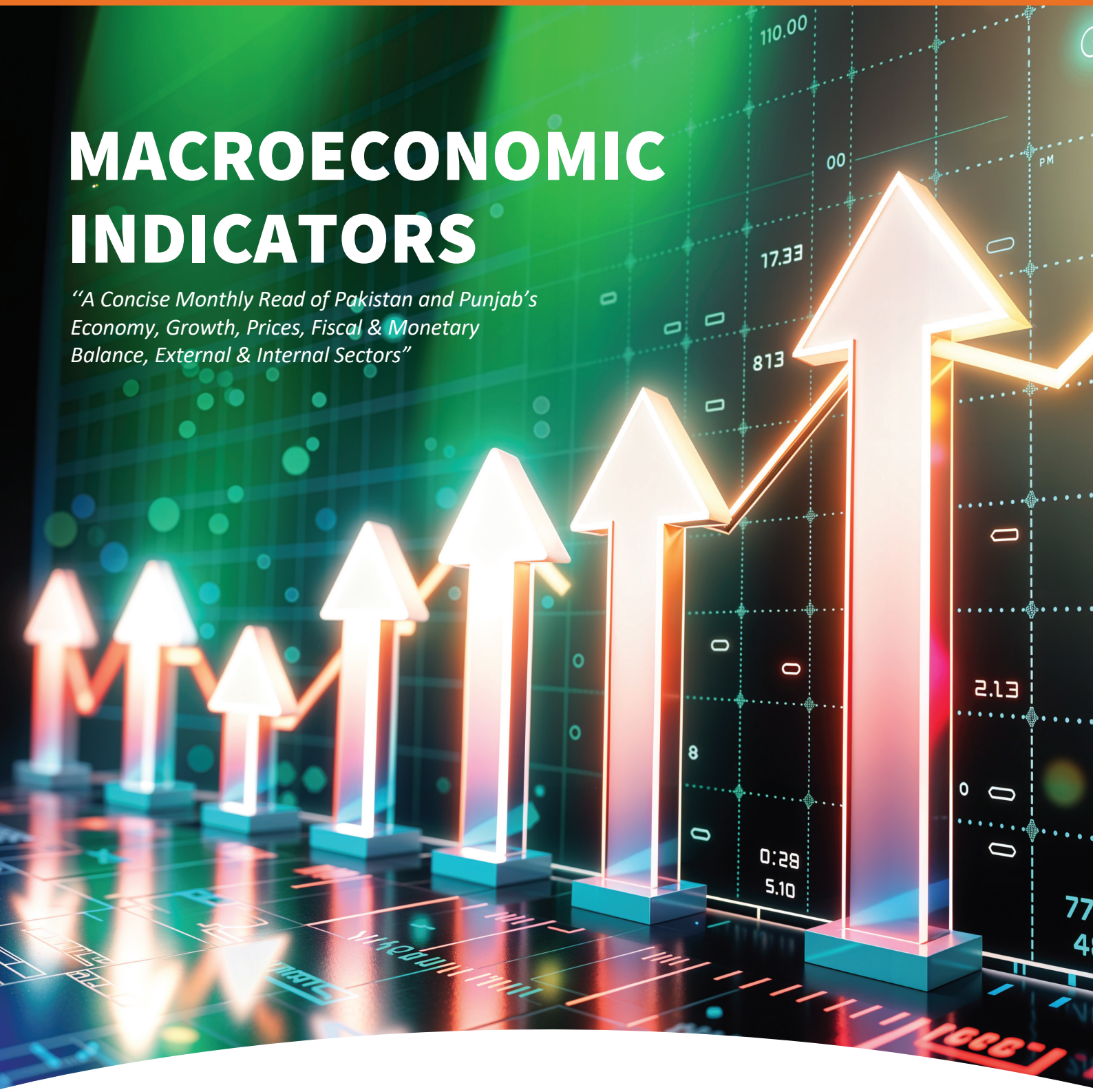
PRMPU
PUNJAB RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & POLICY UNIT

