

# **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**

### **TMA lauds PM's directive on export facilitation and refunds**

The Towel Manufacturers Association of Pakistan (TMA) has lauded the firm resolve of the Honourable Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, to revive the country's declining exports, ensure timely facilitation for exporters, and accelerate institutional reforms to support the national export sector. Chairman TMA, Ather Bari, appreciated the Prime Minister's clear directive that negligence in ensuring timely payment of tax refunds to exporters will not be tolerated.

### **WEF survey shows doing business got tougher in 2025**

ZURICH: Companies found it harder to do business in 2025 due to a deterioration in global cooperation on issues including trade, climate, technology and security, a survey published by the World Economic Forum showed on Thursday.

### **PTC seeks removal of cross subsidies**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Textile Council (PTC) has urged the Prime Minister Office (PMO) to remove cross subsidies and end to peak/off peak electricity use regime to rescue exports. In a formal letter addressed to Dr Syed Tauqir Hussain Shah, Adviser to the Prime Minister, PTC has explicitly requested the removal of cross-subsidies embedded in industrial electricity tariffs,

### **Power sector: WB for credible marginal price determination**

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank has underscored the need for credible marginal price determination in Pakistan's power sector, backed by transparent data, robust systems, and independent scrutiny, as the country grapples with mounting structural challenges driven by rapid solar adoption and persistent circular debt.

### **Uniform rates across country: Govt moves to alter KE consumer-end tariff as per Nepra fixation**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has moved to alter K-Electric's consumer-end tariff in line with the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority's determination to maintain a uniform electricity tariff across the country, invoking its policy powers under the NEPRA Act.

### **FTO cannot assume the role of revenue maximiser or taxation policymaker: President**

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has categorically declared that the Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) cannot assume the role of revenue maximizer or tax policy maker through interpretation of tax laws.

### **Market liberalization: Ogra to revisit gas pricing formula**

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) has decided to review the existing gas pricing formula based on return on fixed assets keeping in view the current gas market liberalization.

### **Forex reserves rise by USD180m**

KARACHI: Pakistan's total liquid foreign exchange reserves showed a modest week-on-week improvement and rose by USD 180 million during the last week, mainly driven by an increase in the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) holdings.

### **THE RUPEE: PKR registers marginal gain against USD**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee recorded marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Thursday. At close, the local currency settled at 280.05, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback. On Wednesday, the local unit closed at 280.06.

### **Gold prices decline sharply**

KARACHI: Gold prices dipped while silver saw a sharp decline on Thursday, following a global market recession, traders said. Local gold prices fell by Rs600 to Rs466,162 per tola and Rs515 to Rs399,658 per 10 grams, All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association said.

### **Gold falls as commodity index rebalancing sparks selling pressure**

NEW YORK: Gold prices fell on Thursday as investors braced for futures selling tied to a commodity index reshuffle, with a stronger US dollar adding pressure by making the metal costlier for overseas buyers. Spot gold fell 0.7 percent to USD4,420.09 per ounce, as of 1228 GMT.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Super tax may trigger arbitration, warn exploration firms**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Petroleum Exploration and Production Companies Association (PPEPCA) on Thursday warned that the imposition of super tax could affect the financial viability of exploration and production (E&P) companies and undermine Pakistan's decades-long efforts to attract foreign investment in the oil and gas sector.

### **Nepra okays 93-paise per unit fuel cost refund**

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) on Thursday notified a fuel cost adjustment (FCA) relief of about 93 paise per unit for all distribution companies, including K-Electric, to be passed on to consumers in January bills for electricity consumed in November.

### **KCCI unhappy over gas tariff freeze, seeks price cuts**

KARACHI: While the main apex business body is upbeat over economic prosperity, the leadership of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) on Thursday criticised the government's decision to freeze gas tariffs for six months, calling it a projected relief that falls short of the industry's expectations.

## **Bangladesh, Pakistan set to resume direct flights after 14 years**

DHAKA: Bangladesh and Pakistan will resume direct flights after more than a decade, with Dhaka's national airline set to operate its first Dhaka-Karachi flight on January 29, while Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will restart direct Lahore-London flights from March 30.

## **New ferry terminal opens at port**

KARACHI: Maritime Affairs Minister Muham-mad Junaid Anwar Chau-dhry on Thursday inaugurated a new ferry terminal at Karachi Port by unveiling a commemorative plaque.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **Govt seeks Nepra's nod for uniform power tariff for Discos, K-Electric**

ISLAMABAD: Following Nepra's determination of base tariff, the federal government has submitted a motion seeking the regulator's nod for uniform consumers end tariff for XWDiscos and K-Electric. As per the motion, the government wants to keep tariff of up to Rs47.69 per unit for various categories of domestic consumers during the calendar year 2026.

### **Qatar likely to divert Pakistan's 24 LNG cargoes to Egypt in 2026**

ISLAMABAD: Qatar is expected to divert 24 liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes originally contracted for Pakistan to Egypt in 2026, highlighting the sharp decline in Pakistan's gas demand and a broader realignment of global LNG flows.

