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To be recognized in the market place by Institutionalizing a merit & performance culture, Creating a powerful & distinctive brand identity, Achieving top-tier financial performance, and Adopting & living out our core values.



July - August 2003

# ECONOMIC BULLETIN

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NBP Performance at a Glance



## Editor's Corner

Dear readers,

It is our endeavour to improve upon the contents of the Economic Bulletin, keeping in view the interest of our readers. Starting with this issue, we will be covering one specific topic in greater detail, whilst also including some of our regular features.

Being part of a bank ourselves, we have selected "*Performance of Banks Operating in Pakistan*" as the subject for this issue. During the last calendar year 2002, all banks' performance in terms of main financial indicators shows improvement in a number of areas. Private banks have done well, widening their niche in the market. In the last four years they have been able to forge ahead of the foreign banks, by increasing their share in total deposits from 14% to 22%. In terms of assets also they are now second to the major players in the market, with an asset size of 24% of the total. They have expanded their branch network, and established market segment niches in consumer banking.

Meanwhile, the presence of foreign banks has reduced and some have sold out to local buyers, while others have left altogether. Societe Generale, Emirates Bank and Mashreq Bank all sold out to local banks. Standard Chartered consolidated its presence with its merger with ANZ Grindlays.

Both the nationalised commercial banks are doing well, and their profits rose substantially last year. National Bank of Pakistan recorded the highest ever pre-tax profit of Rs.6 billion. It has consolidated its operations, offloaded 20% shares in the market, geared to acquire the best information technology, launched new products for general consumers, restructured its operations, enhanced advisory and investment banking activities and strengthened its position in the equity market.

The half yearly accounts for the six month period ended June 30, 2003 for some banks have been published. Despite the lower interest rate environment, these banks have shown good results. For instance, National Bank of Pakistan increased its pre-tax profit to Rs.3.5 billion from Rs.2.3 billion in the corresponding period of last year, while banks such as Muslim Commercial Bank, Union Bank, PICIC Commercial Bank, Askari Commercial Bank and Bank of Punjab recorded increases of 39.7%, 354%, 66%, 50% and 72% respectively.

Banks' lending portfolios have increased and diversified. Private sector is the primary beneficiary, as it receives bulk of banks' advances, except from the nationalised commercial banks who give one fourth to the public sector. Amongst the various categories of banks, while the exposure of nationalised banks is the largest, it is the private banks whose lending portfolio grew by an average of 27% between 1998-02. Textiles are the major beneficiaries of banks' lending in consonance with their weight in the economy. Chemicals and pharmaceuticals, cement, individuals, agribusiness, automobile & transport equipment, energy, are the other sectors which have received large sums. Some sectors have gained greater exposure, such as, rubber products, sports goods, synthetic & rayon and travel agencies by private banks, while oil, gas and energy, telecommunication, individuals by nationalised banks.



The year 2002 saw a change in the banking environment, as mark-up rates came down, and so did yields on government securities. Falling T-bill rates, a major avenue for banks investment are likely to squeeze banks' profit margins unless banks rethink their strategies, try and understand the concept of a fee-based service, the need to give up old beliefs and branch out into non-traditional sectors such as consumer loans, Small Medium Enterprises, mortgage financing etc.

This has become all the more necessary given the abundance of liquidity with banks. Unless they seize this opportunity and profit in the rapidly expanding non-traditional segments of the market by developing new services, they will not be able to sustain their profitability.

In the recent past, there have been some consolidation and big and small players have come together to develop new retail and wholesale financial products and services. For instance, National Bank of Pakistan's agreement with Western Union for faster delivery of home remittances from overseas Pakistanis is working well. Another such example is the formation of 1 Link ATM Network, where 11 banks have come together to form the largest nationwide ATM network. National Bank is amongst these 11 banks.

Meanwhile, Muslim Commercial Bank, Askari Commercial Bank and ABN Amro have started debit card which is facilitated by ORIX Leasing by providing the POS terminals. National Bank of Pakistan is also in the process of launching its debit card through the same media. Other such services have been introduced by some of the other banks. This goes to show that banks have realized the potential that exists in retail lending and are gradually moving towards it.

*Ayesha Mahmud*



## Performance of Commercial Banks Operating in Pakistan

Reforms show results

Following the banking reforms that are underway since the beginning of 1990 and which gained momentum in 1997, the banking sector in Pakistan has come a long way since. Though the market is still dominated by the nationalised banks, the private banks have established niches in the market and are potential competitors. Banks like Muslim Commercial Bank, United Bank Ltd and Allied Bank Ltd have been privatised, while Habib Bank Ltd is in the process of being privatized. National Bank of Pakistan has offloaded 20% of its shares in the market. The restructuring plans prepared by the nationalised banks made it possible for them to rationalize their work strength and size, check the infected loan portfolios, improve service to clients, reduce the lending rates and set it in relation to the demand/supply condition in the market, focus more on consumer banking and adopt new technology.

SBP works towards better financial system

Throughout 2002, the central bank was actively working towards updating and amending regulations and devising policies for the benefit of commercial banks, so that they could improve their solvency, enhance their capital strength and competitive capabilities. By eliminating restrictions related to investments, the SBP has provided an opportunity to banks to enjoy more freedom in implementing their own credit policies. The State Bank of Pakistan, as a monitoring and regulatory body, has taken initiatives focusing on developing sound financial system.

Banks are diversifying

The fast growing new private sector banks, alongwith some larger banks are focusing more intently on retail banking products such as, personal loans, small business finance, home finance, car finance, debit and credit cards and other investment products. Some of these banks are now posing a challenge to many domestic as well as foreign banks. Most of the banks have realised that for their own survival, they need to diversify from conventional banking, improve and add to their consumer banking services. Banks' need to design an impressive product portfolio in a highly competitive market.

Acquisitions / mergers

The process of privatisation of public sector banks and acquisitions/ amalgamation/merger of smaller banks continues. In the year 2002, National Development Finance Corporation was merged with National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), the privatisation of United Bank Ltd (UBL) was completed, and now Habib Bank Ltd (HBL) is almost ready for sale. Some 19 parties have shown their interest in its purchase, and its privatisation is expected by the end of the year.

Some of the foreign banks have also sold their Pakistan operations to local banks, while some have opted for consolidation. ANZ Grindlays was amalgamated with Standard Chartered Bank, while Mashreq Bank was merged with a local investment bank. Doha Bank suspended its Pakistan operations and is negotiating the possibility of it merging with an investment bank. Following the successful acquisition of Bank of America's Pakistan operations in 2000, the Union Bank acquired the business of American Express Card in 2001 and later acquired the Pakistan operations of Emirates Bank International.

Among other local banks, Meezan Bank purchased the Pakistan operations of Societe Generale, Khadim Ali Shah Bukhari & Company purchased Platinum Commercial Bank, Prudential Commercial Bank was bought by Saudi Pak Industrial & Agricultural Investment Company, and PICIC Commercial Bank took over Gulf Commercial Bank (formally Schon Bank) in 2001.

Restructuring at NCBs

As of end-December 2002, 37 scheduled banks were operating in Pakistan, with a cumulative network of 6513 branches, and 74244 staff. Major banks, NBP, HBL, UBL, MCB and ABL accounted for 87% of the total branches and 77% of the staff strength. As a result of ongoing restructuring and reform process, major banks have within the last one year significantly reduced their number of branches and employees by 140 and 4591 respectively. In spite of the reduction NBP and HBL have a staff strength of 31200, while UBL, MCB and



ABL together have the largest number of branches 2971.

Staff per branch

The growth of private domestic banks, and the subsequent increase in network has resulted in the hiring of more people. Last year alone, their staff strength grew by 2028. The 16 foreign banks operating in Pakistan had a network of 81 branches and 2635 headcounts. Their staff strength registered an addition of 330 employees in the year. They have the highest number of staff per branch (33) compared to the five major banks (10) and private banks' (18). Furthermore, the staff per branch ratio is the lowest for the three privatised banks (9), while for the two nationalised banks, the ratio is 12, close to that of the private banks.

Assets grow

The analysis of 36 (excludes ABL as the bank has not released its annual accounts / balance sheets after 1999) scheduled banks based on their annual accounts/balance sheets as of December 31, 2002, reveals that the entire banking sector's assets grew by nearly 18%, twice the preceding year's growth. This was largely on account of 45% increase in the assets of private banks. Assets of foreign banks declined by 2%, mainly due to some acquisitions/mergers with private banks. Major banks continued to hold the largest share in total assets (over 62%). NBP enjoys the single largest share of 34% in major banks assets and 21% in total bank's assets; MCB in the privatised bank group recorded the highest growth in assets, nearly 26%.

Amongst the 15 private banks, Askari Commercial Bank, Bank Al-Falah, Bank Al-Habib and Union Bank together share 49% of total private banks assets and 12% of entire banking sector's. Though significant growth in assets was contributed by Union Bank (85%), Bank Al-Falah (62%) and Bank Al-Habib (70%), Askari Commercial Bank continued to enjoy the highest assets base, 29% of private banks' total.

Citibank, Standard Chartered (SCB), ABN Amro and Habib Bank AG Zurich, enjoy a share of 78% in total foreign banks' assets and nearly 11% of total banking sector's. With the

merger of ANZ Grindlays, SCB has emerged as the single largest bank within this group with a 38% share in foreign banks assets. ABN Amro registered a decline (13.4%) while assets growth of Citibank was almost flat (0.3%). Seven other banks in this group recorded decline in their assets.

Slow growth in advances

Advances plus investments contribute 72% of banking sector's assets. While investment grew by 102% last year, advances showed an increase of 5%. More than half of banking sector advances are held by the major banks, with NCBs holding 67%. Last year, major banks recorded a 6% fall in advances (9% decline in NCBs and 1% in privatised banks advances). This was primarily because of a 17% drop in the advances of NBP. HBL has the largest advances portfolio with 36% share in major banks' advances.

Advances rise

Private domestic banks' advances growing by 38% last year, have a 27% share in the total advances. The large increase was contributed by Union Bank, showing a growth of 108%, followed by Bank Al-Habib almost 50% and Bank Al-Falah 48%. However, Askari Commercial Bank continued to hold largest advance portfolio. The combined share of these four banks in the private banks' advances was 52% and nearly 14% of the total banking sector.

Foreign banks constituting 16% of the total advances, grew by 8% in 2002, a sharp recovery against preceding year's 9% decline. Four banks (SCB, Citibank, ABN Amro and Habib Bank AG Zurich) made up for 81% of the advances portfolio of this group or 13% of the entire banking sector advances.

