

NEWS SUMMARY AUGUST 11 – AUGUST 17

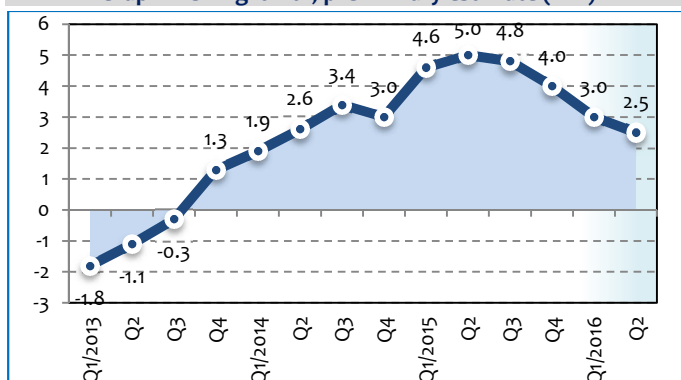
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詳細情報については、それぞれの情報ソースを参照願いたい。

ECONOMY & FINANCE

CZECH ECONOMY SLOWED IN SECOND QUARTER – 16. 8.

Economic growth slowed to 2.5% y-o-y in the Q2¹ 2016, while the GDP² rose by 0.9%, the CSO³ said. In the Q1⁴ the economy grew by 3.0% and the GDP by 0.4%. Industry and services played a crucial role while GDP growth was boosted by foreign demand and household consumption.

Graph 1: GDP growth, preliminary estimate (in %)



AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

HOPS HARVEST REBOUNDING - 11. 8.

The Czech hops harvest this year is expected to reach around 6,000t⁵, just over 1/3 more than the drought damaged harvest of around 3,800t in 2015. The total area devoted to cultivating hops has risen this year for the 3rd year in a row. It now totals around 4,700ha⁶, around 160ha more than in 2015. Most of the harvest will be gathered over the next two weeks.

HARVEST - 12. 8.

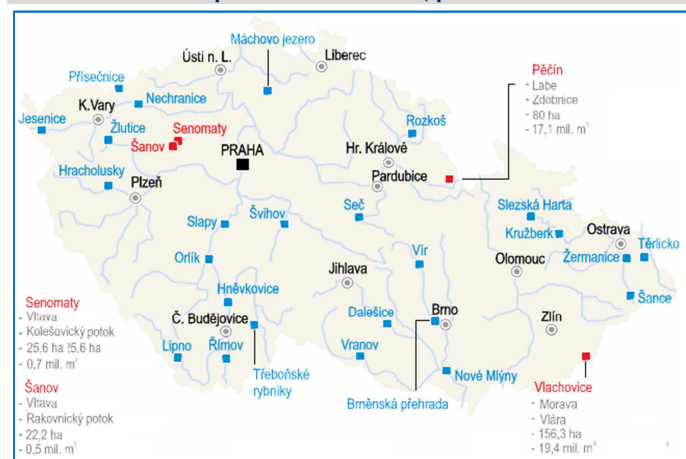
It is expected that the production of basic cereals is to reach an amount of 7,209,000t and the production of colza is to be 1,305,000t. Compared to the above-average harvest of the previous year, the production of basic cereals is down by 521,000t (-6.7%). The production of colza will be by 49,000t (+3.9%) higher compared to the previous year. Poppy seed harvest is expected to be 27,000t, which is by 2.5% more than the last year.

FUNDING PROGRAMME TO COUNTER DROUGHT – 15. 8.

The MA⁷ will launch a new funding programme next year to improve irrigation worth CZK⁸ 1.6bn⁹. In all, the government is to invest some CZK 28bn by 2022 in fighting drought. MA Minister Jurečka said that along with irrigation, the

government aimed to improve ground water retention and to put money into renovating existing basins and ponds as well as building new ones.

Map 1: Water reservoirs, planned



INDUSTRY & ENERGY & INVESTMENTS & TRADE

DIRECT AIR-LINK BETWEEN PRAGUE AND CHENGDU – 12. 8.

Sichuan Airlines launched a direct air-link between Prague and Chengdu in Southwest China on Friday. The first flight from Chengdu arrived in Prague shortly after 3pm and the return flight was scheduled to leave at 7 pm. The flight should last for roughly nine hours. The Chengdu-based carrier will operate its Airbus A330 on the Prague service, with flights every Tuesday and Friday. It will be the third direct air-link between the CR and China.

MINISTRIES GET BUDGET INCREASES – 16. 8.

The MIT¹⁰ will receive around CZK 1bn more in 2017 than this year and CZK 30.7bn in total in 2017. The MT¹¹ will see a bigger budget increase, receiving an additional CZK 3bn this year and also CZK 2bn in 2017. Most of the money will go on 10 major transport projects.

UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' PAY IN 2017 – 16. 8.

An extra CZK 1bn is set to go toward university teachers' pay next year, the MEYS¹² Minister Valachová said. Minister Valachová said the news meant that 3rd level institutions could now count on receiving a clear amount in 2017. She had previously negotiated CZK 350mn to increase school capacity around Prague.

¹⁰ MIT: Ministry of Industry and Trade

¹¹ MT: Ministry of Transport

¹² MEYS: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

all for **power** All For Power
BBC BBC News
CIA CIA News (Česká informační agentura)
CPC Czech Press Agency (Česká tisková kancelář)
CSO Czech Statistical Office (Český statistický úřad)
WVS Public Opinion Research Centre (Centrum pro Výzkum Veřejného Mění)
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¹ Q2: 2nd quarter of the year

² GDP: Gross domestic product

³ CSO: Czech Statistical Office

⁴ Q1: 1st quarter of the year

⁵ t: tonne, metric ton is a non-SI metric unit of mass equal to 1000 kilograms

⁶ ha: hectare is a non-SI metric system unit of area equal to 10,000 m²

⁷ MA: Ministry of Agriculture

⁸ CZK: Czech Crown, the currency of the CR since 8 February 1993

⁹ Bn: billion