

EU braces for end of Chinese clothing quotas

AFP, Brussels

The European Union is bracing for the expiry of import quotas on Chinese textiles at the end of the year amid fears of a new wave of T-shirts and trousers bearing "Made in China" labels flooding in.

The quotas, which the EU and China agreed to put in place in 2005, are to be replaced with a joint monitoring system that will be on the lookout for new signs of an upsurge in Chinese imports over the ensuing year.

Under the system, eight of the 10 clothing categories covered by the quotas will be tracked on the Chinese side through export licences and will be monitored when they enter Europe.

"The advantage is that we'll at least know what to expect through the licences," said Francesco Marchi at Euratex, a trade association for European textile makers.

"Officials will not be able to say, like they did in 2005, that they don't know about the risks of an upsurge," he added.

After international textile quotas expired in the January 2005, Europe was swamped by a wave of cheap clothing imports from

China, which led Chinese and EU authorities to negotiate new temporary limits.

Under terms of China's accession to the World Trade Organisation, the European Union can apply such safeguards against Chinese imports if it judges them to be necessary.

European officials have not ruled out that a new wave of Chinese clothing could flood in after the temporary quotas expire, although any increase is likely to be less dramatic than three years ago.

EU lawmakers urged the European Commission earlier this month to watch for a possible upsurge in imports, urging the executive arm of the 27-nation bloc not to hesitate to take action if necessary.

In response, EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson told the European Parliament: "In face of a sudden upsurge in Chinese textiles, the Commission stands ready to use all of the instruments at its disposal."

The textile issue risks fraying already strained trade relations with China, which Europeans accuse of artificially keeping down the value of its currency, blocking market access to EU goods and

flaunting copyright rules.

"I see the textile problems as emblematic of the broader problems we face in China," Mandelson said.

"We expect the same sort of equal opportunity and fair treatment in China's market that Chinese producers receive in ours," he added.

With the European Union's trade deficit with China rapidly widening, EU officials are stepping up their rhetoric against what they see as China's failure to open its market to European goods.

"What we really want is the Chinese market to be opened to European textiles," said Patrick Itschert, secretary general of the European Trade Union Federation for Textiles, Clothing and Leather.

The European Union ran a trade deficit of 128 billion euros (184 billion dollars) with China last year -- which is likely to balloon to 170 billion euros in 2007, according to EU statistics.

About 55 percent of Europeans feel threatened by China's emergence as a major economic power, according to a recent survey conducted for the German Marshall Fund, a US think tank.

Aftab Auto declares 6pc cash, 10pc stock dividends

Aftab Automobiles Ltd has declared a 6 percent cash dividend and a 10 percent stock dividend for the year that ended on August 31, 2007.

The dividends were announced at the 27th annual general meeting (AGM) of the company held recently in Dhaka, says a press release.

Chairman of the company Shafiqul Islam presided over the AGM, which was also attended by directors among others.

Crude oil prices slip

AFP, London

World oil prices fell on Monday but held close to 92 dollars per barrel, with many traders away from their desks for Christmas holiday celebrations.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for February delivery slid 58 cents to 91.88 dollars per barrel.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for February, gave up 38 cents to 92.93 dollars per barrel.

"Trading should remain rather subdued this week given the upcoming holidays," said MF Global analyst Edward Meir.

"Moreover, Friday's move may have gotten ahead of itself, especially now that key resistance levels are within sight," he added.

Indian shares jump 3.61pc

AFP, Mumbai

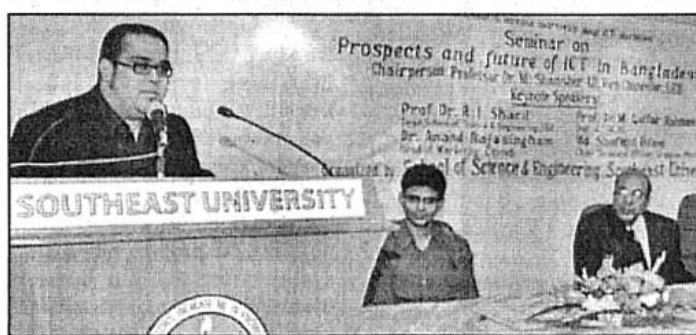
Indian share prices surged 3.61 percent Monday, on sustained fund buying following a strong performance by Wall Street late last week that shook off US recession fears, dealers said.

They said index and mid-cap stocks in metal, banking, software and capital goods sectors rose on fresh fund buying.

The benchmark 30-share Sensex rose 691.55 points to 19,854.12. The rise marked the third best single day point gain by the Sensex.



Chairman of Executive Committee of Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd Mominul Islam Patwary receives on behalf of the bank the first prize of ICMAB National Best Corporate Award 2007 in local banking sector from Finance Adviser AB Mirza Azizul Islam at a function in Dhaka recently. The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) has given away the award.