Record growth in investment

In the absence of sufficient credit demand, a large proportion of liquidity with banks was invested in government securities, particularly Treasury Bills. Banking sector saw record growth exceeding 100% in investment portfolio during 2002. The highest contribution to growth in investments came from private domestic banks, which recorded a hefty growth of 121%, followed by major banks (108%). In the private banks group, Union Bank contributed the highest growth (335%) followed by Bank Al-



*Comparative Performance of Banks*

(Rs. Mn)

|                       | Major Banks |         | Private Domestic Banks |        | Foreign Banks |        | Banking Sector Total |         |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------|------------------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------------------|---------|
|                       | 2001        | 2002    | 2001                   | 2002   | 2001          | 2002   | 2001                 | 2002    |
| Assets Net            | 1111751     | 1270988 | 335189                 | 486032 | 285494        | 280943 | 1732434              | 2037963 |
| Equity                | 26639       | 41823   | 22764                  | 27162  | 24074         | 28342  | 73477                | 97327   |
| Deposits              | 935090      | 1042500 | 251913                 | 350403 | 174952        | 184118 | 1361955              | 1577021 |
| Advances              | 494716      | 463632  | 154468                 | 212708 | 122223        | 131625 | 771406               | 807965  |
| Investments           | 216007      | 449015  | 70926                  | 156925 | 41533         | 57283  | 328467               | 663223  |
| Interest Income       | 87107       | 79018   | 29627                  | 32132  | 26743         | 19076  | 143477               | 130226  |
| Interest Expense      | 48538       | 38181   | 21348                  | 21249  | 20191         | 11842  | 90077                | 71272   |
| Net Interest Income   | 38569       | 40837   | 8279                   | 10883  | 6553          | 7235   | 53400                | 58954   |
| Non Fund Based Income | 15126       | 17010   | 4651                   | 7538   | 4558          | 5337   | 24335                | 29885   |
| Revenue               | 53694       | 57873   | 12930                  | 18421  | 11111         | 12571  | 77735                | 88865   |
| Admn Expense          | 32415       | 35071   | 6830                   | 9168   | 5747          | 5686   | 44992                | 49924   |
| Provisions            | 8264        | 6093    | 1267                   | 1167   | 540           | 249    | 10071                | 7509    |
| Other Expenses        | 11287       | 559     | 295                    | 357    | 307           | 19     | 11889                | 934     |
| Profit / (Loss) B.T   | 1729        | 16150   | 4538                   | 7729   | 4518          | 6618   | 10784                | 30497   |

*Growth Rates*

(%)

|                       | Major Banks |       | Private Domestic Banks |       | Foreign Banks |       | Banking Sector Total |       |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
|                       | 2001        | 2002  | 2001                   | 2002  | 2001          | 2002  | 2001                 | 2002  |
| Assets Net            | 6.8         | 14.3  | 24.4                   | 45.0  | 1.7           | -1.6  | 8.9                  | 17.6  |
| Equity                | -15.4       | 57.0  | 38.6                   | 19.3  | -1.9          | 17.7  | 1.4                  | 32.5  |
| Deposits              | 9.9         | 11.5  | 32.1                   | 39.1  | -6.7          | 5.2   | 10.8                 | 15.8  |
| Advances              | 6.8         | -6.3  | 14.3                   | 37.7  | -8.8          | 7.7   | 5.3                  | 4.7   |
| Investments           | -1.1        | 107.9 | 72.7                   | 121.3 | 96.0          | 37.9  | 17.1                 | 101.9 |
| Interest Income       | 7.0         | -9.3  | 30.8                   | 8.5   | 7.5           | -28.7 | 11.3                 | -9.2  |
| Interest Expense      | -7.3        | -21.3 | 26.1                   | -0.5  | 7.6           | -41.4 | 2.3                  | -20.9 |
| Net Interest Income   | 32.8        | 5.9   | 44.7                   | 31.4  | 7.0           | 10.4  | 30.6                 | 10.4  |
| Non Fund Based Income | -10.9       | 12.5  | 10.3                   | 62.1  | -12.5         | 17.1  | -7.8                 | 22.8  |
| Revenue               | 14.9        | 7.8   | 30.1                   | 42.5  | -2.0          | 13.1  | 14.3                 | 14.3  |
| Admn Expense          | -1.2        | 8.2   | 24.6                   | 34.2  | -12.8         | -1.1  | 0.3                  | 11.0  |
| Provisions            | 39.5        | -26.3 | -23.4                  | -7.9  | -39.9         | -54.0 | 18.8                 | -25.4 |
| Other Expenses        | 280.4       | -95.1 | 183.5                  | 20.8  | 120.2         | -93.8 | 270.3                | -92.1 |
| Profit / (Loss) B.T   | -65.6       | 834.2 | 68.0                   | 70.3  | 21.9          | 46.5  | -5.7                 | 182.8 |

*Selected Ratios*

(%)

|                             | Major Banks |       | Private Domestic Banks |       | Foreign Banks |       | Banking Sector Total |       |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
|                             | 2001        | 2002  | 2001                   | 2002  | 2001          | 2002  | 2001                 | 2002  |
| Cost of Funds               | 5.1         | 3.6   | 8.0                    | 5.9   | 5.1           | 3.6   | 6.1                  | 4.3   |
| Intermediation Cost         | 3.6         | 3.5   | 3.1                    | 3.0   | 3.2           | 3.2   | 3.5                  | 3.4   |
| Pre Tax Margin              | 1.7         | 16.8  | 13.2                   | 19.5  | 14.4          | 27.1  | 6.4                  | 19.0  |
| NFBI / Revenue              | 28.2        | 29.4  | 36.0                   | 40.9  | 41.0          | 42.5  | 31.3                 | 33.6  |
| NII / Interest Income       | 44.3        | 51.7  | 27.9                   | 33.9  | 24.5          | 37.9  | 37.2                 | 45.3  |
| Advances / Deposits         | 53.6        | 48.5  | 65.4                   | 61.0  | 70.7          | 70.7  | 58.0                 | 53.7  |
| Return on Equity (ROE)      | 5.9         | 47.1  | 23.2                   | 31.7  | 18.6          | 25.3  | 14.8                 | 35.7  |
| Return on Assets (ROA)      | 0.2         | 1.4   | 1.5                    | 1.9   | 1.6           | 2.3   | 0.6                  | 1.6   |
| Return on Deposits (ROD)    | 0.2         | 1.6   | 2.1                    | 2.6   | 2.5           | 3.7   | 0.8                  | 2.1   |
| Equity / Deposits           | 3.3         | 3.5   | 8.9                    | 8.3   | 13.4          | 14.6  | 5.6                  | 5.8   |
| Equity / Assets             | 2.7         | 2.9   | 6.5                    | 6.1   | 8.6           | 9.3   | 4.4                  | 4.5   |
| Capital / Risk Assets (CRA) | 6.1         | 6.1   | 13.5                   | 13.6  | 19.0          | 20.6  | 9.7                  | 10.8  |
| Admn Expense / Revenue      | 60.4        | 60.6  | 52.8                   | 49.8  | 51.7          | 45.2  | 57.9                 | 56.2  |
| Income / Expense            | 101.7       | 120.2 | 115.3                  | 124.2 | 116.9         | 137.2 | 106.9                | 123.5 |

Source: Bank's Annual Reports



Habib (232%), Askari Commercial (129%) and Bank Al-Falah (117%).

The two large NCBs, NBP and HBL contributed 64% to the major banks' investments with NBP's portfolio being the largest (49% of major banks' or 22% of total banks). HBL however, showed a 147% increase. Meanwhile, foreign banks with only 9% share in total investments recorded 38% increase in 2002, down 58 percentage points from 2001. Among the foreign banks, SCB continued to enjoy largest advances portfolio (32% of foreign banks or 3% of total banking sector).

Although interest rates were greatly reduced, banks' total deposits grew by 16%. Major banks having the largest share in total deposits (66%) recorded 11% growth. NBP retained its top position amongst all banks, with highest deposit base (35% of major banks and 23% of the entire banking sector deposits). However, highest increase in deposits during the year was recorded by MCB (18%).

Private domestic banks with 22% share in total deposits registered the highest growth (39%) amongst all banks, mainly contributed by Union Bank (82%). However, Bank Al-Falah and Askari Commercial together, have the largest deposit base, 15% of private domestic banks.

In 2002, foreign banks operating in Pakistan staged an improvement from preceding year's decline in deposits and recorded a growth of 5%. SCB with the largest deposit base (32% of foreign banks' total) recorded the single highest growth (136%). Citibank with the second highest deposit base suffered a decline, while ABN Amro recorded the lowest growth (1.5%).

The prevailing low interest rates have significantly reduced interest margins. There has been a larger decline in interest expense compared to interest income. This decline has been most for foreign banks, 29% and 41% respectively. Major banks also posted declines, but private domestic banks contributed 8% growth in interest income compared to 0.5% fall in interest expense. The shrinking spread resulted in decelerating growth in Net Interest Income (NII) of major banks (6%). Within this

group, NII of NBP continued to be the highest; 32% of major banks or 22% of the entire banking sector. In terms of growth, UBL contributed the highest increase (18%).

Cumulatively NII of private domestic banks managed to record the highest growth of 31%, while its share in the banking sector total was 19%. Higher growth was contributed by Union Bank (74%) followed by Bank Al-Falah (73%). In this category, NII of Askari Commercial Bank remained the highest, 18% of private domestic banks. The four large banks in the group (Askari Commercial, Bank Al-Falah, Bank Al-Habib and Union Bank) accounted for 47% of the private domestic banks' NII and 8% of the entire banking sector's.

In line with a relatively slower growth in interest income, foreign banks too registered slower growth in NII (10%), with some exceptions, SCB showed a growth of 89%. However, NII was highest at Citibank, constituting 31% of foreign banks and 4% of the banking sector total.

Slower growth in NII, however, was compensated by a 23% improvement in the Non-Fund Based Income (NFBI) of the entire banking sector with private domestic banks recording a massive growth of 62%. Askari Commercial and Union Bank did well as these two banks crossed Rs.1 billion.

Amongst the major banks, while growth of NFBI was the highest at MCB (18%), HBL maintained its top position by earning highest NFBI (35% of the major bank's total or 20% of the banking sector total).

Amongst the foreign banks, Citibank maintained its top position by earning highest NFBI in the group (40% of foreign banks' or 7% of the banking sector total). SCB recorded single largest growth (85%).

