

Monday, April 24, 2017 | 26 Rajab ul Murajab 1438 Hijri

Market Today (April 21, 2017)

Opening	PSX	Gold Per 10 gm	KCA Spot Rate	Crude Oil USD /bbl.
	48,743.56	43,971.86	6,600.00	53.18

(Source: Business Recorder)

Exchange rates issued by the Treasury Management Division of National Bank of Pakistan. April 21, 2017

Country	Currency	Selling TT & OD	Buying TT Clear
USA	USD	104.7	104.5
UK	GBP	134.01	133.75
Euro	EUR	112.23	112.02
Canada	CAD	77.69	77.54
Switzerland	CHF	104.8	104.6
Australia	AUD	78.84	78.69
Sweden	SEK	11.65	11.63
Japan	JPY	0.9587	0.9569
Norway	NOK	12.15	12.12
Singapore	SGD	74.9	74.76
Denmark	DKK	15.09	15.06
Saudi Arabia	SAR	27.92	27.86
Hong Kong	HKD	13.62	13.6
China	CNY	15.58	15.55
Kuwait	KWD	343.73	343.07
Malaysia	MYR	23.82	23.78
New Zealand	NZD	73.3	73.16
Qatar	QAR	28.75	28.7
UAE	AED	28.5	28.45

(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)

Rs478.79mn released for industries, production Division

The federal government has released Rs478.79 million out of total allocation of Rs1.029 billion for Industries and Production Division under Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP), 2016-17. According to data provided by Planning Commission, by April 22, 2017 an amount of Rs135.7 million has been released for the development projects of Pakistan Gems and Jewellery Development Company. Similarly for the establishment of CFC for Silk Cluster at Mingora, Swat, an amount of Rs4.65 million out of total allocation of Rs50.9 million for the year 2016-17 has been released. An amount of Rs118.53 million has also been released for the establishment of Bostan Industrial Estate Phase-I, Balochistan out of total allocation of Rs261.9 million while Rs17.15 million have been released for establishment of Gems and Jewelry Development Company, Azad Jammu Kashmir. Likewise, Rs17.75 million have been released for the establishment of infrastructure in Quetta Industrial and Trade Estate (Phase-II) whereas Rs56 million have been released for Hyderabad Engineering Support Center. It is pertinent to mention here that the government has so far released about Rs549.979 billion for various ongoing and new projects of all the ministries and divisions under PSDP 2016-17 out of its total Rs800 billion allocations. The Planning Commission of Pakistan has been following a proper mechanism for the release of funds and accordingly funds are released as per given mechanism. (Business Recorder)

FBR looks to milk more taxes from dairy sector

For the third straight year, the government is planning to milk more taxes from the dairy sector and this time, the target product is tea whitener – a liquid or granular substance that is used as substitute for milk or cream as an additive to coffee and tea. Faced with revenue shortfall, tax authorities have proposed to slap 10% sales tax on tea whitener from fiscal year 2017-18, said sources in the Ministry of Finance and Revenue. It is largely used by the middle- and upper-middle income groups and is currently exempted from sales tax. If the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) proposal passes through, it will be the third straight year when the PML-N government brings any kind of change in the taxation regime of the dairy sector. In its last two budgets, the government imposed sales tax and regulatory duties on various dairy products, which the industry is demanding be withdrawn from the next fiscal year that will begin from July. Nestle Pakistan, Shakarganj Food Products, Haleeb Foods, Noon Pakistan and Engro Foods are the companies that are going to be affected directly by the proposal since they are involved in the manufacturing of dairy drink and tea whiteners. (Express Tribune)

