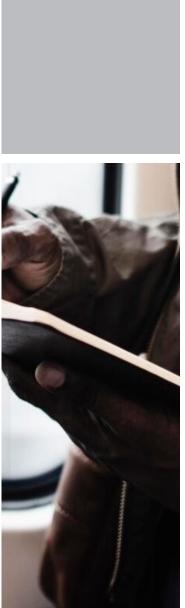
	28,392 120 27,806 1220 MARCH SSEBTER
	 MACRODATA Trade Balance of Payments Prices Prices Energy Air Quality (2) INSIGHTS FOR CHANGE 21 Overseas Remittances and Dutch Disease in Pakistan (3) POLICY ANALYSIS 31 Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue Collection: Lessons and options (4) LET'S TALK DEVELOPMENT 4.1 Exploring the Unmet Need for Family Planning 4.2 Pakistan's Foreign Policy in Review (5) FELLOWS' ARTICLES 6.1 Support for Boys 6.2 Fighting Monopolisation 6.3 Concessions, Debt & Reforms

MACRODATA

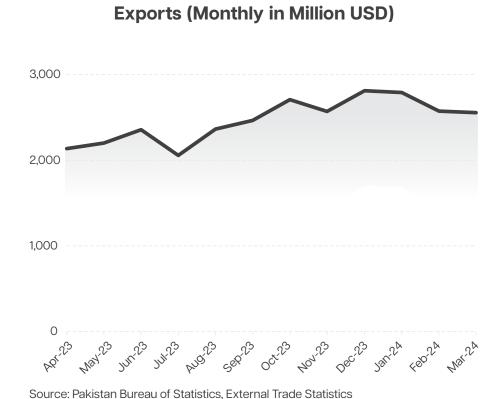
- Trade 1.1
- 1.2 **Balance of Payments**
- **Prices** 1.3
- 1.4 Energy
- 1.5 Air Quality

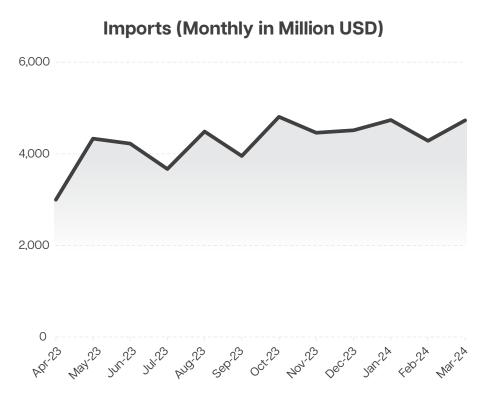






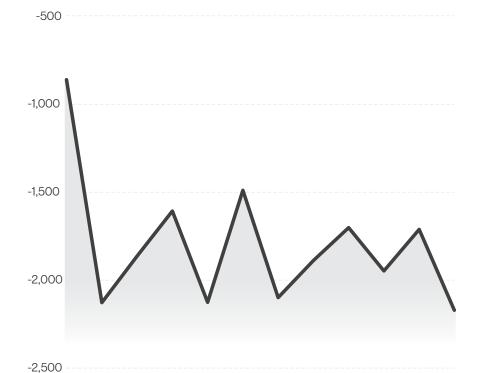
TRADE



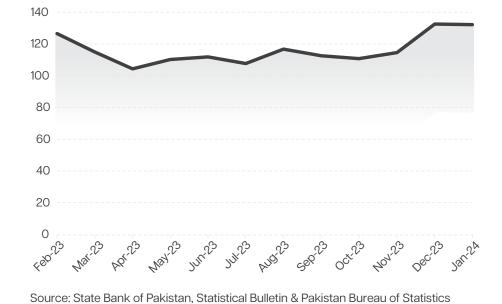


Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, External Trade Statistics





Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, External Trade Statistics



Balance of Payments (Monthly in Million USD)

