Morning News 07-Apr-2023

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- **KSA commits financial support to help secure IMF deal: govt | BR:** Minister of State for Finance, Dr Aisha Ghaus Pasha Thursday said Saudi Arabia has made the commitment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Pakistan got this indication from the Fund in this regard. Talking to the media at the conclusion of the NA Standing Committee on Finance meeting, she said that the IMF has indicated to Pakistan that Saudi Arabia has made the commitment with respect to external financing.
- **US' Blome briefed about constant IMF procrastination | BR:** Donald Blome, Ambassador of the United States of America to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Ishaq Dar on Thursday, said a press release. The Finance Minister welcomed Donald Blome and shared deep-rooted historic and durable bilateral relations with the United States on economic and trade fronts.
- **USD3bn loan at zero interest rate: NA panel asks SBP to submit list of 600 borrowers | BR:** The National Assembly Standing Committee on Finance, Thursday, directed the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) to submit details with names and amount of 600 people who were provided USD3bn loan at zero interest rate. During the committee proceedings, the committee members also sought details about the names of 600 persons who were provided USD3bn at zero interest rate.
- **Global currency: Govt supports China's efforts to expand use of RMB | BR:** Pakistan had been a long-time supporter of China's efforts to expand the use of the Renminbi (RMB) as a global currency, said Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal. Talking to China Economic Net (CEN) during his visit to Beijing, he said that recently, China had been ramping up support for RMB clearing and settlement in its foreign trade, especially with Belt and Road Initiative countries and Pakistan was one of the leading countries to use RMB for international trade settlement.
- **Ecnec okays five projects worth PKR1.3tr | Dawn:** The cost of power generation facilities of the 4,500-megawatt Diamer Basha dam project is estimated to have surged by a massive 60 per cent (PKR555 billion) in nine months – between June 2022 and now – to PKR1.5 trillion just because of currency devaluation.
- **Forex reserves fall by USD56mn | BR:** The country's liquid foreign exchange reserves fell by USD56mn during the last week due to debt payment. According to the State Bank of Pakistan's weekly foreign exchange reserve report issued Thursday, the total liquid forex reserves held by the country stood at USD9.76bn as of Mar 31, 2023 compared to USD9.82bn on March 24, 2023.
- **Rupee snaps losing streak on IMF inflow hopes | The News:** The rupee advanced from a record low on Thursday as Pakistan inched closer to secure crucial financing from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) after Saudi Arabia assured the Washington-based lender that it would provide a USD2bn loan to help the country avert a default. The local unit climbed to 284.42 per dollar at the close in the interbank market, after sliding to an unprecedented 287.85 on Wednesday, according to data from the SBP.
- **Federal minister, Sindh CM agree to revisit gas distribution policy | BR:** Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal State Minister for Petroleum Musadik Malik have agreed to revisit the gas distribution policy to redress the grievances of the province that produces over 60% of the national gas. This emerged at a meeting held between the two here at CM House on Thursday.
- **'Overdue' payments to Chinese IPPs: CPPA-G directed to prepare 'innovative' instrument | BR:** Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal has directed the Central Power Purchasing Agency–Guaranteed (CPPA-G) to prepare innovative instrument to make 14% overdue payments to Chinese IPPs, well-informed sources told. He issued these instructions to CPPA-G, the Market Operator, while presiding over a meeting of Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- **Subscription shares: South Sudan's ICB shows interest in Silkbank | BR:** M/s. International Commercial Bank (ICB) of South Sudan has expressed an interest in subscribing to the shares of Silkbank Limited up to the extent of fifty million euros, subject to all regulatory requirements and financial due diligence.
- **NA rejects SC's 'minority' ruling on Punjab polls | BR:** Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has convened a meeting of the National Security Committee (NSC) — the country's top security body comprising civil and military leadership — to discuss the "ongoing situation" as the government locks horns with the Supreme Court over the election verdict.
- **IMF sees global growth below 3% in 2023 | BR:** The International Monetary Fund expects global economic growth to dip below 3% in 2023 and to remain around 3% for the next five years, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said in prepared remarks on Thursday. That is the global lender's lowest medium-term growth forecast since 1990, and well below the average growth of 3.8% seen in the past two decades.

Market Indices

	6-Apr-23	5-Apr-23	30-Jun-22
KSE 100	40,351	39,717	41,541
KSE 30	15,046	14,762	15,805
KMI 30	70,433	68,824	68,766
KSE All Shares	26,619	26,220	28,582

Volume (mn Shares)

	6-Apr-23	FYTD (Average)
KSE 100	77.3	95.4
KSE 30	59.9	59.7
KMI 30	77.7	58.1
KSE All Shares	171.3	201.1

Commodity Rates

	6-Apr-23	Daily Change	FYTD Change
Crude Oil-Brent (USD/BBL)	85.1	0.2%	-25.9%
Crude Oil-Arab Light (USD/BBL)	86.0	0.1%	-20.3%
Coal (USD/Tonne)	131.9	-3.1%	-61.4%
Copper (USD/Lbs)	4.0	0.7%	7.6%
Cotton (¢/Lbs)	80.9	2.7%	-26.7%
Gold (USD/Ounce)	2,008.0	-0.6%	11.1%

Currency (Interbank)

	6-Apr-23	Daily Change	FYTD Change
US Dollar	287.9	0.2%	40.8%
UK Pound	358.1	0.1%	43.8%
Euro	314.4	0.4%	46.7%
UAE Dirham	78.7	0.0%	40.9%
Chinese Yuan	41.9	0.3%	37.2%

Fund Flows (USD mn)

	6-Apr-23	FYTD
FOREIGN INDIVIDUAL	0.00	23.70
FOREIGN CORPORATES	1.41	-53.43
OVERSEAS PAKISTANI	-0.17	40.84
FIPI NET	**1.24**	**11.10**

Economic Data (USD mn)

	FY23E	FY22	FY21
GDP Growth	0.2%	6.0%	5.7%
	Feb-23	**Jan-23**	
Exports	2,191	2,244	
Imports	4,034	4,875	
Remittances	1,988	1,894	
Foreign Exchange Reserves	3,850	3,110	

Money Market Data

	6-Apr-23	5-Apr-23	30-Jun-22
SBP Policy Rate	21.00	20.00	13.75
CPI Inflation	35.40	31.55	21.32
3 Month T-Bill	21.92	21.46	14.98
6 Month T-Bill	21.86	21.25	15.15
12 Month T-Bill	21.81	21.28	15.30
3 Year Government Bond	18.55	18.58	13.45
5 Year Government Bond	15.50	15.53	12.93
10 Year Government Bond	15.14	15.12	12.92
3 Month KIBOR	22.05	21.89	15.16
6 Month KIBOR	22.07	21.98	15.35

Data Sources : Reuters, PSX, NCCPL, PBS, SBP