Bulk of the increase in revenue (NNI + NFBI) was generated by NBP and HBL. The later was the highest earner, with a share of 33% of major banks' total or 21% of the banking sector. In the private domestic banks category, Askari Commercial, Bank Al-Habib, Bank Al-Falah

Net interest income grows

Deposits continue to grow

NFBI high at HBL

Reduced interest margin

Revenue increases





and Union Bank were the main revenue earners. Foreign banks showed a 13% increase in revenue, where ABN Amro, SCB, Citibank and Habib Bank AG Zurich were the major revenue earners with 11% share in total revenue.

Admn  
expenses  
rise

Administrative expenses of all banks recorded an 11% growth in 2002 with private domestic banks recording the highest growth (34%). This increase reflects higher staff cost from expansion of branches, credit cards and retail banking operations. HBL recorded the highest expenditure under this head. Foreign banks recorded decline. However, administrative expense per branch in 2002 was the highest for foreign banks and lowest in major banks.

NBP  
shows  
high  
profit

All loss making banks were able to convert their losses into profit during the year. Profit before tax of the entire banking sector showed a record growth of 183%. All the three banking groups contributed to this growth. Major banks earned a record profit of Rs.16 billion. NBP retained its top position by earning the highest profit of Rs.6 billion, (37% of major banks profit and 20% of entire banking sector profit). Private domestic banks and foreign banks operating in Pakistan recorded growth of 70% and 46% respectively.

Key  
ratios  
show  
improve-  
ment

Key performance ratios demonstrated marked improvement during the year. Both cost of funds and intermediation cost of banks have declined. Falling interest rates have reduced cost of funds of most banks, particularly of MCB, where the ratio was the lowest amongst all banks (3.3%). Despite the decline in the ratio for most banks, it still remains high at 7.2% for two private sector banks (Soneri Bank and PICIC Commercial). The intermediation cost has come down to its lowest at 1.8% at Bank of Khyber, though it still remains high at Deutsche Bank (8.7%). Among the larger banks, NBP has the lowest intermediation cost of 2.6%, while MCB has the highest ratio (4.8%). Groupwise, private domestic banks have the lowest intermediation cost, while the ratio is the highest for major banks.

Increasing  
Pre-tax  
margin  
and RoE

Improved profitability of banks had a positive impact on pre-tax margins. This ratio measures the efficiency of the management. The ratio was high for foreign banks (27%) compared to

private banks (19.5%) and major banks (16.8%). Return on Equity (RoE) measures earning efficiency on equity: High ratio indicates strong financial position and overall enhancement in bank performance. The study reveals that RoE was substantially high among major banks (47%) relative to foreign banks (25%). Among the major banks, NBP recorded the highest ratio (46%).

RoA,  
RoD  
improves

Return on Assets (RoA) is another profitability indicator. Higher ratio indicates greater return on assets. An improving RoA also shows the increasing operational and administrative efficiency. The ideal ratio is 1% plus. The study reveals that RoA exceeded 2% for foreign banks. The ratio was lowest at 1.4% for major banks. Almost all banks, with a few exceptions recorded RoA of above 1%. It was below 1% for Union Bank and Bolan Bank, while it was in negative for KASB Bank. Some smaller private domestic banks and foreign banks recorded very high ratios.

Return on Deposits (RoD) was also higher for foreign banks, indicating improved earnings on deposits. The ratio was the highest (above 5%) for Citibank and the lowest (1.3%) for HBL. For some smaller banks in the private domestic banks category the ratio is very high. The ratio was as high as 9.5% for Meezan Bank.

Liquidity  
ratio high

Liquidity as measured by Advances to Deposit ratio ranged from 48% to 70%. The ratio is highest (above 70%) for foreign banks and lowest for major banks (48.5%). Equity to Assets ratio assesses the assets coverage by equity. The ratio was the lowest for major banks and highest for foreign banks. 12 larger banks, ranked on the basis of assets and deposits, reveal lowest equity to assets ratio of 2.2% for UBL from the major banks group and highest (9.9%) for Citibank in the foreign banks category.

Equity to deposits ratio indicates equity relationship with deposits. Higher ratio shows higher safety and better utilization of equity. This ratio is also high for foreign banks (14.6%) and low for major banks (3.5%). Income to Expense ratio has also improved for all banks. The ratio remained high for foreign banks and low for major banks. Among the 12 larger banks, the ratio was high (149%) for Citibank and low for NBP (123%).









## Sectoral Portfolio of Commercial Banks - A Review: 1998-2002

Commercial banks operating in Pakistan lend to all sectors of the economy. With a diversified credit portfolio ranging from food to telecommunications, oil and gas, engineering and trade, these banks are meeting both the short and long term needs of industries.

The break-up of outstanding advances of each bank for the last five years 1998-2002 reveals that the private sector made up the bulk of advances portfolio of each of the bank categories; nationalised commercial banks (NCBs), private banks, provincial banks and the foreign banks.

Of NCBs total outstanding advances, on the average 31% were given to the public sector. While NCBs advances to all sectors grew by an average of 9.2% in the last five years, advances to public sector showed a higher growth of 21.5%. Interbank variations of outstanding loans to the public sector were for instance, a higher share of National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) 47%, Habib Bank Ltd (HBL) 17%, while in case of First Women Bank 100% was for the private sector. Private banks had lent on the average over 95% to the private sector, as were the case with the foreign banks. Banks such as Doha Bank, Oman Bank, Rupali Bank, Bank of Ceylon, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi had lent solely to the private sector.

Private sector receives bulk of advances

Textiles are the largest receiver of loans

predominance in value added contribution, (46% share in overall manufacturing activity) and share in overall industrial employment (employing 38% of the industrial labour force). It accounts for 9% of GDP. The bulk of the loans to the textile sector are for rejuvenation and modernisation, to enable them to prepare for the post 2005 world trade order.

While textiles were around an average of 20% of NCBs total portfolio in the last five years, they were 26% of foreign banks advances. The percentage was high for banks such as Doha Bank and IFIC, an average of 54% and 79% of each bank's total advances; with Rupali Bank giving over 90%. Private banks extended on an average 40% of their advances to the textiles during 1998-2002.

Private banks were extending a substantial portion of their advances to textiles, and the growth in quantum (29%) is the highest amongst all categories of banks. This was largely due to higher lending by Bank Al-Falah, an average of 34% in the last five years, Askari Commercial 41%, Metropolitan Bank 57%, Faysal Bank 37%, Union Bank 37% and Soneri Bank 43%. Both the privatised banks, Muslim Commercial Bank and United Bank Ltd (UBL) have an average outstanding of 31% to the sector in the period under review.

The bulk of the loans to the textile sector are targeted to the traditional low value added spinning and weaving segments. While there is a concerted effort to increase exports of non-traditional goods, the banks are not playing an active role in nudging diversification to the relatively high value added sectors, such as bed linen, readymade garments. Even the State Bank of Pakistan has been constrained to comment on this in its second quarterly report for the year 2002-03 when it says "the bank credit has been flowing towards the traditional sub-sectors of textiles, such as spinning and weaving, while

Advances Portfolio  
Five Year Average (1998-2002)

|                               | Public Sector  |      | Private Sector |      |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------|----------------|------|
|                               | Amount (Rs.Mn) | %    | Amount (Rs.Mn) | %    |
| Nationalised Commercial Banks | 92350          | 31.5 | 194726         | 68.5 |
| Privatised Banks              | 26629          | 17.5 | 117414         | 82.5 |
| Provincial Banks              | 860            | 6.8  | 11303          | 93.2 |
| Private Banks                 | 4642           | 3.4  | 120054         | 96.6 |
| Foreign Banks                 | 9271           | 7.8  | 109818         | 92.2 |

Source: Annual Reports of the banks

Certain sectors appear to be more privileged than others when accessing credit. Within manufacturing, textile is the single largest beneficiary of loans. This is consonant with its



Segment by Class of Business  
Selected Sectors  
Five Year Average (1998-2002)

|                                     | NCBs    |         | Privatised Banks |         | Provincial Banks |         | Private Banks |         | Foreign Banks |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|
|                                     | (Rs.Mn) | % share | (Rs.Mn)          | % share | (Rs.Mn)          | % share | (Rs.Mn)       | % share | (Rs.Mn)       | % share |
| Textiles                            | 57308   | 20.2    | 43547            | 30.4    | 1564             | 12.9    | 49591         | 40.0    | 30745         | 25.8    |
| Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals         | 10610   | 3.8     | 2504             | 1.8     | 1001             | 8.3     | 4596          | 3.8     | 12476         | 10.4    |
| Cement                              | 4308    | 1.5     | 1873             | 1.4     | 469              | 4.0     | 2634          | 2.2     | 1815          | 1.5     |
| Food & Allied                       | 7069    | 2.6     | -                | -       | 600              | 5.0     | 2795          | 2.3     | 3584          | 3.0     |
| Individuals                         | 10572   | 3.6     | 4921             | 3.1     | -                | -       | 4700          | 3.1     | 15743         | 13.1    |
| Automobiles & Transport             | 2554    | 0.93    | 4048             | 2.8     | 44               | 0.4     | 1386          | 1.2     | 2863          | 2.4     |
| Electronics & Electrical Appliances | 6348    | 2.3     | 2483             | 1.6     | 4.4              | 0.04    | 1707          | 1.4     | 2650          | 2.2     |
| Metal Products                      | 11237   | 4.0     | 956              | 0.6     | 79               | 0.7     | 494           | 0.4     | -             | -       |
| Agribusiness                        | 6569    | 2.5     | 9263             | 6.0     | 2127             | 17.6    | 2037          | 1.6     | 509           | 0.44    |

NCBs - Nationalised Commercial Banks

Source: Annual Reports of the banks

the identified priority sectors (stitching, knitting and finishing) received only 20% of the total credit, on average, during CY01 and CY02.”

The presence of a sizable number of foreign pharmaceutical and chemical companies in Pakistan and the foreign investment that has flowed into the sector, explains to some extent the sizable quantum of exposure to the sector by foreign banks, 10.4% of their portfolio in the last five years; particularly higher exposure by Standard Chartered Bank, Deutsche Bank, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi and Citibank. Amongst the local banks, NBP and HBL invested (as loans) 3%-7% of their outstanding in the sector, while among the provincial banks Bank of Khyber gave an average of 15% of its advances to this sector.