Nation of the main ship was been of the source of the sour

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

1000

800 600

400

200 0

-200

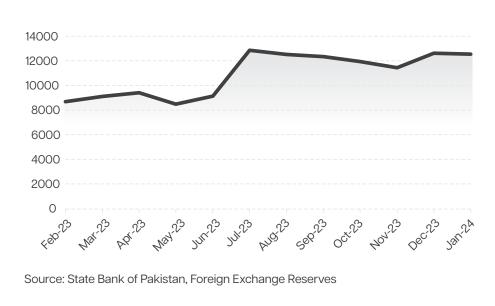
-400

-600

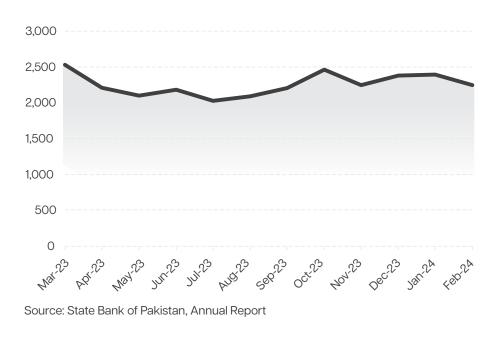
-800

-1000

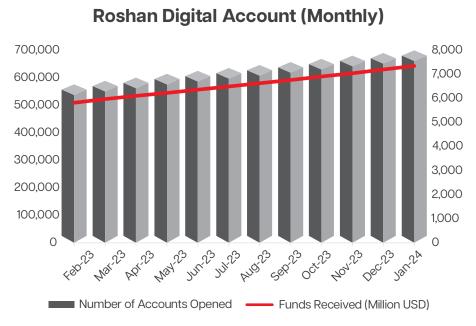
Forex Reserves (Month-End Levels in Million USD)



Workers' Remittances (Monthly in Million USD)



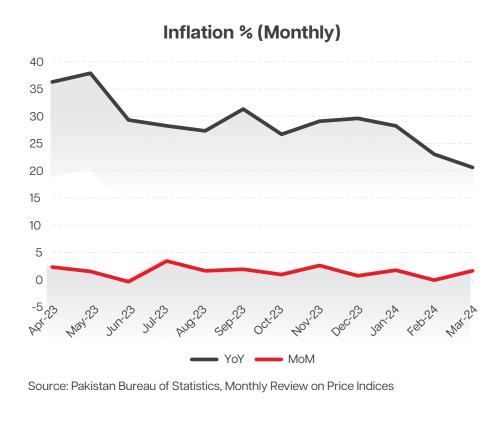
Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Annual Report



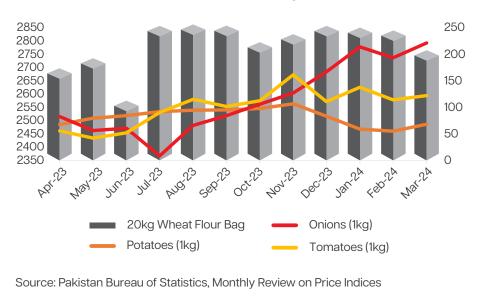
Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Key Statistics on Roshan Digital Account

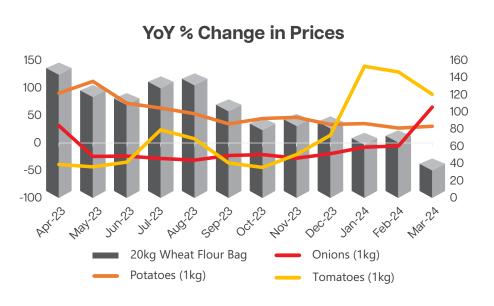
PRICES

300



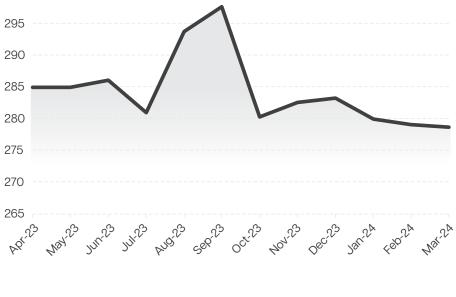
Prices (Monthly)





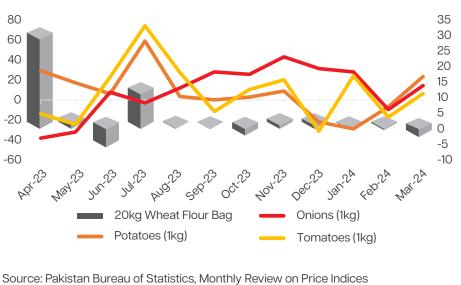
Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices

Exchange Rate (Monthly Average in PKR)



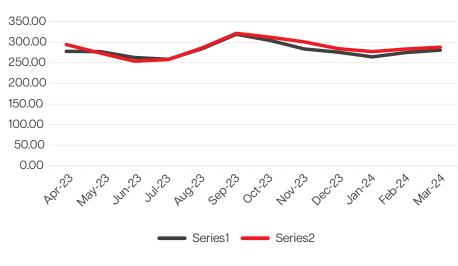
Source: State Bank of Pakistan, Monthly Average Exchange Rates

