

CDPR NEWSLETTER

2025

APRIL

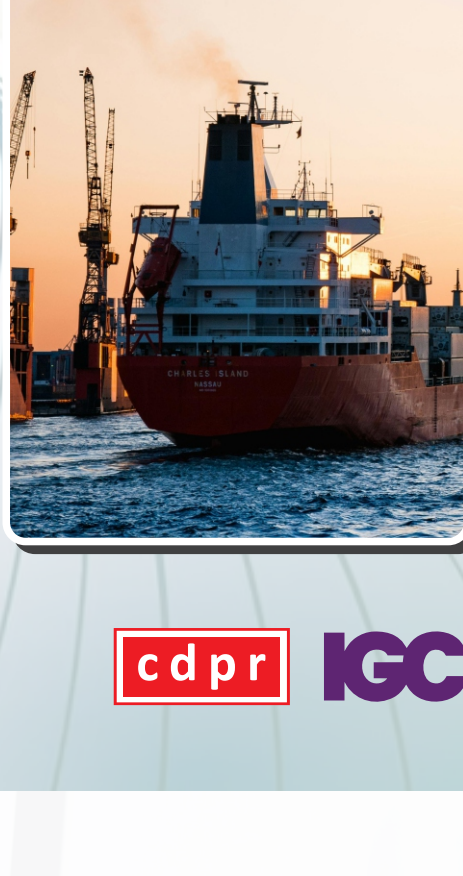
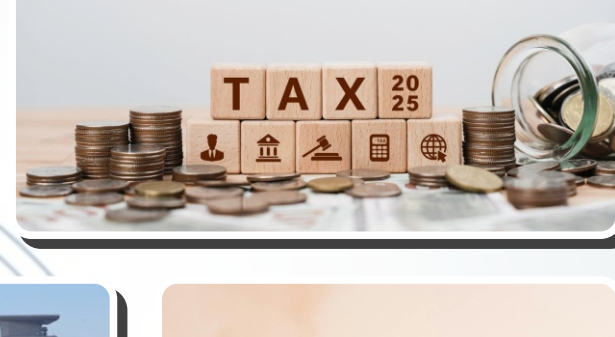
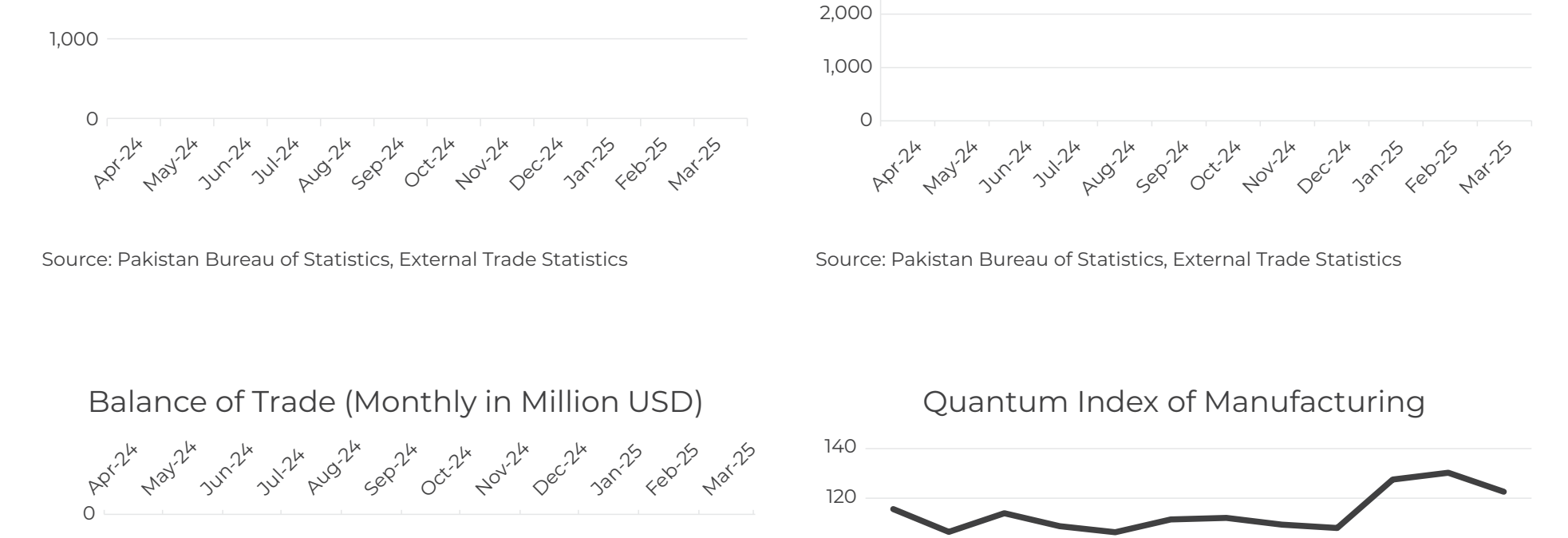


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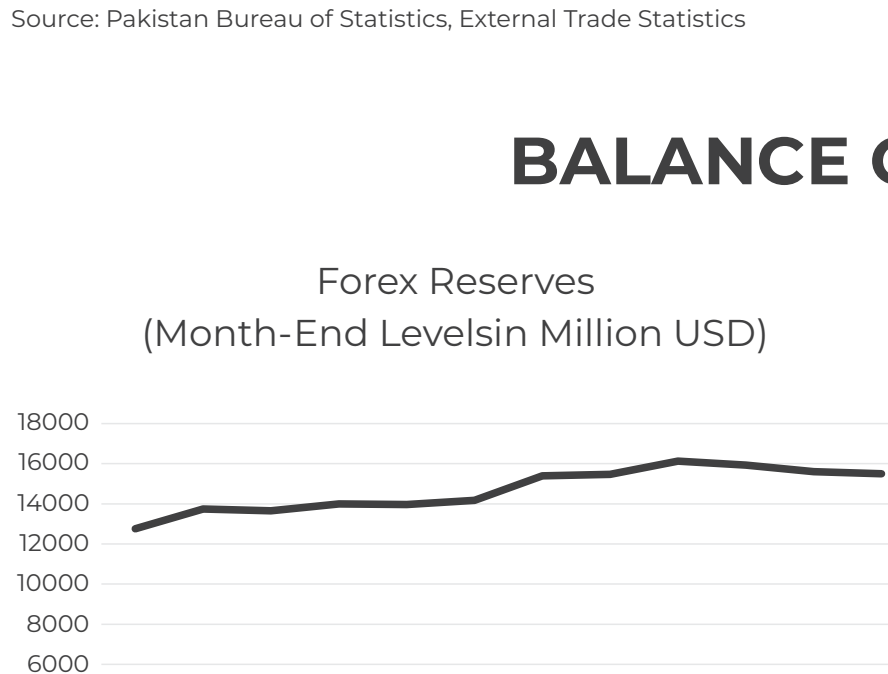
MACRODATA

