

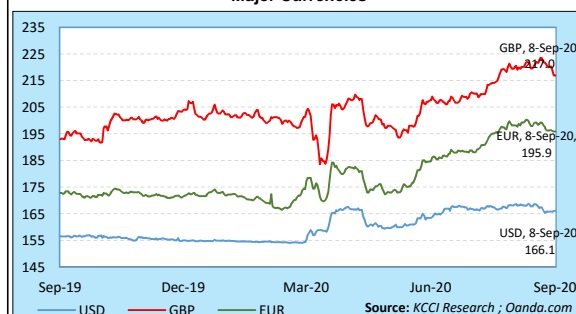


Economic Indicators

List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD-Interbank	8-Sep	PKR	166.43	0.34%
USD-Open MKT	8-Sep	PKR	167.30	0.18%
KSE-100 index	8-Sep	Pts.	41,985	-0.73%
FIPI	8-Sep	\$ Mn	-0.03	NM**
Crude (AP'19)	8-Sep	\$/bbl	42.93	8.85%
Gold (MA'19)	8-Sep	\$/oz	1,929.5	-0.11%
Gold (10g) Local	8-Sep	PKR	105,710	0.00%
Silver (MA'19)	8-Sep	\$/oz	26.63	-1.25%
Cotton(KHI)-40 kg	8-Sep	PKR	9,431	0.00%
Kibor-6M	8-Sep	%	7.30	0.02%
			WoW	0.61%
Forex Reserves	28-Aug	\$ Bn	19.84	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

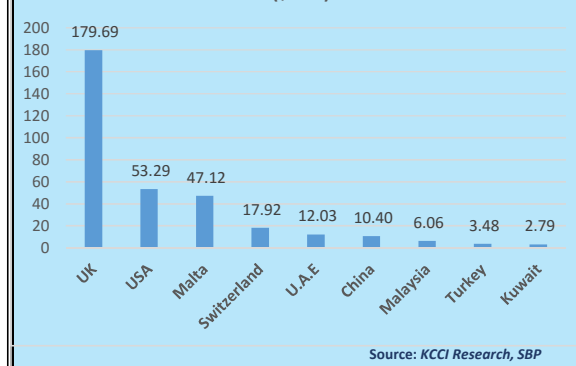


Quote of the Day

“Just start, Don't worry that you don't have all the answers yet.”

Ali Webb

Repatriation of Profit / Dividend by Country on Foreign Investment from Pakistan- 1MFY21 (\$ Mn)



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KCCI demands power distribution licences for private sector

KCCI has demanded the govt. to let the private sector foray into distribution of electricity to overcome the energy crisis and urged Neptra to withdraw the exclusive rights of power generation, sales and distribution granted to K-Electric in Jul'03. President KCCI Agha Shahab, has said that the exclusivity granted to a single company to undertake sale and distribution of electric power is tantamount to creation of monopoly on a vital source of energy because of which cost of electricity for industrial, commercial and residential consumers has sharply increased and the cost of production for industries has gone extremely high leading to the chronic problem of circular debt. KCCI also expressed the intention to become a party to the proceedings of suo moto case in the Supreme Court on load shedding and electrocution in the city. KCCI President said that at least 3 to 4 companies should be issued licenses for distribution and sale of electric power instead of just one, in order to ensure a competitive pricing, quality of service and maintenance of infrastructure. *The News.*

FBR simplifies tax form for retailers

FBR has introduced simplified income tax return for retailers having turnover less than PKR 10Mn. FBR has released draft form of the return through SRO 821(i)/2020 and asked stakeholders to give input within 7 days for finalization of the return. The introduction of simplified income tax return form is part of an agreement between the govt. and retailers that was finalized in Jan'20. The condition of withholding agents had been relaxed through the Finance Act 2020. Further, the threshold of annual electricity bill of PKR 600,000 for mandatory sales tax registration had also been increased to PKR 1.2Mn. *The News.*

PTI govt. moves to review first right of use over natural gas provision

The federal govt. has decided to seek consent of the provinces to review the first right of use over natural gas provision and weighted average prices of LNG. Adviser on Petroleum Nadeem Babar has said that Article 158 of the Constitution regarding distribution of gas would become irrelevant in coming years as the demand would substantially grow and gas-producing provinces will face a deficit to meet even local demand. *Tribune.*