MoM % Change in Prices





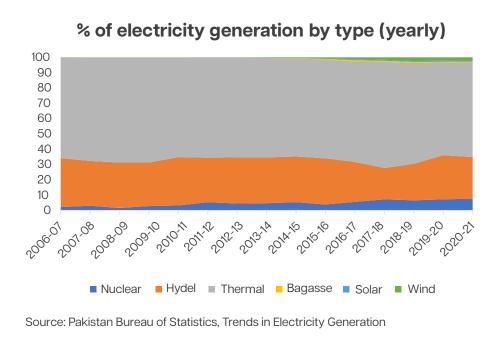
Prices (Monthly)

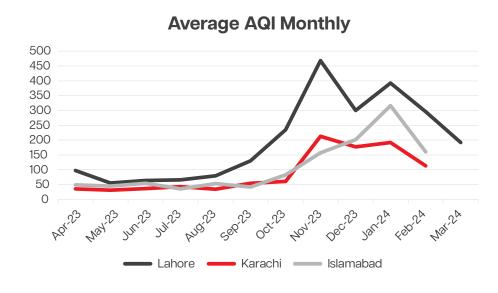


Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Review on Price Indices

YoY% Change in Prices







Source: Air Quality Index (AQI)

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.

POLICY ANALYSIS

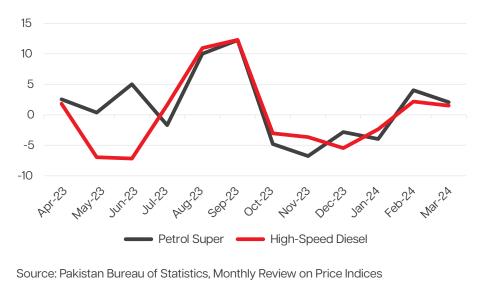
READ MORE

Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue Collection: Lessons and Options

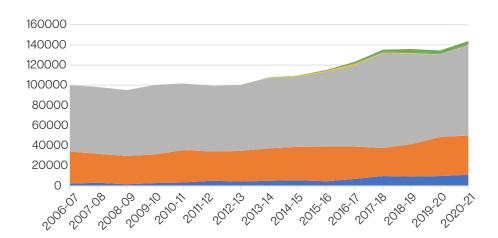
The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR), Sustainable Energy and Economic Development (SEED) program and the International Growth Center (IGC), hosted a workshop on Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue Collection: Lessons and Options, funded by UKAID. This note is based on the discussion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

MoM % Change in Prices



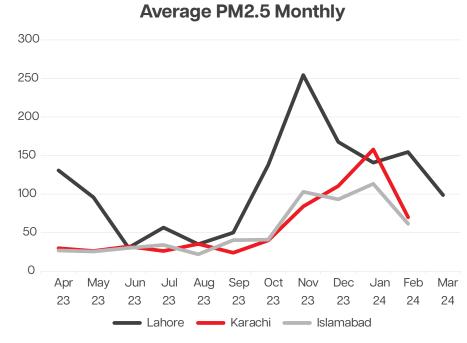
Electricity generation by type GWh (yearly)



Hydel Thermal Bagasse Solar Wind Nuclear

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Trends in Electricity Generation

AIR QUALITY



Source: Air aQuality Index (AQI)





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.



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 Amna 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, it's major priorities and challenges and how it has evolved over the years.







We still have a significant gender gap in enrolments in schools in Pakistan, and it persists across the primary, middle, secondary and higher-secondary levels. According to the Pakistan Education Statistics 2021-22 report released by the Pakistan Institute of Education recently, gross enrolment rates (GER) are 82 per cent for boys and 71pc for girls at the primary level. There is significant provincial variation as well.

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IISTEN HERE >

Fighting Monopolisation

The response to the letter from the Supreme Court has been weak so far. A commission under the executive tasked with interrogating executive overreach cannot be reasonably expected to achieve much. Further, it adds weight to the perception that the current Supreme Court leadership is hoping to sweep things under the carpet, due to various political and tactical alignments.

READ MORE >



Concessions, Debt & Reforms

THE FBR had been publishing its Tax Expenditure Report since 2020. Each report estimates the 'tax expenditure', ie, the tax foregone or the revenue loss because of the built-in tax concessions and exemptions in our federal tax laws. Such concessions are legally doled out to various power groups in our country. These reports do not disclose the identities of the beneficiary groups.

(6)

READ MORE >

CONTENTS OF LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

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4.1 Fostering an Inclusive Digital Landscape 4.2 How Much Say do Voters have over Election Outcomes

(5) **EVENTS**

5.1 Behavioral Insights & Technology for Revenue **Collection: Lessons and Options**

For regular updates regarding CDPR's policy

and research work please follow us on:



In Pakistan, policy decisions and public discourse are often uniformed 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.



FELLOWS' ARTICLES