

2024

MARCH

CDPR NEWSLETTER

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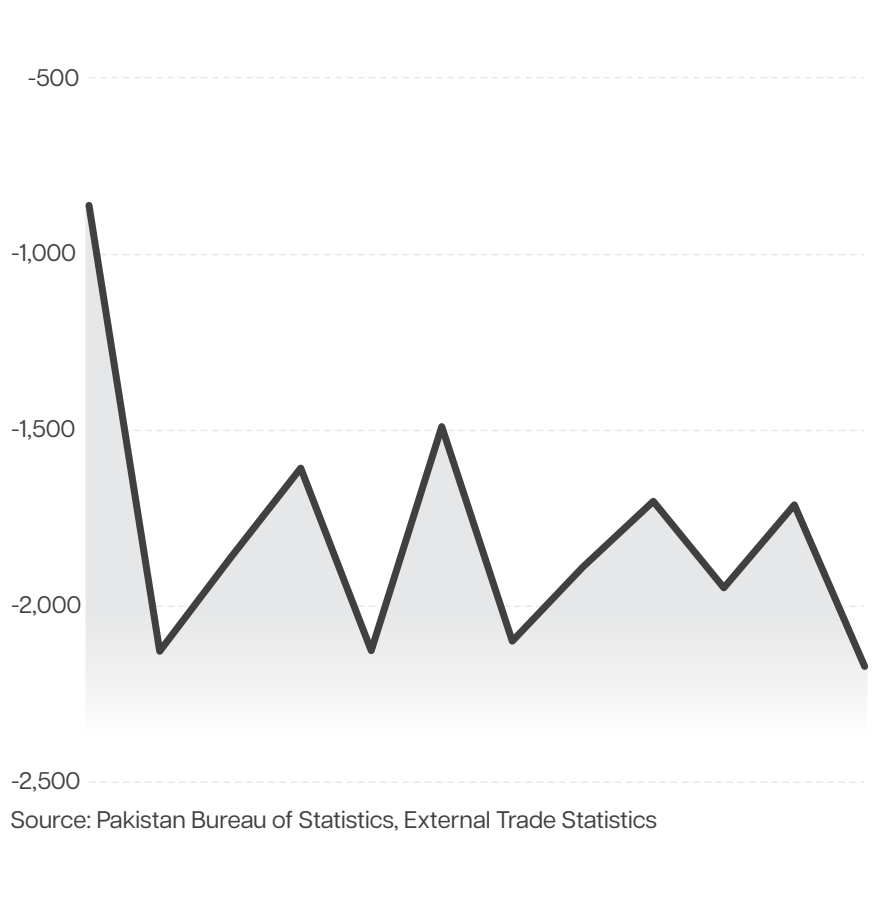
MACRODATA

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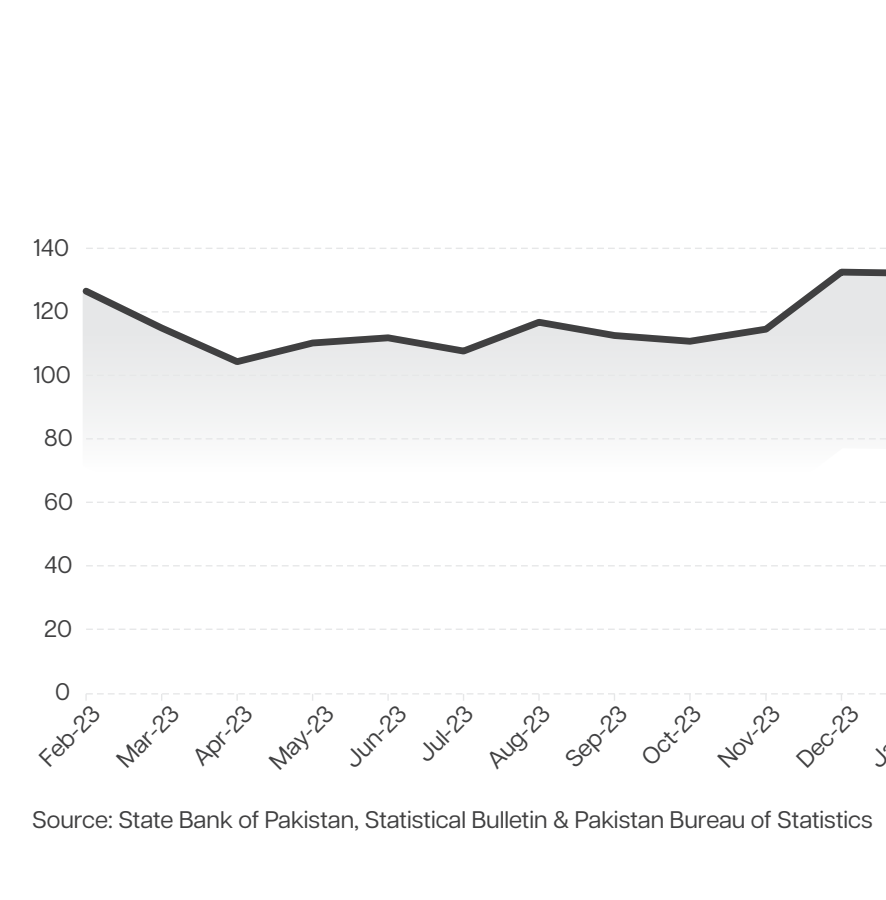