### **Value-added textile sector facing crisis due to high interest rates, taxes: PHMA**

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PHMA) Group Leader Chaudhry Salamat Ali and Senior Vice Chairman (North Zone) Ahmed Afzal Awan have warned that the knitwear and value-added textile sector is facing an acute crisis due to high interest rates and rising energy tariffs and taxes.

### **Trade deficit may reach \$40bn this fiscal year: Aptma**

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (Aptma) Kamran Arshad has warned that Pakistan's trade deficit could widen to as much as \$40 billion by the end of the current fiscal year, calling the situation deeply alarming for the country's economy.

### **KCCI, BMG say gas tariff freeze offers no real relief to industry**

KARACHI: Expressing deep concern and disappointment over the government's decision to freeze gas tariffs for the next six months, Chairperson Businessmen Group (BMG) Zubair Motiwala and President KCCI Rehan Hanif said that, while the move has been presented as a relief measure, it falls far short of the expectations and urgent needs of an already distressed industrial sector.

### **Multinationals flag refund delays, seek super tax cut**

KARACHI/ISLAMABAD: Multinational companies operating in Pakistan on Thursday raised concerns over delayed tax refunds, alleged harassment and the collection of advance taxes by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) during a meeting with the newly inducted director-general of the Tax Policy Office (TPO) at the Finance Division.

### **Karachi-Chabahar ferry service set to begin this month**

KARACHI: Pakistan's first international ferry service is set to begin in the third week of January, with the inaugural voyage scheduled to depart from Karachi carrying over 240 passengers to Iran's port city of Chabahar.

### **Govt allocates Mari field gas to fertiliser plants**

ISLAMABAD: The government has approved the allocation of natural gas from the Ghazij and Shawal discoveries in the Mari field to major fertiliser plants, a move aimed at strengthening feedstock supply to the fertiliser sector and easing pressure on the national gas system.

### **SBP forex reserves rise by \$141m to \$16.1bn**

KARACHI: Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves held by the central bank increased by \$141 million to \$16.056 billion during the week ending January 2, the SBP reported on Monday. The country's total liquid foreign reserves also rose by \$180 million to \$21.192 billion. Similarly,

### **Experts urge urgent reforms, digital shift to secure energy future**

The Pakistan Energy Conference (PEC) 2026 has issued a strong set of recommendations calling for urgent policy reforms, accelerated digitalisation and a more investment-friendly regulatory framework to steer Pakistan's energy sector towards sustainability and long-term growth.

### **PIA to resume direct Lahore-London flights after six years**

Islamabad: The Pakistan International Airlines on Thursday announced the resumption of direct flights from Lahore to London in March. An airline spokesperson said the first flight, PK-757, would take off from Lahore on March 30,

### **Task force formed to tackle extortion, ensure security in industrial zones**

On the directive of Karachi police chief Additional IG Azad Khan, the Karachi Range DIGs were recently instructed to form a task force to combat crime. In this regard, the first meeting of the task force was held under the chairmanship of DIG East Range Dr Farrukh Ali on Thursday.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **OGRA moves to scrap fixed returns in gas pricing**

ISLAMABAD: Following the government's plan to restructure gas utilities, the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has decided to review the existing gas pricing formula based on return on fixed assets, keeping in view current gas sector dynamics and market liberalisation.

### **Foreign reserves rise \$141m to \$21.19b**

KARACHI: Pakistan's total liquid foreign currency reserves stood at \$21.19 billion as of January 2, 2026, reflecting a modest improvement in the country's external liquidity position, according to official data.

### **SME financing gaps highlighted at Lahore expo**

The LCCI on Thursday organised the SME Finance and Banking Expo to provide small and medium enterprises direct access to banking facilities, financing schemes and financial products.

### **Visa discusses digitising govt payments**

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Thursday held a meeting with a Visa delegation led by Tareq Muhmood, Regional President for Central Europe, Middle East and Africa, to discuss advancing digital payments, financial inclusion and ongoing economic reforms in Pakistan.

### **Direct Pakistan-Bangladesh flights to resume after 14 years**

Pakistan and Bangladesh are to resume direct flights after more than a decade, Dhaka's national airline said on Thursday, as ties warm and regional power balances shift.

### **Pakistan, US pledge to boost economic, security ties**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the United States have reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen their bilateral cooperation across various fields, with special focus on economy and security.

### **Finance ministry admits transparency gaps in key investment projects**

ISLAMABAD: A Ministry of Finance report has accepted that the absence of structured transparency in the Special Investment Facilitation Council's (SIFC) initiatives could undermine policy predictability and weaken the confidence of investors.

### **ایکسپریس نیوز**

### **اسٹاک مارکیٹ میں مسلسل 5 روزہ تیزی کے بعد مندی چھا گئی**

### **سوئی سدرن نے صنعتی صارفین کے لیے گیس کی لوڈ شیڈنگ کا اعلان کر دیا**

سوئی سدرن گیس کمپنی نے صنعتی صارفین کے لیے گیس کی لوڈ شیڈنگ کا اعلان کر دیا۔ ترجمان سوئی سدرن گیس کمپنی کے مطابق صنعتی صارفین کو گیس کی فراہمی اتوار صبح 8 بجے سے پیر کی صبح 8 بجے تک بند رہے گی۔