

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

❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION  
❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING  
❖ DATE :- December 31, 2025

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## **BUSINESS RECORDER**

### **SBP buys USD1bn in Sept interbank dealings**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) purchased a hefty USD 1 billion worth of forex from the interbank market in September 2025, signaling a marked increase in its market intervention amid improving external inflows.

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

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee reported marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Tuesday. At close, the local currency settled at 280.15, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback.

### **Collection of govt duties/taxes : Banks will observe extended working hours today**

KARACHI: Commercial banks will observe extended working hours for collection of government duties and taxes on Wednesday, December 31, 2025.

### **Small businesses : Traders protest against installation of POS devices**

ISLAMABAD: The failure of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to effectively deal with the traders' community resulted in another massive protest on Tuesday against the installation of Point of Sale (POS) devices on small businesses in the federal capital.

### **Gold, silver continue downward trend**

KARACHI: Gold prices slumped while silver saw a sizeable fall on Tuesday, depicting an international market's decline, traders said.

### **Bank holiday**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan will remain closed for public dealing on Thursday, January 01, 2026, which will be observed as 'Bank Holiday'. All banks / DFIs / MFBs shall, therefore, remain closed for public dealing on the aforementioned date.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Pakistan to enter 2026 as fifth-most populous country**

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) says that as Pakistan enters 2026 as the world's fifth most populous country, with a population exceeding 225 million, high population growth and fertility rates, persistent gender inequality, and rising climate vulnerability, the urgency of addressing population dynamics has intensified.

### **Traders announce nationwide protests on Jan 16**

ISLAMABAD: Traders on Tuesday announced nationwide protests on January 16 if the directive to install point of sale (POS) devices was not withdrawn. POS machines digitally record transactions, through touchscreen/terminal, barcode scanners, card readers, etc., and includes receipt printers.

### **Economy expands 3.71pc in 1QFY26**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's economy grew by 3.71 per cent in the first quarter (July-September) of the current fiscal year, a sizable increase from 1.56pc recorded in the same period last year.

### **Retail payment transactions rise 10pc to 2.8bn**

KARACHI: Retail payment volumes rose to 2.8 billion transactions in the July-September quarter, up 10 per cent from the previous quarter, while the value of retail payments increased 6pc to Rs166 trillion, a State Bank report said on Tuesday.

### **SBP buys \$9.7bn in 16 months**

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has bought \$9.7 billion from the interbank currency market over the past 16 months, reflecting the continued scarcity of dollars, despite the rollover of most of the country's loans.

### **Govt launches first bond for skill development**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday launched the country's first-ever private-capital-funded Pakistan Skills Impact Bond (PSIB), backed by a guarantee from the Ministry of Finance to operationalise the inaugural Rs1 billion pilot tranche of a three-year instrument to fund a wider and scalable Technical Skills Development Programme.

### **India overtakes Japan as fourth top economy**

NEW DELHI: India has overtaken Japan as the world's fourth-biggest economy — and officials hope to pass Germany within three years, the government's end-of-year economic review calculates.

### **Sindh cabinet okays third-party motor insurance from next fiscal year**

KARACHI: The Sindh cabinet reviewed the implementation of mandatory Motor Third-Party Insurance in the province and decided to enforce the initiative from the next financial year (FY). The initiative aims to ensure compensation for third parties affected by road accidents and provide insurance coverage to drivers of private and commercial vehicles across Sindh.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **PM meets UAE president in Rahim Yar Khan, Dar phones Saudi FM**

RAHIM YAR KHAN: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, at Sheikh Zayed Palace, Rahim Yar Khan, this afternoon.

### **GDP grew 3.7% in Q1 on industrial recovery: Ahsan**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's economy expanded 3.7 percent in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025-26, signaling a rebound driven by robust industrial activity, federal planning minister Ahsan Iqbal said Tuesday.

### **Pakistan, ADB ink two climate resilience initiatives worth over \$300m**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Tuesday signed two major climate resilience initiatives aimed at strengthening coastal protection and promoting low-carbon agriculture.

### **Petrol prices likely to fall by up to Rs10.60 per litre**

ISLAMABAD: Consumers are likely to receive significant relief at fuel stations from January 1, 2026, as authorities have finalised a sharp reduction in petroleum prices for the next fortnight, driven by a steep decline in international oil prices.

### **Pakistan eyes January for inaugural Panda Bond tranche issuance**

Pakistan is eyeing the issuance of its inaugural panda bond tranche in January as part of a planned \$1 billion programme, the finance ministry said on Friday.

### **SBP announces bank holiday on January 1**

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Tuesday announced that all banks and financial institutions will remain closed for public dealing on January 1, 2026.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **PIA to restart London route, its most popular international service**

Pakistan International Airlines will resume direct flights to London after a six-year gap, operating four weekly services from Islamabad starting March 29, the national flag carrier announced on Tuesday.

### **Mayor objects to FIA sealing of Cotton Exchange building**

KARACHI: City Mayor Murtaza Wahab has raised serious objections to the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) over the sealing of the Karachi Cotton Exchange (KCE) property, terming the move hasty, unilateral and carried out without verification of legal and factual records.

### **Economy grows by 3.7% in Q1 2025, defying flood fallout, official projections**

ISLAMABAD: The government on Tuesday approved a 3.7% economic growth rate for the first quarter of the current fiscal year on the back of growth across all major sectors of the economy, beating its own official reports of severe damage to agriculture caused by the "devastating floods".

### **Gold drops Rs10,700 on global profit-taking**

KARACHI: Gold prices in Pakistan declined sharply on Tuesday, tracking losses in the international bullion market amid profit-taking following a strong year-end rally.

## **EXPRESS NEWSPAPER**

**Boom continued in stock market; Gold price slashed Rs. 10700 per tola**

**Urged PM to restore routine operations of Cotton Exchange – Javed Bilwani**