

China offers to help restart WTO talks

AP, Beijing

tors "should give top priority to the issue of development," the Xinhua News Agency said. The WTO's Doha round talks aim to forge a global trade treaty that would boost economic growth in poor countries by lowering barriers to their exports.

"China is willing to work with other parties to revive the Doha Round of global trade negotiations," Xinhua paraphrased Bo as

saying. However, he added, "The developed members of the World Trade Organization should act first by making substantial contributions."

The report didn't give any other details of Beijing's position.

Schwab was in Beijing to press for help in restarting WTO talks that were suspended last month after the United States, the European Union and other major traders

failed to agree to a plan to cut barriers to farm commerce.

"Surely now is the time for China to play a bigger role in line with its status as the third-largest trading nation," she said Tuesday in a speech to a group of American business leaders.

Schwab didn't respond directly when asked at a news conference what steps Bo said Beijing wanted developed countries to take and how Washington might respond.

"The conversation that Minister Bo and I had yesterday was, 'How can the lead players work together to develop an ambitious product that all of us can move ahead with?'" she said.

Seminar on CNG use

A seminar titled 'CNG as alternative fuel-helpful for environment and economy', jointly organised by Bangladesh CNG Filling Station & Conversion Workshop Owners Association and Rupantara Prakritik Gas Company Limited (RPGCL), was held in Dhaka on Monday.

Mahmudur Rahman, energy adviser, was the chief guest while AMM Nasir Uddin, secretary of Energy & Mineral Resources Division, Mohammad Masharrat Hossain Bhuiyan, chairman of Petrobangla, and Mir Nasir Hossain, president of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), were the special guests.

Shafiq Islam (Kamal), president of Bangladesh CNG Filling Station & Conversion Workshop Owners Association, and Abdul Wadud, managing director of RPGCL, also spoke in the function.

Manoranjan Bhakta, managing director of Southern Automobiles Limited, presented a keynote paper in the seminar.

Md Ehsan, professor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), answered to questions on CNG conversion.



PHOTO: BD CNG ASSOCIATION
Mahmudur Rahman, energy adviser, speaks at a seminar on CNG use in Dhaka on Monday.



PHOTO: BANK ASIA
Syed Anisul Huq, president and managing director of Bank Asia Ltd, along with other senior executives, pose for photographs with the newly recruited management trainees of the bank at the concluding ceremony of the foundation course in Dhaka on Sunday.

CURRENCY

Following is Tuesday's (August 29, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

	Major Currency Exchange Rates		Exchange Rate of some currencies		
	BC Sell	TT Buy	Per USD	BDT per Currency	
US dollar	70.15	69.05	Indian rupee	46.37 1.50	
Euro	91.19	87.27	Pak rupee	60.31 1.15	
Pound	134.55	129.50	Lankan rupee	103.97 0.67	
Australian dollar	54.47	51.73	Thai baht	37.61 1.85	
Japanese yen	0.61	0.59	Malaysian ringgit	3.68 18.92	
Swiss franc	57.75	55.50	USD forward rate against BDT		
Swedish kroner	10.13	9.18	Buy	Sell	
Canadian dollar	63.84	61.51	1M	69.15 70.26	
Hong Kong dollar	9.04	8.86	2M	69.26 70.46	
Singapore dollar	45.55	43.73	3M	69.41 70.68	
UAE dirham	19.26	18.65	6M	69.83 71.38	
Saudi riyal	18.86	18.27	*The forward rates are indicative only and fixed dated		
Danish kroner	12.59	11.38	money rate remained unchanged and ranged between 6.50 and 7.00 percent.		
Kuwaiti dinar	239.23	237.03	International Market		

Local Market FX:

Local inter-bank FX market was active on Tuesday. The demand for USD remained stable and there was a steady volume of cross currency transactions.

The USD remained unchanged against the Bangladeshi taka.

Money Market

Money market was active on Tuesday. Call

rate remained unchanged and ranged between 6.50 and 7.00 percent.

International Market

The dollar pulled back from last week's one-month highs against the yen and weakened against the euro on Tuesday, as investors squared positions ahead of the release of Federal Reserve minutes from its last meeting.

Chittagong Port							
Berthing Position and Performance of Vessels as on 29/08/2006							
Berth No.	Name of Vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local Agent	Dt of Arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/1	Royal Bulker	Gl(peas)	Aust	Litmond	9/8	29/8	1446
J/2	Angel-iii	Gl(y. Pe)	Vanc	USL	29/7	1/9	597
J/4	Toro	Wheat(p)	Novo	ESL	12/8	5/9	2120
J/5	Mir Damad	Cont	Col	BSCA	27/8	30/8	193
J/6	Kota Rakayet	Cont	Sing	Pil(bd)	27/8	31/8	143
J/7	Banga Bonik	Cont	Col	Baridhi	27/8	31/8	112
J/8	Phu Tan	Cont	Col	RSL	26/8	31/8	214
J/9	Dan Yang	Gr. Urea	Egypt	Seacom	24/8	1/9	1923
J/10	New Sea Star	Cont	Sing	QCSL	25/8	31/8	224
J/11	Oel Excellence	Cont	Sing	PSSL	24/8	29/8	76
J/12	Banga Borak	Cont	P. Kel	Baridhi	25/8	31/8	296
J/13	Phu My	Cont	P. Kel	RSL	25/8	31/8	129
CCT/1	Xpress Makalu	Cont	Col	Seacom	27/8	31/8	199
Osg Boss tec	Cont	Sing	Seacom	24/8	30/8	249	

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Banga Borti	4/9	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Banga Bodor	30/8	Pkel	Baridhi	Cont	P. Kel
QC Teal	30/8	Col	QCSL	Cont	Col
Ultima	30/8	Sing	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Maritime Master	30/8	Fuku	Move	Slag	Scbl
Hpaan	31/8	Yang	MTA	Gl(Y. Majpul)	-
Paragon Pescadores	31/8	Yang	H&SL	Gl(St.C)	2 Units
Pacific Express	31/8	Sing	Pil(bd)	Cont	Sing
Xpress Manasi	31/8	Col	Seacom	Cont	Col
Yongxing	1/9	Col	PSSL	Cont	Col
Banga Bijoy	1/9	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Vinashin Mariner	1/9	Sing	PSSL	Cont	Sing
Star Providence	31/8	Viza	RSA	Gl(St. Bill)	-
QC Honour	2/9	Sing	QCSL	Cont	Sing

Tanker due

Mega Crown No.1	2/9	Lumut	Rainbow	Cpo	RM/3
Sakura	31/8	Sumai	Sicom	Cpo	RM/8

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of Vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Outside port limit				

Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/a (29/8)
Kudam	Crude Oil	RAST	OWSL	14/8
Bangler Jyoti	C. Oil	--	BSC	R/a (28/8)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready
OEL Freedom
Kota Ratna
Eshan
Eastern Star
Kota Petani

Panagia-1	Wheat(p)	Russ	MTCL	23/8
You King	C. Clink	Lumut	PSAL	23/8
Dolly	Wheat(p)	Pire	MTCL	26/8
Mert V	Wheat/peas	Odessa	KSM	27/8
Pagan	Gl(Y. Majpul)	Yang	MTA	27/8

Vessels awaiting employment/instruction