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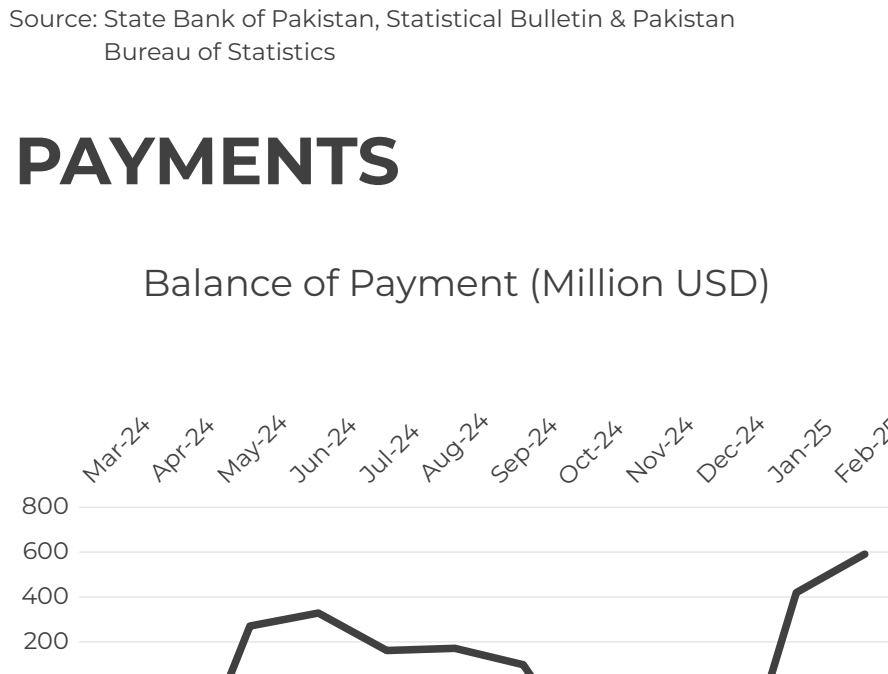


TRADE

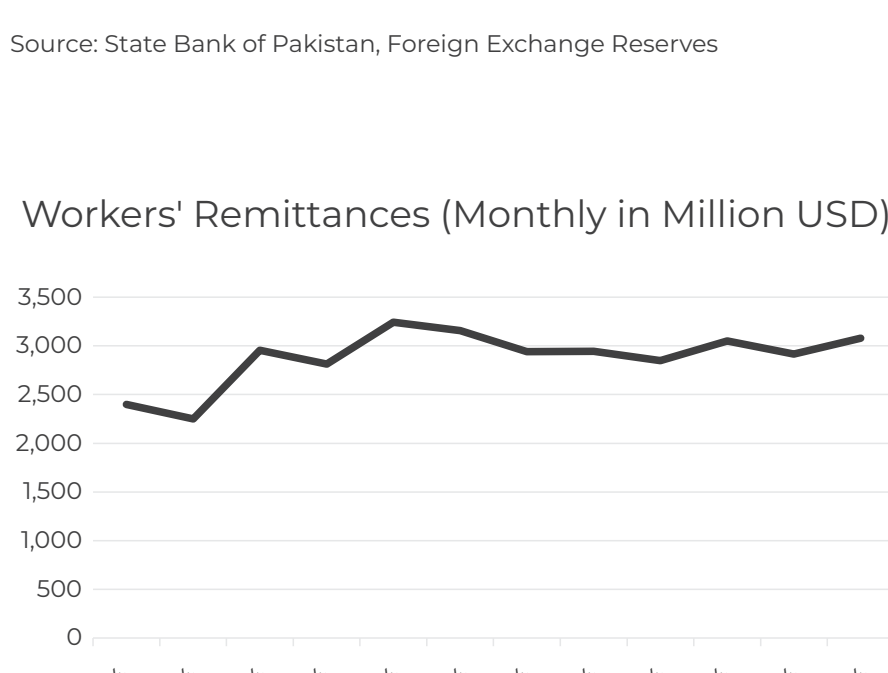
Exports (Monthly in Million USD)



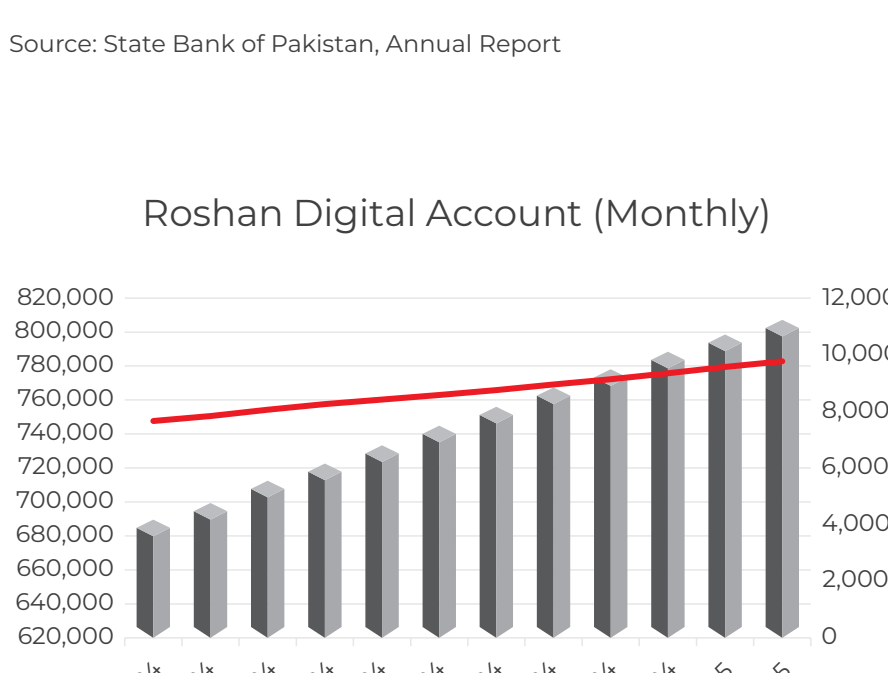
Imports (Monthly in Million USD)



