

## **PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

*Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development is a policy think tank for the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan; It provides research based policy inputs and training to different stakeholders in Pakistan's international trade.*

*The PITAD e-newsletter alerts to News, Events, Publications and Analysis of international trade*

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## **TRADE NEWS**

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### **MALAYSIA PLANS TO START FTA TALKS WITH GCC COUNTRIES**

*MALAYSIA is hopeful of starting negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries this week. International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed said so far Malaysia has engaged discussions with the Saudi Arabian officials but no decisions have been made to date.....[Read More](#)*

### **'FTA WITH ASEAN WON'T HIT FISHERIES'**

*NEW DELHI, 3 OCT: Amid criticism by political rivals and apprehensions that the recently signed free trade agreement (FTA) with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) would be detrimental to India's agricultural and fisheries sectors, the government today said such fears had no basis.....[Read More](#)*

### **NEPAL'S TRADE WITH INDIA PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OVERVIEW**

*The Nepal-India Trade Treaty of 1996 came into limelight in the wake of the periodical review of the treaty recently. The treaty marked a milestone in Nepal-India trade ties leading virtually to free trade between the two countries. Nepal has several reasons to applaud this accord, the most important being the treaty relaxing the preferential rules of origin for Nepalese products exported to India. Since then the stringent material content requirement to Nepalese goods was substituted by the provisions of a certificate of origin for the duty preference in India. For a few products, not applicable to such treatment in India, a negative list was introduced.....[Read More](#)*

### **FINANCIAL EXPERTS BACK IMF OVERHAUL**

*Senior present and former policymakers joined bankers and economists on Monday in calling for a far more sweeping overhaul of the International Monetary Fund than was agreed at the Group of 20 summit in Pittsburgh.....[Read More](#)*

### **2010 WILL BE AN UNCERTAIN YEAR, SAYS WORLD BANK**

STANBUL: The global economy is on unsteady legs, the World Bank warned on Friday, saying that 2010 would be “a highly uncertain economic year” as other signals took the gloss off talk of a quick recovery. IMF raised its economic growth forecasts for next year for most major advanced and emerging economies, on Thursday. But experts warn that unemployment will rise, that recovery will be slow at best, and that there could even be a return to recession.....[Read More](#)

### CONSUMER CONFIDENCE RISES IN ASIA AND BRAZIL

Asia and Brazil are leading a rebound in global consumer confidence, underscoring a divergence in sentiment between developing and developed countries, according to data from market researchers.....[Read More](#)

### VOLUME OF RETAIL TRADE DOWN BY 0.2% IN EURO AREA

In August 2009, compared with July 2009, the volume of retail trade<sup>1</sup> fell by 0.2% in the euro area (EA16) and by 0.3% in the EU27. In July retail trade dropped by 0.2% in the euro area but remained stable in the EU27.....[Read More](#)

### TRADE BARRIERS REGULATION

EU companies face trade barriers every day in their international operations. These can include restrictions on sales in export markets, discriminatory taxation systems or difficulties in acquiring and enforcing patent rights in foreign countries. Such barriers hurt companies, workers and consumers.....[Read More](#)

### GENDER INEQUALITIES IN EDUCATION PERSIST

Despite progress in recent years, gender differences and inequalities persist in education in terms of subject preferences and performance, and in cultural aspects of the education and training experience. This is a key message from a new independent expert report on gender and education issued by the European Commission. The authors also point out that gender differences in education are closely interlinked with other factors such as social class, ethnicity and minority status and call on policy-makers to take this into account.....[Read More](#)

## TRADE EVENTS

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### INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF TEXTILES LEATHER & EQUIPMENT - UNIJATEX

50th International Fair of Textiles Leather & Equipment - UNIJATEX will showcase all types of yarn, textiles and other production materials, garments, notions, machinery, tools and accessories for the textile garment industry, Footwear, ready-made clothing, leather accessories, fur and leather production materials.....[Read More](#)

## TRADE ANALYSIS

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### WIPO: MEMBERS RENEW IGC'S MANDATE CALLING FOR TEXT BASED NEGOTIATIONS

Geneva, 2 Oct (Sangeeta Shashikant) -- The Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on Thursday reached agreement on a renewed and strengthened mandate for the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC) on Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, which would now undertake text-based negotiations on an international legal instrument aimed at protecting these resources.....[Read More](#)

### PANEL SET OVER US MEASURES ON BRAZILIAN ORANGE JUICE

Geneva, 25 Sep (Kanaga Raja) -- A WTO dispute panel will be seized with yet another dispute over the United States use of "zeroing" methodology and procedures in levying anti-dumping duties on imports. The US has been involved in a series of disputes over this "zeroing" issue, with various panels, and the Appellate Body, in various disputes ruling against the United States.....[Read More](#)

## TRADE PUBLICATIONS

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### DO VALUE-ADDED ESTIMATES ADD VALUE? ACCOUNTING FOR LEARNING DYNAMICS

**Summary:** Evaluations of educational programs commonly assume that what children learn persists over time. The authors compare learning in Pakistani public and private schools using dynamic panel methods that account for three key empirical challenges to widely used value-added models: imperfect persistence, unobserved student heterogeneity, and measurement error. Their estimates suggest that only a fifth to a half of learning persists between grades and that private schools increase average achievement by 0.25 standard deviations each year. In contrast, estimates from commonly used value-added models significantly understate the impact of private schools on student achievement and/or overstate persistence. These results have implications for program evaluation and value-added accountability system design.....[Read More](#)

### EXCHANGE RATE AND OUTPUT FLUCTUATIONS IN THE SMALL OPEN ECONOMY OF MAURITIUS

**Summary:** The authors estimate a VAR and compute generalized impulse response to analyze the joint dynamics of four key macroeconomic variables in the small open economy of Mauritius. Results suggest that nominal exchange rate and interest rate have limited ability to impact output growth over the medium-run. Large error bands hinder analysis of the inflation output trade-off, but evidence points to a weak relationship in the short run as well. These findings are used to shed some light into the policy response to the current worldwide economic slowdown affecting Mauritius.....[Read More](#)