MONTHLY ECONOMIC MONITOR

Strategic Planning Unit-PRMPU

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MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS

"A Concise Monthly Read of Pakistan and Punjab's Economy, Growth, Prices, Fiscal & Monetary Balance, External & Internal Sectors"

PREPARED BY THE STRATEGIC PLANNING UNIT
Punjab Resource Management & Policy Unit
Planning & Development Board, Government of Punjab

Planning & Development Board

Macroeconomic Indicators - Monthly Bulletin | September - 2026				
Category	**Indicator**	**Previous**	**Latest**	**% Change**
Economy	**Annual**	**FY25**	**FY26**	
	GDP Growth Rate (%)	3.18	3.70	▲ 16.33(PP)
	Quarterly	**FY26 Q2**	**FY26 Q3**	
	GDP Growth Rate (%)	4.05[R]	3.99[P]	▼ 0.06(PP)
Inflation / Prices	**Annually (YoY)**	**Sept-25**	**Sept-26**	
	Consumer Price Index (CPI)	276.0	304.33	▲ 10.26
	Monthly (MoM)	**Aug-26**	**Sept-26**	
	Consumer Price Index (CPI)	300.5	304.33	▲ 1.27
	Fortnightly	**17-Sep-26**	**1-Oct-26**	
	Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI)	366.1	370.5	▲ 1.20
	Monthly (Closing)	**31-Aug-26**	**30-Sep-26**	
	KSE 100 Index	176,975.69	169,969.32	▼ 3.96
	Gold Price (PKR per Tola)	455,500.00	441,000.00	▼ 3.18
	Monthly Average	**Aug-26**	**Sep-26**	
	Brent Crude Spot Price (US$)	90.9	116.8	▲ 28.49
Monetary / Money Market	**Monthly (Million Rs.)**	**21-Aug-26**	**18-Sep-26**	
	Broad Money (M2)	43,731,692	44,098,452	**0.84**
	Annual (%)	**Sept-25**	**Sept-26**	
	SBP Policy Rate	11.0	11.5	**4.55**
	Month Average	**Jul-26**	**Aug-26**	
	REER (Base 2010 =100)	107.89	107.92	▲ 0.03
	Monthly (%)	**31-Aug-26**	**30-Sep-26**	
	KIBOR Offer Rate (1 Month)	11.91	11.98	▲ 0.59
	SOFR	3.68	3.90	▲ 5.98
Fiscal Operations	**Annual (Million Rs.)**	**FY25**	**FY26**	
	Total Revenue (National)	17,997,486	19,773,932	▲ 9.87
	Total Expenditure (National)	24,165,501	23,087,367	▼ 4.46
	Financing	6,168,015	3,313,435	
	Annual (Million Rs.)	**FY25**	**FY26**	
	Total Revenue (Punjab)	3,970,767	4,651,022	▲ 17.13
	Provincial Revenue	558,063	755,209	▲ 35.33
	Federal Transfers	3,412,704	3,895,813	▲ 14.16
	Total Expenditure (Punjab)	3,622,304	3,736,646	▲ 3.16
	Net	348,463	914,376	
External Sector	**Annually (Million US$)**	**FY25**	**FY26**	
	Exports	40,793	40,877	▲ 0.21
	Imports	70,432	76,391	▲ 8.46
	Balance of Trade	-29,639	-35,514	▲ 19.82

