

Market	Current	Change	Volume
KSE- 100	42,701.29	608.73	67,526,040
Commodities			
Commodities	Current		
Brent (\$/bbl.)	65.45		
US WTI	61.78		
Cotton	81.26		
New York Cotton	Open	Close	Volume
Mar 18	78.85	81.26	7830
May 18	80.18	79.58	28855
Jul 18	80.94	80.47	9441
Currency Parity			
Currency Parity	Selling	Buying	
PKR-USD	111.90	112.20	
PKR-GBP	154.80	155.80	
PKR-EURO	136.80	137.80	
PKR-YEN	1.020	1.040	

## Textile

### **Cotton prices stable on strong demand**

Steady conditions prevailed on the cotton market as buyers kept looking for quality lots. There was strong demand for quality lint from spinners who strived to build up their inventories. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391146/cotton-prices-stable-on-strong-demand>

## Economy

### **Little change in Pakistan’s ranking in corruption index**

The Corruption Perceptions Index 2017, released by the Transparency International, has placed Pakistan at the rank of 117 out of 180 countries. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391129/little-change-in-pakistans-ranking-in-corruption-index>

### **Import bill surges due to oil price spike**

Pakistan’s oil and food import bill rose nearly 26 per cent year-on-year to \$11.6 billion in the first seven months of the current fiscal year. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391154/import-bill-surges-due-to-oil-price-spike>

### **Rules notified for e-voting in company polls**

SECP has notified the Companies (Postal Ballot) Regulations, 2018 allowing shareholders and board members of companies to cast their votes through postal ballots. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391151/rules-notified-for-e-voting-in-company-polls>

### **Stocks rally 609 points as FATF heat subsides**

The Pakistan stock market staged a robust rally to snap the three-day losing spree with the KSE-100 index posting stellar gains of 608.73 points (1.42 per cent) and close at 43,528.51 points. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391149/stocks-rally-609-points-as-fatf-heat-subsides>

### **Agri sector priority in CPEC**

Agriculture is very important pillar of LTP and a priority in China Pakistan Economic Corridor Project aiming at modern, systematic, standardized and intensified construction of the agricultural industry. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/23-Feb-2018/agri-sector-priority-in-cpec>

### **Agriculture to suffer as Mangla reaches dead level**

The irrigation system has worsened as mangla Dam Thursday reached to its dead level prompting Indus River System Authority (IRSA) to equalise water inflow and outflow from the reservoir. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/23-Feb-2018/agriculture-to-suffer-as-mangla-reaches-dead-level>

### **Pulse crops PARC evolves Rs2.8bn plan to promote disease resistant varieties**

The PARC has devised a comprehensive plan of around Rs 2.8 billion to promote high yielding disease resistant varieties of different pulse crops aimed at meeting the domestic requirement and bringing down the hefty foreign exchange being spent on their import annually. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/23/13-page/701488-news.html>

### **Local heavy construction industry faces crisis**

The local heavy construction industry is fast heading towards a crisis-like situation because of its fast replacing with Chinese construction firms. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/23/13-page/701484-news.html>

**RLNG-based generation in overall energy-mix surged to 21pc in January**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Cotton gins are factories that separate cottonseed and trash from the lint (raw cotton fibre).

## **Engro assessing options to invest Rs60 billion**

Engro Corporation, with a surplus Rs60 billion invested in short-term government papers, is assessing investment options in electricity transmission projects, petrochemicals, and business solutions <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284388-engro-assessing-options-to-invest-rs60-billion>

## **Pakistan's short-term borrowing rises**

The government's short-term borrowing from China and other commercial banks rose sharply in the first seven month of the current fiscal year to fund spending following a slowdown of disbursements from multilateral creditors. Complete story: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284371-pakistan-s-short-term-borrowing-rises-to-1-77-billion-in-july-jan>

## **Reserves decline to \$18.8bn**

The foreign exchange reserves of the country fell by \$139 million to \$18.829bn during the week ended Feb 16, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391152/reserves-decline-to-188bn>

## Energy

### **Indonesia's Pertamina to sign LNG deal**

State-owned Indonesia energy firm Pertamina will discuss an agreement with Pakistan LNG Limited for supply of LNG to Pakistan for 10 years with an optional extension of five years. The contract is part of the sale and purchase agreement of 1.5 million tons per annum of LNG. Complete story: <https://epaper.brecorder.com/2018/02/23/1-page/701366-news.html>

### **Loadshedding may return as losses have tripled, warns minister**

Pakistan will have to bear power sector losses of Rs360 billion this year — three times greater than those in 2013, Power Division said the minister was “setting the stage” for relatively greater load shedding in the coming seasons. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391119/loadshedding-may-return-as-losses-have-tripled-warns-minister>

### **Power consumers to get Rs3.24 per unit refund, except for Karachi**

Nepra ordered ex-Wapda distribution companies to refund Rs3.242/unit to consumers for overcharging them Rs34 billion. Complete story: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391153/power-consumers-to-get-rs324-per-unit-refund-except-for-karachi>

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Textile

#### **AISEX 2018 to bring Sri Lanka apparel sector together once again**

The AISEX 2018 organized and managed by Lanka Exhibition & Conference Services, to bring together suppliers and service organization of Sri Lankan apparel industry under one roof in a bid to take full advantage of the benefits allowed under the GSP plus scheme. Complete story: <http://www.yarnsandfibers.com/news/textile-news/aisex-2018-bring-sri-lanka-apparel-sector-together-once-again#.Wo-c6udRXIU>

#### **Textile innovations from Germany to be presented at trade shows in the USA**

66 companies from the German textile, textile-machinery and garment-technology industries will make presentations at the ‘High-Tex from Germany’ exhibition within the framework of the Techtextil North America and Texprocess Americas trade fairs. Complete story: <http://www.yarnsandfibers.com/news/textile-news/textile-innovations-germany-be-presented-trade-shows-usa#.Wo-c9edRXIU>

#### **India's home textile exports share market to US remains dull**

India's market share in home textile exports to the US (sum of all products) remained flat YoY at 33% during the current year 2017. In CY17, China's market share increased 1ppt YoY to 24%, while Pakistan's lost 1ppt YoY share to 21%. Complete story: <http://www.yarnsandfibers.com/news/textile-news/indias-home-textile-exports-share-market-us-remains-dull#.Wo-c--dRXIU>

### Energy

#### **Fusion power plants could provide energy for homes in just 20 years**

It has the potential to provide the world with almost limitless amounts of clean energy using hydrogen as fuel. Thirty-five nations are contributing to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (Iter) being built at Saint-Paul-les-Durance in southern France. Complete story: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/fusion-power-plants-provide-energy-uk-homes-20-years-reactor-sun-iter-a8134946.html>

#### **Worthless mining waste could suck CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere and reverse emissions**

Waste left behind from mining may have more value than you think – it has the possibility to clean up our air. Complete story: <http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/worthless-mining-waste-could-suck-co-out-of-the-atmosphere-and-reverse->