

#### EAST ASIA SECURITIES COMPANY LIMITED

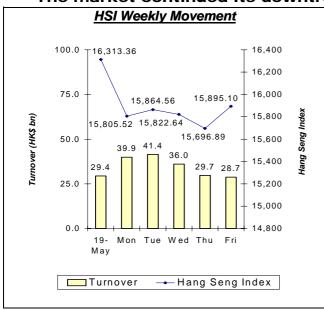
9/F, 10 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

Dealing: 3608 8000 Research: 3608 8096 Facsimile: 3608 6132

HONG KONG RESEARCH

Restricted circulationWeekly ReportAnalyst: Stanley Lau27th May 2006

#### The market continued its downtrend on further rate hikes concerns



Weekl	v Market	Statistic	es .	
Week ended	26/05/2006	19/05/2006	Change	%
Hang Seng Index	15,895.10	16,313.36	-418.26	-2.6%
HS Red Chip Index	2,156.69	2,253.13	-96.44	-4.3%
HS China Enterprises Index	6,628.45	7,042.31	-413.86	-5.9%
HS Composite Index	2,135.22	2,207.53	-72.31	-3.3%
HS HK Composite Index	2,133.02	2,181.32	-48.30	-2.2%
HS Mainland Composite Index	2,158.96	2,266.35	-107.39	-4.7%
S&P/HKEx GEM Index	1,144.66	1,175.22	-30.56	-2.6%
Avg Daily Turnover	35.16	36.76	-1.61	-4.4%
(HK\$ bn)				
Sectoral Indices				
Finance	28,455.73	29,141.50	-685.77	-2.4%
Utilities	31,537.67	32,213.34	-675.67	-2.1%
Properties	19,730.33	19,874.94	-144.61	-0.7%
Comm & Ind	7,648.79	7,904.13	-255.34	-3.2%

#### **Review & Outlook of Market Performance**

Fears of further interest-rate hikes and slumping commodity prices dominated the local stock market most of the week. On Monday, the HSI and HSCEI tumbled 507.84 points and 398.29 points respectively, experiencing their biggest one-day slides in almost two years. The market later found support at the 15,700-point level and staged a rebound following a steadier performance by Wall Street on Thursday overnight. The HSI finished down 418.26 points, or 2.56% w-o-w, at 15,895.10. Average daily turnover dropped to HK\$35.16 billion.

Sentiment was initially hurt by news that the People's Bank of China would heighten measures – such as expanding open-market activities and raising deposit reserve ratios – to curb lending and investment on the Mainland. The poor sentiment was exacerbated by a steep and widespread decline in commodity prices, which triggered a massive sell-off in resources stocks. Zijin Mining plunged 12.64% w-o-w to HK\$3.8, while Jiangxi Copper dived 4.03% w-o-w to HK\$7.15, extending previous week's 19.46% slump. In the oil sector, PetroChina lost 4.55% w-o-w to HK\$8.4 and Sinopec declined 4.66% w-o-w to HK\$4.6. Mainland insurers also suffered, with China Life Insurance slumping 12.84% w-o-w to HK\$11.2 and Ping An Insurance sliding 6.68% w-o-w to HK\$21.65. The HSCEI ended down 5.88% w-o-w at 6,628.45.

The sell-off in H shares inevitably spilled to the blue chips, which fell together with other regional markets. China Mobile slipped 4.69% w-o-w to HK\$40.65 and China Unicom dropped 2.13% to HK\$6.9 despite their strong subscriber growth reported for April. Property stocks lost ground, along with lacklustre debut of Champion REIT, which closed 14.22% below its offer price of HK\$5.1. Sun Hung Kai Properties lost 2.12% w-o-w to HK\$ 80.75 and Henderson Land Development shed 1.32% w-o-w to HK\$41. The two developers are planning to launch a REIT IPO in Hong Kong next month.

Looking ahead, investors should remain cautious due to uncertain outlook for US interest rates and mixed signals emanating from US economic data. Nonetheless, cash tied up in the Bank of China's IPO will be released next week and shall provide a certain level of liquidity to the market. The HSI is likely to trade between 15,750 and 16,000.

