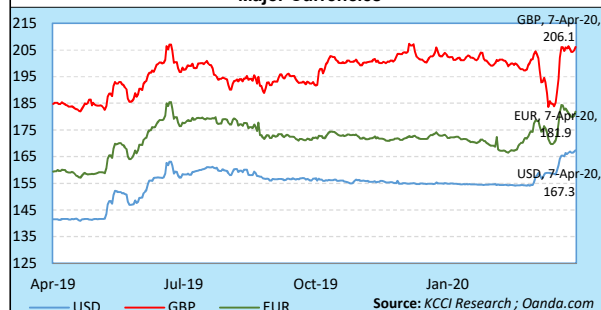


#### Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	7-Apr	PKR	166.99	0.54%
USD-Open MKT	7-Apr	PKR	163.78	0.31%
KSE-100 index	7-Apr	Pts.	30,579	2.13%
FIPI	7-Apr	\$ Mn	-5.72	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	7-Apr	\$/bbl	28.82	-8.61%
Gold (MA'19)	7-Apr	\$/oz	1,640.1	3.27%
Gold (10g) Local	7-Apr	PKR	86,590	0.00%
Silver (MA'19)	7-Apr	\$/oz	14.52	5.23%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	7-Apr	PKR	9,431	0.00%
Kibor-6M	7-Apr	%	10.99	-7.00%
Forex Reserves	27-Mar	\$ Bn	17.39	-3.99%
<b>FY20</b>				<b>YoY</b>
Remittances	Jul-Feb 20	\$ Bn	15.13	5.37%
Exports*	Jul-Mar 20	\$ Bn	15.65	2.23%
Imports*	Jul-Mar 20	\$ Bn	31.42	-14.42%
Trade Balance*	Jul-Mar 20	\$ Bn	-15.77	-26.45%
Current Account	Jul-Feb 20	\$ Bn	-2.84	71.04%
Foreign Direct Inv.	Jul-Feb 20	\$ Bn	1.85	184.81%
LSM Growth*	Jul-Jan 20	%	-3.37	
Avg. CPI	Jul-Mar 20	%	11.70	
Discount Rate	Nov-19	%	11.00	

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

#### Major Currencies

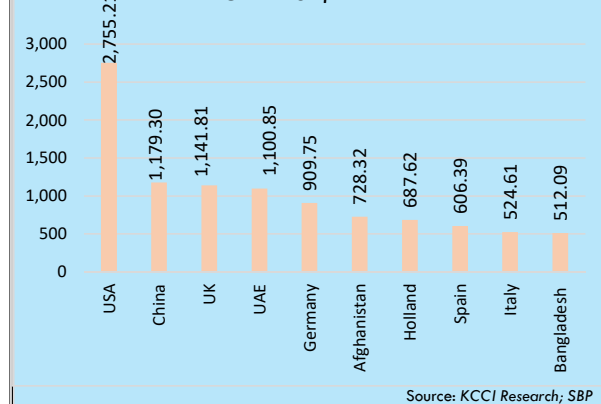


#### Quote of the Day

*"A ship in a harbour is safe, but that's not what a ship is built for."*

**John. A Shedd**

#### Top Destinations for Pakistan's Exports 8MFY20- \$ Mn



#### 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.

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

#### Small traders seek financial assistance from Sindh govt

Traders representatives have urged the Sindh govt. to provide interest-free loans to taxpaying small traders and shopkeepers. They further sought financial assistance for paying salaries to workers as their businesses are closed amid lockdown to contain the spread of Covid-19. President KCCI Agha Shahab has said that Sindh govt. is making standard operating procedures (SoPs) before giving permission for opening trade and industries and KCCI would support the Sindh govt's decision in this regard. On the issue of small traders' grievances, he claimed that Siraj Kassam Teli has been highlighting this at every meeting with CM Sindh. *Dawn*.

#### Industry struggling to stay afloat during coronavirus lockdown in Pakistan

The industrial sector in Pakistan is struggling to stay afloat amid the lockdown, with growing numbers of industrialists, already burdened with multiple taxes, higher interest rates and utility charges, expressing their inability to pay workers next month. According to Agha Ahmed Shahab Khan, President KCCI, the body was receiving several appeals from different sectors and industrialists who found the situation extremely difficult. The business community is also of the opinion that most of the relief measures and initiatives taken by the provincial and federal govt.s so far will not yield the desired results as they do not cover all industries and businesses. This is why the business community is urging the govt. to look into the possibility of a proposed 50% reduction in all tax rates, interest rates, utility charges and petroleum prices for three months. *The News*.

