

Pakistan Economy

CAD narrowed to USD 50mn in Feb'21, down 75% YoY

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Current Account Deficit narrowed during Feb'21 to USD 50mn

Current Account Deficit (CAD) for the month of Feb'21 was down by 75% YoY to USD 50mn or 0.2% of the GDP compared with deficit of USD 197mn during Feb'20. On YoY basis, the primary reason behind the decline in deficit was 8% YoY (USD 186mn) and 24% YoY (USD 441mn) rise in total exports and remittances, respectively. However, during the period under review, the trade deficit increased by 50% YoY to USD 2,349mn as against USD 1,568mn for the same period a year ago, with the jump largely being driven by higher imports (up 27% YoY). On MoM basis, the Current Account Deficit (CAD) was down by 76%, mainly due to 45% decline in primary income deficit followed by a 3% increase in total exports to USD 2,649mn. During 8MFY21, the country's surplus has clocked in at USD 881mn compared with a deficit of USD 2,741mn during the same period last year.

Exhibit: Current Account Balance and its components over months

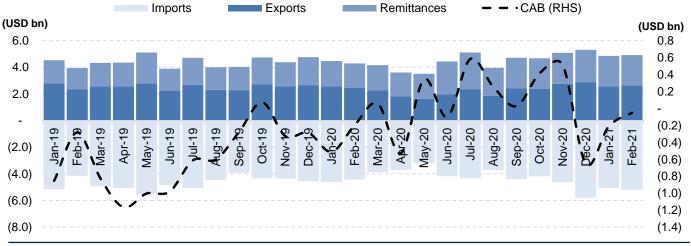


Exhibit: Balance of Payments

(USD mn)	Feb-21	Feb-20	YoY	8MFY21	8MFY20	YoY
Exports	2,165	1,993	8.6%	16,066	16,439	-2.3%
Imports	4,514	3,561	26.8%	32,149	29,605	8.6%
Trade Balance	(2,349)	(1,568)	49.8%	(16,083)	(13,166)	22.2%
Services (Net)	(186)	(407)	-54.3%	(1,338)	(2,300)	-41.8%
Income (Net)	2,485	1,778	39.8%	18,302	12,725	43.8%
Remittances	2,266	1,825	24.2%	18,743	15,103	24.1%
CAB	-50	-197	-74.6%	881	-2,741	nm
FDI	(154)	(278)	-44.6%	(1,246)	(1,798)	-30.7%
Financial Account	(280)	(627)	-55.3%	(129)	(7,623)	-98.3%
Capital Account	10	10	0.0%	163	213	-23.5%
CAB as % of GDP	-0.2%	-0.9%		0.5%	-1.5%	
Overall Balance	(47)	(566)	nm	(764)	5,842	-113.1%

Source (s): SBP, AHL Research



Imports up by 4% YoY during 8MFY21

Total imports (goods and services) for the month of Feb'21 witnessed an increase of 2% MoM to USD 4,514mn compared to USD 4,433mn recorded in Jan'21. On a yearly basis, total imports increased by 17% in Feb'21 from USD 4,438mn recorded in Feb'20. The import of goods was up by 27% YoY | 2% MoM during Feb'21. However, the import of services was down by 23% YoY | up 4% MoM during the period under review. With this, 8MFY21 total imports recorded an increase of 4% YoY to USD 37,296mn.

Exhibit: Historical Trend of Monthly Imports

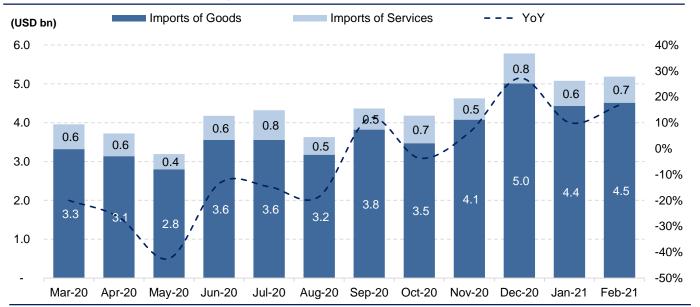
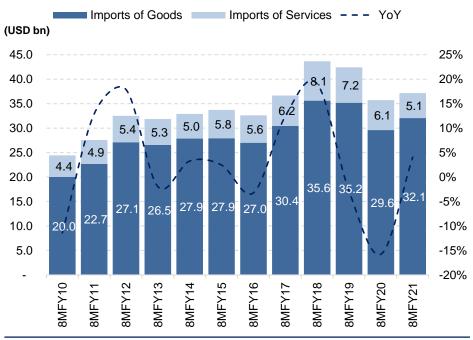


Exhibit: Imports increased by 4% YoY During 8MFY21



Source (s): SBP, AHL Research



Exports down by 2% YoY during 8MFY21

Total exports (goods and services) increased by 3% MoM during Feb'21 to USD 2,649mn compared with USD 2,578mn recorded in the previous month. On a yearly basis also, total exports registered an increase of 8% in Feb'21 which stood at USD 2,463mn in Feb'20. The export of goods was up 9% YoY | 3% MoM during Feb'21. Moreover, the export of services too recorded a jump of 3% YoY| 1% MoM during the period under review. With this, total exports during 8MFY21 stood at USD 19,875 mn posting a decline of 2% YoY.

