



Federal, Sindh govts. form joint committee for development of Karachi

The federal and Sindh govts. have decided to set up a six-member committee to jointly look into the issues of Karachi city and to ensure early completion of the long standing development projects of the port city. Ministers for Planning Asad Umar said that both sides met for the third time, they reached at a consensus to work together in six priority areas including water, sewerage, transport, roads infrastructure, solid waste disposal and clearance of encroachments. Daily Times

Additional PKR 190Bn financing for exporters

SBP has announced additional support of PKR 190Bn for exporters and investors in the export-oriented sectors to safeguard against reduction in global export opportunities due to the pandemic. In order to facilitate exporters, SBP has enhanced the limit of refinancing provided to banks under Exports Finance Scheme (EFS) by PKR 100Bn and banks will now have an overall limits of PKR 700Bn for FY21. To promote export-oriented investment, PKR 90Bn have also been allocated under the Long Term Financing Facility (LTFF) for the FY21, in addition to the limit of PKR 100Bn already allocated to banks and financial institutions under Temporary Economic Relief Facility (TERF) -- a concessionary refinance scheme for setting up of industrial units. Dawn.

Pending dues, tariff adjustments: KE decides to make public appeal to federal govt

Karachi Electric (KE) has decided to make a public appeal to the federal govt. for clearance of its pending dues immediately and adjustment in its tariff. Karachi's power tariff is PKR 2.89/unit less than the rest of the country and must be brought in line with the prevalent Uniform Tariff Policy across Pakistan. K-Electric will invest \$ 2bn over the next three years across its power value chain, including a 900 MW RLNG-fired power plant. BR.

Unemployment may reach 21.5% in 2020: ADB-ILO report

Unemployment could reach 21.5% in 2020 compared to 8.9% in 2019 as more than 2.3Mn youths in Pakistan are feared to lose their jobs in case of a long-term containment scenario implemented to curtail the coronavirus spread. This has been stated in a report titled "Tackling the Covid-19 Youth Employment Crisis in Asia and the Pacific" co-published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). BR.

Centre, Sindh agree to solve Karachi's 6 problems together

A meeting of federal and Sindh govt. representatives have agreed on setting up a coordination committee to work on 6 key areas of infrastructural development in Karachi. The committee would work water, sewerage system, solid waste disposal, clearing nullahs and removing encroachments, repairing roads, and introducing a modern transportation system. The News.

Bank deposits soar to PKR 16.12Tn

Majority of the businesses faced a tough battle amid the Covid-19 outbreak but banks thrived as deposits soared significantly to record high of over PKR 16Tn, while lending to the govt. peaked close to PKR 11Tn during the health crisis in Pakistan. Banks deposits grew by PKR 1.3Tn during the challenging March-July 2020 period to PKR 16.12Tn. They peaked at PKR 16.22Tn in Jun'20. Tribune.

FBR shifts thousands of revenue cases to three large taxpayer units

In a bid to implement the restructuring plan, FBR has brought major changes into jurisdiction and handed over thousands of major revenue potential cases to 3 large taxpayer units located in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad. The News.

FBR officials directed to expedite operation against tax evasion, fake invoices

FBR Chairman Javed Ghani has issued directions to all the FBR field offices to expedite operation against tax evasion and play active role to stop the menace of fake and flying invoices. While implementing the directions, the Karachi Field Office of FBR has taken action against a fake business unit which was involved in evading duties and taxes at import stage under SRO 1125. FBR has said that it will grant reward to whistle blowers under its Reward Rules. The News.

Govt to raise PKR 150Bn from Ijarah Sukuk issuance

The govt. is set to raise PKR 150Bn with the reopening of its existing 5-year Ijarah Sukuk issuance, maturing in Jul'25. The move would help support the budgetary position and deepen the Islamic banking industry. The News.

Pakistan exports 125,000 tons mangoes worth \$ 72Mn

Pakistan has achieved higher mango exports during the current season, as it exported 125,000 tons of the fruit, worth \$ 72Mn, despite numerous issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The News.

No hassle-free tax refunds for individual taxpayers

Karachi based Tax practitioners have said that individual and salaried persons are facing difficulties in receiving payment of income tax refund. They said there were hurdles in verification of withholding challans submitted by the taxpayers, which resulted in rejection of deferment of refund claims. The govt. had announced a policy to provide relief to the masses from the coronavirus pandemic, and under that it started disbursing payments of income tax refunds to claimants. The News.

