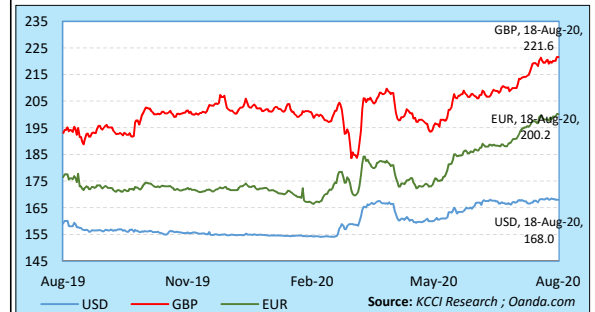


#### Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	18-Aug	PKR	168.19	0.01%
USD-Open MKT	18-Aug	PKR	168.60	0.18%
KSE-100 index	18-Aug	Pts.	40,184	0.15%
FIPI	18-Aug	\$ Mn	-0.23	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	18-Aug	\$/bbl	42.52	-0.75%
Gold (MA'19)	18-Aug	\$/oz	2,002.4	0.85%
Gold (10g) Local	18-Aug	PKR	107,400	0.19%
Silver (MA'19)	18-Aug	\$/oz	27.77	0.55%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	18-Aug	PKR	8,949	0.00%
Kibor-6M	18-Aug	%	7.21	0.00%
Forex Reserves	7-Aug	\$ Bn	19.52	-0.23%
				YoY
Remittances	Jul-20	\$ Bn	2.77	36.50%
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

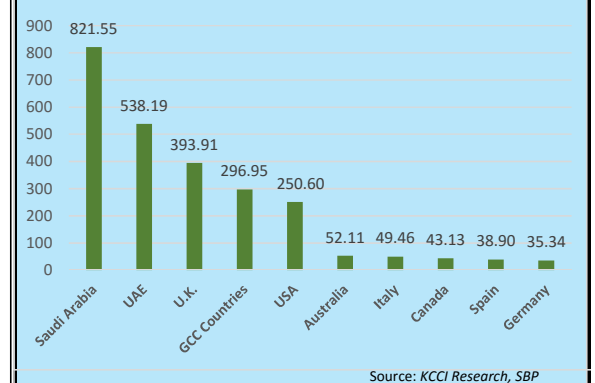


#### Quote of the Day

*"You have everything you need to build something far bigger than yourself."*

**Seth Godin**

#### Top Remittance Source Countries For Pakistan 1MFY21 (\$ 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.

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

#### FBR issues warning to retailers

FBR has asked all tier-I retailers to integrate with the point of sale system by 31<sup>st</sup> Aug'20. Failure to register will result in a penalty up to PKR 1Mn and business premises can also be sealed. All retailers are required to register with the FBR, who have a network of chain stores throughout the country, located in air-conditioned shopping malls or plazas and their cumulative electricity bill in the last 12 consecutive months exceeds PKR 1.2Mn. Businesses engaged in bulk import and supply of consumer goods on wholesale basis to retailers as well as consumers with shop size of or above 1,000 square feet must integrate with the point of sale system for real-time reporting. *Dawn*.

#### Around 54% people rate govt. performance as bad: IPOR

Around 54% of the people are rating either bad or very bad performance by PM Imran Khan during the last two years against 38% who showed satisfaction with his leadership. This has been revealed in survey done by the Institute for Public Opinion Research (IPOR) based on people's perception on two year performance of PM Imran Khan on general issue such as inflation, unemployment, and poverty etc. According to the survey, 40% respondents are predicting that the performance of the govt. will get worse in the next three years, while 31% are still hopeful. *BR*.

#### Amendment proposed in Cos Act: All bearer shares to be registered or cancelled: FBR

SECP has proposed that all existing bearer shares or bearer share warrants, if any, shall either be registered or cancelled, in the specified manner and period. According to the amendment proposed in the Companies Act, 2017, the provisions relating to the prohibition on issuance of bearer shares, bearer share warrants, and similar equity or debt securities of bearer nature, as well as the manner of registration and cancellation are being introduced in order to prevent the misuse of companies from money laundering or terrorist financing abuses in line with the recommendations issued by FATF. *BR*.

#### Ministry to consult FBR on refund claims

Ministry of Commerce official Sohail Hanif, has said that immediate payment of refund claims is imperative to overcome the losses borne by the trade and industry due to Covid-19, however, the total volume of refundable claims and payment schedule will be announced in consultation with FBR. He also said that Pakistan had to bear economic losses worth \$ 3.7Bn on account of the lockdown imposed to contain the coronavirus. *Tribune*.

#### SBP increases financing limits for women entrepreneurs

SBP has increased concessional financing limit for women entrepreneurs from PKR 1.5 – 5Mn under its Refinance and Credit Guarantee Scheme for Women Entrepreneurs to encourage women participation in the economy. *Dawn*.

