

PAKISTAN WEEKLY

21 June – 28 June 2026

POLITICS · ECONOMY · FOREIGN AFFAIRS · INTERNAL SECURITY · DEFENCE · HEALTH · EDUCATION · SOCIETY

By Sakshi Singh

WEEKLY OVERVIEW | POLITICS · ECONOMY · FOREIGN AFFAIRS · INTERNAL SECURITY

POLITICS

- AJK (PoK) crisis deepens further; JAAC's 23 Jun deadline expires without resolution, hardening the stand-off ahead of 27 Jul AJK elections
- Defence Minister Khawaja Asif maintains the 12 contested refugee-seat issue should be settled at the ballot box, not through street pressure
- PTI's Aleema Khan moves Islamabad High Court against Imran Khan's solitary confinement, calling prison conditions inhumane
- Federal government continues post-budget consolidation as FY27 Finance Bill amendments are implemented

ECONOMY

- KSE-100 volatile in a shortened 3-day week: 178,472 (22 Jun) → 177,693 (23 Jun) → 179,571 (24 Jun), +0.36% WoW on Hormuz de-escalation and FY27 fiscal sweeteners
- SBP policy rate held at 11.5% (last set 15 Jun); headline inflation at 11.7% in May, above the 5–7% target band
- Gold and silver prices ease late in the week (gold -Rs1,000/tola, silver -Rs271/tola on 27 Jun) as Hormuz tensions cool
- USD/PKR holds steady near 278.5–279 in the interbank/open market through the week

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- Strait of Hormuz traffic eases from mid-week highs; vessels still rerouting via non-Iranian-approved passage after a projectile strike on a ship
- US-Iran diplomacy remains fragile: Washington and Tehran trade claims on UN nuclear-inspector access even as evacuation plans for Hormuz shipping proceed
- Pakistan-Afghanistan tensions resurface as Taliban claims a Pakistani air strike hit civilian areas in Khost retaliation strikes
- Pakistan reiterates support for regional de-escalation amid continuing Hormuz uncertainty

INTERNAL SECURITY

- Karachi attack: gunmen storm Sindh Rangers HQ in Gulistan-i-Jauhar on 27 Jun, killing 3 Rangers; Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (TTP faction) claims responsibility
- Pakistan retaliates 28 Jun with air strikes on Kunar, Paktia and Paktika in Afghanistan, claiming ~25-29 TTP/JuA fighters killed
- Separate ground operation in Bajaur, KP kills several JuA militants including a senior commander on 28 Jun
- Balochistan remains volatile with continuing BLA-linked activity in Mastung, Khuzdar and Kech districts

WEEKLY OVERVIEW | DEFENCE · HEALTH · EDUCATION · SOCIETY

DEFENCE

- Pakistan launches cross-border air strikes into Afghan provinces (Kunar, Paktia, Paktika) on 28 Jun in retaliation for the Karachi Rangers HQ attack
- Taliban government condemns the strikes, alleging civilian casualties including women and children; Islamabad summons Kabul's envoy
- Pakistan Navy maintains elevated readiness in the Arabian Sea as Strait of Hormuz shipping disruption continues
- Bajaur ground operation in KP targets Jamaat-ul-Ahrar cells, destroying weapons and ammunition caches

HEALTH

- Monsoon rains continue across southern Punjab and upper Sindh following NDMA's early-onset warning, raising flood-preparedness concerns
- Karachi's heat emergency persists into late June with continued heatstroke admissions reported by Edhi Foundation
- Punjab Health Department sustains emergency dengue fumigation drives in Lahore ahead of peak monsoon season
- Polio Phase III mopping-up campaign continues in KP following earlier WPV1 detections

EDUCATION

- AJK school closures persist as the JAAC stand-off and intermittent connectivity issues continue disrupting students in Poonch district
- FY27 education allocation (Rs196bn) continues to draw criticism for falling well short of the UNESCO-recommended 4% of GDP benchmark
- HEC's National Digital University initiative continues onboarding remote districts in KP and Balochistan
- UNICEF's 22.8 million out-of-school children estimate continues to frame provincial education policy debate

SOCIETY

- AJK rights crisis remains a live concern as the JAAC's 23 Jun deadline lapses without resolution, keeping tensions high ahead of polls
- Karachi residents shaken by the 27 Jun Rangers HQ attack, the city's worst militant assault since the 2023 Karachi Police Office siege
- Humanitarian agencies continue tracking Balochistan IDP caseloads linked to ongoing security operations
- FY27 BISP expansion (Rs50bn, 9 million households) continues to draw scrutiny over real wages remaining below 2021 levels

NEWS HEADLINES | 21-28 JUNE 2026 (1/2)