TRADE

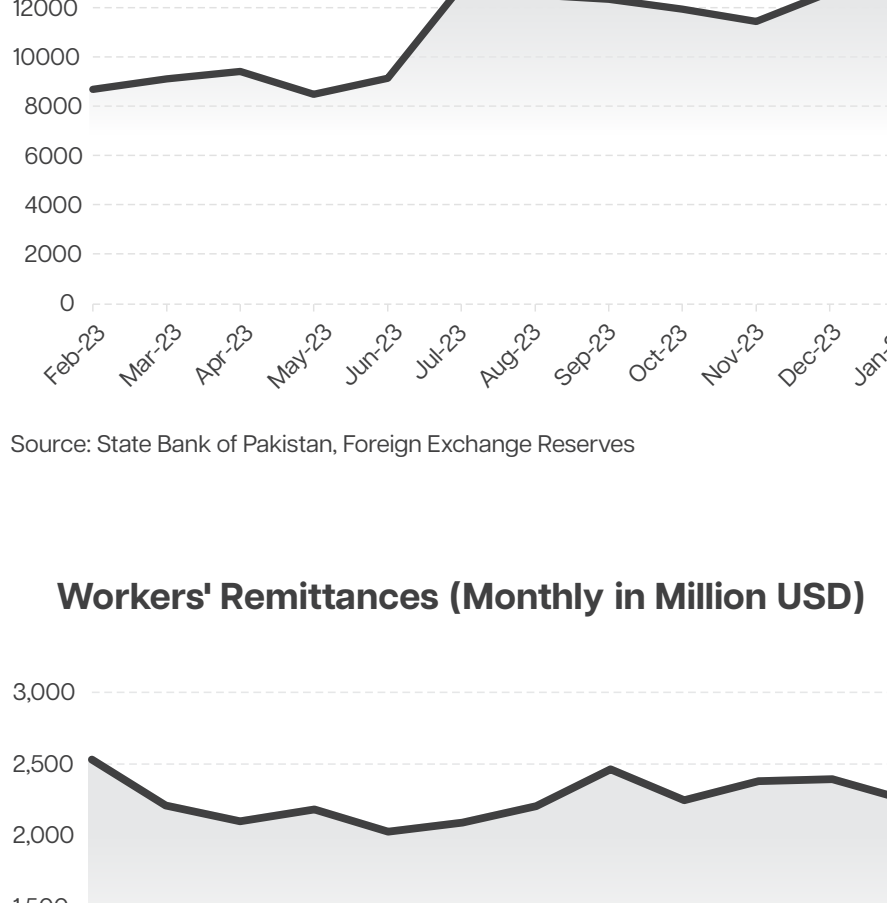
Exports (Monthly in Million USD)



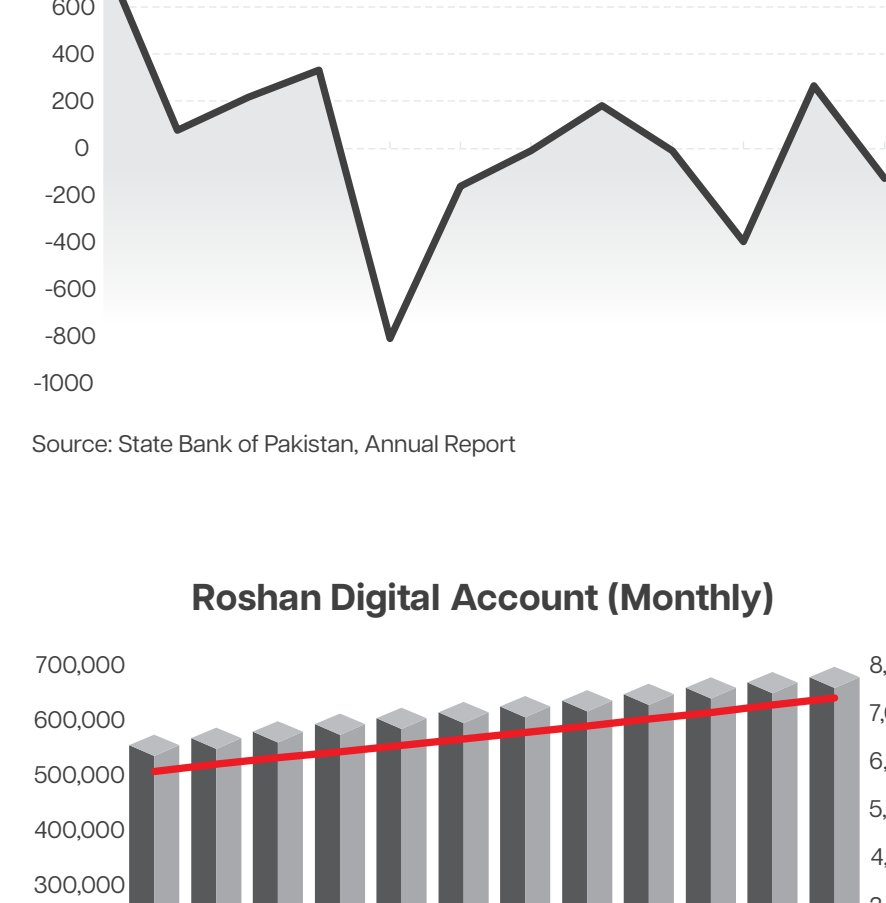
Imports (Monthly in Million USD)



Balance of Trade (Monthly in Million USD)