Budget proposal from plastic manufacturers invited

Chairman Finance Committee of National Assembly has invited budget proposals from plastic manufacturers for the growth and betterment of plastic industry in Pakistan. In this connection, committee has invited all stakeholders on this Wednesday in Islamabad for their input and proposals, told MNA Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh. He said this during a visit to PakPlas 2017- The International Exhibition of Plastic Machinery, Equipment, Raw Material & Technology on its second day here at Expo Centre Karachi. The organizers said the Expo is being organized by Pakistan Plastic Manufacturers Association (PPMA). Second day expo got enthusiasm among business community. Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said the plastic is now involved in every matter and field of life. Polymer industry is very important and value added industry of Pakistan economy. He was of the view the plastic industry is not getting the required support from government as compared to other sectors like textile industry that enjoys much better incentives. In the world, China has secured first position in plastic industry, USA second and India is on third ranking. Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said his committee has made efforts to boost plastic industry in the country. He appreciated PPMA efforts for sparing its time and money for the benefit of the plastics business. On second day of expo Deputy Mayor Karachi Arshad Vohra and Senator Haseeb Khan also paid visits and

Economic Indicators

Annual (2015/16)

Foreign Debt	\$62.649bn
Per Capita Income	\$1,512
GDP Growth	4.24%
Average CPI	8.6%

Monthly (Feb. 2017)

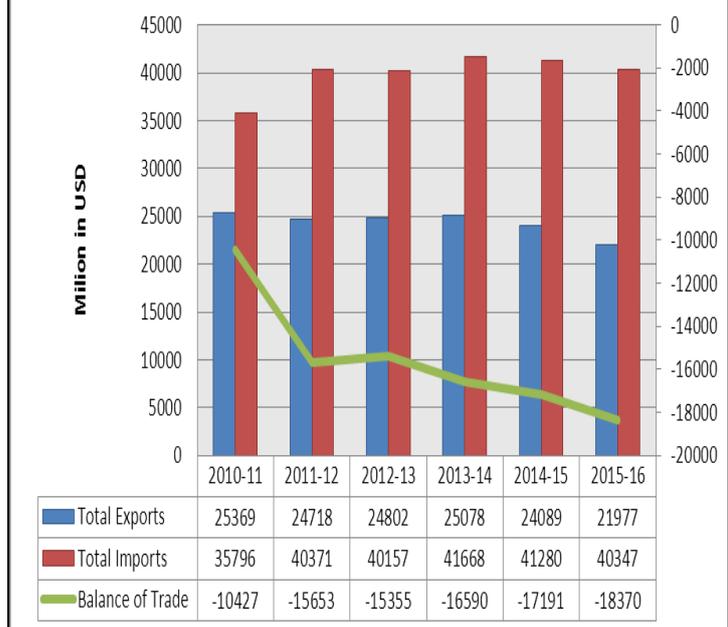
Trade Balance	-\$1,852 mln
Exports	\$1,742mln
Imports	\$3,594mln

Weekly (March 31, 2017)

Reserves	\$21,550.5 mln
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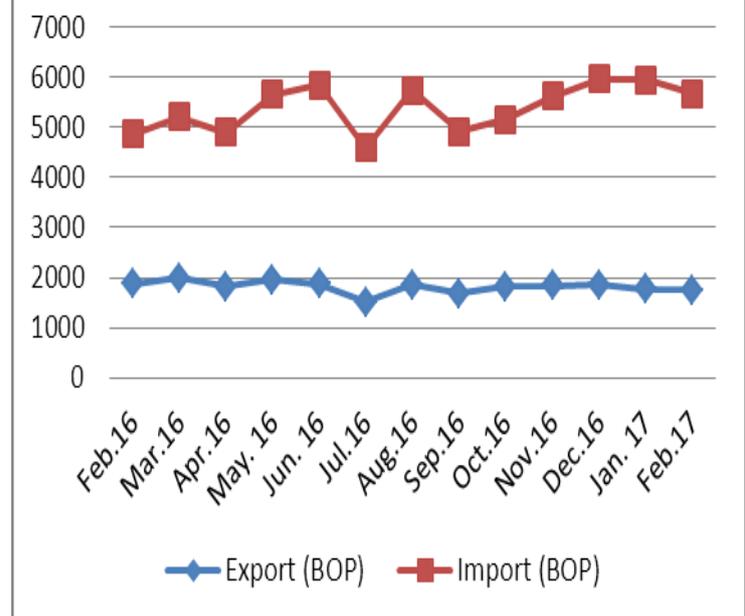
(Source: Business Recorder)

