

# China slams new US textile curb after yuan revaluation

AFP, Beijing

Beijing Saturday protested new US restrictions on textile imports from China a day after it revalued its yuan currency in a move likely to make Chinese exports more expensive.

"The Chinese government is firmly opposed and strongly dissatisfied" with the US decision to limit imports of Chinese woollen trousers, Ministry of Commerce spokesman Chong Quan said in a statement on the ministry website.

Chong said that a decision

Friday by the US Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements to impose the new restrictions broke free trade rules and threatened to raise the matter with the World Trade Organization.

The US was granted special safeguard measures in China's 2001 WTO accession protocol to protect the US market from a fresh surge of Chinese textile imports.

"The US decision lacks sufficient facts and goes against the principle and orientation of the WTO agreement on textile and garments, as

well as the spirit of free trade that the WTO advocates," Chong said.

"The Chinese government reserves the right to take further actions within the framework of the WTO," he said.

The US has already re-imposed import quotas on seven categories of Chinese textile exports, expected to halt imports of up to 2.5 billion dollars worth of Chinese goods.

The move comes after global textile quotas were abolished on January 1 as part of WTO efforts to liberalize trade.

The move also comes after the United States praised China for revaluating its currency, the Chinese yuan, on Thursday.

The currency changes are likely to make Chinese goods more expensive in Western markets, and in the long run could prove more effective than quotas in limiting the impact of Chinese textile exports.

China has also urged the United States to negotiate new limits instead of unilaterally implementing the WTO safeguards.



PHOTO: STAR

Amanullah Chowdhury, vice chairman of Rangs Group, and Romo Rouf Chowdhury, managing director of Rangs Ltd, jointly inaugurate a seven-day long free service programme for all Mitsubishi brand vehicles in Dhaka yesterday. The service will also be available in Chittagong on July 27 and 28.



PHOTO: ONE BANK

One Bank Ltd celebrated its sixth founding anniversary on July 14. Chairman Sayeed H Chowdhury along with other senior officials of the bank cuts a cake to mark the celebration.

## Free service week for Mitsubishi vehicles begins

### STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Rangs Workshop Ltd, the authorised service centre of Mitsubishi Motors Corporation, yesterday launched a seven-day long free service programme for all Mitsubishi brand vehicles in the country.

During this week, customers will enjoy free diagnosis of their vehicles, complementary washing, cleaning, battery check-up, filling and tipping of engine oil.

Rangs Group, sole importer of Mitsubishi vehicles, also announced a 10 percent discount on all other necessary services and purchase of any accessories for the week.

The service, which has initially been launched in Dhaka city, will also be available in Chittagong on July 27 and July 28.

Kentaro Nakamura, a service engineer of Mitsubishi Motors Corporation of Japan, along with other local experts is conducting the service programme.

Amanullah Chowdhury, vice chairman of Rangs Group, and Romo Rouf Chowdhury, managing director of Rangs Ltd, jointly inaugurated the service week.

Rangs Group has been offering free servicing facility to its customers for the last four years.



PHOTO: G3

Top winners of the Internet Fair 2005 SMS QUIZ Contest pose for photographs along with the officials of AKTEL in Dhaka recently. Mobile phone operator AKTEL awarded the winners of the contest held during April 27-May 1. Vijay Watson, chief operating officer of AKTEL, among others, was present at the function.



PHOTO: PREMIER BANK

Md Moklesur Rahman, managing director (Current Charge), and Nurul Alam Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Premier Bank Ltd, pose for photographs along with the participants at the opening session of the eighth foundation training course for the newly recruited management trainees of the bank in Dhaka yesterday.

## China, Vietnam conclude talks on market access

AFP, Beijing

Vietnam and China have successfully concluded negotiations on bilateral market access, smoothing the way for Hanoi to enter the World Trade Organisation (WTO), a joint communique said Friday.

The agreement came at the conclusion of a four-day visit to China by Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong, just weeks after Prime Minister Phan Van Khai's historic trip to the United States that also focused on Vietnam's growing economic presence.

Vietnam is hoping to enter the WTO by the end of 2005 and a number of negotiations are ongoing, though talks with China, Vietnam's number two trading partner after the European Union, are key.

