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## Monetary policies likely to tighten to fight economic risks

By WANG YANFEI  
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Monetary policies are expected to become relatively tight in the second half of this year, as fending off financial risks has become a greater challenge than stabilizing growth, said economists and analysts.

They spoke ahead of the release of second-quarter macroeconomic data, scheduled for Monday.

The change may mean less monetary liquidity in the market, as the government strengthens measures to tackle risks.

Economists said the evidence of the central bank's switch of focus in its monetary policy is found in a quick review of the 2017 financial stability report, released on July 4.

It shows that although the People's Bank of China, the central bank, used the exact same wording describing its monetary policy stance — "prudent and neutral" — there was a change. It said it would keep liquidity and credit growth "at a basically reasonable level" this year. This was a change from last year, when it said it would keep liquidity and credit growth "ample and at a reasonable level".

That minor difference in wording in the midyear

report put a greater priority on prevention of cross-sector financial risks, economists said.

"The central bank's expected fine-tuning of its monetary policy in the second half will depend less on changes in fundamentals, reflected by such indicators as CPI and employment. It has shifted its focus to adoption of monetary tools to tackle risk challenges," said Su Jian, an economist at the Economic Research Institute of Peking University.

Su said how China manages risks will hinge on how financial policymakers coordinate their roles during the upcoming Central Financial Work Conference, which is expected to open on Friday and involve discussions of the integration of financial regulatory bodies' roles. Stable growth in the first half means the central bank does not need to continue to issue excessive credit to spur growth, Su said.

China's year-on-year GDP growth reached a higher-than-expected 6.9 percent in the first quarter and is widely expected to be 6.8 percent for the second quarter before easing mildly in the coming quarters.

"Even if the economy slows a bit in the second

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## Li offers food for thought



Premier Li Keqiang visits an entrepreneurship and innovation park in Yangling, an agricultural high-tech hub near Baoji in Shaanxi province. Li also visited villagers in the area who will be relocated and lifted out of poverty. WU ZHIYI / CHINA DAILY

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## Xi: Judicial reform key to rule of law

President says a better use of modern technology must also be included

By ZHANG YUNBI  
and CAO YIN

President Xi Jinping has urged efforts to unswervingly advance reform of the country's judicial system as it is crucial to the country's rule of law and the entire governance system.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remark in a written instruction conveyed to a national conference on judicial system reform, held Monday in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou province.

In the instruction, Xi said authorities have made great efforts in the past five years in cracking difficult issues and have managed to achieve some reforms that were long planned and talked about a great deal in the past.

Xi also stressed that China should follow the path of the socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics, and urged that modern technology be better introduced as part of judicial reform.

He called for further efforts to advance the trial-centered reform of criminal procedure as well as reforms in public security, state security and judicial administration.

Meng Jianzhu, head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the CPC Central Committee, conveyed Xi's instructions and made a speech at the conference.

Participants agreed to make use of big data and artificial intelligence technology in advancing reform.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress in late 2012, a number of judicial reforms have been conducted.

Cheng Lei, an associate law professor at Renmin University of China, said

that a notable reform is to limit the quota of judges and increase their responsibilities to improve the quality of case hearings.

In the past few years, courts nationwide have introduced a quota for top judges to ensure they receive assistance that frees them from administrative and research work, and helps them to produce impartial, well-considered judgments.

In the past few years, courts nationwide have introduced a quota for top judges to ensure they receive assistance that frees them from administrative and research work.

Before the reform, the country had 210,000 judges, but now it has dropped to 120,000, according to the top court. The rest have become legal assistants and court clerks.

On the adoption of new technologies, Cheng said reform should deal with how to integrate data from different courts and improve data accuracy.

"How to use the technology to better store and protect judicial information is also important," he said.

Xinhua contributed to this story.

## Airline workers accused of colluding with fugitive Guo

BEIJING — Fugitive Guo Wengui is suspected of colluding with air traffic control and Hainan Airlines staff to obtain passengers' personal information, according to Chinese police. Guo, who is listed on the Interpol "red notice" of wanted fugitives, is also suspected of fabricating and distorting information to mislead the public, police said, citing a case of personal information infringement involving Guo.

Song Jun, 47, who had worked for civil aviation air traffic control for more than 20 years, and Ma Cong, from

Hainan Airlines, were arrested by police last month for suspected personal information infringements in this case.

"(Guo) betrays anyone for money, including the country and his loved ones," said Song, adding that his dealings with Guo have ruined his family.

