

# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

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

### **H1 exports soar 10.52pc to \$16.561bn YoY**

ISLAMABAD: The country's exports increased by 10.52 percent during the first half (July-December) of current fiscal year 2024-25 and stood at \$16.561 billion compared to \$14.985 billion during the same period of last fiscal year (2023-24).

### **Prioritising imported RLNG to domestic gas harms energy sector**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's energy sector is grappling with escalating financial issues, primarily driven by the forced suspension of domestic natural gas production. Currently, energy sector (power and gas) circular debt stood at over Rs 5.5 trillion despite government's untiring efforts to curtail it.

### **Coercive interpretation of fiscal laws: IHC slaps heavy penalties on FBR officers**

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) in a major decision has set a precedent by imposing significant costs on Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) officers for their coercive interpretation and misapplication of fiscal laws governing advance income tax obligations in terms of Section 147 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

### **Gold prices soar**

KARACHI: Gold prices saw a sizeable leap on Wednesday, reflecting the global market uptrend, traders said. The first session of the New Year trade accumulated Rs1, 000 and Rs857, driving gold prices to Rs273, 600 per tola and Rs234, 568 per 10 grams, respectively.

### **Subdued business on cotton market**

LAHORE: The local cotton market on Wednesday remained steady and the trading volume remained low. Cotton Analyst Naseem Usman told Business Recorder that the rate of cotton in Sindh is in between Rs 16,800 to Rs 18,200 per maund.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **Industry offers divergent views on economic performance in 2024**

Representatives of trade and industry appear to be divided over the country's economic indicators during 2024 as some believe that trading activities remained dismal while others say that one of the salient features of the outgoing year was that "Pakistan has managed to escape a possible default".

### **Exports post modest rise of 0.67pc in December**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's merchandise exports slowed for the second consecutive month in December due to a steep fall in international demand, according to data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics on Wednesday.

### **Concerns raised over gas sale deal without bidding**

ISLAMABAD: MOL Pakistan, an operator and 10 per cent shareholder in Tal Block, Kohat, has finalised the sale of gas from the newly developed Razgir field, which is 65pc owned by the state-owned entities (SOEs), to the first privately owned gas firm — Universal Gas Distribution Company Ltd (UGDCL).

## [\*\*CPI inflation hits near seven-year low at 4.1pc\*\*](#)

ISLAMABAD: The annual inflation maintained a sharp deceleration trend, hitting an 81-month low at 4.1 per cent in December due to a decrease in the prices of perishable food products.

## [\*\*Children above 10 will require new 'biometric' Form B\*\*](#)

ISLAMABAD: Form B — the identity document issued by the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) for children — will now have special biometric security features, the Interior Ministry said on Wednesday.

## [\*\*THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL\*\*](#)

### [\*\*Pakistan's trade deficit swells to \\$2.44bn in December\*\*](#)

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's merchandise trade deficit widened to \$2.44 billion in December 2024, a 35 percent year-on-year increase and the highest level since April, according to data released Wednesday by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

### [\*\*Russia, Central Asian countries want to trade through Pakistani ports: minister\*\*](#)

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh on Wednesday said that Russia and Central Asian countries wanted to trade through Pakistani ports as the world's major shipping companies were investing here which will make Pakistan an important trade hub in the region.

### [\*\*Murad wants Safe City project to start face, number plate recognition by February\*\*](#)

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Wednesday presided over a meeting on the Karachi Safe City project and directed the authorities to start identifying fancy, fake and dubious vehicle number plates from February onwards and report them to the concerned section of the police for further action.

### [\*\*Chinese delegation explores investment opportunities\*\*](#)

LAHORE: An eleven-member Chinese delegation from Xinjiang province, led by the mayor of Yecheang and Wang Xiangbing, chairperson of the Belt and Road International United Group, visited Pakistan at the invitation of the Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI).

## [\*\*TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER\*\*](#)

### [\*\*Internet disruptions ordered by govt: PTA\*\*](#)

ISLAMABAD: As the digital woes continue unabated, the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has disclosed that internet shutdowns across the country are carried out on government directives, sparking a heated debate in the Senate Standing Committee on Information Technology.

### [\*\*Industries demand oil price reduction\*\*](#)

KARACHI: Industrialists have condemned the recent hike in diesel and petrol prices and urged the prime minister to take action and reduce the rates. On the one hand, the PM announced the Uraan Pakistan programme while on the other hand, institutions were raising prices of petroleum products, which reflected a stark contrast in policies, the industrialists said.

### [\*\*Balochistan Summit aims to boost investment\*\*](#)

KARACHI: The FPCCI and the Balochistan Board of Investment and Trade (BBoIT) will jointly organise the Balochistan Summit 2025 on January 27-28 in Islamabad, aimed at promoting business, investment, joint ventures and industrialisation on an international scale in the province,

## [\*\*EXPRESS NEWSPAPER\*\*](#)

### [\*\*Priority Trade: Duty exempt on import from D8 countries\*\*](#)

### [\*\*Index broken all records on first day of New Year in Stock Market\*\*](#)