

# China denounces US decision to impose textile quotas

**AFP, Beijing**

China's Premier Wen Jiabao on Monday slammed a US decision to impose quotas on three types of Chinese textile imports, saying the restrictions were "not beneficial" to trade relations.

"The restrictive measures taken by the United States against three Chinese textile products are not beneficial to the healthy development of Sino-US trade relations," Wen said, according to the Xinhua news agency.

Wen added: "It is normal to see some problems in Sino-US trade but we should not politicize these problems."

Under pressure to preserve jobs, the US government's Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on Friday said it was re-imposing a quota on three categories of Chinese textiles to curb a flood of imports.

The three categories are cotton knit shirts and blouses, cotton trousers, and cotton- and man-made fibre underwear.

The move is likely to sharply escalate trade tensions with the Asian giant.

CITA is acting partly on its own initiative and partly in response to complaints from US textile manufacturers that Chinese imports have shot up since global quotas that

regulated the trade were scrapped on January 1.

According to the US Commerce Department, imports of Chinese underwear have gone up 366 percent since January 1, cotton-knit shirts are up 1,350 percent and cotton trousers jumped by more than 1,500 percent.

That deluge, the NCTO argues, has cost 16,600 US textiles jobs with the closure of no fewer than 18 plants since the start of the year.

US critics argue that Chinese imports in general have enjoyed a massive boost from an artificially weak yuan currency. Beijing is under mounting international pressure to revalue the yuan but has so far stood firm.

The US decision followed an investigation which coincided with a parallel probe by the European Union into nine categories of Chinese textile imports and which may also lead to restrictions being enforced.

China has reacted angrily to the investigations. In early May, Trade Minister Bo Xilai accused the United States and the European Union of "double standards" in their international trade dealings -- arguing for free trade but not practicing it.



Lars P Reichelt, chief executive officer of Banglalink, and Chris Maloy, CEO of Citycell, pose for photographs after signing an inter-operator agreement on behalf of their companies recently. Other senior officials from both the sides are also seen in the picture.



PHOTO: PRIME BANK

M Shahjahan Bhuiyan, managing director of Prime Bank Ltd, and SM Fareedul Islam, acting MD of Prime Insurance Company Ltd, exchange documents after signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) recently in Dhaka. Under the MoU, Prime Insurance will provide insurance coverage for the fixed depositors and credit card holders of Prime Bank.

## Honda to export Chinese cars to Europe, Asia

**AFP, Beijing**

Japan's Honda Motor Co is to export China-made cars to Europe and Asia next month, making it the first foreign car maker to launch a full-scale export operation on the mainland, an official said Monday.

"We have finished construction of our new factory and it will produce cars especially for the foreign market," a spokesman for Guangzhou Honda told AFP.

"Our capacity will initially be 50,000 vehicles a year. Production will begin next month."

He said output would be determined by demand, with the factory in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou producing the company's popular compact model Fit, which will sell under the name Jazz in Europe.

The cars will be destined not just for European but also Southeast Asian markets, added the spokesman, who refused to be named.

Under a joint-venture arrangement, Honda has a 65 percent stake in the export-only company, Honda Automobile, while Dongfeng Motor and Guangzhou Auto Group hold 25 and 10 percent respectively.

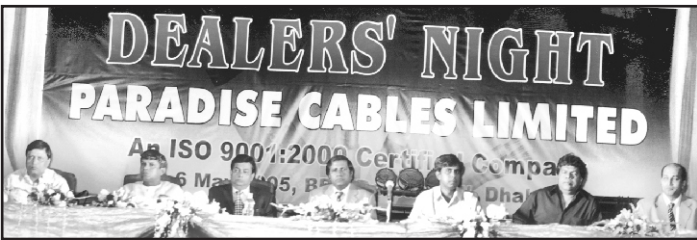


PHOTO: PARADISE CABLES

The dealers' conference titled 'Dealers' Night' of Paradise Cables Ltd was held recently in Dhaka. Paradise Group Chairman Md Mosharraf Hossain presided over the function, which was also attended by Director of Paradise Marketing Ltd Habibur Rahman Khan and Managing Director of Paradise Group Md Mobarak Hossain.



PHOTO: THE CITY BANK

Abbas Uddin Ahmed, managing director of The City Bank Ltd, and Gilles Galludec, program manager (Financial Markets) of SouthAsia Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF), exchange documents after signing an agreement on behalf of their companies recently in Dhaka for establishing a separate small and medium enterprise (SME) department in the bank under the technical assistance of SEDF.

