Eurozone factory orders jump unexpectedly

AFP, Brussels

Factories in the 15 nations sharing the euro saw demand surge unexpectedly in April, official EU data showed on Wednesday.

New industrial orders in the eurozone rose 2.5 percent in April from March and jumped 11.7 percent compared with the same month in 2007, the European Union's Eurostat data agency said.

The result exceeded economists' forecasts for orders to rise 0.7 percent over one month and increase 3.5 percent from April 2007, as polled by Dow Jones Newswires.

The figures marked a sharp bounce-back from March when new industrial orders had slumped 1.2 percent over one month and 3.7 percent over one year, according to Eurostat's data.

Meanwhile, in the 27-nation EU new industrial orders rose 3.6 percent over one month in April and 14.2 percent over one year.

Dhaka stocks down

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

DSE stocks were down yesterday as a result of falling prices, primarily, of share of banking, investment, pharmaceutical and cement companies.

The DSE General Index declined by 13.77 points, or 0.45 percent, to 3022.25 points, while the DSE All Share Price Index fell by 6.15 points, or 0.23 percent, to 2591.12 points.

Yesterday the Dhaka stock market started with some prospect for something better as it gained 24 points in first 15 minutes of trading. But in the next 45 minutes market lost about 28 points. After regaining 13 points in next half an hour, market started to lose points at a steady rate for the rest of the day and ended with a flat mood.

Most of the banks and mutual funds lost few points over the previous day, while companies in pharmaceuticals, tannery and cement sectors lost few points.

The power and insurance sector, however, was up and non-banking financial institution sector was mixed.

A total of 1,38,73,446 shares, worth Tk 251.26 crore, changed hands on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). Of the issues traded, 81 advanced, 129 declined and 16 remained unchanged.

According to several market insiders, Titas Gas, a state-run Company that is scheduled to make its debut on the stock exchange on Sunday, might be one reason for the downtrend of the stock market, as the investors are on wait to buy stakes in the company.

Titas will join the stock market through offloading of shares worth Tk 215 crore.

Like the premier bourse, share prices on the Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) also fell yesterday with the losers dominating the gainers.

The CSE Selective Categories Index fell by 21.67 points, or 0.36 percent, to 5880.51 points, while the CSE All Share Price Index declined by 31.04 points, 0.34 percent, to 9090.36 points.

A total of 29,07,702 shares, worth Tk 34.92 crore, changed hands on the port city bourse.

New Zealand consumer confidence hits 17-year low

AFP, Wellington

Consumer confidence in New Zealand has plunged to a 17-year low amid soaring food and fuel prices and a sharp slowdown in the housing market, an economic survey showed Wednesday.

The Westpac McDermott Miller consumer confidence index fell to 81.71 in June, down from 96.5 in March and 110 in December, with a level below 100 indicating pessimists outnumber optimists.

The level in June was the lowest since 1991, when New Zealand was in recession. Economic growth data due to be released on Friday is expected to show the economy shrank in the March quarter, compared with the previous three months.

Westpac senior economist Donna Purdue described the latest drop in the index as "jaw-dropping".

"The highly publicised rise in oil prices in recent months will be playing a key role in the feeling of doom and gloom," Purdue said.

High interest rates and a sharp slowdown in the housing market had also dented consumer sentiment, she added.

Tax cuts due to come into effect from October and a boom for the country's important dairy exports could bring some relief later in the year, she said.

"In the meantime, there is plenty for consumers to be down about, and they will continue to look for ways to cut back on spending."

DBBL

Finance and Planning Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam hands over a scholarship letter to a recipient at a function in Dhaka on Tuesday. Dutch-Bangla Bank awarded scholarship to 100 meritorious students including eight physically challenged ones who passed HSC examination in 2007. Yeasin Ali, managing director of the bank, was also present.

NCC BANK

Tofazzal Hossain, chairman of National Credit and Commerce (NCC) Bank, addresses a conference of the executives and branch managers of the bank in Dhaka recently. Nurul Amin, managing director of the bank, presided over the function where deputy managing directors SM Shamsul Islam and Golam Hafiz were also present.

GETCO

A seminar on 'Safety of using CNG cylinder' was held in Dhaka on Tuesday organized by GETCO Trading Ltd of Bangladesh and sponsored by IMW Industries, Canada. Shafqat Alam, general manager of GETCO, and Brad Miller, president of IMW Industries, were present at the seminar.

EASTERN INSURANCE

Azmal Hossain, vice-chairman of Eastern Insurance Company, presides over the 22nd annual general meeting(AGM) of the company in Dhaka yesterday. The AGM approved a 20 percent bonus share for its shareholders for 2007.

