

# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

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❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION  
❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING  
❖ DATE :- 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2026

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## **BUSINESS RECORDER**

### **480 top exporters: FBR orders scrutiny of tax records**

ISLAMABAD: Despite Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's commitment to facilitate exporters, Federal Board of Revenue has ordered scrutiny of tax records of over top 480 exporters for taking action against leading exporters where taxable income is reduced without reasonable justifications.

### **SBP unveils 'financial inclusion index'**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has launched Pakistan's Financial Inclusion Index (P-FII), which comprehensively measures the state of financial inclusion in the country taking into account the access, usage and quality of financial services.

### **PM launches Pakistan's Economic Governance Reforms**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday launched Pakistan's Economic Governance Reforms, declaring that the country had moved beyond crisis management after two years of tough but necessary decisions, which had restored stability, reduced inflation to a record-low 4.5 percent, and increased foreign exchange reserves to USD21 billion.

### **FD outlook: Inflation may stay moderate at 5.5-6.5pc in Dec**

ISLAMABAD: Inflation is projected to remain moderate, in the range of 5.5 to 6.5 percent in December, primarily due to the base effect, the Finance Division said. In its 'Monthly Economic Update and Outlook December 2025' released on Wednesday,

### **Rs336bn shortfall: Jul-Dec tax collection totals Rs6.154trn**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has provisionally collected Rs6,154 billion during the first six months (July-December) 2025-26 against the target of Rs6,490 billion, reflecting a shortfall of Rs336 billion.

### **THE RUPEE PKR: improvement**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee strengthened against the US dollar, appreciating 0.01 percent in the inter-bank market during the final trading session of the year on Wednesday. At close, the local currency settled at 280.12, a gain of Re0.03 against the greenback.

### **Petrol price cut by Rs10.28, HSD's by Rs8.57**

ISLAMABAD: Federal government has announced on Wednesday a substantial decrease in the rates of petroleum products effective from January 1, 2026. In a statement, Petroleum Division has announced that the ex-depot price of petrol has been decreased by Rs 10.28 per litre and high speed diesel (HSD) by Rs 8.57 per litre for fortnight starting from January 1, 2026.

### **LPG price increased by Rs10.68**

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has notified an increase in Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) prices by Rs 10.68 per kg effective from January 2026. According to the OGRA notification, the price of LPG has increased by Rs10.68 per kilogram, taking the new rate to Rs219.67 per kilogram.

### **Gold, silver prices fall**

KARACHI: Gold and silver prices ended lower in the final trading session of the year on Wednesday, as local and global markets remained down, traders said. Local gold prices fell by Rs 2,500 and Rs 2,143, further receding to Rs 456,962 per tola and Rs 391,771 per 10 grams,

### **2025 will be remembered as a year of challenges, uncertainty: BMG**

KARACHI: Chairman BMG Zubair Motiwala while describing the outgoing year 2025 as one of the most challenging and turbulent periods for Pakistan's economy and business community, stated that the year will be remembered for its deep-rooted challenges, policy uncertainty, and sustained pressure on productive sectors that form the backbone of national economic activity.

### **'Macroeconomic stability masks challenges facing businesses and industry'**

KARACHI: As Pakistan moves toward the end of 2025, the country's economy presents a picture of relative macroeconomic stability overshadowed by persistent difficulties for businesses and industry, according to the Pakistan Business Forum (PBF).

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Petrol price slashed by Rs10, diesel rate by Rs8.5**

ISLAMABAD: Petrol and diesel prices have been reduced significantly by Rs10.28 and Rs8.57 per litre, respectively, for the first fortnight of 2026. Based on the recommendations by the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra), the government announced that the new price of petrol will be Rs253.17 per litre from January 1 to 15.

### **Rules tweaked to use facial, iris scans as ID biometrics**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has amended the National Identity Card Rules, expanding the definition of biometrics to legally recognise facial and iris scans as valid identifiers besides fingerprints, the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) said on Wednesday.

### **M-Tag installation deadline extended by 15 days**

ISLAMABAD: The deadline for the installation of M-Tags on vehicles has been extended by 15 days in the federal capital. Speaking at the newly built Shaheen Chowk underpass, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said that the state minister for interior, whom he described as an "awami minister," had requested a 15-day extension.

### **Collection falls short by Rs331bn in July-December**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue missed its revenue collection target by nearly Rs331 billion in the first half of 2025-26, driven by a fall in domestic sales tax and income tax collection. The FBR collected Rs6.159 trillion during July-December period against the target of Rs6.490tr.

### **PM launches economic governance reforms**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday launched the government's Economic Governance Reforms, saying Pakistan had moved out of "economic firefighting" after two years of politically difficult decisions that, he claimed, restored macroeconomic stability, pushed inflation down to 4.5 per cent and lifted foreign exchange reserves to over \$21 billion.

### **Robust industry fuels positive outlook**

ISLAMABAD: The government on Wednesday projected continued positive momentum for the national economy in the coming months, attributing the outlook to robust industrial growth, enhanced governance, accelerated digitalisation, and sound macroeconomic management.

### **Financial inclusion stands at 58.1pc in Pakistan**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has launched the Pakistan Financial Inclusion Index (P-FII), revealing that the country's overall financial inclusion level stands at 58.1 per cent for 2024. According to an SBP report, the P-FII comprehensively measures the state of financial inclusion in the country by evaluating access, usage, and quality of financial services.

### **Bank holiday**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan will remain closed for public dealing on Thursday (Jan 1), which will be observed as a 'bank holiday'.