#### ECC approves import of live animals, meat

ECC has approved import of live animals, meat and meat products. In the backdrop of the outbreak of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) disease in 2001, import of live animals, ie, cattle, buffalo, sheep and goats, and meat and meat products was banned from the BSE infected countries such as the UK, Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Spain, Canada, Falkland. *BR*.

#### Govt allows export of N95, surgical masks

Federal Minister for Science, Fawad Chaudhry, has announced that the govt. has agreed to allow export of N95 and surgical masks. Orders worth \$ 100Mn for export of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) made in Pakistan have been received from around the world, particularly Europe. Pakistan is expected to receive orders for such equipment worth \$ 500Mn by end of the year. *Dawn*.

#### Hoarders of essential commodities: Cabinet decides to launch crackdown

In order to ensure supply of essential items on controlled price, the federal cabinet on Tuesday decided to launch a massive crackdown against hoarders of sugar and wheat/flour in the country. The cabinet was apprised that the Trade Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) opened tenders for import of 0.3Mn tonnes of sugar. Shipments of imported sugar will start arriving from 7<sup>th</sup> Sep'20 and there will be no sugar shortage in the country. *BR*.

#### Senate passes two more FATF-related bills

The Senate has passed the Islamabad Capital Territory Trust Bill 2020 and the Control of Narcotic Substances (Amendment) Bill 2020 as per conditions of the FATF to steer the country out of the grey list of the countries in terms of terror financing. *Dawn*.

#### Mobile phones' import up over 89% in July

Mobile phones' import witnessed an increase of 89.03% in Jul'20, as it remained \$ 148.001Mn compared to \$ 78.299Mn during Jul'19. However, compared to Jun'20 mobile imports witnessed 36% decline in Jul'20. *BR*.

#### Engro launches mobile soil testing lab

Engro Fertilizers has launched its second mobile soil sampling laboratory aimed at supporting farmers in Sindh and aiding to the country's battle against food insecurity. The mobile laboratory will provide free of cost analysis of important factors that determine soil health such as soil type, pH, salinity, micro and macro nutrient availability and organic matter. *BR*.

#### PKR 1Bn disbursed under Kamyab Jawan Program

The govt. has so far disbursed soft loans worth PKR 1Bn among 2,190 qualified entrepreneurs under the Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) of PM's Kamyab Jawan Program. Of the total disbursements, at least 30% were given to women. Executing banks have so far approved two-tier financing of PKR 3Bn for 7,592 eligible businesses. Out of the total approved loans, evaluation of 5,402 businesses is still underway. *Dawn*.

#### PSO launches Euro 5 in Pakistan

PSO has launched Hi-Octane 97 Euro 5 at a ceremony held at PSO Service Station-2, Diplomatic Enclave. Euro 5 standard fuels help minimize the negative impact on our environment owing to reduction in Sulphur and Benzene content by a staggering 98% and 80% respectively, thereby reducing harmful vehicle emissions, providing health benefits and improving engine performance. *The News*.

#### Pharma sales up 9% to PKR 453.5Bn in FY20

Overall pharmaceutical sales for FY20 clocked in at PKR 453.5Bn, posting a growth of 9%, a report by IQVIA, the global information and technology solution provider, revealed. The share of national drug-makers was 68%, while that of foreign ones stood at 32%. With the present growth rate the market size for pharmaceuticals is expected to double in the next 10 years in Pakistan. *The News*.

#### WPPs to reduce delayed payment rate by 2.5%, RoE to 13%, O&M cost by 20-25%

The Wind Power Plants (WPPs) have agreed to reduce Delayed Payment rate by 2.5%, Return on Equity to 13%, O&M cost by 20 to 25%. A MoU was signed between the Committee for Negotiations with IPPs and the WPPs in this regard. *The Nation*.

#### Cars sale, production fell by 7.70%, 49.73% respectively in July

The sale and production of cars have decreased by 7.70% and 49.73% respectively during 1MFY21 compared to 1MFY20. During the Jul'20, as many as 10,123 cars were sold against the sale of 10,968 units while the production of cars decreased from 16,472 units to 8,280 units. However among cars, the sale of Honda cars increased by 52.20% from 1,452 units during Jul'19 to 2,210 units during Jul'20. *The Nation*.

**\*\* KCCI has received an inquiry (from Uzbekistan) regarding medical equipment and instruments (laparoscopic operations, endourological operations, knee reconstruction, arthroscopy, gastro fibroscopy, duodenofibroscopy, endoscopy, bronchofibroscopy, colonofibroscopy and videolaryngoscopy). Manufacturers/exporters are encouraged to get in touch with KCCI Research (res@kcci.com.pk) for more details as soon as possible.**