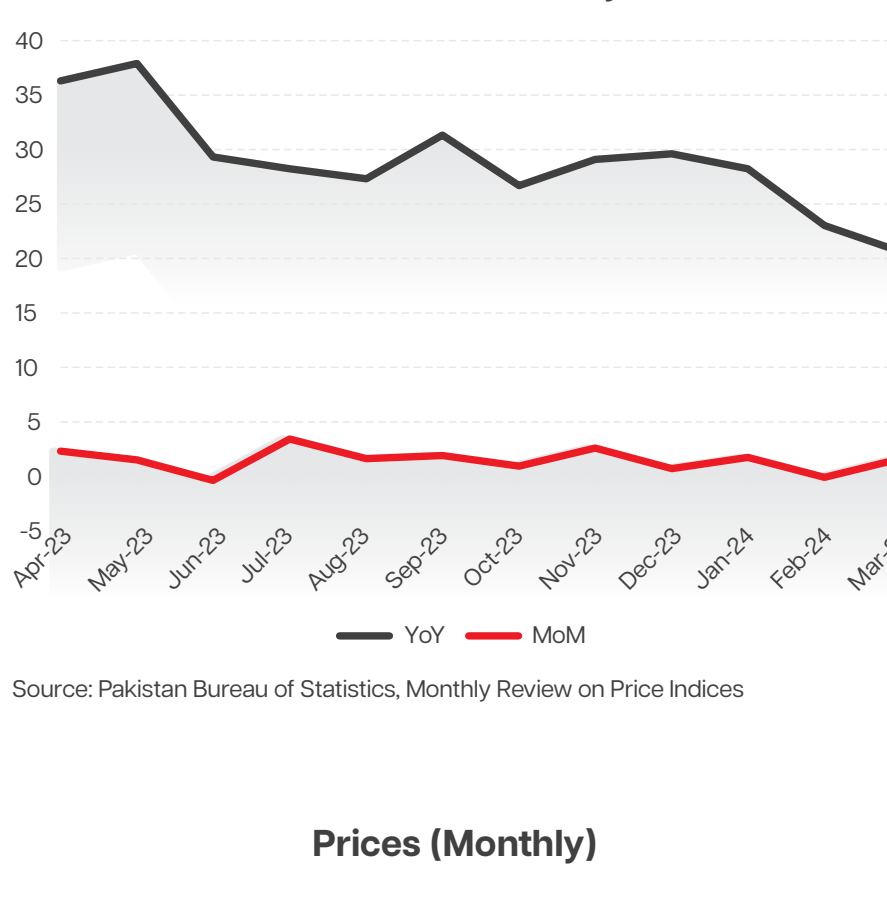


Monthly Quantum Index of Manufacturing

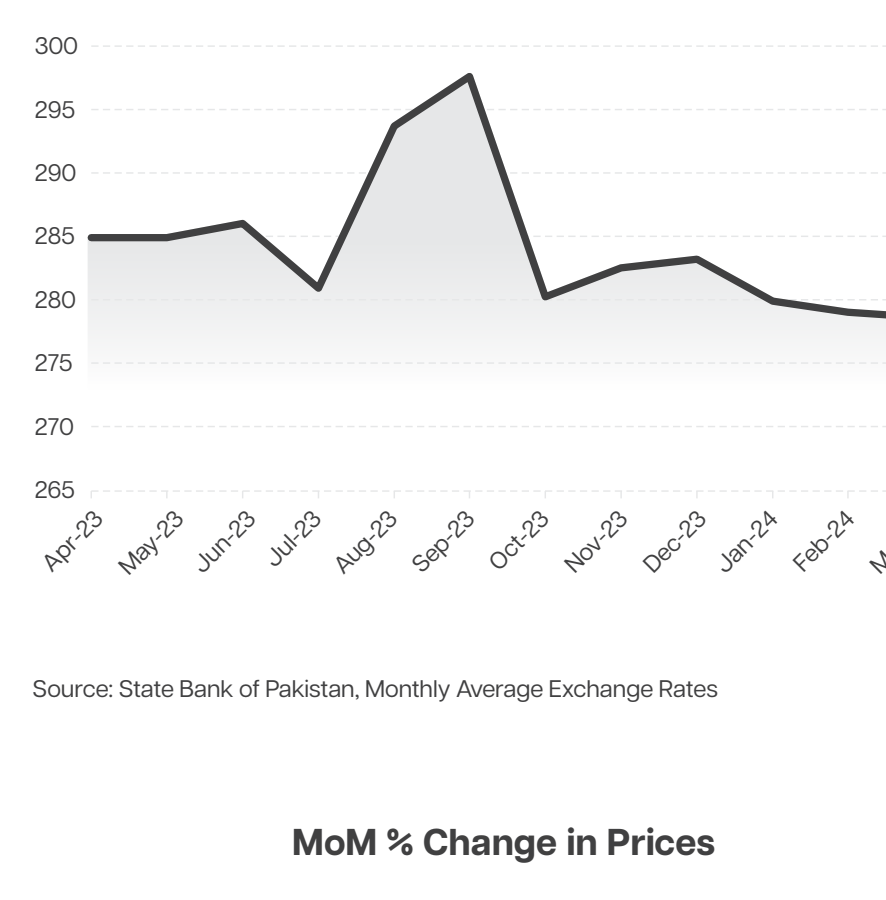


BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

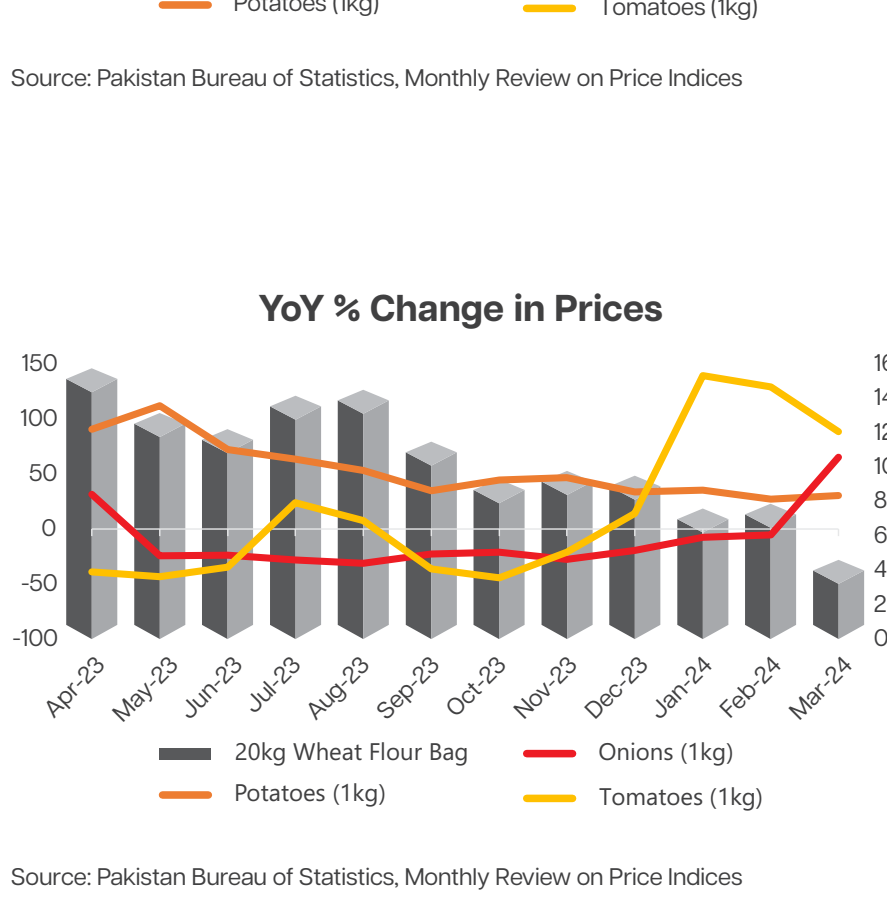
Forex Reserves (Month-End Levels in Million USD)



Balance of Payments (Monthly in Million USD)



