

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Uneasy attempt to push crucial trade talks

AFP, Davos, Switzerland
Beneath their pledge to speed up global trade talks over the weekend, a core group of World Trade Organisation member states betrayed unease about troubled attempts to break down more trade barriers mainly for poor countries.

Experts searching for global solutions

AFP, Davos, Switzerland
Global economic growth must vault hurdles posed by exchange rate imbalances, US deficits and weak growth in Europe, but experts meeting here in Davos ended the week without takeaways solutions.

CURRENCY

Table with columns: Sell, Buy, TT/OD, BC, Currency, TT Clean, OD Sight Doc, OD Transfer. Lists various currencies and their exchange rates.

Local Interbank FX Trading
Local interbank FX market was sub-dued on Sunday on holiday. Dollar was almost unchanged against BDT.

International Market
International market was closed on Sunday on weekend. Before closing on Friday in New York, the dollar fell modestly against the euro.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Table with columns: Berth No., Name of vessels, Cargo, L. Port call, Local agent, Dt Of arrival, Leaving, Import Disch. Lists ship arrivals and departures.

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Date of arrival, L. Port call, Local agent, Type of cargo, Loading ports. Lists ship arrivals and departures.

Table with columns: Name of vessels, Cargo, Last Port call, Local agent, Date of arrival. Lists ship arrivals and departures.

Table with columns: J/13, RM/3, Analisa, B. Biraj, G. Ureanus, J/7, Continent-4, B. Shourabh, J/4, Young Jiang, J/5, Pavonis, RM/4, G. Dream, B. Jyoti, 28/1, RM/3, Mmm Houston. Lists ship arrivals and departures.



EU trade commissioner Peter Mandelson (L) attends a meeting with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Chief Director General Supachai Panitchpakdi (2nd R) on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum on Saturday in Davos, Switzerland.

Business leaders see investment surge in 2005

ANN
Cost-cutting no longer seems the main concern of big companies. Growth and investment are replacing cost-saving on CEOs' agendas.

Economists cry foul over HK's boast of freest economy

AFP, Hong Kong
Hong Kong prides itself on being the freest of the free economies, but analysts and increasingly vocal critics are beginning to question the claim.

WB, IMF make first foray into debate at World Social Forum

AFP, Porto Alegre, Brazil
For the first time, World Bank and IMF representatives joined the debate at the World Social Forum anti-globalization summit.

Merger mania muscles back into the headlines

AFP, New York
The merger and acquisition frenzy that started late last year in US financial circles revved up Friday with the purchase of Gillette by Procter and Gamble.



Md Shaiful Islam, managing director of Russell Lodge Holdings Ltd, and Nuruzzaman, chief engineer of Qater General Electricity and Water Corporation, shake hands after signing a joint venture agreement on construction of apartments at Mirpur in Dhaka recently.