



Industry convulsed by GIDC: Karachi business leaders stress issue with PM

PM Imran Khan has cooled down industrialists regarding the boiling issue of Gas Infrastructure Development Cess (GIDC) by assuring them 'he is working to resolve the issue.' KCCI President Agha Shahab apprised the PM of the massive losses, which the business and trading community suffered during the Covid-19-induced lockdown and recent urban flooding. The businessmen proposed the govt. to create a dozen more industrial zones in the city, which would facilitate wealth creation and its distribution among masses. *Dawn/The News-Sun.*

Developing Karachi: PM Imran takes businessmen on board

PM Imran Khan has made sure that representatives from the business community - the architect of economic growth - are taken on board to improve infrastructure of the mega city of ports and the economic hub of Pakistan. He also agreed to consider relaxing his govt.'s stance on industrialists with regard to payment of PKR 400Bn on account of Gas Infrastructure Development Cess (GIDC) over the next two years. At the meeting, KCCI President Agha Shahab Khan termed infrastructure development a must for industrialization in the city aimed at gearing up economic activities nationwide. He said that industrialization will create job opportunities, distribute wealth among the masses and put economy and the society on the right direction. *Tribune-Sun.*

Centre, not Sindh govt will spend major chunk of Karachi uplift package: Asad

The federal govt. will spend the major chunk of Karachi development package of PKR 1.1Tn announced by PM Imran Khan a day earlier. Planning Minister Asad Umar has said that the federal govt. will bear 62% expenses while the remaining 38% to be spent by the provincial govt. *Tribune-Sun.*

PM Imran Khan lays out PKR 1.1Tn Karachi package

PM Imran Khan has unveiled a PKR 1,100Bn development package for Karachi to resolve its immediate problems arising from the recent catastrophic rains and its decades-old civic issues at the same time. Issues of solid waste disposal, mass transit, bulk water supply, drainage, sewerage, and dilapidated road networks would be resolved in a maximum of 3 years under the development package. Karachi Circular Railway Project and Bus Rapid Transit Systems would be developed under this package, as for the purpose the federal and Sindh govt. would work under a joint strategy. NDMA would continue with its operation to de-silt storm water drains in the city, while the Sindh govt. would resettle the people whose houses had encroached upon the lands of drains. *The News-Sun.*

Time to review if Centre should take over KE: Asad Umar

Planning Minister, Asad Umar, has said that a serious review should take place to determine whether K-Electric should remain with its present private owners or else the management of the city's power utility should be given back to the govt. He added that an amendment needs to be incorporated into the license of the K-Electric in accordance with the direction of the Supreme Court. He said that uniform electricity rates should be imposed in Karachi like the rest of Pakistan. This comes after NEPRA had decided to increase the tariff of K-Electric. *The News-Sun.*

Shallwani appointed as Karachi administrator

Sindh govt. has appointed Iftikhar Shallwani as the administrator of Karachi. It is pertinent to mention that Iftikhar Shallwani was recently removed from the post of Commissioner Karachi and appointed as provincial secretary of local govt. *BR-Sun.*

Nepra likely to change terms and conditions of K-E's power distribution license

NEPRA is likely to change the terms and condition of K-Electric's power distribution license and has invited comments from the stakeholders regarding the Authority Proposed Modification. It added that in order to encourage competition for provision of electric power services in Karachi to enhance efficiency, to ensure better price, quality of service, choice for consumers and to regularize resale/distribution of electric power business, it is in the public interest to modify the terms of distribution license of K-E. *The Nation-Mon.*

65% more refunds processed in FY20, NA panel told

The govt. has stated that 65% more refunds have been processed through a centralised automated system during FY20 as compared to FY19. The Finance Division, informed a finance standing committee. Around PKR 126Bn refunds had been issued during FY20 and those included PKR 10Bn income tax refunds, PKR 40Bn sales tax refunds, custom duty drawbacks PKR 20Bn and PKR 26Bn tax relief granted under PM's COVID relief package. In addition, the govt. also issued refunds bonds of PKR 30Bn to address the hardship faced by the business community. *BR-Sun.*

Customs duty collection falls 16% to PKR 31.4Bn in August

Customs duty collection from goods at the sea ports fell 16 % year-on-year in Aug'20 to PKR 31.35Bn as compared with PKR 37.37Bn in Aug'19, owing to torrential rains and urban flooding during the month. *The News-Sun.*

