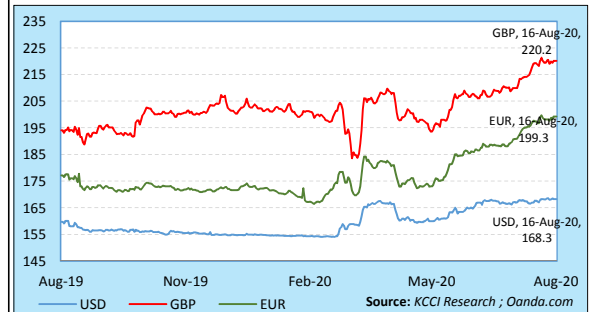


Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	13-Aug	PKR	167.93	-0.09%
USD-Open MKT	13-Aug	PKR	168.50	-0.12%
KSE-100 index	13-Aug	Pts.	40,291	-0.45%
FIPI	13-Aug	\$ Mn	2.00	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	14-Aug	\$/bbl	42.23	-0.12%
Gold (MA'19)	14-Aug	\$/oz	1,945.7	-0.49%
Gold (10g) Local	13-Aug	PKR	109,230	0.00%
Silver (MA'19)	14-Aug	\$/oz	26.56	-3.79%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	13-Aug	PKR	8,895	0.00%
Kibor-6M	13-Aug	%	7.23	0.00%
Forex Reserves	7-Aug	\$ Bn	19.52	-0.23%
				WoW
				YoY
Remittances	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	23.12	6.35%
Exports*	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	21.39	-6.84%
Imports*	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	44.57	-18.61%
Trade Balance*	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	-23.18	27.11%
Current Account	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	-2.97	77.92%
Foreign Direct Inv.	Jul-Jun 20	\$ Bn	2.56	88.03%
LSM Growth*	Jul-Jun 20	%	-10.17	
Avg. CPI	Jul-20	%	9.26	
Discount Rate	Jul-20	%	7.00	

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

Major Currencies

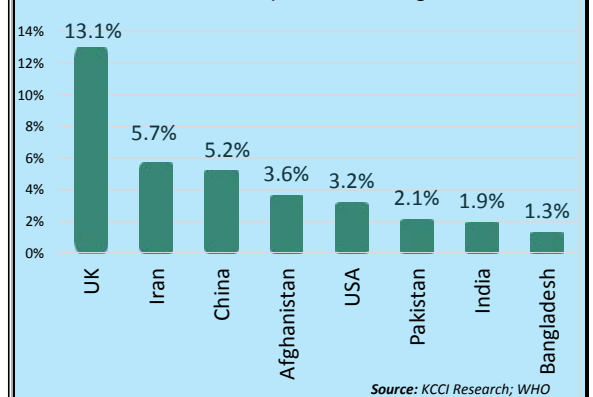


Quote of the Day

"Teach self-denial and make its practice pleasure, and you can create for the world a destiny more sublime than ever issued from the brain of the wildest dreamer."

Sir Walter Scott

COVID-19 Death Rate (Cumulative Deaths per Cumulative cases) - As on 15th Aug 2020



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

Saving Karachi: Centre, Sindh agree to join hands

The federal and Sindh gov'ts have formed a committee comprising representatives of PPP, PTI and MQM, the city's three main stakeholders. This came about after a meeting was held in Islamabad, which was attended by Sindh CM Murad Ali Shah, Sindh Governor Imran Ismail, Minister Asad Umar, Karachi Mayor Wasim Akhtar and NDMA Chairman Lt Gen Afzal. The participants discussed the massive civic issues of the city compounded by recent rains and decided on working together to resolve the issues, which are affecting the daily lives of the residents of the city. *The News-Mon.*

NBP to extend soft loans under PM's housing scheme

NBP President Arif Usmani, said that the bank will provide 'very soft loans' to people at large to enable them to own a residence under the PM's Naya Pakistan Housing Program. *The News-Sun.*

PM's Clean Green Champion initiative generates 53,250 jobs

The Ministry of Climate Change has launched a Citizens Engagement Program titled, 'Clean Green Pakistan Champions' (CGPC) aimed to drive first ever behavioral change movement managed to register 120,000 CGPC who would participate in the gov't initiatives under the project. A total of 53,250 jobs will be created over the span of three months that will include Community Mobilizers, Social Mobilizers, Sanitation Labour, Drain Clean Gang, and Urban Horticulture, Garbage Collectors or Scavengers and Certified Clean Green Champions. *Daily Times-Mon*

'50,000 jobs to be created through PKR 5Bn loan disbursement'

Special Assistant on Youth Affairs Usman Dar has said the Kamyab Jawan Program might help create 50,000 jobs by the year-end through further disbursement of loans amounting to around PKR 5Bn among 10,000 registered SMEs under its Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme. Loans of PKR 1Bn had already been disbursed among 2,190 qualified entrepreneurs, while the executing banks had approved two-tier financing of PKR 3Bn for 7,592 eligible businesses. *The News-Mon.*

