

EU ready for further trade concessions, but not alone

AFP, Brussels

The European Union said Monday it was ready to make further offers, including on the sticky issue of agriculture, to unblock deadlocked world trade talks but insisted its partners had to move first.

Laying out Europe's position for the first time since a WTO ministerial meeting last month in Hong Kong, EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson raised pressure on other countries to make the first move in the game of high stakes trade negotiations.

"Europe is ready to give more than others. But it is not willing to get nothing in return," Mandelson said in speech for delivery in Berlin but distributed in Brussels.

Members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) are looking to jumpstart talks on freeing up trade after negotiators failed to make substantial progress at ministerial talks last month in Hong Kong amid persistent rifts over the scope and pace of liberalisation moves in agriculture, services and industrial goods.

The EU has been fiercely criticised by its trade partners for not making a bigger commitment to liberalising its heavily subsidised agriculture sector.



G Saha, managing director, and Protima Chakraborty, marketing manager of Sristy Hometex Ltd, show off home textile products at the company's stall at the 'Messe Heimtextil Fair 2006' held in Frankfurt, Germany between January 11 and 14. Martina Jasmin Becker, and Carmen Martinez Orozco, buyers from Germany and Spain, are also seen in the picture.

China creates 9.7m new jobs for urbanites in 2005

CEIS, Beijing

China provided 9.7 million new jobs for urban residents in 2005, making the total employment population hit 760 million, a spokesman with the Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MLSS) said.

By the end of 2005, China recorded a 760 working population, with an increase of 40 million over that of five years ago. More than 180 million workers laid off from state-owned enterprises got re-employed, said spokesman Hu Xiaoyi at a press conference.

Last year, he said, the number of people without jobs stood at 8.39 million, with a registered unemployment rate of 4.2 percent.

"This is the third consecutive year China has achieved government's goal of employment and re-employment targets," said Hu.

Meanwhile, China has established its basic social security systems backed up by insurance funds to ensure smooth transitions during China's social and economic changes.

The social insurance funds, including pension, unemployment, medical-care, work injury and maternity insurance, reached 700 billion yuan (87.5 billion US dollars) in 2005, with 540 billion yuan (70 billion US dollars) paid to beneficiaries, the spokesman said.



Kazi Wahidul Alam, chairman of Dhaka Travel Mart (DTM)-2006 and editor of The Bangladesh Monitor, a local travel journal, Toufiq Rahman, secretary general of Tour Operators Association of Bangladesh (TOAB), and Sadique Ahsan, president of Bangladesh Hotel and Guest House Owners Association (BHGHA), pose for photographs at a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signing ceremony on Saturday. Under the MoU, TOAB and BHGHA have become premium partners of DTM-2006, scheduled for April 6-8 in Dhaka.



The 15th annual general meeting (AGM) of Rahima Food Corporation Ltd was held recently in Narayanganj. Chairman of the company MA Rouf Chowdhury presided over the AGM, which was attended by other senior officials.

CURRENCY

Following is Monday's (January 23, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Item	BC	Currency	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
USD	68.7700	USD	67.6500	67.6275	67.5824
EUR	85.0685	EUR	81.7550	81.7278	81.6733
GBP	123.2290	GBP	119.2872	119.2472	119.1680
AUD	52.8566	AUD	50.1354	50.1187	50.0853
JPY	0.6068	JPY	0.5853	0.5851	0.5847
CHF	54.9501	CHF	52.9218	52.9042	52.8889
SEK	9.4328	SEK	8.5747	8.5718	8.5661
CAD	60.3299	CAD	58.1485	58.1291	58.0904
HKD	8.8885	HKD	8.7038	8.7009	8.6951
SGD	43.2870	SGD	41.5617	41.5479	41.5202
AED	18.8757	AED	18.2639	18.2639	18.2517
SAR	18.4831	SAR	17.8949	17.8990	17.8770
DKK	11.7568	DKK	10.6594	10.6559	10.6488
KWD	232.0971	KWD	230.3042	230.2297	230.0809

Exchange rate of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Norwegian	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
44.25	59.82	102.135	39.606	6.0030	0.5841	3.75

Local Interbank FX Trading Demand for USD remained high in the market.



Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd recently launched a programme titled 'Smile-Brighter' for the cleft-lipped children of Rangpur district. Under the programme, a plastic surgery team operated on the lips of some 40 boys and girls at RG Hospital in Rangpur town.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 23/1/2006

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt of arrival	Leaving	Import disch.
J1	Ocean Venture	Sugar	Tuli	Mutual	10/1	23/1	597
J2	DD Trader	Wheat(P)	Novo	Able	11/1	28/1	203
J3	Alaska Dream	GI	Yang	Pml	19/1	23/1	5673
J4	Ful Rich	Wheat(P)	Kavaj	Mutual	8/1	25/1	2402
J5	Bangla Lanka	Cont	Col	Baridh	19/1	26/1	-
J6	Eastern Star	Cont	Sing	Pml	19/1	26/1	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Golden Sindh	23/1	Banu	Rainbow	Wheat	R.Sed/Y.P.
Rainbow Spring	23/1	Vizra	Trinit	Oil (St. Bil)	-
Yona Yona	23/1	Yang	Alta	Oil (Y. Mtl)	-
Ocean Park	23/1	Sing	Seacon	Cont	Sing
Maritime Peace	23/1	Ug	Mutual	Wheat(P)	-
Ocean Pride	23/1	Mpl	Psal	-	-
Bahagia	23/1	Kand	Oil	Scraping	-
Bangla Blyoj	24/1	Col	Baridh	Cont	Col
Ambitious	24/1	P. Kel	Seacon	Cont	Sing

Tanker due

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Onzo	23/1	Jabe	Owl	Crude Oil	K/A
Gaz Millennium	23/1	Kaki	Mbi	Ammonia	-
Salamat-3	24/1	Haid	Nishat	Bitumen (RWS)	-

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keri	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (22/01)

Outside port limit

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keri	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (22/01)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keri	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (22/01)

Vessels ready

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keri	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (22/01)

Vessels not ready

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keri	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (22/01)

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Corporate BAZAAR

6 days to go

Venue: Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre
Date: 30th January, 31st January & 1st February, 2006

