

Thursday, September 21, 2017 / 29 Zul Hijj 1438 Hijri

Market Today (September 20, 2017)

Opening	PSX	Gold Per 10 gm	KCA Spot Rate	Crude Oil USD /bbl.
	43,347.03	45,042.00	6,639.00	49.87

(Source: Web)

Exchange rates issued by the Treasury Management Division of National Bank of Pakistan.
September 20, 2017

Country	Currency	Selling TT & OD	Buying TT Clear
USA	USD	105.5	105.3
UK	GBP	142.56	142.29
Euro	EUR	126.65	126.41
Canada	CAD	85.89	85.73
Switzerland	CHF	109.72	109.52
Australia	AUD	84.57	84.41
Sweden	SEK	13.41	13.38
Japan	JPY	0.9462	0.9444
Norway	NOK	13.53	13.5
Singapore	SGD	78.37	78.23
Denmark	DKK	17.02	16.99
Saudi Arabia	SAR	28.13	28.08
Hong Kong	HKD	13.66	13.63
China	CNY	16.44	16.4
Kuwait	KWD	350.06	349.39
Malaysia	MYR	25.16	25.11
New Zealand	NZD	77.12	76.97
Qatar	QAR	28.55	28.49
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)

KALABAGH DAM WILL HELP SAVE \$2B ANNUALLY: LCCI

A million acre feet (maf) of water generates benefits worth \$2 billion annually for the national economy, but Pakistan is wasting about 35 maf due to delay in construction of Kalabagh dam. This means that Pakistan is wasting approximately \$70 billion annually, an amount which is equal to the country's external debt. The Kalabagh dam project was due to be completed in 1993, but constant delay in construction has already cost the country \$288 billion, which is a hefty sum considering the debt-ridden state of the economy. This was the crux of speeches delivered at a seminar on Water and Energy Crisis and Solutions held at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). Experts argued that the government should stop making consensus an issue and take final decision on the construction of the dam. They decried that Kalabagh dam was being sacrificed due to some people who had vested interests, despite the fact that the dam would help prevent floods, generate energy and act as a reservoir, thus preventing drought. Speaking on the occasion, LCCI President Abdul Basit said Kalabagh dam should have been built soon after the Indus Waters Treaty because it was inevitable after losing Ravi and Sutlej rivers to India, but past governments completely ignored it. He said the underground water level had dropped to more than 80 feet due to installation of tube wells in the valleys of Ravi and Sutlej. He emphasised that the dam would store approximately 6 maf of water and bring benefits worth \$2 billion annually. Talking about other dams, the LCCI chief said Bhasha dam and others should also be built, but they were not an alternative to Kalabagh, as even after their construction, five districts of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa would face water scarcity. Technically, only Kalabagh dam can supply water to these areas, he added. The dam will produce 3,600 megawatts or 31.5 billion watts of electricity that would cost only Rs2.50 per unit and the country would save \$4 billion annually on account of electricity generation just after five years of the dam's construction. He urged the government to take final decision and start construction without wasting more time.

(Express Tribune)

FBR SEEKS BANKS' SUPPORT TO BOOST FILING OF INCOME TAX RETURNS

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has started contacting country's banks and financial institutions as part of an outreach programme to boost the filing of income tax returns. As part of the initiative, a team of FBR's Facilitation and Taxpayers Education (FATE) Wing led by Member FATE, FBR, Nausheen Javaid Amjad held an extensive meeting with Bank of Punjab (BoP) President Naeemuddin Khan for seeking his assistance in sensitising the BoP officers and staff with taxable income on filing of income tax returns. Nausheen told the BoP president that FBR had decided to work closely with the large multinationals and corporations of the country to build a friendly interface with them and provide them with all assistance and facilitation in all areas of taxation. She said the large organisations had done exceedingly well in reporting the salaries paid and the taxes deducted at source from their employees, and an equal degree of attention was required from them to motivate their employees with taxable income to file their tax returns and fulfil an important national obligation. Amjad also briefed the BoP President on the range of benefits and advantages which the bank employees could reap after becoming filers, by paying significantly lower rate of taxes on multiple business and bank transactions. She also offered FBR's help and resources for conducting in-house facilitative training sessions and workshops in e-filing for the officers and staff of Bank of Punjab. Naeemuddin Khan appreciated FBR's initiative of walking up to the corporate world in what he described as an appreciable display of empathy and responsiveness towards the taxpayers. He also welcomed FBR's technical support and facilitation in filing for his bank's employees and assured full cooperation in ensuring maximum compliance and filing of tax returns by them. (Pakistan Today)

