

## Morning Briefing

### Auto financing turns positive with uptick in December: |Economy

The auto financing slightly rose to PKR235.5bn in December 2024 from PKR 234.6bn in the preceding month. [Click here for more](#)

### Trade deficit with nine countries surges 43%: |Economy

Pakistan's trade deficit with nine neighbouring countries surged by 43.2% to USD 5.4bn during the first half of the current fiscal year (FY25) from USD 3.7bn in the corresponding period last year. [Click here for more](#)

### IMF lowers Pakistan's GDP growth estimate to 3%: |Economy

Almost a month before scheduled negotiations on its USD 7bn EFF with Pakistan, the IMF on Friday lowered the country's growth estimate to 3% for current fiscal year, down from 3.2% it had projected about three months ago. [Click here for more](#)

### ECC backs power tariff re-basing in winter rather than summer: |Economy

Amid regulator's opposition, the ECC of the cabinet on Friday endorsed a proposal to shift the annual electricity re-basing exercise, so it would take effect from Jan 1 instead of July 1, to minimise public outcry over hefty bills in high-consumption months. [Click here for more](#)

### Short-term inflation declines for third consecutive week: |Economy

Short-term inflation, measured by the SPI, eased to 1.2% YoY in the week ending on Jan 16 owing to a decline in the prices of perishable food items. [Click here for more](#)

### FDI goes up by 20% in six months: |Economy

FDI increased by 20% during the first half of the current financial year (FY25), the State Bank reported on Friday. [Click here for more](#)

### Govt notifies sale of 35% gas output to private parties: |Economy

After prolonged resistance from Sui gas companies, the government issued a statutory order that allowed E&P firms to sell over one-third of their newly discovered gas reserves to private companies with maximum annual cap of 100mmcf. [Click here for more](#)

### IT exports thrive despite internet issues: |Economy

Despite challenges such as internet disruptions and firewalls, Pakistan achieved its highest-ever monthly IT exports of USD 348mn in December 2024, an increase of 15% YoY and 12% MoM. [Click here for more](#)

### Discos propose PKR 1.04/unit negative FCA for December: |Economy

With a meagre 1.3% growth in electricity demand over last year, the public sector power companies have sought about PKR 1.0/unit negative FCA for electricity consumed in December. [Click here for more](#)

### Current account posts USD 1.2bn surplus in July-Dec: |Economy

The current account posted another surplus of USD 582mn in December 2024, bringing the total surplus for the first half of the current fiscal year (FY25) to USD 1.2bn. [Click here for more](#)

### Pakistan set to issue first-ever USD 200mn panda bonds in June: |Economy

Pakistan plans to issue its first-ever panda bonds in June 2025, marking a significant step toward strengthening its financial relationship with China. [Click here for more](#)

Net LIPI/FIPI Position		
	USD mn	CYTD
Foreign	1.08	16.01
Individuals	2.92	22.11
Companies	0.79	10.43
Banks/DFIs	1.76	8.11
MF	2.88	10.06
Broker	1.36	7.33
Insurance	2.43	7.86

FIPI Sector-wise	
	USD mn
E & P	0.04
OMC	0.03
Banks	0.31
Tech	0.09

Major Indices				
Index	Value	Change	FYTD	CYTD
KSE-100	115,272	+1.3%	+46.9%	+84.6%
SENSEX	76,619	-0.5%	-3.1%	+6.1%
Nikkei 225	38,451	-0.3%	-3.5%	+14.9%
Hang Seng	19,584	+0.3%	+11.4%	+14.9%
S & P 500	5,994	+1.0%	+9.6%	+25.7%
FTSE 100	8,499	+1.6%	+4.1%	+9.9%

Commodities			
	Unit	Price	Change
WTI	USD/bbl	78.08	+0.26%
Brent	USD/bbl	80.77	-0.02%
Coal	USD/ton	100.00	+0.45%
Gold	USD/oz	2,742.70	-0.22%
Silver	USD/oz	31.08	-0.21%
Rubber	USD/kg	1.90	+1.40

Inter-Bank Currency Rates			
	Last Close	Change	CYTD %
PKR/USD	278.7116	-0.05%	-1.12%
PKR/JPN	1.7910	+0.34%	-9.98%
PKR/THB	8.0962	+0.41%	-1.42%

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## Corporate Announcements

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### **Pakistan Refinery Limited (PRL)– Material Information**

The Company has announced that the Board of Directors of (PRL) has approved the acquisition of a loan facility amounting to PKR 3.15bn, from (PSO) to finance the Company's (FEED) of the Refinery Expansion & Upgrade Project (REUP).

### **Big Bird Foods Limited (BBFL) - Material Information**

The Company has announced the successful completion and commissioning of a new production line which has potential to generate over Rs. 500mn in annual revenue.

### **Worldcall Telecom Limited (WTL) - Material Information**

The Company has announced establishment of a Center of Excellence (CoE) dedicated for AI and Big Data services in WTL premises in Pakistan. It plans to launch its own products in AI and Big Data space from this platform besides providing product development services to clients.

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