

TEXTILE DISPUTE

US trade official sees no trade war with China

AFP, Hong Kong

United States trade officials are confident that the dispute over China's surging textile exports would be resolved and will not result in a trade war, an official said Monday.

The textile issue is a "very sensitive" subject but the row will not lead to a trade war, said James Leonard, deputy assistant secretary of commerce.

He was speaking here after meetings in Beijing with US Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez and Chinese vice-premier Wu Yi.

"The textile (issue) has become very sensitive ... you read in some of the press reports about potential trade wars between the two countries. Personally, I don't think that would happen," Leonard told reporters in Hong Kong.

"Textile is only about six percent of China's trade. It would be very unfortunate to have a major confrontation over six percent of trade," he said.

Leonard said apart from imposing taxes on exports, China should also consider restricting the quantity of textile exports.

"The preliminary analysis that

we've done would indicate that certainly for a number of the categories, average value of the Chinese exports plus the export taxes still would result in a price lower than a lot of other countries," he said.

"If they choose to do an export tax, they can do that but they can also choose to do some sort of quantitative restraints," he added.

Nevertheless, Leonard said he felt "very strongly" the textile issue would be resolved following "very good dialogue" with Chinese officials but he was doubtful that this would happen in the short term.

After a decades-old global quota

system was abolished on January 1, China imposed duties of between two and four percent on 148 types of textile goods to limit the impact on its global trading partners.

But they appear to have had little impact. China's textile exports jumped 29 percent overall in the first three months of the year, and pressure has been steadily building on Beijing to do more to stem the flood.

Gutierrez warned Thursday that China risks "an outbreak of protectionism" if current trade tensions are not addressed and this may lead to further textile restrictions.



PHOTO: ISPR

Chief of Army Staff and Chairman of The Trust Bank Ltd Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury inaugurates the Dilkusha Corporate Branch of the bank in Dhaka Sunday.



PHOTO: UNITREND

Masih-ul-Karim, managing director of Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd, inaugurates the 5th Berger Color Bank outlet at Halishahar in Chittagong Thursday. Other senior officials of the company were also present at the inaugural function.



PHOTO: JANATA BANK

SM Aminur Rahman (extreme left), managing director of Janata Bank, speaks at a workshop on Janata Bank-CDF (Credit and Development Forum) linkage loan programme in Dhaka on Thursday. Managers of branches concerned of Janata Bank and Sonali Bank participated in the workshop.



PHOTO: BENCHMARK

M Sajidur Rahman, head of Consumer Banking of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh, inaugurates an ATM booth at ARA Plaza, Dhanmondi in Dhaka Saturday. Tanvir Haider Chaudhury, head of Shared Distribution of the bank, was also present at the function.



PHOTO: SEDF

Officials of SouthAsia Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF), a multi-donor funded facility, and Prime Bank Ltd exchange documents after signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on behalf of their organisations Tuesday in Dhaka. Under the MoU, SEDF will help the bank expand its small and medium enterprises financing programme.

Asia's mobile service users to exceed 901m in 2009

AFP, Singapore

The number of mobile service subscribers in the Asia-Pacific region outside of Japan is projected to exceed 901 million by 2009 after growing a robust 25.6 percent to 527.3 million in 2004, an industry monitoring group said Monday.

For 2005, the number of mobile users is tipped to increase 18.6 percent to 625.5 million, research firm International Data Corp. said.

The strong growth is expected to translate into an earnings bonanza for telecom service providers with mobile revenues rising to 109.3 billion US dollars in four years' time from 69.8 billion dollars in 2004, it said.

Of the 10 regional markets covered, India reported the fastest growth as mobile service users more than doubled to 48 million in 2004, with the figure projected to rise to 148.77 million in 2009.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 6/6/2005

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt Of arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/1	Pagan	Rice	Yang	MTA	2/6	8/6	--
J/4	Continent-4	Gi(log)	Yang	Cla	28/5	6/6	--
J/5	Brave Royal	C. Clink	Krabi	BRSL	1/6	8/6	5393
J/6	Al Muztuba	Gi(log)	Yang	Cla	1/1	8/6	1002
J/7	Shan Hai Guan	Gi	Inch	Cosco	5/6	12/6	920
J/9	Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	2/6	7/6	48
J/11	Qc Dignity	Cont	Sing	QCSL	5/6	8/6	93
J/12	Xpress Resolve	Cont	Col	Everbest	5/6	8/6	274
J/13	Kota Ratna	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	5/6	7/6	100
CCT/1	Xpress Manaslu	Cont	P. Kel	RSL	4/6	8/6	423

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Xiang Ruimen	6/5	Viza	Saraf	G. Slag	--
Joint Grace	7/6	F. Cheng	Unique	Tsp(majeity)	--
Banga Bodor	7/6	P. Kel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banga Borti	9/6	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing/pkl
Banga Barta	8/6	P. Kel	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banga Bonik	7/6	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Pavonis	9/6	Yang	PML	Gi(log)	--
Lamphun Navee	8/6	Col	Trident	Cont	Sing
Oel Freedom	9/6	Sin	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Oel Excellence	8/6	Sin	PSSL	Cont	CBO
Van Xuan	8/6	Sin	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Banga Borak	11/6	--	Bdship	Cont	Sing

Tanker due

Euro Viking	6/6	Haid	MBL	Ammonia
Al Sabiyah	6/6	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/MS
Tabtim	9/6	Indo	AMIL	Cpo(RM/3)
W.s. Enterprise	9/6	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/JP-1

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
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Outside Port Limit

Seabulk Hercules	--	--	IBSA	R/A (29/5)
Gulf Bison	--	--	IBSA	R/A (5/6)
Loulwat Oater	Crude Oil	Rast	USS	29/5
Banglar Shourabh	C. Oil	--	BSC	R/A

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Andea	CDSO	Durb	USL	4/6
Tank Oil	Cpol	Lumut	Rainbow	4/6
Al Barakat-1	Cpol	Mala	MTCL	4/6
Eastern Stat	Cont	Sing	PML	6/6

Vessels not ready

Great Mary	Sugar	Durb	USL	19/5
Rick Bank	Sugar	Santo	Mutual	29/5
Prestigious	Sugar	Santo	Mutual	1/6
Stove Trader	Gi(y, Peas)	Sing	Rainbow	3/6
Banglar Mookh	Sugar	K. Town	USL	4/6
Amalfi	Gr. Slag	Kaki	Pol	5/6

Vessels awaiting employment /instruction

Bumi Jaya	--	Visa	Unicorn	10/11
Amar	--	--	Unicorn	R/A (30/5)

Vessels not entering

Noora	Salt	Kand	Sigma	20/4
Sea Mild	C. Clink	Sing	Move	3/6

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

STOCK