PAK CHINA INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Economic Review - May 2021

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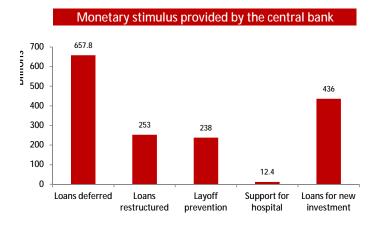
MPS - Policy rate maintained to support recovery

At its recent meeting on 28th May, the monetary policy committee decided to keep the policy rate unchanged at 7%. With the upward revision in GDP forecast and expected decline in inflation the committee believes the current interest rate is appropriate to support recovery.

The committee noted that supply shocks to food and energy still dominates, with a small number of energy and food items in inflation basket accounting for about 75% of the rise in inflation since Jan'21. As supply shocks dissipate thereafter, inflation is expected to gradually fall towards the 5% - 7% target range over the medium term. The committee was of the view that the current significantly accommodative stance of monetary policy remains appropriate to ensure self sustaining recovery especially during covid related uncertainties and that the cost of withdrawing monetary stimulus too soon would exceed that of withdrawing too late.

The committee believes the current growth spell is different than what the country has witnessed in the past as it has been encouraged without compromising the external account. The central bank is confident on the existing market based exchange rate regime which has survived the pandemic test as the currency is back to pre-covid levels.

It was noted that current account remained in surplus through the first ten months of FY21, a feat not observed in the past 17 years. Furthermore, the country witnessed record high remittances crossing USD 24bn (29% YoY) mark in the fiscal year so far. In addition, deposit mobilization through RDA (roshan digital account) have reached USD 1.2 bn reflecting immense potential ahead.



P	olicy Rates in	Major Econo	mies
	Policy Rate	W.E.F	Previous Rate
USA	0.25%	16-Mar-20	1.25%
UK	0.10%	19-Mar-20	0.25%
Euro Zone	0.00%	10-Mar-16	0.05%
Japan ¹	-0.10%	29-Jan-16	0.10%
Canada	0.25%	27-Mar-20	0.75%
Australia	0.10%	03-Nov-20	0.25%
China ²	3.85%	20-Apr-20	4.05%
India	4.00%	22-May-20	4.40%
Sri Lanka	5.50%	09-Jul-20	6.50%
Malaysia	1.75%	07-Jul-20	2.00%
Thailand	0.50%	20-May-20	0.75%

¹ BOJ previous policy rate was in range of (0 to 0.1) instead of single number

² Loan Prime Rate: The benchmark interest rate in china was last recorded at 3.85% (Source: SBP)

	Monetary Policy Announcement History					
MPS Date	Stance	Policy Rate	Voting			
16-Jul-19	+100 bps	13.25%	5 voted for 100bps, 2 for 75bps & 1 for 150 bps			
16-Sep-19	Status quo	13.25%	8 voted for Status Quo, 1 voted for -25bps			
22-Nov-19	Status quo	13.25%	8 voted for Status Quo, 2 voted for -25bps			
28-Jan-20	Status quo	13.25%	7 voted for Status Quo, 2 voted for -25bps			
17-Mar-20	-75 bp s	12.50%	6 voted for 75bps cut, 2 voted for less 75bps cut & 2 for more than 75 bps cut			
24-Mar-20	-150 bps	11.00%	Unanimously decided to decrease rate by 150 bps			
16-Apr-20	-200 bps	9.00%	6 voted for 200bps cut, 3 voted for 100 to 150bps cut			
15-May-20	-100 bps	8.00%	5 voted for 100bps cut, 3 voted for 150bps cut & 1 voted for 50bps cut			
25-Jun-20	-100 bps	7.00%	8 voted for 100bps cut & 1 voted for 50bps cut			
21-Sep-20	Status quo	7.00%	Unanimously decided to keep the policy rate unchanged			
23-Nov-20	Status quo	7.00%	8 voted for status quo & 1 voted for 25bps increase			
22-Jan-21	Status quo	7.00%	Unanimously decided to keep the policy rate unchanged			
19-Mar-21	Status quo	7.00%	Unanimously decided to keep the policy rate unchanged			
28-May-21	Status quo	7.00%				