Balance of Trade (Monthly in Million USD)

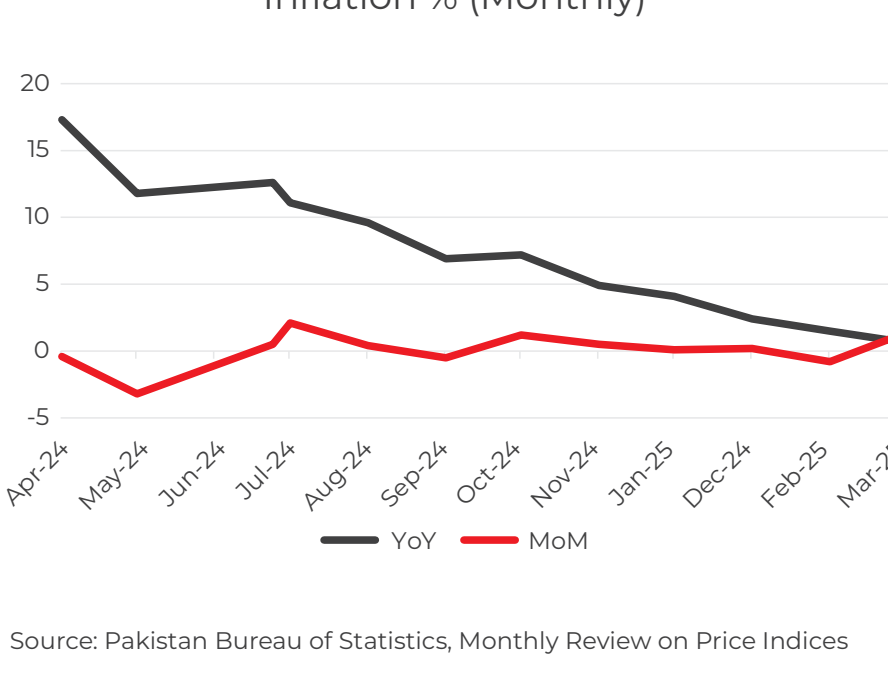


Quantum Index of Manufacturing

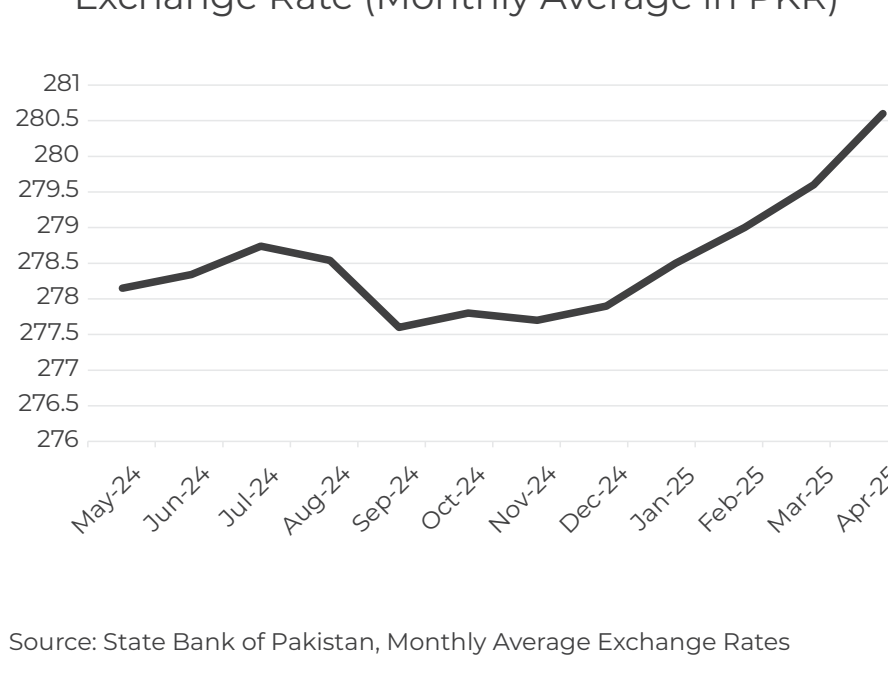


BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

