

EU trade chief to focus on China relations after Doha round

AFP, Brussels

Relations with China will top the European Union's trade agenda after the current round of WTO negotiations are wrapped up, EU trade chief Peter Mandelson said Thursday. Mandelson said that he would use

the second half of the year to begin concentrating on the EU's trade priorities after the current so-called Doha round of WTO talks are wound down and that China would get special focus.

World Trade Organization mem-

bers are currently struggling to make progress on the Doha round of trade liberalization, raising doubts that they will be able to clinch a deal as planned by the end of the year.

"China is the biggest single challenge of globalization in the trade

field," Mandelson said in speech delivered in Wolfsburg, Switzerland but also distributed in Brussels.

"Europe must get China right -- as a threat, an opportunity and prospective partner," he said.

Mandelson said he would review trade and investment in China in the autumn with aim of analyzing "the impact of China on the global economy, and how the Union should respond."

Intellectual property, market access issues and investment opportunities would in particular get top billing.

Mandelson is to visit China in early June where he is in particular to raise the issue of intellectual property rights, his spokesman Peter Power said.

As China emerges as a major manufacturing powerhouse, Brussels has increasingly struggled to diffuse trade disputes with Beijing.



Mehboob Chowdhury, chief commercial officer of mobile phone operator Banglalink, inaugurates the 17th 'Banglalink Point' on Main Road in Laxmipur recently.

Transcom Beverages observes May Day

Transcom Beverages Ltd, the official franchisee of Pepsi in Bangladesh, organised a discussion on Monday in Gazipur to observe May Day.

Golam Quddus Chowdhury, executive director of the company, was the chief guest at the discussion while Golam Habib, human resources manager, was the special guest, says a press release.

ABM Shamsul Hasan, commercial manager, Golam Shoaeb, manufacturing manager, and Selim Akter, product availability manager, were also present at the discussion, which was presided over by Gopal Chandra Saha, president of the company's trade union.

Jamal A Nasser Shohag, general secretary of the union, also spoke at the discussion, which was attended by a large number of officials and employees of the company.



Golam Quddus Chowdhury, executive director of Transcom Beverages Ltd, the official franchisee of Pepsi in Bangladesh, speaks at a discussion on Monday in Gazipur on the occasion of May Day. Golam Habib, human resources manager, Gopal Chandra Saha, president of the company's trade union, and Jamal A Nasser Shohag, general secretary of the union, were also present.



Azmat Ashraf, regional general manager (Central & South Asia) of Habib Bank Ltd, and Abdul Hayee, country manager (Bangladesh), inaugurate the bank's renovated Chittagong branch recently.

CURRENCY

Following is Thursday's (May 4, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Sell	Buy				
	BC	Currency	TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
70.2200	70.2500	USD	69.1000	69.0770	69.0309
89.6920	89.7303	EUR	86.1608	86.1321	86.0746
130.0474	130.1030	GBP	125.8657	125.8237	125.7398
55.0103	55.0339	AUD	52.2327	52.2153	52.1805
0.6252	0.6254	JPY	0.6031	0.6029	0.6025
57.4585	57.4830	CHF	55.3331	55.3147	55.2778
9.9339	9.9382	SEK	9.0155	9.0125	9.0065
63.9526	63.9800	CAD	61.6414	61.6208	61.5798
9.0785	9.0823	HKD	8.8927	8.8898	8.8838
45.5796	45.5991	SGD	43.7314	43.7168	43.6877
19.2737	19.2820	AED	18.6616	18.6553	18.6429
18.8733	18.8814	SAR	18.2785	18.2724	18.2602
12.4173	12.4226	DKK	11.2321	11.2284	11.2209
237.0962	237.1996	KWD	235.0904	235.0144	234.8624

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
44.73	60.05	102.85	37.785	6.1296	0.6391	3.61



Md Rafiul Alam, secretary of Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (Desa), and Sohail RK Hussain, head of Corporate Banking of Eastern Bank Ltd (EBL), pose for photographs at an agreement signing ceremony recently. Under the deal, the EBL will collect the bills of Desa through its Sonargaon Road, Dhanmondi and Shantinagar branches. Among others, Md Tauhidul Islam, Desa chairman, was present.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 4/5/2006

