

European firms complain over China business environment

AFP, Beijing

European firms are finding it tougher to do business in China due to protectionist measures, copyright piracy and a range of other barriers, a leading EU business group said Tuesday.

"The investment climate is becoming more complex and challenging for foreign businesses operating in China," Joerg Wuttke, president of the European Chamber of Commerce in China, told reporters.

"Companies in some sectors face new or increased requirements in areas such as technology trans-

fer," he said at the launch of the seventh annual European Business in China Position Paper.

"(The forced transfer of technology) threatens the core of European business and it threatens the future of this European business if you let go your entire technology."

He noted widespread unequal treatment in China's financial and telecom sectors, which are marked by barriers such as local content requirements, in violation of World Trade Organisation rules.

"European business is not asking for favoured or preferential treatment," he said.

"We are seeking a non-

discriminatory investment climate. We seek fair and impartial treatment."

Another major concern for European companies is rampant copyright piracy and the government's inability to rein it in, he said.

The Chinese government's fight against piracy is losing momentum despite the fact that more than 80 percent of counterfeit goods confiscated by EU customs are made in China, Wuttke said.

"The speed of the problems and the speed of the development seem to outgo the system's capability of dealing with (them)," he said.

Business-media cooperation for overall uplift stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Business leaders and media professionals at a discussion in Bogra yesterday stressed the need for greater cooperation between business and media for overall economic development of the country.

Bogra Chamber of Commerce and Industry in cooperation with Business Reporters' Network (BRN), Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) and Katalyst organised the discussion on 'Scope of Business-Media Cooperation'.

Syed Ishtiaque Reza, chief of news of satellite television channel RTV moderated the discussion.

Md Fazlur Rahman Paiker, president of Bogra Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said Bogra has attained significant advancement in different sectors of business in the last few decades despite several obstacles. He expressed his optimism that better media coverage would contribute in improving business environment of the region.

MRDI Executive Director Hasibur Rahman, Md Amzad Hossain Sheikh of the Daily Manabzamin and Prodip Bhattacharjee Shankar of local newspaper the Daily Karatoa also spoke on the occasion.

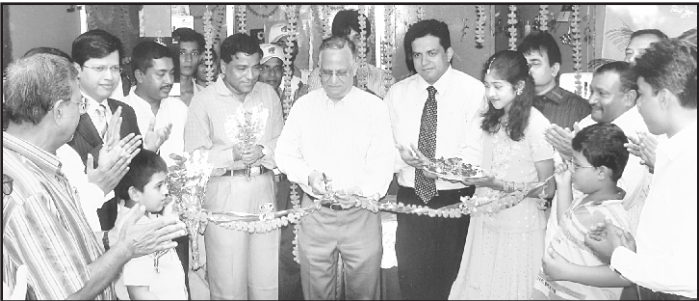


PHOTO: UNITREND

Berger Paints (Bangladesh) Ltd has recently opened five 'Berger Color Bank' outlets in Khulna, Jessore and Kushtia. Managing Director of the company Masih Ul Karim inaugurated the outlets, while senior officials were present among others.



PHOTO: NESTLE

Nestle Bangladesh Ltd has built a water tank to provide safe drinking water for the students of Bagher Bazar High School at Shirirchala in Gazipur. Managing Director of the company Carlo Cifiello inaugurated the facility, while senior officials were present among others.

CURRENCY

Following is Wednesday's by (September 12, 2007) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank.

Sell		Buy			
TT/OD	BC	CURRENCY	TT CLEAN	OD SIGHT DOC	OD TRANSFER
69.2500	69.2800	USD	68.2800	68.2572	68.2117
97.2409	97.2830	EUR	92.9905	92.9595	92.8975
142.0941	142.1556	GBP	137.0721	137.0721	136.9350
59.1326	59.1582	AUD	55.5594	55.5409	55.5039
0.6209	0.6212	JPY	0.5945	0.5943	0.5939
59.3046	59.3303	CHF	56.1329	56.1141	56.0767
10.9127	10.9175	SEK	9.7019	9.6987	9.6922
67.7593	67.7886	CAD	64.8002	64.7786	64.7354
8.9142	8.9181	HKD	8.7499	8.7470	8.7412
46.7085	46.7287	SGD	44.8738	44.8589	44.8289
19.0080	19.0162	AED	18.4396	18.4335	18.4212
18.6106	18.6187	SAR	18.0635	18.0575	18.0454
13.4925	13.4983	DKK	12.1303	12.1262	12.1181
243.2702	243.3777	KWD	241.0520	240.9740	240.8180
Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar					
Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor. kroner	NZ dollar
40.3	60.7	113.28	34.265	5.6744	0.7055
Malaysian ringit					
3.50					

