



April 5,
2021

Economy

Govt plan aimed at vaccinating 70m people against Covid-19 by CY21-end: IMF

Economy | Neutral

The government is targeting vaccinating 70 million people by the end of calendar year 2021 as under the National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP), the country has put together an ambitious plan to procure vaccines through three channels including donations, outright government purchases, and private imports of vaccine. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

March trade deficit widens by 118.36pc YoY: PBS

Economy | Negative

Pakistan's trade deficit widened by a massive 118.36 percent on year-on-year basis to \$3.271 billion in March 2021 compared to \$1.498 billion in March 2020, says the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). | [Click for more info.](#)

Gwadar: GCW, GCZ inaugurated

Economy | Neutral

In line with Pakistan and China's ambitious development plans for the Port City of Gwadar, inauguration of 'Gwadar CPEC Warehouses' (GCW) and 'Gwadar Commercial Zone' (GCZ) took place on Friday to establish cargo storage facilities and development of office buildings, hotels, markets etc at prime locations adjacent to the new Gwadar International Airport. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

Govt endeavouring to take forex reserves to \$25 billion by June

Economy | Neutral

The government is making all-out efforts to take the country's foreign exchange reserves to \$25 billion by June this year, mainly due to the inflow of foreign loans and improvement in remittances. (The Nation) | [Click for more info.](#)

Govt waives taxes on foreign loans

Economy | Neutral

The federal cabinet has waived income tax on profits that foreign commercial banks are earning on over \$3 billion worth of loans that they lent to Pakistan during the past one year. The government has obtained these loans to retain foreign exchange reserves in double digits that could have slid below \$10 billion after repayments of foreign debt, including to Saudi Arabia. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

Pakistan sees highest ever number of Covid patients in critical care

Economy | Negative

National Command and Operation Centre (NCO) chief Federal Minister Asad Umar said on Sunday that Pakistan's tally for critical Covid patients reached 3,568 yesterday, the highest the country has seen so far. "This is the highest number since Covid started," the minister said, expressing his concern on Twitter. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

Over Rs455bn guarantees extended to PSEs in a year

Economy | Neutral

The government has extended over Rs455 billion guarantees to the public sector enterprises (PSEs) during the last one year from December 2019 to December 2020. According to the Finance Ministry's debt bulletin, outstanding guarantees extended to the PSEs have increased to Rs2,409 billion in December 2020 from Rs1,950 billion in December 2019. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

Pakistan Stock Exchange Overview

	Open	Close	Chg.	%
KSE All	30,322.1	30,286.2	-35.9	-0.1%
KSE100	44,428.1	44,301.0	-127.2	-0.3%
KSE30	18,242.2	18,170.3	-71.8	-0.4%
KMI30	73,122.0	73,105.4	-16.6	0.0%

Top Five Gainers

	Open	Close	Chg.	%
RMPL	9,520.0	10,200.0	680.0	7.1%
COLG	2,710.0	2,848.0	138.0	5.1%
SAPT	801.3	861.4	60.1	7.5%
NESTLE	5,850.0	5,900.0	50.0	0.9%
WYETH	949.0	976.0	27.0	2.8%

Top Five Volume Leaders

	Open	Close	Chg.	Vol.
TRG	140.2	136.2	-3.9	22.93
PRL	25.2	26.1	0.9	15.41
UNITY	28.8	29.0	0.2	14.01
BYCO	10.1	10.2	0.2	12.98
GGL	25.4	24.9	-0.4	12.33

Portfolio Investments – Net Position

FIPI	Buy	Sell	Net
F-Individuals	0.01	-0.05	-0.04
F-Corporates	0.42	-0.23	0.20
O/S Pakistanies	6.25	-8.25	-2.00
Net	6.68	-8.52	-1.84
LIPI			
Individuals	106.86	-102.92	3.94
Companies	3.24	-1.42	1.82
Comm. Banks	1.78	-2.33	-0.55
NBFC	0.01	-0.07	-0.06
Mutual Funds	6.62	-5.96	0.65
Other	0.59	-0.37	0.22
Brokers Proprietary	25.85	-27.25	-1.39
Insurance	4.89	-7.68	-2.79
Net	149.85	-148.01	1.84

Commodity Outlook

	Unit	Close	% chg.
Crude oil	USD/bbl.	61.45	3.9%
Brent oil	USD/bbl.	64.86	3.4%
Gold	USD/t oz.	1728.87	0.0%
Silver	USD/t oz.	25.01	0.2%
Coal	USD/ton	97.00	0.0%
Steel Scrap (LME)	USD/ton	460.00	5.4%
Steel Rebar (LME)	USD/ton	643.00	2.4%
USD/PKR	Interbank	153.68	0.4%

News Source: Local / Int'l Newspapers and websites

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REP-055



Oil & Gas

Gas utilities facing supply issues

SNGP | Neutral

After constitution of a committee on construction of new Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals, the gas utilities are said to have expressed concerns over supply issues in the existing pipeline network based on the government's plan for providing gas to new domestic consumers and other sectors. (Dawn) | [Click for more info.](#)

Power

Ministry moves summary on payments to IPPs

IPPs | Neutral

The Power Division has again moved a summary to the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) regarding release of payments to Independent Power Plants (IPPs). The government had already signed agreements with IPPs to pay Rs403 billion in instalments. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

