

EXTRACT

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Quake prices to be given close checks

DATE: 2008/05/26

China will intervene in the pricing of building materials when reconstructing those areas damaged by the May 12 earthquake.

The government will limit profit margins and set guideline prices on materials such as tents, steel, cement, glass and bricks to secure stable costs, the National Development and Reform Commission said on its Website.

Local governments have not been allowed to issue price increase measures recently and pricing authorities are forbidden to charge inordinately for disaster-relief products.

Anyone involved in hoarding, price-gouging, spreading rumors or violating price intervention policies will be severely punished. The commission has also established a 24-hour hotline (12358) to handle complaints about price-gouging.

Sichuan Province has sent out 12 teams to monitor market prices and so far more than 60 price gouging violations have been discovered, Li Chengyun, the deputy governor of the province, said yesterday.

"We have also punished the people involved in another 96 cases of market violations," he said.

Li said the provincial supervision department was investigating whether people were misusing victims' tents after media reported that some government officials had arranged for relatives to reside in the tents.

"We have punished four Party officials in Dujiangyan," Li said.

Source: *Shanghai Daily*

Earthquake not to dampen China corporate profit

DATE: 2008/05/26

BEIJING - Profit for China's listed companies may grow 20 percent this year despite the strong quake that shook southwest China, according to a senior official with JPMorgan Chase.

"The quake would have limited effect on the national GDP growth and further tightening on the economy is unlikely in the second half of this year," Li Jing, China head of JPMorgan Chase said at a press conference held on Friday.

"Sichuan is a major province that provides farm produces like pork, a staple meat for Chinese people, and the consumer prices in the southwest region might rise substantially," she said.

"The regional gross domestic product (GDP) growth would also be affected in the second quarter but its GDP makes up only a minor part of the national GDP," she said.

Last year, the province saw its GDP value reaching 1.05 trillion yuan (150 billion U.S. dollars), accounting for 4 percent of the revised national figure, which was 24.953 trillion yuan.

"The national economic climate in second quarter would no doubt outperform the first one that was the worst in history," said Li, adding some enterprises in financial, manufacturing, consumption and energy industries could see higher profit rise.

Bottom-line growth of large domestic banks may be up to 40 percent in the second half of this year, thanks to a wider net interest margin, development of infrastructure and better assets quality, she said.

While industries like textile, garment and furniture are suffering loss since 2005, high value-added providers including electronic and telecom equipment sectors are witnessing rising profits, Li said.

"China's shipment and machinery equipment will be competitive in the international market," she added.

The Sichuan earthquake, measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale on Monday, had taken more than 21,500 lives and buried 14,000 others as of 4 p.m. Friday, according to vice governor of Sichuan Li Chengyun.

He said that 159,000 people were injured in the massive earthquake and 4.8 million people had been relocated.

Source: China Daily

Shanghai to host ITMA + CITME in July

DATE: 2008/05/26

CHINA'S largest city and the hub of its vast textile industry is ready to welcome 100,000 visitors to ITMA ASIA + CITME 2008.

From July 27 to 31, Shanghai will host China's biggest-ever textile machinery exhibition, uniting the ITMA and CITME events to provide a ground-breaking display of latest technology.

Shanghai is gearing up to meet the demands of show delegates from China, other Asian countries and the rest of the world, with a comprehensive range of travel and visitor services offered by the event organisers and their business partners.

With top class hotels available for attractive prices – including five-star rooms starting at around US\$100 – the city can boast an unrivalled combination of economy and comfort, coupled with the appeal of a popular tourist destination and major commercial centre.

Source: China Textile Network Company

Official travel agent New Shanghai CITS, founded in 1987, is part of China International Travel Service (CITS), and offers specialist flight, hotel and visitor services specifically tailored to ITMA ASIA + CITME 2008 visitors.

Full details can be found on the company's website (www.mice.name), and dedicated staff members Joyce Hwang and Ivy Kang are also available to answer telephone queries about packages on offer.

Additionally, there are accredited travel partners in many countries worldwide to enable visitors to discuss their plans locally, including: Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mexico, New Zealand, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, UAE and Vietnam.

Source: *fibre2fashion*

Study: China 17th competitive economy

DATE: 2008/05/23

China dropped two places to 17th in the latest World Competitiveness Yearbook compiled by Swiss business school IMD, but its position has generally continued rising in recent years, the compilers said on May 21, 2008.

This year's drop isn't statistically significant, and "China has been on the upward path" in recent years, IMD World Competitiveness Center research fellow Suzanne Rosselet said. In 1995, China ranked 34th.

Rosselet said many factors have contributed to the drop, such as domestic price hikes and the environmental costs of development.

The U.S. continued to top the competitiveness rankings for the 15th consecutive year despite signs its economy is declining.

The IMD economists said the report was based on 2007 data that don't reflect the U.S.' current economic woes. "The big question is whether the United States will be No 1 after this year," project director Stephane Garelli said.

Singapore and China's Hong Kong kept their respective second- and third-place rankings, and the gap is narrowing between these two economies and the U.S.', the IMD study said.

Switzerland climbed two places to fourth.

Among the so-called "golden BRIC" countries, Brazil jumped six places to 43rd; Russia dropped by four to 47th; and India dropped two places to 29th.

The study evaluated 55 economies using 331 criteria to measure how those nations create and maintain favorable business conditions. Such factors as economic performance, government efficiency, business efficiency and infrastructure are major criteria for the measurement. In economic performance, China ranked No 2, and it ranked 12th in government efficiency.