Shipping

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 25/6/2008

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo call	L. Port	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J/2	Thuan Phuoc	Gi	Busa	Prog	20/6	26/6	668
J/3	Patchara Naree	Gi(Hr.C)	Sing	Barwil	22/6	30/6	3301
J/4	An Bao Jiang	Gi	Para	Cosco	18/6	27/6	1059
J/5	Xuan Cheng	Gi	Dang	Cosco	15/6	25/6	839
J/6	Jai Vekkali Meenakshi	Rice(G)	Kaki	Hsa	21/6	25/6	1011
J/7	Yong Jiang	Gi	Inch	Cosco	16/6	25/6	416
J/8	Fokus	Sugar/Rice	Chenn	Hsa	13/6	26/6	-
J/12	Merkur Bridge	Cont	Sing	Apl	22/6	26/6	586
Cct/1	Josco View	Cont	P. Kel	Rsl	23/6	26/6	-

Vessels due at outer anchorage date: 25/6/2008

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
Tabago Bay	25/6	Sing	Mbdl	Cont	Ptp
Baek Sa Bong	25/6	Kaki	Hsa	Rice(G)	-
Botany Tradition	25/6	Hald	Jf	-	-
Guhi Mas	25/6	Indo	Intraport	Scraping	-
Caraka Jaya Niaga-Iii-4	25/6	Hald	Cla	-	-
Yaad-E-Mostafa	25/6	T. Prk	Intraport	C. Clink	-
Cape Henry	25/6	Col	Apl	Cont	Col
Hansa London	25/6	P. Kel	Pssl	Cont	Sing
Banga Biraj	27/6	Sing	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Orchid Express	26/6	Sing	Nyk	Vehi	-
Oel Excellence	26/6	Sing	Pssl	Cont	Yang
Western Star	29/6	Sing	Rsl	Cont	Sing

Outside port limit

Wira Keris	-	-	Ibsa	R/A (21/6)
Ce Pacific	Crude Oil	Jebel	Dsl	20/6
Banglar Jyoti	C. Oil	-	Bsc	R/A (24/6)

Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels Ready:				
Kumanna Valley	Rice(G)	Kaki	Cla	23/6
Kota Raja	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	24/6
Kingship Lucky	Gi(St.C)	Visha	Seacom	8/6
Eagle Prestige	Gi(S. Ash)	Sing	Bsl	22/6
Josco View	Cont	P. Kel	Rsl	23/6
Patchara Naree	Gi(Hr. C)	Sing	Barwil	22/6
Banga Bodor	Cont	P. Kel	Baridhi	24/6
Merkur Bridge	Cont	Sing	Apl	22/6

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

Currency

Following is yesterday's (June 25, 2008) forex exchange rate statement by **Standard Chartered Bank**

Major currency exchange rates

	BC Sell	TT Buy
US dollar	69.15	68.15
Euro	109.19	104.60
Pound	138.17	132.67
Australian dollar	67.60	63.86
Japanese yen	0.66	0.63
Swiss franc	67.69	63.69
Swedish kroner	12.24	10.74
Canadian dollar	69.69	66.57
Hong Kong dollar	8.88	8.71
Singapore dollar	51.82	49.63
UAE dirham	18.98	18.40
Saudi riyal	18.59	18.03
Danish kroner	15.23	13.52
Kuwaiti dinar	257.28	251.61

Exchange rate of some currencies

	Per USD	BDT per Currency
Indian rupee	42.70	1.61
Pak rupee	68.05	1.01
Lankan rupee	107.70	0.64
Thai baht	33.54	2.05
Malaysian ringgit	3.26	21.03

USD forward rate against BDT

	Buy	Sell
1M	68.39	69.40
2M	68.65	69.74
3M	68.91	70.09
6M	69.67	71.13

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES Jun 25, 2008

Market Highlights

Jun 25, 2008

DSE All Share Index :	2591.12232	(-) 0.24%
DSE General Index :	3022.25010	(-) 0.45%
DSE - 20 Index :	2521.14736	(-) 0.73%
CSE All Share Index:	9090.36790	(-) 0.34%
CSE - 30 Index :	7992.84600	(-) 0.49%
CSE Selected Index :	5880.51430	(-) 0.37%

Indicators	DSE	CSE
Total Turnover (Taka)	2,512,612,708.85	349,244,026.50
Total Turnover (Volume)	13,873,446	2,907,702
Number of Contract	53,419	9,331
Total Traded Issues	227	150
No. of Issue Gain (Avg. Price Basis)	122	66
No. of Issue Loss (Avg. Price Basis)	104	83
No. of Unchanged Issue (Avg. P. Basis)	1	1
Market Cap. (Taka)	796,798,764,150	772,155,457,066
Market Cap. (US$)	11,632,098,747	11,272,342,439
Total No. of Listed Securities	288	228
Total No. of Listed Companies	268	212
Total No. of Listed Mutual Fund	14	14
Total No. of Listed Debenture	6	2
Total No. of Share & Deb.	2,229,701,125	414,612,267
Total Issued Capital	102,237,453,760	99,261,334,490
Price Earning Ratio	23.11	22.99
Earning Per Share (%)	34.84	34.55

