

Disappointing business surveys intensify world growth fears

REUTERS, London

Signs China's economic slowdown is deepening and weak growth in Europe and the US reported on Friday further damaged the outlook for the global economy, sending stocks and commodity prices reeling.

China's factory sector shrank at its fastest rate in almost 6-1/2-years in August, a private survey showed, pushing investors who fear China's sagging economy will translate into slower global economic growth to take refuge in gold and bonds.

World markets had already been on edge after China's surprise devaluation of the yuan last week and a 33 percent fall in its stock markets since mid-year.

"Uncertainty about China growth is now the main swing factor in markets," said Tim Condon, an economist at ING Group in Singapore.

"Today's data reinforced the doubts about global growth."

The preliminary Caixin/Markit China Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 47.1 in August, well below a Reuters poll median of 47.7 and down from July's final 47.8.

It was the worst reading since March 2009, in the depths of the global financial crisis, and the sixth straight one below the 50-point level, which separates growth in activity from contraction on a monthly basis.

The downdraft from China is particularly rattling economies of its trade-reliant Asian neighbours.

South Korea, which counts China as its biggest trading partner, said on

Friday its exports slumped and Taiwan reported on Thursday its export orders in July fell more than expected.

And while a similar factory survey in Japan pointed to a pick-up there due to stronger domestic demand, policymakers in Tokyo are keenly aware of the dangers if China slows further.

Following three decades of fast economic growth, Chinese authorities have had limited success in shoring up activity this year despite four interest rate cuts since November.

Last week's shock 2 percent devaluation in the yuan and a slump in Chinese shares over the summer have unnerved investors further.

The yuan has slid nearly 3 percent since its Aug. 11 devaluation, a fall some analysts say is too modest to boost Chinese exports but notable enough to raise fears of competitive currency devaluations between governments.

The speed with which China's economy is losing steam has led to analysts warning the government may struggle to meet its growth target of 7 percent this year if it doesn't ratchet up policy support. China's factory output, retail sales and investment all disappointed in July.

"While we do not have enough information to assess all the details of official releases, we share the view that real GDP growth probably slowed more than reported in recent quarters," said Wei Yao at Societe Generale.

Stock markets around the world tumbled towards their worst week of the year on Friday as the weak Chinese data sent investors scurrying to safe-

haven assets.

A relatively upbeat euro zone survey, one of the bloc's earliest monthly economic indicators, suggested the European Central Bank's massive bond-buying programme and a weaker euro may be finally having an impact on activity.

Markit's Composite Flash PMI, rose to 54.1 this month from July's 53.9, confounding expectations in a Reuters poll for a modest dip to 53.8.

The headline index has been above 50 since mid-2013 and Markit said the PMI suggested third-quarter GDP growth of 0.4 percent, matching the prediction in a Reuters poll last week.

"It points to weak growth that will do little to erode the spare capacity in the region," said Jennifer McKeown at Capital Economics.

"We still see euro zone growth slowing in the coming months as earlier boosts from falling inflation and the euro's depreciation fade, particularly if renewed uncertainty surrounding the Greek election damages confidence."

Adding to uncertainty for investors following a brief period of relief after Athens avoided default and signed a third bailout to stay in the euro zone, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras resigned on Thursday.

Growth in the US manufacturing sector slowed unexpectedly to its weakest pace in almost two years in August, according to Markit.

The preliminary US Manufacturing PMI fell to 52.9 in August, its lowest since October 2013, from a final July reading of



A Rouf Chowdhury, chairman of Bank Asia, speaks at the bank's semi-annual business review meeting for Sylhet region at its training and development institute in Dhaka yesterday. AM Nurul Islam, vice chairman; Mohammed Lakotullah, chairman of the board audit committee; Shah Md Nurul Alam, immediate past director; and Md Mehmod Husain, managing director, were also present.

EU tries to clear "fog of confusion" over US trade pact

REUTERS, Brussels/Berlin

The European Commission will publish detailed reports on its negotiations with the United States to forge the world's biggest trade pact, EU trade chief Cecilia Malmstrom said on Friday, responding to criticism that the talks have been shrouded in secrecy.

If agreed, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) would encompass a third of world trade, and proponents say it would deliver more than \$100 billion of economic gains on both sides.

But opponents in Europe have voiced concern that it could erode EU standards on food safety and the environment, and argued the negotiations have not been transparent.

In a blog post, Malmstrom said one

of her first decisions as trade commissioner when she took office last year had been to make the negotiations more open, but the debate "seems to have been caught up in a fog of confusion".

To address that, she said that from now on the Commission will publish "detailed and extensive reports" on its website in all official EU languages.