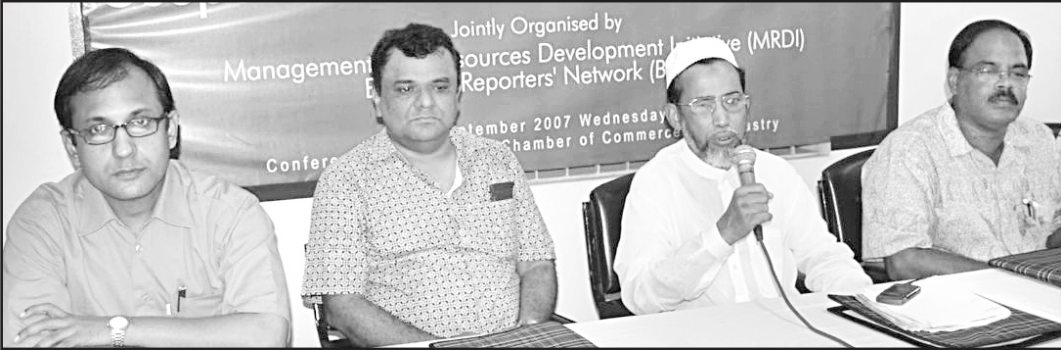


PHOTO: STAR

Md Fazlur Rahman Paiker(2-R), president of Bogra Chamber of Commerce and Industry , addresses a discussion on Scope of Business-Media Cooperation in Bogra yesterday. MRDI and Business Reporters' Network jointly organised the event.



PHOTO: GREEN DELTA INSURANCE

Chairman of Green Delta Insurance Company Ltd Kabir H Chowdhury speaks at the 'Interim Business Conference-2007' of the company recently in Dhaka. Managing Director Nasir A Choudhury and other senior officials are also seen.

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 12/9/2007							
Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt of arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/2	Asrar-a-mostafa	Rice(g)	Kaki	Cla	1/9	15/9	989
J/3	Tay Bac-18	Rice(g)	Kaki	HSA	3/9	13/9	300
J/4	Xuan Cheng	Gl	Xang	Cosco	10/9	17/9	1762
J/5	Sunvazs	Urea(Boic)	Sing	Seacom	2/9	16/9	988
J/6	Cape Bonavista	Cont	P. Kel	Bdship	11/9	14/9	309
J/7	Hunjiang	Gl	Thai	Cosco	5/9	15/9	1552
J/8	Viendong-2	Gl	Sing	Prog	8/9	14/9	1399
J/9	Yong Jiang	Gl	Inch	Cosco	10/9	16/9	696
J/12	Banga Biraj	Cont	Col	Baridhi	9/9	13/9	209
CCT/1	Banglar Shikha	Cont	P. Kel	BSC	10/9	12/9	--
CCT/2	Pac Aquila	Cont	Sing	Seacon	11/9	13/9	--
CCT/3	Yong Yue-8	Cont	Col	QCSL	11/9	12/9	--

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
-----------------	-------	----------------	-------------	-----------------

Outside Port Limit

Maritime Newanda	Wheat(p)	Cana	Rainbow	3/9
Wira Kers	--	--	IBSA	R/A (8/9)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Kota Ratna	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	11/9
Eid-a-mostafa	Rice(g)	Kaki	Cla	9/9
Santa Suria	C. Clink	Krabi	ASLL	3/9
Butet	Urea(Boic)	Sing	MHSL	R/A (11/9)

Vessels not ready

Sunny Falcon	Urea(Boic)	Sing	Litmond	7/9
Cielodi Salerno	CDSO	P. Luis	USL	8/9
Champion Star	CDSO	Braz	USL	9/9

Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Borak	--	--	FSA	R/A (4/8)
-------	----	----	-----	-----------

Vessels not entering

Ataduru	Wheat(p)	Novo	Angelic	23/8
Sarim	C. Clink	Krabi	Litmond	28/8
Krymchakhtar	Wheat(p)	Tuap	Unique	29/8
Pacific Trader	Y.pe/wt	Vanc	Rainbow	29/8
Hua Hui	Urea(baic)	Sing	UML	7/9
Asrar-e-mostafa	C. Clink	Kohsi	POL	9/9
Brave Royal	C. Clink	Krabi	BRSL	8/9
Orientor-2	Wheat(p)	Sing	Mutual	9/9
K.s. Glory	C. Clink	Sing	ASLL	9/9
Energy Falcon	C. Clink	Indo	Litmond	11/9

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of Vessels	Date of arrival	L. port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Martha Russ	12/9	Ptp	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Eagle Prestige	12/9	Sing	QCSL	Cont	L/ptp
Sumida	12/9	Col	Seacon	Cont	Col
Ks Harmony	12/9	Kohsi	ASLL	Cont	C. Clink
Kota Tagap	12/9	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Mong
Banga Borak	12/9	Sing	Baridhi	Cont	P. Kel
Rm Dynastiy	12/9	USA	Litmond	Wheat(p)	--
Ocean Asia	13/9	Col	QCSL	Wheat	--
Csav California	13/9	Col	PSSL	Cont	Sing

Tanker Due

Pro Victor	13/9	--	PSL	Wld Naptha	DOJ/7/6
Siteam Panther	16/9	Sing	Rainbow	CDSO	RM/3
Olympic	15/9	Belwan	Rainbow	CPKO(RM/4)	--
Al Kuwaitiah	19/9	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/JP-1	--

The following is the Tuesday's shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by Family, Dhaka.

STOCK