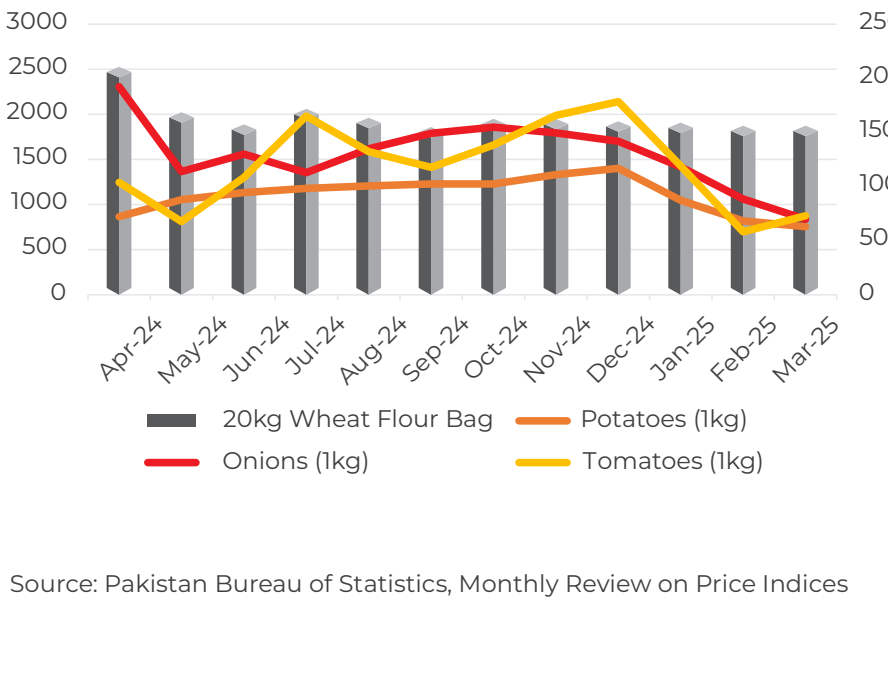
Forex Reserves (Month-End Levels in Million USD)



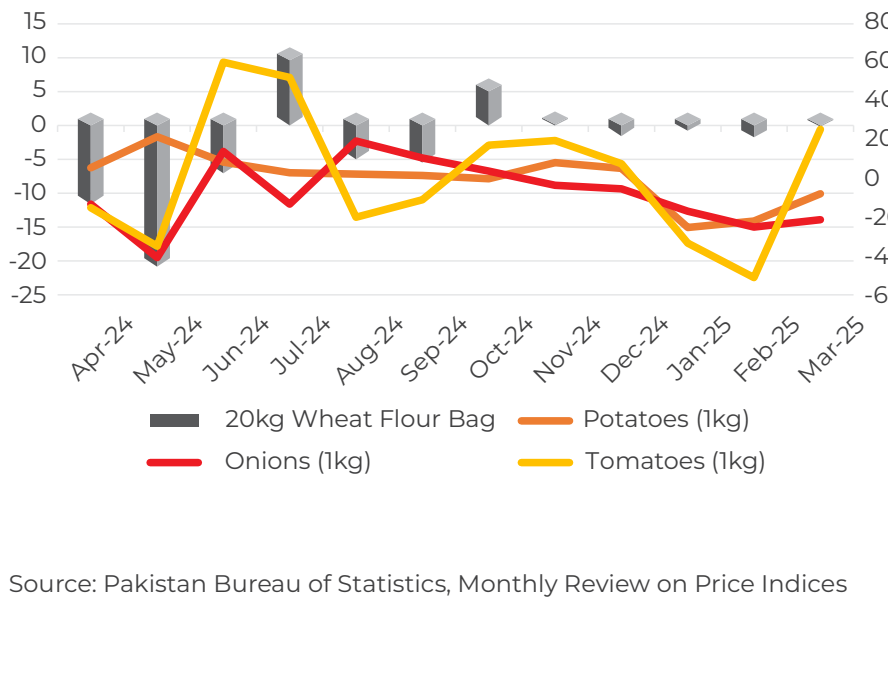
Balance of Payment (Million USD)



Workers' Remittances (Monthly in Million USD)



Roshan Digital Account (Monthly)