Workers' Remittances (Monthly in Million USD)

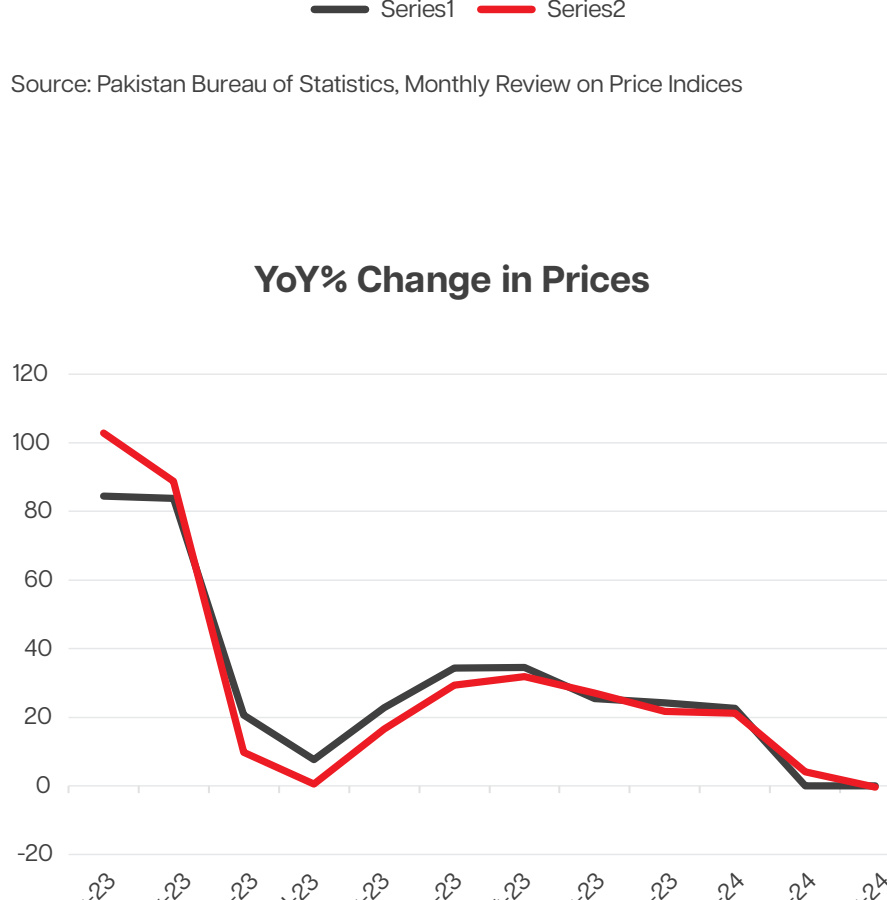


Roshan Digital Account (Monthly)

