

UK's Body Shop opens outlet in Dhaka



From left, Russell De Chernatony, franchise account manager for South Asia at The Body Shop; Kanbar Hossein-Bor, acting British high commissioner to Bangladesh; and Shriti Malhotra, managing director of The Body Shop Bangladesh, open the first store of the British cosmetics brand in the country in the capital's Jamuna Future Park on Friday.

STAR BUSINESS DESK

Quest Holdings Bangladesh, the exclusive partner of The Body Shop in Bangladesh, has recently opened the first store of the British cosmetics brand in the capital's Jamuna Future Park.

Bangladesh is the 70th market of the brand, said The Body Shop in a press release yesterday.

Kanbar Hossein-Bor, acting British high commissioner to Bangladesh,

attended the opening.

The outlet will offer the brand's products such as White Musk, Body Butter and the Vitamin E range, as well as new favourites Body Yogurts.

"We are very excited to bring The Body Shop to Bangladesh," said Annie Chan, general manager for franchise at The Body Shop Asia-Pacific, in the statement.

"We are confident that our partner, Quest Holdings Bangladesh, will

bring its local expertise and extensive retail knowledge to deliver our beautiful products and a great customer experience to our customers in this exciting and dynamic new market."

Shriti Malhotra, managing director of The Body Shop Bangladesh, said, "Our customers in Bangladesh will be able to discover The Body Shop's amazing products and the power of beauty and rituals from around the world."

"The comments by Fed Vice Chair Randal Quarles came as some emerging markets face increasing pressure this year as higher US interest rates draw foreign capital away, and due to fears of fallout from a tariff war between the US and China.

The Fed has also been at the receiving end of criticism from President Donald Trump, who on Thursday called its interest rate increases a "ridiculous" policy. Those surprisingly caustic remarks came a day after the president told reporters, in response to a Wall Street rout, that the "Fed has gone crazy."

Japan's agenda-setting plan also under-scores Tokyo's view that instead of focusing too much on bilateral trade imbalances, there should be more emphasis on overall capital flows and structural factors behind the US current account deficit - such as a lack of domestic savings.

Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso said he made the case to his G20 colleagues at a dinner meeting on Thursday.

"I've told my counterparts that excessive global imbalances are risks to the global economy ... and that it's important to discuss this at next year's G20 meetings," Aso told reporters.

Trump's "America First" policies and escalating Sino-Chinese trade frictions have overshadowed the weekend gathering of

Japan wants to put global imbalances on the map

REUTERS, Nusa Dua, Indonesia

Japan wants to highlight global imbalances as key topics of debate, and take steps to fix them, when it chairs next year's gatherings of the Group of 20 major economies, government officials said this week.

Tokyo hopes other countries would join Japan to counter US President Donald Trump's focus on narrowing US trade deficits through purely bilateral trade deals, the officials say, rather than the big international agreements now in place.

The annual International Monetary Fund and World Bank meetings have been held on the Indonesian resort island of Bali this week.

Japan's agenda-setting plan also under-scores Tokyo's view that instead of focusing too much on bilateral trade imbalances, there should be more emphasis on overall capital flows and structural factors behind the US current account deficit - such as a lack of domestic savings.

Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso said he made the case to his G20 colleagues at a dinner meeting on Thursday.

"I've told my counterparts that excessive global imbalances are risks to the global economy ... and that it's important to discuss this at next year's G20 meetings," Aso told reporters.

Trump's "America First" policies and escalating Sino-Chinese trade frictions have overshadowed the weekend gathering of

G20 finance leaders, many of whom expressed concerns over the harm to global growth from trade conflicts.

The G20 finance leaders failed to bridge differences on trade with this year's chair, Argentine Treasury Minister Nicolas Dujovne, conceding that the G20 can only provide a platform for countries to solve disputes among themselves.

Japan, which takes over from Argentina as G20 chair next year, sees brighter prospects for the forum.

"The G20 isn't a forum to solve bilateral trade disputes...but it's the best forum for debate if you see trade frictions as part of a bigger problem of global imbalances," said a senior Japanese government directly involved in G20 negotiations.

Global imbalances had once been a key topic of debate at G20 gatherings with a focus on each country's current account balance, or the overall flow of money that included, but was not confined, to trade.

This approach runs counter to Trump's focus on narrowing the US trade deficit via import tariffs and bilateral deals.

Japan has long favoured a multilateral approach on trade over bilateral deals, which would put it under direct US pressure to open up sensitive markets like agriculture.

Tokyo is also wary of having its hands tied on keeping sharp yen rises in check. A strong yen is seen as hurting Japan's economy by making its exports less competitive overseas.

India's retail inflation picks up

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's retail inflation rose marginally in September, nudged up by food and fuel prices, but short of the Reserve Bank of India's 4 percent medium-term target, strengthening views it could tighten monetary policy in December following unchanged rates last week.

The monetary policy committee (MPC) of the RBI left the repo rate at 6.50 percent while reiterating its target of keeping consumer inflation at 4.00 percent in the medium term on a "durable basis".

In September, consumer prices rose 3.77 percent from a year earlier, compared with a 3.69 percent increase in August, the Statistics Ministry said on Friday.

For September, the median forecast of economists polled by Reuters was 4.00 percent, with estimates ranging from 3.60 percent to 4.70 percent.

CPI inflation has started inching up on the back of rising prices of food and other goods and services, said Rupa Rege Nitsure, chief economist at L&T Finance Holdings.

"Given the massive depreciation of the rupee and elevated crude oil prices, RBI will have to resort to policy rate signals sooner than later."

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8 percent by June 2019, slightly lower than its August forecast of 5.0 percent.

It has raised its policy rate 50 basis points since June, and is widely expected to raise rates by at least 25 basis points more this year. The next policy review is due on Dec. 5.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, eyeing a second term in general elections early next year, worries that rising retail petrol and diesel prices and a weakening currency could undercut his efforts to boost economic growth.

Slower inflation in food prices, which make up nearly half of India's consumer price index (CPI), has so far cancelled out rises in imported goods following the weakening rupee.

Food inflation rose to 0.51 percent from a year earlier, against 0.29 percent in August.

Core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel sectors, was seen at 5.8 percent, down from around 6 percent in August, according to analysts. The RBI has projected inflation of 4.8