Ahmed Armaan Siddiqui, deputy general manager (Product and Business Development) of mobile phone operator CityCell speaks at a seminar styled 'Prospects and Future of ICT Education in Bangladesh' in Dhaka recently. Southeast University organised the seminar.

CURRENCY

Following is Monday's (December 24, 2007) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Sell	TT/OD	BC	CURRENCY	TT/CLEAN	OD/SIGHT DOC	Buy	OD/TRANSFER
68.8200	68.8500	USD	67.8500	67.8274	67.7822		
100.5667	100.6105	EUR	96.0281	95.9961	95.9321		
137.9979	138.0580	GBP	132.9317	132.8874	132.7988		
60.8438	60.8703	AUD	57.8150	57.7957	57.7572		
0.6154	0.6157	JPY	0.5893	0.5891	0.5887		
60.0576	60.0838	CHF	58.0957	58.0764	58.0376		
10.4300	10.4345	SEK	9.6607	9.6575	9.6510		
70.1529	70.1835	CAD	67.8471	67.8245	67.5794		
8.8315	8.8353	HKD	8.6876	8.6847	8.6789		
47.8748	47.8957	SGD	46.4249	46.4094	46.3785		
18.8827	18.8910	AED	18.3299	18.3238	18.3116		
18.4544	18.4624	SAR	17.9298	17.9238	17.9119		
13.9326	13.9387	DKK	12.4828	12.4386	12.4703		
247.2912	247.4012	KWD	244.5035	244.6035	244.5035		

Indian rupee	Pak rupee	Lankan rupee	Thai baht	Nor. kroner	NZ dollar	Malaysian ringgit
39.36	60.95	108.64	30.400	5.5795	0.7840	3.35

Local Money Market: Money market was active on Monday. Call money rate based on 14 days and 1 month of the basis ranged between 8.50 and 10.50 percent.



The 27th annual general meeting (AGM) of Aftab Automobiles Ltd was held recently in Dhaka. Chairman of the company Shafiqul Islam presided over the AGM, which was also attended by directors among others.

Project Implementation Unit

Secondary Towns Integrated Flood Protection (Phase-II) Project
Manikganj Pourashava District: Manikganj
Invitation for Tender (Works)

Re-Tender

Notice Number: 03/2007

Memo No. MPS/Eng./2007/2285

Date: 18.12.2007

- Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) & Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), towards the cost of Secondary Towns Integrated Flood Protection (Phase-2) Project-LGED Part, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the works as mentioned in Para-2. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of the Asian Development Bank.
- The Executive Engineer, Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj now invites sealed tenders from eligible tenderer for the purpose of the following works.

Tender Package No.	Name of works	Tender security (Tk.)	Time for completion (days)	Price of tender documents (non-refundable) (Tk.)
STIFFP/LG ED/MAN/07/DW-01	a. Improvement of Manikganj Town Drainage Khal (Primary P05) starting from DC Bridge to Bakjuri. (Chainage-0+000 to 0+550m); and b. Cross drain on road adjacent to Manikganj Town Drainage Khal (Primary P05) starting from DC Bridge to Bakjuri, Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj. Length 90.00m.	2,50,000.00	140	2000.00
STIFFP/LG ED/MAN/07/DW-02	a. Improvement of Manikganj Town Drainage Khal (Primary P05) starting from DC Bridge to Bakjuri. (Chainage-0+550 to 1+096m); and b. Cross drain on road adjacent to Manikganj Town Drainage Khal (Primary P05) starting from DC Bridge to Bakjuri, Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj. Length 60.00m.	2,50,000.00	140	2000.00
STIFFP/LG ED/MAN/07/DW-03	Improvement of Manikganj Town Drainage Khal (Primary P05) starting from DC Bridge to Kaliganga River (Chainage 0+000 to 0+360m), Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj	2,00,000.00	140	2000.00

- Source of funds: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) & Government of Bangladesh (GOB).
- Date, time and place of pre-tender meeting: Date: 31.12.2007, Time: 11.00AM and Place: Office of the undersigned.
- Last date, time and places of selling tender documents: Date: 15.01.2008, Time: 12.00 noon and Place: Office of the undersigned/Executive Engineer, LGED, Manikganj/The Superintendent of Police, Manikganj/The Deputy Commissioner, Manikganj/The Project Director, Secondary Towns Integrated Flood Protection (Phase-2) Project, Level-8, RDEC Building, LGED, Dhaka.
- Last date, time and place of receiving tender: Date: 15.01.2008, Time: 12.00noon and Place: Office of the undersigned/Executive Engineer, LGED, Manikganj/The Superintendent of Police, Manikganj/The Deputy Commissioner, Manikganj.
- Date, time and place of opening of tender: Date: 15.01.2008, Time: 03.00pm and Place: Office of the undersigned.
- Tender shall be valid for a period of 60 (sixty) days after bid opening and must be accompanied by the tender security specified above. Interested tenderer may purchase the tender documents or obtain further information from the office as stated above & office of the undersigned.
- All tenders must be accompanied by a tender security mentioned in Bangladesh Taka in the form of either Payment Order or Bank Draft or Bank Guarantee for Tender Security from any schedule bank in favour of the Chairman, Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj and must be delivered in accordance with the Instructions to Tenderers.
- The tenderer or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders.