Govt abolishes import duties on 41% of industrial inputs

Adviser on Commerce Razak Dawood has said that the govt. has abolished import duties on 41% of industrial raw materials, which are more than 1,600 tariff lines. He added that the Ministry of Commerce is also working on a 3-year plan to rationalize tariffs, especially the duties on raw materials and also on making the process of getting refunds easier for the exporters. He emphasized need to shift from low value-added products to high-end manufacturing and moving from import to strengthen the manufacturing sector. *The News-Sun.*

Sindh govt notifies Keamari as 7th district of Karachi

The Sindh govt. has issued a notification of Keamari as the 7th district of Karachi after the bifurcation of District West of the city. The Keamari district includes the sub-divisions of SITE, Baldia, Keamari, and Mauripur. District west will now comprise Manghopir, Orangi and Mominabad sub-divisions. *The News-Sun.*

Cotton prices hit season high of PKR 9,300 per maund

Cotton prices hit the season's highest rate of PKR 9,300 per maund in the Punjab as rain-related disruptions in cotton harvest triggered price hike in the local markets. In Sindh, Cotton prices increased PKR 300 to PKR 350 per maund to PKR 8,550 to 8,700 per maund during the outgoing week because of a decline in supply due to heavy rains. *The News-Sun.*

Timely completion of CPEC projects top on govt priority

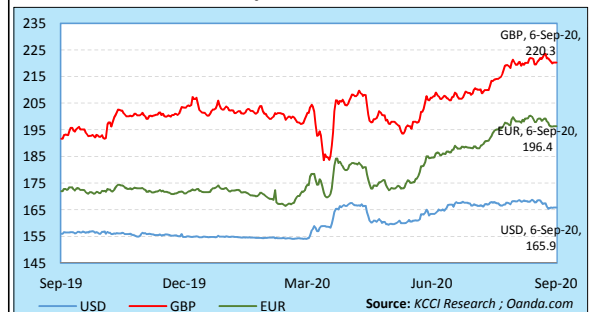
Construction work of ongoing road infrastructure projects under CPEC is going on smoothly and ample allocations have been made in PSDP to ensure that these schemes are accomplished in time, an official of National Highway Authority informed. *Daily Times-Sun.*

Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	4-Sep	PKR	165.77	-0.16%
USD-Open MKT	4-Sep	PKR	166.40	-0.51%
KSE-100 index	4-Sep	Pts.	42,023	-0.39%
FIPI	4-Sep	\$ Mn	-2.78	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	4-Sep	\$/bbl	39.44	-4.55%
Gold (MA'19)	4-Sep	\$/oz	1,931.7	-0.25%
Gold (10g) Local	4-Sep	PKR	103,000	-0.48%
Silver (MA'19)	4-Sep	\$/oz	26.97	1.27%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	4-Sep	PKR	9,538	0.00%
Kibor-6M	4-Sep	%	7.27	0.01%
Forex Reserves	28-Aug	\$ Bn	19.84	WoW 0.61% YoY
Remittances	Jul-20	\$ Bn	2.77	36.50%
Exports*	Jul-Aug 20	\$ Bn	3.58	-4.27%
Imports*	Jul-Aug 20	\$ Bn	6.97	-6.28%
Trade Balance*	Jul-Aug 20	\$ Bn	-3.38	8.32%
Current Account	Jul-20	\$ Bn	0.42	169.17%
Foreign Direct Inv.	Jul-20	\$ Bn	0.11	60.76%
LSM Growth*	Jul-Jun 20	%	-10.17	
Avg. CPI	Jul-Aug 20	%	8.20	
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

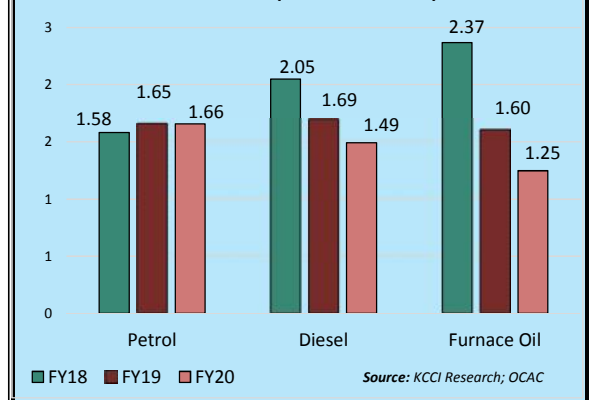


Quote of the Day

"A wise person should have money in their head, but not in their heart"

Jonathan Swift

Consumption of Selected Petroleum Products in Sindh (Mn Metric Tons)



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