



Oil prices jump 6pc

Oil prices jumped about 6 percent on Monday as Iran stepped up attacks on the United Arab Emirates and ships in the Middle East Gulf over the past 24 hours, the most serious escalation since a US-Iran ceasefire came into force in early April. Brent futures rose USD6.27, or 5.8 percent, to settle at USD114.44 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude rose USD4.48, or 4.4 percent, to settle at USD106.42.

Exports rebound over 14pc in April

Pakistan’s merchandise exports showed signs of recovery in April after two consecutive months of decline, but the trade deficit remained elevated due to a surge in imports and relatively slower growth in export proceeds. The rebound in April exports offered some relief. However, it was not sufficient to offset the widening gap caused by higher import payments, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) said on Monday. In April, exports grew 14.03pc to \$2.48 billion, compared with \$2.17bn in the corresponding month last year. On a month-on-month basis, export proceeds increased by 9.5pc.

President approves PIA Corporation Ordinance, 2026

President Asif Ali Zardari has approved the PIA Corporation (Conversion) (Repeal) Ordinance, 2026, on the Prime Minister’s recommendation, enabling the transfer of the recently privatized Pakistan International Airlines (PIA)’s assets to the successful bidder. The ordinance is aimed at fulfilling legal requirements to complete the transfer of certain assets of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA).

Pakistan, S Korea to speed up technical ties

Pakistan and South Korea have held detailed discussions on the ongoing Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) negotiations, agreeing to accelerate technical engagements with the shared objective of concluding the agreement within a mutually agreed timeframe.

Market Today		
KSE 100 Index	Gold per ounce.	Brent Crude \$
166,938.66	\$ 4,609.86	107.22

(Source: PSX, BR, INVESTING)

Inter-Bank Exchange Rate as on 4 May 2026		
Country	Currency	Rate
USA	USD	278.7613
U.K.	GBP	378.0142
Euro	EUR	326.5131
Japan	JPY	1.7762
Saudi Arabia	SAR	74.3264
U.A.E.	AED	75.8968
China	CNY	40.8127

(Source: SBP Economic Data Section)

Snapshot of Pakistan’s Economy		
Indicator	2024-25	2023-24
GDP (Billion USD)	407	371
Real GDP Growth Rate (%)	2.68	2.51
GDP Per Capita (USD)	1,824	1,662
Current Account Balance (Billion USD)	1.93	-2.07
SBP Policy Rate (%)	10.5	19.50
Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)	5.6	7.4
Net FDI (USD Billion)	2.49	2.35
Foreign Exchange Reserves (Billion USD)	21.3 (24-April-26)	13.99
FBR Tax Revenue (Rs Billion)	11,744	9,311
Gross Public Debt (% of GDP)	70.2	67.8

(Source : SBP Economic Data Section)



Apr sale of OMCs drops 6pc MoM

The overall sale of petroleum products fell in April 2026 following an exorbitant hike in prices due to the US-Israel war against Iran, which has disrupted oil supplies in the Middle East. The monthly sale of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) dropped by 6 percent in April as compared to the March sale, while a 7 percent drop was recorded in the sale of petroleum products on a year-on-year basis. The petrol price was raised by 21 percent, moving from Rs311 to Rs375 per litre, and the price of high-speed diesel (HSD) went up by 26 percent, moving from Rs325 to Rs 410 per litre in April.

Stock market reassembles

Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) ended on a positive note on Monday, though early strong momentum faded amid renewed geopolitical uncertainty and volatility in global oil markets, tempering investor sentiment toward the close. The benchmark KSE-100 Index gained 954.77 points or 0.59 percent to settle at 163,948.94 points, compared to the previous close of 162,994.17 points. The index exhibited a wide intraday range, touching a high of 167,245.54 points and a low of 163,417.84 points, reflecting heightened volatility throughout the session.

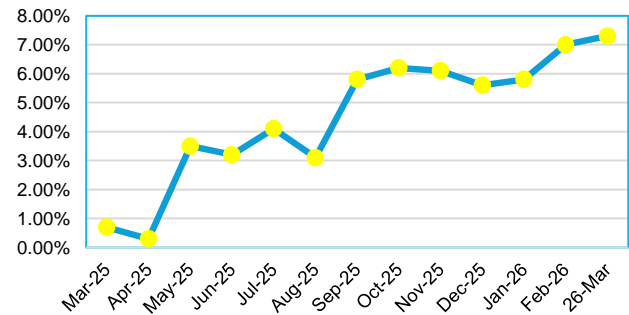
THE RUPEE PKR: marginal gain

The Pakistani rupee strengthened against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Monday. At close, the local currency settled at 278.76, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback. On Thursday, the local unit closed at 278.77. Globally, the yen stabilised at the start of trading in Asia, strengthening slightly after a few choppy sessions following suspected intervention by authorities to strengthen the currency last week.

NTC extends 24.04pc anti-dumping duty for five years

The National Tariff Commission (NTC) has decided to continue the anti-dumping duty of 24.04 percent (ad valorem) on dumped imports of Continuous Casting (CC) billets from China for a further period of five years, effective June 22, 2025. The Commission conducted a sunset review of the duty imposed on imports of Continuous Casting (iron and steel) billets classified under multiple Pakistan Customs Tariff (PCT) codes, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the law.

Month-Wise Inflation (%) Mar 25 to Mar 26



Major Sectors of Pakistan's Economy		
	Share in GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)
Agriculture	23.54	0.56
Industrial Sector	18.07	4.77
Manufacturing	11.79	1.34
Large Scale	7.97	-1.53
Small Scale	2.44	8.81
Construction	2.27	6.61
Services Sector	58.39	2.91
Wholesale & Retail Trade	17.84	0.14
Transport, Storage	10.51	2.20

(Source : SBP Economic Data Section)

Yearly Trade Data (US \$ Million)

