

# The Daily Star

Committed to PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO KNOW

Vol. 5 Num 703

Mon. May 22, 2006

Business

## Foreign-funded enterprises gain \$200b in profits in China

Xinhua, Xi'an

Foreign-funded enterprises have recorded more than 200 billion US dollars in post-tax profits in China since the 1990s, a senior Chinese commerce official said.

Li Zhigun, director of Foreign Investment Department of Ministry of Commerce, announced the figures on Saturday at a forum of "Investing in Xi'an, Investing in Future", held in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi province.

Currently, China has approved the establishment of over 500,000 foreign-financed enterprises and has used 270 billion US dollars of foreign funds.

These foreign-funded enterprises import over 560 billion US dollars of goods annually.

To date, corporations from 190 countries and regions worldwide have invested in China, including 450 of the Fortune global top 500 multinational corporations.

**Week # 01**  
**Article # 01**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 22 May 2006  
**Date #** 22 May 2006

## Foreign-funded enterprises gain \$200b in profits in China

Foreign investors of China gained record amount of profits which is 200 billion US\$ plus from 1990 to till today. Recently this country approved for 270 billion US\$ foreign investment. Their foreign investors import more than 560 billion US\$ of goods per annum.

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Thu. May 25, 2006

Business

## UAE entrepreneurs keen to invest in Bangladesh

Unb, Dubai

A business delegation of UAE Chamber of Commerce and Industry, led by its President Salah Salem bin Omeir al Shamsi, met Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her hotel suite here yesterday and expressed keen interest to invest in Bangladesh's potential sectors.

Foreign Secretary Hemayetuddin told reporters the UAE business delegation felt encouraged about the investment-friendly environment and expressed willingness to invest in Bangladesh's construction, infrastructure development, banking, telecommunications and insurance sectors.

He said a UAE business delegation, headed by chamber president Shamsi, who is also the president of Gulf Chamber, will visit Bangladesh in June or early July to explore their investment prospects.

The UAE delegation also invited Bangladesh businessmen to come to UAE and explore the prospects of setting up joint venture projects.

Earlier, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia apprised the UAE businesses of congenial atmosphere in Bangladesh for foreign investment, saying that a good number of leading overseas companies made investment in a big way and put forward investment proposals.

**Week # 01**  
**Article # 02**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 25 May 2006  
**Date #** 25 May 2006

## **UAE entrepreneurs keen to invest in Bangladesh**

A business delegation of UAE Chamber of Commerce and Industry met our Prime Minister recently. They are interested to invest in Bangladesh's potential sectors; such as: construction, infrastructure development, banking, telecommunications and insurance sectors. They also invited our business people to invest in their country.

# The Daily Star

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Sat. May 27, 2006

## Business

### Square Consumer to export \$2m products to Kuwait

Square Consumer Products Ltd will sell its 'Radhuni' and 'Ruchi' brand products worth US\$ two million to M Al-Meshal Co, a Kuwait-based business enterprise, which has already made an advance payment of \$150,000.

An export agreement to this effect was signed on Thursday in Dhaka between the two companies, says a press release.

Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Consumer Products, and Md AEM Al-Meshal, chairman of M Al-Meshal Co, signed the deal on behalf of their companies. Other senior officials from both the sides were also present.

**Week # 02**  
**Article # 03**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 27 May 2006  
**Date #** 27 May 2006

## **Square Consumer to export \$2m products to Kuwait**

**B**angladeshi company Square Consumer Products Ltd is going to sell its 'Radhuni' and 'Ruchi' brand products to M Al-Meshal Co, a Kuwait-based business enterprise. The products going to sold there is cost 2 million US\$ where the another party has already paid \$150,000. Recently an export agreement was signed in Dhaka. On behalf of Square Consumer Products the MD and on behalf of M Al-Meshal Co. the chairman signed the agreement.

# The Daily Star

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Thu. June 01, 2006

Business

## Foreign trade grows 24pc in Nepal

Xinhua, Kathmandu

Nepal's total foreign trade rose by 24 percent during the first eight months of the current Nepali fiscal year (July 16, 2005-July 15, 2006), Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) said here yesterday.

"Nepal's total foreign trade reached 160.79 billion Nepali rupees (2.3 billion US dollars) during the first eight months of the current fiscal year, rose by 24 percent as compared the same period of last Nepali fiscal year," said the NRB, the central bank in the country, in a latest report.

