

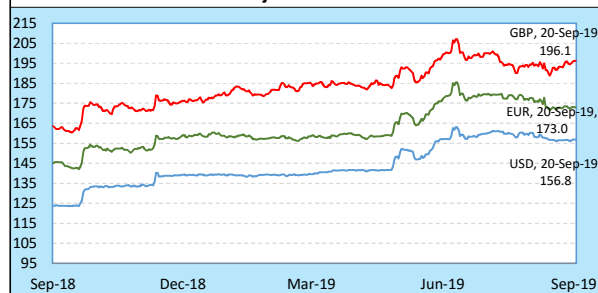
Economic Indicators

| List of Indicators | Date / Period | Unit | Value | Change Daily |
|---------------------|---------------|--------|---------|--------------|
| USD-Interbank | 20-Sep | PKR | 156.08 | -0.10% |
| USD-Open MKT | 20-Sep | PKR | 155.80 | 0.00% |
| KSE-100 index | 20-Sep | Pts. | 32,111 | -0.23% |
| FIPI | 20-Sep | \$ Mn | 1.57 | NM** |
| Crude (AP'19) | 19-Sep | \$/bbl | 58.66 | 0.72% |
| Gold (MA'19) | 19-Sep | \$/oz | 1,499.5 | 0.37% |
| Gold (10g) Local | 20-Sep | PKR | 74,803 | 0.00% |
| Silver (MA'19) | 19-Sep | \$/oz | 17.75 | 0.27% |
| Cotton(KHI) -40 kg | 20-Sep | PKR | 9,270 | 0.00% |
| Kibor-6M | 20-Sep | % | 13.91 | 0.00% |
| Forex Reserves | 13-Sep | \$ Bn | 15.90 | 0.93% |
| | FY19 | | | YoY |
| Remittances | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | 3.73 | -8.35% |
| Exports* | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | 3.75 | 10.06% |
| Imports* | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | 7.68 | -21.56% |
| Trade Balance* | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | -3.92 | 38.47% |
| Current Account | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | -1.29 | 54.67% |
| Foreign Direct Inv. | Jul-Aug 19 | \$ Bn | 0.16 | -58.42% |
| LSM Growth* | Jul-19 | % | -3.28 | |
| Avg. CPI | Jul-Aug 19 | % | 9.44 | |
| Discount Rate | Jul-19 | % | 13.25 | |

Sources: KCCI Research, PMEX, NCCPL, KSE, SBP, PBS*

** Not Meaningful on week;

Major Currencies

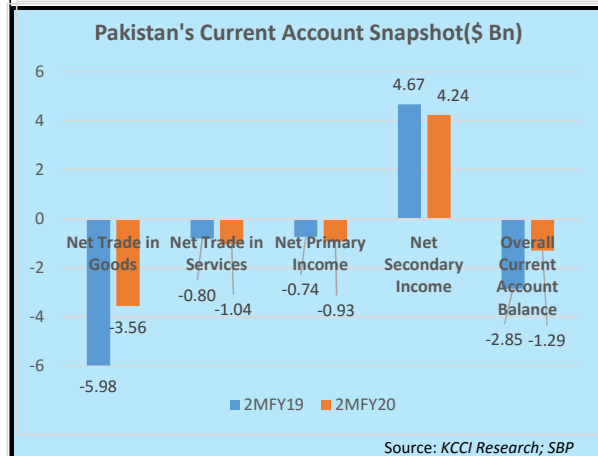


Quote of the Day

"A man should never neglect his family for business."

Walt Disney

Chart of the Day



Source: KCCI Research; SBP

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IMF links decisive action to programme success

In a morale boost to the country's economic managers, IMF has acknowledged that the gov't's economic programme has made a promising start, and pushed for its decisive implementation to usher in stronger and sustainable growth. Concluding its five-day visit on a positive note, Director for Middle East and Central Asia Jihad Azour, said that the mission would return to Pakistan in late-Oct'19 to formally conduct its first quarterly review of \$ 6Bn EFF for the period ending Sep'19. The IMF mission said the near-term macroeconomic outlook is broadly unchanged from the time of the programme approval, with growth projected at 2.4% in FY20, inflation expected to decline in the coming months, and the current account adjusting more rapidly than anticipated. *Dawn*.

Inflation to increase further due to gov't's policies, warns SBP

Deputy Governor SBP, Jameel Ahmed, informed a parliamentary committee on Finance that inflationary pressure would continue in next few months. He said that inflation is increasing due to number of reasons including increase interest rates, which has gone to 13.25% from 7.5%. However, inflation would start declining after two years. He further said that higher interest rates have helped in stabilizing the external sector of the economy. *The Nation*.

KCCI, PJBF ink MoU to boost ties

KCCI and Pakistan Japan Business Forum (PJBF) have signed a MoU to enhance trade relations. The two institutions have agreed to jointly identify the common challenges affecting their members and collectively develop responses to these challenges, so that trade between Pakistan and Japan can be enhanced. Under the MoU, which was signed by KCCI President Junaid Esmail Makda and PJBF Chairman Sohail P Ahmed at a meeting held at KCCI, both sides will identify opportunities to maximize the efficiency of information exchange for industry-friendly policies for healthy market and for industrial development in Pakistan. *The News*.

