

Market	Current	Change	Volume
KSE- 100	43,746.75	-261.31	96,106,190
Commodities			
Commodities	Current		
Brent (\$/bbl.)	67.13		
US WTI	63.56		
Cotton	81.50		
New York Cotton	Open	Close	Volume
Mar 18	80.75	81.50	257
May 18	79.37	81.40	16478
Jul 18	80.38	82.12	7016
Currency Parity			
Currency Parity	Selling	Buying	
PKR-USD	112.00	112.30	
PKR-GBP	155.30	156.3	
PKR-EURO	137.00	137.8	
PKR-YEN	1.020	1.040	

## Textile

### **Lacklustre trading on cotton market**

The cotton market lacked trading interest on Friday as buyers withdrew to the sidelines amid an uncertain price outlook. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391371/lacklustre-trading-on-cotton-market>

### **Exporters for early refunds, aggressive marketing**

The value-added textile industry has welcomed the continuation of greater trade access of Pakistani products to European markets, as the European Union has decided to retain GSP Plus status to Pakistan for another two years. Complete story:

<https://nation.com.pk/24-Feb-2018/exporters-for-early-refunds-aggressive-marketing>

### **NA body for revival of Textile City project**

A meeting of the NA Standing Committee discusses the various matters including revival of Pakistan Textile City Project at Karachi, which has been closed by the government due to non-availability of electricity and gas. Complete story:

<https://nation.com.pk/24-Feb-2018/na-body-for-revival-of-textile-city-project>

## Economy

### **Stockbrokers cannot charge for advisory services: SECP**

The SECP has allowed the stockbrokers to provide advisory services without obtaining any licence, but forbade them to receive any charges for this service. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391379/stockbrokers-cannot-charge-for-advisory-services-secp>

### **PSX first-half profit plunges 34pc**

The PSXL posted a PAT of Rs71 million for the half year ended Dec 31, 2017, down 34 per cent from Rs108m in the corresponding period last year. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391377/psx-first-half-profit-plunges-34pc>

### **Project launched to improve investment climate**

The ‘Pakistan Investment Climate’ project launched with the support of IFC of the World Bank, aims to boost the country’s investment policy and promotion strategy. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391378/project-launched-to-improve-investment-climate>

### **PEL, Kohinoor debarred from WB-funded project**

The World Bank has announced the debarment of Pak-Elektron Ltd (PEL), its affiliates PEL Marketing (Pvt) Ltd and Kohinoor Power Company Ltd, and its former general manager for 33 months, the company was found engaged in collusive practices during bidding on contracts. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391374/pel-kohinoor-debarred-from-wb-funded-project>

### **Weekly inflation eases**

Weekly inflation based on the SPI for the week ended on Feb 22 for combined income groups witnessed a decrease of 0.19 per cent versus previous week. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391372/weekly-inflation-eases>

### **Farming revives in parts of Sindh as growers fight off salinity**

Hundreds of affected acres have been reclaimed from man-made salinity that swept across large swathes of land after a sugar mill complex caused the floodwaters to trap in Dighri area of Sindh. Complete story:

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284786-farming-revives-in-parts-of-sindh-as-growers-fight-off-salinity/>

**Stocks fall 261 points on FATF rumors.**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The cotton plant has a tap root system. The root could be 30 cm long in two weeks and one meter at the squaring stage.

## **Foreign firms charge exorbitant price for seeds**

Multinational companies involved in Pakistan's seed business sell their products to farmers at much higher rates as compared to other countries of the region especially India. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/24-Feb-2018/foreign-firms-charge-exorbitant-price-for-seeds>

## **Non-textile exports up 17.3pc in Jul-Jan**

Non-textile exports surged 17.3 percent to \$5.23 billion in the first seven months of the current fiscal year of 2017/18 owing to increase in grains' outbound shipments. Complete story: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284774-non-textile-exports-up-17-3pc-in-jul-jan/>

## **Free trade deals be finalised to benefit local industry**

As second phase of talks over China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement is under process, the business community has suggested the government to devise a strategy in the light of impact on domestic industry, convincing China to liberalize its import policy by reducing tariff lines and easing sensitive list for Pakistan merchandise. Complete story: <https://nation.com.pk/24-Feb-2018/free-trade-deals-be-finalised-to-benefit-local-industry>

## **Plantation the only solution to environmental problems**

Federal Minister for Climate Change, Senator Mushahidullah Khan Friday said that plantation was the only solution to resolve issues related to environment including environmental imbalances and threat to biodiversity. Complete story: <https://www.brecorder.com/2018/02/23/400953/plantation-the-only-solution-to-environmental-problems-mushahidullah/>

## Energy

### **Work on 220kV grid station expedited**

Work on the 220kV grid station has been accelerated in Dera Murad Jamali town of Nasirabad division to ensure it is completed before the summer starts and people have access to a smooth power supply in the area. Complete story:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1391334/work-on-220kv-grid-station-expedited>

### **Leaders launch start of Afghan section of TAPI gas pipeline**

Regional leaders launched construction work on the Afghan section of an \$8 billion natural gas pipeline that will link the energy-rich Central Asian nation of Turkmenistan through Afghanistan to Pakistan and India. Complete story:

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/284770-leaders-launch-start-of-afghan-section-of-tapi-gas-pipeline>

### **SECMC, Reon to install Pakistan's largest private sector solar power plant at Thar**

With an aim to limit carbon emissions and thereby help protect the environment, Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC) and Reon Energy Ltd have entered an agreement to install 5MWs solar power plant at Thar Coal Block II. Complete story:

<https://nation.com.pk/24-Feb-2018/secmc-reon-to-install-pakistan-s-largest-private-sector-solar-power-plant-at-thar>

### **No ban imposed on setting up projects of renewable energy**

Minister for Power Division Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari on Wednesday reiterated that no ban was imposed on setting up projects of renewable energy in the country rather competitive bidding process would be introduced for solar, small hydel, wind and bio-masses energy generation projects. Complete story: <https://www.brecorder.com/2018/02/22/400528/no-ban-imposed-on-setting-up-projects-of-renewable-energy-senate-told/>

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Textile

#### **Over 250 global exhibitors expected at AISEX 2018**

More than 250 local and international companies are expected to exhibit at the ninth edition of the Apparel Industry Suppliers Exhibition (AISEX) 2018 beginning May 10. Complete story: <http://www.fibre2fashion.com/news/textile-fairs-news/over-250-global-exhibitors-expected-at-aisex-2018-240801-newsdetails.htm>

### Energy

#### **Big six energy companies' routinely overcharging customers – exclusive**

The UK's big six energy companies have been accused of dirty tricks after analysis for the Guardian revealed that they are routinely over charging customers. Complete story: <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/feb/23/big-six-energy-companies-routinely-overcharging-customers-exclusive>

#### **Oil slips**

Oil slipped to \$66 a barrel on Friday, under pressure from concerns that rising US oil output and exports will offset OPEC-led attempts to erode stockpiles with output curbs. Complete story: <https://www.brecorder.com/2018/02/23/400931/oil-slips-to-66->