Economic Indicators	
Annual (2015/16)	
Foreign Debt	\$62.649bn
Per Capita Income	\$1,512
GDP Growth	4.24%
Average CPI	8.6%
Monthly (July, 2017)	
Trade Balance	\$-2,887 mln
Exports	\$1,809 mln
Imports	\$4,696 mln
Weekly (July 14, 2017)	
Reserves	\$20.830 mln

(Source: SBP)

NEXT ROUND OF REFUND PAYMENTS SOON

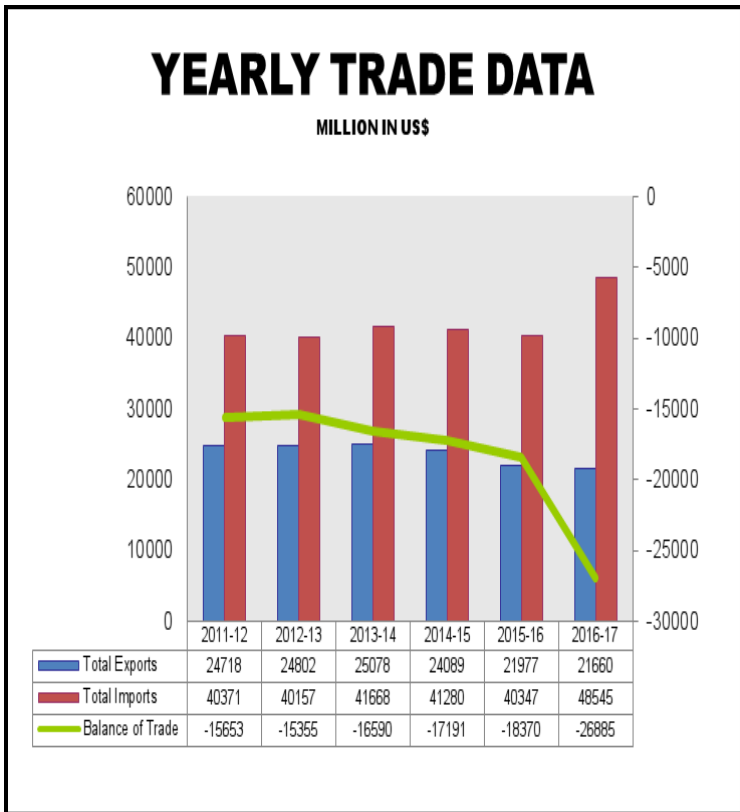
The Senate Standing Committee on Finance learned on Wednesday that Finance Minister Ishaq Dar would supervise the payment of sales tax refunds in the near future. Responding to complaints by members of the committee, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Tariq Pasha said the board already made all preparations in this regard and that he was waiting for the go-ahead from the finance minister. The committee was informed that the finance minister issued sales tax refunds amounting to Rs26.43 billion against 10,439 refund payment orders (RPOs) last month. Mr Dar conducted an electronic ballot, which led to the transfer of respective amounts to the accounts of taxpayers. Senators were told that the payment of sales tax refunds through a computerised system solved numerous problems. The FBR chairman said he was confident that the next round of refund payments would be conducted soon. Some senators wondered whether the recently issued arrest warrants for Mr Dar would delay the next ballot. **(Dawn)**

MEAT EXPORTS COULD BE DOUBLED

The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) is endeavouring to facilitate exporters of all sectors to capitalise on their potential for growth of trade and investment in the country. TDAP Director General Mian Riaz Ahmed stated this while talking to Meat Association Secretary General Hasan Raza in a meeting at TDAP's Lahore office. Raza informed the DG of various challenges being faced by the association and said meat exports from Pakistan were worth \$250 million last year, which could be doubled if shipments to China began. The DG asked Raza to forward their recommendations to his office and assured him of TDAP support. **(Express Tribune)**