## CURRENCY

Following is Monday's (May 16, 2005) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank						
Sell		Buy				
TT/OD	BC	Currency	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer	
64.1300	64.1600	USD	63.1250	63.1040	63.0619	
81.7658	81.8040	EUR	78.6853	78.6591	78.6066	
119.2818	119.3376	GBP	115.7965	115.7579	115.6807	
49.3865	49.4096	AUD	47.0786	47.0629	47.0315	
0.6045	0.6048	JPY	0.5828	0.5826	0.5822	
52.9562	52.9810	CHF	51.0101	50.9931	50.9591	
9.1544	9.1586	SEK	8.1971	8.1944	8.1889	
51.1240	51.1480	CAD	49.4090	49.3926	49.3596	
8.2306	8.2344	HKD	8.0855	8.0828	8.0774	
39.0560	39.0743	SGD	37.8902	37.8775	37.8523	
17.6027	17.6109	AED	17.0479	17.0422	17.0309	
17.2369	17.2450	SAR	16.6989	16.6933	16.6822	
11.3408	11.3461	DKK	10.2612	10.2578	10.2510	
Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar						
Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
43.39	59.5	99.85	39.693	6.4167	0.7577	3.80
Local Interbank FX Trading						
Local interbank FX market was active on Monday. Dollar ended almost unchanged against Bangladeshi taka.						
Local Money Market						
Money market was active on Monday. Call money rate was almost unchanged and most of the deals ranged between 10.00 and 20.00 percent.						
International Market						
The dollar hit a new seven-month high against the euro on Monday, extending gains after a slew of upbeat data bolstered optimism that the US is able to fund its current account deficit. Dealers said the greenback was still on a roll after robust US retails sales and employment data lifted the currency to its high for the year. The next test						

## SHIPPING

### Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 16/5/2005

Berth	Name of	Cargo	L. port	Local	Dt of	Leaving
Import						
No.	vessels	call	agent	arrival		disch
J/7	Tele J	Gl(Ht. St)	Ind	Rsa	10/5	17/5 7301
J/8	Ikan Selar	Rice(G)	Japan	Ascl	11/5	19/5 1950
J/12	Xpress Nuptse	Cont	P. Kel	Rsl	13/5	17/5 307
J/13	Oel Freedom	Cont	Sing	Pssl	13/5	17/5 244
Cct/1	Platinam Emerald	Cont	Sing	Rsl	13/5	17 / 5 214
Cct/2	Kota Singa	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	12/5	15/5 155
Cct/3	Banga Biraj	Cont	Sing	Bdship	12/5	16/5 193
Gsj:	Banglar Maya	Sugar	Santo	Mutual	8/5	28/5
DD:	Safinaz	Repair	P. Guda	Pml	21/4	20/5
Ddj-2:	Banglar Urmi	Repair	Kaki	Bsc	21/4	18/5
RM/9	Amanat Shah	Repair	Kaki	Cla	2/4	20/5
Custom Tug Sbm-1	Ballast	Sing	Otl		9/12	--
Jetty						
BB:	F.V. Zaran	Fishing	Macha	Ssa	30/1	--
		Trawler				

### Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. port	Local	Type of cargo	Loading ports
		call	agent		
Xpress Manaslu	19/5	P. Kel	Rsl	Cont	Sing
Vien Dong-2	19/5	--	Prog	Gl (St & Pa)	--
Banga Borti	19/5	--	Bdship	Cont	Pkl/Sing
Budi Teguh	20/5	--	Cosco	Cont	Cal/Hai
Kota Naga	20/5	Sing	Pil (Bd)	Cont	Sing
Oel Excellence	20/5	--	Pssl	Cont	Sing
QC Dignity	20/5	P. Kel	Qcsl	Cont	Sing
Eastern Star	21/5	Sing	Pkl	Cont	Sing
Banga Lanka	21/5	--	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Van Xuan	21/5	--	Pssl	Cont	Sing
Banga Borak	21/5	--	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banga Bonik	22/5	--	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shikha	22/5	--	Bsc	Cont	Sing
Kota Tampan	23/5	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing

### Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port	Local	Date of arrival
	call		agent	

### Outside port limit

Gulg Bison	--	--	Ibsa	R/A (14/5)
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### Vessels at outer anchorage

#### Vessels ready

QC Star	Cont	P. Kel	Qcsl	14/5
Maritime Chiangmai	Clink	Sing	Bsl	14/5
Banglar Jyoti	C. Oil	K. Dia	Bsc	R/A (13/5)
Brave Royal	Clink	Krabi	Brsi	9/5

#### Vessels not ready

Kardaran Star	Sugar	Sing	Rainbow	30/4
Amar	Sugar	Bang	Unicorn	7/5
John-P	Gr. Slag	Sing	Saraf	11/5
Ocean Pride	C. Clink	Kant	Psal	11/5
Asean Express	Fert/S. Ash	Chin	Unique	13/5
Banglar Maya	Sugar	Braz	Mbl	14/5

#### Vessels awaiting employment/instruction

Bumi Jaya	--	Visa	Unicorn	10/11
Salamat-3	--	--	Olm	R/A (9/5)

#### Vessels not entering

## STOCK