

### World Bank asks Pakistan, India to trade more via land

Political tensions between Pakistan and India have become a hurdle in the way of achieving the bilateral trade potential of \$ 37bn and informal trade between the two archrivals has nearly doubled the size of formal trade. According to a World Bank report titled 'Glass Half Full: The Promise of Regional Trade in South Asia', it has underlined the necessity of realizing the full trading potential in South Asia through baby but concrete steps. The report stated that the size of informal trade between Pakistan and India was 91% higher than the formal trade. *Tribune.*

### Govt. bringing new national tax agency: minister

Minister of State for Revenue Hammad Azhar has said that the govt. intends to move ahead with a national tax agency instead of asking taxpayers to file different taxes at federal and provincial levels separately. He said the informal sector was the major problem and even chains of some formal sectors such as sugar, steel, plastic and others break at certain stages, so the FBR could not fully collect the due taxes. The govt. will grant autonomy to the FBR as part of long-term agenda after ongoing reforms for separating policy from administration. Technology will be used for integration of data from different avenues including 30 govt. agencies. *The News.*

### Sindh govt. to file review plea in SC

Adviser to CM Sindh on Information Barrister Murtaza Wahab has said that the Sindh govt. has finalized its review petition to be filed in the Supreme Court today (6<sup>th</sup> Dec '18) with regard to demolition of encroachments in the metropolis. He said that the Sindh govt. has already chalked out a comprehensive alternative plan for rehabilitation of people affected in the ongoing operation against encroachments, adding that govt. will not render any person jobless. In the first phase which is to commence in Dec'18, 4,000 affected people would be rehabilitated. *Nation.*

### Sindh govt. reactivates Larp to resettle shopkeepers in Lines Area

The Sindh govt. has decided to reactivate the Lines Area Redevelopment Project (Larp) to rehabilitate affected shopkeepers of Empress Market and its adjoining areas. Local Govt. Minister Saeed Ghani, said that the Sindh govt. is planning to get back Larp land from the KMC to reactivate the apartment project on the land at the site of the present Shahabuddin Market. *Dawn.*

### Govt. working on policies to boost exports

Speaking to textile exporters Wednesday, Secretary Textile Division said that the govt. believes that economic revolution could only be possible through trade promotion and all possible support to exporting industries is being extended to achieve optimum growth. In this respect, energy tariffs are being subsidised. It was suggested to launch a comprehensive media campaign at the international level to portray the soft image of Pakistan through the Export Development Fund. *Tribune.*

### Sustainable, competitive exports earning required for getting out of BoP crisis: Bol chief

Chairman Board of Investment Haroon Sharif, while addressing the Opening Plenary of 21<sup>st</sup> Sustainable Development Conference (SDC), has said that Pakistan needs sustainable and competitive exports earning to get out of the cycle of Balance of Payment crisis, besides taking the investment ratio from the current 15% of GDP to 25% to meet the young labor force market needs. *BR.*

### Pending tax refunds remain pending

The ECC of the Cabinet has, put on ice Commerce Division's (CD) proposal to clear pending tax refunds of exporters. CD had prepared its proposal on the request of private sector which is running from pillar to post to get their claims worth PKR 36Bn. Secretary Commerce, Younus Dagher has said that it has been deferred with directions to develop a mechanism to implement Commerce Ministry's proposal for prompt payment to exporters on Sales Tax refunds by FBR and DLT payments by SBP. *BR.*

### Legislation for obligatory motorbike trackers in the pipeline

The Sindh govt. has decided to introduce a new law in the provincial assembly to amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance 1965 in order to make it binding on assemblers to install tracking devices to prevent theft and subsequent misuse by criminals. Once the law comes into force in the province, the excise department will only register those new motorbikes that are fitted with trackers. *The News.*

### Operation ordered against vehicles running on 'open letters'

IGP Sindh Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam, has ordered an operation against people running vehicles on open letters and committing other violations of traffic rules, saying such practices were not only encouraging crimes, but also causing a financial loss to the national exchequer. Vehicles used in the recent attack on the Chinese consulate were found to be operating on open letters for the last six years, without any registration. *Dawn.*

### Govt. allows furnace oil exports

Amid demands by refineries for additional incentives and subsidies to upgrade, the govt. has allowed exports of about 90,000 tons of furnace oil and transfer of 60,000 tons to power plants to vacate storage at refineries as a short-term measure. A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Energy (CCOE) was informed that total storage capacity of all refineries stood at 164,000 tons while total stocks were more than 150,000 tons, compelling refineries to reduce throughput, disrupting the supply chain of petroleum products. The only solution in the medium to long term is to continue exports of 200,000 tons of furnace oil per month but the refineries are reluctant to export such large quantity of furnace oil on a continuous basis in view of potential financial losses amid declining Furnace Oil prices in the international market. *Dawn.*

### Govt bans import of furnace oil

The govt. has banned import of furnace oil with the aim to increase offtakes of the fuel from the local refineries. The meeting of Cabinet Committee on Energy (CCOE) also decided that the power sector would help refineries make storage arrangements for next three months on credit. *Nation.*