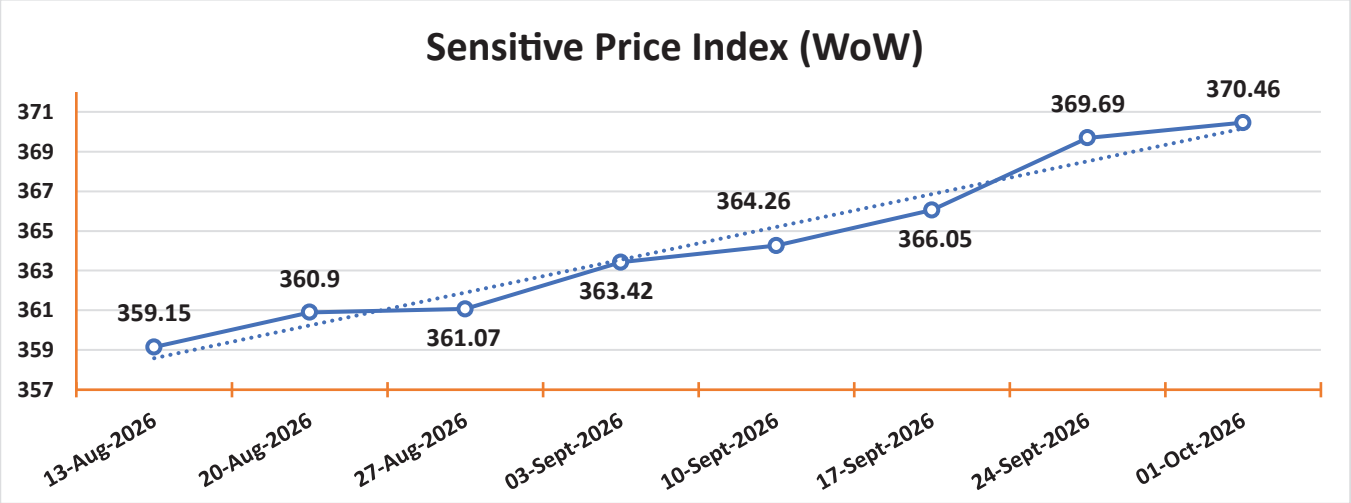
	Annually (Million US$)	**FY25**	**FY26**	
	Foreign Direct Investment (Net)	2477.3	1636.8	▼ 33.93
	Monthly (Million US$)	**Jul-26**	**Aug-26**	
	Workers' Remittances	3630.47	3656.33	▲ 0.71
	Weekly (USD to PKR)	**31-Aug-26**	**30-Sep-26**	
	USD Open Market Rate (Buying)	278.35	278.06	▼ 0.10
Reserves	**Monthly (Million US$)**	**Aug-26**	**Sep-26**	
	Net Reserves with SBP	17152.8	21439.2	▲ 24.99
	Net Reserves with Banks	4879.1	5331.7	▲ 9.28
	Total Liquid FX Reserves	22031.9	26770.9	▲ 21.51
Debt	**Annually (Billion Rs) YoY**	**Jul-25**	**Jul-26**	
	Domestic Debt	54988.2	59274.4	▲ 7.79
	External Debt	23250.3	24109.0	▲ 3.69
	Gross Public Debt	78238.5	83383.4	▲ 6.58
	Debt as percent of GDP	68.6	65.7	▼ 4.23

