





Upcoming Meetings of PB – 2014

Members	Regulatory (Vitamins)	Corporate Communications
TBU	Thur 20 March	TBU
TBU	10:00 - 11:30	TBU

World Health Days – April 2014

7 th April World Health Day Vector-Borne Diseases	
16 th April World Voice Day	
17 th April Hemophilia Day	
30 th April Noise Awareness Day	

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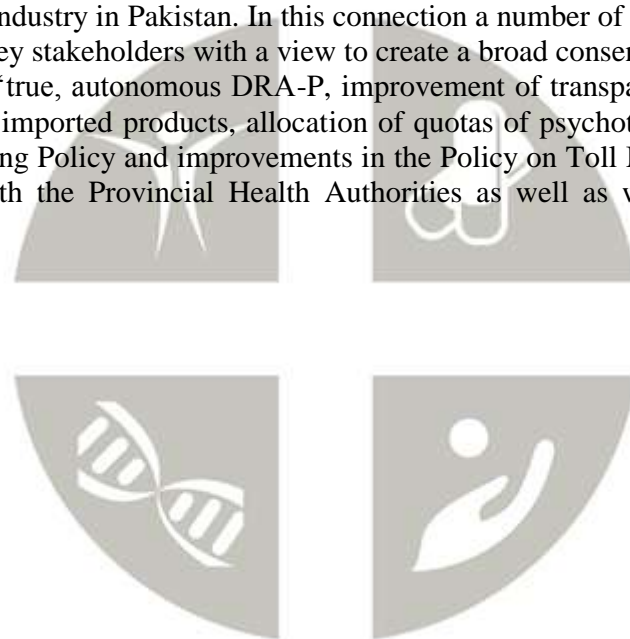
Dear Members

The first quarter of the New Year has ushered new hope & challenges for the Pakistan Economy. Our hearts go out for the unfortunate people of Tharparker, and the Pharma Industry as always stands united to offer all possible assistance to the Government in its efforts to restore the lives and alleviate the suffering of many fellow citizens in this drought stricken area.

During the past few weeks many of our members have been proactively involved in creating awareness for a number of therapeutic diseases inflicting our communities, these efforts are designed to prevent as well as to build awareness on possible solutions available to patients suffering from health conditions ranging from Cancer to Hypertension, Diabetes and Kidney related ailments. Our members have partnered with important stakeholders from Healthcare professionals, Public Officials & Government Institutions to patient care organizations. It is our firm belief that such efforts will go a long way in the prevention of and the management of diseases in Pakistan by enhancing awareness, extending diagnosis and improving access of quality medicines to our communities.

During the course of the year, the Bureau will continue its efforts to assist & build a more predictable operating environment for the Pharma Industry in Pakistan. In this connection a number of initiatives have been undertaken in continuing dialogue with key stakeholders with a view to create a broad consensus on important policy matters including establishment of a 'true, autonomous DRA-P, improvement of transparency in matters related to new Registrations particularly for imported products, allocation of quotas of psychotropic controlled substances, the adoption of a fair Drugs Pricing Policy and improvements in the Policy on Toll Manufacturing. These initiatives include engagement with both the Provincial Health Authorities as well as with officials of the DRA-P in Islamabad.

Shahab Rizvi
Chairman



Inflation Update

	% Increase vs. Same Month Last Year						
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Jan	7.90%	8.10%	10.10%	13.91%	11.32%		
Feb	7.90%	7.40%	11.05%	12.85%	10.22%		
Mar		6.60%	10.80%	13.16%	12.91%	19.07%	
Apr		5.80%	11.27%	12.50%	13.26%	17.19%	
May		5.10%	12.30%	13.23%	13.07%	14.39%	
Jun		5.90%	11.30%	13.13%	12.69%	13.13%	
Jul		8.30%	9.60%	13.77%	12.34%	11.17%	BASE YEAR
Aug		8.50%	9.10%	11.56%	12.79%	9.06%	
Sep		7.40%	8.80%	10.46%	14.89%	8.38%	
Oct		9.10%	7.70%	10.96%	15.33%	7.54%	
Nov		10.90%	6.90%	10.19%	14.96%	9.31%	
Dec		9.20%	7.90%	9.75%	15.45%	8.77%	