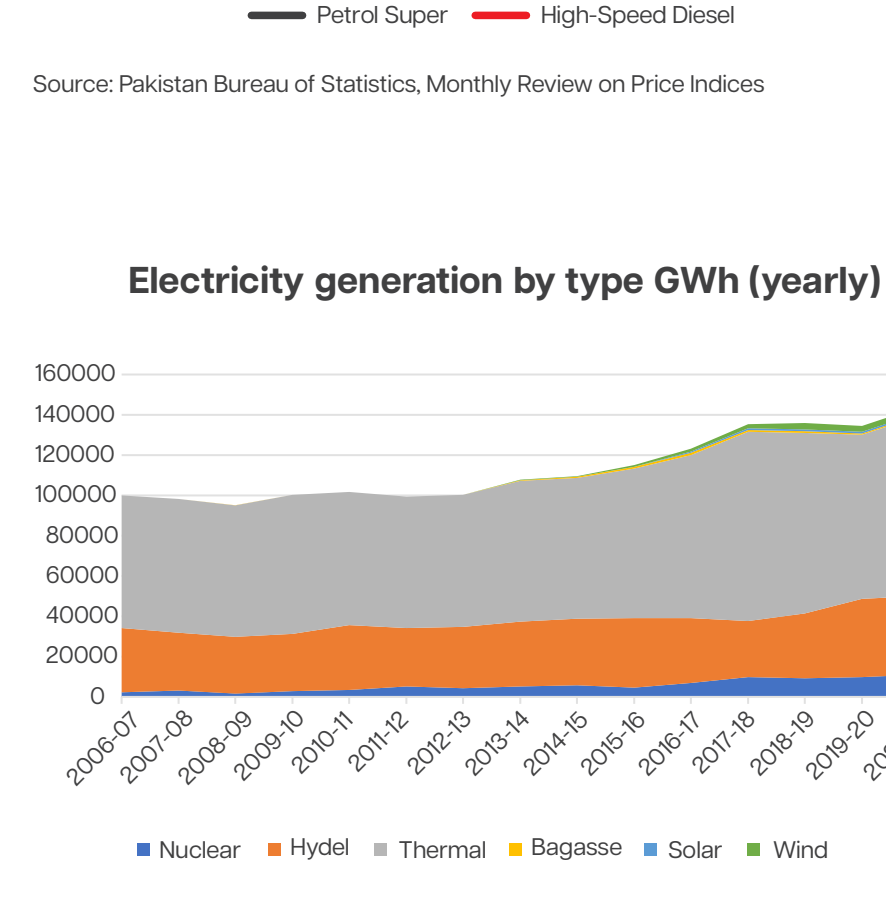


PRICES

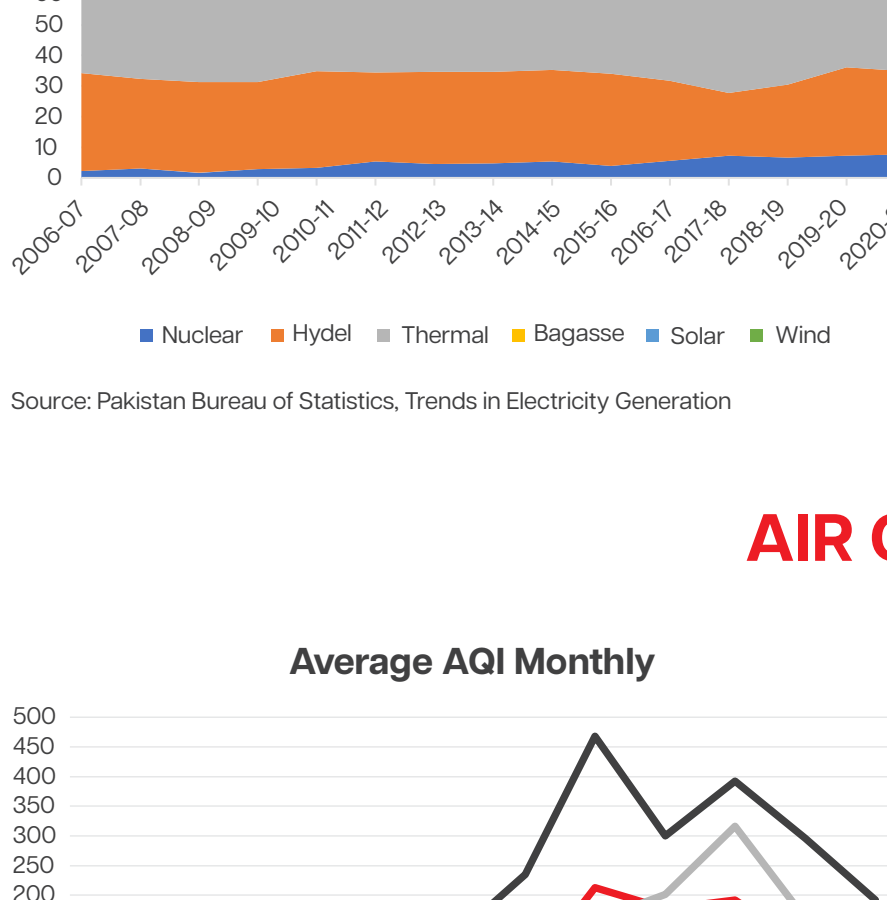
Inflation % (Monthly)



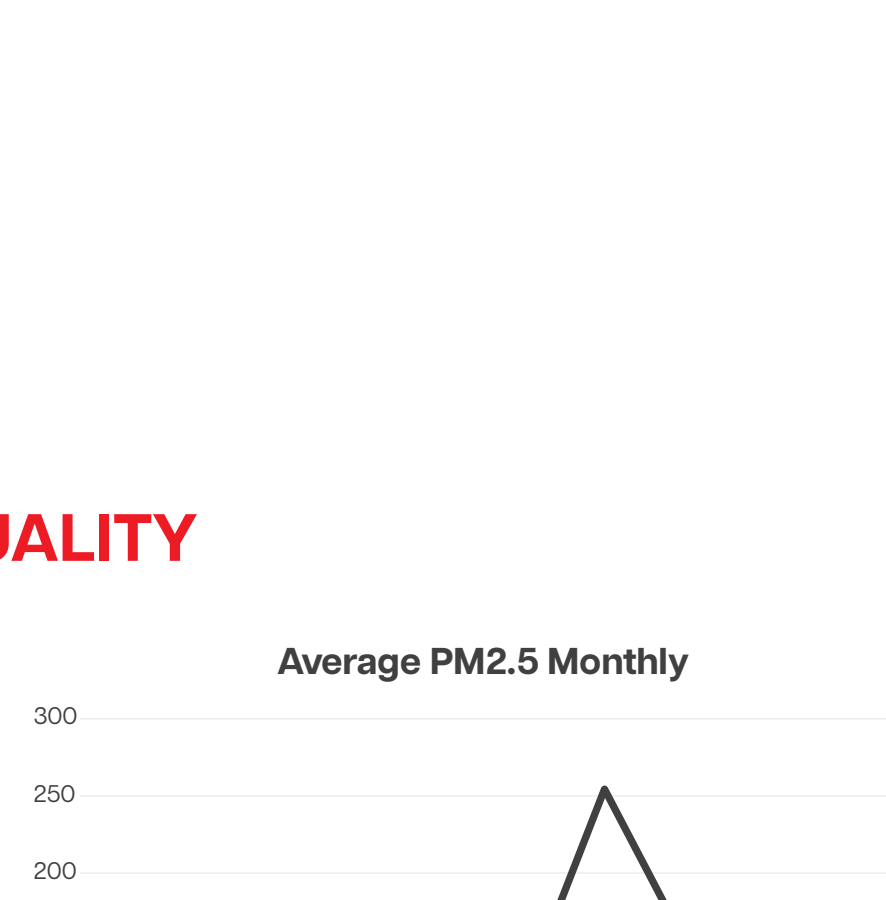
Exchange Rate (Monthly Average in PKR)



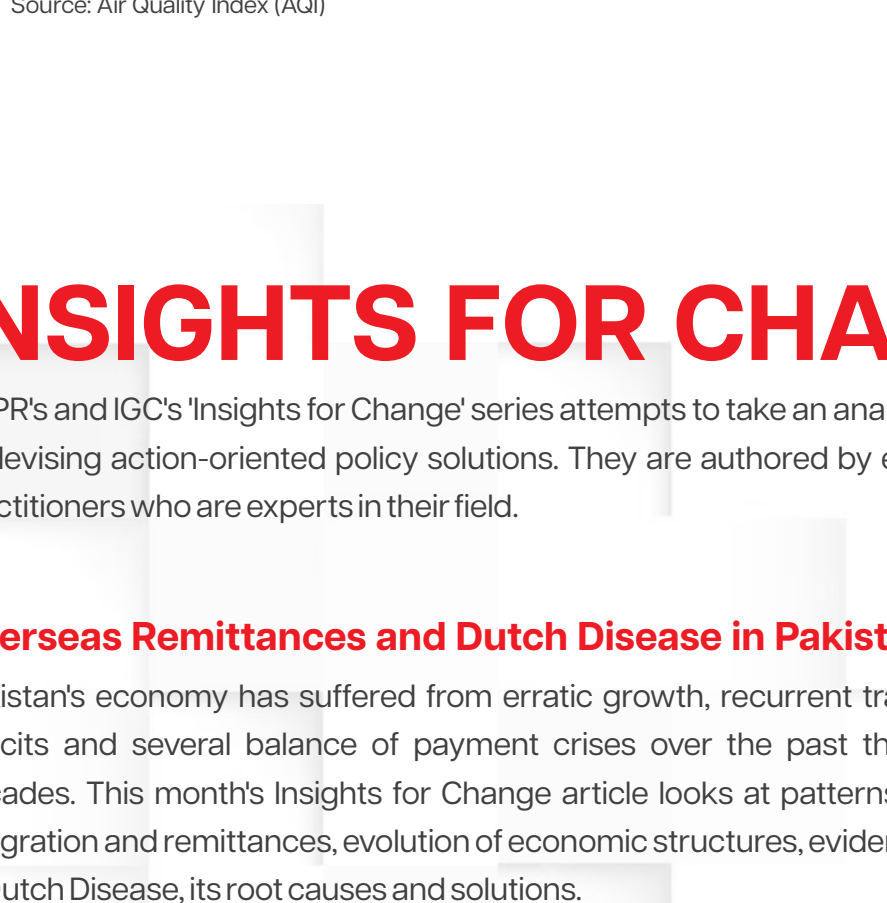
Prices (Monthly)



