

# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

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❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION  
❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING  
❖ DATE :- 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2026

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## **BUSINESS RECORDER**

### **Rs15bn for REAP from EDF: Losses hit all exports, not limited to rice trade: industries**

ISLAMABAD: The country's export-oriented industries have reportedly reacted strongly to the government's decision to extend over Rs 15 billion to the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) from the Export Development Fund (EDF), arguing that the entire export sector is facing losses — not the rice sector alone, well-informed sources told Business Recorder.

### **KCAA disappointed by operational failures at KICT, KGTL for two decades**

KARACHI: Businesses are facing serious delays at Karachi International Container Terminal and Karachi Gateway Terminal Limited (KGTL), following no improvements in space, machinery, and manpower for nearly two decades.

### **Forex reserves move up by USD10m**

KARACHI: Pakistan's total liquid foreign exchange reserves posted a slight increase of USD 10 million during the last week. According to official data release by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), foreign exchange reserves held by the SBP rose to USD 16.088billion during the week ended on Jan 16, 2026, compared to USD 16.072billion recorded a week earlier on Jan 9, 2026.

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

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee registered marginal gain, appreciating 0.01% against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Thursday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.87, a gain of Re0.03 against the greenback. On Wednesday, the local unit closed at 279.90.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Business costs 34pc higher than region**

ISLAMABAD: The cost of doing business in Pakistan is about 34 per cent higher than in regional economies, creating a serious competitiveness crisis for local industry, a business group said on Thursday. In a statement, the Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) said higher operating costs had "severely undermined" the ability of local industries to compete in international markets.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **FBR revises downward customs values for used imported cellphones**

ISLAMABAD: The FBR's Directorate General of Customs Valuation, Karachi, has revised customs values for old and used mobile phones imported from abroad. This move will decrease the PTA tax on these imported phone sets.

## **Pakistan seeks 10 more years to implement stalled IP gas pipeline project**

ISLAMABAD: Facing a potential \$18 billion penalty in international arbitration, Pakistan has requested that Iran grant a fresh 10-year extension until 2035 for the implementation of the stalled Iran-Pakistan (IP) gas pipeline. The request cites continued and intensified US sanctions against Tehran under the Trump administration.

## **Section 4B of income tax law unlawful, FCC told**

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) has adjourned for today (Friday) hearing of cases related to the imposition of Super Tax. A three-member FCC, headed by Chief Justice Aminuddin Khan and comprising Justice Syed Hassan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Arshad Hussain,

## **Pakistan turning into salary dependent society**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is rapidly transforming into a salary dependent society as the share of employees in the national workforce has surged to 60 percent, marking a significant shift away from traditional self-employment.

## **Pakistan, Canada explore deeper mineral investment**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Canada are exploring deeper cooperation in the minerals and energy sectors as Islamabad accelerates efforts to revive long-delayed mining projects, including the Reko Diq copper-gold mine, according to a statement from the information ministry this week, reports 'Arab News'.

## **Azerbaijan's Socar signals investment in Pakistan's oil, gas sector**

ISLAMABAD: Following a high-level business roundtable chaired earlier on Thursday by the Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos, the State Oil Company of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Socar) has announced that it is set to finalise its investment in Pakistan's oil and gas sector in February.

## **Forex reserves increase to \$21.258bn as of January 16**

KARACHI: Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves rose by \$10 million to \$21.258 billion in the week ending January 16, compared to \$21.248 billion in the previous week, the central bank said on Thursday.

## **Raqami Bank to launch in Pakistan with \$100m investment plan**

Pakistani financial firm Raqami Islamic Digital Bank plans to invest \$100 million over the next five years as it gears up to start operations next month, reports Bloomberg.

## **Pakistan's business costs 34pc higher than region, PBF says**

KARACHI: The cost of doing business in Pakistan is about 34 per cent higher than in regional peers, undermining the competitiveness of local industries and leaving exporters struggling to compete internationally, the Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) said.

## **FPCCI, ECO-CCI hold executive committee, general assembly meetings in Karachi**

The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and the Economic Cooperation Organisation's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ECO-CCI) organised the 30th Executive Committee meeting and the 20th General Assembly meeting in Karachi.

## **SBCA launches province-wide fire safety compliance drive**

The Sindh Building Control Authority (SBCA) has launched a province-wide enforcement drive to ensure strict compliance with fire safety regulations. Notices have been issued on Local Government Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah's orders in all regions of the province, underscoring that the initiative is not limited to Karachi.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **PHMA demands equal access**

KARACHI: The local apparel and value-added textile sector has expressed concern over the government's decision to include the rice sector, whose share in exports is only \$3 billion, in the Export Development Fund (EDF) and the Duty Drawback of Local Taxes and Levies (DLTL) mechanism involving large allocations, while exporters from the apparel and value-added textile sector remain ignored.

### **Pakistan's cost of doing business 34% higher than region: PBF**

LAHORE: Pakistan's business community is facing a serious competitiveness crisis as the cost of doing business is 34% higher than in regional economies, severely undermining the ability of local industries to compete in international markets, Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Chief Organiser Ahmad Jawad said on Thursday.

### **China finalises \$1.5bn deals, signs \$9bn MoUs with Pakistan**

KARACHI: China has finalised new joint venture agreements worth \$1.5 billion with Pakistan and signed memoranda of understanding valued at approximately \$9 billion across the agriculture, automotive and minerals sectors, Federal Minister for Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said on Thursday.

### **Income tax bill sails through National Assembly**

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Thursday passed the Income Tax Ordinance (Third Amendment) Bill, 2025, aimed at strengthening the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism for tax disputes.

### **SBP forex reserves cross \$16b**

KARACHI: Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves recorded a modest weekly increase, with the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) holdings rising by \$16 million to \$16.0877 billion in the week ending January 16, 2026, according to official data released on Thursday.

### **Airport moved to privatisation list**

ISLAMABAD: The government has shelved a plan to outsource the management and operations of Islamabad International Airport to the UAE after Abu Dhabi lost interest in the process.

### **Railway talks with Kazakhstan advance**

ISLAMABAD: A high-level consultation was held at the Ministry of Railways between the Federal Minister for Railways and the Ambassador of Kazakhstan, focusing on regional connectivity and railway cooperation.

**ایکسپریس نیوز**

اسٹاک مارکیٹ میں اتار چڑھاؤ کے باوجود تیزی رہی، روپیہ مزید مضبوط