Money Market

In line with the expectations central bank opted for status quo in its recent monetary policy statement, keeping policy rate unchanged at 7% citing current accommodative stance appropriate to support economic recovery. Yields in the secondary market remained relatively stable as majority of the participants expected status quo; however longer tenure yield fell as much as 10 - 15 bps as evident from the below mentioned graph as well. As the expectations of nation wide lockdown waned cutoff's of both T-bills and PIBs decreased where 5Y cutoff decreased as much as 65bps compared to the previous auction

Central bank conducted T-bill auction twice during the month with majority of participation skewed towards 6M followed by 3M and 12M. Approx 50% of the total participation was witnessed in 6M in both the auctions followed by 3M and negligible to low participation in 12M T-bill.

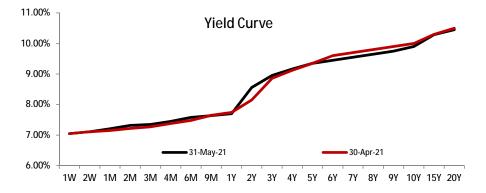
	T-bill Aucti	on Results	
Date	3M	6M	12M
05-May	7.3497%	7.5501%	7.6900%
19-Mav	7.3492%	7.6000%	7.6898%

In its regular cycle fixed rate bond auctions, central bank received bids worth PKR 563 billion against the target of PKR 125 billion. Central bank received bids worth PKR 251 billion, PKR 182 billion, PKR 71 billion, PKR 15 billion and PKR 10 billion in 3, 5, 10, 15 & 20 years respectively. Central bank raised PKR 85 billion in 3Y, PKR 76 billion in 5Y, PKR 18 billion in 10Y, followed by PKR 15 billion in 15Y and PKR 10 billion in 20Y at the cutoff rate of 8.70%, 9.20%, 9.8390%, 10.40% and 10.56% respectively.

	PIB Auction Results							
Date	3Y	5Y	10Y	15Y	20Y			
03-Mar	9.4100%	9.9000%	10.2890%	Rejected	Rejected			
14-Apr	9.2700%	9.8500%	10.2499%	10.4744%	10.6074%			
07-May	8.7000%	9.2000%	9.8390%	10.4000%	10.5600%			

Frequent mop-ups and liquidity injections were conducted by the central bank in order to keep the overnight market relatively stable (close to policy rate)

	Open	Market Opera	itions (PKR	million)	
Date	Туре	Tenor	Offered	Accepted	Cutoff
04-May	Injection	3	148,000	148,000	7.06%
06-May	Injection	11	564,550	564,550	7.05%
07-May	Injection	10	2,106,000	2,106,000	7.05%
17-May	Injection	4	2,585,400	2,585,400	7.05%
20-May	Injection	8	393,500	265,500	7.06%
21-May	Injection	7	2,444,150	2,444,150	7.05%
25-May	Mop-up	3	113,000	113,000	6.97%
26-May	Mop-up	2	61,000	61,000	6.96%
27-May	Mop-up	1	77,050	77,050	6.96%
28-May	Injection	7	2,331,800	2,331,800	7.05%





May'21 - Inflation clocked in at 10.86% YoY

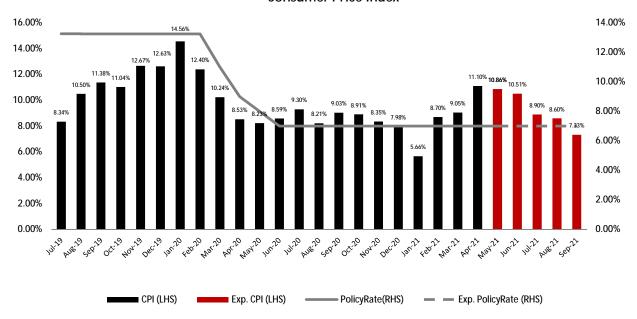
Headline inflation for the month of May'21 clocked in at 10.86% YoY compared to 11.10% in April'21.

Inflation for the month of May'21 remained almost flattish due to decline in housing sector inflation coupled with decline in prices of perishable food items. Core inflation remained range bound clocking in at 7.12% compared to 7.30% in the preceding month.