MoM % Change in Prices

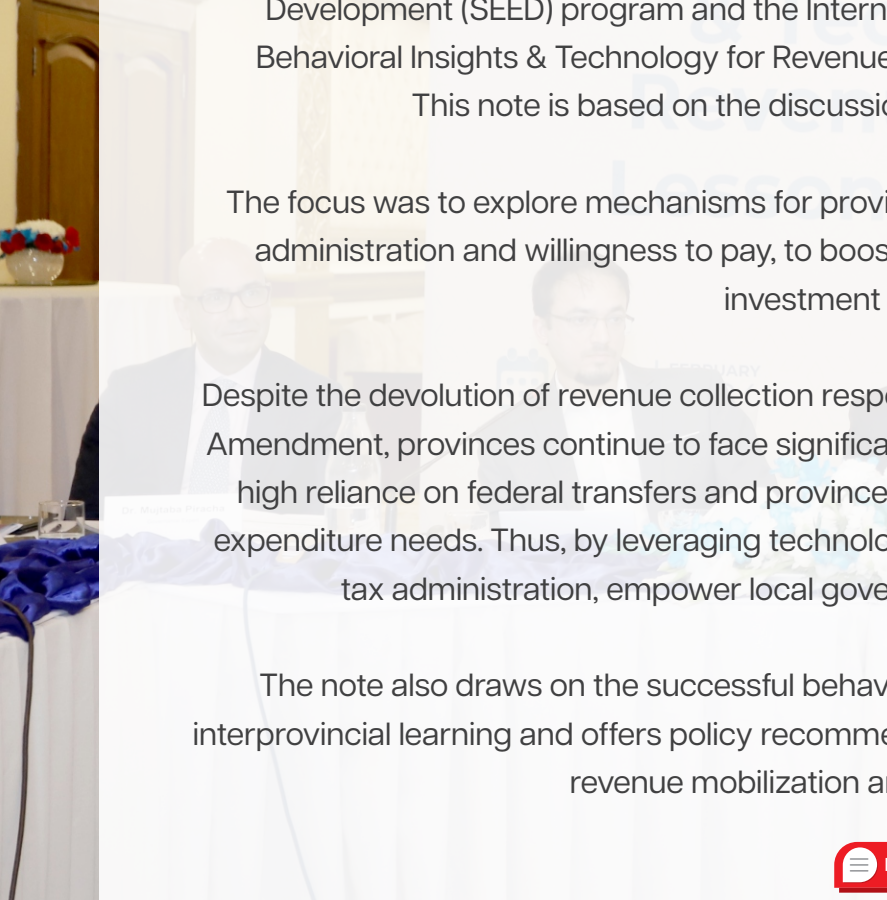


YoY % Change in Prices

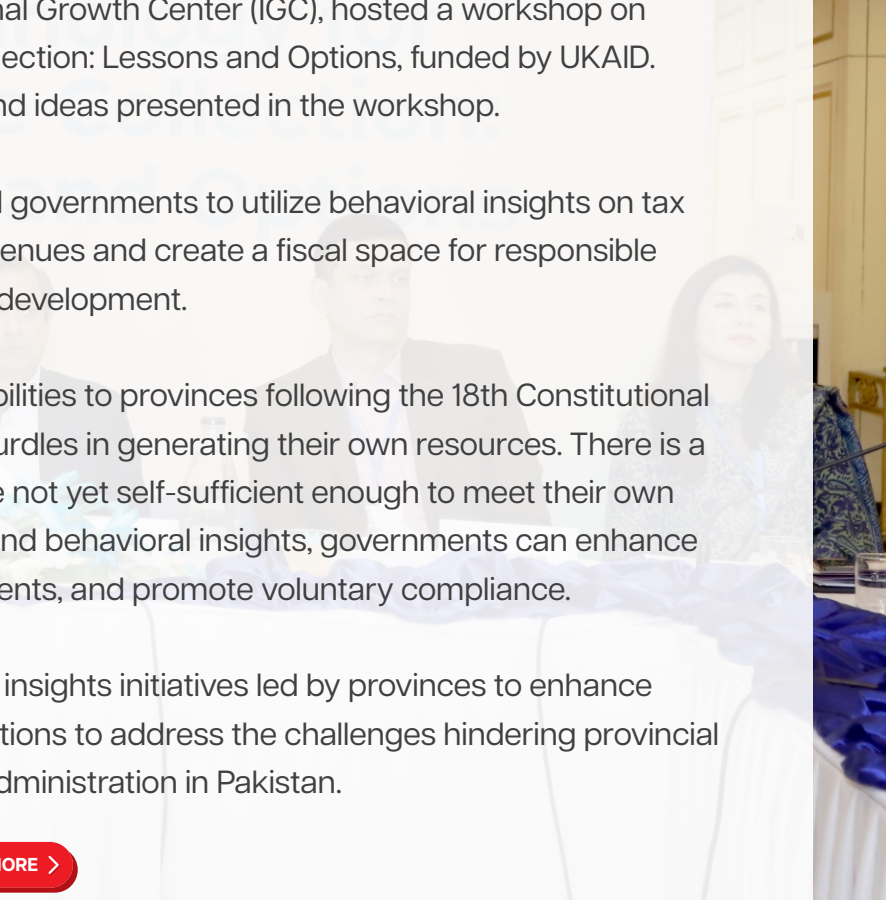


ENERGY

Prices (Monthly)