Md Monir Hossain
Executive Engineer and Head, IIS
Manikganj Pourashava, Manikganj
Phone: 0651 61403, 61572, 61813

GD-4665

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-4, Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Invitation for Tender

Tender Memo No: 1400

Date: 11.12.2007

Tender No: 62(2007-2008)

- Ministry or Division: Ministry of Housing & Public Works.
- Agency: Public Works Department.
- Procuring entity name: Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka.
- Procuring entity district: Dhaka.
- Invitation for: Stated in description of work.
- Invitation reference No.: Tender Memo No: 1400.
- Date: 11.12.2007

- Procurement method: Open tender method (OTM).
- Budget and source of fund: GOB.

- Tender last selling date: 09.01.2008 up to office hour.
- Tender closing date and time: 10.01.2008 up to 12-00 hours.
- Tender opening date and time: 10.01.2008 at 3-00pm.
- Name and address of the offices: PWD E/M Division-4, 2nd 12-storied Govt Office Bldg, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.
- Selling tender document (principal): Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division/PWD E/M Division-1/2/3/5/6/7/8, Dhaka/Mechanical Workshop Division/Wood Workshop Division, Dhaka/PWD Division-1, Dhaka.
- Selling tender document (others): PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka.
- Receiving tender document (principal): PWD E/M Division-5/6, Dhaka.
- Receiving tender document (others): PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka.
- Opening tender document: PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka.

- Eligibility of tenderer: This invitation for tender is open to all eligible tenderers having the following qualification:
(a) Reputed bonafide firm/organisation having (i) Trade licence, (ii) TIN, VAT Registration Certificate, (iii) Bank solvency certificate, (iv) Valid ABC/BC category electrical licence & supervisory licence from Electrical Licensing Board.
(b) Having experience in successful completion of similar works.
(c) All other qualification, terms & conditions as specified in Tender Data Sheet (TDS).
(d) Turnover: Minimum average annual turnover in last 5 years preceding the date of submission of the tender to be greater than for Group-01, Tk 80.00 lac. Group-02, Tk 40.00 lac.
Liquid Asset: Minimum required cash flow amount for Group-01, Tk 20.00 lac. Group-02, Tk 10.00 lac.
(e) Minimum tendering capacity: Not less than the tender value (for all groups).

- Brief description of works: Stated in the description of work. Specification/schedule attached with the tender document.
- Price of tender document: For Group-01 Tk 1,000.00 (one thousand) for Group-02 Tk 500 (five hundred) each (non-refundable).

Sl No.	ID No.	Description of work	Location	Tender security	Completion time
Group 01	N/A	দাঙ্গা মোড়কোল কমেজ চত্বরে চিহ্ন বর্ন ও সড়কপারী ভবন নির্মাণ প্রকল্প (৬-তলা ভিত্তি সহ ১ম পর্যায়ের দোতলা পর্যন্ত নির্মাণ)। [উপ-ব্যক্তি অধ্যক্ষের নির্দেশনামতে প্রকল্পের স্থাপন করা যাবে।]	DMCH	Tk 55,000.00	120 days
Group 02	N/A	দাঙ্গা মোড়কোল কমেজ চত্বরে বি.এম.এ. কমপ্লেক্সের অর্ধাংশ ৮-তলা ভবন ও ৬ ও ৭ম তলায় লাইব্রেরী, আইটি শাখা ও জি.আই.পি কক্ষে সিস্টেম-ইউপি প্রকল্পের নির্মাণ ও স্থাপনকরণ প্রকল্প।	BMA	Tk 15,000.00	60 days

- Name of official inviting tender: Abdur Razzaque Khan.
- Designation of official inviting tender: Executive Engineer.
- Address of official inviting tender: PWD E/M Division-4, Segunbagicha, Dhaka.
- Contact details of official inviting tender: Telephone No: 9333965 (Office).
- The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.
- Special instructions: (a) Rate must be quoted both in figures & in word for each item of work in the attached schedule up to 2 digits beyond decimal point.
(b) The tender security shall at the tenderers option, be either, in the form of a Bank Draft or Pay-Order in favour of the Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka from a schedule bank of Bangladesh or in the form of an Irrevocable Bank Guarantee issued by a scheduled bank of Bangladesh in the form of a letter in section-5 (W-3 forms) in favour of Executive Engineer, PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka.
(c) This tender notice is brief and the details of the tender may be seen from the office of the undersigned during the office hours.
(d) For any unavoidable reason if the office remain closed at the date of receiving & opening, the tender will be received and opened in the next office day at the same time.