Hanoi needs access to China's huge markets, analysts say, as well as Beijing's approval of its WTO bid.

"The two sides are satisfied with

the development of China-Vietnam trade and economic relations, and agreed to expand the two-way trade volume in a positive and pragmatic spirit to gradually reduce the imbalance in bilateral trade," the communique said.

"The two sides have completed the negotiation on bilateral market access concerning Vietnam's entrance into the World Trade Organization and believe the event will help open a new vista for bilateral cooperation especially in trade and economic fields."

Vietnamese reports say trade with China, which reached a record 7.2 billion dollars last year, is likely to reach 10 billion dollars by 2007, three years ahead of their target date.

The two countries, historical enemies which fought a brief war in 1979 and only normalised ties in 1991, have gradually been putting behind territorial disputes in order to pursue more friendly relations.

## CURRENCY

Following is Saturday's (July 23, 2005) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Sell		Buy			
TT/OD	BC	Currency	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
66.3200	66.3500	USD	65.1500	65.1283	65.0849
81.0696	81.1062	EUR	77.5546	77.5287	77.4770
116.3916	116.4443	GBP	112.2535	112.2160	112.1412
51.7628	51.7862	AUD	48.7648	48.7485	48.7160
0.6029	0.6032	JPY	0.5801	0.5799	0.5796
51.5387	51.5620	CHF	49.7784	49.7618	49.7286
8.4588	8.4626	SEK	7.8823	7.8796	7.8744
54.8689	54.8937	CAD	52.9374	52.9197	52.8844
8.5474	8.5512	HKD	8.3736	8.3708	8.3652
40.3505	40.3687	SGD	39.0681	39.0551	39.0291
18.2043	18.2125	AED	17.5953	17.5894	17.5777
17.8260	17.8341	SAR	17.2354	17.2297	17.2182
11.1757	11.1808	DKK	10.1317	10.1283	10.1216
223.6108	223.7142	KWD	222.0875	222.0875	222.0875

### Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
43.5	59.66	100.39	41.375	6.5928	0.7358	3.78

### Local Interbank FX Trading

Local interbank FX market was subdued. Demand for dollar continued to remain high in the market.

### Local Money Market

Money market was active. Call money rate was unchanged and ranged between 4.00 and 5.00 percent.

### International Market

The dollar regained some of the previous session's steep losses against the yen on Friday as markets pondered the implications of China's move to drop the yuan's peg against the dollar. Investors took a step back to consider the impact on currencies and the global economy, with many details unclear about China's

revaluation, which now links the yuan to a basket of currencies. In the afternoon trade, the dollar has risen 0.9 per cent after falling on Thursday by 2.5 yen to a three-week low following China's revaluation, which now links the yuan to a basket of currencies. In the afternoon trade, the dollar has risen 0.9 per cent after falling on Thursday by 2.5 yen to a three-week low following China's news. The Japanese currency, firming on the expectation that China's Asian trading rivals would allow their own currencies to strengthen, made its biggest one-day rise against the dollar in more than three years. Euro also came off highs against the yen.

*This memorandum is issued by Standard Chartered Bank and is based on or derived from information generally available to the public from sources believed to be reliable. While all reasonable care has been taken in its preparation no responsibility or liability is accepted for errors of fact or any opinion expressed herein.*

## ReadyCash Raffle Draw Winners

The latest ReadyCash Raffle Draw took place at ReadyCash Bangladesh office at Dhanmondi on Saturday, says a press release.

Prizes	Name of Winners	Card No
Kamal General Store Free gift box	Saha Alam	5047980010035157
China Junction Chinese Restaurant Free Lunch/Dinner for two	Md Salim	5047980010035158
Monorom Free Gift Box	Babul Ahmed	5047980010035166
Rainbow Chinese Free Launch/Dinner for two	A.R. Liton	5047980010035170

*Winners can collect their prizes from the executive, Promotion of ReadyCash within 30 days of this news circulation by producing their ReadyCash card transaction vouchers. ReadyCash encourages its cardholders to read The Daily Star and the Daily Prothom Alo on every Sunday or call our Customer Service at: 8123850, 8130497, 8125294-7.*

## STOCK