

# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

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- ❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION
- ❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING
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## **BUSINESS RECORDER**

### **Rate cut likely amid low inflation, IMF review**

KARACHI: Most analysts predict a seventh consecutive rate cut by Pakistan's central bank on Monday, amid the country's first International Monetary Fund (IMF) review for its \$7 billion bailout and near-decade low inflation.

### **PM apprised of challenges facing businesses**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif reiterated Friday his government's commitment to creating a favourable environment for investment and business ventures across the country, emphasizing that agriculture, industrial growth, and trade are his top priorities.

### **FBR introduces major changes to EFS**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has introduced major changes in the Export Finance Scheme (EFS) to check misuse of the facility. The FBR has issued an SRO301(I)/2025 here on Friday to amend Customs Rules, 2001.

### **Iron & steel sector: FBR directed to suspend revised EFS rollout**

The first meeting of the committee formed by the prime minister to review the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) was held under the chairmanship of the Federal Minister for Planning and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal, along with Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan.

### **Punishment to taxmen: FBR fails to act on FTO's key recommendations**

The Federal Board of Revenue has failed to implement the key recommendations of the Federal Tax Ombudsman who has converted the punishment of disciplinary proceedings against the tax officials to strict warning to those responsible for failure to timely submit comments.

### **No fresh registrations: SMEs forced to run businesses with unregistered title: KTBA**

KARACHI: The Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are forced to run their businesses with an unregistered title due to what the Karachi Tax Bar Association (KTBA) claimed "virtual halt in fresh registration of taxpayers under the Sales Tax Act, 1990" by the FBR.

### **Nepra gives FCA cut benefit to residential, agri consumers**

ISLAMABAD: National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has passed reduction in tariff through negative Fuel Charges Adjustment (FCA) to all non-protected residential and agriculture consumers.

## **Businesses advocate cut in policy rate to fuel economy**

KARACHI: Business leaderships and traders have urged the Governor of the State Bank to reduce interest rates to single digit to stimulate economic growth and end the stagnation currently gripping the country.

## **Punjab & Sindh: There will be massive water shortfall: Irsa**

ISLAMABAD: The Indus River System Authority (Irsa) has warned that Punjab and Sindh are likely to face shortfall of up to 35 percent in the coming days due to operating the reservoirs on run-of-the-river mode at around dead levels.

## **Weekly SPI inflation down 0.09pc**

ISLAMABAD: The Sensitive Price Index-based inflation for the week ended March 6, 2025 decreased by 0.09 percent owing to a reduction in the prices of onions (5.59 per cent), tea Lipton (4.47per cent), garlic (3.89per cent), tomatoes (3.60per cent), pulse gram (3.49per cent),

## **THE RUPEE PKR: marginal decline**

The Pakistani rupee recorded marginal decline against the US dollar, depreciating 0.05% in the inter-bank market on Friday. At close, the rupee settled at 279.97, a loss of Re0.15 against the greenback. On Thursday, the rupee had closed at 279.82.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Consumers to bear burden as govt proposes new power surcharge**

ISLAMABAD: At the conclusion of technical talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Pakistan has proposed no additional taxation measures, opting instead to recover additional revenues through legal and administrative means.

### **Pakistan Business Council warns against revoking export facilitations**

KARACHI: Pakistan Business Council (PBC) has warned that revoking the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) would be a catastrophic mistake which would cripple the export industry, stifle economic progress and leave Pakistan vulnerable to growing trade imbalances.

### **Analysts see seventh straight policy rate cut**

KARACHI: Most analysts predict a seventh consecutive rate cut by the State Bank of Pakistan on Monday, amid the first International Monetary Fund (IMF) review of a \$7-billion bailout at the time of the lowest inflation in nearly a decade.

### **Govt, banks in talks for Rs1.25tr deal to reduce circular debt**

KARACHI: The government is negotiating a Rs1.25 trillion (\$4.47 billion) loan with commercial banks to reduce its bulging energy sector debt, the power minister and banking association said.

### **Dip in Karachi's industrial power consumption**

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has expressed concerns over a 10 per cent decline in Karachi's industrial power consumption and has asked K-Electric and National Grid to have additional interconnection for better utilisation of cheaper electricity.

## **SBP launches VPN portals**

KARACHI: To ensure enhanced security with the rising digitisation of the financial system, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has decided to transition from web-based to Virtual Private Network (VPN)-based access from May 30.

## **Weekly inflation falls 0.87pc**

ISLAMABAD: Short-term inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Index (SPI), recorded a negative growth of 0.87 per cent year-on-year in the week ending March 6 after almost seven years owing to a decline in the retail price of tea and perishable products.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **IMF objects to govt move to borrow Rs1.25tr for circular debt resolution**

Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are poised to make key adjustments to the country's macroeconomic and fiscal framework for the current fiscal year 2024-25. The upcoming policy-level talks, scheduled to commence from Monday, will finalize these adjustments.

### **Consultations with business leaders to continue, PM tells delegation**

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said the government is providing a conducive environment for investment and business activities. He was talking to leading business people of the country here on Friday. He commended the business community's efforts for development of the country.

### **KE's power generation cost exceeds national grid's by more than 100%: Nepra member**

ISLAMABAD: K-Electric is generating costly electricity for its consumers, exceeding the national grid's generation cost by more than 100 per cent, said Rafique Ahmed Shaikh, the Member (Technical) of the NEPRA, in his dissenting note, a copy of which is available with The News.

### **Bilawal meets UK HC, French envoy, US diplomat**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari held a series of diplomatic meetings at the Zardari House here on Friday, engaging with envoys from the United Kingdom, France and the United States.

### **Torkham border closure enters 14th day: Traders, transporters suffer huge losses**

The Pak-Afghan border at Torkham remained closed for trade activities and pedestrian movement for the 14th consecutive day due to ongoing tensions, official sources said on Friday.

### **SMEDA webinar calls for greater inclusion, economic empowerment of women**

LAHORE: Speakers at a webinar hosted by the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) on Friday, in celebration of International Women's Day 2025, have called for the establishment of a dedicated forum to facilitate regular interaction among women, enabling them to share the challenges they face in achieving economic and social empowerment.

### **KTBA raises concern over virtual halt in sales tax registrations**

KARACHI: The Karachi Tax Bar Association (KTBA) has expressed concerns over a virtual halt in new registrations under the Sales Tax Act, 1990 by field formations. While the apparent intention behind this measure is to curb the issue of flying invoices and prevent the abuse of input/output tax adjustments,

### **Gold rates up Rs3,000 per tola**

KARACHI: Gold prices increased by Rs3,000 per tola on Friday in the local market following an increase in the international market. The All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association stated that gold rates reached Rs307,000 per tola.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **Rs17 cut per unit for net metering users**

ISLAMABAD: During the ongoing talks with an International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission, the government has shared a plan with regard to purchase of power from net metering users. According to the plan, electricity from net metering users is proposed to be bought at Rs10 per unit.

### **PM orders bi-weekly meetings on economy**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday directed the relevant ministries and other authorities to prepare within a week for bi-weekly sector-wise special meetings with the businessmen to work out tangible action plans to boost the national economy.

### **Pakistan resists IMF's carbon levy**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Friday pushed back against the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s demand to impose a carbon levy on petroleum products, coal, and internal combustion engine cars, which the global lender is advocating to discourage the use of fossil fuels.

## **EXPRESS NEWSPAPER**

### **Pakistan resists IMF's carbon levy rejected; Demand to impose Gas tariff on CPPs**

### **Stock Market remain on positive zone due to expectations of reducing interest rate**