

Ecneec approves PKR 672Bn highways, power sector projects

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec) has approved at least PKR 672Bn worth of highways and power sector infrastructure projects in a meeting presided over by Adviser to PM on Finance, Hafeez Shaikh. The projects include the construction of Karachi urban mobility project (yellow BRT corridor) to be executed by the govt. of Sindh at a cost of PKR 61.44Bn, to be funded mainly by the World Bank. It will cover a distance of 21km and start from Korangi Industrial Road to Kashmir Road intersection where it will integrate with red BRT corridor. *The News.*

Govt borrows PKR 158Bn for budgetary support

The govt. has borrowed PKR 158Bn for budgetary support between 1st Jul'19 and 20th Sep'19, as opposed to net retirement of PKR 72.4Bn during the period last year. The federal govt.'s borrowing from scheduled banks clocked in at PKR 1.21Tn, as compared to retirement of PKR 1.20Tn. However, PSEs retired debts worth PKR 121.3Bn as against a net borrowing of PKR 49.2Bn. *Dawn.*

FBR's FASTER dubbed slower

Exporters have dubbed FBR's Fully Automated Sales Tax e-Refund (FASTER) system as "SLOWER", as payments limbo persists amid a liquidity crunch that has worsened following imposition of 17% sales tax on formerly zero-rated sectors. *The News.*

PM to visit China next week to 'revive' stalled CPEC projects

PM Imran Khan is expected to pay an official visit to China on 7th - 8th Oct'19 with the main agenda of revival of stalled CPEC projects. Most of CPEC-related projects have stalled due to certain reasons, including prevailing financial crunch confronting the govt. and non-cooperation of the bureaucracy due to fear of NAB. *Dawn.*

Tycoons' dinner reception with COAS: Top businessmen explode before Gen Bajwa

Heads of Pakistan's leading business houses have called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Qamar Javed Bajwa, to convey their serious concerns about Pakistan's stagnating economy and the govt.'s tepid response to the debilitating situation facing the drivers of the country's economy. Their main gripe was that the govt. does not go beyond verbal assurances. The army chief heard the grievances expressed by 16 to 20-strong delegation and assured them of his help. The COAS also floated an idea that an internal committee be formed comprising military officers to work on the delegates' complaints. Those who were present included Zubair Motiwala and Siraj Qasim Teli. *The News.*

Cement sales flat, exports up 12.5% in first quarter

Cement industry have posted a marginal growth of around 3% year-on-year in sales and exports to 11.13Mn tons during 1QFY20 due to double-digit decline in uptake from cement factories in southern region. Cement sales stood at 9.12Mn tons in 1QFY20 as compared with 9.063Mn tons in 1QFY19. Exports, however, registered a healthy increase of 12.54% as they rose to 2.02Mn tons in 1QFY20 from 1.79Mn tons in 1QFY19. *The News.*

SECP delists 22 'not-for-profit' entities for non-compliance

The SECP, in continuation of its enforcement drive against non-compliant companies has revoked licenses of 22 not for profit companies during 1QFY20. The licenses were revoked for non-compliance of statutory requirements i.e. non-filing of financial statements and annual returns. Some of them were dormant since incorporation. *The Nation.*

Major IT firms decide to quote prices in US dollar

The leading hardware and software infrastructure industry players have decided that from now onwards they will quote prices/ rates only in US dollar, however it will be payable in Pakistani rupee using the interbank conversion rate as on the date of payment. The step has been taken considering the recent economic conditions due to which the whole industry has suffered heavily on account of rupee devaluation. *BR.*

'SSWMB performance below par in Karachi due to limited control'

In a span of five years, SSWMB could not expand its operations to all the 29 districts of the province. Addressing a session titled 'Analysis of Karachi's Current Garbage Situation' at the Urban Resource Centre, Asif Ikram Managing Director of KWSB, said that SSWMB has control over only 35% of the city. Explaining how complex the situation is, he said that in the South DMC, they have jurisdiction over one road, while the adjacent road is under the control of military cantonment and another is covered by the Pakistan Railways. *The News.*

Inflation jumps 11.4% in September

Based on the new base year (2015-16), Sep'19 inflation came in at 11.37%, versus 10.49% in Aug'19. The key inflation index by old base year (FY08) comes in at 12.55% for Sep'19, showing a 0.92% increase over Aug'19. According to the new base year, in 3MFY20, CPI was recorded at 10.08% as compared to 6.08% in 3MFY19. *Dawn.*

Oil sales fall 8% to 4.3Mn tons in July-September

Oil sales fell 8% year-on-year to 4.3Mn tons in 1QFY20 as diesel and furnace oil saw double-digit decline in the consumption. Sale of motor spirit (petrol), however, exhibited a marginal growth of 2% year-on-year in sales to 1.9Mn tons in 1QFY20. Sales in absolute terms were lowest in last 26 quarters. Sales of diesel, which is considered a barometer for economic activity, slid 16.2% year-on-year to 1.53Mn tons in the three-month period. *The News.*