Average inflation for 11MFY21 clocked in at 8.83% compared to 10.96% in the SPLFY. Going forward, we expect inflation to remain in double digit for the last month of FY21; bringing the overall FY21 inflation at the lower bound of 9% in-line with the central bank estimates. Rising international oil prices coupled with surge in global food prices remains the key risk in our forecast.

Consumer Price Index	Weight %	May-21	Apr-21	MoM%	May-20	YoY%
General	100.00	145.24	145.09	0.10%	131.01	10.86%
Food & Non-alcoholic Bev.	34.58	151.72	150.7	0.68%	132.13	14.83%
Non-perishable Food Items	29.6	154.9	151.63	2.16%	131.11	18.15%
Perishable Food Items	4.99	132.81	145.16	-8.51%	138.16	-3.87%
Alcoholic Bev. & Tobacco	1.02	144.5	144.28	0.15%	137.65	4.98%
Clothing & Footwear	8.6	148.91	148.48	0.29%	134.58	10.65%
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Fuel	23.63	139.49	141.2	-1.21%	128.63	8.44%
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenand	4.1	141.13	140.39	0.53%	128.74	9.62%
Health	2.79	153.03	152.61	0.28%	140.36	9.03%
Transport	5.91	141.62	141.52	0.07%	124.27	13.96%
Communication	2.21	108.61	108.61	0.00%	106.96	1.54%
Recreation & Culture	1.59	125.67	125.17	0.40%	119.85	4.86%
Education	3.79	144.61	144.61	0.00%	142.4	1.55%
Restaurants & Hotels	6.92	142.37	141.55	0.58%	131.12	8.58%
Miscellaneous	4.87	151.85	150.83	0.68%	137.16	10.71%

Consumer Price Index



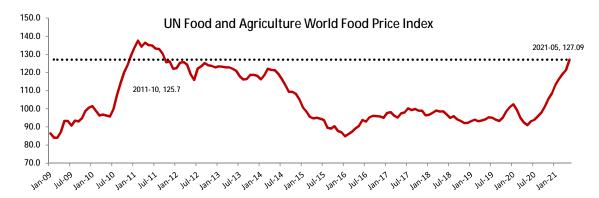


Inflation - Global Food Prices

Global food prices as measured by UN Food Price Index surge to their highest level in a decade.

The UN's food price (FFPI)* index clocked in at 4.8% MoM compared to 1.86% in April'12 and as much as 39.6% above the same period last year. The May'21 increase represented the biggest month-on-month gain since October 2010. It also marked the twelfth consecutive monthly rise in the index value of FFPI. The sharp increase in May reflected a surge in prices for oil, sugar and cereals along with meat and dairy prices.

Main drivers of FFPI for the month of May'21 were a) International maize pice which average 90% above their year earlier value b) Palm oil prices rose due to slow production growth in southeast Asian countries while prospects of robust global demand, especially from the biodiesel sector drove soy oil price higher c) Sugar price index increased by 7% from April due to harvest delays and concerns over reduced crop yield in brazil which is the worlds largest sugar exporter d) faster import purchases from china and rising internal demand from meat producing regions led the price of meat index increased by 2.2% in May e) Demand of skim and whole milk powders resulted in surge in index level 2% in May



Across the board all food categories tracked	by FAO climbed in the past 12 mg	onths
	▲ MoM%	▲ YoY%
Overall Food Index	4.76%	39.69%
Cereals	6.02%	36.60%
Vegetable Oil	7.81%	124.50%
Dairy	1.45%	27.96%
Meat	2.21%	10.04%
Sugar	6.76%	57.34%

Source: UN's FAO

	Pakistan's Major Policy Developments (Agri Sector)						
Date	Commodity	Policy Instrument	Description				
Nov-19	Wheat	Stocks Release	Released 900K tones of wheat from stocks as part of efforts to cap domestic market prices.				
Nov-19	Wheat	Procurement Price	Raised min. support price of wheat from PKR 1350 to PKR 1365 per 40Kg bag				
Jan-20	Wheat	Import Duty	Approved duty free import of 300K tones of wheat				
Feb-20	Wheat	Import Duty	Suspended 60% wheat import duty for 36 days, until 31st March				
Mar-20	Wheat	Procurement Price	Fixed min. support price at PKR 1400 per 40Kg, 2.6% above the level announced in Nov'20				
Apr-20		Import Policy	Suspended until 30 June the additional customs duty of 2 percent for imports of soy, rape, palm and sunflower oil in a bid to reduce cost for consumers during Covid-19 crisis.				