All categories of banks have lent to individuals, with foreign banks average advances to the sector as high as 13.1% during 1998-02, private banks 3.1% and NCBs 3.6%. Amongst the foreign banks, Citibank's outstanding was around 30%, Standard Chartered Bank 20%, while for Mashreq Bank and ABN Amro it was 18%-30% during the last two years. Exposure of private banks to the sector rose in the last two years, as banks such as Bank Al-Falah,

Union Bank and Soneri Bank enhanced their lending to individuals. This could partly be explained by increased consumer financing; banks have introduced new products for which a number of people are availing loans to purchase the goods.

In the services sector category, NCBs have extended higher allocation to general traders, while foreign/private and provincial banks have given more to the financial sub-sector. Insurance, hotel and restaurants, leasing, modarabas, real estate and construction have received a relatively smaller share in the total credit by all banks.

Apart from the key player in the agricultural sector – Zarai Taraqiati Bank, others like NBP, UBL and HBL are actively involved in agribusiness. Smaller banks such as Bolan Bank, Askari Commercial, Faysal Bank and Union Bank are also catering to the needs of this sector, though their respective share in private banks advances portfolio has not shown any change. This sector receives on an average less than 1% of the advances of foreign banks.

National Bank of Pakistan is the second largest lender to agriculture after Zarai Taraqiati Bank. In the year 2002-03, it disbursed nearly Rs.8 billion against the target of Rs.6.2 billion. 90%

Chemicals preferred by foreign banks

Banks inclined towards individuals

NCBs lay emphasis on agribusiness



of the loans to the agricultural sector are production loans, but it is also aggressive in livestock and poultry. Recovery rate of 98% is the highest amongst all the financial institutions, advancing to the agricultural sector.

Fuel and energy including oil and gas sub-sector received substantial amount from the major players in the market, particularly from the NCBs who lent an average of Rs.19 billion to the sector in the past five years. The oil and gas sector has also been a major beneficiary of foreign direct investment flows. This sector is among the top sectors which have received substantial advances from the foreign banks.

Private banks lending exposure increases over the years

Over the last five years the growth in the exposure has been slightly over 9% for NCBs and the privatised banks, 27% for private banks and 3.4% for the foreign banks. Private banks advances which stood at Rs.78 billion as on December 31, 1998 more than doubled to Rs.199 billion by end December 02, while in

absolute terms the quantum was the highest for NCBs, having risen from Rs.223.3 billion to Rs.308.9 billion in the same period.

Though exposure of certain sectors has grown substantially, in absolute terms the amount may not be high. It nevertheless shows the diversification of banks lending.

For instance in the category of private banks, advances to hotels and restaurants which stood at only Rs.6 million by end December 98, had risen to Rs.391 billion by end 2002, or to travel agencies from Rs.5 million to Rs.149 million, or in the case of NCBs lending to the financial sector rose from Rs.487 million to Rs.2.76 billion in the same period.

While growth in exposure has been higher in the foregoing sectors, in absolute terms, sectors such as textiles, oil, gas & petroleum, metal products, individuals, general traders, chemicals & pharmaceuticals, had larger shares in banks' advances.



July - August 2003

# ECONOMIC BULLETIN

## Segment by Class of Business

(Rs. Mn)

|                                     | 1998   |                  |                  | 1999   |                  |                  | 2000   |                  |                  | 2001   |                  |                  | 2002   |                  |                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|
|                                     | NCBs   | Privatised Banks | Provincial Banks | NCBs   | Privatised Banks | Provincial Banks | NCBs   | Privatised Banks | Provincial Banks | NCBs   | Privatised Banks | Provincial Banks | NCBs   | Privatised Banks | Provincial Banks |
| Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals         | 8077   | 2347             | 976              | 13447  | 2967             | 1111             | 9328   | 3425             | 1022             | 15754  | 1224             | 828              | 6444   | 2558             | 1066             |
|                                     | 3.6    | 2.1              | 8.8              | 5.4    | 2.3              | 9.3              | 3.0    | 2.1              | 8.6              | 4.7    | 0.7              | 6.5              | 2.1    | 1.7              | 8.1              |
| Agribusiness                        | 9705   | 1678             | 2778             | 10389  | 2328             | 1999             | 4542   | 7342             | 1786             | 3454   | 17631            | 1900             | 4755   | 17337            | 2170             |
|                                     | 4.3    | 1.5              | 25.0             | 4.2    | 1.8              | 16.8             | 1.4    | 4.6              | 15.0             | 1.0    | 10.7             | 15.0             | 1.5    | 11.2             | 16.4             |
| Textile                             | 49066  | 34693            | 1085             | 53116  | 40383            | 1959             | 59159  | 48090            | 2230             | 61053  | 46334            | 1175             | 64144  | 48234            | 1370             |
|                                     | 22.0   | 31.1             | 9.8              | 21.2   | 31.4             | 16.4             | 18.8   | 30.0             | 18.8             | 18.0   | 28.1             | 9.3              | 20.8   | 31.2             | 10.4             |
| Cement                              | 4333   | 1741             | 803              | 2384   | 2650             | 557              | 3497   | 3572             | 428              | 5691   | 958              | 327              | 5634   | 444              | 232              |
|                                     | 1.9    | 1.6              | 7.2              | 1.0    | 2.1              | 4.7              | 1.1    | 2.2              | 3.6              | 1.7    | 0.6              | 2.6              | 1.8    | 0.3              | 1.8              |
| Sugar                               | 4557   | 3666             | 540              | 2740   | 3760             | 155              | 5538   | 4236             | 96               | 6340   | 922              | 403              | 4841   | 539              | 519              |
|                                     | 2.0    | 3.3              | 4.9              | 1.1    | 2.9              | 1.3              | 1.8    | 2.6              | 0.8              | 1.9    | 0.6              | 3.2              | 1.6    | 0.3              | 3.9              |
| Shoes & Leather Garments            | 1610   | 2131             | 168              | 1890   | 3569             | 211              | 1684   | 2016             | 183              | 1500   | 1598             | 0                | 1718   | 1696             | 0                |
|                                     | 0.7    | 1.9              | 1.5              | 0.8    | 2.8              | 1.8              | 0.5    | 1.3              | 1.5              | 0.4    | 1.0              | 0.0              | 0.6    | 1.1              | 0.0              |
| Automobile & Transport Equipment    | 1987   | 3323             | 106              | 4244   | 3996             | 89               | 2577   | 2591             | 24               | 2493   | 4577             | 0                | 1468   | 5755             | 0                |
|                                     | 0.9    | 3.0              | 1.0              | 1.7    | 3.1              | 0.7              | 1.6    | 1.6              | 0.2              | 0.7    | 2.8              | 0.0              | 0.5    | 3.7              | 0.0              |
| Financial                           | 487    | 894              | 473              | 2488   | 1158             | 500              | 5463   | 534              | 596              | 2784   | 468              | 183              | 1832   | 2762             | 164              |
|                                     | 0.2    | 0.8              | 4.3              | 1.0    | 0.9              | 4.2              | 1.7    | 0.3              | 5.0              | 0.8    | 0.3              | 1.4              | 0.6    | 1.8              | 1.2              |
| Insurance                           | 22     | 1                | 0                | 0      | 110              | 0                | 73     | 8                | 0                | 10     | 1443             | 0                | 39     | 0                | 0                |
|                                     | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Transportation                      | 3572   | 8674             | 0                | 7952   | 2313             | 183              | 7811   | 11886            | 161              | 5563   | 0                | 0                | 4925   | 0                | 0                |
|                                     | 1.6    | 7.8              | 0.0              | 3.2    | 1.8              | 1.5              | 2.5    | 7.4              | 1.4              | 1.6    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 1.6    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Electronics & Electrical Appliances | 3557   | 1256             | 22               | 13744  | 656              | 0                | 3038   | 658              | 0                | 4481   | 7012             | 0                | 6919   | 2835             | 0                |
|                                     | 1.6    | 1.1              | 0.2              | 5.5    | 0.5              | 0.0              | 1.0    | 0.4              | 0.0              | 1.3    | 4.3              | 0.0              | 2.2    | 1.8              | 0.0              |
| Production & Transmission of Energy | 4211   | 630              | 10               | 6106   | 1408             | 39               | 10139  | 2760             | 39               | 17893  | 10071            | 0                | 3917   | 4061             | 100              |
|                                     | 1.9    | 0.6              | 0.1              | 2.4    | 1.1              | 0.3              | 3.2    | 1.7              | 0.3              | 5.3    | 6.1              | 0.0              | 1.3    | 2.6              | 0.8              |
| Food & Tobacco                      | 9180   |                  | 628              | 8342   |                  | 899              | 3884   |                  | 1012             | 7198   |                  | 0                | 6743   |                  | 454              |
|                                     | 4.1    | 0.0              | 5.6              | 3.3    | 0.0              | 7.5              | 1.2    | 0.0              | 8.5              | 2.1    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 2.2    | 0.0              | 3.4              |
| Metal Products                      | 10700  |                  | 222              | 11552  |                  | 93               | 7646   | 4780             | 79               | 12734  |                  | 0                | 13555  |                  | 0                |
|                                     | 4.8    | 0.0              | 2.0              | 4.6    | 0.0              | 0.8              | 2.4    | 3.0              | 0.7              | 3.8    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 4.4    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Oil, Gas Petroleum & Energy         | 5041   |                  | 0                | 14798  |                  | 285              | 12784  |                  | 0                | 5876   |                  | 0                | 14336  |                  | 0                |
|                                     | 2.3    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 5.9    | 0.0              | 2.4              | 4.1    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 1.7    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 4.6    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Telecommunication                   | 0      |                  | 0                | 0      |                  | 0                | 0      |                  | 0                | 7511   |                  | 0                | 2010   |                  | 0                |
|                                     | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 2.2    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.7    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Public/Government                   | 0      |                  | 0                | 0      |                  | 152              | 58174  | 0                | 0                | 69630  |                  | 874              | 62873  |                  | 0                |
|                                     | 0.0    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 0.0    | 0.0              | 1.3              | 18.5   | 0.0              | 0.0              | 20.6   | 0.0              | 6.9              | 20.4   | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Individuals                         | 2570   |                  | 0                | 11740  |                  | 0                | 9982   |                  | 0                | 15674  | 11839            | 0                | 12893  | 12768            | 0                |
|                                     | 1.2    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 4.7    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 3.2    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 4.6    | 7.2              | 0.0              | 4.2    | 8.3              | 0.0              |
| General Traders                     | 16279  |                  | 233              | 6519   |                  | 776              | 6233   |                  | 920              | 19457  |                  | 0                | 28193  |                  | 0                |
|                                     | 7.3    | 0.0              | 2.1              | 2.6    | 0.0              | 6.5              | 2.0    | 0.0              | 7.7              | 5.8    | 0.0              | 0.0              | 9.1    | 0.0              | 0.0              |
| Others                              | 88335  | 65285            | 3080             | 78645  | 71041            | 2902             | 103178 | 83364            | 3313             | 73251  | 74695            | 7007             | 61672  | 67535            | 7123             |
|                                     | 39.6   | 58.6             | 27.2             | 31.4   | 55.2             | 24.4             | 32.8   | 52.0             | 27.9             | 21.6   | 45.3             | 55.2             | 20.0   | 43.7             | 54.0             |
| Total                               | 223288 | 111388           | 11123            | 250095 | 128671           | 11911            | 314733 | 160469           | 11890            | 338350 | 164969           | 12698            | 308912 | 154719           | 13196            |
|                                     |        |                  |                  |        |                  |                  |        |                  |                  |        |                  |                  |        |                  |                  |
| Public Sector                       | 52582  | 9343             | 161              | 76282  | 10462            | 485              | 98761  | 37591            | 179              | 130759 | 40530            | 2137             | 103364 | 35221            | 1339             |
|                                     | 23.5   | 8.4              | 1.4              | 30.5   | 8.1              | 4.1              | 31.4   | 23.4             | 1.5              | 38.6   | 24.6             | 16.8             | 33.5   | 22.8             | 10.1             |
| Private Sector                      | 170706 | 102046           | 10962            | 173813 | 118208           | 11425            | 215971 | 122878           | 11711            | 207591 | 124439           | 10560            | 205547 | 119498           | 11857            |
|                                     | 76.5   | 91.6             | 98.6             | 69.5   | 91.9             | 95.9             | 68.6   | 76.6             | 98.5             | 61.4   | 75.4             | 83.2             | 66.5   | 77.2             | 89.9             |

