

Market Today (July 25, 2017)

Opening	PSX	Gold Per 10 gm	KCA Spot Rate	Crude Oil USD /bbl.
	45,990.17	43,028.00	6,835.00	46.34

(Source: Express Tribune)

Exchange rates issued by the Treasury Management Division of National Bank of Pakistan. July 25, 2017

Country	Currency	Selling TT & OD	Buying TT Clear
USA	USD	105.5	105.3
UK	GBP	137.31	137.05
Euro	EUR	123.15	122.92
Canada	CAD	84.13	83.97
Switzerland	CHF	111.53	111.32
Australia	AUD	83.55	83.39
Sweden	SEK	12.94	12.91
Japan	JPY	0.951	0.9492
Norway	NOK	13.13	13.1
Singapore	SGD	77.47	77.32
Denmark	DKK	16.56	16.53
Saudi Arabia	SAR	28.13	28.08
Hong Kong	HKD	13.66	13.63
China	CNY	15.97	15.94
Kuwait	KWD	349.86	349.2
Malaysia	MYR	24.63	24.58
New Zealand	NZD	78.49	78.34
Qatar	QAR	28.97	28.92
UAE	AED	28.72	28.67

(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)

Losses incurred: Lack of branding shifts benefits to other countries

Lack of branding and value addition is shifting all benefits to other countries which are earning hugely from global trade while Pakistan is struggling to achieve minor export targets, say businessmen associated with the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). Speaking at an awareness session at the chamber premises, LCCI President Abdul Basit, Senior Vice President Amjad Ali Jawa and Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan said lack of interest and awareness of branding and value addition was causing a huge loss to the national economy. "We are getting far less benefits from the potential of the country and quality of its products," they said. Many countries are importing Pakistan's unbranded products and selling them to the world with their own brands. Likewise, most of the natural produce like salt, precious and semi-precious stones is being exported from Pakistan in raw form despite the fact that value addition can add many times more to their prices. Brand represents reputation and is a tool that attracts consumers towards the product. In the developed world, people love to use branded products because companies with brands don't just sell a product but sell experiences and quality. The LCCI office-bearers were of the view that creating awareness was one of the greatest challenges for businesses that could be tackled through public-private partnership. They asked private sector to plan to promote branding culture in Pakistan to wear off the intensity of economic meltdown being experienced by leading economies of the world. (Express Tribune)

Investment in Punjab: Chinese firms participate in road show

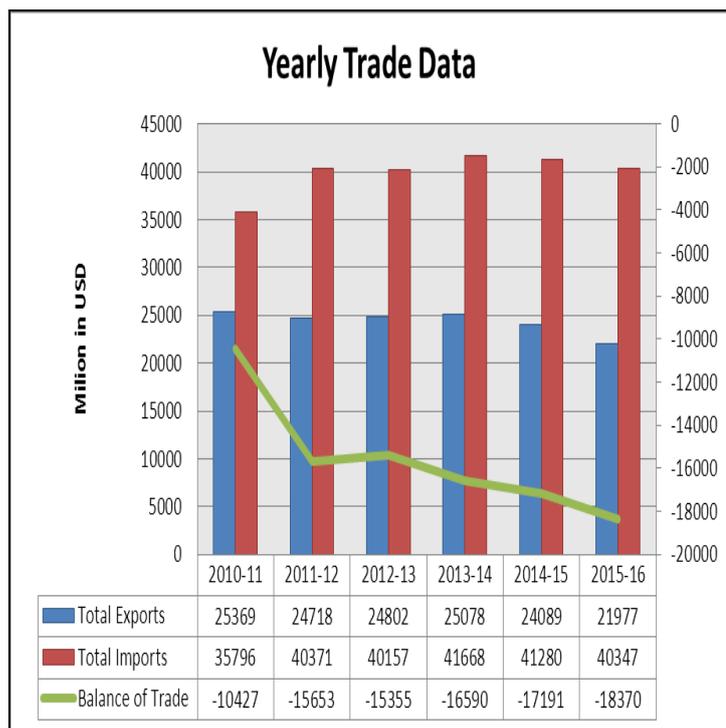
Around 200 heads and representatives of Chinese companies participated in a road show held on Tuesday and expressed their keen interest in investment opportunities offered by the Punjab government in the solid waste management programme in urban and rural areas. The road show, jointly organised by the Punjab government and the Pakistan embassy in Beijing, was attended by Punjab Minister for Local Government Khawaja Manshaullah Butt, technical experts and senior officials of the provincial government. A technical team briefed the participants about investment opportunities in solid waste collection and transportation, landfill construction and operation management, waste-to-energy projects and hospital waste management projects. Speaking on the occasion, the minister invited entrepreneurs to take advantage of the investment-friendly policies and peaceful environment in Punjab. He said long-term cooperation between Pakistan and Chinese companies would provide an opportunity to gain new expertise and experience for better management of solid waste. (Express Tribune)

