

# **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**

### **US pauses visa processing for 75 countries including Pakistan**

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump's administration is suspending processing for immigrant visas for applicants from 75 countries including Pakistan, a State Department spokesperson said on Wednesday, as part of Washington's intensifying immigration crackdown.

### **Industrial cross-subsidy burden reduced: Power Div**

ISLAMABAD: Power Division said on Wednesday said that the industrial cross-subsidy burden has been reduced from Rs 225 billion (Rs 8.9 per unit) in March 2024, when the current government took charge, to currently at Rs 102 billion (Rs 4.02 per unit), which represents substantial reduction of Rs 123 billion.

### **Super Tax levy: FCC urged to take into consideration 27th Amendment, other factors**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) was asked to keep in mind 27th Constitutional Amendment and other factors while delivering judgement on Super Tax under Sections 4B and 4C.

### **FBR monitoring lifestyles to catch tax evaders**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Wednesday officially announced that the FBR will punish thousands of individuals displaying wealth and expenditure on digital platforms, but evading taxes or concealing their income or assets.

### **SAI president says policy of cross-subsidy on industrial electricity tariffs hurting industrial activities**

KARACHI: President of the SITE Association of Industry (SAI), Ahmed Azeem Alvi has expressed serious concern over the continued burden of cross subsidy imposed on industrial electricity tariffs, stating that this policy is weakening industrial viability and discouraging scale, investment, and formal growth.

### **BQATI says concerned at cross-subsidy on industrial electricity tariffs**

KARACHI: Shakil Ashfaq, President of the Bin Qasim Association of Trade and Industry (BQATI), has expressed grave concern over the continued imposition of cross-subsidy on industrial electricity tariffs, stating that this policy is directly undermining industrial productivity, discouraging investment, and eroding Pakistan's export competitiveness.

### **Pakistan, Canada agree to strengthen bilateral trade**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Canada agreed to resume negotiations on the Pakistan-Canada Investment Agreement at the earliest to further strengthen the institutional framework for investment cooperation.

### **Hidden anomalies in electricity tariff setting**

NEPRA's FY26 tariff decision shows a puzzling divergence between consumer classification, electricity consumption, and solar capacity estimates. On the residential side, the number of protected consumers rises to 21.5 million from 17 million in the government motion.

### **Govt says new banknotes being developed**

ISLAMABAD: The government confirmed on Wednesday that new banknotes are being developed as part of a broader modernisation efforts aimed at improving both security and design standards.

### **THE RUPEE: PKR settles below 280 against USD**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee strengthened against the US dollar, appreciating 0.01% in the inter-bank market on Wednesday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.97, a gain of Re0.03 against the greenback. On Tuesday, the local unit closed at 280.00.

### **Gold, silver touch fresh highs**

KARACHI: Gold and silver prices continued with the uptrend to hit new all-time highs on Wednesday, as the global markets rallied to fresh record levels, traders said. The world's surging bullion markets sent ripples across the local trading, causing the gold prices to grow to a new historic height of Rs486,162 per tola and Rs416,805 per 10 grams,

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Pakistan on list as US suspends immigrant visas**

WASHINGTON: The US State Department announced on Wednesday that it will suspend immigrant visa processing for Pakistan and 74 other countries, amid concerns that immigrants from these nations often rely on public welfare programmes, or fail security vetting.

### **MoU with Trump family firm signed for stablecoin use**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with an affiliated entity of World Liberty Financial, a venture linked to the Trump family, to explore the use of its \$1 stablecoin for cross-border transactions.

### **Trade and AI cloud job outlook: International Labour Organisation**

ISLAMABAD: As nearly 300 million workers continue to live in extreme poverty, earning less than \$3 a day, a new report by the ILO says progress towards decent work has stalled, warning that young people continue to struggle, while artificial intelligence and trade policy uncertainty risk further undermining the job market.

### **Power users to continue paying debt surcharge**

ISLAMABAD: The government on Wednesday announced that the Rs3.23 per unit debt surcharge on electricity consumers would continue for up to six years as it notified a revised uniform national base tariff for the current year without any change.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **Gohar Ejaz says industry cannot carry power sector's burden anymore**

ISLAMABAD: Former commerce minister and Patron-in-Chief of the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) Dr Gohar Ejaz has warned the government in unequivocal terms that Pakistan's industrial sector is at a breaking point, as soaring electricity and gas prices continue to erode the competitiveness of Pakistani products in international markets.