Developing country debt jumps to \$ 7.8Tn in 2018: World Bank

Total foreign debt held by developing nations has jumped more than 5% to \$ 7.8Tn, driven by a surge in Chinese debt, the WB said in a report. A growing appetite for yuan-denominated debt was behind a 15% surge in China's debt level, which helped push up the total. Loans from multilateral lenders surged 86% but that is almost entirely due to IMF's record aid to crisis-battered Argentina. Excluding the top 10 borrowers, foreign debt rose by just 4%, it said. *BR.*

Hike in electricity prices approved by ECC

ECC has approved a proposal to increase electricity prices by 30 paisas per unit. New prices would be implemented on users with units greater than 300. In a separate meeting, the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council approved several projects. *The Nation.*

Over 0.5Mn complaints resolved thru citizen portal

The federal govt. had resolved 509,153 out of 553,125 complaints. In Punjab, 392,292 complaints were resolved with 88% redressal rate. KP secured 87% on the score card by resolving 100,635 out of 116,050 complaints. In Islamabad, 9,909 complaints were resolved out of 11,137. The Balochistan govt. resolved 6,166 complaints out of 7,782, securing 79% redressal rate. The Sindh govt., however, lagged behind all other govt.s with merely 40% redressal rate and could only resolve 38,268 out of 95,894 complaints. *Dawn.*

Nine Dutch companies want to invest in Pak poultry, livestock sectors

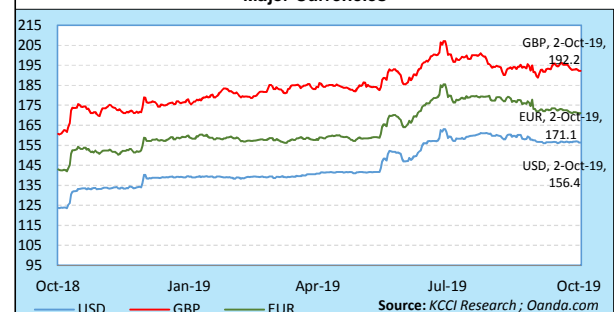
Netherlands Ambassador to Pakistan, Wouter Plom, said that 9 Dutch companies have shown interested for investment in Pakistan's poultry and livestock sector. The ambassador said this in a meeting with the federal Minister for National Food Security & Research, Mehboob Sultan. The ambassador said that out of the 9 companies, 2 are dealing with pharmaceutical companies (poultry & livestock vaccine). The Dutch ambassador further said that agricultural cooperation is a top priority and exchange of research and technology will further bring benefits to both countries. *The News.*

Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	2-Oct	PKR	156.35	-0.01%
USD-Open MKT	2-Oct	PKR	155.90	0.00%
KSE-100 index	2-Oct	Pts.	32,363	0.34%
FIPI	2-Oct	\$ Mn	-1.21	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	2-Oct	\$/bbl	52.53	-2.60%
Gold (MA'19)	2-Oct	\$/oz	1,502.3	1.32%
Gold (10g) Local	2-Oct	PKR	73,645	0.00%
Silver (MA'19)	2-Oct	\$/oz	17.57	1.78%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	2-Oct	PKR	9,324	0.00%
Kibor-6M	2-Oct	%	13.90	0.00%
Forex Reserves	20-Sep	\$ Bn	15.77	-0.79%
	FY20			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-Sep 19	%	10.08	
Discount Rate	Jul-19	%	13.25	

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

Major Currencies

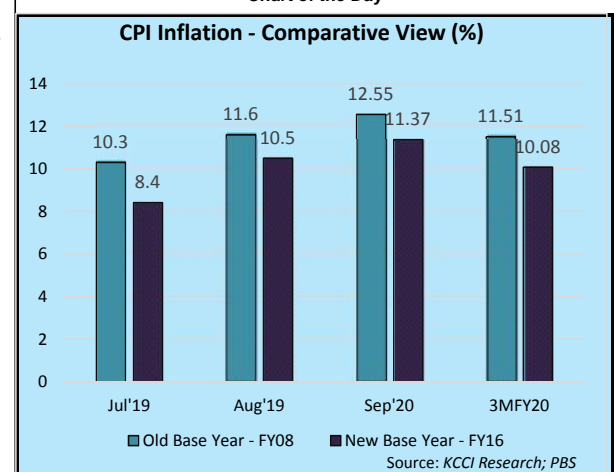


Quote of the Day

"Impossible is a word used by people with limited mindsets"

Ruvarashe F. Chirimuta

Chart of the Day



Disclaimer

This report has been prepared by KCCI Research & Development Cell. The information contained herein have been compiled or arrived at based upon information obtained from sources believed to be reliable and in good faith. Such information has not been independently verified.

icon represents the sole viewpoint of the KCCI R&D Cell, and is stated to enrich the readers' understanding of the news item. The