

economicletter

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Pakistan

The government has amended the SBP Act of 1956 strengthening further the authority of the central bank in formulation of its monetary policies in line with the best practices of leading central banks of the world.

According to SBP, home remittance during July – October 2015 amounted to \$ 6.507 bn, higher by 5.22 % over the same period in 2014.

The SBP has descheduled HSBC Bank Oman following its merger with Meezan Bank Ltd.

According to SBP, total liquid foreign exchange reserves as on November 06, 2015 stood at \$ 19.746 bn of which \$ 14.704 bn was held by SBP and the rest with banks.

The government has allocated 2,300 acres of land to China in Gwadar in Balochistan to develop a special trading zone to facilitate trading relations of Pakistan particularly with countries in the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Moody's Investors Services has upgraded the banking System's rating from "negative" to "stable".

Merchandise trade deficit, f.o.b. data, narrowed to \$ 7.698 bn during July – October 2015 against \$ 8.763 bn in the same period of 2014.

The government has approved the import of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Qatar at 1.5 mn tonnes annually over the next 15 years at a cost of \$ 16.0 bn.

Markets at a glance

Weekly Review	KIBOR (6 months)		Foreign Exchange Rates			KSE	Gold Rate
	Bid %	Offer %	GBP(£)	EURO(€)	USD(\$)	100 Index	(10 gm)
Beginning	6.19	6.44	Rs. 161.75	Rs. 115.25	Rs. 105.95	34,426	Rs. 39,385
Ending	6.17	6.42	Rs. 161.7	Rs. 114.6	Rs. 106.15	34,144	Rs. 39,000
Change	-0.02	-0.02	-0.05	-0.65	+0.2	-282	-385

Pakistan has signed 18 accords with Belarus in a number of economic, humanitarian and intellectual fields of mutual interests. Belarus would provide a “gateway” access to Pakistan with Europe in general.

Moody's Investors Services has come to conclude that the country's debt affordability is weakening as reliance on external funds through issuance of international bonds is increasing external indebtedness.

International

India has signed a number of agreements in various sectors of its economy with Britain worth \$ 13.7 bn including trade and civil nuclear energy.

Indonesia, the largest Southeast Asian economy, is to establish new economic zones with significant incentives to attract private foreign investment.

GDP growth in Britain slowed to 0.5 % in the quarter ending September against 0.7 % in the previous quarter, year-on-year.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is to invest \$ 35 bn by 2021 for generation of clean electricity for meeting most of domestic demand.

The Bank of England (BoE) is to introduce measures to help smaller banks compete better in the mortgage market.

An internationally recognised “think-tank” has come to conclude that about \$ 1.0-1.5 trillion or about 2 % of global GDP is lost due to corruption.

The French economy is officially being projected to rise by 1.6 % this year following a growth of 1.1 % in 2014. Unemployment is anticipated to be lower at 10.3 % of workforce in 2015 against 10.5 % in 2014.

The Bank of England (BoE) has pruned growth prospect of the economy from 2.8 % to 2.7 % this year while leaving its key lending rate unchanged at 5.0 %.

The Malaysian government expects the economy to grow at a slower pace of between 4.0 – 5.0 % in 2016 against an anticipated growth of between 4.5 – 5.5 % in 2015.



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