

China to step up fiscal incentives to boost growth



Chinese workers make stuffed dolls to be exported to Europe and North America, at a factory in Jiangsu province.

AFP, Beijing
China will adopt "stronger" fiscal policies to support growth, Beijing said as it seeks to soothe increasing fears about the world's second-largest economy following turmoil in domestic and overseas markets. The government will accelerate major construction projects, allow more small companies to benefit from tax cuts, and encourage private capital to invest in key areas, among other measures, the finance ministry said in a statement released Tuesday.

wiping trillions off share prices. The panic has also hammered mainland Chinese markets, with Shanghai's exchange plummeting after a debt-fuelled bubble burst. The finance ministry gave no specific values for future spending. But it said that by the end of August the central government had already spent 96 percent of its annual infrastructure investment budget. To achieve China's 2015 growth target of around seven percent, the ministry said it would step up and improve a "proactive fiscal policy, fine-tune the measures in a timely manner and accelerate reforms that will help stabilise growth". In share trading Wednesday the Shanghai

stock market surged 2.29 percent, extending a rally of almost three percent Tuesday on hopes for government measures to support the economy. Economic expansion stood at 7.0 percent in each of the first two quarters this year, but on Monday the government lowered its 2014 growth reading to 7.3 percent, from the 7.4 percent announced in January. Leaders have taken a series of measures to bolster growth and curb falling share prices, including cutting interest rates last month for the fifth time since November and lowering the Chinese currency's central rate against the US dollar by nearly five percent in a single week. But the benchmark

Shanghai Composite Index has slumped nearly 40 percent since mid-June despite official interventions that investment bank Goldman Sachs estimates have cost \$234 billion. Official data released Tuesday showed the country's imports decreased for the 10th consecutive month in August by dropping 13.8 percent, adding to concerns over sluggish domestic demand. "China's economy has been placed under new pressures recently as uncertainties were added into the world recovery after turmoil in the global financial markets, sharp falls in main stock exchanges, continued depreciation of emerging market currencies and new record lows of prices of commodities including oil," the finance ministry said. It vowed to reform the tax system and "further regulate" the management of local government debt, which is regarded as a main threat to financial stability. On Wednesday, the National Bureau of Statistics announced it was reforming quarterly gross domestic product (GDP) calculation method to base the figures on economic activity of each quarter and "improve accuracy". Analysts have questioned the veracity of official Chinese statistics, with some saying they can paint a rosier picture than reality.



From left, Syed Manzur Elahi, chairman of Apex Footwear; Syed Gias Hussain, additional managing director; Syed Nasim Manzur, managing director, and Rajan Pillai, chief operating officer, pose at the launch of the company's "Celebrating 25 Years of Being New" campaign as part of its ongoing 25th anniversary celebrations, at the company's head office on Monday.

Facebook business pages becoming online shops

AFP, San Francisco
Facebook pages moved closer to replacing small business websites Tuesday, announcing features designed to make it easier for shops to hawk their wares. Changes to business pages at the social network included raising the profile of features that allow customers to take actions such as booking an appointment or browsing, and allowed for more customised approaches to layouts. "We're adding new features to pages to make it easier for over 45 million active businesses on Facebook."

India approves mobile airwaves trading in connectivity boost

REUTERS, New Delhi/Mumbai
India on Wednesday allowed telecom carriers to trade unused mobile airwaves, a move aimed at improving services in the world's second-biggest market by number of mobile customers. Spectrum sharing guidelines were issued by the government in August, but leasing was not allowed. On Wednesday, telecoms minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said buying and selling of unused airwaves would be allowed for all spectrums and companies would not need government approval for these transactions. However, if sample checks show that the undertaking is wrong then action will be taken, including the cancellation of the trading agreement, he said at a press conference. The move will make it easier for companies like Bharti Airtel and Vodafone India to meet surging demand in the country's phone and data usage. India's increasingly congested airwaves have resulted in problems like calls getting cut in the middle of conversations and connectivity issues, even as more and more users hook on to the Internet from their phones and tablets. The number of smartphone users in India stood at around 140 million in 2014. It is expected to reach 651 million by 2019, according to a study by Cisco. Sharing and trading of spectrum allows carriers that have the necessary airwaves but were unable to build a big consumer base, sell to those running short, the minister said. Trading will also allow telecom operators to access each other's resources without having to deal with expensive and time-taking merger and acquisitions. Shares of the country's top telecom carrier Bharti Airtel were up 2.4 percent at 356.25 rupees on Wednesday afternoon.



