Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan

* TO :- 1	MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION
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SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING

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BUSINESS RECORDER

<u>Rise in exports, remittances in H1 causes C/A surplus</u>

KARACHI: Pakistan's current account posted a surplus of over \$1 billion in the first half (July-December) of the ongoing fiscal year (FY25), primarily driven by higher remittances and export growth. According to data released by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Friday,

Country's H1 FDI jumps 20pc to \$1.33bn YoY

KARACHI: Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) surged by 20 percent in the first half of the current fiscal year (FY25), reflecting improved investor confidence despite challenges in portfolio investments. According to the SBP, FDI inflows reached \$1.33 billion during July-December FY25,

Electricity: annual rebasing from Jan 1 approved

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet approved the revision in the annual rebasing determination timeline and directed that rebasing should be notified with effect from January 1, 2025, onward each year, following the completion of regulatory proceedings.

'Ineligible persons': FBR creates data governance office

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has created a "Data Governance Office" for registration and action against "ineligible persons" including non-filers across the country after enforcement of Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024.

Industrial consumers: Dar for providing power tariff relief

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar has directed the relevant departments to initiate process for providing relief to the industrial consumers of electricity. The deputy prime minister has chaired the second meeting on electricity tariff for industry.

High Commissioner of Rwanda, TDAP chief discuss bilateral trade cooperation

The High Commissioner of Rwanda, Harerimana Fatou, met with Muhammad Zubair Motiwala, Chief Executive of TDAP, and Sheryar Taj, Secretary TDAP, at TDAP's office. Also present on the occasion were Basit Rauf, DG Management Services & Textiles, Abdul Karim Memon, DG Sindh & Balochistan and Services, and Athar Hussain Khokhar, DG Agro & Food and PHDEC. The discussions focused on enhancing bilateral trade and exploring potential areas of cooperation.

THE RUPEE PKR: marginal improvement

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee marginally improved against the US dollar, appreciating 0.05% in the inter-bank market on Friday. At close, the currency settled at 278.71 after a gain of Re0.15 against the greenback. The rupee closed at 278.86 on Thursday, according to the SBP.

Gold prices slightly up

KARACHI: Gold prices saw a slight upward move on Friday, as the global bullion rates edged higher, traders said. The precious metal traded at Rs282,600 per tola and Rs242,283 per 10 grams, up by Rs400 and Rs342, respectively,

DAWN NEWSPAPER

IMF lowers Pakistan's GDP growth estimate to 3pc

Almost a month before scheduled negotiations on its \$7bn Extended Fund Facility with Pakistan, the Inter-national Monetary Fund on Friday lowered the country's growth estimate to 3pc for current fiscal year, down from 3.2pc it had projected about three months ago.

Economic Coordination Committee backs power tariff re-basing in winter rather than summer

ISLAMABAD: Amid regulator's opposition, the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet on Friday endorsed a proposal to shift the annual electricity re-basing exercise, so it would take effect from Jan 1 instead of July 1, to minimise public outcry over hefty bills in high-consumption months.

Discos propose Rs1.04 per unit negative FCA

ISLAMABAD: With a meagre 1.3 per cent growth in electricity demand over last year, the public sector power companies have sought about Rs1.04 per unit negative fuel price adjustment (FCA) for electricity consumed in December.

Current account posts \$1.2bn surplus in July-Dec

KARACHI: The current account posted another surplus of \$582 million in December 2024, bringing the total surplus for the first half of the current fiscal year (FY25) to \$1.2 billion. The State Bank reported on Friday that the current account surplus in December followed a larger surplus of \$684m in November.

FDI goes up by 20pc in six months

KARACHI: FDI increased by 20 per cent during the first half of the current financial year (FY25), the State Bank reported on Friday. The SBP data shows positive growth in FDI, but the total size of the inflows has not been significant enough to drive substantial economic change.

IT exports thrive despite internet issues

Despite challenges such as internet disruptions and firewalls, Pakistan achieved its highestever monthly IT exports of \$348 million in Dec-ember 2024, an increase of 15 per cent YoY and 12pc MoM. These exports in Decem-ber 2024 surpassed the 12-month average of \$299m.

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

FDI rises 20% to \$1.33bn in July-December

KARACHI: Pakistan's net foreign direct investment (FDI) increased by 20 per cent, reaching \$1.329 billion in the first six months of this fiscal year, according to data from the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) released on Friday.

Why Pakistani businesses struggle to compete globally

LAHORE: Marketing remains a significant challenge for many Pakistani enterprises striving to expand their exports. Limited branding and visibility of Pakistani products hinder global competitiveness, as these offerings often lack strong international appeal essential to attract buyers.

TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

\$582 million C/A surplus posted

KARACHI: In December 2024, Pakistan recorded its third consecutive month of a current account (CA) surplus, amounting to \$582 million, reflecting a 109% year-on-year increase. This positive trend is attributed to improved exports, robust remittances driven by mass human resource migration, moderate international commodity prices, and reduced non-essential imports due to declining purchasing power.

Tariff cut of Rs1.03 expected

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) is likely to slash power tariff by Rs1.035 per unit as part of monthly fuel price adjustment for December 2024, which will provide some relief to electricity consumers, who are bearing very high tariffs.

Korean investors invited to tap SME potential

LAHORE: Pakistan's burgeoning small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) sector offers immense potential for investors, presenting a wealth of opportunities for growth and collaboration, said Chairman Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT), Muntaha Ashraf, according to a press statement released on Friday.

Gold prices, rupee both rise

KARACHI: Gold prices increased on Friday, following an upward trend in international markets. The price of gold per tola rose by Rs400, reaching Rs282,600 in the local market, according to the All-Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Sarafa Association (APGJSA).