Neptra slashes equity return of 12 power plants

Power | Neutral

The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Neptra) has slashed the Return on Equity (ROE) and the Return on Equity during Construction (ROEDC) components of 12 thermal power plants in a bid to reduce the electricity tariff. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

Cement

Cement sector posts highest sales growth

Cement | Positive

The cement sector posted the highest-ever sales growth of 44.39% in March 2021 on the back of a significant increase in domestic consumption and exports. According to data released by the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA) on Friday, total cement sales came in at 5.37 million tons in March 2021. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

Transport

No plan to privatize PIA

PIAA | Neutral

The government informed National Assembly on Friday that there is no plan to privatize Pakistan International Airlines (PIA). Ghulam Sarwar Khan said the government is very keen to make the national flag carrier a self-reliant and profitable entity. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

Roosevelt Hotel attached by court in Reko-Diq case

PIAA | Neutral

Pakistan's Roosevelt Hotel in New York (USA), owned by Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has reportedly been indirectly attached by a court in Reko-Diq case. This was disclosed by Secretary Aviation Division before a Committee headed by Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, when it met to discuss additional funding requirement of the hotel. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

Miscellaneous

Hospitals, medical centers; Banks approve over Rs10bn financing under RFCC

Banks | Neutral

Banks and DFIs have approved over Rs10 billion financing for hospital and medical centers under the State Bank of Pakistan's Refinance Facility for Combating COVID-19 (RFCC). (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

World Indices

	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
HK - Hang Seng	28,938.7	560.39	1.97%
INDIA - SENSEX	50,029.8	520.68	1.05%
US - Dow 30	33,153.2	171.66	0.52%
Taiwan - TWII	16,571.3	140.15	0.85%
KSA - Tadawul	9,962.8	67.21	0.68%
US - S&P 500	4,019.9	46.98	1.18%
INDONESIA - IDX	6,011.5	25.94	0.43%
CHINA - Shanghai	3,484.4	18.06	0.52%
PHILP - PSEI	6,443.1	-102.46	-1.57%
PAK (KSE-100)	44,301.0	-127.15	-0.29%

Board Meetings

Scrip	Day	Agenda	Time
PAEL	Monday	ANN A/c 31-Dec-20	11:30 AM
EWIC	Monday	ANN A/c 31-Dec-20	2:00 PM
SHNI	Tuesday	ANN A/c 31-Dec-20	10:00 AM
PIAA	Tuesday	ANN A/c 31-Dec-20	11:30 AM
PAKRI	Tuesday	ANN A/c 31-Dec-20	2:00 PM

Source: PSX



Broadband subscriptions reach 100m in Pakistan

Tech & Communication | **Positive**

The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) announced on Friday that broadband subscriptions in the country had reached 100 million. The PTA said there were fewer than 2m subscriptions in 2012, but after the introduction of 3G service the figure jumped to 16m in 2014 and now stood at 100m. (Dawn) | [Click for more info.](#)

Action against sugar mafia on the cards

Sugar | **Negative**

The government is likely to take strict action against those involved in the sugar crisis as fears of price hikes on basic commodities rise again. (PT) | [Click for more info.](#)

Millers reject sugar import move, notified ex-factory price

Sugar | **Negative**

Sugar mills rejected need of imports of sweetener with its production this year more than enough to meet domestic demand and the government's ex-factory price without tax relief. | [Click for more info.](#)

China allows Pakistani firm to export meat

TOMCL | **Positive**

The first Pakistani company got permission from Chinese authorities to export meat to People's Republic of China. The Organic Meat Company Limited has received approval and has been granted registration by Chinese Customs Authorities for export of heat treated beef meat to China. (BR) | [Click for more info.](#)

Four companies show interest in PSM's revival

Economy | **Neutral**

Four companies have showed interest in participating in the government's plan to revive the state-owned Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM), planning minister said on Saturday. (The News) | [Click for more info.](#)

Cotton arrivals hit three-decade low of 5.6 million bales

Economy | **Neutral**

Cotton arrivals in ginning factories hit the three-decade lowest level of 5.6 million bales as the industry is concerned about prospects of textile production without sufficient raw material and no alternative arrangement by the government, traders said on Saturday. | [Click for more info.](#)

Political News

PM gives approval to reconstitute EAC

The prime minister on Saturday approved the reconstitution of the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) but did not appoint former finance minister Shaukat Tarin as its convenor. However, the appointment of Finance Minister Hammad Azhar as vice chairman indicates that Tarin would not have the lead role. (ET) | [Click for more info.](#)

International News

Asia Stocks, U.S. Futures Edge Higher, Yields Ease: Markets Wrap

Asia stocks and U.S. futures climbed Monday as investors weighed an unexpectedly strong U.S. jobs report and the sustainability of the latest selloff in bonds. (Bloomberg) | [Click for more info.](#)

Oil prices slip after OPEC+ agree to ease output cuts

Oil prices edged down in early Asian trade on Monday after OPEC+ agreed last week to gradually ease some of its production cuts between May and July. (Reuters) | [Click for more info.](#)



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Rating Criteria

Rating - Expected Total Return

Buy - Greater than 10%

Hold - Neither Buy nor Sell

Sell - Less than and equal to -10%

Valuation Methodology

To arrive at our 12-months Price Target, ABA Ali Habib Research uses different valuation methods which include: 1). DCF methodology, 2). Relative valuation methodology, and 3). Asset-based valuation methodology. In this report, our PT is founded on FCF based DCF methodology.

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