Source: Bank's Annual Reports

NCBs - Nationalised Commercial Banks  
Figures in italics are % share in total for the year.





July - August 2003

# ECONOMIC BULLETIN

## Segment by Class of Business - Private Banks

|                                  | (Rs. Mn) |      |      |      |       | (Rs. Mn) |       |        |        |        |
|----------------------------------|----------|------|------|------|-------|----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                  | 1998     | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002  | 1998     | 1999  | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   |
| Agriculture/Agribusiness         | 960      | 1549 | 2658 | 1951 | 3065  | 1030     | 1074  | 1264   | 1693   | 2041   |
|                                  | 1.2      | 1.7  | 2.2  | 1.5  | 1.5   | 1.3      | 1.2   | 1.0    | 1.3    | 1.0    |
| Automobiles and allied           | 1062     | 1629 | 934  | 1485 | 1819  | 1322     | 235   | 1221   | 1364   | 1341   |
|                                  | 1.3      | 1.8  | 0.8  | 1.1  | 0.9   | 1.7      | 0.3   | 1.0    | 1.0    | 0.7    |
| Cables/Electronics               | 975      | 1426 | 1429 | 2208 | 2499  | 3        | 6     | 73     | 140    | 151    |
|                                  | 1.2      | 1.6  | 1.2  | 1.6  | 1.3   | 0.004    | 0.01  | 0.1    | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| Carpets                          | 97       | 55   | 382  | 461  | 236   | 720      | 682   | 1136   | 753    | 834    |
|                                  | 0.1      | 0.1  | 0.3  | 0.3  | 0.1   | 0.9      | 0.8   | 0.9    | 0.6    | 0.4    |
| Cement                           | 2556     | 2100 | 1597 | 2750 | 4159  | 74       | 57    | 317    | 97     | 337    |
|                                  | 3.2      | 2.3  | 1.3  | 2.1  | 2.1   | 0.09     | 0.06  | 0.3    | 0.1    | 0.2    |
| Chemicals/Pharmaceuticals        | 2966     | 3425 | 4828 | 5181 | 6581  | 1541     | 1546  | 2405   | 2325   | 5217   |
|                                  | 3.8      | 3.8  | 4.0  | 3.9  | 3.3   | 2.0      | 1.7   | 2.0    | 1.7    | 2.6    |
| Engineering                      | 137      | 152  | 711  | 954  | 349   | 168      | 85    | 262    | 231    | 517    |
|                                  | 0.2      | 0.2  | 0.6  | 0.7  | 0.2   | 0.2      | 0.1   | 0.2    | 0.2    | 0.3    |
| Fertilizer                       | 206      | 390  | 872  | 436  | 1482  | 0        | 81    | 721    | 1187   | 2117   |
|                                  | 0.3      | 0.4  | 0.7  | 0.3  | 0.7   | 0.0      | 0.1   | 0.6    | 0.9    | 1.1    |
| Food and allied                  | 962      | 2863 | 3114 | 3113 | 3922  | 28823    | 36601 | 50362  | 53910  | 78261  |
|                                  | 1.2      | 3.2  | 2.6  | 2.3  | 2.0   | 36.5     | 40.9  | 41.4   | 40.2   | 39.2   |
| Fuel/Energy                      | 1503     | 2718 | 3303 | 4799 | 4726  | 20       | 119   | 1136   | 19     | 7      |
|                                  | 1.9      | 3.0  | 2.7  | 3.6  | 2.4   | 0.03     | 0.1   | 0.9    | 0.01   | 0.004  |
| Ghee and edible oil              | 928      | 231  | 413  | 933  | 1861  | 505      | 923   | 1043   | 1128   | 920    |
|                                  | 1.2      | 0.3  | 0.3  | 0.7  | 0.9   | 0.6      | 1.0   | 0.9    | 0.8    | 0.5    |
| Glass and ceramics               | 0        | 16   | 262  | 58   | 89    | 5        | 4     | 67     | 17     | 149    |
|                                  | 0.0      | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.04  | 0.01     | 0.0   | 0.1    | 0.01   | 0.1    |
| Hotels/Restaurants               | 6        | 0.25 | 91   | 154  | 391   | 0        | 9     | 11     | 64     | 36     |
|                                  | 0.01     | 0.0  | 0.07 | 0.11 | 0.20  | 0.0      | 0.01  | 0.01   | 0.05   | 0.02   |
| Individuals                      | 1057     | 1175 | 3360 | 4569 | 13339 | 0        | 0     | 0      | 1741   | 9      |
|                                  | 1.3      | 1.3  | 2.8  | 3.4  | 6.7   | 0.0      | 0.0   | 0.0    | 1.3    | 0.005  |
| Insurance                        | 51       | 113  | 449  | 79   | 152   | 1344     | 1859  | 1355   | 1647   | 4146   |
|                                  | 0.06     | 0.13 | 0.37 | 0.06 | 0.08  | 1.7      | 2.1   | 1.1    | 1.2    | 2.1    |
| Investment banks/Scheduled banks | 0        | 203  | 825  | 372  | 658   | 1828     | 1644  | 3101   | 2870   | 2612   |
|                                  | 0.0      | 0.2  | 0.7  | 0.3  | 0.3   | 2.3      | 1.8   | 2.5    | 2.1    | 1.3    |
| Leasing                          | 148      | 161  | 155  | 351  | 424   | 408      | 500   | 455    | 514    | 592    |
|                                  | 0.2      | 0.2  | 0.1  | 0.3  | 0.2   | 0.5      | 0.6   | 0.4    | 0.4    | 0.3    |
| Leather products and shoes       | 2761     | 3238 | 4051 | 3233 | 3951  | 552      | 555   | 911    | 991    | 1650   |
|                                  | 3.5      | 3.6  | 3.3  | 2.4  | 2.0   | 0.7      | 0.6   | 0.7    | 0.7    | 0.8    |
| Modarabas                        | 0        | 206  | 0    | 23   | 0.5   | 23267    | 21089 | 25109  | 28727  | 45766  |
|                                  | 0.0      | 0.2  | 0.0  | 0.02 | 0.0   | 29.5     | 23.6  | 20.6   | 21.4   | 22.9   |
| Paper and board                  | 303      | 260  | 332  | 515  | 1020  | 78906    | 89445 | 121630 | 134048 | 199450 |
|                                  | 0.4      | 0.3  | 0.3  | 0.4  | 0.5   | 1829     | 2301  | 3112   | 8507   | 7463   |
| Plastic products                 | 104      | 66   | 141  | 82   | 470   | 2.3      | 2.6   | 2.6    | 6.3    | 3.7    |
|                                  | 0.1      | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.1  | 0.2   | 77078    | 87144 | 118519 | 125541 | 191987 |
| Readymade garments               | 514      | 400  | 774  | 923  | 1553  | 97.7     | 97.4  | 97.4   | 93.7   | 96.3   |
|                                  | 0.7      | 0.4  | 0.6  | 0.7  | 0.8   |          |       |        |        |        |