### **Temperature records broken across the world in 2025**

PARIS: Central Asia, the Sahel region and northern Europe experienced their hottest year on record in 2025, according to analysis based on data from the European Copernicus programme.

### **FIA declares Karachi Metropolitan Corporation documents relating to cotton exchange building 'forged'**

KARACHI: The stand-off over the historical Karachi Cotton Exchange building has escalated further as the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) not only rejected the mayor's statement, in which he described the FIA's action as "unlawful", but has gone a step further, accusing the of relying on "fake" and "forged" documents to assert ownership of the building.

### **Karachi streets remain unsafe for citizens in 2025**

- Official data shows over 64,000 street crimes reported in outgoing year compared to 71,105 in 2024
- More than 46,000 citizens lost their cars / bikes, over 17,000 their cell phones in 2025

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **Govt cuts petrol, diesel prices as New Year relief**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Wednesday announced a significant cut in petroleum prices, slashing petrol by Rs10.28 per litre to Rs253.17 and high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs8.57 to Rs257.08 per litre, offering much-needed relief to transporters, farmers and urban commuters.

### **Refineries warn of shutdowns as OMCs cut uplift of local products**

KARACHI: The country's refining sector has warned of possible shutdowns or reduced throughput if OMCs continue to refrain from uplifting committed quantities from local refineries.

### **FBR faces Rs336bn revenue shortfall in first half of current fiscal**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has faced a shortfall of Rs336 billion against its agreed target with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of Rs6,490 billion for the first half (July-December) of the current fiscal year. The FBR collected Rs6,154 billion.

### **Future bright for Pak-US ties: Natalie Baker**

ISLAMABAD: As 2025 draws to a close, US Chargé d’Affaires Natalie Baker says the year marked a powerful new chapter in the US-Pakistan partnership, with progress ranging from investments and people-to-people exchanges to strengthened bilateral cooperation.

### **Pakistan sees economy sustaining momentum**

Pakistan’s economy is expected to maintain its positive momentum in the coming months, supported by industrial growth, improved governance and prudent macroeconomic management, the finance ministry said in its Monthly Economic Update and Outlook for December 2025.

### **Minister says Pakistan plans up to four new deep-sea ports with focus on environment**

KARACHI: Pakistan plans to build three to four new deep-sea ports to support long-term growth in trade and logistics, placing environmental protection at the centre of port development policy, Minister for Maritime Affairs Junaid Anwar Chaudhry said on Wednesday, reports ‘Arab News’.

### **Power Division claims tariff cuts, Rs3.4tr relief in 2025 reset**

ISLAMABAD: The Power Division on Wednesday unveiled its one-year performance report for 2025, claiming deep electricity tariff cuts, the removal of trillions of rupees in long-term liabilities and structural reforms that successive governments had delayed for years, in what it described as a decisive reset of the power sector.

### **Power consumers may get 72-paisa cut per unit in January bills**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan’s power regulator, Nepra, on Wednesday held a hearing on the Central Power Purchasing Agency’s (CPPA) request that is ready to refund Rs0.72/unit to consumers in January bills, potentially giving consumers relief of over Rs5.6 billion.

### **LCCI calls for fair taxation to support sustainable economic growth**

LAHORE: President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Faheemur Rehman Saigol has said that responsible corporate participation and fair taxation policies are essential for sustainable economic growth and improved revenue generation in Pakistan.

### **Sindh govt reaffirms commitment to economic growth as spokesperson visits KCCI**

Nadir Nabil Gabol, spokesperson for the Government of Sindh, visited the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) on Wednesday to reinforce the provincial government’s dedication to fostering a robust business environment and sustainable economic growth.

# **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

## **PM Shehbaz, MBS reaffirm strong bilateral ties**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held a warm and cordial telephone conversation with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, during which both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the long-standing fraternal ties between the two countries.

## **Power tariff likely to be cut by Rs0.72**

ISLAMABAD: Electricity consumers are set to get a relief of Rs0.72 per unit on account of fuel cost adjustment for November 2025. Power-sector regulator, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra), on Wednesday held a hearing on the Central Power Purchasing Agency's (CPPA) request for refunding Rs0.72 per unit to consumers in January bills,

## **SBP unveils Financial Inclusion Index**

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## **New seaports planned to boost economy**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has planned to set up four new seaports along its coastline to boost economic activity as the government realises that the country's existing ports will reach their full capacity by 2035-40.

## **Gold soars Rs184,000/tola in 2025**

KARACHI: Gold capped a historic year in Pakistan with prices near record highs, underscoring how global monetary shifts and unprecedented demand reshaped the precious metals landscape in 2025. The price of 24-karat gold per tola surged by Rs184,362 over the year, climbing from Rs272,600 on December 31, 2024 to Rs456,962 by December 31, 2025, according to the APSGJA.

## **PTCL-backed MergeCo eyes 5G rollout**

ISLAMABAD: President and Chief Executive Officer of PTCL and Ufone, Hatem Bamatraf, announced on Wednesday that PTCL and the merged telecom company, which includes Ufone and Telenor Pakistan, will participate in the upcoming 5G spectrum auction.

## **ایکسپریس نیوز**

**نادرا، چہرے کی شناخت پر مبنی بائیو میٹرک تصدیق شروع**

**ایکسیورٹرز کی آمدن میں اچانک کمی، جانچ کا حکم**

**پانچ ماہ میں ترسیلات زر میں اضافہ، برآمدات، سرمایہ کاری میں کمی**

**2025 کا آخری دن اسٹاک مارکیٹ کیلئے خوشگوار ثابت نہ ہوا، مندی رہی**