Big tax breaks for Matiari-Lahore transmission line approved

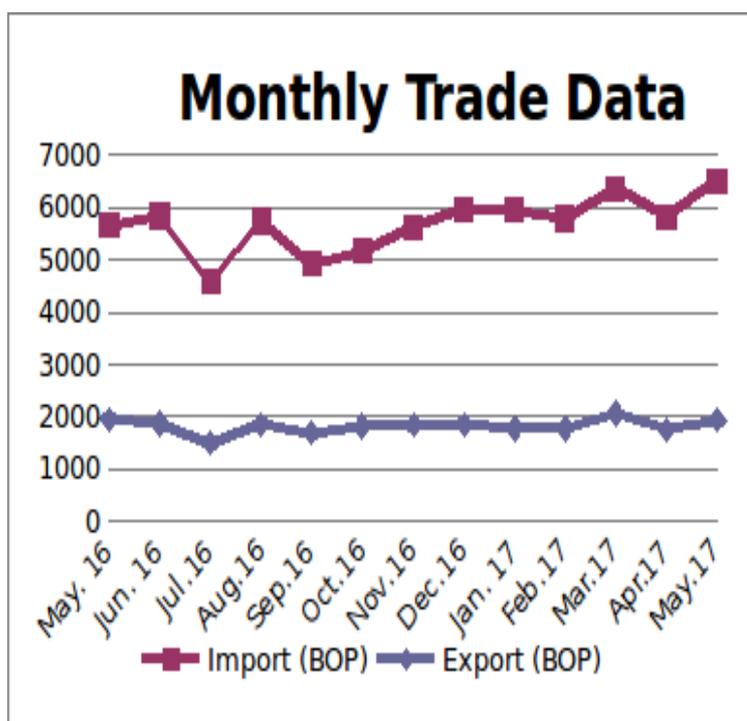
The government allowed on Tuesday unparalleled tax breaks to a \$2.1 billion power transmission line being executed by Chinese contractors and approved a Rs193bn financing arrangement to meet liabilities of the power sector. These decisions were taken at a hurriedly called meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet presided over by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar. The execution of the 878-kilometre Matiari-Lahore transmission line project worth about \$2.1 billion was facing troubles because of differences among stakeholders over taxation issues and the revolving fund for payments to Chinese contractors. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) was insisting on higher taxes under the existing tax laws while the power ministry demanded lower rates. As a result, Mr Dar did not approve the power minister's request for tax breaks at the last ECC meeting held on July 18. He had directed the water and power secretary to get back to the ECC with a consensus after reviewing the Standard Implementation Agreement (SIA) for private-sector transmission lines

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)

and project-specific Transmission Services Agreement (TSA) in consultation with the heads of the law ministry, FBR and power regulator. **(Dawn)**

SECP ordered to audit all foreign companies

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan on Tuesday ordered the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) to carry out an audit of all foreign companies operating in Pakistan. The directives were issued following the receipt of the report of a joint investigation team (JIT) formed to probe the kidnapping of a Chinese couple from Quetta, according to a statement issued by the ministry. The audit would be aimed at identifying companies that are not filing tax returns, or are involved in unauthorised activities. Such companies or firms would have their registration cancelled, the statement said. A foreign company has to register itself with the SECP — the corporate sector regulator — before it can operate in Pakistan. **(Dawn)**

NEPRA approves Rs2.6b refund for consumers

National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) on Tuesday approved Rs26 billion refund for consumers of power Distribution Companies (Discos) by reducing tariff by Rs2.23 per unit for June 2017 under monthly price fuel adjustment formula. The decision was taken at a public hearing presided over by Nepra Vice Chairman Saif Ullah Chatha in the absence of Chairman Brig (retd) Tariq Saddozai. Member Balochistan Maj (retd) Haroon Rashid, Member Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Himayat Ullah Khan and Member Sindh Syed Masoodul Hassan Naqvi also attended the meeting. Representatives of CPPA-G and National Power Control Centre (NPCC) will be available to questions raised by authority members. The reduction in tariff will not be applicable on K-E consumers, lifeline consumers and agriculture consumers. **(Express Tribune)**

Profit repatriation rose to \$2.1bn in 2016-17

Foreign companies operating in Pakistan sent abroad profits and dividends amounting to \$2.1 billion in 2016-17, putting additional burden on the economy that already faces a current account deficit of over \$12bn. Profit repatriation has been increasing every year. The outflow of reverse remittances was close to the inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI) in 2016-17. Although FDI in the last fiscal year rose to \$2.4bn, it was still the lowest as far as regional countries are concerned. FDI was negligible compared to those recorded by neighbouring India and China over the same period. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported on Tuesday that payments on FDI during the fiscal year rose to \$1.73bn compared to \$1.51bn in the preceding year. **(Dawn)**

Pakistan's slippery slope as oil shortage fears come alive

Pakistan's will and ability to enforce regulation came under the scanner, as oil transporters drafted a 'list of demands' after talks to end the strike failed to yield a result on Tuesday. The strike, which began on Monday and has caused immense hardship to consumers already, began when the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) directed oil transporters to meet the safety and quality guidelines introduced in 2009. The regulator maintained that eight years is ample time to meet the requirements. The National Highway Authority (NHA) is also among the authorities implementing the regulations as it checks safety standards in oil tankers transporting the flammable commodity from Khas ports. **(Express Tribune)**

Market watch: KSE-100 ends in the green for third consecutive day

The stock market gained points for the third consecutive day as support came from cherry-picking of retail and industrial stocks by local investors. Political uncertainty due to impending Panama case verdict and Misis terrorist attack in Lahore caused minor fluctuations at the start of the session on Tuesday, but they failed to impact overall growth as the day progressed. After Misis dull trading, volumes recorded a considerable growth, rising to 223 million shares. At close, the benchmark KSE 100-share Index recorded a rise of 388.69 points or 0.85% to finish at 45,917.90. **(Express Tribune)**