

Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan

❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION
❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING
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BUSINESS RECORDER

PML(N)-led coalition govt struggles to strike a delicate balance between outright populism & fiscal discipline

• Dar presents Rs14.5trn budget • Budget closely watched by IMF • 3.5% economic growth target set • Fiscal deficit target set at 6.54% of GDP • Govt targets inflation at 21% • Total spending target of 14.46 trillion rupees set • Defence expenditure estimated at 1.8 trillion rupees • Targets total tax revenue of 9.2 trillion rupees • Targets total non-tax revenue of 3 trillion rupees • \$30 billion export target set • No new tax on industrial sector

Rs327bn hike in PL proposed

Federal government has proposed to increase the petroleum levy on petroleum products by Rs 327 billion to Rs 869 billion in financial year 2023-24 against the revised estimates of current financial year of Rs 542 billion.

RDs on wide range of items abolished

ISLAMABAD: The FBR has abolished regulatory duties on a wide range of items including synthetic filament yarn of polyester and second hand clothing. According to the Finance Bill 2023 issued on Friday, the FBR has removed regulatory duty on second hand clothing to provide relief to the poor segment of the society.

Cash withdrawal: Non-filers to pay 0.6pc advance tax

KARACHI: The federal government has proposed 0.6 percent advance tax on cash withdrawal for non-filers to bring more people into the tax net. According to Finance Bill, advance tax on cash withdrawal is being imposed for the non-filers.

Rs223bn taxation measures taken

ISLAMABAD: The government has taken new taxation measures of Rs223 billion in the budget (2023-24) including the applicability of super tax on all persons having income above Rs150 million,

Power production, transmission and distribution: Centre's powers of GST collection go to provinces

ISLAMABAD: In a significant move, the government has transferred the Centre's powers of collection of sales tax on production, transmission, and distribution of electricity to the provinces in a step towards harmonisation of sales tax law in Pakistan. This has been made through the Finance Bill, 2023, issued on Friday.

Additional tax on income profit, gains imposed

ISLAMABAD: The government has imposed "additional tax" at the rate not exceeding 50 percent on income profit and gains of a person or class of persons on account of extraordinary gains due to exogenous factors.

Finance Bill 2023: Rate of GST on e-integrated textile retailers up 3pc

ISLAMABAD: The government has enhanced the rate of sales tax on electronically-integrated textile retailers from the existing 12 percent to 15 percent under the Finance Bill, 2023. It was informed by Arshad Shehzad, a prominent sales tax expert that the government, in order to promote electronic real-time reporting, has introduced a reduced rate of tax facility on sales made by large-scale branded textile and leather retailers under entry#66 of the Eight schedule of the STA 1990.

Govt changes definition of 'SMEs'

ISLAMABAD: The government has changed the definition of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) to increase in business turnover limit of a manufacturer from Rs250 million to Rs800 million to qualify for concessionary tax regime for SMEs and inclusion of IT &ITeS in SMEs definition.

Proposals

- No increase in duties on import of essential items
- Minimum wage proposed at Rs32,000; wages of government employees from Grades 1-16 and Grades 17-22 to be increased by 35pc and 30pc, respectively

Trade leaders give mixed response

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President of the FPCCI, has expressed concerns over the federal budget 2023-24, stating that it presents an unrealistic picture of the country's economy. Sheikh argued that the budgetary targets are also unrealistic, and the business community will be closely scrutinizing the budget for any hidden taxes.

KCCI terms budget as 'balanced one'

Karachi Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) has termed the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24) a comparatively "balanced one" under the tough economic and political circumstances of the country.

KATI hails approval of Electric Power Services Bill

KARACHI: KATI President Faraz-ur-Rehman welcomed the approval of the Regulation Electric Power Services Bill by the Sindh government. He said that under this law, the provincial government will be able to provide cheap electricity to consumers by obtaining electricity from various sources,

Full of sound and fury

An exercise in futility at best, extreme folly at worst, are the most appropriate epithets for the budget 2023-24 delivered by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar yesterday. The budget documents do not contain the macroeconomic and fiscal framework that provides key indicators for the outgoing year (growth, inflation, FBR tax as percentage of GDP) and projects them for the next three years.

'That is Dar's philosophy of life'?

It's a typical Dar budget with some populist flavor. Penalize anyone who makes money legally and wants to grow their business in the formal sector. "That is Dar's philosophy of life", lamented a businessman. Taxing those who are already taxed is the only trick in Dar's playbook and it seems this time he has swallowed all its pages.

Non-resident person: FBR expands scope of definition of 'Permanent Establishment'

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has expanded the scope of definition of Permanent Establishment in Pakistan of non-resident person under the Finance Bill 2023.

Sindh to present budget today

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, who also holds the portfolio of Provincial Finance Minister, will present the Sindh budget for the next financial year 2023-24 on June 10.

SECP registers 2,539 new companies in May

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) registered 2,539 new companies in May 2023, bringing the total number of registered companies to 194,466.

THE RUPEE: PKR: marginal decline

The Pakistani rupee registered a marginal decline against the US dollar with a depreciation of 0.04% in the inter-bank market on Friday. At close, the currency settled at 286.93, a decrease of Re0.12, as per the SBP.

Gold, silver make gains

Gold prices on Friday regained a big value with silver on the local market, traders said. Gold prices now reached Rs 229,300 per tola and Rs 196,588 per 10 grams after growing by Rs 2,300 and Rs 1,972, respectively.