### **Govt raises Rs492 billion via PIB sale**

KARACHI: The government raised Rs492 billion (both competitive and non-competitive) from the auction of fixed-rate Pakistan Investment Bonds (PIBs) on Wednesday, with yields falling across all tenors. The target for this auction was Rs450 billion, with total participation reaching Rs2.06 trillion.

### **SAI warns cross-subsidy on power tariffs is crippling industry**

KARACHI: President of the SITE Association of Industry (SAI) Ahmed Azeem Alvi has expressed serious concern over the continued burden of cross-subsidy imposed on industrial electricity tariffs, saying the policy is weakening industrial viability and discouraging scale, investment and formal growth.

### **Pakistan, UAE agree to fast-track talks on economic partnership agreement**

KARACHI: Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates have reaffirmed their commitment to expedite negotiations on a comprehensive trade and investment agreement, the commerce ministry said on Wednesday, as Islamabad seeks to deepen economic ties with the Gulf nation, reports 'Arab News'.

### **China announces record \$1tr trade surplus despite Trump tariffs**

China announced record export numbers for 2025, a year when US President Donald Trump's tariffs and trade policy caused turmoil in the global economy, 'BBC' reports. Beijing on Wednesday reported the world's largest-ever trade surplus — the value of goods and services sold overseas compared to its imports — at \$1.19 trillion (GBP890 billion).

### **Turkish envoy highlights tourism as key driver of Pakistan's economic growth**

KARACHI: Consul General of the Republic of Turkiye in Karachi Ergul Kadak on Wednesday said that tourism represents a "low-hanging fruit" for Pakistan's economic growth and, if developed effectively, could help reduce the country's reliance on external financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

### **Zardari, Bahrain's King Hamad discuss ways to enhance trade**

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday met King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at the Al-Qudaibiya Palace at Manama in Bahrain and held discussions aimed at further strengthening the close and fraternal relationship between Pakistan and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

### **Ali Khurshidi urges PM to take notice of Karachi's gas crisis**

Sindh Assembly opposition leader and senior Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) leader Ali Khurshidi has censured the federal government and the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) management over an "unbearable persisting gas crisis in Karachi during peak winter", declaring that the SSGC has "completely failed to deliver a basic public service".

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **Pakistan cuts industrial power subsidy burden by Rs123bn**

ISLAMABAD: The Power Division has announced that the industrial cross-subsidy burden has been reduced from Rs225 billion (Rs8.9 per unit) in March 2024, when the current government took charge, to Rs102 billion (Rs4.02 per unit) now, which represents a substantial reduction of Rs123 billion.

### **EU Green Deal rules put textile exports at a crossroads**

KARACHI: Pakistan's textile sector has entered 2026 at a defining juncture, with its long-standing export model facing mounting pressure from tightening global regulations, intensifying competition and domestic cost constraints. After a modest recovery in 2025 that lifted textile exports to around \$17.85 billion, industry leaders now warn that the sector's preferential access to European markets under the GSP Plus regime is increasingly at risk.

### **Uzbekistan eyes joint textile, industrial units**

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Wednesday hosted a 16-member delegation from Uzbekistan to promote trade, investment and industrial cooperation between the two countries. The delegation was led by Minhajiddin Raufov.

### **TDAP delay risks presence at key US fair**

LAHORE: Pakistan's value-added textile and apparel export industry has expressed serious concern over the lack of timely arrangements by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) for participation in the internationally renowned trade exhibition "Sourcing at MAGIC", scheduled from February 17 to 19, 2026, in Las Vegas, the United States.

### **Pakistan moves to test dollar-pegged digital currency**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday signed a pact with a company linked to the family of US President Donald Trump to explore integrating a dollar-pegged stablecoin into its national payment system to enable faster and cheaper cross-border transactions.

### **'Govt shifting focus to growth'**

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar said on Wednesday that International Monetary Fund (IMF) programmes were generally anti-growth, adding that the focus of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's government from now onwards would be on increasing national output.

### **Pakistan among 75 countries hit by US immigrant visa processing freeze**

The Trump administration is suspending all visa processing for applicants from 75 countries, including Pakistan. The US State Department did not elaborate on the plan, first reported by Fox News on Wednesday, which cited a State Department memo.

### **ایکسپریس نیوز**

صنعتی بجلی ٹیرف کم ہو کر 46 روپے 31 پیسے یونٹ ہو گیا

انڈسٹریز پر گیس کمپنی کے کیپٹو ٹیرف کا نفاذ غیر آئینی قرار

امریکا نے پاکستان سمیت 75 ممالک کے میگرینٹ ویزے معطل کر دیے

سرمایہ کاروں کا محتاط طرز عمل، اسٹاک مارکیٹ پھر مندی سے دوچار