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Press Release

Issued By Statistics Department

Date 14 September 2018

SL Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) – August 2018

Manufacturing activities increased at a faster rate

The Manufacturing Sector PMI Increased to 58.2 index points in August 2018 from 57.2 index points observed in the previous month. The expansion observed in manufacturing activities in August was mainly driven by expansion in production led by the increase in new orders, especially in manufacturing of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and other related products. Further, employment also increased at a higher rate with the recruitment of employees especially for food and beverages sector led by the positive outlook for improving activities within this sector. However, stock of purchases show some slowdown, especially in manufacturing of other non-metallic mineral products. Nevertheless, stock of purchases in the manufacturing of textiles, wearing apparel, leather and other related products increased. Meanwhile, lengthening of suppliers' delivery time usually indicates that economy is booming with expanding activities in the short run. However, in this instance, moderation in lengthening of suppliers' delivery time was due to normalization of the supply disruptions prevailed during the last month in main importing destinations. Thus, it does not indicate a slowdown in economic activities. Overall, all the sub-indices of PMI recorded values above the neutral 50.0 threshold signalling an overall expansion in August. Meanwhile, the Expectation for activities indicates an improvement for the next three months.

	Y\M	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PMI Manufacturing	2016	51.9	55.3	60.7	41.6	47.9	55.1	50.6	53.5	57.7	56.5	58.4	58.3
	2017	56.2	57.1	66.5	41.8	57.9	56.1	54.3	54.4	59.0	54.8	58.8	59.1
	2018	51.7	55.6	65.6	45.5	60.6	57.6	57.2	58.2	-	-	-	-

Variable	July	August	+/-	Summary
PMI	57.2	58.2	+	Rising, Higher rate
Sub-Indices of PMI				
New Orders	59.5	60.5	+	Rising, Higher rate
Production	57.5	60.5	+	Rising, Higher rate
Employment	55.0	56.5	+	Rising, Higher rate
Stock of Purchases	57.5	57.0	-	Rising, Slower rate
Suppliers' Delivery Time	55.0	53.0	-	Lengthening, Slower rate