	% Increase vs. Previous Month						
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Jan	0.50%	1.70%	1.54%	1.30%	2.42%	-0.42%	1.91%
Feb	-0.30%	-0.30%	0.30%	-0.74%	0.39%	0.95%	0.49%
Mar		0.40%	1.20%	1.48%	1.25%	1.37%	3.08%
Apr		1.10%	1.80%	1.40%	1.73%	1.41%	3.04%
May		0.50%	1.10%	0.23%	0.06%	0.23%	2.69%
Jun		0.70%	0.04%	0.55%	0.65%	0.99%	2.10%
Jul		2.00%	0.20%	1.80%	1.23%	1.54%	3.34%
Aug		1.20%	0.90%	1.40%	2.51%	1.70%	2.14%
Sep		-0.30%	0.80%	1.03%	2.65%	0.45%	0.97%
Oct		2.00%	1.40%	1.44%	0.62%	0.95%	2.12%
Nov		1.30%	-0.40%	0.29%	1.52%	1.39%	-0.12%
Dec		-1.30%	0.20%	-0.70%	-0.51%	-0.49%	-0.50%

CPI Inflation increased by 7.90% on a yearly basis for February 2014 as compared to 7.40% for February 2013. On month-on-month basis, it decreased by 0.3% in February 2014 as compared to an increase of 0.5% in the previous month and decrease of 0.3% in February 2013.

The CPI index decreased by 0.60 points a 0.3% decrease to the previous month. The CPI index stands at 189.00 for the month of February 2014.

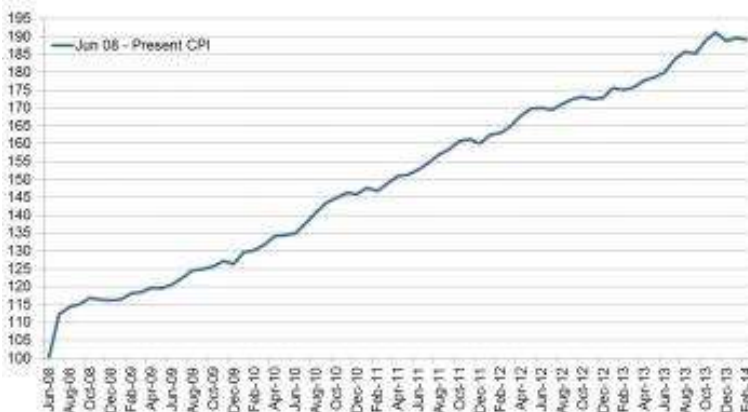
Major contributors for February 2014 were:

- Pulse: 5.6%
- Milk Powder: 1.7%
- Chicken: -13.9%
- Motor Fuel: -0.2%
- Doctor (MBBS) Clinic Fee: 1.0%

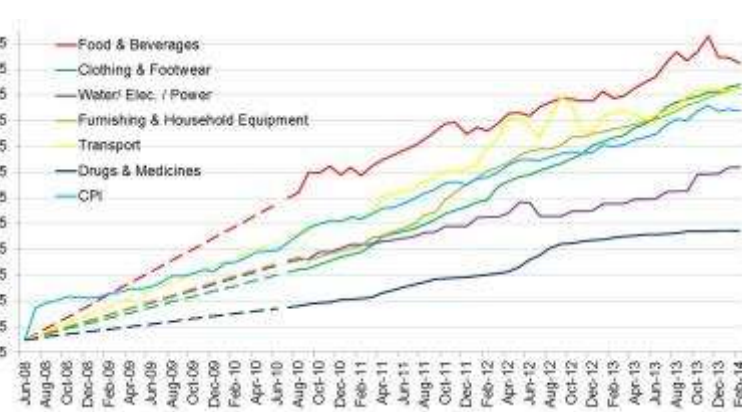
Looking at the various segments of the CPI, Food & Beverages segment decreased by 1.1% owing to decrease in tomatoes, chicken and various pulses in February 2014. Water, Electricity, Gas & Fuels remained fairly stable (although a stronger PKR vs. USD and fall in oil prices means the market anticipates a reduced cost of fuel).

