8.50-9.00
22.SOUTHEAST	7.00	7.50-8.50	7.75-8.75	8.50-9.50	8.75-9.75	8.75-9.75
23.DHAKA	6.00	8.25-9.00	8.50-9.00	8.75-9.00	8.75-9.00	8.75-9.00
24.AL-ARAFAH	6.31	7.57	7.96	8.35	8.55	8.74
25.SIBL	6.85	8.50	8.85	9.20	9.30	9.50
26.DUTCH-BANGLA	7.00	7.25	7.75	8.00	8.25	8.50
27.MERCANTILE	6.50	8.25-8.50	8.50-9.00	9.25-10.00	-	-
28.ONE BANK	8.00	8.50-9.50	8.75-9.75	9.00-10.00	9.25-10.50	9.25-10.50
29.EXIM	7.50	8.75-9.00	9.25-9.50	9.75-10.00	-	-
30.PREMIER	6.00	8.00-8.50	8.50-9.00	9.00-9.50	-	-
31.FIRST SECURITY	7.00	9.00-9.25	9.50-10.00	10.00-10.25	-	-
32.STANDARD	6.00	8.50	9.00	9.50	-	-
33.TRUST BANK	7.00	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.25	9.50
34.MUTUAL TRUST	6.50	8.50-9.00	8.75-9.50	9.50-10.00	-	-
35.BANK ASIA	6.00	8.00	8.50	9.00	-	-
36.BCBL	5.00	8.00-9.00	8.25-9.25	8.50	8.75	9.00
37.JAMUNA	7.00	8.50-8.75	9.00-9.50	9.75	10.00	-