The move came after Germany had urged the Commission to restore EU governments' access to electronic reports on the state of the negotiations, which it had halted last month in order to end a series of leaks.

A spokesman for German Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel confirmed he had written to Malmstrom to express his concerns about that move, which he called "the

latest setback in transparency efforts."

It was essential that politicians in individual member states were fully informed about the talks, he wrote in an Aug. 20 letter, published by investigative news site Correctiv.

"Only this way can we create the necessary legitimacy and acceptance for the talks, the result of which the German parliament must also vote on."

Gabriel is struggling to drum up support for the TTIP, which is backed by only 39 percent of Germans, according to a PEW Research Center survey.

Asked for reaction to Malmstrom's blog post, an economy ministry spokesman said: "We welcome that the Commission has moved on this important question. This step must, however, also lead to more transparency



Mohammed Haider Ali Miah, managing director of Exim Bank, opens a branch of the bank in Tangail. M Sirajul Islam, deputy managing director, was also present.

HP revenue falls on weak PC sales

REUTERS

Hewlett-Packard Co reported a drop in revenue for the fourth straight quarter, hurt by weak PC sales and lower demand from corporates for its services.

Shares of the world's No. 2 PC maker, which also forecast full-year adjusted profit largely below estimates, fell as much as 4 percent in extended trading on Thursday.

Chief Executive Meg Whitman said the factors pressuring the PC market were expected to continue through the fourth quarter and well into the next fiscal year.

The 76-year-old company, which has struggled to adapt to mobiles and online computing, is splitting into two listed companies later this year, separating its computer and printer businesses from its fast-growing corporate hardware and services operations.

HP is nearing the end of a multi-year restructuring under Whitman, who has been cutting costs and focusing on higher-margin sales. The plan includes the elimination of about 55,000 jobs.

Chief Financial Officer Cathie Lesjak said the company expects the number of job cuts to increase by



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
রাব ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর
কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা

উন্নত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OTM)

২০১৫-২০১৬ অর্থ বৎসরের রাব ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকাৰ কোর্টোর ২য় কোর্টোর (অস্টেবোৰ, নেতৃত্বেৰ ও ডিসেম্বৰে ২০১৫) এৰ "ভোজাতেল" সৱৰৰহ ঠিকাদার নিয়োগেৰ সক্ষেত্ৰে "The Public Procurement Regulation-2008" অনুসৰে নিম্নোক্ত শর্ত সন্মাপনেক সীলনোৰহকৃত দৰপত্র আহবান কৰা যাচ্ছে।