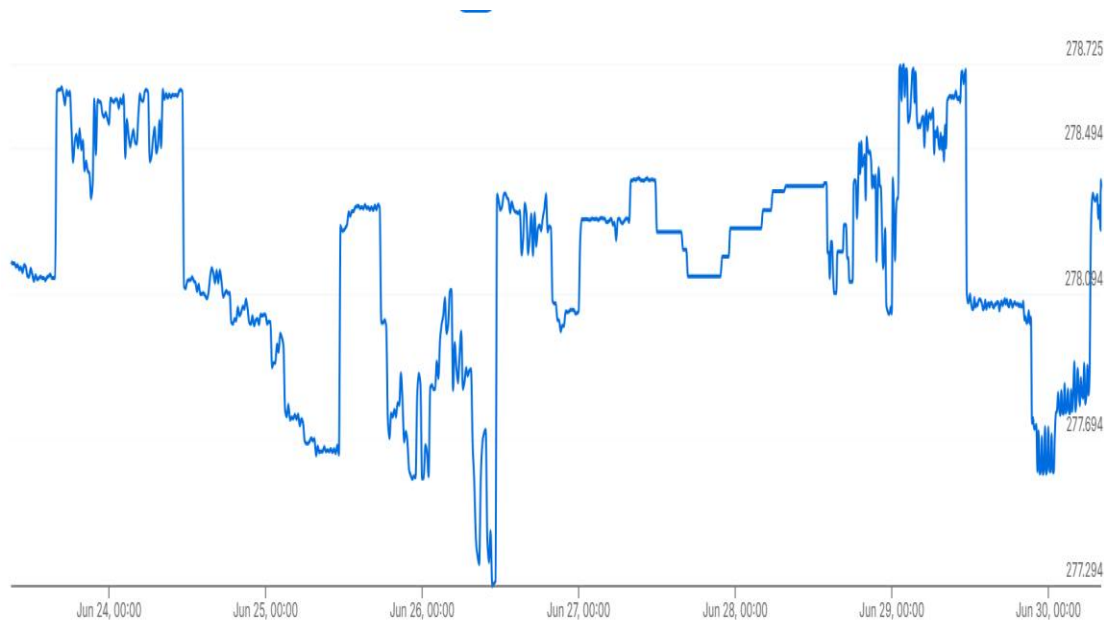
No.	Date	News Headline	Sector	Source
1	21 Jun	Pakistan reiterates support for Strait of Hormuz reopening negotiations amid evacuation of vessels and seafarers	Foreign Affairs	Arab News
2	22 Jun	KSE-100 swings to intraday high of 180,508 before profit-taking drags index to close at 178,472, down 0.25% on the day	Economy	Business Recorder
3	22 Jun	CNN live coverage: Strait of Hormuz evacuation plans accelerate as Trump claims Iran agreed to more nuclear inspections	Foreign Affairs	CNN
4	23 Jun	JAAC's deadline for AJK reforms expires without resolution, deepening the legitimacy crisis ahead of 27 July polls	Politics	India Narrative
5	23 Jun	KSE-100 extends losses, shedding 779 points (-0.44%) to settle at 177,693 amid regional geopolitical caution	Economy	Business Recorder
6	24 Jun	PSX rebounds sharply as KSE-100 gains 1,878 points (+1.06%) to close at 179,571 on easing crude oil prices	Economy	Business Recorder
7	25 Jun	PSX records 3-day shortened week gain of 648 points (+0.36% WoW) to settle at 179,571 amid investor-friendly Finance Bill amendments	Economy	Business Recorder

NEWS HEADLINES | 21-28 JUNE 2026 (2/2)