## Segment by Class of Business - Foreign Banks

|                                     | (Rs. Mn) |       |       |       |       | (Rs. Mn) |        |        |        |        |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                     | 1998     | 1999  | 2000  | 2001  | 2002  | 1998     | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   |
| Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals       | 12691    | 13457 | 7617  | 12747 | 15867 | 9267     | 8825   | 16734  | 15320  | 28569  |
|                                     | 11.3     | 10.9  | 6.6   | 10.8  | 12.5  | 8.3      | 7.2    | 14.5   | 12.9   | 22.5   |
| Agribusiness                        | 1330     | 679   | 131   | 8     | 397   | 4450     | 4304   | 3233   | 1748   | 2273   |
|                                     | 1.2      | 0.6   | 0.1   | 0.01  | 0.3   | 4.0      | 3.5    | 2.8    | 1.5    | 1.8    |
| Textile                             | 27933    | 32334 | 30697 | 31540 | 31220 | 0        | 1404   | 1623   | 1857   | 799    |
|                                     | 25.0     | 26.2  | 26.7  | 26.6  | 24.6  | 0.0      | 1.1    | 1.4    | 1.6    | 0.6    |
| Cement                              | 997      | 753   | 1269  | 1819  | 4237  | 4443     | 5154   | 4260   | 86     | 402    |
|                                     | 0.9      | 0.6   | 1.1   | 1.5   | 3.3   | 4.0      | 4.2    | 3.7    | 0.1    | 0.3    |
| Sugar                               | 1997     | 2653  | 797   | 1339  | 1620  | 143      | 277    | 24     | 77     | 190    |
|                                     | 1.8      | 2.2   | 0.7   | 1.1   | 1.3   | 0.1      | 0.2    | 0.02   | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| Food & Allied                       | 2876     | 4338  | 3908  | 3857  | 2942  | 1016     | 1674   | 4035   | 457    | 1164   |
|                                     | 2.6      | 3.5   | 3.4   | 3.3   | 2.3   | 0.9      | 1.4    | 3.5    | 0.4    | 0.9    |
| Shoes and leather garments          | 2082     | 1821  | 1264  | 1263  | 868   | 0        | 2358   | 1591   | 923    | 1419   |
|                                     | 1.9      | 1.5   | 1.1   | 1.1   | 0.7   | 0.0      | 1.9    | 1.4    | 0.8    | 1.1    |
| Automobile and transportation eqp.  | 2323     | 2174  | 2317  | 4588  | 2914  | 901      | 1149   | 266    | 343    | 516    |
|                                     | 2.1      | 1.8   | 2.0   | 3.9   | 2.3   | 0.8      | 0.9    | 0.2    | 0.3    | 0.4    |
| Financial                           | 5374     | 7903  | 10487 | 7068  | 9200  | 0        | 711    | 958    | 3052   | 1362   |
|                                     | 4.8      | 6.4   | 9.1   | 6.0   | 7.3   | 0.0      | 0.6    | 0.8    | 2.6    | 1.1    |
| Insurance                           | 0        | 0     | 0     | 100   | 70    | 26792    | 23588  | 16342  | 16899  | 15115  |
|                                     | 0.0      | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.1   | 0.1   | 23.9     | 19.1   | 14.2   | 14.3   | 11.9   |
| Electronics & electrical appliances | 2830     | 3019  | 2109  | 3748  | 1544  | 111876   | 123249 | 115012 | 118543 | 126765 |
|                                     | 2.5      | 2.4   | 1.8   | 3.2   | 1.2   |          |        |        |        |        |
| Services                            | 597      | 487   | 72    | 1514  | 1394  | 8916     | 10541  | 8497   | 11481  | 6919   |
|                                     | 0.5      | 0.4   | 0.1   | 1.3   | 1.1   | 8.0      | 8.6    | 7.4    | 9.7    | 5.5    |
| Production & transmission of energy | 3834     | 4187  | 5278  | 8190  | 2683  | 102960   | 112708 | 106515 | 107062 | 119845 |
|                                     | 3.4      | 3.4   | 4.6   | 6.9   | 2.1   | 92.0     | 91.4   | 92.6   | 90.3   | 94.5   |

Source: Bank's Annual Reports



## Changed Scenario for Banks Operating in Pakistan

The banking sector environment in Pakistan has been undergoing a phenomenal change since 1990. These changes form the major planks of the ongoing economic reforms in Pakistan. Financial reforms have been all encompassing — institutional strengthening, restructuring of banks and development finance institutions and improvement in regulatory framework. Reforms were aimed to instil competition and switch over to market based and relatively more efficient monetary and credit mechanism.

Monetary policy also saw a paradigm shift from reliance on direct controls to indirect methods, like discount rate and open market operations to regulate interbank liquidity.

In the recent past (FY99-01), a tight monetary policy was pursued to contain price increases and buttress exchange rates so to build exchange reserves (monetary policy was tightened to meet performance criteria targets agreed with the IMF).

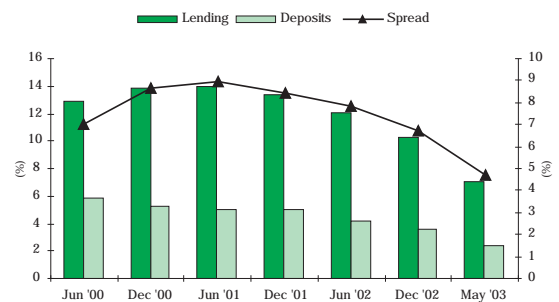
It was only later, July 2001 that the State Bank of Pakistan began the process of easing of monetary policy with a percentage point cut in discount rate. This was subsequently followed by more such reductions, reducing the rate to 7.5% by November 2002, a level left unchanged since. It was for the first time under the market based mechanism of interest rate determination that discount rate was cut and interest rates lowered.

The year 2002 witnessed a change in the interest rate environment. Lending rates came down significantly from 13.4% in December 01 to 10.3% in December 02, while lending spread was reduced to 6.7% (8.4% in December 01). The rate plunged to 8.3% by end March 2003 and to 7.09% by May same year. Meanwhile, the spread has come down to 4.68%. Within the banking sector, all banking groups made the cuts in lending rates.

Presently privatised banks average lending rates are the lowest (6.07%), followed by nationalised

commercial banks (6.48%). The spread for both banks' categories is also lower than that of all groups.

Weighted Average Lending/Deposits Rates  
All Banks



In the period of rising interest rates, banks both local and foreign had invested heavily in government securities. Banks could make safe money by investing in government bonds, the income from which was more than 6% a year as recently as July 2002. Balance sheet of most banks show that investment in market treasury bills which are for a period of 6 months to 1 year have been quite high.

For instance in 2002, of their respective investment for the year investment in market treasury bills were high. National Bank of Pakistan had invested 54%, Muslim Commercial Bank 61%, Bank Al-Falah 48%, Credit Agricole Indosuez 93%, Standard Chartered 88%, American Express 83%, Habib Bank AG Zurich 29%, Bolan Bank 45% among other banks. Besides MTBs, banks are heavily investing in Federal Investment Bonds and Pakistan Investment Bonds. These banks were enjoying returns ranging from 8.8%-12.4% in 2001, which has come down to less than 2% recently.

Alongwith declining interest income, banks are faced with abundance of liquidity. Many Pakistanis residing overseas who were earlier using the informal system of money transfer, have after 9/11 started using the more transparent method of money transfer i.e. through banks. Transfer through informal ways have fallen under severe international scrutiny. More money being channelled through commercial banks

Easing of monetary policy

Investment in government securities has grown

Excess liquidity



alongwith weak loan demand by the business community has contributed to excess liquidity in the banking system.

Alongwith decline in lending rates, return on government securities and National Saving Schemes have fallen. Falling returns makes investment in government securities no more an attractive avenue for investment. This plus an abundance of liquidity with commercial banks, plus decline in banking spreads is posing a serious challenge to the banking sector. These developments are likely to affect the sector's profitability, unless the banks diversify their lending portfolios, lower the stock of non-provisioned non performing loans and increase their non-interest income.

Interest rates falling

This change in scenario, where banks are teeming with liquidity and are faced with a significant decline in their interest income, has led them to explore new avenues and launch new products.

Consumer finance has emerged as one of the sectors where commercial banks moving into. This offers the banks an opportunity to increase their non fund income, do their job of allocating capital in the economy and at the same time has ushered in a phase where consumer financing would contribute to increased demand,

Growing interest in consumer finance

promote production and generate employment. It would give an impetus to the development of a wide range of industries including, housing, automobiles, and varied household items.

The move towards consumer banking is not something specific to Pakistan, banks all over the world are turning towards consumer banking. While earlier only the foreign banks had ventured in this area, now the big nationalised commercial banks, National Bank of Pakistan and Habib Bank Ltd, alongwith the private sector commercial banks are doing consumer financing. Liquidity of the banking sector can now finance household loan requirement.

These banks are now offering products like, car financing, house financing, loans for consumer durables and other facilities like payment of utility bills, ATMs, phone banking, credit cards, smart cards. Consumer durables is the third major segment of consumer banking, the other two being car financing and house financing. Banks are also investing in the capital market. Aware of the new challenges facing the sector, new line of businesses have been developed by the banks to beef up competition and boost profitability. Competition has grown amongst the banks, for most of the banks are now offering similar schemes.



## Pakistan's Paper & Paper Board Industry

First mill  
setup in  
1956

At the time of independence Pakistan had no paper and paper board manufacturing unit and the country's entire needs were met through imports. The first paper manufacturing unit was established by the Adamjees at Nowshera in 1956, with a 500 tonnes per annum production capacity. Since then, many large and small sized manufacturing units have been set up in Punjab, NWFP and Sindh. The industry produces various grades of paper using locally produced as well as imported raw materials.

### Production/Capacity of Paper & Paper Board

|                        | (000 Tonnes) |       |       |       |       |        |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
|                        | 97-98        | 98-99 | 99-00 | 00-01 | 01-02 | 02-03* |
| Writing/printing paper | 83.4         | 81.8  | 90.7  | 101.6 | 113.3 | 53.8   |
| Wrapping/packing paper | 24.0         | 18.0  | 20.7  | 4.6   | 9.3   | 18.8   |
| Duple paper board      | 74.9         | 90.5  | 107.8 | 149.1 | 147.4 | 105.1  |
| Chip/other board       | 41.4         | 24.6  | 26.4  | 33.5  | 36.0  | 11.9   |
| Fluting paper          | 23.2         | 35.2  | 53.8  | 39.7  | 30.7  |        |
| Other types of paper   | 8.1          | 8.3   | 6.5   | 8.7   | 9.0   | 40.2†  |
| Actual production      | 255.0        | 258.4 | 305.9 | 337.2 | 345.7 | 229.7  |
| Installed capacity     | 324.1        | 331.0 | 341.0 | 393.5 | 393.5 | 393.5  |
| Capacity utilization % | 79.0         | 78.0  | 90.0  | 86.0  | 88.0  | 58.0   |

\* July-December

Source: Federal Bureau of Statistics

† Includes white duplex board, chip board, fluting paper and other types of paper.

At present there are about 100 units in the organized and unorganized sectors, having a cumulative installed capacity of 600 thousand tonnes. The organized sector comprises of 26 paper manufacturing units with 525 thousand tonnes production capacity. These units produce writing and printing paper, wrapping & packing paper, white duplex board & paper board and chip/other board. Nearly 70% of the paper mills are located in Punjab, 20% in Sindh and 10% in NWFP. Majority of the mills have low production capacities, with only a few having a capacity of more than 100 tonnes per day. On annual basis, production capacity of these units ranges between 1500-68000 tonnes.

Production /  
capacity

In the organized sector, paper board production is based on two types of units; integrated paper & pulp producing units and paper & board producing units. The integrated paper pulp and manufacturing unit is highly value added and requires advance technical know how for quality supplies. Except for a few units in the country who have adopted the advance technical know-how, the others have become inoperative and are closed.