MoM % Change in Prices



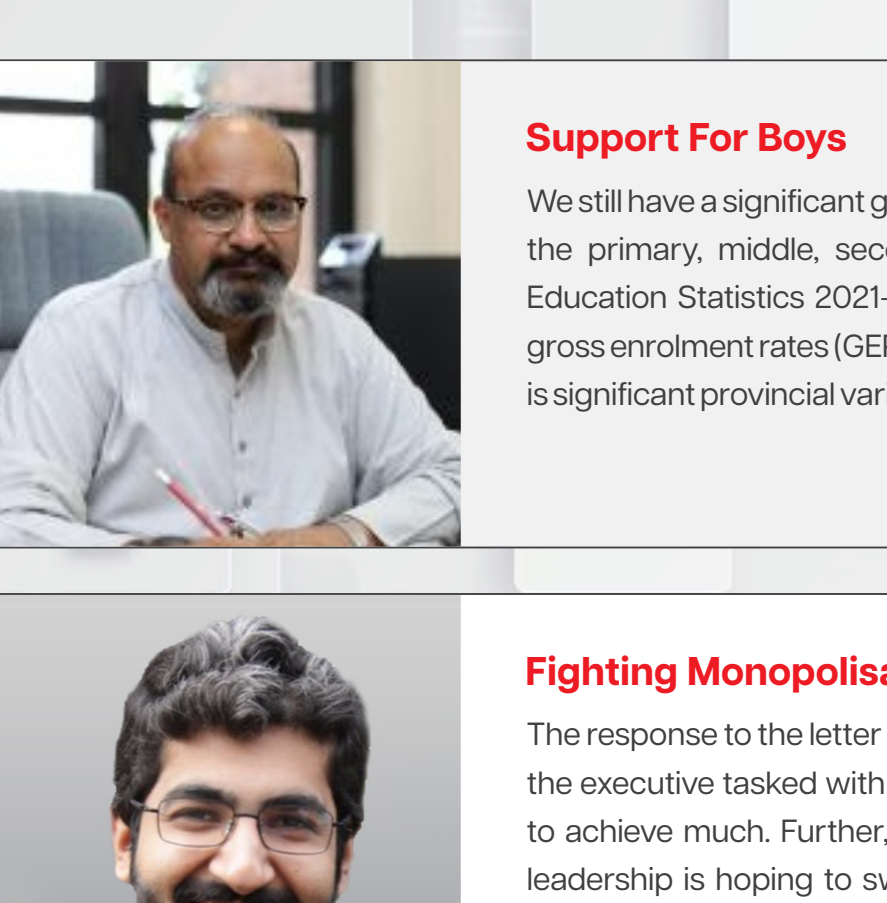
YoY % Change in Prices



Electricity generation by type GWh (yearly)

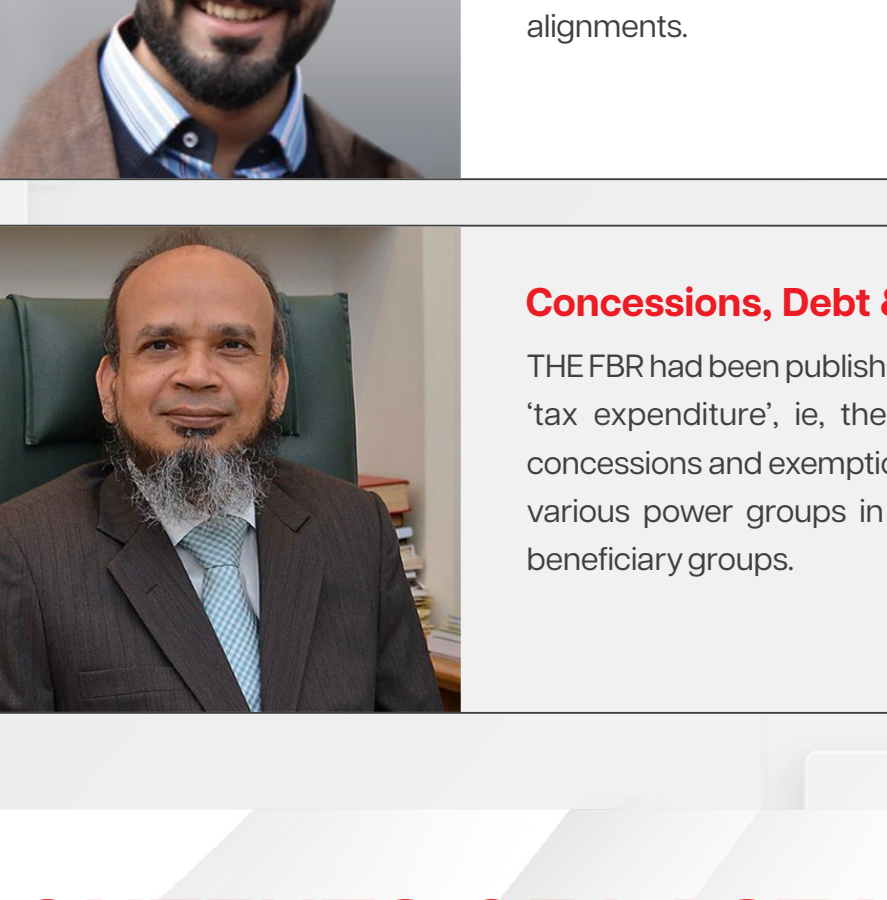


% of electricity generation by type (yearly)