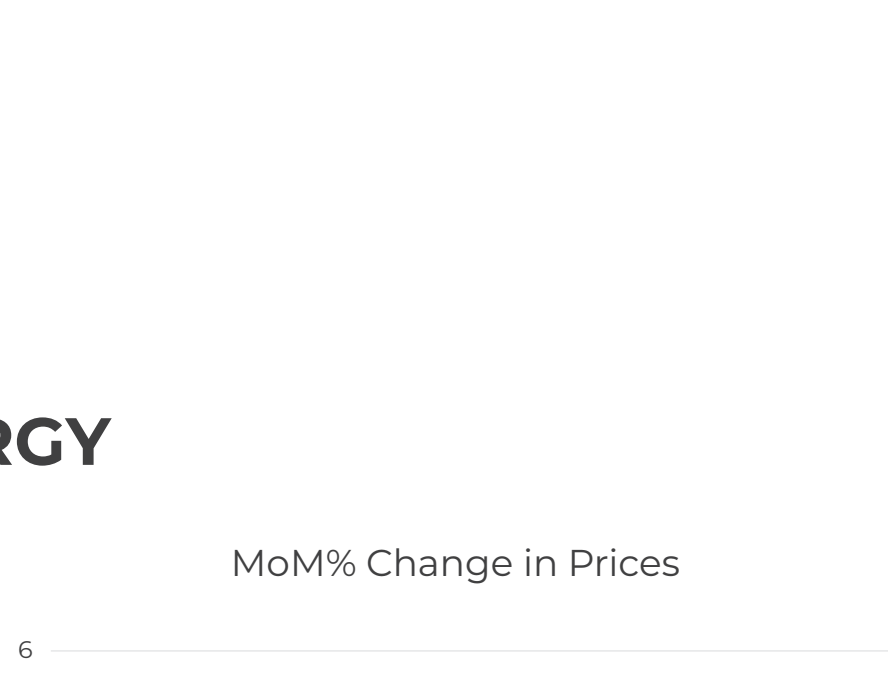


PRICES

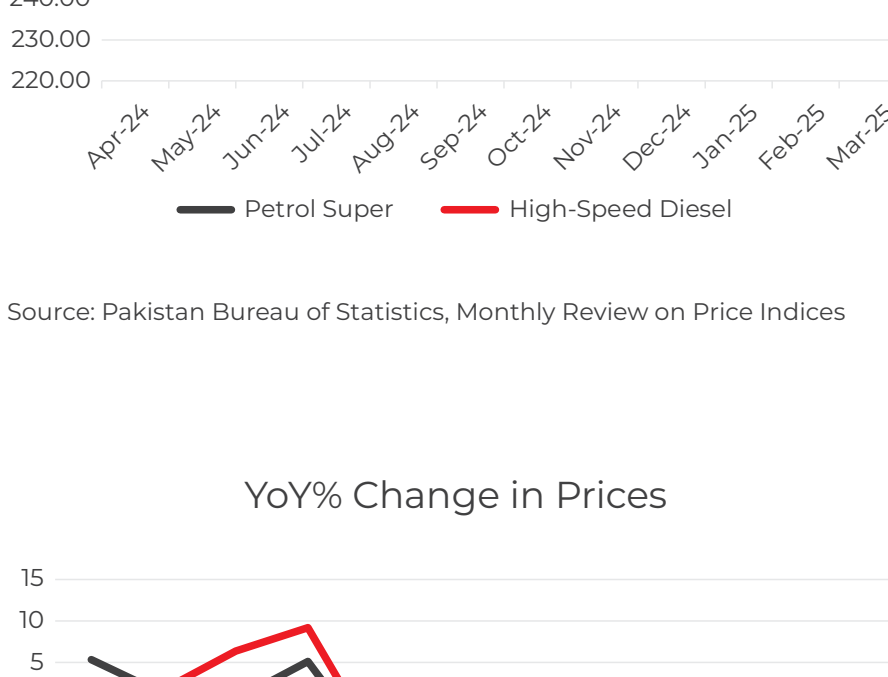
Inflation % (Monthly)



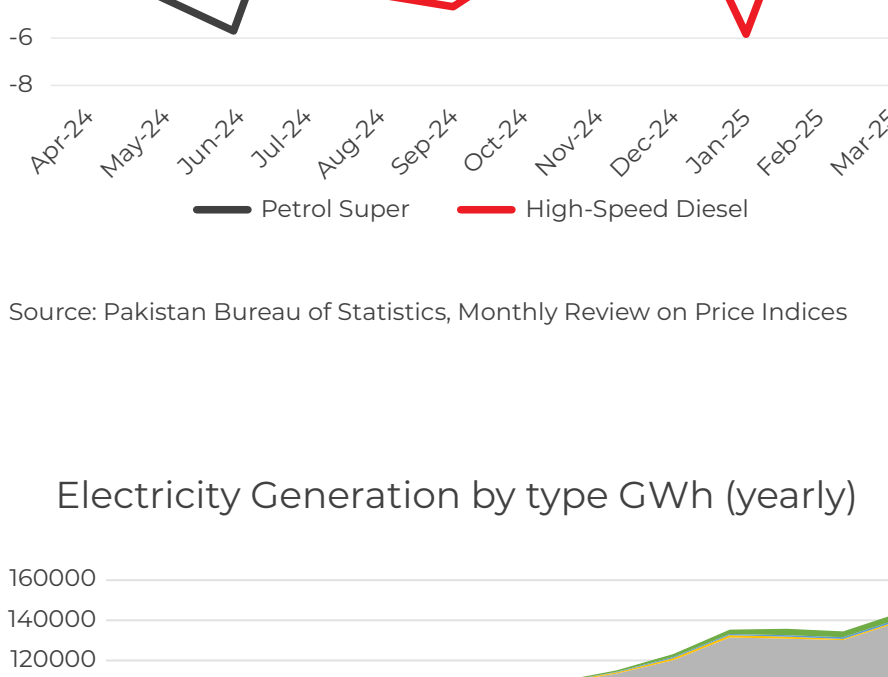
Exchange Rate (Monthly Average in PKR)