Govt. launches National Job Portal

The federal govt. has launched "National Job Portal (NJP)" to help the unemployed especially the young to find employability in public and private sectors. The portal - <https://njp.gov.pk/> - provides latest information on jobs available in the public and private sectors. The NJP will introduce certified skilled youth to connect them with potential employers. *BR.*

Govt to allocate \$ 200,000 for PCMA research, chemical plant

Ministry of Science has agreed to allocate \$ 200,000 to help Chemical Manufacturers conduct research and complete business plan on Naphtha Cracker and Chlorine Chain. The govt. would support manufacturing of essential chemicals within the country under Make in Pakistan Program. Chemical manufacturers have developed a plan for import substitution of \$ 5Bn by 2025 by producing 14 chemical products, which were currently being imported from Saudi Arabia, China, UAE, Kuwait and Thailand. *The News.*

Dysfunctional power plants: Closure approved by cabinet

Minister for Information Shibli Faraz has said that the federal cabinet has approved closure of dysfunctional power plants. Under the cabinet's decision, the plants of 1,479MW capacity are being shut down immediately while other dysfunctional plants of 1,460MW would be shut down by Sep'20. *BR.*

ECC to impose ban on potato export today

ECC, which is scheduled to meet today (9th Sep'20) with Finance Advisor in the chair, will impose ban on export of potatoes with immediate effect and till 31st Dec'20 as prices have reached PKR 100 per kg in some parts of the country. *BR.*

FBR slaps PKR 47Mn penalties on non-compliant retailers

FBR has slapped at least PKR 47Mn penalties on retailers who couldn't give the tax authority real-time access to their sale invoice systems by the deadline. *The News.*

Panel passes 'The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Amendment Bill 2019'

A parliamentary body has passed "The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Amendment Bill 2019" seeking that the rules or subordinate legislations should be laid before both the houses of parliament and standing committees to ensure effective oversight. Since the law deal with the protection, care and welfare of children only, hence the participation of any member from the child rights commission would be more desirable in this regard. *BR.*

Remittances set to fall: Fitch

The Fitch Ratings forecasts Pakistan's current account to widen to 1.7% of the GDP in FY21, in part as remittances fall and offset gains from lower oil prices. The rating agency in its special report, "APAC remittances and the coronavirus shock" stated that remittances set to decline in 2020 despite recovery in recent months. High debt-to-GDP ratios in Pakistan constrain the ability to respond to possible rising social-spending needs, said Fitch Ratings. *BR.*

Flour prices set to fall as imported wheat arrives in Pakistan

Flour prices are expected to go down across the country following the arrival of 3 ships carrying wheat imported by the private sector. Earlier, the supply of the staple crop dropped in Pakistan owing to bad weather, Covid-19 lockdown and mismanagement in the commodity's procurement. Owing to the scarcity, the price of a 10kg bag of flour increased from PKR 600 to PKR 700 a few months ago. *Tribune.*

Two-third of Pakistan's filers declare just PKR 41,000 monthly income

Two out of every three Pakistani individuals and companies that filed income tax returns declared a little over PKR 41,000 monthly income - the earning that does not support a decent lifestyle - and paid either no or negligible tax, revealed an official analysis of tax year 2018. According to details presented by FBR to the federal cabinet, financial, insurance, mining and construction sectors were the ones that were paying more in direct taxes than their shares in the national output. *Tribune.*

No capacity in existing pipelines: Two new LNG terminals approved

The federal govt. has approved two new LNG terminals at Port Qasim conditionalising them to NOCs from the defense ministry within 30 days, while the Petroleum Division will allocate the capacity to them in the existing pipeline on first come first served basis. This will help complete formalities, making the terminal operators able to set up new LNG terminals. *The News.*

Ferry service for pilgrims approved

The federal cabinet has given approval to the launching of a ferry service for pilgrims (Zaireen and Hujjai) to provide them an affordable travel facility. Minister for Maritime Affairs Ali Zaidi termed the cabinet's decision a historic one, saying: Maritime frontiers (of Pakistan) are now open for sea travel. He said all necessary facilities — immigration and customs — would be provided to passengers at Port Qasim, Karachi, and Gwadar. *Dawn.*

Govt-owned power plants: Payables to be settled at par with settlement with IPPs

The federal govt. has reportedly decided to settle payables of govt.-owned power plants amounting to PKR 357Bn as of Jun'20 at par with settlement with IPPs. *BR.*