#### Extend lockdown to avoid the worst, doctors tell Sindh CM

Leading doctors have informed CM Sindh Murad Ali Shah to not relax the lockdown when it expires on 14<sup>th</sup> Apr'20. If the lockdown were to be withdrawn or relaxed the virus would spread like a fire in the jungle. The CM said that he would consult with his cabinet members and other stakeholders and convey to them the doctors' concerns. *BR*.

#### FATF extends deadline to Pakistan

In the aftermath of the spread of deadly COVID-19 virus in different parts of the world, FATF has extended its deadline for complying conditions for Pakistan for three months up to Sept'20 from earlier Jun'20. Pakistan was also bound to submit its progress report to the joint working group (JWG) of FATF till 15<sup>th</sup> Apr'20 but now Islamabad would have to make a progress report for submission till July 2020. *The News*.

#### Relief package: MoF asks SBP, FBR to provide SMEs' data

The Finance Ministry is in the process of gathering data of SMEs from different sources to provide relief as part of the govt's economic relief package. The ministry has requested SBP and FBR to provide data to provide relief to them as it is already getting late. *BR*.

#### Relief funds: SBP waives services charges on donations

SBP has waived service charges on donations to PM's and provincial govt.s. relief funds for Covid19 through payment cards. According to SBP directives, all issuing and acquiring banks in Pakistan will not charge any service fee including Interchange Reimbursement Fee (IRF), Merchant Discount Rate (MDR), Merchant ID Fee, on boarding fee or any other fee that may be applicable on any transactions made to the said account. *BR*.

#### Tax relief on pulse, edible oil: Importers look forward towards issuance of SROs

Importers of pulses, edible oil and seeds have said that they are unable to clear their consignments from the port because duty and tax relief related SROs have not been issued yet. The government had reduced 2% advance income tax on pulses and 2% additional duty on edible oil and seeds for alleviating the adverse impact of Covid-19 and lockdown. They claimed that 400-500 containers of various pulses are awaiting clearance, while importers of oil seeds are also double minded as they are not clearing 32,000 tonnes of canola seed that landed at Karachi Port and another 64,000 tonnes at Port Qasim. *BR*.

#### ECC to discuss compensation for oil marketing firms

The govt. has called a meeting of ECC today (8<sup>th</sup> Apr'20) to discuss a proposal to compensate Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for foreign exchange loss in oil prices and approve around PKR 180Bn relief in power tariff to various sectors. To be presided over by Adviser on Finance Dr. Abdul Hafeez Shaikh, the ECC meeting will have 11 items on its agenda. *Dawn*.

#### Filing of certain returns, statements: SECP discontinues submission of requirements

SECP has discontinued submission of requirements of filing of certain returns and statements. In this regard, SECP has amended Code of Corporate Governance for Insurers, 2016 and discontinued submission requirement on the insurer in respect of certain returns/statements. *BR*.

#### Textile exporters demand opening of 150 mills in Sindh

Textile exporters have demanded the Sindh govt. to allow operations of export-oriented 150 mills in the province. Majority of mills in Nooriabad and Kotri in Sindh have their own labour colonies. On the other hand, the Sindh govt. has prepared a list of 70 export-oriented mills that would likely be allowed to operate after prescribing of SOPs. Representatives of these mills have told the govt. that they would be ready to follow the govt.'s instructions within three to five days of preparation. *The News*.

#### Public debt up 5.14% to PKR 33.42Tn in July-Feb FY20

Pakistan's public debt rose by 5.14% to PKR 1.635Tn in 8MFY20 mainly due to increase in domestic debt accumulation to reach PKR 33.42Tn at the end of Feb'20, up from PKR 31.79Tn till end Jun'19. Domestic debt increased 7.02% to PKR 22.19Tn at the end of Feb '20, while foreign debt rose slightly up 1.60% to PKR 11.23Tn. *The News*.

#### Indonesia sells Asia's first 50-year dollar bond to fight pandemic

Indonesia has raised \$ 4.3Bn, including the longest-dated U.S dollar bond ever issued by an Asian nation, to help the govt. fund its battle against coronavirus. The deal was finalized in the US and sold in maturities of 10.5 years and 30.5 years, worth \$ 1.65Bn each, with a 50-year tranche worth \$ 1Bn. *The News*.

#### China becomes world's top patent filer: UN

A record 265,800 international patent applications were filed in 2019, a hike of 5.2% from 2018, the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) said in its annual report. In the category of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, or PCT – China topped the ranking for the first time, with 58,990 applications. It thus overtook the US, which filed 57,840 applications, and has topped the PCT ranking since the system took effect in 1978. China and the United States were followed by Japan, Germany and South Korea as the world's top patent application filers. *BR*.