Song first met Guo in 2009. In August 2015, Guo asked Song to provide flight information of several business passengers.

"Guo, who had fled overseas at the time, said that he would like to better understand China's economic situation

through the travel information of entrepreneurs," Song said.

"He promised to help me emigrate to Britain, purchase a house, and look after my daughter, who was studying there," Song said.

Guo also attempted to collect personal information of political figures and celebrities from the Middle East and the United States, as well as their relatives, Song said.

From December 2015 to March 2017, Song and Ma shared 561 pieces of flight information concerning 146 Hainan Airlines passengers

with Guo, police investigation showed.

Guo then fabricated stories using the flight information, claiming that the information had been provided by Ma Jian, former vice-minister of state security, police said.

"Guo created stories of love affairs between men and women who traveled on the same flight," Song said.

Police found Guo had released such stories via overseas media outlets and online video platforms.

Last month, a Chinese court ruled that Guo, who

controlled Beijing Pangu Investment Co Ltd, had directed three individuals to apply for loans from banks using fake contracts, stamps and financial statements.

The three have received prison terms for fraudulently obtaining loans and foreign exchange.

Kaifeng people's procuratorate in Henan province is also prosecuting Guo's Henan Yuda Real Estate Co and its employees on charges including fraudulent loans.

XINHUA

## Indian troops ready for 'long haul' stay

By WANG QINGYUN  
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A diplomatic solution to the standoff in China's Doklam is not possible if Indian troops are preparing for a long stay in the area, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said at a daily news conference in Beijing on Monday.

According to Indian media reports, the Indian troops that illegally entered Doklam are maintaining "a line of supplies" and are ready to stay "for the long haul".

"If the reports are true, then they only prove that India's illegal trespass was organized and premeditated," Geng said. "India is deliberately disrupting the status quo of the Sikkim section of the China-India boundary. How could there be a diplomatic solution if India is ready to stay for the 'long haul' in the border area

and does not intend to retreat its troops?"

The spokesman repeated that India should withdraw its troops immediately and that it "is the prerequisite and basis for any meaningful and substantive dialogue between the two sides".

Diplomatic communication is smooth between the two countries, but China hopes India will "take effective measures and make concrete efforts" to resolve the incident, Geng added.

In late June, China protested that Indian troops had crossed the Sikkim section of the China-India border into Doklam in an attempt to stop Chinese road construction.

The Sikkim section was defined by the Convention Between Great Britain and China Relating to Sikkim and Tibet in 1890. China's construction in its own territory is "reasonable and lawful", Geng said.

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## Heat wave is forecast to expand during week

The summer heat wave is forecast to continue this week and expand over more of the country, and people are being warned to protect themselves.

On Monday, the National Meteorological Center issued a new yellow alert — the lowest level in a three-tier warning system for heat. The alert, initially issued on Friday, means temperatures over 35 C can be expected for three more days.

North China, Northwest China, the Inner Mongolia autonomous region and areas immediately south of the Yangtze River have seen temperatures above 35 C.

Record highs were set on Sunday in 11 counties in the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region and Gansu and other provinces, with the highest being 47.8 C in Turpan, a city in Xinjiang.

The area hit by the heat wave in northern China will continue to expand in the coming 10 days, and southern China will see very hot weather that lasts for four to nine

### 47.8 C

Highest recorded air temperature in China on Sunday in Turpan, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. Record highs were registered in 11 counties in area provinces that day.

days, said Sun Jun, chief weather forecaster at the meteorological center.

Some areas, like Beijing, may get some relief this weekend, with temperatures forecast to drop below 35 C.

The heat wave in the south is a result of subtropical ridge, a belt of atmospheric high pressure characterized by mostly calm and warm winds from tropical regions, while the hot weather in the north is mainly due to another warm high pressure formed on the continent, said Sun said.

While the heat wave is mak-



A huge thermometer shows surface temperatures hit 88 C in Turpan, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, on Sunday.

LIU JIAN / FOR CHINA DAILY

ing conditions uncomfortable, it is not particularly severe compared with other years, like 2013, Sun said.

Still, the heat can increase the risk of life-threatening heatstroke, said Gu Chengdong, deputy director of the emergency department at China-Japan Friendship Hospital in Beijing. Heatstroke can happen when the body tem-

perature hits 40 C, at which point cells can be damaged and the nervous system can be harmed. Fatal organ failure can follow, Gu said.

Gu suggests reducing time outdoors, especially during the hottest time of the day, usually from 10 am to 3 pm.

Li Lei contributed to this story.