The total imports of the country expanded by 27.9 percent while total exports posted a lower growth of 14.7 percent, the report revealed.

The total imports reached 117.48 billion Nepali rupees (1.68 billion US dollars), the report noted, adding, "While total exports remained at 43.31 billion Nepali rupees (618.71 million US dollars).

Higher growth in imports, as compared to exports expanded the trade imbalance, with trade deficit widening by 37.1 percent during the period.

According to the statistics of NRB, the country's trade deficit touched 74.16 billion Nepali rupees (1.06 billion US dollars), while it was 54.10 billion Nepali rupees (772.86 million US dollars), during the same period of the previous fiscal year.

Of the total trade, trade with India increased by 30.6 percent to 102.07 billion Nepali rupees (1.46 billion US dollars), while trade with other countries went up by 14.1 percent to 58.71 billion Nepali rupees (838.71 million US dollars), the report added.

**Week # 02**  
**Article # 04**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 1 June 2006  
**Date #** 1 June 2006

## Foreign trade grows 24pc in Nepal

During the first eight months of the current Nepali fiscal year (July 16, 2005-July 15, 2006) Nepal's total foreign trade rose by 24 percent. Their foreign trade reached to 2.3 billion US\$. Their total imports increased to 27.9% (618.71 million US dollars) and export decreased to 14.7% (1.68 billion US dollars). Their most of the trade goes with India.



# The Daily Star

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Vol. 5 Num 716

Sat. June 03, 2006

## Business

### Nissan, Suzuki to expand cooperation

Ap, Tokyo

Nissan will supply pickup trucks for Suzuki to sell in North America in an expansion of the Japanese automakers' business cooperation that includes mutually supplying vehicles and sharing plants, both sides said Friday.

Nissan Motor Co. and Suzuki Motor Corp. already have a partnership, in which Suzuki provides Nissan minicars, mainly for the Japanese market, to be sold under the Nissan brand.

Under the latest deal, Nissan will supply Suzuki a pickup truck from 2008 for the North American market, while Suzuki will supply a small car for Nissan to sell under the Nissan brand in Europe, they said in a statement.

Starting from the end of this year, Nissan will supply a minivan to Suzuki, and Suzuki will supply an additional minicar model to Nissan, both for the Japanese market, they said.

Nissan does not make its own minivehicles, which have engines of up to 0.66 liters and get tax breaks in Japan. Minicar sales have been booming lately in Japan while the overall auto market here has remained flat.

Nissan, which has an alliance with Renault SA of France, and Suzuki, a Japanese automaker that specializes in minicars, will also share production facilities in emerging markets, and that will start at Suzuki's plant in India, they said.

In the past, Suzuki has had such supply agreements with U.S. automaker General Motors Corp. But those ties have loosened recently after GM sold 17 percent of Suzuki in April for about \$2 billion, leaving it with a 3 percent stake.

**Week # 03**  
**Article # 05**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 3 June 2006  
**Date #** 3 June 2006

## Nissan, Suzuki to expand cooperation

To sell in North America Nissan Motor Co. will supply pickup trucks for Suzuki Motor Corp. They already have a partnership, by which Suzuki provides Nissan mini-cars, mainly for the Japanese market, to sell under the brand Nissan. By the latest deal from 2008 for the North American market Nissan will supply Suzuki a pickup truck. On the other hand Suzuki will provide small cars for Nissan to sell under the brand Nissan in European market. From this year Nissan is going to supply a minivan to Suzuki and Suzuki is going to supply an additional mini-car model to Nissan for the Japanese market.

# The Daily Star

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Vol. 5 Num 718

Mon. June 05, 2006

Business

## Malaysians keen to invest in joint ventures

Unb, Dhaka

A visiting 11-member Malaysian business delegation yesterday unveiled a list of potential sectors in Bangladesh for making investment under joint venture, as the entrepreneurs of the newly industrialised country are now spreading their wings abroad.

They are keen to jointly invest in food and food processing like halal meat, agro-based products like seeds, chemical fertilizer and agricultural equipment, manufacturing automobile parts, medicine and herbal products.