Source: UN's FAO

^{*} The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities. It consists of the average of five commodity group price indices weighted by the average export shares of each of the groups over 2014-2016



Current Account - Deficit of USD 200mn in April'21

According to the data released by the central bank, current account deficit for the month of April'21 clocked in at USD 200 million compared to mere USD 33 million in the preceding month. This brings the overall 10MFY21 surplus to USD 773 million compared to the deficit of USD 4.6 billion in the same period last fiscal year.

The deficit was higher during the month on account of 12% MoM drop in exports which translated to 3% drop in overall trade balance.

Cumulatively, during 10MFY21 current account remains in positive zone by USD 773 million (0.31% of GDP) for the first time in 17 years. Imports have once again picked up pace in tandem with increase in economic activity, however this is being largely off-set by record remittance which rose to all time high in April on both monthly and yearly basis.

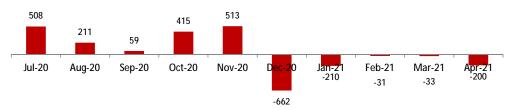
		Balan	ce of Payn	nent				
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM	Apr-20	YoY	10MFY21	10MFY20	YoY
Export of Goods	2,295	2,610	-12%	1,423	61%	20,993	19,704	7%
Import of Goods	4,969	5,205	-5%	3,144	58%	42,309	37,280	13%
Trade Balance	(2,674)	(2,595)	3%	(1,721)	55%	(21,316)	(17,576)	21%
Export of Services	525	563	-7%	354	48%	4,896	4,699	4%
Import of Services	582	628	-7%	516	13%	6,316	7,722	-18%
Service Balance	(57)	(65)	-12%	(162)	-65%	(1,420)	(3,023)	-53%
Balance on Primary Income	(431)	(400)	8%	(506)	-15%	(4,025)	(4,641)	-13%
Balance on Secondary Income	2,962	3,027	-2%	1,879	58%	27,534	20,583	34%
Remittance	2,778	2,725	2%	1,785	56%	24,246	18,793	29%
Current Account Balance	(200)	(33)	506%	(510)		773	(4,657)	
Current Account % of GDP	-0.80%	-0.10%		-2.40%		0.31%	-2.12%	
LICD million								

USD million

Import of Goods and Commodities					
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM		
Total Imports	4,969,003	5,204,996	-5%		
Food	607,687	668,130	-9%		
Machinery	754,387	747,196	1%		
Transport	335,115	365,531	-8%		
Petroleum	918,275	947,381	-3%		
Textile	445,540	503,833	-12%		
Agri & Other Ch	818,664	820,604	0%		
Metal	429,961	450,852	-5%		
Miscellaneous	100,230	108,238	-7%		
All others	446,941	512,962	-13%		
USD Thousands					

Export of Goods and Commodities						
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM			
Total Exports	2,294,996	2,610,005	-12%			
Food	438,582	500,749	-12%			
Textile	1,277,521	1,416,347	-10%			
Petroleum	34,954	16,379	113%			
Other manufactures	387,564	366,300	6%			
All others	181,820	216,358	-16%			
USD Thousands						

Current Account Balance



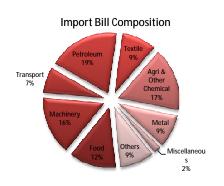


Current Account - Import

As per the latest data available released by the central bank, import of goods and commodities decreased by 5% MoM to close at USD 4.9 billion compared to USD 5.2 billion in the previous month. Overall import bill decreased by USD 235.9 million out which major savings of USD 58 million was witnessed in Textile segment which is down by 12% MoM. On yearly basis, Machinery and Transport segment witnessed a massive jump which increased by 123% and 155% respectively which indicated healthy pickup in economic activity. Imports from China for the month of April'21 clocked in at USD 1.2 billion contributing 25% of the total import bill followed by Dubai and Saudi Arabia. Cumulatively in 10MFY21 imports from South Korea increased by 70% followed by Saudi Arabia and Japan which increased by 62% and 36% respectively, whereas imports from Qatar dropped by 28% compared to SPLFY.

