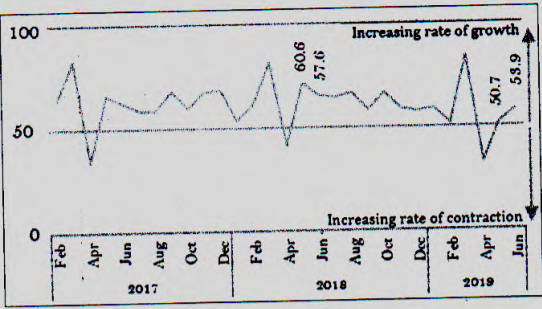


# Manufacturing activities expand in June ★



Manufacturing activities expanded at a higher rate in June 2019, recording an index value of 53.9 which is an increase of 3.2 index points, compared to May 2019.

This expansion in manufacturing PMI is mainly attributable to the significant recovery in employment, especially, in manufacturing of food & beverages and textiles and wear-

ing apparels sectors, from the lower employment availability experienced after the Easter Sunday attacks. Expansion in New Orders and Production, particularly in manufacturing of food and beverages sector, also contributed to the improvement of PMI in June 2019.

Many respondents also highlighted that new orders and production recovered

to a greater extent in June with the normalization of economic activities after the disruptions caused by the Easter Sunday attacks.

The stock of purchases increased considerably with the expansion of new orders and production. Further, suppliers' delivery time lengthened at a slower rate as a combined outcome of increased demand for supplies of input and

the gradual easing of the tight security measures deployed.

All sub-indices of PMI manufacturing exceeded the neutral 50 threshold signalling an overall expansion in manufacturing activities during the period under review.

Services sector recovered in June 2019 from its lowest level recorded in May 2019, which was

mainly caused by the Easter Sunday attack. The recovery in services activities is mainly attributable to expansion in new businesses and business activity, and expectations for activity.

New business activities of wholesale and retail trade, and transportation sub sectors, which deteriorated after the Easter attack, expanded in June

2019. Further, respondents in accommodation, food and beverage, and other personal services sub sectors, which largely depended on tourist arrivals in the country highlighted that business activities were gradually picking up.

Expectations for activity were also increased in June 2019 after declining for two consecutive months.