

Market	Current	Change	Volume
KSE- 100	44,341.88	45.72	93,169,240
Commodities	Current		
Brent (\$/bbl.)	67.46		
US WTI	63.54		
Cotton	76.51		
New York Cotton	Open	Close	Volume
Mar 18	77.36	76.51	30885
May 18	78.55	77.90	21074
Jul 18	79.50	78.82	8853
Currency Parity	Selling	Buying	
PKR-USD	112.00	112.40	
PKR-GBP	158.5	159.5	
PKR-EURO	138.5	139.5	
PKR-YEN	1.00	1.01	

Textile

Steps in place to make Punjab cotton valley

Punjab Secretary Agriculture said that South Punjab would be recognized as a cotton valley by 2020 in the world. We are paying immense focus on mechanized farming and promoting modern technology in the region. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/05-Feb-2018/steps-in-place-to-make-punjab-cotton-valley-secy>

Non-importable Indian fabric finds its way in market

Indian fabric, which is a non-importable item as per import policy order, is being brought into the country in bulk under the very nose of preventive and customs intelligence officers. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/06/3-page/698187-news.html/>

Economy

Non-textile exports jump 19pc

Pakistan's exports of non-textile products posted a robust growth of nearly 19 per cent to \$4.4 billion in the first six months of this fiscal year. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387577/non-textile-exports-jump-19pc>

Making currency swap deal with China usable

We need the yuan to finance Chinese import bill and avoid an unmanageable need for dollars. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387434/making-currency-swap-deal-with-china-usable>

SBP policy rate hike and its timing

Central banks often love to surprise markets. But they do it with a clear purpose. On Jan 26, the central bank raised the rate to six per cent after keeping it unchanged since May 2016 at 5.75pc. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387441/sbp-policy-rate-hike-and-its-timing>

1Q provincial development spending declines by 7.4pc

According to SBP in contrast to the trends in recent years, provincial current expenditures increased while development spending declined. Probably, lower receipts from federal revenue might have affected provincial development spending, it added. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/05/16-page/698162-news.html/>

Public-private partnerships take root in Sindh, Punjab

Provincial governments are looking forward to working with private companies under the PPP mode to effectively respond to development needs. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387435/public-private-partnerships-take-root-in-sindh-punjab>

9th round of CPFTA-II in hot water

The 9th round of CPFTA-II is in the hot waters as both sides are not ready to change their respective positions on Tariff Reduction Modalities (TRM). Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/06/16-page/698315-news.html>

Urea offtake down 20pc

The urea offtake for the month of Dec 2017 clocked in at 717,000 tons, down by 20 percent annually, but up 19 percent on a sequential basis due to seasonally higher demand during the month. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/06-Feb-2018/urea-offtake-down-20pc/>

Pakistan loses 1,000GW of electricity in two years

DID YOU KNOW?

A 227kg cotton bale can be made into 215 pairs of jeans, 1,200 t-shirts, 2,100 pairs of boxer shorts, 4,300 pairs of socks or 680,000 cotton balls

PBIF for tax elimination on import of industrial machinery

President PBIF has said that if taxes have been eliminated on import of industrial machinery, all industrial units will shift on to modern machines and equipment which will flourish production, revenue and exports. Complete story:

<https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/04/2-page/697872-news.html>

Energy

PAKISTAN'S COAL TRAP

Thar Coal has been touted as the panacea to the country's long-term energy woes. But aside from its environmental repercussions, it doesn't even make economic sense. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387151/pakistans-coal-trap>

Next-wave LNG terminals get smaller to offer flexible supply deals

The liquefied natural gas market is growing every year, but the terminals that ship and receive the fuel are shrinking. Traditionally they have typically required equally massive, long-term supply deals, often lasting a decade or more. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1387574/next-wave-lng-terminals-get-smaller-to-offer-flexible-supply-deals>

CPEC coal-based power plants to damage environment: ADB

The Asian Development Bank says that the upcoming 10 gigawatts generation capacity under the CPEC will increase greenhouse gas emissions substantially that will worsen the climate change mitigation concerns. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1387105/cpec-coal-based-power-plants-to-damage-environment-ADB>

Golen gol project a leap forward towards autarky in energy sector

Golen Gol electricity project of 108 megawatt capacity in Chitral recently inaugurated by Prime Minister, was a leap step forward towards autarky in energy sector besides bolstering trade and business sectors. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/06-Feb-2018/golen-gol-project-a-leap-forward-towards-autarky-in-energy-sector>

Rising oil prices

Rising oil prices will increase inflationary pressure, widen current account deficit, eat up forex reserves. Complete story:

https://epaper.tribune.com.pk/DisplayDetails.aspx?ENI_ID=11201802060253&EN_ID=11201802060108&EMID=11201802060039

MoF seeks data to broaden tax base

Ministry of Finance has sought electricity consumers Discos aimed at identifying individuals with taxable income who are still outside tax net. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/06/1-page/698175-news.html/>

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Economy

Asian stocks plunge after record-breaking loss on Wall Street

Asian stocks plunged on Tuesday after a record-breaking loss on Wall Street, extending a global rout as panicked investors fret over rising US borrowing costs and cash in profits after months of market euphoria. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1387649/asian-stocks-plunge-after-record-breaking-loss-on-wall-street>

Indian Farmer-friendly budget fails to please economists

The biggest beneficiaries of this year's budget are a whopping 500 million poor and vulnerable farmers and their family members. Move to raise the MSP Kharif season crops by at least 1.5 times the input cost would go a long way in meeting the government's goal of doubling farmer's incomes by 2022. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1387347/>

Regional trade grows in first half

Pakistan data shows a rise in exports to Eastern Asia, South Central Asia, South Eastern Asia and Western Asia. During July-December FY18, the exports to China increased to \$787 million compared to \$771m in FY17. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1387572/regional-trade-grows-in-first-half>

China launches dumping probe into US sorghum imports

China has launched an anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigation into imports of sorghum from the United States, the Ministry of Commerce said on Sunday, less than a fortnight after U.S. President Donald Trump slapped steep tariffs on imports of solar panels and washing machines. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/05/16-page/698161-news.html>

Indonesia economy picks up with 5.1pc growth

Indonesia 's economic growth picked up slightly last year as the central bank repeatedly slashed interest rates, official data showed Monday, but analysts warned that there was little hope of another bump this year. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/06-Feb-2018/indonesia-economy-picks-up-with-5-1pc-growth/>