Imp	ort of Goods	and Commo	dities		
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM	Apr-20	YoY
Total Imports	4,969,003	5,204,996	-5%	3,139,972	58%
Food	607,687	668,130	-9%	421,951	44%
Palm Oil	226,045	232,023	-3%	160,665	41%
Pulses	82,009	58,743	40%	50,807	61%
Tea	42,034	44,657	-6%	50,239	-16%
Machinery	754,387	747,196	1%	339,009	123%
Telecom	204,270	241,971	-16%	93,979	117%
Electrical Apparatus	148,657	137,814	8%	66,071	125%
Textile Machinery	82,723	86,695	-5%	41,657	99%
Transport	335,115	365,531	-8%	131,489	155%
Completely Knock Down (CKD)	178,074	189,282	-6%	69,892	155%
Completely Built Unit (CBU)	52,794	77,702	-32%	35,552	48%
Petroleum	918,275	947,381	-3%	721,852	27%
Petroleum Crude	372,312	309,343	20%	344,414	8%
Petroleum Products	350,330	400,050	-12%	178,815	96%
Textile	445,540	503,833	-12%	283,197	57%
Raw Cotton	183,617	22,113	730%	156,281	17%
Agri & Other Chemical	818,664	820,604	0%	539,015	52%
Plastic Materials	259,909	257,007	1%	162,792	60%
Metal	429,961	450,852	-5%	299,122	44%
Iron & Steel	228,387	223,162	2%	159,446	43%
Iron & Steel Scrap	115,458	152,270	-24%	91,047	27%
Miscellaneous	100,230	108,238	-7%	61,417	63%
All others	446,941	512,962	-13%	277,905	61%
USD Thousands					

Import Payment From Top 10 Countries									
Country	% of To	otal Import	FY Im	FY Imports (Mn USD)					
Country	Apr-21	Mar-21	10MFY21	10MFY20	YoY				
China	24.89%	23.29%	10,312	7,638	35%				
Dubai	9.60%	8.96%	4,302	4,043	6%				
Saudi Arabia	6.50%	4.04%	1,924	1,188	62%				
Singapore	5.82%	5.97%	2,492	1,991	25%				
U.S.A	4.31%	5.44%	1,991	1,878	6%				
Japan	3.69%	4.44%	1,256	925	36%				
Qatar	2.99%	3.90%	1,035	1,445	-28%				
South Korea	2.85%	2.50%	1,059	624	70%				
Indonesia	2.47%	2.33%	969	897	8%				
South Africa	2.26%	1.77%	697	736	-5%				







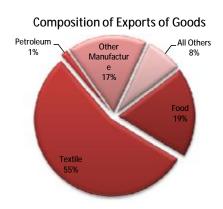
Current Account - Exports

As per the latest data released by the central bank, exports failed to provide any support in current account balance and resulted in decline by 12% on monthly basis, however on yearly basis all segments posted a double digit growth especially petroleum which grew by 84%.

USA and China remained the preferred countries for exporters; these two countries combined resulted in 30% of total export receipts. On 10MFY21 exports to U.K grew by 22%, followed by USA and China which grew by 19.36% and 16.30% respectively.

Export of Goods and Commodities									
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM	Mar-20	YoY				
Total Exports	2,294,996	2,610,005	-12%	1,820,046	26%				
Food	438,582	500,749	-12%	391,285	12%				
Rice	211,188	238,966	-12%	204,892	3%				
Fish	53,388	42,245	26%	30,092	77%				
Textile	1,277,521	1,416,347	-10%	1,097,696	16%				
Knitwear	291,717	327,769	-11%	167,096	75%				
Readymade Garments	265,043	280,754	-6%	174,226	52%				
Bed Wear	223,727	263,451	-15%	155,362	44%				
Petroleum	34,954	16,379	113%	18,996	84%				
Solid Fuel	18,020	6,236	189%	167	10690%				
Petroleum Crude	12,500	6,711	86%	16,215	-23%				
Other manufactures	387,564	366,300	6%	319,722	21%				
Chemical & Pharma	116,909	116,267	1%	101,847	15%				
Engineering Goods	70,863	33,621	111%	10,721	561%				
Leather	43,070	50,402	-15%	28,805	50%				
All others	181,820	216,358	-16%	115,795	57%				
USD Thousands									