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/1	Banglar Gourab	Wheat(Care)	K. Dia	Lams	3/5	9/5	455
J/2	New Blessing	Cont	P. Kel	CEL	26/4	6/5	--
J/3	Ken Cape	R. Seed/Wt	Vanc	USL	16/4	7/5	1605
J/4	Pretty Flourish	Wheat(P)	Novo	Mutual	23/4	8/5	2760
J/5	Continent-4	Gi(S.Ash)	P. Band	Cla	22/4	6/5	1139
J/6	Bounty-7	Gi(Log)	Yang	PML	28/4	5/5	1687
J/7	Kota Cahaya	Cont	Sing	Pi(Bd)	25/4	4/5	--
J/8	Banga Bonik	Cont	Col	Baridhi	26/4	6/5	80
J/9	Sagaing	Gi(St. C)	Yang	Everett	3/5	6/5	237
J/10	Banglar Robi	Cont	Col	BSC	24/4	4/5	190
J/11	QC Dignity	Cont	PTP	QCSSL	26/4	6/5	138
J/12	Kota Rukun	Cont	Sing	Pi(Bd)	25/4	6/5	112
J/13	Kota Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pi(Bd)	24/4	6/5	309

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Banga Borti	4/5	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Ja Vesta	4/5	Sing	Vega	Cont	Sing
KS Harmony	4/5	Indo	ASLL	C. Clink	Holcim
Coastal Express	4/5	Kol	BSCA	Cont	Viza
Esham	7/5	P. Kel	CEL	Cont	Sing
Banga Borat	5/5	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
New Sea Star	5/5	Sing	QCSSL	Cont	Sing
Marisa Green	5/5	PKL	Everbest	Cont	Sing
OEL Freedom	7/5	CBO	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Maritime Songkhla	6/5	Tarj	BSL	C. Clink	Hcbl
Uranus	6/5	Yang	PML	Gi	Log
Taurus	5/5	Al-Jubail	PSL	Urea(Bag)	Bcic
Zarina	5/5	MGL	Seacom	Urea	K/U
Chang An	5/5	Rizh	Vai	C. Clink	--
Falcon Trader	6/5	Sin	Seacom	Wheat(P)	--
OEL Wisdom	6/5	MGL	PSSL	Cont	Kol

Tanker due

Southern Orchis	5/5	Sing	Jardine	Lube Oil	DOJ/7
Amor	5/5	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/Sko	--
Salamat-3	6/5	--	Nishat	Bitumen (Rm/3)	--
Smooty Sea-7	7/5	Belwa	Rainbow	CPO	--
Pacific Onyx	7/5	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/KSO	--
Tabtim	8/4	Dumai	SNCL	CPO(RM/3)	--
Theresa-II	9/5	--	Seacom	CPOL	--

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Sea Master One	Cont	P. Kel	PML	28/4
Banga Borak	Cont	P. Kel	Baridhi	29/4
Independent Spirit	Cont	Sing	APL	29/4
Kota Petani	Cont	Sing	Pi(Bd)	29/4
QC Teal	Cont	Col	QCSSL	30/4
Cape Bonavista	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	30/4
OEL Enterprise	Cont	Col	PSSL	1/5
Pacific Envoy	Cont	Sing	Pi(Bd)	1/5
Banga Bijoy	Cont	Col	Baridhi	2/5
Acoaxet Lady	Fuel Oil	Sing	CTPL	2/5
C.P.-33	CPO	Dumai	USL	2/5
Amer	Cont	P. Kel	CEL	3/5

Vessels not ready

Au Co-1	Raw Sugar	Bang	Park	21/4
Cakra Kember	Gi(Copra)	Sing	Mutual	26/4
Midas	Slag	Viza	Move	30/4
Hilal-1	Wheat(P)	Niko	Litmond	1/5
Allson	C. Clink	Nant	MBL	3/5
Amanat Shah	Sugar	Chenn	Cla	3/5

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

STOCK