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ECC okays Rs303bn for PM's relief package

The government on Monday approved Rs303 billion worth of a supplementary budget to cover the financing cost of a series of populist measures – Rs5 per unit cut in electricity rates, partial payments to the oil industry for a price freeze on petroleum products and debt servicing of Naya Pakistan Certificates. The ECC also approved Kamyab Overseas Programme (KOP) as a new component of Kamyab Pakistan Programme. The new initiative is meant for prospective low-income overseas workers having confirmed foreign job offer, employment agreements and valid travel documents and registered with NSER to avail interest-free loans under KPP. The maximum amount of loan would be Rs300,000 and repayable after three months of departure. The ECC also approved proposed amendments in the import and export policy order 2020 for the development of Integrated Tariff Management System for PSW.

Dollar near all-time high against rupee

The US dollar jumped to a near-record high against the rupee on Monday, closing at Rs178.13 in the interbank market, up 0.35 per cent from Friday's 177.50.

Oil scales 14-year high above \$139

Stock markets lost ground while metals prices hit record highs and oil surged on Monday after the United States raised the prospect of an embargo on Russian crude – a move on which Europe urged severe caution. European markets seesawed after a four per cent fall in Hong Kong with Frankfurt losing 2pc over the session as London and Paris kept losses in a narrower band.

Govt Establishing Online One Stop Shop for Businesses: BOI Chairman

The government is establishing an online One Stop Shop by the name of 'Pakistan Business Portal' that would enable businesses to find regulatory requirements, in respect of different sectors, submit their applications electronically and also pay the fees/charges online to obtain required licenses/permits.

Exports To US Up By 25 Per Cent To \$473.87 Million In February

Pakistan's exports to United States (US) have increased by 25 per cent to \$473.87 million in the month of February 2022 over the corresponding period of the previous year. US once again remained top destination of Pakistan's exports with \$473.87 million in February 2022 as against \$380 million in the same period of the previous year with growth of 25 per cent, according

to the latest data of the ministry of commerce.

Market sees no change in policy rate

Small group of experts expect SBP to increase the rate. Pakistan's central bank is scheduled to meet on Tuesday to announce the key policy rate for the next six weeks to maintain balance between inflation reading and economic growth. In late January 2022, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) hinted at maintaining the status quo in policy rate at 9.75pc (from March onwards).

Survey shows improvement in country's business climate

Over 65pc respondents keen to inject fresh investment. Foreign investors are largely positive on several parameters related to the business climate of Pakistan, said Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OICCI) Secretary General Ghias Khan.

Women face barriers to financial services

Mr. Reza Baqir says SBP taking initiatives to break barriers, ensure women's financial inclusion. Women's participation in financial services has remained low due to persistent barriers such as cumbersome documentation requirements, proximity to bank branches and availability of suitable products, said State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Governor Reza Baqir.

Temporary mobile registration system launched

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA) have jointly developed a new system for temporary registration of overseas Pakistani and foreign nationals mobile devices in collaboration with the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and mobile phone operators.

*Effort only fully releases its reward
after a person refuses to quit.
~ Napoleon Hill*

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List of Indicators	Date / Period	Unit	Value	Change Daily
USD- Interbank	March-08	PKR	177.06	0.49%
USD- OPEN MKT	March-08	PKR	179.65	0.28%
EUR- Interbank	March-08	PKR	199.03	-0.56%
EUR- OPEN MKT	March-08	PKR	201.29	-0.29%
GBP- Interbank	March-08	PKR	238.04	0.24%
GBP- OPEN MKT	March-08	PKR	240.78	0.10%
AED- Interbank	March-08	PKR	48.37	0.11%
AED- OPEN MKT	March-08	PKR	48.85	0.23%
CNY- Interbank	March-08	PKR	28.15	0.06%
CNY- OPEN MKT	March-08	PKR	28.43	0.21%
KSE- 100 Index	March-08	PTS.	43338.44	0.16%
Crude	March-08	\$/ bbl	125.80	18.10%
Gold	March-08	\$/ oz	1983.03	12.63%
Silver	March-08	\$/ oz	25.76	0.03%
Cotton (KHI)-40 kg	March-08	PKR	121.62	-3.35%
Kibor-6 MONTHS	March-08	%	11.22	-
Exports	July - February 2022	\$Bn	20.55	25.88%
Imports	July - February 2022	\$Bn	52.51	55.08%
Trade Balance	July - February 2022	\$Bn	-31.96	-82.26%

Sources: Tres Mark, PBS, PSX