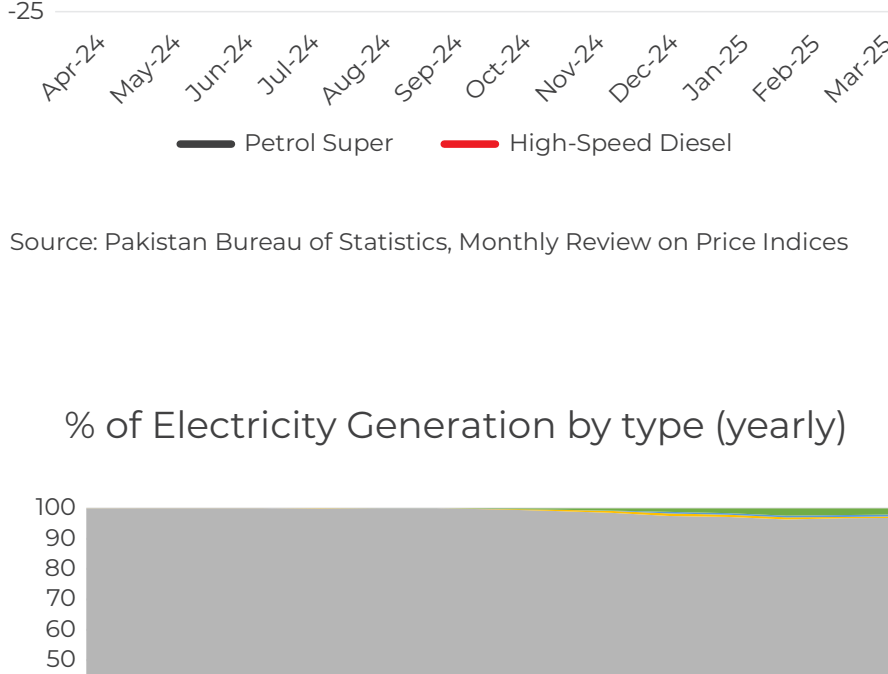
Monthly Prices



MoM% Change in Prices

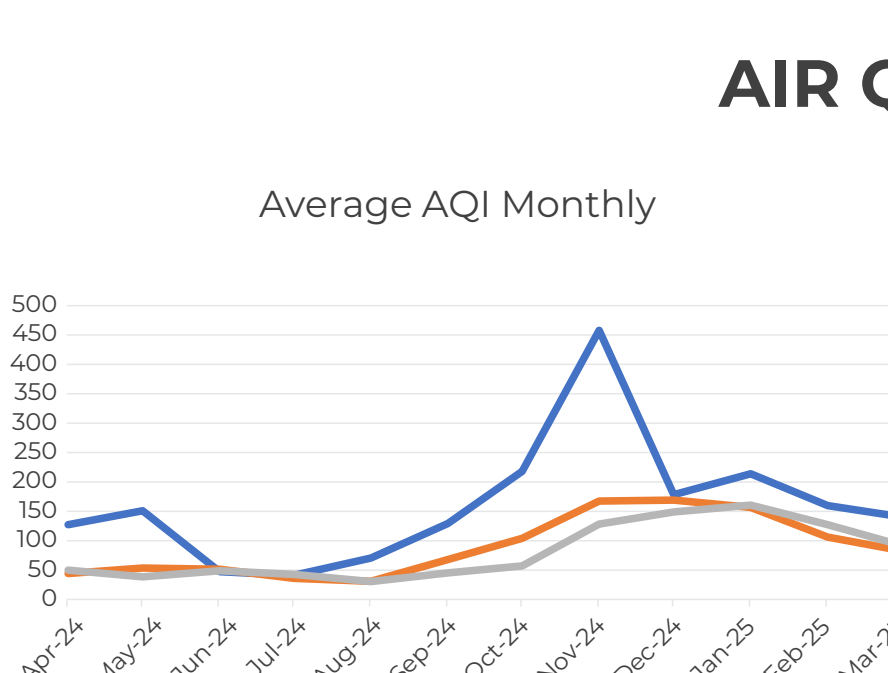


YoY% Change in Prices

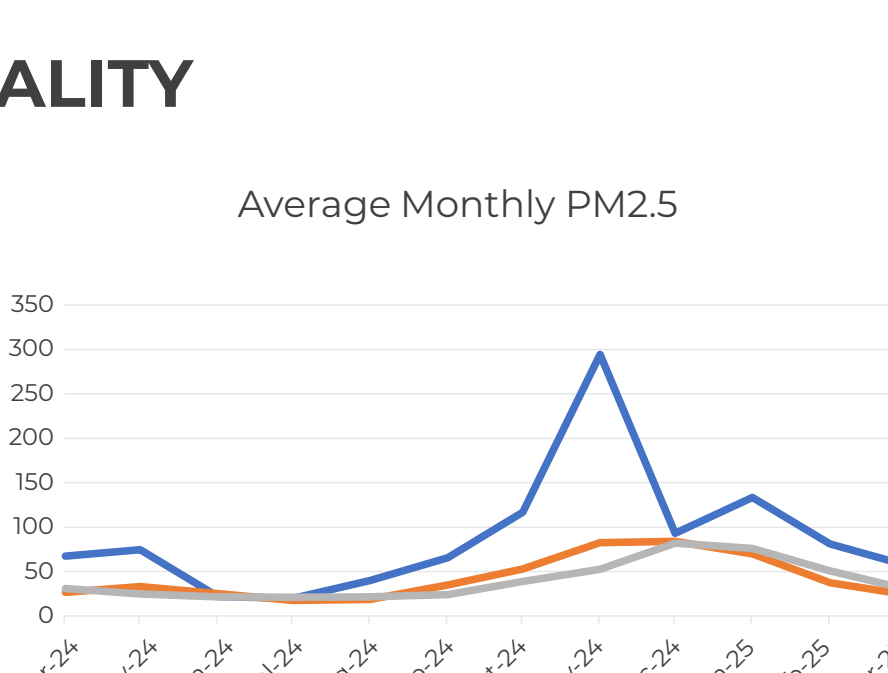


ENERGY

Prices (Monthly)



MoM% Change in Prices



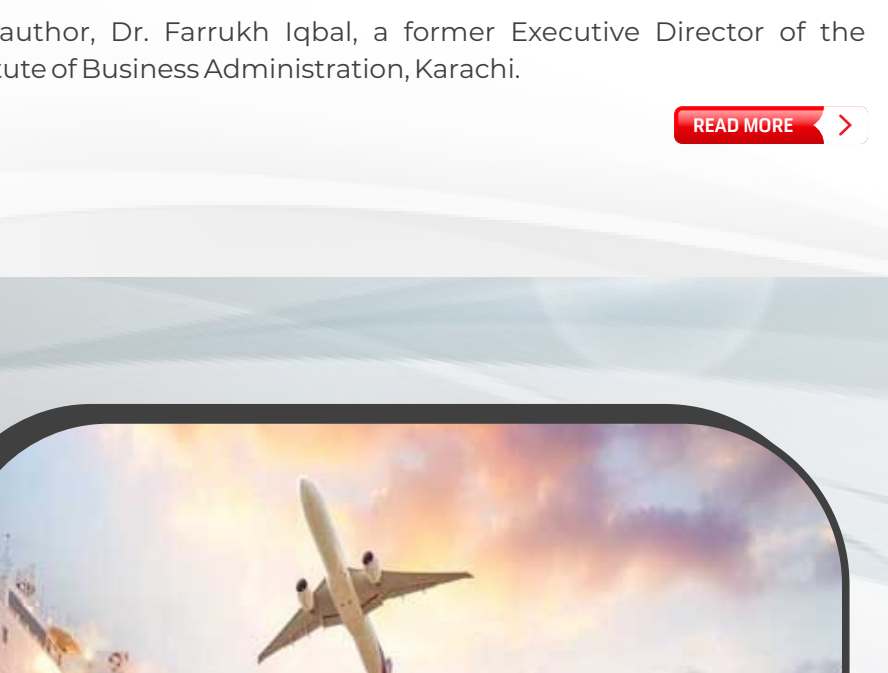
YoY% Change in Prices



Electricity Generation by type GWh (yearly)



% of Electricity Generation by type (yearly)

