## Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan

**❖** TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION

**❖** SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING **❖** DATE :- 21st February, 2025

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#### **BUSINESS RECORDER**

#### Rate of return for NPCs revised downward

KARACHI: The federal government has revised the rate of return downward for Conventional Naya Pakistan Certificates (NPCs), primarily due to a sharp decline in the key policy rate over the past six months. This marks the first reduction in NPC returns since the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) adopted a monetary easing stance in June 2024.

#### <u>India-style 'electricity exchange' on the cards</u>

ISLAMABAD: The Power Division is reportedly working on establishment of electricity exchange in the country on the pattern of India, well-informed sources told Business Recorder.

#### ATIR assessment framework: FBR directs IR officers to adhere to procedure

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has directed all Inland Revenue assessing officers to follow the procedural and legal framework laid down by Appellate Tribunal Inland Revenue (ATIR) for passing assessment orders against withholding agents

## Logistics industry facing massive losses due to offline trade

Pakistan's logistics industry is facing annual losses of approximately \$36 billion due to offline trade, which is also contributing to the loss of two to three million jobs in the sector. These concerns were highlighted by experts during the Pakistan Logistics and Shipping Summit 2025,

## TDAP organises webinar on exploring Algerian markets for exporters

KARACHI: International Markets Development Division (Africa Desk) of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), in collaboration with the Trade Mission of Pakistan in Algeria, successfully organised a webinar titled "Explore the Algerian Markets for Pakistan" on 19th Feb 2025.

#### Forex reserves hit \$15.95bn mark

KARACHI: The country's liquid foreign exchange reserves increased to \$15.95 billion as of February 14, 2025, marking a weekly gain of \$85 million, according to the latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

#### **PKR: largely stable**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee remained largely stable against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Thursday. At close, the rupee settled at 279.46, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback. The rupee had closed at 279.47 on Wednesday.

#### **Gold prices at all-time highs**

Gold prices-locally and globally continued to hit new highs on Thursday, as global market surpassed \$2,950 per ounce, traders said. The yellow metal became further costlier by Rs1,000 and Rs857, surging to a new record level of Rs309,000 per tola and Rs264,917 per 10 grams,

#### **Volume of business improves on cotton market**

LAHORE: The local cotton market on Thursday remained steady and the trading volume remained satisfactory. Cotton analyst Naseem Usman told Business Recorder that the cotton prices in Sindh currently range between Rs 16,700 and Rs 17,800 per maund,

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

#### IMF, Pakistan to open \$1bn climate finance talks

- Official says mission due on Feb 24 for 'review & discussion'
- Sherry urges structured climate financing to tackle environmental crisis
- Aurangzeb says bureaucratic hurdles continue to obstruct access to climate funds

## <u>Govt agency slams presence of 'non-professionals' in state-owned entities boards</u>

ISLAMABAD: The Central Monitoring Unit (CMU) of the federal government has deplored disproportionate presence of non-professional and non-independent members in the boards of directors at state-owned entities (SOEs) and an absence of effective audit and monitoring mechanisms in these organisations.

### **Large-Scale Manufacturing production shrinks 1.8pc**

ISLAMABAD: The Large-Scale Manufacturing (LSM) sector contracted 1.87 per cent year-on-year in the first half of 2024-25, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics data showed on Thursday. The big industry production has seen a negative trend since August 2024, except in October, due to domestic and global factors.

## Profit outflows surge 90pc in July-Jan

KARACHI: The profit outflows slightly decreased in January but were still higher by 90 per cent in the first seven months of FY25, according to State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) data released on Thursday.

## <u>Logistics industry faces staggering losses</u>

KARACHI: Pakistan's logistics industry faces annual losses of around \$36 billion due to offline trade, potentially resulting in the loss of two to three million jobs.

## Trump says trade deal with China 'possible'

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump suggested on Wednesday that a trade deal was "possible" with China — a key target in the US leader's tariffs policy. In 2020, the United States had already agreed to "a great trade deal with China" and a new deal was "possible",

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

#### Pakistan's inability to generate revenues key issue: IMF

ISLAMABAD: International Monetary Fund (IMF) Resident Chief in Pakistan Mahir Binici Thursday said that key macroeconomic challenges facing Pakistan's economy were debt burden owing to inability to generate revenues up to the potential.