Mockbul Hossain, chairman of MH Samorita Hospital and Medical College, and Alok Roy, chairman of Medica Superspecialty Hospital, attend a deal signing ceremony on the premises of Samorita last month to provide modern medical services.



Anayet Rashid, company director of Lalmai Food Products, and Md Kamrozzaman, general manager for sales and marketing, attend the launch of a campaign for Wiitos, a product of Lalmai Food, at a local hotel last week.

Tech world waits for iPhone news and hopes for magic

AFP, San Francisco
The tech world on Wednesday will have its eyes on Apple, expecting new versions of the company's coveted iPhone but hoping for magic in the form of unexpected innovation. Apple remained mum even as rumours ran rampant about what is in store at an upcoming San Francisco media event. Analysts and industry insiders predict that Apple will unveil updated iPhones along with an Apple TV revamp that may signal a push into the online television streaming sector, dominated by Netflix. In trademark enigmatic style, Apple has provided little more than the time and place of the event. An update to the iPhone lineup is considered a sure thing, since the company has a pattern of doing just that every September. Improvements are expected to include faster processing and better cameras. New iPhone models might also feature the "force touch" technology used in the Apple Watch, which allows a user to control a device based on how hard the screen is pressed. The iPhone remains a hot seller, accounting for the bulk of Apple's revenue, but upgrades are needed to keep iPhone "at the top of the heap" in the competitive smartphone market, according to Gartner analyst Van Baker.



An Apple gadget fan displays Apple's smartphone iPhone 6 Plus after buying it at Softbank's mobile phone shop in Tokyo.

Apple consistently entices the market with tricked-out new iPhones in time for the crucial year-end holiday shopping season. Another expected star at the event could be Apple TV, which may get an App Store open to outside developers and perhaps focus on game-play, in a challenge to video game consoles. The third-generation Apple TV was introduced slightly more than three years ago. The California-based company long downplayed Apple TV

problem in the video world -- that is, that nobody wants to sell Apple content rights," said Forrester analyst James McQuivey. "After watching what happened to the music business when Apple was given the keys to the kingdom, video producers and programmers are more than gun shy about handing the same power to Apple in the world of TV shows." Apple became a power to be reckoned with in digital music sales due to the popularity of its mobile devices and iTunes online shop. While Apple was at the forefront of the shift to digital music, the world of Internet-streamed television already has powerful players such as Netflix and Amazon. There is weaker speculation that Apple could introduce a new, bigger iPad in what would be a break from the company's tradition of unveiling tablet news at a separate event in October. Tablet sales have cooled overall, and Apple faces the challenge of coming up with an innovation that re-ignites interest in iPads, according to analysts. One way could be by tying iPads to more cloud services that better anticipate what users do using Apple products. "I think they can make more magic happen," Gillett said of Apple. "That is what I am going to look for."



M Mushfiqur Rahman, senior executive vice president of Shahjalal Islami Bank, and Khairul Anam, senior manager for sales and business development at Ocean Paradise Hotel, attend the signing of an agreement at the bank's head office in Dhaka on Tuesday. All Visa debit cardholders of the bank will get 40-50 percent discounts on room rent at the hotel in Cox's Bazar.

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

Memo No- DPDC/PD(PPMP-5NOCS)/2015/14 Date: 08/08/2015

"TIME EXTENSION NOTICE OF DPDC'S INTERNATIONAL TENDER"

The tender submission/opening date of the following tender is hereby extended as shown below:

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Last date of Selling Tender		Tender Submission/opening date	
			Previous	Extended	Previous	Extended
01.	DPDC/PD(PPMP-5 NOCS)/2015/01, date: 14/06/2015	Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Prepaid Meters at NOCS Khilgaon, Kazla, Razarbag, Tejgaon & Swamibag with Related Service on Turnkey Basis	13/09/2015	13/10/2015	Submission: 14/09/2015, 12:00 Noon Opening: 14/09/2015 03:00PM	Submission: 14/10/2015, 12:00 Noon Opening: 14/10/2015 03:00PM

Md. Geas Uddin Joarder, Superintending Engineer & Project Director,