Pakistan, Uzbekistan to ink MoU for JWG on Trade, Investment next month

Pakistan and Uzbekistan would sign MoU for establishment of Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment in the upcoming visit of Uzbek Deputy PM to Pakistan in Sept'20. Adviser on Commerce Razak Dawood, said that measures for increasing trade and connectivity by road, rail and air will be discussed in the meeting. The Nation.

CDWP defers approval of scheme for Dasu project

CDWP has deferred approval of PKR 132Bn plan for power evacuation from the Dasu hydropower project after a cost overrun of almost 46%. The main reason for the cost increase was reported as a 49% depreciation in the rupee's value, leading to the forex component shooting up from PKR 79.58Bn to PKR 112.28Bn. The CDWP also approved two projects having a total cost of PKR 9.4Bn and recommended two other World Bank-funded projects worth PKR 116.4Bn to the Ecneq for formal approval. Dawn.

Permits for 1.57Mn tons of wheat import issued

The Department of Plant Protection has so far issued permits to 380 private importers for procuring 1,576,000 tons of wheat. Six letters of credit have been opened whereas two are under process. Moreover, nine vessels have been booked up to Oct'20 for approximately 65,000 tons each. Dawn.

Govt raises PKR 39Bn thru bonds auction

The govt. has raised PKR 38.8Bn through auction of Pakistan Investment Bonds (PIBs) from total bids of PKR 108Bn. The highest amount of PKR 16.6Bn was picked up for three-year bonds at the rate of 8.2%. For 15-year papers it raised PKR 12Bn at 9.98%, PKR 10Bn for longest maturity bonds of 20 years at 10.55%, PKR 187Mn for 5-year papers at 8.45% and PKR 55Mn for 10 years at 8.99%. Dawn.

Heimtextil to be held in January

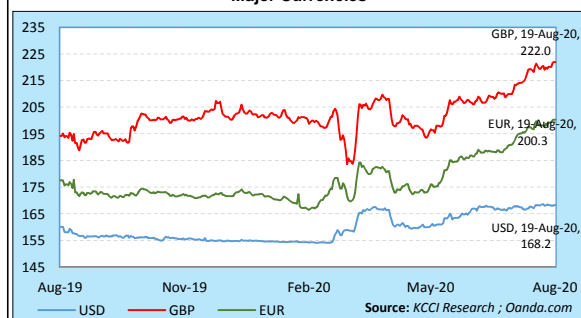
Heimtextil, the biggest international trade fair for home and contract textiles, will be held in Frankfurt from 12th Jan to 15th Jan'21. A total of 231 exhibitors participated from Pakistan in Heimtextil 2020, in which some exhibitors participated through Pakistan Pavilion and the rest had participated directly. It was the largest participation in any exhibition from Pakistan. The News.

Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	19-Aug	PKR	168.27	0.04%
USD-Open MKT	19-Aug	PKR	168.80	0.12%
KSE-100 index	19-Aug	Pts.	40,154	-0.07%
FIPI	19-Aug	\$ Mn	2.36	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	19-Aug	\$/bbl	43.00	1.13%
Gold (MA'19)	19-Aug	\$/oz	1,925.7	-3.83%
Gold (10g) Local	19-Aug	PKR	105,200	-2.05%
Silver (MA'19)	19-Aug	\$/oz	26.59	-4.27%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	19-Aug	PKR	9,002	0.59%
Kibor-6M	19-Aug	%	7.21	0.00%
Forex Reserves	7-Aug	\$ Bn	19.52	-0.23%
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

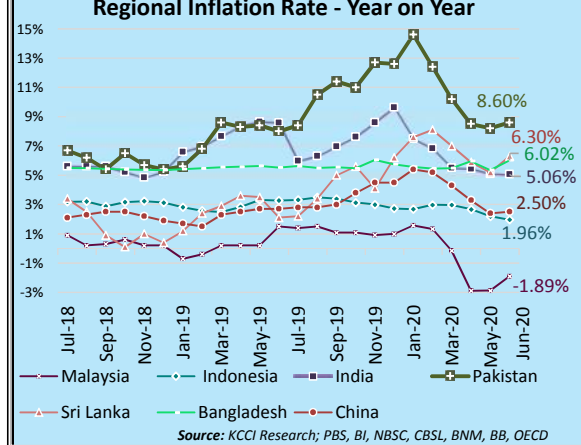


Quote of the Day

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity"

Amelia Earhart

Regional Inflation Rate - Year on Year



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