

Market	Current	Change	Volume
KSE- 100	44,341.88	45.72	93,169,240
Commodities	Current		
Brent (\$/bbl.)	68.08		
US WTI	64.72		
Cotton	77.30		
New York Cotton	Open	Close	Volume
Mar 18	78.45	77.30	36696
May 18	79.50	78.61	22904
Jul 18	80.24	79.46	7995
Currency Parity	Selling	Buying	
PKR-USD	112.00	112.40	
PKR-GBP	158.50	159.5	
PKR-EURO	138.50	139.5	
PKR-YEN	1.00	1.01	

Textile

Cotton market stabilizes

Steady conditions prevailed in the cotton market as spinners showed renewed buying interest. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386917/cotton-market-stabilises>

Economy

1H domestic debt, other liabilities soar to Rs15.88trn

The federal government's domestic debt and other liabilities continued to move up reaching Rs 15.88 trillion at the end of first half (July-Dec) of this fiscal year (FY18). Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/03/1-page/697647-news.html>

China, UNDP sign accord to help crisis-hit areas of Fata, Balochistan

China and the UNDP Pakistan signed a \$4 million agreement to provide assistance over four months in crisis-affected areas of Fata and Balochistan. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387027/china-undp-sign-accord-to-help-crisis-hit-areas-of-fata-balochistan>

Perishable goods stranded at ports

The clearance of perishable goods at ports has slowed down threatening their expiry after staff of PPQD is directed not to work beyond official hours and also allowed Saturday as a weekly holiday. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386923/perishable-goods-stranded-at-ports>

Ministry averts major agri imports, exports crisis

The ministry of commerce with its timely intervention has averted a major crisis that threatened the imports and exports of agriculture produces, saving the traders losses worth millions of dollars. Complete story: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/276269-ministry-averts-major-agri-imports-exports-crisis>

Voluntary pension fund industry over Rs23b

The total net assets of voluntary pension fund industry are currently over Rs23 billion contributed by more than 19,000 participants. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/03-Feb-2018/voluntary-pension-fund-industry-over-rs23b-secp>

FPCCI for joint ventures with Chinese enterprises

Vice president FPCCI said China is one of important trade partners of Pakistan. Both countries are deeply associated and both countries' mutual relations are based on solid foundations. He said there is dire need for trade balancing between the two countries. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/03-Feb-2018/fpcci-for-joint-ventures-with-chinese-enterprises>

Another IMF bailout package writing on the wall

Pakistan's worsening economic situation and the prevailing socio-political anarchy in the country need immediate replacement with a more balanced system, says a former banker and economist. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/03-Feb-2018/another-imf-bailout-package-writing-on-the-wall>

Exchange rate spread may route remittances via grey channels

A widening gap between exchange rates in interbank and open markets is feared to promote remittances through unofficial channels as kerb rate is relatively more attractive, analysts said. Complete story: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/276255-exchange-rate-spread-may-route-remittances-via-grey-channels>

Pakistan, WB sign loans worth \$300 to support the agriculture sector in Punjab.

DID YOU KNOW?

The cotton fiber is made up cellulose which is a natural polymer. Humans can't digest cellulose but ruminates such as cattle and horses can digest it because they have an enzyme that can break done to sugars.

Excise & Taxation Facilitation Centre set up at LCCI

The LCCI has taken another giant leap to facilitate its members by establishing Excise & Taxation Facilitation Center at its premises. Now, the LCCI members would get all excise & taxation facilities within the premises of LCCI. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/03-Feb-2018/excise-taxation-facilitation-centre-set-up-at-lcci>

Govt seeks to revise PIU for amendment to agri credit rules

The Cabinet has constituted an inter-ministerial committee headed by Minister for Privatization, Daniyal Aziz to prepare recommendations for revision in PIU for amendment to the Loans for Agriculture, Commercial and Industrial Rules, 1973, official sources told Business Recorder. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/03/1-page/697644-news.html/>

Energy

With nod from Sindh, gas sector reforms cross hurdle

The government of Sindh has given up its objections over “the unbundling of Sui gas utilities as proposed by the federal government on the condition that provinces will be represented on the board of Sui successor companies”. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386927/with-nod-from-sindh-gas-sector-reforms-cross-hurdle>

Low gas pressure: Businessmen threaten to block G T Road

The business community has expressed serious concern over the low pressure of natural gas and warned that the traders will block G T Road on eve of Nawaz Sharif’s public meeting scheduled for Feb 4 in Peshawar if SNGPL failed to ensure smooth supply of the gas both in cantonment and city areas. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/03/7-page/697709-news.html>

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Textile

European textile start-up summit to begin from April 17

The 1st European textile start-up summit provides platform to network with textile innovators, technology developers, entrepreneurs, funders and multipliers from across Europe. Complete story: <http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-news/european-textile-start-up-summit-to-begin-from-april-17-240417-newsdetails.htm>

Khadi's share low in Indian textile sector: minister

While export prospects of khadi are assured with the world preferring eco-friendly products, the share of khadi is very low — less than 0.22 per cent — in the textile sector in India. Complete story: <http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/handloom-news/khadi-share-low-in-indian-textile-sector-minister-240420-newsdetails.htm>

Uzbek resolution to modernise cotton, textile production

The Government of Uzbekistan recently issued a resolution on measures to introduce modern forms of cotton and textile production. Thirteen enterprises have been permitted to participate in this experiment. Complete story: <http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textiles-policy-news/uzbek-resolution-to-modernise-cotton-textile-production-240421-newsdetails.htm>

Economy

Amazon posts largest profit in its history

Amazon.com Inc shares rose more than 6 per cent in extended trading, after previously closing down 4pc on the Nasdaq. They reported a profit near \$2 billion, the largest in its history. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386913/amazon-posts-largest-profit-in-its-history>

Russian steelmakers expect strong demand in 2018

Russian steelmakers are anticipating a rising domestic demand in 2018, the main drivers of rising Russian steel consumption will be a recovery in the car industry and strong dynamics in machinery. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386914/russian-steelmakers-expect-strong-demand-in-2018>

Cryptocurrency sell-off intensifies

This week’s slump brought the total market value of cryptocurrencies down to around \$400 billion, half the high it reached in January. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1386918/cryptocurrency-sell-off-intensifies>

Energy

Oil gains

Oil rose for a third day on Friday after a survey showed strong compliance with output cuts by OPEC and others including Russia, offsetting concerns about surging U.S. production. Complete story: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/276265-oil-gains/>