

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 | 17 Shawal 1438 Hijri

Market Today (July 11, 2017)

Opening	PSX	Gold Per 10 gm	KCA Spot Rate	Crude Oil USD /bbl.
	44,107.71	43,028.00	6,835.00	44.56

(Source: Business Recorder)

Exchange rates issued by the Treasury Management Division of National Bank of Pakistan. July 11, 2017

Country	Currency	Selling TT & OD	Buying TT Clear
USA	USD	105.8	105.6
UK	GBP	136.28	136.02
Euro	EUR	120.54	120.32
Canada	CAD	82.04	81.88
Switzerland	CHF	109.46	109.25
Australia	AUD	80.6	80.45
Sweden	SEK	12.67	12.64
Japan	JPY	0.9263	0.9246
Norway	NOK	12.68	12.66
Singapore	SGD	76.44	76.29
Denmark	DKK	16.21	16.18
Saudi Arabia	SAR	28.21	28.16
Hong Kong	HKD	13.68	13.66
China	CNY	15.75	15.73
Kuwait	KWD	348.71	348.06
Malaysia	MYR	24.62	24.57
New Zealand	NZD	76.6	76.45
Qatar	QAR	28.52	28.46
UAE	AED	28.8	28.75

(Source: Business Recorder)

Sectoral Share in GDP %

Sectors/Sub-Sectors	2014-15	2015-16 (p)
Commodity Producing Sector (Agriculture + Industrial Sector)	41.4	40.8
Agriculture	20.80	19.82
Crops	8.2	7.4
Livestock	11.7	11.6
Fishing	0.4	0.4
Forestry	0.4	0.4
Industrial Sector	20.6	21.0
Mining & Quarrying	2.9	2.9
Manufacturing	13.6	13.6
Construction	2.4	2.6
Electricity & Gas Distribution	1.7	1.9
Services Sector	58.6	59.2
Transport, Storage & communication	13.4	13.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	18.3	18.3
Finance & Insurance	3.2	3.3
Ownership of Dwellings	6.7	6.7
General Government Services	7.1	7.6
Other Services	9.9	10.1

(Source: Economic Survey of Pakistan 2015-16)

