The floor test arrives: KSE-100 falls 0.97% to 173,636, 117 points above the reclaimed level, as the refinery unwind hits limit-down

The KSE-100 fell 0.97% to 173,636 in Monday's opening session of the week, snapping two gains and carrying the index to within 117 points of the reclaimed 173,519 floor - a cushion of less than 0.1%, the thinnest since the level was reclaimed in late July - with the 6 July record of 187,455 now roughly 7.37% away. The refinery unwind supplied the weight for a third straight session: the sector fell 5.85% in its third consecutive clean sweep lower, PRL locked at its 10% down circuit on 40m - from circuit-up to circuit-down inside five sessions - with CNERGY down 6.5% on 82m, NRL 3.9% and ATRL 3%. The three sweeps compound to a fall of about 10.5%. The selling reached the engines too: Commercial Banks lost 1.02% with 17 of 19 lower, Power Generation and Distribution 1.58%, the E&Ps 1.22% without an advancer and Fertilizer 0.74% the same. Breadth finished 154 advancers to 310 decliners across the 495-name board, down-volume of 380m ahead of the 283m in advancing names on a 679m tape.

MACRO & INDEX OVERVIEW

KSE-100	KSE-30	KMI-30 (SHARIAH)	ALL-SHARE
173,636	51,703	247,521	105,405
-0.97%	-1.13%	-1.09%	-0.97%

Market breadth — 495 tracked names

↑ 154 advancing · 31 unchanged · ↓ 310 declining

Market Pulse

Monday's 679m tape thinned from Friday's 874m and its heaviest declining prints were refinery names: CNERGY's 82m at -6.5% - its volume now barely a quarter of the 17 August peak of 313m - and PRL's 40m at the full -10%, with NRL down 3.9% and ATRL 3%. The bid that remained sat in the securities complex and the fringe: FCSC rose 8.8% on 41m, TSBL - the old speculative leader, quiet since mid-August - returned with 4.5% on 36m, TISL eased 1.6% on 32m after three band runs, and PACE added 2.7% on 20m. THCCL turned 16m easing 0.8%, BOP held flat at -0.1% on 17m, TPL rose 2.6% on 14m and KEL 0.7% on 10m. The bank tape beyond BOP was thin and soft - UBL down 2.7%, AKBL up 1.5% - and at the fringe WAVESAPPR swung 22.6% lower inside its band while MDTL ran its own 15% higher a second straight session.

Sector micro-analysis

Fourteen of 34 sectors closed higher, almost all of them light: the Close-End Mutual Funds' 2.81% led on three names, Technology and Communication rose 1.85% on a nine-up, 12-down split as TPL gained 2.6%, the Real Estate Investment Trusts added 1.46% and the securities complex 1.45% with 17 of 30 higher - its second firm session in three - with Insurance up 0.79%. Almost nothing else with index weight advanced - Cement's 0.15% and Chemical's 0.21% the marginal exceptions. The Refinery sector's 5.85% collapse was the deepest sector fall of the September unwind, its third consecutive clean sweep lower compounding to about 10.5%, and Cable and Electrical Goods followed at -3.54%. The engine selling was broad: Power Generation and Distribution fell 1.58%

with one advancer in 17, Food and Personal Care Products 1.42% with 21 of 24 lower, Oil and Gas Marketing 1.34%, the E&Ps 1.22% in a clean sweep, Commercial Banks 1.02% with only AKBL and one other name higher, and Fertilizer 0.74% with all five traded names down or unchanged - no advancers among them.

SECTOR	AVG CHANGE	BREADTH (A / D)
Close - End Mutual Fund	+2.81%	2 / 1
Technology & Communication	+1.85%	9 / 12
Real Estate Investment Trust	+1.46%	4 / 1
Inv. Banks / Inv. Cos. / Securities Cos.	+1.45%	17 / 10
Synthetic & Rayon	-1.65%	0 / 3
Cable & Electrical Goods	-3.54%	2 / 6
Refinery	-5.85%	0 / 4

TOP MOVERS

Gainers

MDTL	+15.00%
TSMF	+10.00%
OCTOPUS	+10.00%
POWERPS	+10.00%
PIM	+10.00%

Losers

WAVESAPPR	-22.60%
GSPM	-11.40%
ARPAK	-10.00%
PRL	-10.00%
PPP	-10.00%

Most active

CNERGY	82m	-6.50%
FCSC	41m	+8.80%
PRL	40m	-10.00%
TSBL	36m	+4.50%
TISL	32m	-1.60%

Market Action

FOREIGN (FIPI) NET
−PKR 123m (−$442k)

LOCAL (LIPI) NET
+PKR 123m

Source: NCCPL FIPI/LIPI · settled 7 Sept 2026

Foreign investors were net sellers of PKR 123m (USD 0.4m); local investors were net buyers of PKR 123m. the internals read as the unwind of one trade dragging a soft market to its floor. Down-volume of 380m outran the 283m in advancing names with 310 of 495 names lower, but the weight was narrow - the refinery complex alone supplied 124m of the declining side, and no engine sector fell even 2% - while the securities complex and the speculative fringe absorbed what bid there was, FCSC's 41m and TSBL's 36m the heaviest advancing prints. The foreign ledger resumed selling after Thursday's one-day flip: a net sell of PKR 198m on Friday and PKR 123m on Monday, both far lighter than the seven-session run that totalled roughly PKR 4.8bn, with local investors back on the buying side both days.

Outlook

- The floor test has effectively arrived: at 173,636 the index sits 117 points - less than 0.1% - above the reclaimed 173,519 level, its thinnest cushion since late July, with the record roughly 7.37% away.
- The refinery unwind is accelerating, not exhausting: three consecutive clean sweeps lower compound to about 10.5%, PRL has gone from its up circuit to its down circuit inside five sessions, and CNERGY's volume has drained to 82m from a 313m peak - the trade that made August's tape is being carried out.
- The selling remains narrow in weight even as it broadens in count - 310 decliners but no engine sector down 2%, foreign sells of PKR 198m and PKR 123m far lighter than the earlier PKR 4.8bn run - which leaves the test resting on whether the local bid that absorbed August holds at the level itself.

What to watch

- Whether the 173,519 floor holds on contact - Monday closed 117 points above it after a 0.97% fall, the thinnest cushion since the level was reclaimed
- Whether the refinery capitulation finds its end - three clean sweeps compound to about 10.5%, PRL closed at its down circuit, and the complex's volume is draining rather than climaxing
- Whether foreign selling stays light - net sells of PKR 198m on Friday and PKR 123m on Monday resumed the outflow at a fraction of the seven-session PKR 4.8bn run
- USD/PKR, SBP rate signals and the global crude tape