		Export Receipt From To	pp 10 Countries			
Country		% of Total Export	FY Exports ('	FY Exports ('Mn USD)		
	Apr-21	Mar-21	10MFY21	10MFY20	YoY	
U.S.A	19.87%	18.56%	4,020	3,368	19.36%	
China	10.25%	9.18%	1,641	1,411	16.30%	
U.K	8.02%	7.61%	1,691	1,387	21.92%	
Germany	4.88%	5.49%	1,245	1,116	11.56%	
Dubai	4.35%	4.31%	932	1,095	-14.89%	
Holland	4.02%	4.41%	923	850	8.59%	
Afghanistan	3.59%	4.47%	829	810	2.35%	
Spain	3.20%	3.17%	669	752	-11.04%	
Italy	3.11%	2.87%	630	643	-2.02%	
Bangladesh	2.57%	2.41%	497	600	-17.17%	







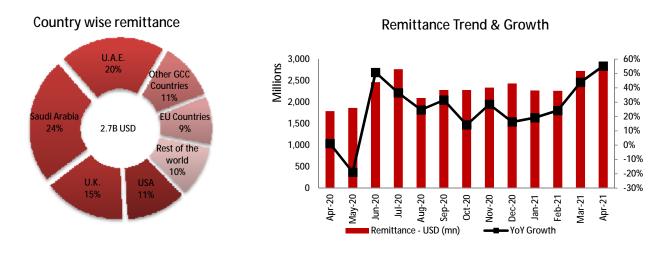
Workers remittance reached record high in April'21

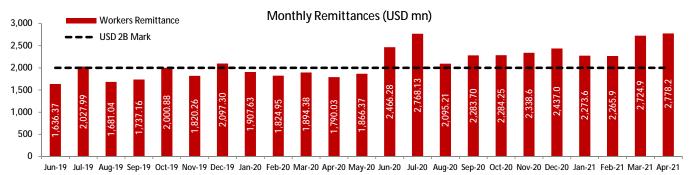
Workers remittance rose to record high during April'21 to clock in at USD 2.77 billion compared to USD 2.72 billion in the preceding month growth of 56% YoY.

Since the start of fiscal year remittance have maintained their USD 2b mark. Reasons of massive increase in remittances as highlighted by central bank are a) initiatives to encourage use of formal channels for transfers b) less frequent cross-border travel c) relative stable currency d) Eid inflows

On yearly basis, significantly higher inflows were recorded from all the destination where U.K took the lead which increased by massive 68% followed by USA and EU Countries which increased by 58% and 54% respectively. Cumulatively 10MFY21 balance stood at USD 24.2 billion compared to USD 18.7 billion in the SPLFY growth of 29%.

	Major Countries/Region wise Remittances								
	Apr-21	Mar-21	MoM	Apr-20	YoY	10MFY21	10MFY20	YoY	
Cumulative	2,778.24	2,724.95	2%	1,785.10	56%	24,246	18,794	29%	
USA	314.88	283.31	11%	153.04	106%	2,217	1,400	58%	
U.K.	431.07	371.21	16%	187.40	130%	3,332	1,981	68%	
Saudi Arabia	664.50	690.40	-4%	548.42	21%	6,396	5,324	20%	
U.A.E.	549.32	589.69	-7%	463.16	19%	5,076	4,682	8%	
Other GCC Countries	297.28	313.91	-5%	183.76	62%	2,755.8	2,448.1	13%	
EU Countries	251.28	234.60	7%	116.70	115%	2,192.9	1,420.2	54%	
USD million									







PSX - KSE 100 index gained 3,634 points in May'21

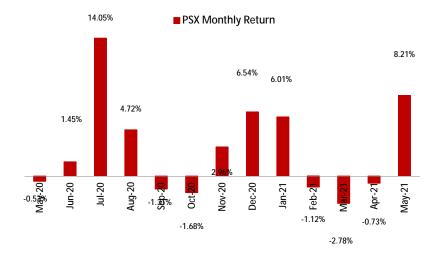
During the period under review, Pakistan stock exchange as measured by KSE-100 index increased by 3,634 points to close at 47,896 points. This bring the FYTD and CYTD return to 39.14% and 9.46% respectively.