Sources: PBS | SBP | PSX | MoF | IMF

ECONOMIC INSIGHTS

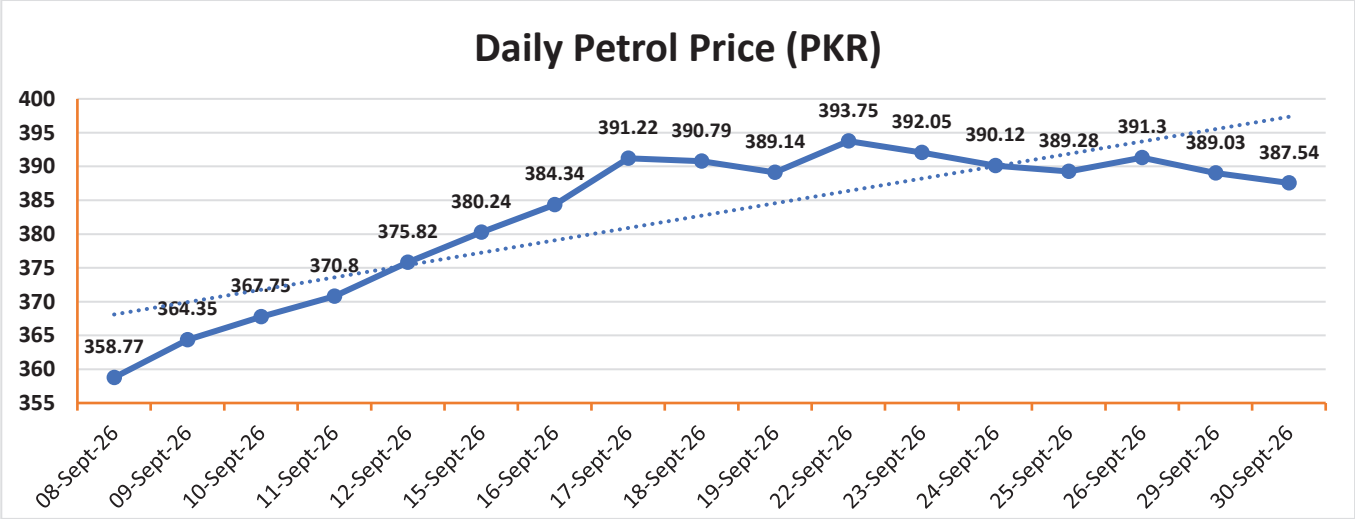
CPI inflation eased to 10.26% YoY in Sept. from 11.15% in August, but largely because of a high base. Prices still rose 1.27% month-on-month (CPI 304.33 vs 300.50), slightly faster than August's +1.19%. The annual rate fell because September 2025 itself recorded a 2.07% monthly jump (270.4 to 276.0), which dropped out of the comparison. Underlying momentum has not cooled: the SPI gained 1.20% over the fortnight to 1 October and petrol is about 13% above its end-August level, so October carries upside risk. With the policy rate at 11.5%, the real rate is only about +1.2 points, thin against a monthly pace that annualises to roughly 16%.

Monetary conditions remain tight, with money-market rates drifting above the 11.5% policy rate. The 1-month KIBOR offer edged up to 11.98% (from 11.91%), about 48 bps above the policy rate, while US SOFR rose to 3.90% from 3.68%. Broad money (M2) grew 0.84%, or roughly Rs 367 billion, to Rs 44.10 trillion as of 18 September, reversing the 1.34% contraction in last month's reading. The open-market dollar rate was steady at PKR 278.06 (-0.10%) and the REER was flat at 107.92.