Health, which includes Medicines, Doctor Clinic Fee, Medical Equipments and Medical Tests, also did not register anything substantial – it should be noted within Health, Doctor (MBBS) Clinic Fee has increased by 1.0%.

CPI Inflation – June 2008 – January 2014



Inflation Segment Break Up 2008 - Present



Source: www.pbs.gov.pk
Pakistan Economic Survey 2012-13

FX Update

PKR. vs. IND against USD Jun 08 - Present



PKR. vs. Core Currencies Evolution Jun 08 - Present



PKR vs.	13 Mar 2014	13 Feb 2014	13 Mar 2013	MoM%	YoY%
USD	98.0	105.2	96.6	-6.8%	1.4%
GBP	162.97	173.0	143.9	-5.8%	13.3%
EUR	136.3	143.4	126.0	-5.0%	8.2%
JPY	0.954	1.026	1.004	-7.0%	-5.0%

For the month of February, the Pakistani Rupee strengthened and steadied its position. This was on account of an increase in Total Foreign Reserves which stood at \$7.99 billion for the week ending February 14, 2014, according to the State Bank of Pakistan. This increase has been attributed to an increase in official inflows.

The government has claimed that it implemented concrete steps to improve overall external position by ensuring substantial capital and financial inflows in the country; and as a result FX reserves of Pakistan have improved substantially in the last one month. This has been made possible by not only receiving larger inflows from multilateral and bilateral resources; but also through attracting FX flows through the capital markets and better home remittances. The FX Reserves of the country have improved from US \$7.59 billion on 07 February 2014 to US \$9.37 billion on 07 Mar 2014.

It must be acknowledged that there has been very little marked improvement in key macroeconomic indicators that account for this rise in the rupee value. FDI has improved marginally, credit off-take to private sector is also showing growth. And the government focus on improving energy supply as well as sell-off of 3G & 4G spectrum license cumulatively would lead to an improvement in dollar inflows as confidence/perception of the economy improves. Similarly exports have not risen significantly to indicate this sharp increase in rupee. Economists argue that the reason behind the recent improvement in the rupee to dollar parity is related to the government of Pakistan's request for deferred oil payment facility - an import item that alone accounted for over 13 billion dollars last year.

The Indian Rupee also further consolidated its position on the back of gains last month.

Pharma Bureau News

PB Meeting with A. Q. Javed Iqbal (Director QA & Lab Testing DRAP) 14th February 2014

Mr. A. Q. Javed Iqbal, Director QA and Lab Testing DRAP and Member Policy Board, visited the Pharma Bureau on Friday, February 14, 2014. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for members of the Pharma Bureau to raise their concerns with Javed Iqbal.

Mr. Javed Iqbal thanked the Pharma Bureau for agreeing to meet with him and briefed the members on the various issues. The Director QA also welcomed such candid meetings and welcomed feedback from PB's members.

PB Meetings in Islamabad – Pricing, Licensing, Registration Secretary

PB continued to actively engage with the DRAP and Health Ministry. PB attended the various meetings on Pricing, Licensing and Registration in Islamabad in February and voiced the issues and concerns of its members.

PB Regulatory Meeting 19th February 2014

PB held its Regulatory Meeting on the 19th of February 2014. It was agreed that the various sub-committees formed to tackle issues would meet up regularly to work on position papers and concerns of their areas.