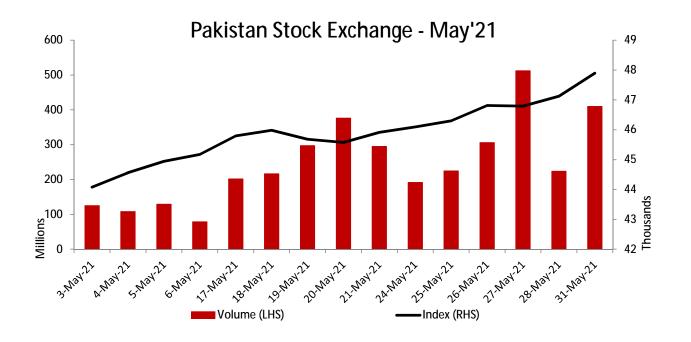
After a period of nearly 4-years index marched past 47,000 psychological barrier to close at 47,896 points. Investor sentiments were propelled by the appointment of newly appointed Finance Minister whose main focus is on achieving growth and structural reforms via pro-growth measures.

Among others, key developments during the month were a) Declining trend in Covid cases b) Status quo in MPS c) Current Account surplus in 10MFY21 despite month-on-month deficit d) Historical high remittance e) Higher tax collection g) Development of local Covid

PSX Performance Stats										
Stats	KSE-100	KSE-30	KMI-30	All-Shares						
Index	47,896.34	19,602.38	78,749.58	32,238.69						
Change	3,633.99	1,501.74	7,272.59	2,220.71						
%Change	8.21%	8.30%	10.17%	7.40%						

Top 5 Performers									
Company	Name	Return							
Unity Foods Limited	UNITY	48%							
Yousaf Weaving Mills Ltd	YOUW	39%							
Punjab Oil Mills Ltd	POML	38%							
Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Ltd	SNGP	25%							
Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited	PSX	24%							







KSE 100 Index Historical Returns

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year - CYTD
2021	6.01%	-1.12	-2.78	-0.73	8.92%								9.46%
2020	2.20%	-8.76%	-23.04%	16.69%	-0.53%	1.45%	14.05%	4.72%	-1.31%	-1.68%	2.96%	6.54%	7.41%
2019	10.07%	-4.28%	-1.04%	-4.83%	-2.20%	-5.76%	-5.79%	-7.10%	8.11%	6.62%	14.86%	3.68%	9.90%
2018	8.84%	-1.84%	5.37%	-0.16%	-5.81%	-2.18%	1.91%	-2.27%	-1.78%	1.59%	-2.77%	-8.47%	-8.41%
2017	1.99%	-0.46%	-0.78%	2.38%	2.62%	-7.96%	-1.19%	-10.44%	2.92%	-6.58%	0.99%	1.15%	-15.34%
2016	-4.62%	0.23%	5.64%	4.77%	3.87%	4.78%	4.62%	0.71%	1.84%	-1.60%	6.84%	12.16%	45.68%
2015	7.20%	-2.36%	-10.10%	11.56%	-2.00%	4.06%	3.90%	-2.84%	-7.02%	6.11%	-5.86%	1.74%	2.13%
2014	6.03%	-3.74%	5.34%	6.45%	2.85%	-0.29%	2.23%	-5.76%	4.06%	2.19%	2.70%	2.99%	27.20%
2013	2.00%	5.40%	-0.72%	5.20%	14.96%	-3.75%	10.98%	-4.94%	-1.48%	4.32%	6.70%	3.95%	49.43%
2012	4.65%	8.45%	6.86%	1.66%	-1.46%	0.11%	5.62%	5.59%	0.35%	3.01%	4.17%	2.00%	48.98%
2011	2.80%	-8.66%	4.61%	2.10%	0.54%	3.08%	-2.45%	-9.19%	6.25%	0.91%	-2.83%	-1.61%	-5.61%

KSE-100 Index Historical Performance

