

Export prices rise in June; import prices drop

Prague, Aug 17 (CTK) - Czech export prices grew by 1.5 percent on the year in June, while import prices fell by 3.3 percent year-on-year, decreasing thus for the third month in a row, the Czech Statistical Office (CSU) said Monday.

Among important sections, only prices of machinery and transport equipment increased, rising by 7.1 percent, and prices of miscellaneous manufactured articles, posting a rise of 6.1 percent.

By contrast, prices of other crude materials registered the biggest slump of 29.8 percent in June. Mineral fuels decreased by 14.7 percent and food prices fell by 9.7 percent.

The change in the total year-on-year import price index was mainly affected by a 32.7 percent price decrease in mineral fuels. Among sections important in terms of weight, the biggest price drops were recorded in manufactured goods classified chiefly by material, which fell by 2.9 percent and chemicals, dropping by 2.4 percent.

By contrast, prices of miscellaneous manufactured articles grew by 6.1 percent, prices of machinery and transport equipment by 4.5 percent and prices of other crude materials by 2.3 percent.

Month-on-month, export prices fell by 0.6 percent in June mainly due to firming of the crown to the euro and the dollar.

Import prices decreased by 0.5 percent on the month. Decrease of the total month-on-month import price index was driven mainly by a 1.2 percent drop in prices of machinery and transport equipment.

The terms of trade figures reached 105 percent in June, posting the highest value since November 2001. Higher values were recorded for mineral fuels, 126.7 percent, machinery and transport equipment, 102.5 percent, and manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials, 102 percent. By contrast, negative values were recorded in crude materials, 68.6 percent, in food, 90.2 percent and in chemicals, 95.7 percent.