"China is an economic miracle by any standard," John Wells, who became head of IMD in April, said on May 21 in Beijing.

Source: China Textile Network Company

But Rosselet said China's rapid economic growth has come at a cost.

Its exports, for example, have provided inexpensive products for Western countries, but also consumed a lot of resources and produced a lot of pollution in the country, analysts said.

Rosselet also said the Sichuan earthquake, which devastated the province last Monday, would have a marginal impact on the "resilient" Chinese economy. In addition, the government's transparency and openness in dealing with the disaster would boost its international image, she added.

Source: *China Daily*

April Textile/Apparel Exports Reach 14.3 Billion U.S. Dollars

DATE: 2008/05/23

China's April textile and apparel exports increased 11.3 percent from the previous year to 14.3 billion U.S. dollars, while total September 2007 through April 2008 cumulative exports were up 17.2 percent to 113.9 billion USD. The growth is being fueled by shipments to Europe and an increase in the average unit price in U.S. dollar terms.

Source: *globecotnews*

“COTTON-BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION™” 2008 Shanghai Road Show

Extraordinary Creations – China’s Innovative Designers Dazzle The Eyes at Cotton Fashion Show

DATE: 2008/05/22



Shanghai, May 16, 2008 – Four innovative Chinese fashion designers today showcased their extraordinarily creative cotton fashions on a specially designed “COTTON-BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION™” stage at Cloud Nine Shopping Mall in Shanghai. The designers presented their creative cotton collections that wowed the Shanghai media and the public alike. Ms. Mo Wandan, one of China’s most famous super models, was the guest of honor and led the other models down the catwalk at the fashion show on-the-road.

Showcasing their latest cotton fashions from their individual collections, the four innovative designers, Mr. Jiang Yi, Mr. Wang Yutao, Mr. Shi Jie and Ms. Jiang Liying (in random order) are working in cooperation with the “COTTON-BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION™” program in 2008. These collections combine the benefits, fashionability and versatility of cotton uniquely with the designers’ creative design, gorgeous color and delicate cut. At the show, cotton, the world’s most popular natural and environmentally-friendly fabric, brightened up the stage and impressed every distinguished guest with a memorable cotton experience.

“We are so proud and honored to cooperate with these four outstanding designers and share their talents with Chinese consumers. Each designer successfully infused oriental concepts into cotton fashion design to spread a colorful, fresh Spring/Summer feeling to the audience. In each of the designers we see the very best of imagination, creativity and inspiration,” said Ms. Robin Merlo, Public Relations Director of Cotton Incorporated.

Designer Ms. Jiang Liying said, “I am so glad that I can present my newest innovative cotton fashion collection to Chinese consumers through the ‘COTTON-BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION™’ nationwide road shows. As a professional designer, I truly believe that as a fashion fabric, cotton will become more popular with Chinese designers and consumers alike, especially as the 2008 Olympic eco-friendly campaign continues.”



Above: Jiang Liying's collection

The creative clothing by the four designers will include Spring/Summer, Fall/Winter and denim fashion. After the Shanghai road show, the outfits will be continually presented to the public during fashion road shows in Qingdao in June, Dalian in July, Guangzhou in September, Chengdu in October and Beijing in November 2008. During this time, the public will be invited to visit the themed website www.cotton-imagination.com to vote for their favorite cotton designs: Cotton Design Most Beyond the Imagination, Best Use of Color, Best Denim Design, and Best Visual Impression. The site will also cross-link to the Eladies Channel of Sina.com - www.eladies.sina.com.cn. The results will be announced at an award ceremony at the Beijing Road Show this November.

All four of the featured designers' clothing is available in their individual stores at cities throughout China.

Designers' Profiles

Mr. Jiang Yi

- 2002: Founded his brand YEESIN
- 2001: Graduated from Beijing Institute of Clothing Technology
- Haute-couture style and structure
- Low-profile and simple decoration
- Combines oriental spirit with international trends
- Uses natural fibers, such as cotton; mix and match of all possible materials
- Prefers brilliant and vivid color

Mr. Wang Yutao

- 2005: Best Menswear Designer awarded by China Fashion Designers Association, China International Fashion Week
- 2004: One of China's Top 10 Designers awarded by China Fashion Designers Association, China International Fashion Week
- 2000: Golden Award, “Yi Xin Tai”, China Fashion Design competition
- 1999: Presented at China Fashion Week, Paris
- Founded his brand: Beautyberry Homme
- Simple, generous design with sensitive, luxurious mood
- Pure and clean, refreshing and slightly sexy
- Tastefully untamed and casual style

Source: China Textile Network Company

Mr. Shi Jie

- 2007: Named One of Top 10 Fashion Designers, Hangzhou
- 1998: Founded his brand: JIE SI
- Modern classical design
- Pursues graceful and simple design style
- Integrates free, romantic, fashionable and elegant elements
- Absorbs classical aesthetics from the oriental and occidental cultures
- Presents the graceful quality and fashion world of women

Ms. Jiang Liying

- 2006: Founded her Brand Studio: YING'S FASHION at Beijing 798 Art Factory
- 2004: Graduated Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- 1999: Graduated the Academy of Arts & Design, Tsinghua University
- 1999: Teaching in Tianjin Polytechnic University
- Founded her brand: Ying's Fashion
- Designs gently, implicit with eastern style
- Asymmetrical cutting style
- Unique details

Her designs take a woman out-of-the-ordinary

Source: Cotton Incorporated