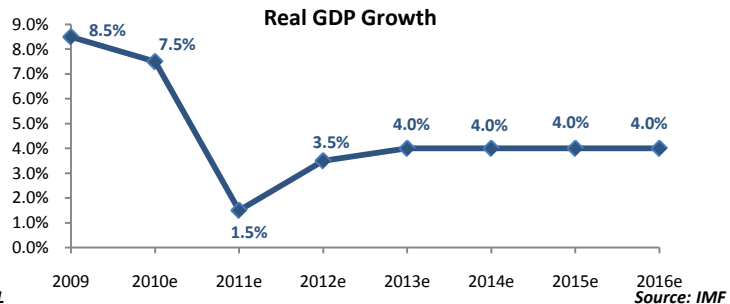
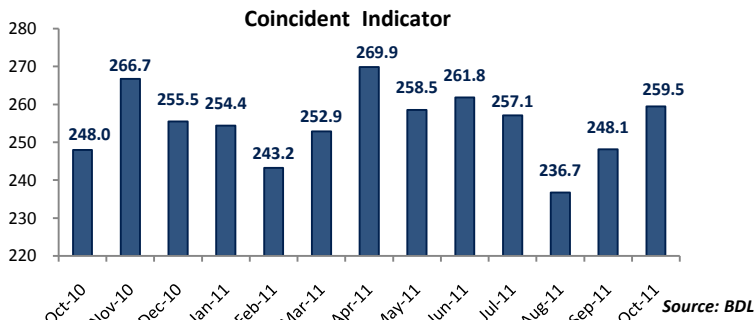


LEBANON ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS: October 2011

Coincident Indicator (INDIC) up 4.6% YOY in October 2011 :

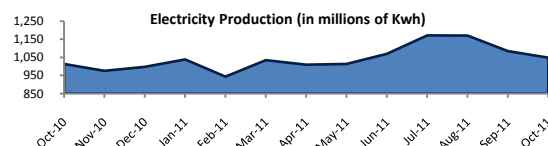
Coincident indicator was created in 1994 by the BDL as a monthly estimate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It includes eight economic indicators that seek to reflect the current state of the economy in Lebanon. In October 2011, the coincident indicator witnessed an increase of **4.6% YOY** from 248.0 in October 2010 to 259.5 in October 2011. The indicator increased 4.6% MOM from 248.1 in September 2011. The economic variables that compose the coincident indicator are: electricity production, cement deliveries, cleared checks, money supply M3, passengers flows, imports of petroleum derivatives, imports and exports.



According to the IMF, the Lebanese economy is expected to have a growth rate of 1.5% in 2011. The estimated rate for 2012 is 3.5% and it is forecasted to stabilize at 4.0% for the following four years into 2016.

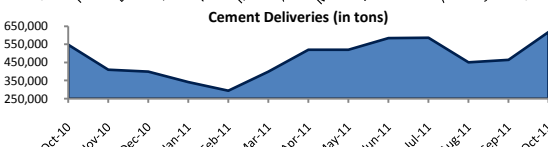
Electricity Production:

Electricity production increased 3.4% YOY but decreased -3.3% MOM to 1,049 million of Kwh.



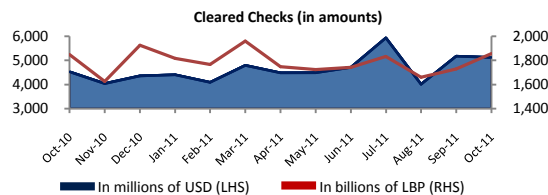
Cement Deliveries:

Cement deliveries, an indicator of construction activity, increased by 12.8% YOY to 618,621 tons and by 33.1% MOM. Although construction permits, an indicator of future supply in the real estate sector, decreased 7.0% YOY.



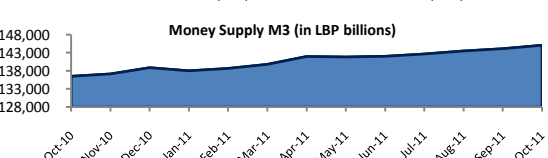
Cleared Checks:

The total value of cleared checks in both LBP and USD increased 10.3% YOY to USD 6,356 million. The cleared checks in LBP increased by 0.5% YOY to LBP 1,859 billion and 7.5% MOM, and those in USD increased 13.1% YOY to USD 5,126 million but decreased -1.0% MOM.



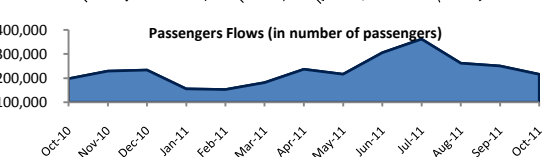
Money Supply M3:

M3 rose by 6.3% YOY and 0.7% MOM to LBP 145,108 billion (96.3 USD billion), of which 60.6% denominated in foreign currencies. M3 increased 10.3% in the first nine months of 2011 and by 4.5% from December 2010.



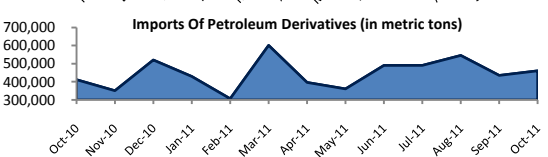
Passengers Flows:

The number of passengers arriving to Lebanon increased by 9.3% YOY but decreased -13.8% MOM to 215,875. In the first ten months of 2011, arrivals increased by 1.8% with regards to the same period in 2010. The number of airplanes at Rafic Hariri International Airport dropped by -2.1% YOY.



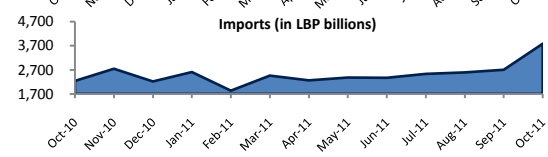
Imports Of Petroleum Derivatives:

Imports of petroleum derivatives increased by 11.9% YOY and 5.8% MOM to 460,842 metric tons of petroleum derivatives.



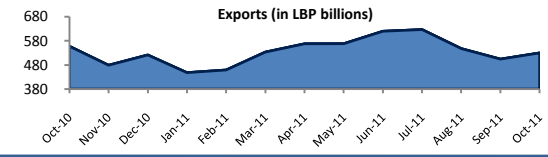
Imports:

Imports rose by 68.9% YOY to LBP 3,782 billion and 40.0% MOM. In the first ten months, mineral products lead imported goods (23.3%), followed by machinery and mechanical appliances (10.6%), and pearls, precious or semiprecious stones (10.4%).



Exports:

Exports totaled LBP 530 billion reflecting an decrease of -5.0% YOY but increased by 5.1% MOM, with main exports being pearls, precious and semi-precious stones(34.9%) followed by base metals & articles of base metals(13.2%) and machinery and mechanical appliances(12.4%).



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