Pakistan's trade deficit touches new height, stands at \$32.6b

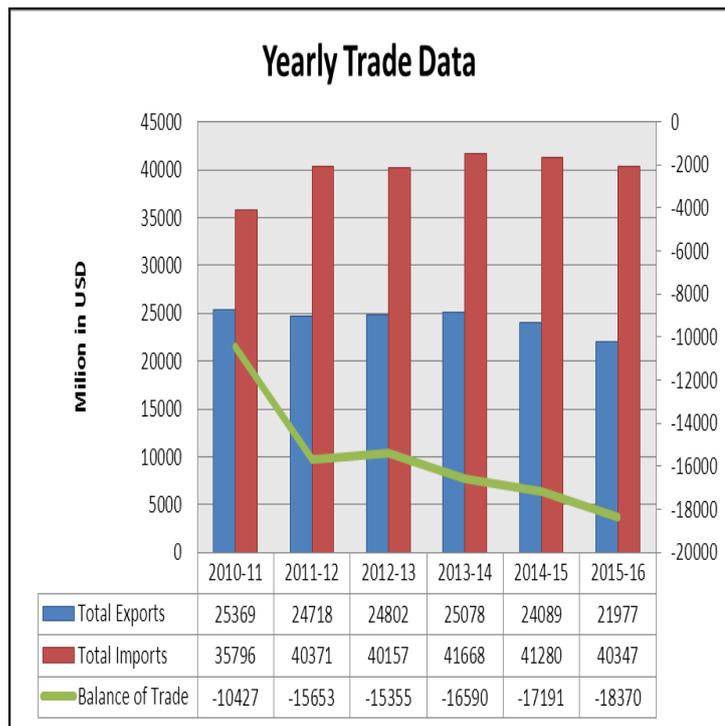
Pakistan booked a record trade deficit of \$32.6 billion in the last fiscal year after exports nosedived to a six-year low while imports surged to a historical level of \$53 billion, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Tuesday. The government missed all of its trade sector targets for fiscal year 2016-17 that ended on June 30, which adversely affected its current account deficit projection and official foreign currency reserves. This also puts a question mark over the projections made at the time of budget making every year. The gap between imports and exports widened to \$32.3 billion during July-June period of the previous fiscal year, according to PBS. It was 36.3% or \$8.7 billion more than the preceding fiscal year. The trade deficit was also \$12 billion higher than the government's own target for fiscal year 2016-17, which can have adverse consequences for foreign currency reserves. The finance ministry meanwhile, is busy painting a rosy picture of the external sector, which is putting unabated pressure on the balance of payments position. It was the fourth straight month when the trade deficit breached the previous highest record and the country closed the year with a \$32.6 billion trade deficit. Fresh trade statistics have further deepened concerns about the long-term sustainability of the external sector, which the government is already maintaining by borrowing from foreign countries and commercial banks. Cheaper imports have also started hurting import-substitution industries as government policies including increased taxation have made these industries cost ineffective. Exports plunged by 1.63% to \$20.44 billion during the previous fiscal year – falling to a six-year low level. The exports were \$339 million less than the receipts in the preceding year. This figure was also \$4.3 billion lower than the official target of \$24.8 billion set by the government itself for the last fiscal year. In comparison, the import bill increased to \$53 billion in the last fiscal year – the highest ever in Pakistan's history. The figure reflects an increase of \$8.34 billion or 18.7% over the previous fiscal year. In this case too, the import bill breached the government's own target by \$7.8 billion. It was 259% more than the exports during the same period. Foreign remittances also witnessed a decrease in the last fiscal year. One of the reasons behind the steep decline in exports and ballooning trade deficit was a strong rupee against the US dollar that has made imports cheaper. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) had depreciated the rupee by 3.1% to Rs108.25 against the US dollar on July 5. However, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's intervention again strengthened the rupee. **(Express Tribune)**

Currency: Rupee strengthens against dollar

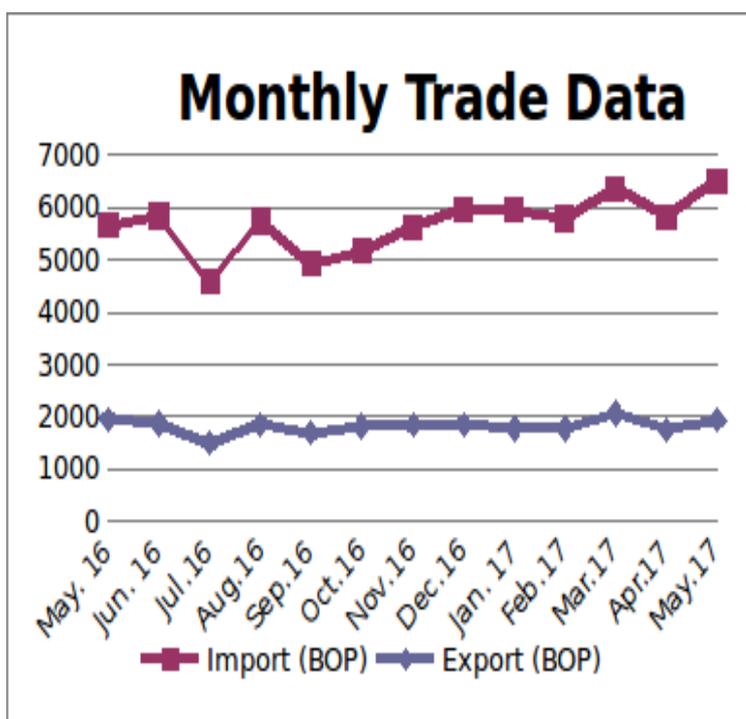
The rupee strengthened against the dollar at 105.6/105.8 in the inter-bank market on Tuesday compared to Monday's close of 105.7/105.9. The currency market has fluctuated regularly in recent months with hefty rises and falls on some occasions. In the long run, however, the rupee has stood firm after experiencing extensive volatility, when it weakened from around Rs98 to a dollar to above Rs103 in the wake of political impasse over alleged election rigging. The central bank has imposed 100% cash margin on the import of certain consumer goods to restrict the demand for US dollars. The rupee has been one of the best performing currencies in Asia for over three years despite the dollar's sharp appreciation against other currencies. However, the International Monetary Fund has repeatedly said that Pakistan's rupee is overvalued by 5-20%. According to analysts, the artificial support for the rupee has adversely affected Pakistan's exports. **(Express Tribune)**