The delegation from Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA) and Malaysia South-South Association (MASSA) announced their plans in a business meeting with Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) members held at the DCCI auditorium.

Presiding over the meeting, Senior Vice-president of DCCI Khaled Hossain said Malaysian entrepreneurs are cordially invited to invest in some sectors like food and food processing, livestock, poultry, fisheries, fish meals, cattle feed, infrastructure development, building construction, real estate and automobiles, telephone and mobile phone and raw materials for plastic products.

He also said Malaysia might also relocate some of their less-competitive labour-intensive industries to Bangladesh to utilise competitive cost of labour.

Citing the Malaysian government's recent decision to withdraw the restriction on manpower import from Bangladesh, Khaled said, "A training institution to train people of Bangladesh for meeting the standard of Malaysian industries can be established in Bangladesh so that a large number of trained, skilled, semi-skilled manpower can be exported to Malaysia."

**Week # 03**  
**Article # 06**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 5 June 2006  
**Date #** 5 June 2006

## Malaysians keen to invest in joint ventures

A visiting 11-membered Malaysian delegation has expressed their interest to invest under joint venture in some potential sectors in Bangladesh; such as: food and food processing like halal meat, agro-based products like seeds, chemical fertilizer and agricultural equipment, manufacturing automobile parts, medicine and herbal products. In a meeting with them the Senior Vice-president of DCCI (Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry) said Malaysia might also relocate some of their less-competitive labour-intensive industries to Bangladesh to utilize competitive cost of labour.

# The Daily Star

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Sat. June 10, 2006

## Business

### EU, Singapore sign air pact

Afp, Singapore

Singapore and the European Union have signed an aviation agreement, opening the door for airlines from the 25-nation bloc to fly between any EU country and the city-state, the government said Friday.

The agreement, the first of its kind between the EU and an Asian country, also gives Singapore flexibility when it holds bilateral air services talks with any EU country, the ministry of transport said in a statement.

Singapore says the agreement is a "win-win" situation for the two parties and the city-state, with its regional air hub status, is well positioned to help the EU expand into Southeast Asia's market of more than 500 million people.

"It is a well-known fact that a liberal aviation policy plays a crucial role in stimulating economic growth, and in facilitating the growth of trade, tourism, investment and people to people links," said Lim Hwee Hua, minister of state for transport and finance.

**Week # 04**  
**Article # 07**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 10 June 2006  
**Date #** 10 June 2006

## EU, Singapore sign air pact

Singapore has signed an aviation agreement with European Union on 9<sup>th</sup> instant. It's the first airline agreement of the European Union with any country of Asia. It will help to talk about any bilateral issues about aviation with Singapore and European countries. This will help the European Union to expand their market share in Asia which size is about 500 million people. This aviation agreement will play a crucial role in stimulating economic growth, facilitating the trade growth, tourism, investment and people links.

# The Daily Star

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Sun. June 11, 2006

## Business

### Singapore firm to invest \$63m to boost internet services

Xinhua, Singapore

The Singapore Telecomm-unications (SingTel) will invest some 100 million Singapore dollars (about 63 million US dollars) in the next two years to promote its internet services for businesses.

According to Channel NewsAsia report on Friday night, the company aims to be the top Internet service provider for corporates in the Asia-Pacific region by 2009.

With about 9.5 percent of the Internet Protocol Virtual Private Network market share in the region at present, the company will enhance its network infrastructure and expand its portfolio of services.

It identifies overseas operations, corporate Voice Over Internet Protocol market, as well as managed communications and information technology (IT) needs services to small and medium-sized enterprises in Singapore, as growth areas.

Corporate business accounted for more than 40 percent of SingTel's earnings in 2005, while the Internet Protocol Virtual Private Network market in the region excluding Japan is expected to be worth 600 million US dollars this year, according to the report.

**Week # 04**  
**Article # 08**

**Source #** The Daily Star, 11 June 2006  
**Date #** 11 June 2006

## Singapore firm to invest \$63m to boost internet services

About 100million Singapore dollars (about 63 million US dollars) is going to be invested in internet services for businesses by the Singapore Telecomm-Unications (SingTel) within the next two years. The company has aimed to be the market leader in Internet service provider for corporate in the Asia-Pacific region by the year 2009. The company is trying increase the market share of Internet Protocol Virtual Private Network from about 9.5%.