Turnover Leaders

Company	Turnover (Vol.)	(M.Tk.)	(%) T	BigLot
LankaBangla Finance* -A	1,110,451	230.64	9.18	8,000
Square Pharma* -A	23,036	120.38	4.79	200
Beximco Pharma* -A	1,130,293	109.65	4.36	8,600
Fareast Islami Life Ins* -A	24,354	102.40	4.08	300
Padma Oil Co.* -A	49,150	98.57	3.92	500
AIMS First * -A	4,426,500	97.60	3.88	25,000
Union Capital Ltd* -N	470,000	64.25	2.56	5,000
Apex Tannery Ltd* -A	45,100	62.40	2.48	440
Shahjalal Islami Bank* -A	160,680	56.40	2.24	1,600
N C C Bank * -A	126,339	54.95	2.19	10,000
Beximco Pharma* -A	275,457	26.77	7.67	3,650
LankaBangla Finance* -A	125,850	26.06	7.46	2,000
Padma Oil Co.* -A	11,300	22.80	6.53	1,000
AIMS First * -A	930,000	20.50	5.87	12,500
Union Capital Ltd* -N	140,000	19.08	5.46	2,000
Square Pharma* -A	3,615	18.91	5.41	80
Grameen M F One* -A	75,500	11.88	3.40	3,000
Meghna Petroleum* -N	56,300	11.52	3.30	2,000
AB Bank * -A	7,740	10.74	3.07	300
N C C Bank * -A	22,253	9.75	2.79	2,000

Capital Gainers

Company	Price Chn. (%) Close	Avg.	Close Price	Turnover M.Tk
Mithun Knitting* -A	16.62	13.88	217.50	5.577
Northern Jute Ltd.	10.98	10.98	19.20	0.008
Purabi Gen. Insu. -A	10.87	10.10	232.00	0.254
ICB Islamic Bank* -Z	10.78	10.60	2,056.00	5.226
Dandy Dyeing -Z	9.40	9.40	32.00	0.002
Shinepukur Holdings* -Z	12.50	9.82	31.50	0.169
Nitol Insurance * -B	8.11	10.06	400.00	0.143
Padma Oil Co.* -A	5.50	3.44	2,059.70	22.803
LankaBangla Finance* -A	5.31	6.74	210.30	26.061
Prime Textile -A	4.53	4.53	150.00	0.0225

Capital Losers

Company	Price Chn. (%) Close	Avg.	Close Price	Turnover M.Tk
Savar Refractories -Z	-10.00	-10.00	81.00	0.001
Rahim Textile -A	-8.24	-8.24	390.00	0.004
Beximco Fisheries* -Z	-7.63	-7.90	27.25	0.0360
Renwick Jajneswar -B	-6.25	-6.25	416.00	0.0021
BSC -A	-5.02	-5.02	3,036.50	0.1367
Monno Fabrics -B	-5.65	-2.39	87.75	2.9679
Progressive Life Ins.* -Z	-5.00	-4.09	950.00	0.048
ICB -A	-4.99	-4.99	4,323.00	0.2162
Mita Textiles -Z	-4.76	-4.76	55.00	0.0110
Fine Foods -Z	-4.71	-5.18	8.10	0.020

News from Trade Servers

Spot Trade Start from 26-06-08: BDONLINE,BXPHARMA,BEXTEX,BXSYNTH,BEXIMCO,SINOBANGLA,GLOBALINS

Normal Trade Start from 26-06-08: BRACBANK,AGRANINS

Trade Suspended on 26-06-08: PRIMEINSUR,PRIMEFIN

PROGRESLIF: As per audited accounts as on 31.12.07, the Company has reported an increase in life revenue account of Tk. 218.80 m with total life insurance fund of Tk. 492.67 m against Tk. 114.54 m and Tk. 273.87 m respectively as on 31.12.06. The company did not declare any dividend for the year 2007 due to insufficient surplus as per actuary valuation as announced earlier.

NCCBANK: Mrs. Suraiya Alam, one of the Sponsors of the Bank, has reported her intention to sell 10,000 shares out of her total holdings of 15,050 shares of the Bank while Mr. Lokman Hakim, another Sponsor of the Bank has reported to buy 10,000 shares (In the Block Market) of the Bank at prevailing market price through Stock Exchange within next 30 working days.

Up Coming AGM

Book Closer/Dividend/IPO

Note: Capital Gainer and Loser tables are prepared on the basis of the average price change of the traded issues. In the trade table price change is calculated between closing prices. CDPS= Cash Dividend Per Share in %, EPS=Earning per Share, CDPS & EPS are corresponding to the Last AGM report that held on the date mentioned in the Last AGM col. "*" CDBL Listed, Category is mentioned beside company name.