### Private borrowing jumps

Monetary expansion witnessed slight growth in 5MFY19, led by an unusually higher activity from the private sector. SBP's latest report reveals that monetary expansion (M2) grew 0.2% or PKR 31.2Bn, compared to a decrease of 0.58% or PKR 77Bn in 5MFY18. The govt.'s borrowing for budgetary support plunged by 65% to PKR 229Bn versus PKR 377.5Bn in 5MFY18 while private sector borrowing from the banking system soared by 247.6% to PKR 342Bn, from PKR98.4Bn in 5MFY18. The situation emerged due to the govt.'s strategy to borrow from the SBP and retire debts of the commercial banks which resulted in higher liquidity of the banking system which facilitated banks' advances to the private sector. *Dawn.*

### SECP launches awareness drive

The SECP has launched an awareness campaign about the business model of modaraba and modaraba management companies regulated by it, its salient features, recent initiatives and the performance of the modaraba sector to attract prospective investors. *The News.*

### Swiss SMEs keen to enter Pakistan market: envoy

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) of Switzerland are keen to enter Pakistan and explore potential opportunities, said Embassy of Switzerland Deputy Head of Mission Bernhard Furger during his visit to the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT). The delegation pointed out that the objective of its visit was to research Pakistan's market for potential partnerships and investment and to strengthen bilateral relations between Pakistan and Switzerland. It expressed prime interest in the food processing sector and demonstrated intention to develop joint ventures. *Tribune.*

### Urea sales fall 21% to 477,000 tons in Nov

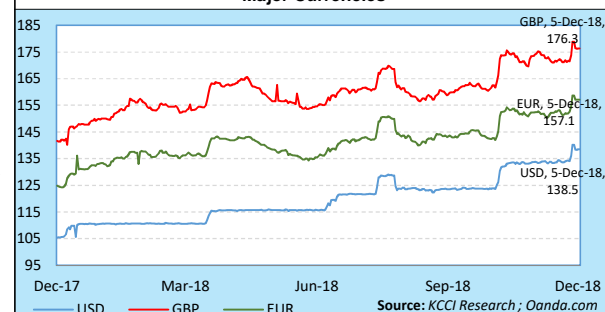
Urea sales sharply fell 21% year-on-year to 477,000 tons in Nov'18 as dealers and farmers stocked up on inventory amid price hike expectation and delay in sowing season due to halt in start of sugarcane crushing by millers. *The News.*

### Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	5-Dec	PKR	138.60	0.58%
USD-Open MKT	5-Dec	PKR	138.45	0.14%
KSE-100 index	5-Dec	Pts.	39,303	-0.76%
FIPI	5-Dec	\$ Mn	1.69	NM**
Crude (JA'18)	5-Dec	\$/bbl	52.98	0.34%
Gold (DE'18)	5-Dec	\$/oz	1,242.6	-0.13%
Gold (10g) Local	5-Dec	PKR	55,341	0.31%
Silver (DE'18)	5-Dec	\$/oz	14.48	-0.25%
Cotton(KHI) -40 kg	5-Dec	PKR	9,431	0.00%
Kibor-6M	5-Dec	%	10.54	0.01%
Forex Reserves	23-Nov	\$ Bn	14.57	6.23%
	FY19			YoY
Remittances	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	7.42	15.15%
Exports*	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	7.29	3.19%
Imports*	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	19.07	-0.615%
Trade Balance*	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	-11.79	2.83%
Current Account	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	-4.84	-28.69%
Foreign Direct Inv.	Jul-Oct 18	\$ Bn	0.60	-36.08%
LSM Growth*	Jul-Sep 18	%	-1.71	
Avg. CPI	Jul-Nov 18	%	6.02	
Discount Rate	Nov-18	%	10.00	

Sources: KCCI Research, PMEX, NCCPL, KSE, SBP, PBS\*  
\*\* Not Meaningful on week;

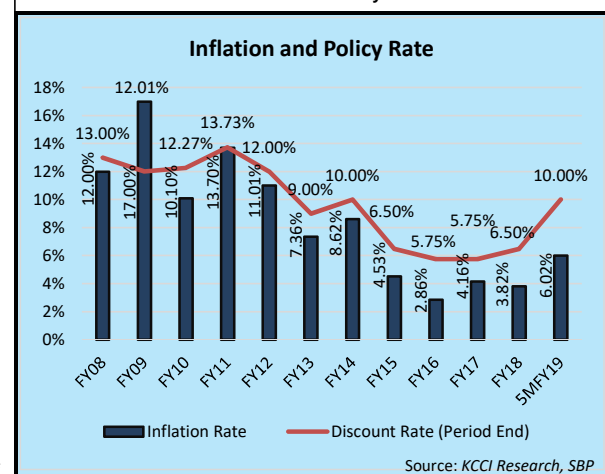
### Major Currencies



"Each person must live their life as a model for others"

Rosa Parks

### Chart of the Day



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