DAWN NEWSPAPER

BUDGET 2023-24: 'Populist' measures in trying times

- Budget for next fiscal year headlined by massive increases in federal govt salaries, pensions
- Development spending jacked up by a third
- After paying provinces' share, govt income insufficient to cover debt servicing expense
- External borrowing to be 114pc higher compared to outgoing year
- Revenue target through PDL raised by 60pc to Rs869bn

What's actually new in this budget?

KARACHI: Like most budgets in recent years, the budget for fiscal year 2023-24 is also heavy on financing expenditures by accumulating debt even as a large chunk (more than 50 per cent) of current expenditures constitute debt servicing.

Targets unrealistic, says industry

KARACHI / LAHORE: The government has presented a picture of the economy far from facts while targets set for the budget 2023-24 also look unrealistic, said FPCCI President Irfan Iqbal Sheikh on Friday while expressing apprehensions that the business community would be looking for “hidden taxes” in the Finance Bill.

Roadmap to revitalise economy

ISLAMABAD: The government has defined a roadmap and timelines for the implementation of various initiatives under the 5Es framework — exports, e-Pakistan, environment, energy & infrastructure and equity & empowerment — to revitalise the economy.

Budget 2023-24: No relief for business community: SCCI

PESHAWAR: The SCCI has termed the federal budget for financial year 2023-24 as disappointing and not growth-oriented. “The federal government didn’t take relief measures for business community while keeping in view the depressing economic conditions,”

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Closely watched by IMF, Rs14.46tr budget raises pay, pension

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Ishaq Dar Friday presented an expansionary budget proposal of Rs14.46 trillion for FY2023-24 amid an unrelenting pressure of the International Monetary Fund.

Govt imposes Rs223bn additional taxes

ISLAMABAD: The government has slapped additional taxes of Rs223 billion, including withholding tax of 0.6 percent on cash withdrawal from banks, expanding super tax across the board, and has proposed securing legal powers to bring up to 50 percent windfall gains profit into the tax net.

Three slabs added to Super Tax, rate hiked to 10pc

ISLAMABAD: The FBR has proposed an enhanced rate of Super Tax across the board by adding three more thresholds with an increased rate from 6 to 10 percent. Now the super tax has been rationalised under Section 4C and would apply on all persons across the board earning income above Rs150 million.

Due to exogenous factors: Govt proposes powers to slap up to 50pc tax on 'extraordinary gains'

ISLAMABAD: The FBR has proposed powers for imposing an additional tax on certain income, profit and gains in the budget. For imposing an additional tax on certain income, profits, and gains, it is proposed that notwithstanding anything contained in this Ordinance or any other law for the time being in force,

Budget 2023-24: more debt for the people

HE outlay for Budget 2023-24 is estimated to be Rs14.46tr, of which almost half will be allocated towards servicing of debt. What else does Budget 2023-24 say? It allocates around Rs716bn to pensions, while military expenditure gets around Rs1.8tr.

Businesses say tax collection target for FY24 'unrealistic'

KARACHI: The business community on Friday questioned a tax collection target of Rs9,200 billion proposed by the government for the financial year 2023-24, saying the target was “unrealistic” and would impede the country’s economic recovery.

Budget falls short of expectations for stock market: traders

KARACHI: Traders and analysts are expressing their disappointment with the proposed federal budget, citing the lack of direct incentives for the stock market. Analysts said that the government had presented several targets, which were not achievable, including its revenue collection target.

FBR increases WHT rates on commercial imports

ISLAMABAD: The FBR has jacked up withholding tax rates on commercial imports on other goods imported by commercial importers from 5.5 percent to 6 percent in the Finance Bill 2023-24.

ILO assures support for reforms, welfare of Pakistan's labourers

KARACHI: The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has reaffirmed its commitment to provide the utmost assistance to Pakistan's government in its drive to adopt reforms and safety mechanisms for the uplift and well-being of workers all across the country.

TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

Govt to collect additional Rs2tr from economy

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Ishaq Dar unveiled a series of tax measures on Friday, including the imposition of taxes on cash withdrawal and bonus shares, as well as an amnesty scheme to whiten black money. The government aims to achieve a tax target of Rs9.2 trillion, with at least Rs223 billion in additional tax measures.

Debt burden mounts as interest payments soar to Rs7.3tr

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is set to face a massive burden of Rs7.3 trillion in the next fiscal year, as interest payments on domestic and foreign debt continue to rise. The government had initially budgeted Rs3.9 trillion to cover markup on loans for the ongoing fiscal year 2022-23. However, revised estimates show that the spending on interest payments surged to Rs5.52 trillion.

FBR banks on Rs200b additional taxes

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Asim Ahmad has said additional taxes of Rs200 billion were imposed to achieve the collection target of Rs9,200 billion set in the federal budget for the next fiscal year 2023-24.

Govt bets on relief, amnesty

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on Friday unveiled a Rs14.5 trillion bloated budget, with the highest-ever deficit of Rs7.6 trillion in a bid to appease nearly a dozen sectors ahead of the general elections that could antagonise the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Federal govt ups salaries of its workers by 30%-35%

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has made a principled decision to increase the salaries of its employees under the category of adhoc allowances by 30% to 35% in its budget for the next financial year. It will be applicable from July 1 after the budget is approved by parliament.

Bangladesh seeks collaboration with businesses in Sindh

EXPRESS NEWSPAPER

Federal Budget of 14460 Billion presented. Salaries 35%, Pension 17.5%, Minimum Wage 32 Thousand, Tractor, Solar Panel, Batteries, IT Equipment cheap

Packed food, Branded fabric, fans expensive, 0.6% deduction on withdrawal of 50 Thousand, 10% super tax on wealthy people

Dollar expensive more Ps. 13, big increase of Rs. 2300 per tola in Gold price