Economic Indicators	
Annual (2015/16)	
Foreign Debt	\$62.649bn
Per Capita Income	\$1,512
GDP Growth	4.24%
Average CPI	8.6%
Monthly (May, 2017)	
Trade Balance	\$-2,682 mln
Exports	\$1,944mln
Imports	\$4,572mln
Weekly (June 23, 2017)	
Reserves	\$21.36 mln

(Source: Business Recorder)



(Source: SBP)



(Source: SBP)

Sri Lankan Delegation: Pakistan to export 25,000mt of rice

Pakistan has agreed to initially provide 25,000 metric ton non-basmati rice to Sri Lanka urgently, that would be procured on a government-to-government basis. A delegation of Sri Lanka arrived on Monday to finalise the issue of exporting 300,000 tons rice to Sri Lanka. A meeting in this regard was held at the Ministry of Commerce led by Commerce Secretary Younas Dagha. The two sides also discussed signing a MoU between Trade Corporation of Pakistan and Cooperative Wholesale Establishment (CWE) of Sri Lanka for selling commodities. **(Express Tribune)**

Marble exports down 32%, amount to \$39.46m

Pakistan's marble exports significantly declined to \$39.46 million in fiscal year ended on June 2017, down 32% from \$57.96 million in fiscal year 2016, according to All Pakistan Marble Mining Processing Industry and Exporters Association Chairman Sanaullah Khan. According to Khan, the main reason for the sharp decline in exports is due to lack of banks' support to the industry. The industry is unable to get industrial loans and is forced to get bank loans on commercial rate, which discourages the industry to expand operations despite huge demand of Pakistani marble in different world markets. Khan said that domestic demand of marble is also increasing with the growth in the construction industry, but the industry is unable to invest in latest machinery. "What is discouraging for the industry is that it is unable to meet even the growing domestic demand," said Khan. Due to the indifferent attitude of the government institutions, even the leading marble exporters of Pakistan are looking into the domestic market to avoid losses due to high risk involved in export markets. Industry officials believe the successive governments have failed in giving proper policies, which has also contributed to the deterioration of the marble industry. They also blame Pakistan Stone Development Company for the decline of the marble industry. Pakistan's big cities, especially Karachi has witnessed big housing projects, which boosted the demand of all construction materials including marble but the local industry is unable to provide quality products to these projects, said an official of a marble factory. As a result, these projects are using imported marble, which can be supplied by the local industry. **(Express Tribune)**

Doomsday at the stock exchange

Stock investors were in for a rude awakening on Tuesday as the KSE-100 index took a plunge of 1,000 points even before the opening bell had died down. As the investors stared at the trading board in disbelief, the market saw shares close at their lower circuits in droves. "It surely is not the day for the faint-hearted," murmured an old-timer who almost fell on the bench in the trading hall. By the close of trading, the benchmark index tanked 2,153 points, the biggest-ever single-day decline. The 4.65 per cent decrease is the biggest decline in percentage terms since the last great fall on Feb 25, 2009. The market has dipped 7.5 pc since January. This appears quite bearable, although the market has dropped 16.2pc from the index peak on May 24. On Tuesday, Rs403bn was wiped off the shareholders' wealth. Only a day earlier, the market seemed to have scored a relief rally with a gain of 1,052 points or 2.33pc. The rally on Monday was led by mutual funds, which turned out to be massive sellers on Tuesday when they disposed of stocks worth \$11.6 million. Banks also jettisoned shares worth \$11.1m. Other local participants cherry-picked, including individuals who bought back stocks worth \$3.15m to cover their Monday's oversold positions of \$14.7m. **(Dawn)**