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES January 23, 2006

Company	FM/ML (Tk./No.)	Price			Turnover Share	Last EPS	CDS	AGM (%)	DP (%)	Company	FM/ML (Tk./No.)	Price			Turnover Share	Last EPS	CDS	AGM (%)	DP (%)
		Closing	Chg (%)	Pre Day								Closing	Chg (%)	Pre Day					
BANK										BANK									
AB Bank Ltd.	10005	383.50	-2.97	395.25	4145	384.25	-3.64	398.75	995	3011/05	17.3								
City Bank Ltd.	10005	725.75	-1.89	739.75	4365	727.00	-1.89	741.00	405	1407/05	32.8								
ETC Bank Ltd.	10005	545.25	-1.44	553.75	315	545.00	-0.55	548.00	70	07/12/04	15.8								
Islami Bank BD Ltd.**	10001	4521.00	-0.62	4549.00	438	4527.00	-0.54	4551.50	270	16/09/05	366								
National Bank Ltd.	10020	706.00	-1.16	714.25	1173	710.00	-0.71	705.00	60	07/09/05	27.4								
Pabali Bank Ltd.**	10005	2172.25	-1.17	2198.00	3255	2163.00	-1.17	2188.50	1065	17/04/05	23.6								
Rupali Bank Ltd.	10010	334.00	-2.25	346.75	990	334.50	-1.90	343.25	5310	-	-								
Uttara Finance and Inv.	10050	471.75	-1.42	483.00	595	485.00	-0.02	485.00	4	03/10/05	38.4								
Uttara Bank Ltd.	10005	2784.00	-3.00	2792.25	530	2800.00	-0.00	2800.00	-	23/06/05	97.50								
UDL Ltd.	10020	1074.25	-0.39	1078.50	660	1140.00	-0.00	1140.00	-	17/05/05	85.8								
Eastern Bank Ltd.**	10020	1137.50	-0.63	1144.75	340	1080.00	-0.00	1080.00	-	19/07/05	58.3								
United Leasing Co. Ltd.	10020	856.25	-0.95	864.50	800	-	-	-	-	18/04/05	107.60								
Uttara Finance and Inv.	10050	702.50	1.33	692.25	2250	694.75	3.34	710.00	780	11/8	15.0								
Al Arada Islami Bank	10005	2947.50	-0.97	2976.50	71	2991.50	-0.00	2991.50	-	25/05/05	22.8								
Prime Bank Ltd.	10005	663.25	-0.82	668.75	7660	664.50	-0.93	670.75	4773	16/05/04	25.8								
Southeast Bank Ltd.**	10050	568.25	-0.83	573.00	7046	572.00	-0.48	574.75	848	01/09/05	33.4								
Dhaka Bank Ltd.**	10050	452.00	-0.22	451.00	3014	450.75	-1.15	456.00	4539	11/04/05	29.1								
AIIC Bank Ltd.	10050	296.25	-0.84	298.75	2672	295.50	-0.02	295.25	3886	23/06/05	36.0								
Social Investment Bank**	10005	2841.50	-2.10	181.00	33	1900.00	-0.00	1900.00	-	23/06/05	36.0								
Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd.	10050	2000.00	-0.00	2000.00	1	1900.00	-0.00	1900.00	-	15/03/05	14.225								
Midas Financing Ltd.	10050	253.00	-1.36	256.00	988	253.00	-0.00	256.00	-	21/12/05	16.4								
Mutual Trust Bank**	10050	413.50	-0.90	417.25	4700	408.50	-1.31	414.75	2995	15/05/05	28.6								
First Lease Int. Ltd.	10050	362.50	-0.82	365.50	2185	372.00	-0.92	365.00	80	01/04/05	9.1								
Standard Bank Ltd.	10050	320.00	-0.60	321.00	5810	320.75	-0.47	326.50	2444	16/05/05	36.0								
One Bank Ltd.	10050	289.50	-0.34	290.50	6894	289.00	-0.26	289.75	4000	07/06/04	11.2								
Bank Asia Ltd.	10050	472.50	-1.30	482.50	3956	475.00	-0.14	480.00	50	11/05/05	31.5								
Mercantile Bank**	10050	380.25	-0.46	382.00	4452	380.00	-1.23	384.75	600	14/05/05	31.2								
Export Import Bank Ltd.**	10050	471.50	-0.74	475.00	459	453.25	-2.50	470.00	150	14/08/05	34.4								
People's Leasing**	10050	395.50	-1.37	401.00	1800	395.00	-0.82	398.25	900	-	-								
Prime Finance**	10050	264.00	-1.31	267.50	2904	264.00	-1.38	268.75	1100	-	-								
Premier Leasing**	10050	302.66	-2.53	316.25	14150	268.00	-2.46	274.75	3650	-	-								
Islamic Finance and Investment	10050	302.66	-2.53	316.25	14150	268.00	-2.46	274.75	3650	-	-								
INVESTMENT										INVESTMENT									
2nd ICB Mutual Fund	10005	775.00	-0.32	772.50	20	800.00	-0.00	774.75	-	31/10/04	78.7								
4th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	515.00	-0.34	516.25	10	550.00	-0.00	518.00	-	31/10/04	69.9								
6th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	92.00	-0.13	91.25	530	200.00	9.29	183.00	300	31/10/04	15.8								
7th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	200.00	0.63	198.75	150	200.00	-0.00	198.75	-	31/10/04	16.7								