Exhibit: Historical Trend of Monthly Exports

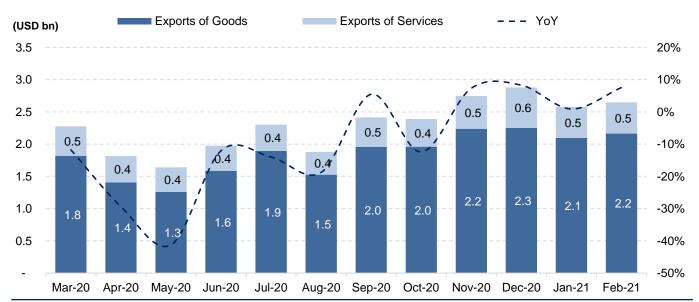
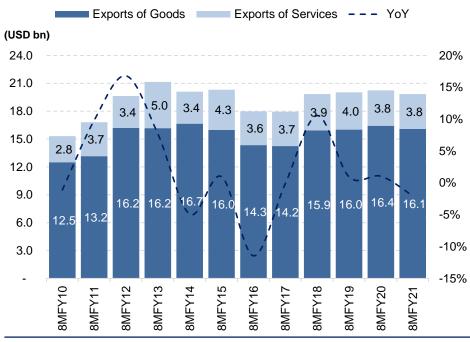


Exhibit: Exports decreased by 2% YoY during 8MFY21



Source (s): SBP, AHL Research



Remittances increased by 24% YoY during 8MFY21

During 8MFY21, remittances were up by 24% YoY to USD 18,743mn as the strong momentum of inflows continued to take the cumulative figure to an unprecedented level. Remittances by overseas Pakistanis registered an increase of 24% YoY to USD 2,266mn during Feb'21 compared to USD 1,825mn during Feb'20. The country-wise data reveals that inflows from KSA, UAE, UK and USA amounted to USD 533mn (+4% YoY, -4% MoM), USD 488mn (+4% YoY, -1% MoM), USD 349mn (+101% YoY, +15% MoM) and USD 211mn (+53% YoY, +4% MoM), respectively.

Exhibit: Remittances up by 24% YoY during Feb'21

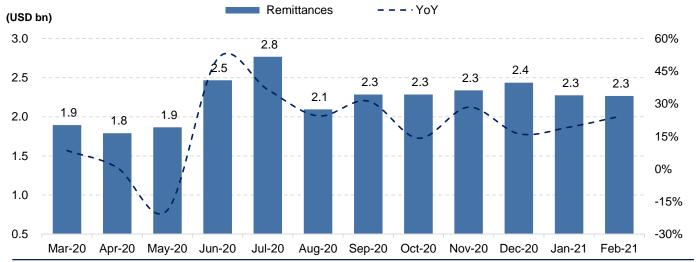
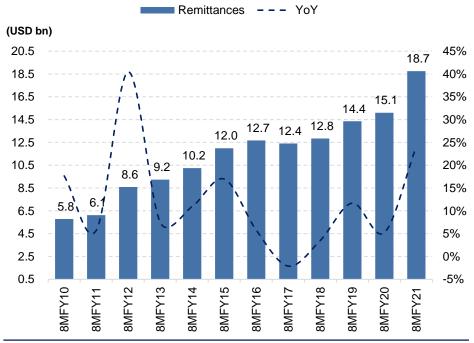


Exhibit: Remittances increased by 24% YoY during 8MFY21



Source (s): SBP, AHL Research



Balance of Payments FDI decreased by 30% YoY during 8MFY21

Foreign direct investment (FDI) during Feb'21 witnessed net inflows of USD 155mn (-44% YoY) compared to net inflows of USD 277mn during Feb'20. During 8MFY21, FDI has witnessed a decrease of 30% YoY to USD 1,300mn. China remained the largest investor with net FDI of USD 494mn during 8MFY21 compared with USD 655mn during same period last year. Netherlands remained the second largest investor with net FDI of USD 118mn during 8MFY21 compared with USD 74mn during same period last year. During 8MFY21, major investment poured into the Power sector (USD 537mn) followed by Financial Business Sector (USD 197mn) and Oil & Gas Explorations Sector (USD 142mn).

Exhibit: FDI decreased by 44% YoY during Feb'21

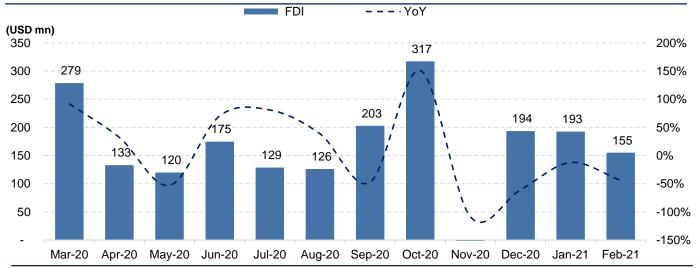
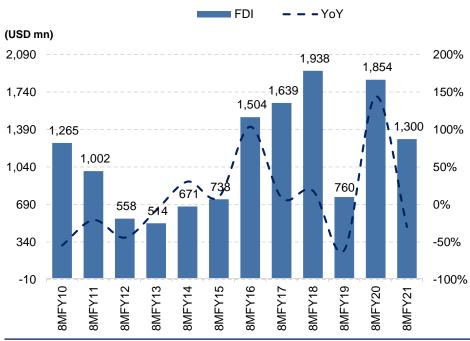


Exhibit: FDI down by 30% YoY During 8MFY21



Source (s): SBP, AHL Research



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