

China to use exchange rate to adjust economy

AFP, Shanghai

China's central bank said Wednesday it plans to use the exchange rate to adjust the country's economy but warned against the view that yuan appreciation was the sole solution to global imbalances.

People's Bank of China said the Chinese economy was running at a fast but steady rate with investment, consumption and exports all expanding vigorously.

It acknowledged persistent economic imbalances and said a "basket of policies" were needed to address the problem of China's massive trading surplus.

But once again the central bank argued against focusing solely on an exchange rate adjustment as a means of curbing the surplus.

"The most fundamental way to solve large surpluses in international payments is to expand consumption and cut the savings rate," it said.

"The exchange rate is just one

part of a basket of policies and can play a certain role in adjusting imbalances in international payments."

China has struggled to curb capital inflows while trying to limit the yuan's appreciation. Trading partners accuse China of keeping its currency undervalued to boost exports.

Fund flows have led to money supply growth running at least two percentage points higher than the government's official full-year target of 16 percent for 2006, with bank lending surging in the first half of the year.

The central bank said loan growth was too high and tough to curb. "With a capital and current account surplus, it's difficult to control the growth of fast credit," it said.

The central bank was also concerned about high fixed-asset investment growth, warning it posed a risk to the economy.

Fixed asset investment growth, a wide measure of spending on major infrastructure, topped 30 percent year-on-year in the first six months of 2006.



PHOTO: KAZI & KAZI TEA

Shamshul Islam, information minister, Mir Nasir Hossain, president of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Kazi Shahid Ahmed, managing director of Kazi & Kazi Tea Estate Ltd, among others, are seen at the launching ceremony of Kazi & Kazi Tea on Monday in Dhaka.

Japanese machinery orders soar past expectations

AFP, Tokyo

Japanese private sector machinery orders in June rose 8.5 percent from the previous month, soaring past market expectations of a decline as Japan enjoys the longest recovery in decades, the government said Wednesday.

The data helped the Tokyo Stock Exchange's benchmark Nikkei-225 index leap to its highest level in two months, overcoming early losses that were due to signals the US Federal Reserve will keep hiking interest rates after this week's pause.

The market had expected June core machinery orders to fall by 1.6 percent.



PHOTO: TNT

Officials of TNT Express, an express delivery services provider, and Apex, a shoe company, pose for photographs at a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signing ceremony recently. Under the MoU, customers can earn 'goals' for every Tk 100 they pay for shipment with TNT under the company's 'ship 2 score' campaign and redeem the 'goals' for gifts at Apex. TNT launched the campaign, which will run until December 31, to mark its 60 years of worldwide operation.



PHOTO: RANGS ELECTRONICS

Rangs Electronics Ltd launched a sales campaign styled 'Sony Days '06 Mega Discount' on Tuesday. J Ekram Hussain, deputy managing director of the company, inaugurated the campaign while Sabur Ahmed, director, and Rakibul Islam, finance director, were present among others.

CURRENCY

Following is Wednesday's (August 9, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Major Currency Exchange Rates		Exchange rate of some currencies	
	BC Sell	TT Buy	
US dollar	70.15	68.90	
Euro	90.74	86.83	
Pound	134.51	129.33	
Australian dollar	54.23	51.37	
Japanese yen	0.62	0.59	
Swiss franc	57.81	55.43	
Swedish kroner	10.19	9.21	
Canadian dollar	63.04	60.63	
Hong Kong dollar	9.04	8.84	
Singapore dollar	45.48	43.56	
UAE dirham	19.26	18.61	
Saudi riyal	18.85	18.23	
Danish kroner	12.55	11.33	
Kuwaiti dinar	239.22	236.52	

	Per USD	BDT per Currency
Indian rupee	46.42	1.50
Pak rupee	60.27	1.15
Lankan rupee	103.96	0.67
Thai baht	37.66	1.84
Malaysian ringgit	3.68	18.91

USD forward rate against BDT	
	Buy
1M	68.99
2M	69.11
3M	69.25
6M	69.66

* All currencies are quoted against BDT
 * Rates may vary based on nature of transaction
 * The forward rates are indicative only and fixed dated

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 09/08/2006

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Dt of arrival	Leaving	Import Disch
J/1	Ever Success	Wheat(P)	Ismir	Able	20/7	12/8	1450
J/3	Tu Qiang	GI(Y,Pe/Lentils)Vanc	Mutual	10/7	--	817	
J/4	Oel Freedom	Cont	Col	PSSL	7/8	12/8	186
J/6	Santa Sutilia-ii	GI(R,Log)	Yang	AMBL	2/8	10/8	1590
J/7	Marisa Green	Cont	P. Kel	Everbest	6/8	12/8	241
J/8	Phu My	Cont	P. Kel	RSL	6/8	11/8	237
J/9	Pattaya Navee	Urea	Sing	PSAL	26/7	10/8	450
J/10	Oel Excellence	Cont	Pip	PSSL	7/8	12/8	--
J/11	Cape Bonavista	Cont	Sing	Bdship	2/8	10/8	--
J/12	Xpress Resolve	Cont	Col	Seacon	6/8	9/8	52
J/13	Kola Berjaya	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	2/8	9/8	48

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Karaka Jaya Niaga-III-32	9/8	Yang	Mutual	GI(R,Log)	--
Brave Royal	9/8	Krabi	BRSL	C. Clink	Royal
Banga Borik	9/8	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Esham	11/8	Sing	CEL	Cont	Sing
Eastern Sea	11/8	Sing	OWSL	Def. Cargo	--
New Sea Star	10/8	Pip	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Banglar Shikha	11/8	P.Kel	BSC	Cont	Sing
Palessa	13/8	Mumbai	Everett	P. Cargo	--
Pan Express	11/8	Krabi	ASLL	C. Clink	Mi
Sea Master One	15/8	Sing	PML	Cont	Sing
Kola Rakayat	12/8	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing
Banga Borat	12/8	Sing	Bdship	Cont	P. Kel
Xpress Makalu	12/8	--	Seacon	Cont	Col

Tanker due

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo
Raf Raf	10/8	Haid	FSA	Bitumen(RM/3)
Yanee	12/8	P. Louis	ESL	CPO(RM/3)
Jag Preti	13/8	--	SSLL	HSD
Kudam	14/8	Rast	OWSL	Crude Oil

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/A (3/8)

Outside port limit

Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/A (3/8)
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Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready				
Banga Borak	Cont	P. Kel	Baridhi	7/8
Osg Bosstec	Cont	P. Kel	Seacon	8/8
Cape Henry	Cont	Sing	APL	8/8
Kota Ratna	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	9/8
Angel-III	GI(Y, Pe)	Vanc	USL	29/7
High Challenge	HSD/IMS	Kuwa	MSTPL	6/8

Vessels not ready

Royal Bulker	GI(Peas)	Aust	Litmond	9/8
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Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Banga Barta	Ballast	Col	Baridhi	10/3
Banglar Shourabh	--	--	BSC	R/A (21/6)
Santa Suria	--	--	ANCL	R/A (6/8)

Vessels not entering

Formosabulk No.3	C. Clink	Para	Unidev	5/8
Lake Maja	Gypsum	Krabi	Saraf	4/8
Panagia	C. Clink	Nant	Saraf	6/8
Global Young	GI(Lentil)	Tuti	Mutual	7/8
Maritime Chiangmai	C. Clink	Tarj	BSL	6/8

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

STOCK