

## **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION  
❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING  
❖ DATE :- January 17, 2026

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## **BUSINESS RECORDER**

### **Jul-Nov LSM sector grows 6.01pc YoY**

ISLAMABAD: Despite a persistent decline in exports, the Large Scale Manufacturing (LSM) sector registered a double-digit growth of 10.37 percent in November mainly because of impressive performance of automobile, petroleum, garments and cement sectors.

### **Govt focusing on expanding SMEs' access to credit**

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to facilitate Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) especially resolving their lending and financial problems by providing them easy credit.

### **LFS sees a sharp rise in average wages**

ISLAMABAD: Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2024-25 claimed a sharp rise in average wages over the past four years - 62 percent raise - however high inflation rate during this period raises concerns over the real purchasing power of each rupee earned.

### **Pakistan, US explore avenues for trade growth**

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance, Muhammad Aurangzeb on Friday met US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Baker, with discussions focusing on Pakistan's economic outlook, reform agenda and avenues to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

### **Power sector: Nepra sees 'limited' progress despite fixes**

ISLAMABAD: An assessment of Pakistan's power sector during FY 2024-25 prompted National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) to observe that despite several structural and policy-level interventions,

### **KE consumers also paying Rs3.23/kWh DSS: Nepra**

ISLAMABAD: While acknowledging that K-Electric has no role in the accumulation of circular debt, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has noted that KE consumers are nonetheless paying a Debt Servicing Surcharge (DSS) of Rs3.23 per kWh, highlighting the inequitable burden of sector inefficiencies on electricity users.

### **CPPA-G seeks 50 paisa per unit raise in Discos' tariffs**

ISLAMABAD: The Central Power Purchasing Agency-Guaranteed (CPPA-G) has sought a positive adjustment of paisa 50 per unit in Discos' tariffs under Fuel Charges Adjustment (FCA) for December 2025 to recover Rs 4 billion from consumers and Discos and KE.

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

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee registered marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Friday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.95, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback.

### **Ogra reduces RLNG prices up to 5.26pc**

ISLAMABAD: Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority has notified on Friday reduction in prices of RLNG upto 5.26 percent for consumers of gas companies for January.

### **Fire erupts at KICT**

KARACHI: A fire erupted in a container inside the Karachi International Container Terminal (KICT) on Friday, prompting an immediate response from rescue teams and port security personnel.

### **Soda ash: NTC slaps provisional anti-dumping duties**

ISLAMABAD: The National Tariff Commission (NTC) has imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on dumped imports of the investigated product classified under PCT code 2836.2000 (Soda Ash) for a period of four months.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Business leaders reject power package, seek tariff relief**

ISLAMABAD: Leaders of the business community on Friday said expensive electricity and excessive taxation had forced about 150 large textile units to shut down over the past two years, and rejected the government's electricity incentive package.

### **LSM growth rebounds in November**

ISLAMABAD: The Large-Scale Manufacturing (LSM) sector posted a year-on-year growth of 10.37 per cent in November 2025 amid ongoing economic challenges, showed figures released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics on Friday.

### **RLNG price cut by up to 5pc**

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) on Friday notified up to five per cent reduction in the price of regasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG) at the distribution stage for the current month, mainly due to lower international oil prices.

### **Discos seek to extract Rs4bn more for December**

ISLAMABAD: After refusing to pass on to consumers a 62-paisa per unit reduction determined by the regulator in the base national tariff for the current fiscal year, the power companies on Friday sought a 48-paisa per unit increase in fuel cost charges to consumers across the country in February bills despite more than 72pc generation in December from cheaper domestic,

### **Weekly inflation rises 3.8pc**

ISLAMABAD: Short-term inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Index (SPI), increased 3.87 per cent year-on-year in the week ending Jan 15 due to an increase in the retail price of tomatoes and LPG cylinders.

### **Karachi port fire destroys imported goods stored in 20 containers**

KARACHI: Imported goods, mostly lithium batteries, stored in at least 20 containers were destroyed as a huge fire erupted at the Karachi International Container Terminal (KICT) at the Karachi Port Trust (KPT) on Friday afternoon, officials and rescue services said.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **Power sector mired in inefficiency: Nepra**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's power sector is trapped in a costly cycle of waste, weak utilities and rising circular debt, forcing consumers to pay more for electricity despite surplus generation capacity, according to a damning new assessment by the power regulator.

### **Another power bill hike looms in Feb**

ISLAMABAD: Power consumers may face yet another hike in their electricity bills as the power utilities have asked the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) to allow them charging an additional Rs0.4781 per unit from consumers.

### **Factory output jumps 10.4pc in November**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's large-scale manufacturing (LSM) sector showed clear signs of revival in November, posting double-digit annual growth as easing financial conditions and improving demand lifted key industries, even though several heavy sectors remain under pressure.

### **FPCCI warns of industrial emergency as energy costs squeeze manufacturers**

KARACHI: The business community has called for the declaration of an industrial emergency to avert what it described as an imminent economic collapse, warning that Pakistan's manufacturing base is teetering on the brink of a systemic and potentially irreversible decline.

### **Ogra cuts RLNG prices up to 5.26pc for January**

ISLAMABAD: The government trimmed prices of re-gasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG) by up to 5.26 per cent for January 2026, citing a marginal drop in terminal charges as the primary reason for the adjustment.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

## **Govt raises levy on petrol by Rs4.65/litre**

ISLAMABAD: The government has increased levy on petrol by Rs4.65 per litre and on diesel by 80 paisa per litre, effectively depriving the public of full relief of falling fuel prices.

## **US visa pause meant to ensure vigorous vetting, says embassy**

ISLAMABAD: The US Embassy in Islamabad said on Friday that Secretary of State Marco Rubio instituted the pause on the issuance of immigration visa to ensure that the new immigrants were vetted "to the maximum degree" and that they will not use public assistance.

## **Power sector sees Rs800b equity hole**

ISLAMABAD: The power sector equity turned negative by Rs800 billion in the last fiscal year due to a reduction in sales and six power distribution companies remaining in losses because of under-recoveries and electricity theft, an official annual performance report has revealed.

## **Higher SME lending limits proposed**

ISLAMABAD: A think tank has proposed that the government introduce generous exposure limits of up to Rs500 million for medium enterprises (ME) and Rs100 million for small enterprises (SE), allowing banks to finance growing SMEs without regulatory caps.

## **Consumers brace for tariff hike**

ISLAMABAD: Consumers are likely to bear an increase of up to Rs0.48 per unit in electricity tariffs on account of fuel cost adjustment for December 2025. Earlier, the reference price had been set at Rs9.14 per unit, but the actual price came in at a higher level at Rs9.62 per unit, registering a rise of Rs0.48.

## **SBP injects Rs12.8tr via OMOs**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Friday injected substantial liquidity of around Rs12.8 trillion into the banking system through both conventional and Shariah-compliant Open Market Operations (OMOs).

## **EXPRESS NEWSPAPER**

**Rs. 800 Billion in negative equity of Electricity sector**

**FPCCI demands to impose industrial emergency**

**Massive Boom in stock market; Volume of 4 Trillion 37 Billion raised**