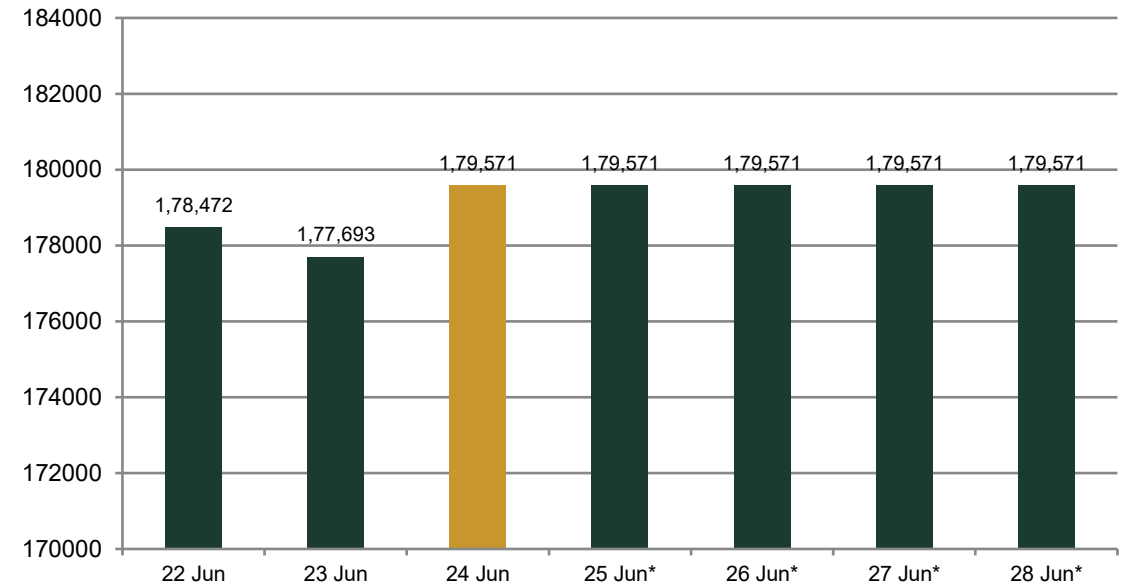
No.	Date	News Headline	Sector	Source
8	26 Jun	Strait of Hormuz traffic eases from mid-week peak; vessels continue using non-Iranian-approved passage after a ship was struck	Foreign Affairs	Dunya News
9	27 Jun	Gunmen storm Sindh Rangers headquarters in Karachi's Gulistan-i-Jauhar; 3 Rangers killed, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (TTP faction) claims attack	Internal Security	Al Jazeera
10	27 Jun	Gold falls Rs1,000/tola and silver Rs271/tola domestically, tracking a \$10/oz drop in international gold prices	Economy	Dunya News
11	27 Jun	Aleema Khan moves Islamabad High Court against Imran Khan's solitary confinement, citing inhumane prison conditions	Politics	Dunya News
12	28 Jun	Pakistan launches air strikes on Kunar, Paktia and Paktika in Afghanistan, claiming ~25-29 TTP/JuA militants killed in retaliation	Defence	Al Jazeera
13	28 Jun	Ground operation in Bajaur, KP kills several Jamaat-ul-Ahrar militants including a senior commander; weapons caches destroyed	Internal Security	Al Jazeera
14	28 Jun	Taliban government says Pakistani strikes hit civilian areas, alleging casualties among women and children; Kabul's envoy summoned	Defence	Al Jazeera / Wikipedia

ECONOMIC INDICATORS | USD/PKR · KSE-100 (3-Day Shortened Week)

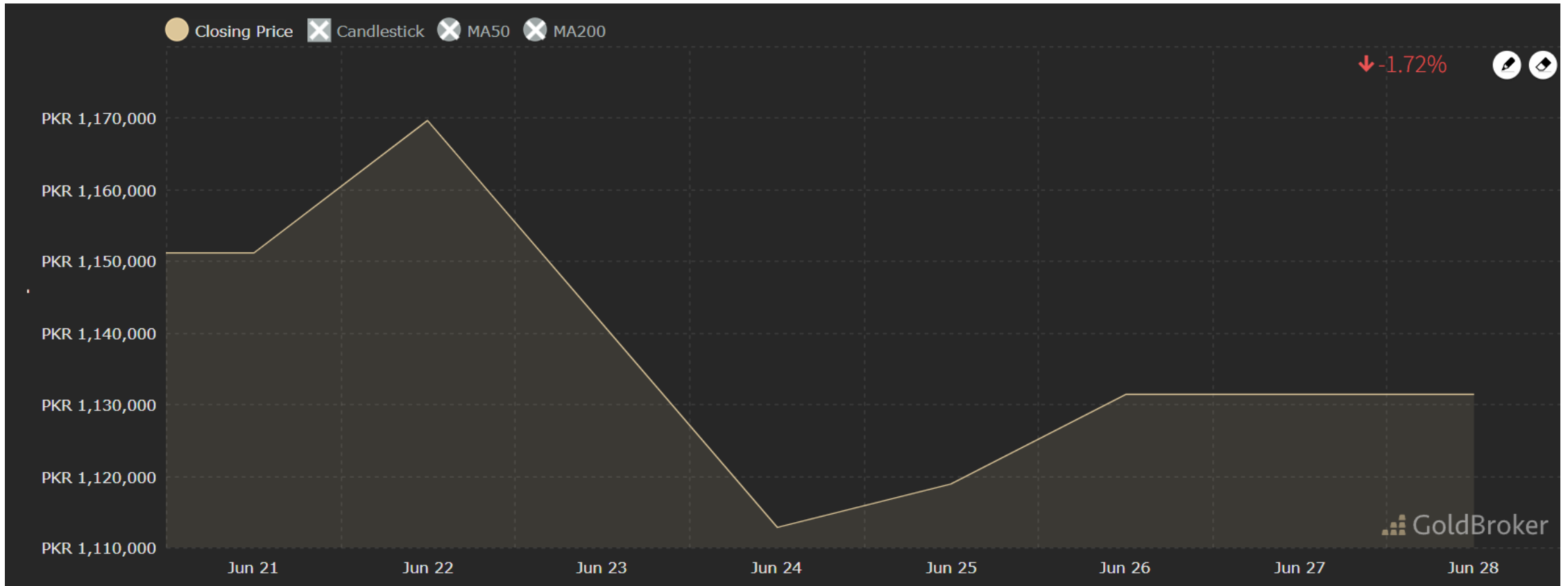
USD / PKR Exchange Rate (Jun 22–28, 2026)



KSE-100 Index (Jun 22–28, 2026)



GOLD PRICE



SILVER PRICE

