14 businesseconomics

microbloginsights



Topic1: The National Bureau of Statistics revealed that the consumer price index increased 1.8 percent year-on-year in July. It is the slowest rise since February 2010. Food prices increased by 2.4 percent and pork

prices fell by 18.7 percent in July over the same month in 2011. The price of eggs decreased by 6.5 percent year-onyear.

SESELULU: The CPI growth dropped below 2 percent, which means prices are still rising.

ZHUYANXIN: The CPI went back to 1.8 percent, so why do people still feel the prices are too high, especially daily consumer goods?

ZHOUXUECHUAN: The lowest increase gives more opportunities for monetary policy, such as lowering the banks' reserve ratio or reducing interest.

YIHUA: The CPI is still increasing although more



slowly and the prices are still rising. People's income has not

increased significantly. The

number of poor people continues to increase in some areas.

The gap between wealthy and

STEVIEZH: The prices are

still rising, although the growth

poor is widening.

is slower.



Topic 2: The National Development and Reform Commission announced gasoline prices increased by 390 yuan (\$61) per ton and diesel by 370 yuan per ton from August 10. It means the price of No 93 gasoline increased

0.3 yuan per liter and the price of No 0 diesel fuel was up 0.32 yuan a liter. After the rise, fuel prices in most regions in China returned to more than 7 yuan a liter. China's fuel prices fell several times over the past three months.

KENYANGYANG-

RICHANG: The increase has just followed a reduction the previous month. It would be better not to have had the reduction.

DAMAGRUCHENG: The price of fuel increased faster than "rocket's flying", but the reduction was carried out slower than "snail's moving".

CHENJIAFEIRIBAO: What I care about is whether the taxi fuel surcharge will also

rise after the fuel price increase. HELLOKITTY1003: I so

regret that I did not fill my car up on the evening before the increase.

HUYANFEICOBIAN: It's fair enough this time. The three reductions took place over three months. What

na's oil enterprises?

YILIANGRENJIANZG: Why do people think fuel prices are easy to increase but difficult to reduce? The related departments should pay more attention to people's lives

YIMENGZHEN777: The price of everything is going up but people's salaries aren't. Why do prices in China continue increasing while the global economy is slowing down?

LIPENGZAITANSUO: The fuel price was up again

such a short time after the reduction even though the international fuel price did not increase. Money is going into someone's pocket but others still have no food.

ALL THE INFORMATION IS FROM



China has become the biggest victim of malicious smartphone applications. The number of infected phones in the country is more than a quarter of the world's total. Smartphones running the Android operating system are the biggest target.

'Bad apps' threat to cellphones

China is world's biggest victim with 18.23m malicious software attacks

By GAO YUAN gaoyuan@chinadaily.com.cn

For many people, it's hard to imagine life without a mobile phone. We spend unprecedented amounts of time playing with the little gadgets, whether it's at the breakfast table, under the office desk or beside

TECH the pillow. We spend more time

with our loval digital assistants than we do with colleagues or family members. But have you ever thought that one day your mobile phone may turn against you and work for someone else behind your back?

2,000 similar apps were found in April.

Smartphones running the Android operating system were the biggest target. A total of 3 million Android phones were attacked in June, according to the report. The infection rate of smartphones running the world's most used open-source OS was 78 percent in June. The figure was 40 percent at the end of last year.

Android phones had about 67 percent of the market share in the first quarter of the year, and the proportion will increase by 10 percent each quarter, Beijing-based IT analysis company

MOST SEEN TYPES OF MALICIOUS APPS



Source: NO Mobile Inc

NUMBER OF MALICIOUS APPS BY **OPERATING SYSTEM (2012)**





Increase rate (%)

lion in March, nearly triple the

figure in North America, data

from the Ministry of Industry

Meanwhile, developers of

malicious advertising apps -

a type of malware that auto-

matically pushes unwanted

ads to mobile phone users and

receives fees from advertisers -

get more than 9 million yuan on

report showed.

a daily basis.



The apps are designed to effectively escape inspection and to continue to be a threat to users' accounts."

SHI WENYONG **CO-FOUNDER AND CHIEF OPERATING** OFFICER, NQ MOBILE.

In addition, China's massive smuggled smartphone market provides another unique breeding ground for malicious apps, experts said.

Some smuggled phones may have preinstalled malicious apps, and buyers may suffer hefty economic losses on the first day they use the devices, according to Shi. The country's large number of third-party online app stores is also an easy channel for malware apps. The best way to get rid of malicious apps is to install antivirus software. And more and more users are doing just that. More than 260 million smartphone users in China installed at least one security software app in the second quarter of the year, an increase of 18.5 percent quarter-onquarter, data from Analysys International showed. 'Smartphone users increasingly rely on security software. The function of anti-virus apps is expected to expand to fit all kinds of demand," said Liu Peng, an analyst at Analysys International. "The wide spread of malicious software is forcing more smartphone owners to download security software. The move is set to increase competition among security software providers," Liu said.

should we expect from Chi

SINA WEIBO.