Banks defer PKR 642Bn of clients' payment of principal on loans: IMF

IMF has said that Under the SBP's temporary regulatory measures, banks have deferred PKR 642Bn of clients' payment of principal on loan obligations for one year so far, to maintain banking system soundness and sustain economic activity. The SBP has expanded the scope of existing refinancing facilities and introduced three new ones that aim at: supporting hospitals and medical centers to purchase equipment to detect, contain, and treat Covid-19 (29 hospitals, PKR 6Bn, to date); stimulating investment in new manufacturing plants and machinery, as well as modernization and expansion of existing projects (52 new projects, PKR 22Bn, to date); incentivizing businesses to avoid laying off their workers during the pandemic (2,200 firms, PKR 138Bn, to date), it added. *BR-Sun.*

Govt relies less on bank borrowing amid Covid-19

Gov't's borrowing from commercial banks to overcome the shortfall in budgetary expenditures significantly dropped by 86% to PKR 205Bn in Jul'20 apparently due to a notable surge in foreign financing to better fight the coronavirus pandemic. The gov't. had borrowed a huge PKR 1.45Tn from commercial banks in Jul'19, according to the SBP. *Tribune-Sun.*

'Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio not very low as compared to other regional countries'

FBR has said that Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio of 14% is not very low as compared to other countries of the region, including Sri Lanka (13%), India (18%), and Bangladesh (8.5%). Sources of FBR said the current target of IMF for a tax-to-GDP ratio of 16.7% by FY22 is unrealistic and cannot be achieved without enhancing the taxable capacity of the country. *BR-Sun.*

Govt starts real-time monitoring of oil, gas production

Amid calls from provinces for transparency, the federal gov't. has started real-time monitoring of oil and gas exploration and production (E&P) through a dashboard application provided by a US-based vendor firm. The Council of Common Interests (CCI) had decided in Nov'17 to share real-time data on oil, gas and electricity production and consumption. The provinces are paid royalty on oil and gas production under Article 161 of the Constitution at the rate of 12.5% at well head price. *Dawn-Mon.*

MoU signed with IPPs to cut cost: minister

Minister for Information Senator Shibli Faraz has said that as a first major step towards providing cheap electricity to consumers, the gov't. has signed a basic agreement with Independent Power Producers (IPPs). Under the new agreement, payments would only be made for electricity acquired and consumed instead of the total installed capacity of a particular power plant. Also, the equity return would be made in PKR rather than US dollars, as was the past practice. He said the gov't. also intended to enhance share of renewable energy to 20 to 25% by 2030. *Dawn-Sun.*

Overseas Pakistanis to get digital banking facility: Zulfi Bukhari

Special Assistant on Overseas Pakistanis Zulfiqar Bukhari has announced that the gov't. has decided to provide a digital banking facility to overseas Pakistanis. Overseas Pakistanis will now be able to make direct payments and investments in the country. *The News-Mon.*

Blue Economy Policy to help save foreign exchange: PM Imran Khan

PM Imran Khan has congratulated the Ministry of Maritime Affairs on finalizing a new and dynamic Blue Economy Policy aimed at revitalizing the shipping sector. The Blue Economy concept encompasses many industries like ports, shipping companies, energy, renewable energy, fisheries, maritime transportation, tourism, climate change, and waste management besides others. *The News-Sun.*

Cotton demand rebounds in Pakistan as foreign orders increase

Cotton demand is fast rebounding after easing lockdown as textile companies are abuzz with reviving industrial activities. Pakistan is one of the countries receiving increasing number of production orders from foreign clients after coronavirus-associated lockdown since late Mar'20. *The News-Sun.*

Tax collection from profit on debt surges 28% to PKR 923Mn in July

FBR has collected PKR 923Mn as withholding taxes on profit on debt in Jul'20 compared to PKR 721Mn, depicting a remarkable 28% growth as drive to investment continued despite significant rate cuts. *The News-Sun.*

Regional exports dip 24% in FY20

Pakistan's exports to regional countries dipped by 24% year-on-year during FY20 mainly due to lockdown imposed in Mar'20 to curtail the spread of coronavirus. Exports to the region — Afghanistan, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Iran, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives — fell to \$ 3.74Bn in FY20, from \$ 4.66Bn in FY19. *Dawn-Sun.*

Wheat & sugar: PM asks Advisor to ensure early import thru TCP.

PM Imran Khan has reportedly directed Advisor on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood to ensure early import of wheat and sugar through Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) aimed at stabilizing prices of both commodities in the domestic market. The country is facing shortage of wheat due to which price of flour has risen in the market. *BR-Mon.*

Border trade with Iran resumes

Informal border trade between Iran and Pakistan resumed on Sat (15th Aug'20). Iranian authorities reopened Zero Point gate at Taftan, a town in Chagai district, for bilateral trade after it was closed on 30th Jul'20 in connection with Eidul Azha holidays. It has now been reopened to allow tax-free import and export of edible commodities between the two countries. *Dawn-Mon.*