০১। মূল্যায়ন/ভিত্তি	পৰামুখ মুল্যায়ন।				
০২। সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
০৩। দৰপত্র সম্পাদনকাৰী প্ৰধান	পৰিচালক (প্ৰশাসন ও অৰ্থ), বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
০৪। কি কৰণে দৰপত্র আহবান	২০১৫-২০১৬ অর্থ বৎসরেৰ ২য় কোর্টোৰে "ভোজাতেল" কৰ্মেৰ ঠিকাদার নিয়োগ।				
০৫। দৰপত্র স্বৰূপ	পৰিচালক সদৰ দপ্তৰ শ্বারক নং-১০০৮/১০১৫৪(১২২)।				
০৬। তাৰিখ	৩০ অক্টোবৰ ২০১৫।				
কৰণেৰ বিবৰণ					
০৭। দৰপত্রেৰ পত্ৰিকা	উন্নত দৰপত্র পত্ৰিকা (OTM)।				
০৮। অৰ্থেৰ উৎস					
০৯। বাজেট ও অৰ্থনৈতিক খাত	ৰাজস্ব খাত।				
তথ্যাবলি					
১০। দৰপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্ৰকাশৰে শ্ৰেণি তাৰিখ	২৩/০৮/২০১৫৫৪।				
১১। দৰপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্ৰকাশৰে শ্ৰেণি তাৰিখ ও সময়	১৪/০৯/২০১৫৫৪, ১১০০ ঘটকা পৰ্যন্ত, অফিস চলাকালীন সকল কার্যবিসে।				
১২। দৰপত্র খোলাৰ তাৰিখ ও সময়	১৪/০৯/২০১৫৫৪, ১২৩০ ঘটকা। দৰপত্রাত্মাৰ অধৰা তাৰ প্ৰতিনিধিৰ সময়ক্ষেত্ৰে (কোন কেবল উপস্থিত থাবোক) দৰপত্রাত্মাৰ খোলা হবে।				
১৩। দৰপত্র মূল্যায়নেৰ তাৰিখ ও সময়	১৭/০৯/২০১৫৫৪, ১৫০০ ঘটকা।				
অফিসেৰ নাম ও ঠিকানা					
১৪। অফিসেৰ নাম ও ঠিকানা	বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
দৰপত্র ডকুমেন্ট/সিলিউল বিক্ৰয়কাৰী অফিস	১। কিউম অফিস, বাংৰ-১, উত্তোলা, ঢাকা।				
দৰপত্র এহুণকাৰী/অফিস	১। পৰিচালক (প্ৰশাসন ও অৰ্থ), বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদর দপ্তর, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
১৫। প্ৰি টেক্নোলজোলজি সৰ্বৰ সময়	১। বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদৰ দপ্তৰ, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
দৰপত্র সম্পর্কীয় তথ্য	১। বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদৰ দপ্তৰ, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।				
১৬। মালামালেৰ বিবৰণঃ	পিপিআর/২০১৫ এৰ বিধি মোতাবেক দৰপত্র দলিল (সিডিউল) দলিলেৰ ক্ষেত্ৰে নিম্নোক্ত কাগজপত্ৰ স্বৰূপ কৰণেৰ হৰে। ক) বাংলাদেশ নাগৰিকত্বেৰ সনদনৰত। খ) চৰ্তু অৰ্থ সনেৰ হালনাগাদ নৰানৰকৃত প্ৰেত লাইসেন্স। গ) যে কোন তফসিলতাৰ বিজ্ঞপ্তিৰ বাবে আধিক্য সংজীবতা সনদ। ঘ) সংস্থাটি আবেক্ষণ অফিসেৰ অধিকারী কৰ্তৃত নথি উত্তোলসহ হালনাগাদ আৰু সন্দৰ্ভে সার্টিফিকেট ও আয়োজন গিয়ে রিটার্ন দলিলেৰ বিবৰণীসহ সার্টিফাইট কৰি। ঘ) ভাৰা রেজিস্ট্ৰেশন সনদনৰত। চ) প্ৰতিনিধিৰ ক্ষেত্ৰে মালিকক কৰ্তৃত অৰ্থপত্ৰ দলিলে প্ৰাণীকৰণ কৰ্তৃক কৰ্তৃত এবং সত্যায়িত ভিত্তি নথনা কৰাৰ বাবে। ছ) ধৰ্ম শ্ৰেণীৰ নামসহ সৱৰকাৰী কৰ্মকৰ্তা কৰ্তৃক সত্যায়িত ভিত্তি রাখিবলৈ হৰি। জ) অধৰ শ্ৰেণীৰ সৱৰকাৰী কৰ্মকৰ্তা কৰ্তৃত সত্যায়িত ভিত্তি রাখিবলৈ গোতৰ নথি দাখিল কৰা। ঝ) ফৰ্ম/প্ৰতিবেদনে মালিককাৰা সনদ। ঞ) দৰপত্রাত্মাৰ অভিত্বে কৰ্তৃত দলিলক সন্দেহ কৰণেৰ হৰে। উত্তোল্য যে, পিপিআর/২০১৫, ১০ এবং তন্মৰ সংশোধনী মোতাবেক অন্যান্য শৰ্তবৰ্ণী প্ৰযোজন হৰে।				
ক/নং.	আইটেম	পৰিমাণ (লিটাৰ)	দৰপত্রেৰ মূল্য (টকা)	নিৰাপত্তা জামানত (টকা)	কাৰ্জ সম্পৰ্ক কৰাৰ সময় (দিন)
ক।	উন্নত মানেৰ "ভোজাতেল" অৰ্থ	৮০,০০০ লিটাৰ	১০০০/-	১,০০,০০০/-	২০১৫-২০১৬ অৰ্থ বৎসরেৰ ২য় কোর্টোৰেৰ (অস্টেবোৰ, নেতৃত্বেৰ ও ডিসেম্বৰেৰ) পৰ্যন্ত
দৰপত্র সম্পাদনকাৰীৰ বিবৰণ					
১৭।	দৰপত্র আহবানকাৰী কৰ্মকৰ্তাৰ নাম				মোৰ মোফাজ্জল হুসাইন।
১৮।	দৰপত্র আহবানকাৰী কৰ্মকৰ্তাৰ পদবী				পৰিচালক (প্ৰশাসন ও অৰ্থ)।
১৯।	দৰপত্র আহবানকাৰী কৰ্তৃপক্ষৰ ঠিকানা				বাংলাদেশ ফোর্মেস সদৰ দপ্তৰ, কুমিটোলা, ঢাকা।</