

# **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**

### **Pakistan introduces online visa facilities for 192 countries: minister**

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh announced Wednesday that Pakistan has introduced online visa facilities for 192 countries as part of efforts to promote tourism and attract foreign investment.

### **T-Bills yields return to single-digit territory**

KARACHI: After a four-year gap, cut-off yields on Pakistan's short-term government papers have returned to single-digit territory. At Wednesday's auction, cut-off yields on 3-month and 6-month Treasury Bills fell back to single digits, a level last seen in November 2021.

### **July-Oct: power sector circular debt stands at Rs1.817trn**

The country's power sector circular debt stock stood at Rs 1.817 trillion during the first four months (July–October) of CFY 2025–26, with an addition of Rs 204 billion, compared to Rs 15 billion in the same period of 2024–25, reflecting an increase of 1,260 percent.

### **FPCCI begins fund-raising for rehabilitation of Gul Plaza affectees**

KARACHI: The FPCCI sets up a fund for the Gul Plaza Shopping Mall blaze affectees and so far Rupees 10 million have been raised. This was announced by FPCCI President Atif Ikram, during his visit to Gul Plaza along with his office bearers' team.

### **THE RUPEE PKR: marginal gain**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee registered marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Wednesday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.90, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback. On Tuesday, the local unit closed at 279.91.

### **Gold, silver hit fresh record highs**

KARACHI: Local gold prices climbed to fresh record highs on Wednesday, breaching the Rs500,000-per-tola level as bullion markets continued to set new benchmarks, traders said. International uptrend caused a steep rise in local gold prices by Rs12,700 to trade at new historic rate of Rs506,362 per tola and Rs10,888 to Rs434,123 per 10 grams,

### **Gold at all-time high**

Gold surpassed USD4,800 an ounce for the first time on Wednesday as geopolitical tensions including US President Donald Trump's bid to control Greenland drove safe-haven demand.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Taxes, power tariffs to be cut soon: Haroon**

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Haroon Akhtar Khan on Wednesday said the government was planning to reduce taxes on industries and that the electricity tariff would be lowered soon.

## **Fitch affirms Pakistan's debt ratings at 'B-'**

ISLAMABAD: Fitch Ratings, one of the world's top three agencies, on Wednesday affirmed Pakistan's long-term debt ratings at 'B-' (B-negative), which it had upgraded in April last year, and assigned a Recovery Rating of 'RR4' following the removal of the ratings from Under Criteria Observation (UCO).

## **T-bill yields cut to single digits after four years**

KARACHI: The government on Wednesday reduced the cut-off yields on treasury bills by up to 31 basis points, bringing the yields for most tenors below 10 per cent for the first time in over four years.

## **Gold hits record Rs506,362 per tola**

KARACHI: A whopping jump of \$127 per ounce in the international market to \$4,840 per ounce pushed the domestic gold (24 karat) rate to Rs506,362 per tola on Wednesday, the highest in the country's history, after an increase of Rs12,700 per tola from Tuesday's price.

## **After two-year delay, SBCA issues fire safety directives**

KARACHI: Only after a devastating fire at Gul Plaza caused massive human and financial losses, enraging the public over the lack of firefighting mechanisms and emergency exits, has the Sindh Building Control Authority decided to enforce fire safety rules in buildings in the metropolis.

# **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

## **Pakistan secures \$4.5bn foreign loans in first half of FY26**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan secured foreign loans amounting to \$4.5 billion from multilateral and bilateral creditors during the first half (July-December) of the current fiscal year, compared to \$3.6 billion received in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

## **Pakistan extends online visa facility to citizens of 192 countries, minister says**

KARACHI: Minister for Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said on Wednesday that Pakistan has introduced an online visa facility for citizens of 192 countries, adding that the country has made notable progress through collective efforts.

## **Fitch affirms Pakistan at 'B-' under new rating criteria**

KARACHI: Fitch Ratings has affirmed Pakistan's long-term foreign-currency debt ratings at B- and assigned a recovery rating of RR4, following the removal of the sovereign from Under Criteria Observation, the agency said on Wednesday.

## **Pakistan mulls space-based monitoring to support port expansion, maritime safety**

KARACHI: Pakistan is considering the use of space-based monitoring systems to support port expansion, maritime safety and environmental protection, the country's maritime affairs minister said on Wednesday, as he visited the headquarters of the national space agency, reports 'Arab News'.

## **Govt puts SMEs at core of growth**

The federal government has placed small businesses at the centre of Pakistan's economic strategy, announcing on Wednesday a three-day national SME expo in Lahore as the prime minister's aide said the country was moving towards stability, jobs and export-led growth.

## Karachi Gateway Terminal signs deal for automated bulk handling equipment

KARACHI: Karachi Gateway Terminal Multipurpose (Pvt) Ltd (KGML) has signed an agreement with Genma, a Chinese global leader in bulk handling solutions, for the procurement of high-capacity automated bulk handling equipment.

## TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

### World Bank flags risks to economy

KARACHI: The World Bank has warned that escalating regional conflicts, climate shocks and tighter global financial conditions pose significant downside risks to economic recovery across the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan (MENAAP) region, with Pakistan among the most exposed economies due to its climate vulnerability and fragile security environment.

### Aurangzeb holds ADB talks on reforms at Davos

DAVOS: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb held a series of meetings in Davos on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting, focusing on Pakistan's economic reform agenda, international partnerships and investment-led growth.

### Government plans tax cuts, lower power tariffs to boost SMEs: Haroon Akhtar

ISLAMABAD:

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Industries and Production Haroon Akhtar Khan on Wednesday said that the government was planning to reduce industrial taxes and electricity tariffs.

### Canada seeks mineral ties after Reko Diq success

ISLAMABAD:

Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik held a meeting with the High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan, Tarik Ali Khan, to discuss strengthening bilateral cooperation in the minerals and energy sectors.

### Pakistan, Finland to boost bilateral cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Foreign Minister of Finland Elina Valtonen on Wednesday, reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen and expand Pak-Finland bilateral cooperation in key areas including trade and investment.

### ایکسپریس نیوز

اسٹاک مارکیٹ مндی کا شکار، تولہ سونا 5 لاکھ سے تجاوز کر گیا

پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان جو تاساری کے معابر کی منظوری

گورنر سندھ سے کراچی چیمبر کے رینماؤں کی ملاقات