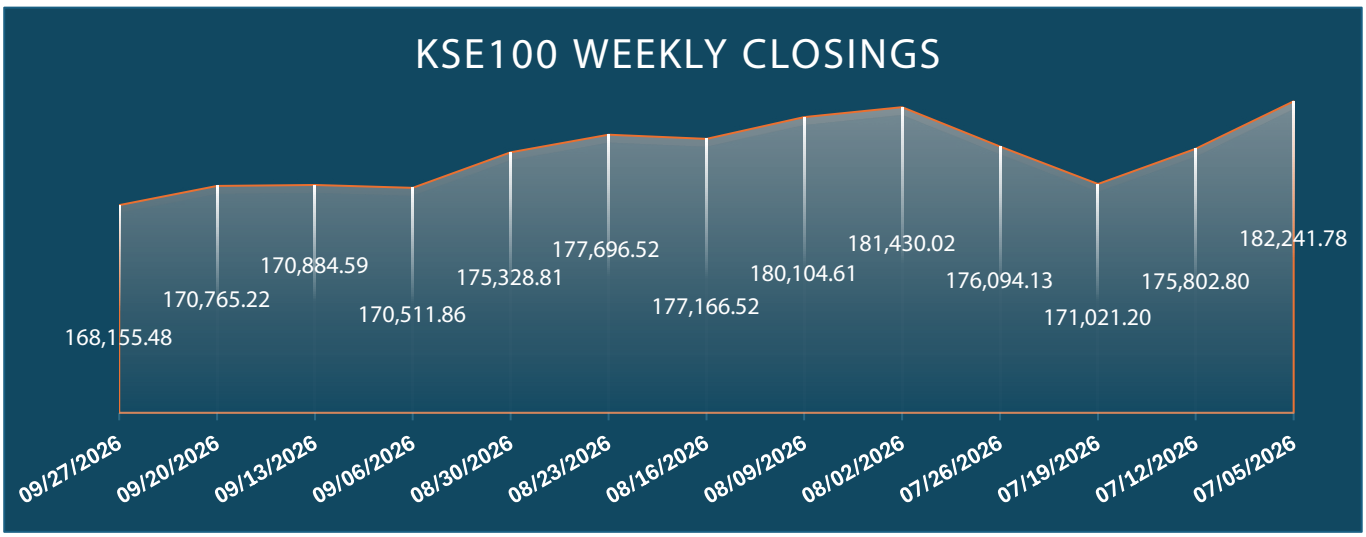


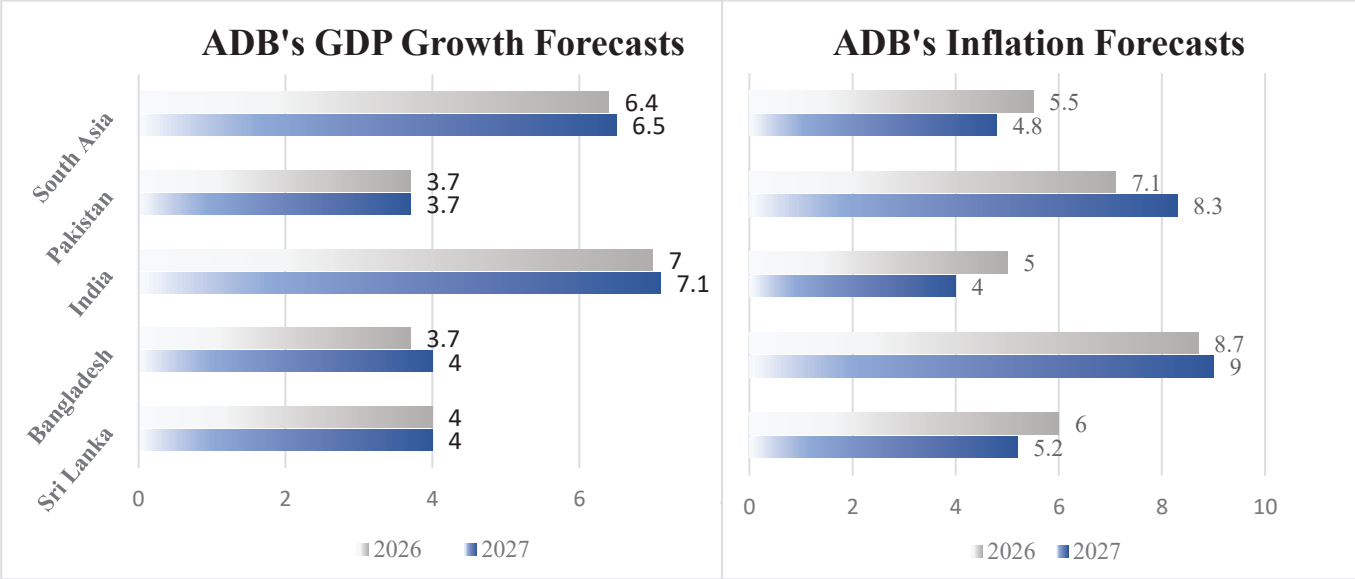
Weekly inflation stayed positive in every week since mid-August and accelerated through September. The SPI rose from 359.15 on 13 August to 370.46 on 1 October, a cumulative gain of 3.15% in seven weeks, or about 0.45% per week. September's weekly average of roughly 0.51% was about double August's 0.24%. The peak came on 24 September at +0.99%, the strongest weekly rise in the series and coinciding with the steepest petrol-price increases; together with +0.49% a week earlier, the index climbed about 1.5% in two weeks. The latest reading of +0.21% (1 October) is a slowdown but not a reversal, and the upward-sloping trend line signals that food and fuel pressure is still building rather than fading.

