

EU delegates leave Beijing

Textile talks still on: EU official

AFP, Beijing

European Union delegates left China Monday after lengthy textile negotiations but a spokesman said talks were continuing on what to do about above-quota Chinese garments piling up in European ports.

"What's happened now is the team from Brussels is returning to Brussels to report back," said Michael Jennings, an EU spokesman in Beijing.

He said that while the delegation, headed by Trade Director Fritz-Harald Wenig, had left for Europe, intensive dialogue was being carried on by the resident EU mission in

Beijing.

"Our delegation, the delegation of the European Commission, is continuing the talks," he said. "The contacts are currently mostly on the phone but they're speaking constantly."

Jennings said he had no details on the results of the four-day negotiations but described them as "constructive." It was unclear if the delegation would return to China, he said.

China was thought keen to wrap up the negotiations before a similar showdown with the United States beginning Tuesday, and eager to seek a more or less lasting solution

before an EU-China summit in Beijing next week.

EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson Sunday outlined a possible makeshift deal, saying that the EU could resume imports of textiles from China next month and allow blocked shipments into the 25 member states.

Some 75 million garments, including sweaters, trousers, blouses, T-shirts, bras and tons of flax yarn, are being blocked at customs in European ports.

They are barred because they exceed an EU quota imposed in June to protect European manufacturers.

Chinese observers said they were optimistic since they were not facing a monolithic European bloc.

"The two sides will probably reach a compromise," said Liu Li, vice director of the China WTO Research Institute, a think-tank attached to the commerce ministry.

"Currently there are different voices among the EU countries, so the situation is good for China."

Two main solutions appear to be on the table. The first, favored by Germany, the Netherlands and the Scandinavian countries, all traditionally free-traders, would consist of raising the permitted level of Chinese textile imports.

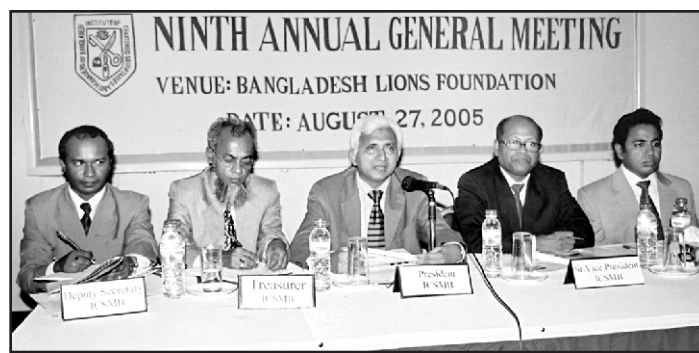


PHOTO: ICSMB

AKA Muqtadir (C), president of Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Managers of Bangladesh, speaks at the ninth annual general meeting (AGM) of the institute Saturday in Dhaka. (From left) Thomas Tarun Mallick, deputy secretary, Md Abdus Salam, treasurer, Mohd. Sanaulah, senior vice president, and Asad Ullah, vice president of the institute, are also seen.



PHOTO: SRISTY HOMETEX

G Saha, managing director of Sristy Hometex Ltd, a Bangladeshi firm, Janne L. Schneider, head of Section of Private Sector Development Programme (DANIDA), and Marie Visti Hansen, chief consultant of Danish Chamber of Commerce, pose for photographs after a meeting between Danish Import Promotion Office (DIPO) and Sristy in Copenhagen, Denmark recently to promote the export of Sristy's jute home textile products to Danish and European markets.

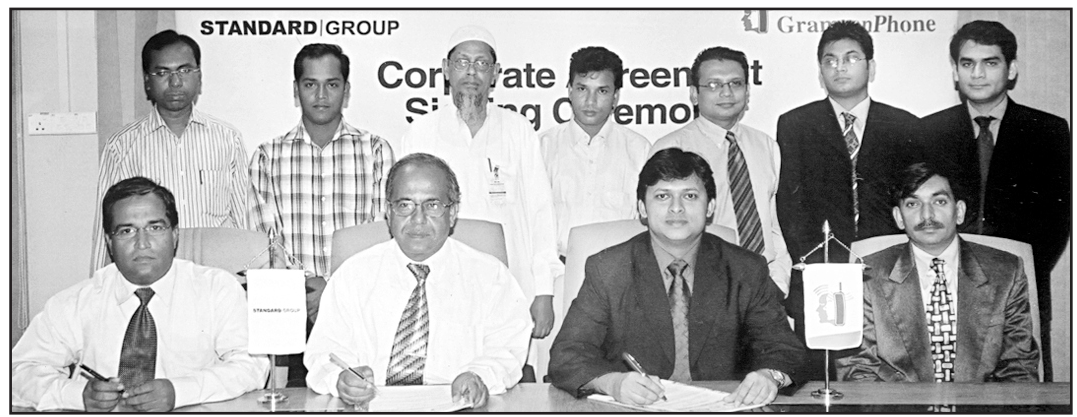


PHOTO: GRAMEENPHONE

Nurul Alam, director (Operation) of Standard Group, a garment manufacturing company that is also involved in construction, insurance and trading businesses, and Tanvir Ibrahim, head of Corporate Sales of GrameenPhone Ltd, sign an agreement recently in Dhaka. Under the deal, Standard Group has become a corporate client of the mobile phone operator.



PHOTO: SOCIAL INVESTMENT BANK

The tenth annual general meeting (AGM) of Social Investment Bank Ltd was held Sunday in Dhaka. Chairman of the bank Md Shah Alam presided over the AGM where the shareholders approved enhancement of the bank's capital through issuance of 1:1 rights share.

KL eyes FTA signing with Tokyo in Dec

AFP, Singapore

Malaysia's Trade Minister Rafidah Aziz on Monday expressed optimism that a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) with Japan would be signed during a regional summit hosted by Kuala Lumpur in December.