AIMS Fund**	12500	1.15	-0.62	1.16	10700	1.16	-0.85	1.17	31200	07/10/04	2.4								
ICB AMCL First Mutual Fund	10020	1024.50	-0.82	245.50	530	235.50	-0.00	245.50	-	11/11/04	12.0								
ICB AMCL Islamic M.F.	10050	117.00	-0.64	117.75	750	115.75	-3.54	120.00	200	-	-								
Greenview M.F. One**	10050	152.00	-1.39	154.00	7500	153.00	-1.92	156.00	31150	-	-								
FOOD & ALLIED										FOOD & ALLIED									
2nd ICB Mutual Fund	10005	775.00	-0.32	772.50	20	800.00	-0.00	774.75	-	31/10/04	78.7								
4th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	515.00	-0.34	516.25	10	550.00	-0.00	518.00	-	31/10/04	69.9								
6th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	92.00	-0.13	91.25	530	200.00	9.29	183.00	300	31/10/04	15.8								
7th ICB Mutual Fund	10010	200.00	0.63	198.75	150	200.00	-0.00	198.75	-	31/10/04	16.7								
AIMS Fund**	12500	1.15	-0.62	1.16	10700	1.16	-0.85	1.17	31200	07/10/04	2.4								
ICB AMCL First Mutual Fund	10020	1024.50	-0.82	245.50	530	235.50	-0.00	245.50	-	11/11/04	12.0								
ICB AMCL Islamic M.F.	10050	117.00	-0.64	117.75	750	115.75	-3.54	120.00	200	-	-								
Greenview M.F. One**	10050	152.00	-1.39	154.00	7500	153.00	-1.92	156.00	31150	-	-								
ENGINEERING										ENGINEERING									
Abul Kalam Ltd.	10005	318.25	-0.24	319.00	1290	313.00	-0.00	319.00	-	21/12/05	85.7								
Aziz Pipes Ltd.	10005	48.50	3.19	47.00	140	48.50	-0.00	47.00	-	29/06/05	26.2								
Olympic Industries**	10050	117.50	-0.61	118.25	1150	130.00	-0.00	118.00	-	21/12/05	7.34								
Bangladesh Lamps**	10005	610.25	-0.43	612.50	440	606.50	-0.40	612.50	-	14/06/05	42.25								
Eastern Cables Ltd.	10005	189.25	-0.13	189.50	2720	190.25	-0.39	191.00	1530	26/06/04	11.1								
National Tube Ltd.**	10010	3.70	2.78	3.60	10700	3.60	-0.00	3.60	-	09/05/05	11.0								
Singer Bangladesh**	10005	986.50	-0.35	990.00	15	1000.00	-0.00	990.00	-	09/05/05	11.0								
BD Autocare Ltd.	10005	36.00	0.00	36.00	310	21.00	-0.00	21.00	-	30/12/04	2.44								
Quamr Dyeing Ltd.**	10050	11.50	-1.71	11.70	21500	11.40	-4.20	11.90	3500	21/12/05	5.5								
Rennick Japewash Ltd.	10005	103.00	-0.78	111.75	50	-	-	-	-	24/12/05	0.30								
National Tube Ltd.**	10010	3.70	2.78	3.60	10700	3.60	-0.00	3.60	-	09/05/05	11.0								
BD That Aluminium Ltd.	10010	85.00	-2.72	82.75	10	74.00	-0.00	74.00	-	25/08/05	2.4								
Anwar Galvanizing Ltd.	10050	76.00	2.29	65.50	50	70.00	-0.00	70.00	-	30/03/04	5.90								
Wonder Lamps Toys Ltd.	10050	17.00	0.00	17.00	10	15.00	-0.00	15.00	-	21/12/05	9.3								
Food & Allied	10050	20.00	1.01	19.80	4500	20.50	-0.00	20.50	-	15/06/05	1.86								
FOOD & ALLIED										FOOD & ALLIED									
Apeex Foods Ltd.	10005	343.25	-0.87	346.25	735	350.00	-0.00	346.25	-	22/09/05	22.7								
Tripti Industries Ltd.	10050	25.75	-1.90	26.25	290	27.50	-0.00	27.50	-	21/12/05	-1.3								
Banar's**	10050	239.50	-2.74	246.25	10	334.75	-0.00	334.75	-	27/12/05	107.125								
Quamr Dyeing Ltd.**	10050	92.50	-2.58	92.50	600	92.50	-0.00	92.50	-	18/06/05	1.00								
2nd Zangla Sugar Mills	10050	3.70	2.78	3.60	10700	3.60	-0.00	3.60	-	09/05/05	11.0								
Chittagong Vegetable	10010	39.25	-0.63	39.50	300	42.00	-0.00	42.00	-	22/06/05	-1.7								
Beximco Fisheries Ltd.	10020	21.75	0.00	21.75	300	17.50	-0.00	17.50	-	04/06/05	0.00								
Meghna Shrimp**	10020	16.50	-0.43	16.75	1900	18.00	-0.00	18.00	-	16/12/01	1.7								
Meghna Shrimp**	10020	16.50	-0.43	16.75	1900	18.00	-0.00	18.00	-	16/12/01	1.7								
AMCL (Pran)**	10010	396.75	-0.06	397.00	360	400.00	0.00	400.00	10	21/12/05	90.26								
Shampur Sugar Mills	10010	3.80	2.78	3.70	7700	-	-	-	-	26/12/05	-10								
Gachhkhata Aqar	10050	11.75	-2.08	12.00	60	12.25	-0.00	12.25	-	31/12/05	-49								
United Sugarcane**	10050	2.00	-0.50	2.00	2000	2.00	-0.00	2.00	-	26/12/05	-10								
Far Wing Food Ltd.	10050	11.00	-1.18	11.00	20000	11.50	-0.00	11.50	-	22/1									