Big 'laundering' fine looms for SCB

By BLOOMBERG NEWS in New York

Standard Chartered Plc has agreed to a New York Department of Financial Services demand that the bank hire an outside monitor to ensure compliance with the United States anti-money laundering laws, according to

BANKS a person familiar with the matter.

The agreement on the monitor, mandated by the regulator in an Aug 6 order, stems from negotiations between the bank and state officials ahead of an Aug 15 hearing at which Standard Chartered will be asked to explain why its license to do business in New York shouldn't be revoked.

New York banking Superintendant Benjamin Lawsky alleged London-based Standard Chartered flouted US banking laws as part of a decade-long deception, helping launder about \$250 billion in Iranian funds in contravention of US statutes and without proper disclosure. Lawsky is said to seek as much as \$700 million to settle the investigation, another person familiar with the case said.

The regulator's threat panicked the bank's investors, sent its share price down about 16 percent the day after and provoked a defiant response from Standard Chartered Chief Executive Officer Peter Sands, who said the vast majority of wire transfers identified by Lawsky complied with federal law. The bank's stock is down about 10 percent for the week

According to the terms of the order, the state regulator will select the monitor, and the bank will pay for it and provide access to all compliance and transaction records

The loss of Standard Charter's New York license would significantly damage the bank's corporate banking model and could result in a 40 percent drop in earnings, said Chirantan Barua, an analyst at Sanford Bernstein Research in London.

Standard Chartered fell 2.7 percent on Friday to 1,326.50 pence in London trading. The bank, which had \$17.6 billion in income and \$5 billion in profit last year, has \$40.8 billion in assets associated with its New York branch, according to Lawsky's order.

Jonathan Gandal, a spokesman for Deloitte, said in an e-mailed statement: "Deloitte FAS had no knowledge of any alleged misconduct by any Standard Chartered Bank employees and categorically denies that it aided in any way any violation of law by the bank."

"Deloitte FAS absolutely did not delete 'any reference to certain types of payments' from its final written report," Gandal said in his statement. "Deloitte FAS did not include in its final written report a particular recommendation which was included in an earlier draft."

A recent mobile security report found that, due to the popularity of smartphones, an increasing number of mobile phones have been hacked by malicious applications. Some of the "bad apps" were even preinstalled on the phones before purchase.

China has become the biggest victim of malicious apps. The number of infected smartphones in the country is more than a quarter of the world's total.

A total of 18.23 million smartphones were installed with apps designed to hack users' mobile accounts, up 42 percent compared with the second half of 2011, said the report released by NQ Mobile Inc, the nation's largest mobile security provider by users.

"The number of infections surged because some apps are able to copy and spread themselves to other phones," said the report. The past two months saw

an explosion in the number of malicious applications. More than 10,000 new mali-

cious apps were detected in May and June, while less than

market roundup

ASIA INDEXES



Analysys International said last month.

The Symbian system, which recently has fallen out of favor, is the second-biggest target for malicious software, with fewer than 500,000 new infections each month.

And malicious apps are smarter than most people realize.

A number of apps are capable of recognizing the location of the mobile phone. If the SIM card belongs to a region with tight controls over mobile phone crime, the malware applications will automatically cease attack.

"The apps are designed to effectively escape inspection and to continue to be a threat to users' accounts," said Shi Wenyong, co-founder and chief operating officer at NQ Mobile.

One of the most common attacks is telephone fee deduction, according to security experts. More than 23 percent of the malicious apps were developed to secretly transfer pre-charged mobile phone fees to the hackers' accounts.

"The apps usually don't hit accounts with pre-charged val-

WED

WED

3054.2 **+0.09%**

3080

3065

3050

17600

17500

17400

FR

FRI

17557.74 **+2.09%**

Source: NQ Mobile Ind

May

June

NUMBER OF MOBILE PHONE SECURITY **SOFTWARE USERS**

unit:million yuar



ues lower than 50 yuan (\$7.85) because it's easier for those users to notice the losses in their accounts," Shi said.

ers usually set the deduction amount at 1 yuan at a time, and they will not do more than three transfers per user in the same month.

"Users aren't likely to detect the 2-3 yuan change in their monthly phone bill," said Shi.

But the long-term effect is tremendous if we take the nation's significant smartphone user numbers into account.

The number of China's mobile phone users was 1 bil-

CHINA INDEXES

Shanghai Composite 2168.81 **+1.69%** Aug 6 - 10 2165 2155 2145 MON WED FRI **Shanghai B Shares Shenzhen B Shares**





WED

Aug 6 - 10

MON

572.36 **-0.96%**

585

579

573

FRI

CSI 300 2399.75 **+1.96%** Aug 6 - 10 2400 2380 2360 MON WED FRI



and Information Technology showed. And the figure is set Malicious app developto increase in the coming years. Developers and spreaders of fee deduction malware applications receive nearly 4 million yuan every day, NQ Mobile's