Capital  
intensive

The paper & paper board industry is highly capital intensive, and so far, an estimated investment of Rs.30 billion has been made in the industry. Its share in manufacturing value added is however only 2.5%, while its contribution to GDP is less than 0.5%. It contributes directly as well as indirectly towards employment generation for technical, skilled, semi-skilled and un-skilled workers. Presently the sector is providing jobs to about 95 thousand persons. The industry comprises of about 44 paper & paper board manufacturing units, 38 wrapping & packing plants and 18 writing & printing paper units.

Industry  
handicaps

The industry is poorly developed mainly due to non availability of local wood fibre, deficient technological base, lack of infrastructure and non-availability of technical manpower. Though the industry is contributing towards import substitution to the extent of \$250 million in foreign exchange annually, it cannot compete in the international market due to high production costs for superior quality products. Local production is only 0.1% of global production.

### Local & Global Industry – A comparison

| Parameters           | International Paper Industry | Pakistan Paper Industry | Local Industry Handicaps |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Size                 | 3000 tpd                     | 50 tpd                  | Very high                |
| Machine size         | 5-meter width                | 2-meter width           | Very high                |
| Wood pulp            | Local                        | Imported                | Very high                |
| Waste paper          | Local supplies               | Imported & local        | Very high                |
| Chemicals            | Local supplies               | Imported & local        | Very high                |
| Duty on fibres       | No duty                      | Duty                    | Very high                |
| Labour productivity  | Very high                    | Very low                | High                     |
| Technology           | Cost effective               | Costly                  | Very high                |
| Pulp production      | Cost effective               | Costly                  | High                     |
| Fuel and power       | 4 cents per kWh              | 6-8 cents per kWh       | High                     |
| Agencies involvement | Negligible                   | Too much intervention   | Very high                |
| Tariff rates         | Low                          | High                    | High                     |
| Industry protection  | -                            | Low                     | -                        |
| Infrastructure       | Well developed               | Under developed         | Very high                |

Source: Experts Advisory Cell  
Ministry of Industries & Production

Basic fibrous raw material used in the production of paper & paper board comprises of wood-pulp, non wood-pulp and recycled paper. Limited forest resources restrict the use of wood for production of pulp in Pakistan. Agricultural



waste like wheat and rice straw, cotton linter and waste, bagasse are all fibrous raw material available locally for manufacturing paper and duplex board.

In addition, wide range of grasses grown in the country such as Kahi, Bhabbar, Ganj gumaz Rhodes, Chorkha, Pampi, Chari and Dhaman, can be used for making pulp and paper. About 65% of paper products in Pakistan use local grass and wheat straw as the basic raw material and about 25% are based on waste paper bagasse, rice straw and cotton waste. Two-thirds of the paper produced globally is made from non-wood sources such as cotton and rice straw. Most of the high quality paper and newsprint is imported. Special grade products, accounting for some 10% use imported pulp.

The demand for paper & paper board in Pakistan is significantly low compared to international standards. Per capita consumption currently stands dismally low at 3.7 kgs, only a small increase from 2.9 kgs in 1997-98. In the past six years demand has shown an erratic trend, with growth averaging 8% per annum. Even this low demand is met through imports, as there is a shortage of supply of paper and paper products in the local market. Local production is short of consumption by between 25%-30%.

Low demand

#### Demand & Supply of Paper & Paper Board

| Year     | Production<br>000 Tonnes | Imports<br>000 Tonnes | Demand<br>000 Tonnes | Consumption<br>Kg/capita |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1997-98  | 255.0                    | 122.0                 | 377.0                | 2.87                     |
| 1998-99  | 258.4                    | 145.8                 | 404.2                | 3.01                     |
| 1999-00  | 305.9                    | 160.4                 | 46.37                | 3.39                     |
| 2000-01  | 337.2                    | 144.0                 | 481.1                | 3.45                     |
| 2001-02  | 345.7                    | 178.3                 | 524.0                | 3.69                     |
| 2002-03* | 189.6                    | 127.1                 | 316.6                | 2.60                     |

\* July-December

Source: Pakistan Pulp Papers &

According to the Pakistan Pulp Paper & Board Mills Association, the production of 26 mills in the organized sector has shown a rising trend over the past five years. However, annual growth has been erratic. These mills produced an estimated 356 thousand tonnes of paper & paper board in 2002, utilizing 88% of total installed capacity of these mills. Despite increase in

demand, 12% of the capacity remained unutilized.

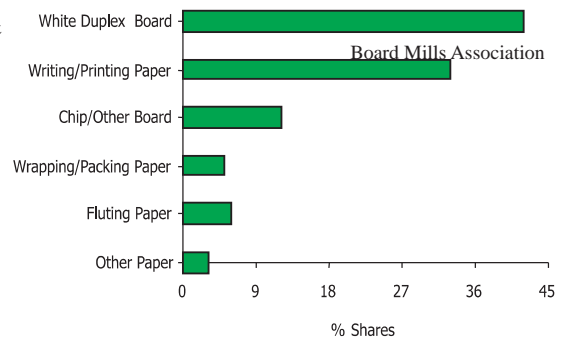
The increase in production is due to expansion at the major units, Packages Limited and Century Paper Mills Limited who are operating at over capacity. Paramount Paper & Board Mills and Olympia Paper & Board Mills, with relatively smaller installed capacity also operated at overcapacity in 2002 and Security Paper Mills is also operating at over capacity. Some new mills have also been setup.

However, local production meets only part of the national demand of six basic paper products, which are, writing and printing paper, wrapping/packing paper, duplex paper board, chip board, paper & board and fluting paper. A break-up of production of various type of paper reveals that in the past 5 years, production of writing/printing paper has gone up by 43% with a share of 36% in total production of paper & paper products, but was 9% short of local demand.

Local production meets part of demand

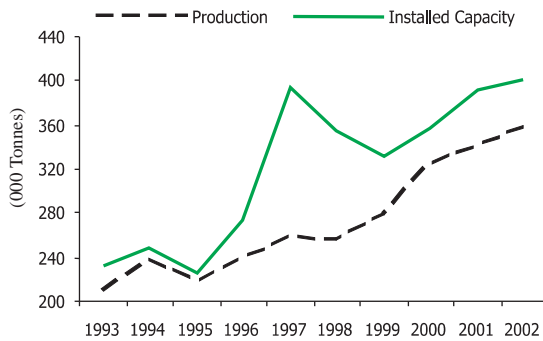
Wrapping/packing paper accounts for only 5% of total production. During the last five years, production has surged 55%, meeting 41% of the demand in 2002. White duplex & other board production jumped 87% in five years, sharing 42% of local production and meeting 71% of demand last year. Production of chip board and fluting paper have declined by 22% and 42% respectively. Their share in total production has also come down to 12% and 6% respectively.

Production  
Composition of Paper & Paper Board  
2002





Production & Capacity Utilisation



Despite a substantial number of projects in this sector, domestic production of paper and board falls short of local demand. Various types including high grade and fine quality papers are imported, valuing at around \$150 million. Paper & paper board products are imported from Sweden, Finland, Canada, USA and China. Major items of imports are newsprint, writing/printing paper, kraft paper, white duplex/coated board and paper pulp. Entire demand for newsprint and wood pulp is met through imports. About 40% of paper imported consists of newsprint. Pulp/waste paper import constitute nearly 25% of total paper & paper board/pulp & waste paper imports.

Large imports of various types of paper

Import of Paper & Paper Board

| Year     | Newsprint | Other paper & paper board | (000 Tonnes)              |                    |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
|          |           |                           | Total paper & paper board | Pulp & Waste paper |
| 1997-98  | 54.9      | 67.1                      | 122.0                     | 50.8               |
| 1998-99  | 63.1      | 82.6                      | 145.8                     | 39.9               |
| 1999-00  | 77.2      | 84.2                      | 160.4                     | 33.9               |
| 2000-01  | 59.7      | 84.3                      | 144.0                     | 35.5               |
| 2001-02  | 70.8      | 107.5                     | 178.3                     | 54.9               |
| 2002-03* | 37.6      | 89.5                      | 127.1                     | 58.5^              |

\* July-December

^ Pulp and recover waste paper

Board Mills Association

Sources: Pakistan Paper

Problems Facing the Industry

The demand for paper & paper board has risen on account of a change in the social and economic pattern. The local industry however, has not been able to operate successfully and the operational results of most of the projects are highly discouraging. Almost all the units

High production costs

are confronted with different types of problems. Many units have become inoperative. Some of them facing financial constraints have closed down. Currently various impediments are affecting the growth of the local industry. Prominent among these are: -

- Non-availability of wood pulp and raw materials.
- Low capacity utilization.
- Fiscal anomalies, fixation of low ITP value and under invoicing.
- Dumping of cheap paper products.

Shortage of raw materials

Due to low density of forests in Pakistan and also because of unchecked de-forestation, wood pulp, a basic raw material for making paper and board is scarce.

Pulp production is based on agriculture waste such as wheat and rice straw, cotton linters, waste paper, bagasse and kahi grass roots. These are also in short supply as these resources have not been fully tapped. Mills are also facing difficulties in the procurement and storage of these materials at reasonable prices. At the same time, agriculture waste available in Pakistan is for producing only short fibre pulp, consequently quality of paper produced locally is not upto the required standard and not compatible with imported paper.

Major constraint in manufacturing kraft paper which is used mainly for packing/wrapping is the non-availability of high strength long fibre pulp. Bagasse is available in abundance but it is being used by sugar mills as fuel in boilers for generating steam and is not available to paper & board industry. This raw material can be used in manufacturing writing/printing paper and newsprint. Due to non-availability of raw materials and auxiliary materials, the mills are running at under capacity and some units have been forced to shutdown.

The paper industry has not been able to capture the local market on account of high production cost. Raw materials constitute 58% of the total cost, labour 10%, fuel and energy 12% and overheads 20%. Increase in the prices of raw materials, inputs and utilities have made the local industry uncompetitive.



Production Cost

(In Rupees)

|                    |           | Current* | 1999-2000 | 1998-99 |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Raw material       |           |          |           |         |
| Imported pulp      | Per/kg    | 48.00    | 28.13     | 23.18   |
| Waste paper        | Per/kg    | 7.36     | 6.80      | 6.34    |
| Wheat straw & kahi | Per/kg    | 0.92     | 1.04      | 1.17    |
| Chemical & others  | Per/kg    | 12.05    | 12.94     | 12.40   |
| Salaries & wages   | Per/ton   | 1.44     | 1.238     | 1.20    |
| Electricity        | Per/kwh   | 3.67     | 3.60      | 3.71    |
| Furnace oil        | Per/litre | 8.77     | 6.67      | 5.33    |

\* After 30<sup>th</sup> June 2000.