AIR QUALITY

Average AQI Monthly



Average PM2.5 Monthly



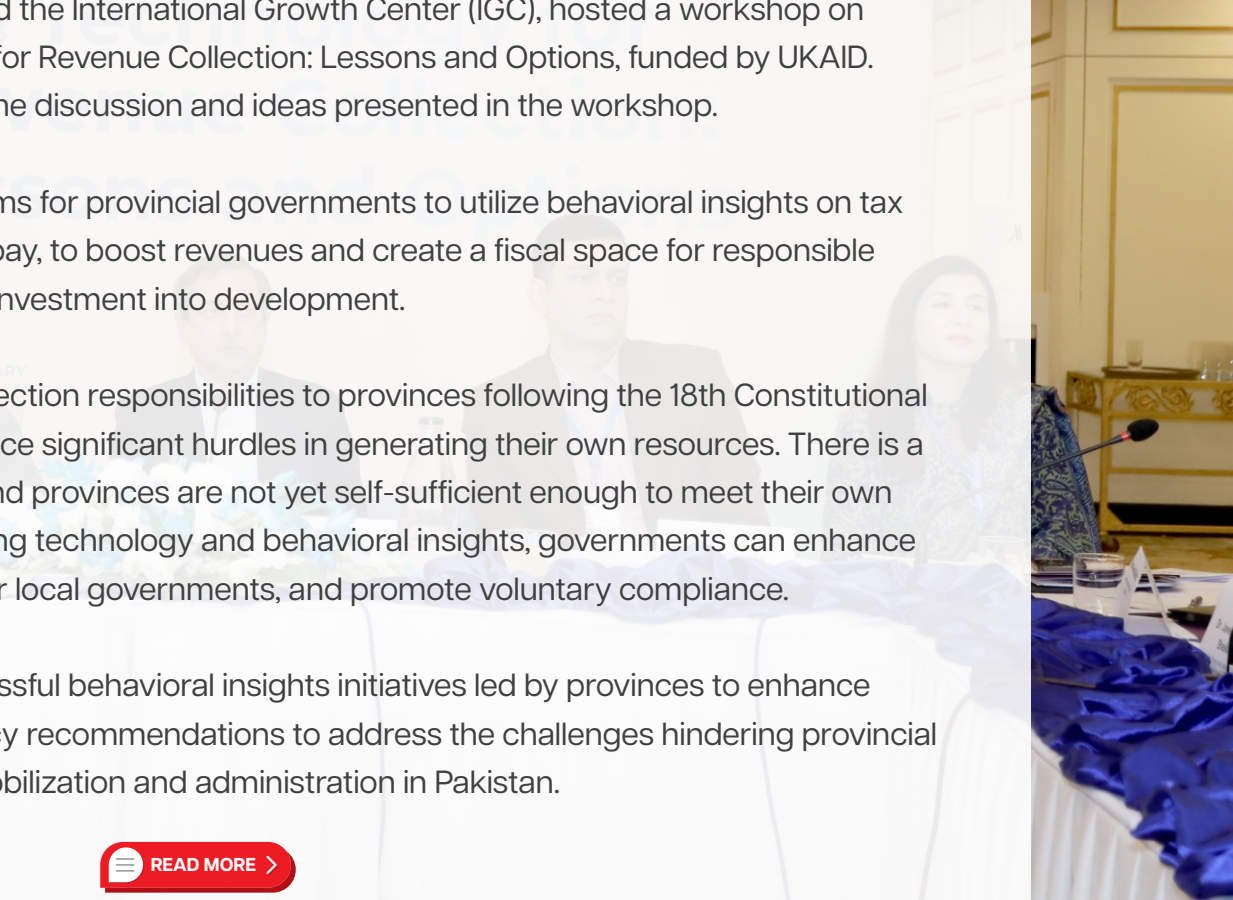
INSIGHTS FOR CHANGE

CDPR's and IGC's 'Insights for Change' series attempts to take an analytical approach to devising action-oriented policy solutions. They are authored by economists and practitioners who are experts in their field.

Overseas Remittances and Dutch Disease in Pakistan

Pakistan's economy has suffered from erratic growth, recurrent trade deficits and several balance of payment crises over the past three decades. This month's Insights for Change article looks at patterns of emigration and remittances, evolution of economic structures, evidence of Dutch Disease, its root causes and solutions.

This article has been co-authored by Saqib Jafarey, who teaches at the Department of Economics at City University of London, and Ijaz Nabi, the Executive Director for the Consortium for Development Policy Research, Country Director for IGC Pakistan, and former Dean and Professor of Economics, Lahore University of Management Sciences.



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POLICY ANALYSIS

Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue Collection: Lessons and Options

The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR), Sustainable Energy and Economic Development (SEED) program and the International Growth Center (IGC), hosted a workshop on Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue Collection: Lessons and Options, funded by UKAID. This note is based on the discussion and ideas presented in the workshop.

The focus was to explore mechanisms for provincial governments to utilize behavioral insights on tax administration and willingness to pay, to boost revenues and create a fiscal space for responsible investment into development.

Despite the devolution of revenue collection responsibilities to provinces following the 18th Constitutional Amendment, provinces continue to face significant hurdles in generating their own resources. There is a high reliance on federal transfers and provinces are not yet self-sufficient enough to meet their own expenditure needs. Thus, by leveraging technology and behavioral insights, governments can enhance tax administration, empower local governments, and promote voluntary compliance.

The note also draws on the successful behavioral insights initiatives led by provinces to enhance interprovincial learning and offers policy recommendations to address the challenges hindering provincial revenue mobilization and administration in Pakistan.

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LET'S TALK DEVELOPMENT

CDPR and IGC's podcast series called 'Let's Talk Development' is about understanding Pakistan's crucial economic and development problems. We engage experts in exploring critical development issues and trends in Pakistan.

Exploring the Unmet Need for Family Planning

Currently, one of the biggest challenges that Pakistan is facing is the ever-increasing population growth and lack of family planning. 40% of Pakistan's area is underserved when it comes to family planning programmes and according to the latest population census, Pakistan is the fifth most populous country in the world. Nazish Afraz and Anna Akhsheed discuss and unpack the importance of women's agency to choose family size and make decisions based on their financial and physical resources. They identify the barriers and the gaps in family planning services, such as accessibility and information and their importance in combating the rising population in Pakistan.

Pakistan's Foreign Policy in Review

Pakistan's major priority regarding its foreign policy over the years has been to increase Pakistan's engagement in the region in a way that makes the region more cohesive and more economically integrated. With Pakistan's geographical location posing a challenge, navigating through its foreign policy has always been a major concern for successive governments. In this podcast, Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar and Dr. Madiha Afzal talk about Pakistan's current foreign policy approach, its major priorities and challenges and how it has evolved over the years.

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In Pakistan, policy decisions and public discourse are often uninformed by available research. The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR) bridges this gap by communicating cutting-edge, evidence-based research on development issues in Pakistan to an audience of policymakers, students, the media and the wider public. With support from the International Growth Centre (IGC), CDPR disseminates policy briefs, hosts events, engages with the media and produces digital content to make topics in development research such as economic growth, energy, education, health and governance intelligible to both decision makers & the public.