The KSE-100 fell 3.96% in September to 169,969.32, with weekly closes touching a 13-week low. After holding between roughly 175,000 and 181,000 through August, the index lost ground in September: weekly closes slid from 175,329 (30 August) to 168,155 (27 September), a 4.09% decline, leaving the month-end close 6.3% below the 2 August high of 181,430 and 6.7% below the 13-week high of 182,242 (5 July). The sell-off came in two legs, a 2.75% drop in the week of 6 September that coincided with the oil-price jump and a 1.53% fall in the final week, with the middle weeks flat at about 170,500 to 170,900, which looks more like consolidation than a rebound.



Petrol prices climbed about 9% in the first ten days. From PKR 358.77 on 8 September the price rose every trading day to PKR 391.22 on 17 September (+9.05%), peaked at PKR 393.75 on 22 September and eased to PKR 387.54 by 30 September, 1.6% below the peak. Against the end-August price of PKR 342.02 it is up 13.3%, and it is about 19% above the mid-August low of PKR 324.98. The pass-through from Brent's 28.49% jump is clearly visible. Although the daily price has stopped rising, fuel feeds transport, power and food costs, so second-round effects are likely to keep headline CPI under pressure in October.





ADB sees Pakistan's inflation rising to 8.3% in 2027 from 7.1% in 2026, while the South Asia average eases. Pakistan's forecast moves up 1.2 points, whereas the regional average falls from 5.5% to 4.8%, India from 5.0% to 4.0% and Sri Lanka from 6.0% to 5.2%. Only Bangladesh (8.7% to 9.0%) shows a similar upward move. September CPI of 10.26% YoY is already about 3.2 points above ADB's 2026 projection, so risks lean to the upside given the oil shock.

ADB projects Pakistan's growth flat at 3.7% in 2026 and 2027, the lowest in the group in 2027. India is expected to grow 7.0% and 7.1% and South Asia 6.4% and 6.5%, leaving Pakistan 2.7 to 2.8 points below the regional average. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh edge up to 4.0% in 2027 while Pakistan shows no acceleration. The 3.7% figure matches the official FY26 estimate of 3.70%, so domestic and ADB views are aligned; flat growth alongside rising inflation points to a recovery that is steady but not yet strong.

SNAPSHOT SUMMARY:

SBP POLICY RATE
11.5% (unchanged)
Real rate about +1.2 pts over CPI

CPI INFLATION
10.26% YoY
Eased from 11.15% on base effect; MoM +1.27%

WEEKLY INFLATION (SPI)
0.21% WoW
+1.20% over the fortnight to 1 Oct; peak 0.99% on 24 Sep

BRENT CRUDE
$116.8/bbl (+28.49%)
September average, up from $90.9 in August

KSE-100 INDEX
169,969.32 (-3.96%)
Weekly close hit a 13-week low of 168,155 (27 Sept)

FX RESERVES
$26.77B (+21.51%)
SBP net reserves $21.44B (+24.99%)

GDP GROWTH
FY26: 3.70% | Q3: 3.99%P
Q2 FY26: 4.05%; Q3 is 0.06 pp lower; no new release

REMITTANCES
$3.66B (+0.71%)
August inflows; July was $3.63B

FISCAL BALANCE (PUNJAB)
Rs 914.4bn surplus
Up from Rs 348.5bn in FY25 (FY26 annual net)