

## Banks to open on December 31

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said on Friday the authorised branches of National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) as well as field offices of SBP Banking Services Corporation (SBP-BSC) will observe extended banking hours up to 9:00pm on December 31, 2019 to facilitate collection of government taxes.

"Accordingly, NBP branches will settle their transactions with respective SBP-BSC field offices on the same day ie December 31, 2019 for which purpose a special clearing has been arranged at 7:00 PM by the NIFT (National Institutional Facilitation Technologies)," the SBP said in a statement.

All banks are, therefore, advised to keep their concerned branches open on December 31, 2019 (Tuesday) till such time that is necessary to facilitate the special clearing for government transactions, it added.