Abdur Razzaque Khan
Executive Engineer
PWD E/M Division-4, Dhaka

GD-4616

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 24/12/2007

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo call	L. Port	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/2	Ins Gharial	Visit	Ind	Mmi	22/12	24/12	192
J/4	Asrar-A-Mostafa	Rice(P)	Kaki	Cia	17/12	25/12	2554
J/6	Xpress Manalu	Cont	Col	Seacon	21/12	24/12	28
J/7	Pagan	Gi(Log)	Yang	Mta	22/12	25/12	1337
J/8	Jin Cheng	Gi	Chin	Cosco	22/12	30/12	840
J/9	Capebonavista	Cont	P.Kel	Bdship	19/12	24/12	1
J/10	Phutan	Cont	Col	Bsca	22/12	26/12	478
J/13	Sezela	Cont	Ptp	Mbdl	22/12	25/12	34
Col/1	Seaways Prestice	Cont	Kol	Bsca	22/12	—	—
Col/3	Josco View	Cont	P.Kel	Rsl	23/12	25/12	—
Ncl/1	Kota Ratna	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	20/12	24/12	—
Ncl/2	Martha Russ	Cont	Col	Mbdl	21/12	25/12	—
Cq	Maritime Songkhla	C.Clink	Tarj	Bsl	19/12	25/12	—

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Outside port limit				
Rig Deep Driller-5	—	—	Ibsa	30/09
Pacific Cheetha	—	—	Ibsa	R/A(18/12)
Wira Kari	—	—	Ibsa	R/A(12/12)
Sis Service	—	—	Ibsa	R/A(19/12)
Zakher Fugro	Survey VI	—	Cal	R/A(24/11)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Eagle Pioneer	Cont	P.Kel	Ct	23/12
Markur Bridge	Cont	Sing	Api	23/12
Yang Yue-8	Cont	Sing	Ocal	23/12
Dongtai Fortune	Cont	Sing	Seacon	23/12
Antao Jiang	Gi	Chin	Cosco	23/12
Shwe Thara Phu	Rice	Yang	Td	13/12
Hao Hang	Gi	Sing	Cosco	24/12
Csaw California	Cont	P.Kel	Psal	24/12

Vessels not ready

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Pratibha	Hsd	Kuwa	Mstpl	18/12
Banglar Doot	Wheat	—	Bsc	R/A(30/11)

Vessels awaiting employment/instruction

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Banga Lanka	Ballast	Kara	Bdship	20/11
Osprey Explorer	Seis Survey	C.Town	Kaplat	04/12
Smooth Sea-3	—	—	Wh	R/A(20/12)
Borak	—	—	Fsa	R/A(18/12)
Banglar Shikha	—	—	Bsc	R/A(23/12)
Banglar Jyoti	—	—	Bsc	R/A(23/12)

Vessels not entering

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last Port	Local agent	Date of arrival
Power	C.Clink	Lumut	Litmond	13/12
Santa Suria	Gypsum	Krabi	Sunmoon	13/12
Sarim	C.Clink	Kohsi	Litmond	20/12
Andermatt	Wheat	Dest	Ssst	20/12
Darya Taal	Mop(Fert)	—	Angelic	20/12
Ashraar-E-Mostafa	Slag	Viza	Sunmoon	21/12

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Banga Borti	24/12	P.Kel	Baridhi	Cont	Sing
Banga Bloy	25/12	Cbo	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Admira Coral	25/12	Yang	Everett	Gi(St.C)	—
Cape Henry	25/12	Cbo	Api	Cont	Sing
Kota Raja	25/12	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing
Hajira London	26/12	Sing	Bson	Cont	Kol
Marina Star-2	27/12	Thai	Litmond	C Link	—
Andreas Falcon	27/12	Kaki	Ascl	Rice	—
Pongola	28/12	Ptp	Mbdl	Cont	Ptp
Banga Bador	30/12	—	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Sumida	28/12	Sing	Seacon	Cont	Sing
Unity	28/12	Col	Seacon	Cont	Col
Oel Enterprise	28/12	—	Psal	Cont	Col
Xiang Jiang	28/12	—	Cosco	Gi	—
Phu My	28/12	Sing	lpl	Cont	Sing
Kota Tegap	29/12	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing
Kota Rukun	29/12	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing

Tanker due

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port	Local agent	Type of
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