Consumers' preference for low cost imported paper has adversely affected operation of most paper manufacturing units. As a result, installed capacity utilisation of local industry has been affected and overall operational capacity has been far below its optimum level.

The liberal import policy pursued has resulted in large imports of various grades of paper and paper board, which is available in the local market at low cost. The industry is facing increasing pressure from lower import duties, higher excise duties and sales tax. According to the Pakistan Pulp Paper & Board Mills Association, the imposition of discriminatory tariff structure, heavy under invoicing in the import of coated duplex board, fine quality offset paper and writing/printing paper have made local industry operations difficult.

Low availability of waste paper in the international market has pushed up its price. Due to environmental statutory laws, the major exporting countries now consume specific percentage of waste paper domestically for production purposes. In addition, new mills based on waste paper of large capacities are also coming into operation in the developed countries. This has adversely affected the availability of waste paper in the international market at reasonable prices.

*Conclusion & Recommendations*

Over the decades, there has been a substantial growth in the number of mills. Some 100 plus units are engaged in production of various types and grades of paper & paper board. Domestic

production is however, insufficient to meet the existing demand, because the technology used in Pakistan is low to medium with low efficiency. Nearly one-third of production capacity is lying unutilized.

Pakistan's share in global paper & paper board production is almost negligible, being less than 0.1%. Though local demand for paper & paper board is increasing at nearly 8% annually, per capita consumption of 3.7 kg is dismally low compared to international standard.

Low consumption

Source: Experts Advisory Cell, Ministry of Industries & Production

Main raw material used for manufacturing paper & paper board are pulp from wood, kraft pulp, waste paper and agricultural crop waste such as wheat and rice straws, cotton linters and cotton waste bagasse and kahi grass etc, while auxiliary materials are caustic soda, chlorine, china clay, soap stone, limestone, barium chloride and resins. Amongst these raw and auxiliary materials, kraft paper, china clay, barium chloride and resins etc., are imported ingredients.

Local raw materials short

Wood pulp is not available locally. All paper & board mills use combination of waste paper, straw and grass for the production of pulp. Agricultural crop waste is available in abundance. However, potential of these resources is yet to be fully tapped. At the same time, mechanical process is also not suitable for these raw materials as it reduces strength of the product and results in the manufacture of inferior quality of paper & paper board.

Consequently the existing gap between production and consumption of paper & board is being met through imports. Due to negligible wood pulp production capacity in the country, various finer grades of art paper, waste paper and entire newsprint is imported. Being an agrarian economy, Pakistan can play an important role in the development of paper & paper board industry if all available resources are put into productive usage with concerted efforts.

Pakistan Pulp Paper & Board Mills Association calls for measures to remove fiscal anomalies,

Local industry suffers



Measures  
needed

check paper smuggling and reduce production cost. An incentive package is needed to revitalize the projects in difficulties. Instead of setting up new mills, efforts should be made to attain optimum capacity utilization by making closed units operative, reviving idle capacity through up-gradation of technology and ensuring availability of raw materials at competitive rates. Establishment of new mills should only be allowed for manufacturing newsprint paper, kraft paper and waste paper as these are imported and not locally manufactured.

Provincial agriculture departments in Sindh, Punjab and NWFP be pursued to take steps for increasing the production of wheat/rice straws, bagasse and kahi grass required in large quantity by paper & paper board industry. Arrangements be made for proper procurement, storage and supply of these raw materials to the industry at reasonable rates.

Utilisation of bagasse by the paper & board industry for making newsprint has not been fully explored. It can be effectively used as raw material for the production of newsprint. Therefore, bagasse should be made available to the industry for value added newsprint.

Credit  
needed

The development financial institutions be asked to provide concessional loans to develop hi-tech paper industry for improving the quality, standard and production of finer grader paper & paper board. Concessional funds should be provided for balancing, modernisation and expansion of units, making the industry competitive. The government should prepare a rescue package for the industry, under which taxes and duties on import of paper, which is locally manufactured, be enhanced and taxes and duties on imported raw materials, not manufactured domestically, be abolished for a specific period.

Concessional financing should also be made available for the import of plants and technology for newsprint manufacturing. The industry is capable of manufacturing paper and paper board of finer quality and standard comparable to international level provided production cost is lowered by adjusting duties on imported raw materials, lowering fuel and power rates, and reviving production capacity lying idle. There is sufficient installed capacity to meet the demand for the next five years.



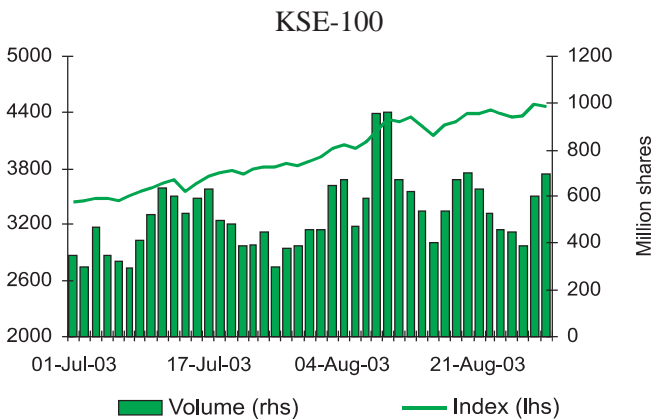


## Market Analysis

### Market Outlook

The market rally continued unabated through July and August 2003. The KSE-100 index rose 31% in the two-month period. It closed August at 4461 points and has risen an impressive 65% since the start of the calendar year. There does not appear to be any signs of a let up in market growth.

The market gained 528 points in the month of July, and another 531 points in August. Top performers during this period included Askari Bank, SSGC, Cherat Cement and Pakistan Oilfields. Under performers included Hubco, Engro, and FFC (poor long-term earnings growth outlook); Shell and Unilever (low liquidity, plus less than expected earnings); and Dewan Motors and Nishat Mills, which entered into a period of consolidation after making very heavy gains earlier in the year.

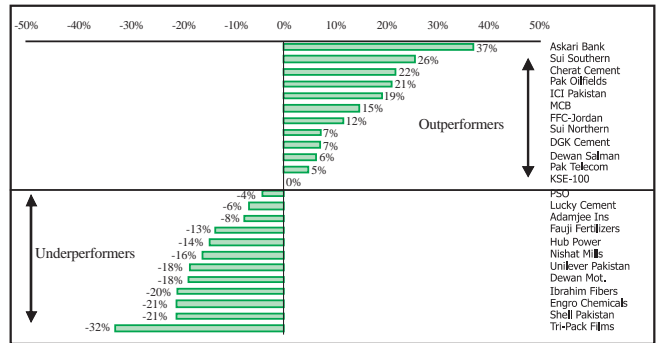


### Corporate Earnings

July and August were the corporate earnings season, when most companies announce their full year or half year earnings. Earnings announcements in this period were fairly mixed for the blue chips. While ICI, PSO and Engro announced strong earnings growth for their respective periods, Fauji Fertilizer, Shell and Unilever failed to meet market expectations. The banking sector in general has had a very good half-year despite the fact that interest spreads are under pressure given the low rates.

Major earnings announcements still to come include PTCL, Hubco, SSGC, SNGPL, and Pakistan Oilfields. The market closely watched Pakistan Oilfields in particular on expectations of a bonus shares dividend.

### Comparative Performance (July 01, 2003 - August 29, 2003)



### Public Offerings

The bullish market conditions, combined with overall improvement in the country's macroeconomic fundamentals means there is an increase in business activity, and conditions are ripe for companies to raise funds through the capital markets. If anything, the low interest rates are presently the main barrier to greater listing activity.

The current year has seen two new listings on the stock exchange with Initial Public Offerings by TRG Pakistan and Pakistan International Container Terminals (PICT). More are in the pipelines including OGDCL and HBL, both of which are keenly awaited by investors. This process is serving to deepen and broaden the market, and is good for the long-term growth and development of the capital markets.

### Looking Ahead: Very few threats

This market is in a liquidity driven rally that appears to face very few threats to its medium-long term growth. While political tensions both within the country and with neighbour countries remain in the backdrop, the situation is stable enough for local investors to put worries from those fronts aside (though they are sufficient for foreign investors to shy away).

While short-term corrections may come and go, the long-term trend is expected to remain bullish as long as there is excess liquidity and no major change in the current circumstances vis-à-vis the political and security situation. It is not until interest rates begin to rise again (not expected this calendar year) will the market rally see any major disruption.

*(Contributed by Taurus Securities Ltd, a subsidiary of National Bank of Pakistan)*



## NBP Performance at a Glance

(Rs. Bn)

| Items                   | 1998  | 1999  | 2000  | 2001  | 2002  |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Net Fund Based Income   | 8.9   | 10.4  | 8.8   | 12.4  | 12.8  |
| Non Fund Based Income   | 2.7   | 4.0   | 4.0   | 4.5   | 4.8   |
| Administrative Expenses | 6.2   | 7.9   | 8.0   | 8.6   | 9.1   |
| Pre-Tax Profit          | 2.14  | 0.52  | 1.03  | 3.02  | 6.04  |
| After-Tax Profit        | 0.53  | 0.03  | 0.46  | 1.15  | 2.25  |
| Total Assets            | 325.1 | 350.4 | 371.6 | 415.1 | 432.8 |
| Deposits                | 273.4 | 294.8 | 316.5 | 349.6 | 362.9 |
| Advances                | 109.5 | 122.6 | 140.3 | 170.3 | 140.5 |
| Investments             | 103.0 | 91.5  | 72.6  | 71.8  | 143.5 |
| Shareholders' Equity    | 10.0  | 10.4  | 11.4  | 12.0  | 14.3  |
| Number of Branches      | 1434  | 1431  | 1428  | 1245  | 1204  |
| Number of Employees     | 15785 | 15541 | 15351 | 15163 | 12195 |

## Core Values That Define Us

### We aim to be an organization that is founded on...

Growth through creation of sustainable relationships with our customers.

Prudence to guide our business conduct.

A national presence with a history of contribution to our communities.

### We shall work to...

Meet expectations through Market-based solutions and products.

Reward entrepreneurial efforts.

Create value for all our stakeholders.

### We aim to be people who...

Care about relationships.

Lead through the strength of our commitment and willingness to excel.

Practice integrity, honesty and hard work. We believe that these are measures of true success.

### We have confidence that tomorrow we will be...

Leaders in our industry.

An organization maintaining the trust of our stakeholders.

An innovative, creative and dynamic institution responding to the changing needs of the internal and external environment.