#### Islamabad working to slash baseline tariff by Rs8 to 10 per unit

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has devised an alternative plan to reduce the baseline power tariff by Rs8 to Rs10 per unit and eliminate circular debt, following the IMF's rejection of the initial proposal to lower tariffs through tax cuts.

#### Shehbaz sets ambitious \$60bn export target

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed the formulation of a comprehensive strategy to increase Pakistan's exports, aiming to take the exports to \$60 billion in the next five years.

#### Pakistan's industry slows: LSM shrinks 1.87% in first half of FY25

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's large-scale manufacturing (LSM) sector contracted by 1.87 percent in the first half (July-December) of the current fiscal 2024-25 compared to the same period last year, as key industries reported lower output.

#### Pakistan emerges as key driver of Dubai Chamber's growth

Pakistan has emerged as the second-largest contributor to the growth of Dubai Chamber of Commerce memberships in 2024, with an impressive 8,179 new Pakistani businesses joining the chamber, a report by the Dubai Chamber of Commerce recently mentioned.

## Power generation falls on lower demand

KARACHI: The country's power generation dipped 2.0 per cent to 8,152 GWh (10,957 MW) in the month of January this fiscal year compared to the same month during the last fiscal, when power generation stood at 8,314 GWh (11,175 MW).

## Ogra allows HSD imports despite refineries opposition

KARACHI: The Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) has allowed for the import of 130,000 million tonnes (MTs) of high speed diesel (HSD) despite stiff opposition from refineries.

## Punjab chambers oppose Trade Act changes

LAHORE: Punjab's Chambers of Commerce and Industry, along with trade and industrial associations, have unanimously rejected recent amendments to the Trade Organisations Act 2013, calling them unacceptable.

## **Govt reduces profit rates on NPCs**

KARACHI: The government has lowered the rate of return on conventional Naya Pakistan Certificates (NPCs), as reported by a central bank circular released on Thursday. This adjustment aims to align the rates with the decline in interest rates in Pakistan and other respective countries.

#### SBP forex reserves rise by \$35m to \$11.2bn

KARACHI: Pakistan's central bank foreign exchange reserves increased by \$35 million to \$11.20 billion during the week ended February 14, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said in a statement on Thursday.

# TDAP webinar explores Algerian market opportunities for Pakistani exporters

KARACHI: The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) hosted a webinar on February 19, titled 'Explore the Algerian Markets for Pakistan', in collaboration with the Pakistani Trade Mission in Algeria.

### TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

#### Big industries' growth in the red

ISLAMABAD: The growth in Pakistan's major industries – the largest contributors to taxes and employment – shrank nearly 2% during the first half of the current fiscal year, indicating the adverse impact of high cost of doing business and economic stabilisation.

#### Experts urge renewable energy scale-up

KARACHI: National and international experts have stressed the need to scale up renewable energy (RE) and local manufacturing, mandating 50% local value addition in RE projects, increasing to 90% by 2028.

## \$1b climate funding talks with IMF next week

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan had been engaged with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for acquiring the climate fund and expected \$1-1.5 billion support from the global lender, Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb told the media persons on Thursday.

### Logistics sector sees \$36b losses on offline trade

KARACHI: Fostering sea-borne trade through digitalisation, experts and professionals in ports, shipping, and logistics have raised concerns that Pakistan's logistics industry faces annual losses of approximately \$36 billion due to offline trade, which is also contributing to the loss of two to three million jobs in the sector.

## Businessmen vehemently reject trade law changes

LAHORE: Chambers of commerce and industry, trade and industrial associations of the entire Punjab have unanimously rejected amendments to the Trade Organisations Act 2013 at a convention held at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and urged the government to immediately withdraw the decision.

## EXPRESS NEWSPAPER

Boom trend in stock market; Gold reached Rs. 309000/- per Tola