"The legal scrubbing (as) they call it is being done now.... you know putting it in legal context," Rafidah told journalists on the sidelines of a Singapore-Malaysia business seminar.

"We hope to have it signed by the two prime ministers when they meet at the ASEAN plus Japan meeting in Malaysia in December," she said.

Leaders and ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will meet with their Japanese counterparts as part of the inaugural East Asia Summit process to be held in Kuala Lumpur in December.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his Japanese counterpart Junichiro Koizumi signed an outline of the FTA after the two countries overcame major differences in a number of sectors, particularly the auto industry.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 29/8/2005

Berth no.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	DI of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/1	Navitec	TSP/s. Ash	Chin	Unique	18/08	05/09	1708
J/2	Yuan Zhi	TSP + Dap	Chin	Unique	12/08	01/09	1552
J/3	Pagan	Rice (p)	Myan	MTA	26/08	31/08	--
J/4	Cool Star	Vehi	P. Kel	Everett	29/08	30/08	287
J/5	Xiang Jiang	GI	Inch	Cosco	29/08	02/09	--
J/6	Kardaran Star	S. Ash(p)	Ind	PSL	28/08	03/09	--
J/7	Drain Naree	Wheat (p)	Sing	Parik	05/08	--	1039
J/8	Heron	Urea(bag)	Aljuba	PSL	28/08	05/09	848
J/9	Carina-ii	Sugar (p)	Santo	Mutual	08/08	04/09	1823
J/11	Mellum	Cont	Sing	QCSL	26/08	31/08	415

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Banga Bijoy	29/8	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Qc Dignity	30/8	P. Kel	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Kota Cahaya	29/8	Sing	Pil(bd)	Cont	Sing
Genco Pioneer	29/8	Sing	Parik	Wheat (p)	--
African Onyx	30/8	B. Kho	Alseas	GI (st. C)	--
Supreme	30/8	Viza	Sunshine	GI (st. Bil)	--
Shan Hai Guan	31/8	Hanjin	Cosco	GI	--
Yaad-e-mohammed	3/9	Yang	Cia	GI (log/Pulse)	--
Mongla	31/8	Yang	MTA	Rice (p)	--
Oel Excellence	31/8	Hald	PSL	Cont	Col
Bao Heng Men	30/8	Ruwis	PSAL	Urea (bag)	Boic
Banga Borak	31/8	Ptp	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Qc Star	31/8	Sing	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Xpress Nuptse	31/8	P. Kel	RSL	Cont	Sing
Mario	31/8	Sing	Ahz	Demolition	--
Hermelin	3/9	--	Everett	Demolition	--

tanker due

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Al Kuwailah	1/9	Kuwa	S. Lore	MSTPL	HSD/JP-1
Samotvor	2/09	--	--	ESL	CDSO (RM/3)

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Leopard Tide	--	--	IBSA	R/A (29/08)
Joharat Qatar	Crude Oil	Jebel	USS	28/08
Banglar Jyoti	--	--	BSC	R/A

Outside Port Limit

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Leopard Tide	--	--	IBSA	R/A (29/08)
Joharat Qatar	Crude Oil	Jebel	USS	28/08
Banglar Jyoti	--	--	BSC	R/A

Vessels not ready

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Hanjin Houston	GI (y. Pe)	Sing	ESL	27/08
Maritime Chiangmai	--	Krabi	BSL	27/08
Dan Yang	Urea (bag)	Damam	PSL	28/08
Brave Royal	C. Clink	Krabi	BRSL	28/08

Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Bumi Jaya	--	Visa	Unicorn	10/11

Vessels not entering

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Angelki-d	--	Santo	Litmond	09/07
Swift	Mom(p)	Russ	Angelic	10/08
F. Jahan	C. Clink	Krabi	BRSL	11/08
Kras	Mop (fert)	P. Swich	Angelic	16/08
Ivory Star	Dar(p)	Aust	BSL	16/08
Jin Bi	C. Clink	Nanat	Saraf	16/08
Asian Prime	C. Clink	Tanj	ASLL	16/08
Continent-4	GI/salt	--	Cia	R/A (20/08)
Sea Crown	C. Clink	Sing	Move	21/08
Santa Barbara	C. Clink	Krabi	Uniship	28/08
Love Star	C. Clink	Sing	ASLL	24/08

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

CURRENCY

Following is Monday's (August 29, 2005) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

TT/OD	BC	Currency	Buy		
			TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
66.9600	66.9900	USD	65.7900	65.7681	65.7242
83.3585	83.3959	EUR	80.2375	80.2107	80.1572
121.7400	121.7945	GBP	117.8562	117.8169	117.7383
51.3784	51.4014	AUD	48.8754	48.8591	48.8265
0.6155	0.6158	JPY	0.5924	0.5922	0.5918
54.0479	54.0722	CHF	51.9832	51.9659	51.9313
9.20202	9.2061	SEK	8.2488	8.2461	8.2406
56.6641	56.6895	CAD	54.5930	54.5748	54.5394
8.6382	8.6421	HKD	8.4513	8.4485	8.4428
40.8143	40.8326	SGD	39.1700	39.1570	39.1309
18.3784	18.3867	AED	17.7705	17.7646	17.7527
17.9976	18.0056	SAR	17.4034	17.3976	17.3860
11.5345	11.5397	DKK	10.4392	10.4357	10.4288
225.8647	225.9681	KWD	224.1287	224.0563	223.9116

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
43.65	59.67	100.95	41.160	6.4334	0.6961	3.77

Local interbank FX Trading active. Demand for dollar remained steady. Local interbank FX market was steady.

STOCK