LSM sector growth shrinks by 3.28% in July

The growth in LSM sector shrank by 3.28% in Jul'19 indicating that economic activities had slowed down in the country. The negative growth is mainly the outcome of dip in production of automobiles that went down by 27.41%, iron and steel products 15.44%, followed by coke and petroleum products, whose production declined by 25.12%. Meanwhile, electronic products recorded growth of 67.23%, fertilizers 16.34%, wood products 8.44%, engineering products 8.08% and rubber products had also recorded growth of 2.92%. *The Nation*.

Exports fall in August

Pakistan's exports proceeds fell to \$ 1.85Bn in Aug'19 as against \$ 2.01Bn over Aug'18', while the cumulative export proceeds witnessed an uptick of 2.79% to \$ 3.75Bn over \$ 3.65Bn in 2MFY19. Contrary to this, imports clocked in at \$ 7.67Bn, down 21.41% from \$ 9.76Bn. The country's trade deficit therefore shrank by 35.86% to \$ 3.92Bn in 2MFY20 from \$ 6.11Bn. *Dawn*.

Tax bar demands 90-day time for tax return filing

Tax experts have asked FBR to allow 90 days to tax payers for filing their returns from the date of issuance of tax forms, in line with the law. They have also provided a long list of issues and lacunas faced by taxpayers while filing their tax returns. *Dawn*.

Campaign launched against smoke-emitting vehicles

Sindh Environment and Law Adviser, Murtaza Wahab, launched what the authorities claim is the first-ever campaign in Karachi to check hazardous emissions from motor vehicles and later to fine the smoke-emitting automobiles. In this connection, the adviser inaugurated one such checkpoint established jointly by the Traffic Police and the provincial Police Department near Hotel Metropole. *The News*.

Sindh gov't launches month-long 'Clean My Karachi' drive in all districts today

A Sindh gov't. campaign to clean up the provincial capital dubbed 'Clean My Karachi' is starting today (21st Sep'19) in which over 600 dumper trucks, shovel machines and tractors and 4,000 workers will take part all over the city. The cleanliness drive will cover all districts of Karachi. *Dawn*.

US, Pakistan to improve economic engagement

The US and Pakistan have agreed to concentrate American-funded programs on economic growth, improving energy sector and other priority areas. The agreement was made during a meeting between the US Ambassador to Pakistan Paul Jones and Minister for Economic Affairs Hammad Azhar. *The News*.

Traders announce Islamabad march on Oct 9

Traders have announced marching towards Islamabad on 9th Oct'19 after negotiations over the fixed tax scheme with the FBR failed. Leaders of trade unions across the country have been delegated responsibilities for the Islamabad march. *Tribune*.

FBR tightens noose on Benami asset holders

The FBR has notified three benches under its Adjudicating Authority – formed in Jun'19 – in its latest push to tighten the noose round the people who hold Benami properties in Pakistan. With announcement of these benches – established in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi – the Adjudicating Authority have become fully functional. *Tribune*.

Around 1Mn lost jobs in FY19: PTI gov't. couldn't live up to its promise of 10Mn jobs: Dr Pasha

Renowned economist Dr Hafiz A Pasha has said that around 1Mn more people lost jobs in FY19, making it difficult for the federal gov't. to live up to its promise of creating 10Mn jobs. Addressing the launch of his book 'Growth and Inequality in Pakistan-Agenda for Reforms', he said during FY19 around 4Mn more people became poor and 1Mn other got unemployed and that is also likely to be the outcome this year, may be even more, if the country's growth rate is less and the inflation rate is high. The tax credit for BMR, a very important fiscal incentive, has been withdrawn by the gov't. at a time when the textile industry is in dire need of training and technology to compete with the global export players. *BR*.

Omar tells IMF team: PD's circular debt shows considerable cut in its growth

An IMF delegation headed by Ernesto Ramirez Rigo met Federal Minister for Power Omar Ayub Khan. The minister said that due to concerted team efforts of Power Division, the circular debt has shown a considerable reduction in its growth. In the last 8 months its growth reduced to PKR 26Bn from PKR 38Bn per month. He also informed the delegation about the new Renewable Energy Policy whereby the gov't. is intend to increase the share of indigenous resources up to 75%. *BR*.

Global peace index: Pakistan slips by two points

Pakistan has slipped by two points in an annual global index on peacefulness, finishing at 153 among 163 countries. In the 2019 Global Peace Index (GPI), the Institute for Economics and Peace has reported that Iceland continues to top the list whereas Afghanistan has replaced Syria as the most violent place. With the overall trends showing signs of improvement for Pakistan in some areas, neighboring India slipped by 4 points in the annual global index, finishing at 141 among 163 countries. *The News*.

Exxon Mobil, Shell among groups to build 5 Pakistan natural gas terminals

Pakistan has approved the construction of 5 LNG terminals by various energy groups, aiming to triple imports and ease the country's chronic gas shortage. Minister of power and petroleum, Omar Ayub has said that the 5 terminals could be in operation within 2-3 years. The groups selected to build terminals are: Tabeer Energy, a unit of Mitsubishi Corp; Exxon and Energas; Trafigura Group and Pakistan GasPort; Shell and Engro Corp.; Gunvor Group and Fatima. *The Nation*.