NEPRA ALLOWS 48-PAISA HIKE IN POWER TARIFF

Amidst a divided house, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) on Wednesday allowed an increase of 48 paisa per unit in the average electricity tariff for ex-Wapda distribution companies (Discos) for 2015-16. However, Nepra unanimously rejected a series of demands by the government that would have an additional burden of more than Rs225 billion on consumers or additional revenue for Discos on account of higher losses, non-recovery of bills, late payment surcharge etc. Member Tariff Himayatullah Khan, however, gave a dissenting note on a majority decision of Nepra, which allowed about Rs24.34bn to the distribution companies on account of the write-off of unrecovered amounts from chronic defaulters. The majority decision translates into the increase of 48 paisa per unit in the tariff even though its applicability on consumers would be subject to the government's decision on subsidy. **(Dawn)**



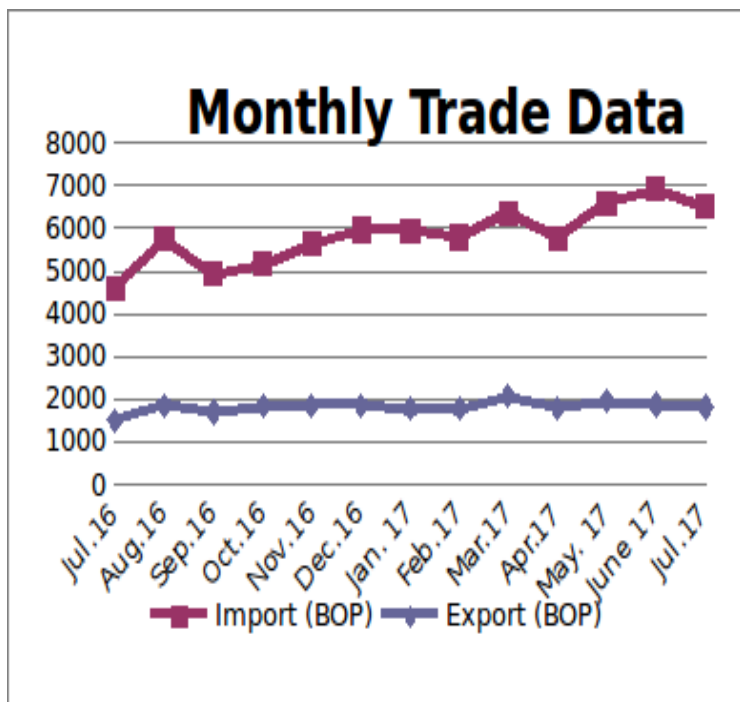
(Source: SBP)

VALUE-ADDED SECTOR DRIVING GROWTH IN EXPORTS

Pakistan's exports of value-added textile products recorded positive growth during the first two months of 2017-18, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Wednesday. The upsurge in the value-added textile category has become the main driver of growth in the country's overall exports, PBS data shows. Exports of readymade garments grew 15.65 per cent year-on-year to \$418.63 million in July-August. Garment exports also witnessed a growth of 16.4pc in terms of quantity. Exports of knitwear, another value-added product, posted a growth of 7.53pc to \$439.26m in July-August. It recorded an increase of 8.23pc in terms of quantity. **(Dawn)**

MARKET WATCH: AMID VOLATILE ACTIVITY, KSE-100 RECORDS SMALL GAINS

The stock market experienced sharp swings on Wednesday as the KSE-100 index closed positive with small gains. The index was mostly led by support from selected oil, cement and textile stocks amid consolidation post-major corporate earnings announcements. At close, the benchmark KSE 100-share Index recorded a rise of 93.77 points or 0.22% to stand at 43,347.03. According to Elixir Securities, Pakistan equities stood a little higher in a volatile and range-bound trading session. The market, after opening sideways, struggled to find direction that resulted in the benchmark index oscillating around previous day's close until mid-day. Later on, buying in select index names notably MCB Bank (+1.9%), United Bank (+1.5%), and Nishat Mills (+3.2%) put the index on a small upward trajectory. **(Dawn)**



(Source: SBP)