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# **US & Regional Markets Weekly Update**

Date	US	US	JAPAN	SINGAPORE	MALAYSIA	BANGKOK	TAIPEI
	Dow Jones	NASDAQ	Nikkei Avg	STI	KLSE Index	SET Index	Weighted Index
Week to							_
26th May	11,278.61	2,210.37	15,970.76	2,445.02	930.75	717.50	6,879.51
19th May	11,144.06	2,193.88	16,155.45	2,493.98	944.40	746.33	7,074.15
Change	+134.55	+16.49	-184.69	-48.96	-13.65	-28.83	-194.64
%	+1.2%	+0.8%	-1.1%	-2.0%	-1.4%	-3.9%	-2.8%

# Major Changes in Index Constituent Stocks (Week ended 26<sup>th</sup> May 2006)

## Hang Seng Index (HSI)

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @26/05/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Lenovo Group	0992	HK\$2.275	-HK\$0.375	-14.15%	Lenovo reported an 85% plunge in net profit for the year ended 31/3/06 on restructuring cost for the business it acquired from IBM last year and marketing expenses.

## **Hang Seng China Enterprises Index (HSCEI)**

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @26/05/06	W-O-W	Change	Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
Sinopec	0338	HK\$3.425	-HK\$0.925	-21.26%	The latest fuel price hikes in China was
Shanghai Petrochemical					not enough to turn around the firm's loss-making refining business.
China Life	2628	HK\$11.2	-HK\$1.65	-12.84%	China Life has joined a Citigroup-led
Insurance					consortium to bid for a controlling stake in Guangdong Development Bank.

## **Hang Seng China-Affiliated Corporations Index (HSCCI)**

Stock	Stock Code	Closing Price @26/05/06	W-O-W Change		Remarks / Comments
			Absolute	%	
China Resources Land	1109	HK\$4.125	-HK\$0.3	-6.78%	A local newspaper reported that China was set to enforce a 12-year-old capital gains tax on property transactions to curb speculation in red-hot real estate markets in major cities.

# **Summary of US Economic News**

Indicator	Change/Index	Comments
Durable Goods Orders – April	-4.8%	Durable goods orders fell more than expected last
		month as demands for aircraft and electronic
		products slowed.
New Home Sales – April	1.198 million	New home sales defied predictions of a slowdown
	units	and rose 4.9% in April while prices climbed,
		although the supply of homes for sale hit a record.
GDP (Preliminary) – Q1	5.3% q-o-q	The US economy grew faster than initially estimated
		in the first quarter, reducing fears of accelerating
		inflation and more interest-rate hikes.
Initial Jobless Claims – week ended	329,000	Initial jobless claims last week edged down to
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2006		329,000 from previous week's 369,000.
Existing Home Sales – April	6.760 million	Existing home sales slid 2.0% in April, roughly in
	units	line with expectations, as higher mortgage interest
		rates ate into buyers' ability to purchase homes.
Personal Income and Outlays –	2.1%	Report on personal income and outlays showed that
April		the prices paid by consumers on items other than
		food and energy, the Fed's preferred measures,
		climbed 2.1% over the 12-month period ending
		April, up from a 2% rise in March.

# **Forthcoming Important Announcements / Events**

20th May 2000 (Manday)	LUZ	Ι.	IDT International (04C7) Final requite
29 <sup>th</sup> May 2006 (Monday)	HK	1	IDT International (0167) – Final results
			I.T (0999) – Final results
	US	:	Public Holiday – Memorial Day
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2006 (Tuesday)	HK	:	Money Supply – April
	US	:	Consumer Confidence – May
			CA Inc – Q4 results
31 <sup>st</sup> May 2006 (Wednesday)	HK	:	Public Holiday – Tuen Ng Festival
	US	:	Chicago PMI – May
			FOMC Minutes – 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2006 meeting
			Costco Wholesale Corp – Q3 results
			Tiffany & Co – Q1 results
1 <sup>st</sup> June 2006 (Thursday)	HK	:	Retail Sales – April
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			Qin Jia Yuan Media Services (2366) – Interim results
			Bank of China (3988) – Trading debut
	US	:	Initial Jobless Claims – week ended 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2006
			Productivity and Costs – Q1 revised
			Construction Spending – April
			ISM Manufacturing Index – May
			HJ Heinz Co – Q4 results
2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2006 (Friday)	HK	:	No Important Announcement / Event
, , , ,	US	:	Nonfarm Payrolls – May
			Unemployment Rate – May
			Factory Orders – April

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