Yearly Trade Data



(Source: SBP)

Monthly Trade Data



(Source: SBP)

showed their keen interest in latest technology used in plastic industry worldwide. Deputy Mayor Arshad Vohra said that 30-40 percent plastic is used in daily life and future will be more depended on plastics. Plastics are projected to be the fastest growing segment all over the world, he added. Senator Haseeb Khan said the USA is earning 100 trillion dollars to 300 trillion dollars from plastic industry annually but we earn the least in the world. We should adopt concrete measures to bring plastic industry into mainstream, he opined. Haseeb Khan said, in the past we used to import raw material from Saudi Arabia but organizing such expos foreign raw material producers are invited here in Pakistan which is very healthy and cost effective for local industry. Patron-in-chief of PPMA Zakaria Usman announced the PPMA would arrange an expo soon in Lahore for Punjab industrialists. On this occasion, Chairman PPMA Ehtesham Uddin highlighted exhibition features and informed the exhibition is divided into two halls one is for raw material producers from middle east, France, China, Oman and Taiwan while second hall is dedicated for machinery manufacturers from Korea, China, Malaysia, Taiwan etc. (**Business Recorder**)

Over Rs 479mn released for Revenue Division projects

The government has so far released Rs 479.713 million for various projects of Revenue Division out of its total allocations of Rs 687.304 earmarked in the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) for the fiscal year 2016-17. Out of the total amount released, Rs 242.9 million have been released for development of Integrated Transit Trade Management System (ITTMS) under ADB Regional Improving Border Service Project. The government has earmarked Rs 347 million for this project under the development fund of the current year. The government also released Rs 105 million for establishing Inland Revenue offices in Pakistan for which an amount of Rs 150 million would be spent during the current fiscal year. An amount of Rs 25 million have been released for feasibilities of MMC Gwadar, Regional Tax Office Islamabad and Sargodha and Directorate of Intelligence and Investigation IR Karachi. Similarly, an amount of Rs 19 million have been released for construction for warehouse and sepoy barracks for Model Customs Collectorate, Peshawar for which an amount of Rs 25.41 million have been earmarked in the current fiscal year. The government also released Rs 21.626 million for construction of new accommodation and overhead water tank in the premises of FBR Complex Spiny Road Quetta. The total allocations for the project have been fixed at Rs 30.569 million. A sum of Rs 25.401 million have been released for construction of additional block for Regional Tax Office (RTO) at Gujranwala on which Rs 38.899 million would be spent during the current year. In addition, the government released Rs 17.765 million for project for security improvement in Karachi Port and Port Qasim for installation of three fixed and one mobile scanner with assistance of JICA. As many as Rs 26.378 million would be spent on the project during the current financial year. An amount of Rs 14.532 have been released for installation of Elevator at Custom House Lahore while Rs 4.490 million have been released for construction of boundary wall around customs land at Chilmas Das Gilgit. It is pertinent to mention here that the government has so far released Rs562.274 billion for total development projects of various divisions out of total allocations of Rs800 billion earmarked under PSDP 2016-17. (**Business Recorder**)

Tax breaks for Chinese won't hit economy: govt

Chinese investors in the \$56 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are enjoying all sorts of tax breaks from customs, income, sales, federal excise and withholding taxes. But despite all the tax discounts and exemptions, which amount to around Rs150 billion in lost revenue, the government is claiming there will be no adverse impact on local industries and domestic investors. In a written reply submitted to the National Assembly last week, the finance ministry explained the series of tax exemptions or discounts offered to Chinese investors, which have been notified through statutory regulatory orders (SRO). The SRO is a piece of statute that has been, in the past, condemned by the Pakistan Muslim League-N for being discriminatory and causing revenue loss to the state. In his reply, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar did not quantify the financial cost of the revenue exemptions. Exemptions from levy of customs duty at import stage have been specifically designed, notified and made available to Chinese contractors for a few projects of roads, mass transit and Gwadar port. (**Dawn**)