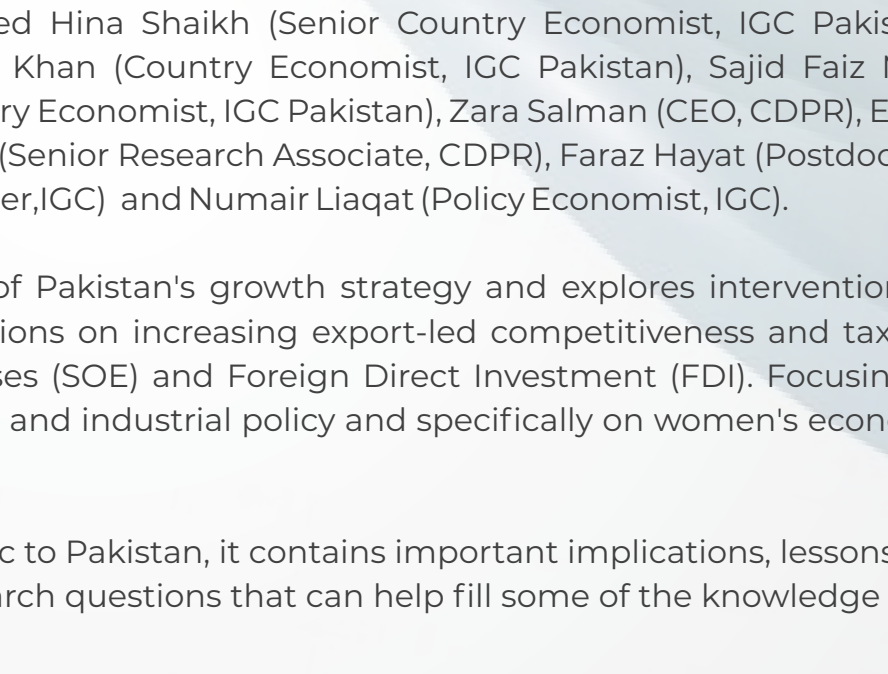


AIR QUALITY

Average AQI Monthly



Average Monthly PM2.5

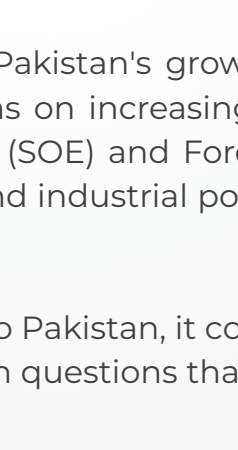
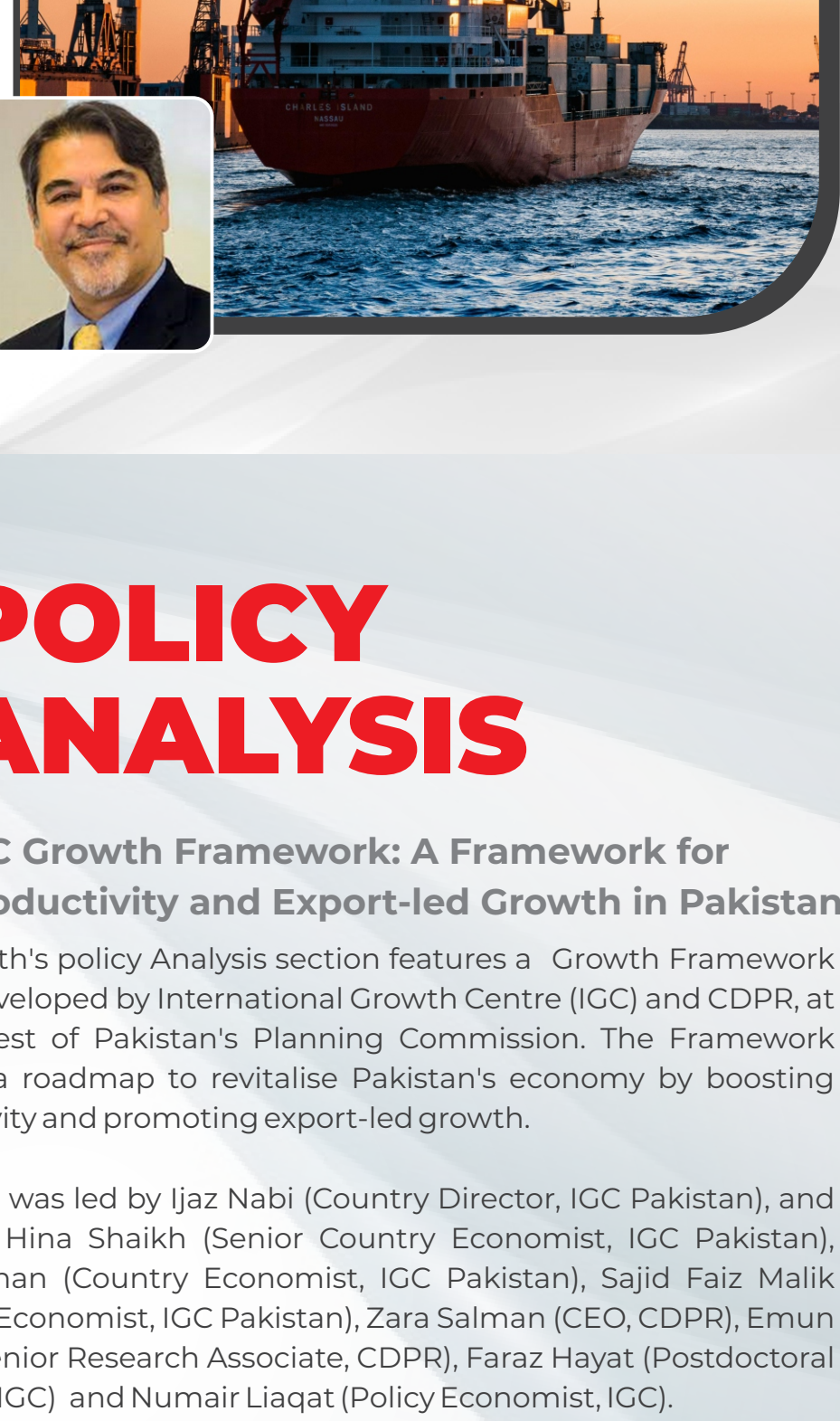


INSIGHTS FOR CHANGE

Using Trade Policy to Achieve Environmental Goals in Pakistan

In recent years, environmental considerations have had a growing impact on Pakistan's economic development. This month's Insights for Change article explores how trade and policy actions can help Pakistan achieve the target set in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to cut the country's projected carbon emissions in half by 2030. It proposes tariff interventions, non-tariff measures, and industrial policies as potential solutions.

The author, Dr. Farrukh Iqbal, a former Executive Director of the Institute of Business Administration, Karachi.



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POLICY ANALYSIS

IGC Growth Framework: A Framework for Productivity and Export-led Growth in Pakistan

This month's policy Analysis section features a Growth Framework jointly developed by International Growth Centre (IGC) and CDPR, at the request of Pakistan's Planning Commission. The Framework outlines a roadmap to revitalise Pakistan's economy by boosting productivity and promoting export-led growth.

The team was led by Ijaz Nabi (Country Director, IGC Pakistan), and included Hina Shaikh (Senior Country Economist, IGC Pakistan), Zuhair Khan (Country Economist, IGC Pakistan), Sajid Faiz Malik (Country Economist, IGC Pakistan), Zara Salman (CEO, CDPR), Emun Hafeez (Senior Research Associate, CDPR), Faraz Hayat (Postdoctoral Researcher, IGC) and Numair Liaqat (Policy Economist, IGC).

This framework places productive job creation at the heart of Pakistan's growth strategy and explores interventions to enhance productivity and competitiveness through interventions on increasing export-led competitiveness and tax and regulatory reforms, Synchronisation of State-Owned Enterprises (SOE) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Focusing on Climate-aligned trade and energy policies, greener agriculture and industrial policy and specifically on women's economic inclusion.

This strategy document lays down a growth framework specific to Pakistan, it contains important implications, lessons and guidance for other developing countries. It also identifies research questions that can help fill some of the knowledge gaps critical for good policy decisions in specific sectors.

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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.

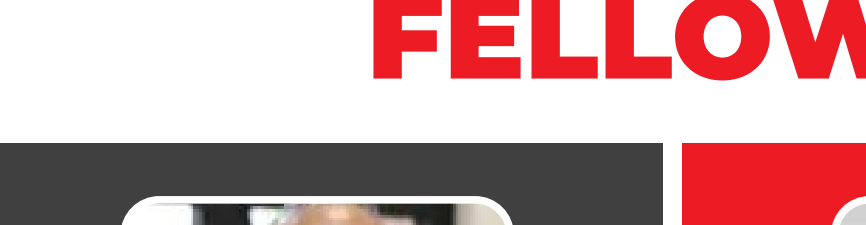
The Unbalanced Scale: Gender, Work and Productivity

Pakistan has one of the lowest female labour force participation rates in the South Asian region, 22%, compared to 35% in Bangladesh and 37% in India. This means half of Pakistan's population remains largely untapped in formal employment, as women are predominantly involved in informal or home-based work. In this episode, Dr. Farah Said and Dr. Uzma Afzal discuss the gender dynamics influencing productivity, and the impact on overall productivity levels on marginal communities because of the male/female gender ratios.



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[WATCH HERE](#)



REIMAGINING TOURISM AS A PATHWAY TO PAKISTAN'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

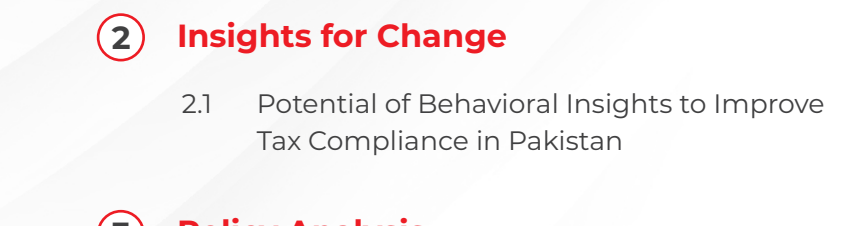
The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR), in collaboration with the Pakistan Business Council (PBC), hosted an event titled "Reimagining Tourism as a Pathway to Pakistan's Economic Growth" to present PBC's research on tourism in Pakistan. Held on 14th of April 2025 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore. The event explored avenues to enhance tourism in Pakistan and to delve into the untapped potential of medical and religious tourism. It featured insights from sectoral experts and was joined by Mr. Sardar Singh Ramesh Arora, Minister of Minorities Affairs, COP.

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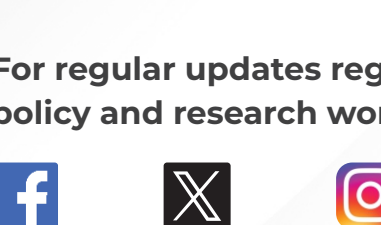
RETHINKING FISCAL REFORMS IN PAKISTAN

A Conversation with the authors of 'Pakistan: How to Live Within Means'

The Consortium for Development Policy Research (CDPR), in collaboration with the Chaudhry Nazir Muhammad Department of Economics and the Mahbub ul Haq Research Centre, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and the International Growth Centre (IGC), hosted a conversation on Rethinking Fiscal Reform in Pakistan on 23rd April, 2025 at the LUMS Learning Institute (LLI).



FELLOWS' ARTICLES

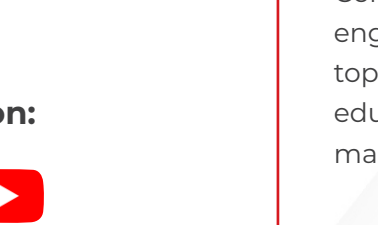


FAISAL BARI

SUBJECT

TVET Market is Tough

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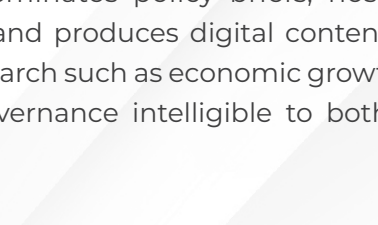


UMAIR JAVED

SUBJECT

The Roots of Crisis

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NAZISH AFRAZ

SUBJECT

Trump Tariffs: A Wake-up Call for Strategic Realignment

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'I, Expert'
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Three Paths to Power
 - 6.2 **Homi Kharas**
Homi Kharas on FDI4: Can the Sevilla Conference reshape global development paradigms?

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.

