

Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan

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

Exporters reject 'final, normal tax regimes'

KARACHI: The value-added textile exporters on Monday dismissed the proposed "imposition" of Final Tax and Normal Tax Regimes in the federal budget 2024-25, terming it "counterproductive". Members of the Value-Added Textile Exporters Forum told a news conference at PHMA House that the move will create "unnecessary hassle" with involvement of FBR officials, which may open gates for corruption.

Finally, policy rate cut 150bps to 20.5pc

KARACHI: After maintaining a policy rate at all-time high level of 22 percent for almost a year, the Monetary Policy Committee of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has started monetary easing and cut the policy rate by 150bps to 20.5 percent on lower inflation.

Business community leader says 150bps rate cut 'too little, too late'

KARACHI: Business and industrial community has termed the meagre reduction in interest rate a bit disappointing and urged the SBP to keep reducing policy rate to reach single digit.

Expert and industry views on rate cut

KARACHI: Central bank cut its key interest rate by 150 basis points on Monday in a widely expected move, marking its first rate reduction in nearly four years in its effort to boost growth amid a sharp decline in retail inflation.

REAP proposes one-window tax system for exporters

KARACHI: Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) has suggested One Window Tax System for exports aimed to ease tax payments and facilitate exporters.

Long-term tax policy reforms recommended: Economists for flexible tariff system

ISLAMABAD: Economists while recommending long-term tax policy reforms have urged the government to introduce and implement a flexible tariffs system in the country aiming at reducing reliance on revenue collection through higher tariffs, additional customs duties,

July-March economic survey envisages 3.5pc growth

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led coalition government is to unveil Economic Survey 2023-24 for nine months (July-March) on Tuesday (today), according to which economic performance of the country remained below expectations despite better performance by the agriculture sector, as the contractionary fiscal policy constrained the growth recovery.

Solar PV panels: Duties on plant, machinery and raw material to go away

ISLAMABAD: The government is likely to remove duties on the import of plant, machinery, equipment and raw materials used in manufacturing of solar PV panels in the budget 2024-25,

GST rate to stay unchanged at 18pc

ISLAMABAD: The standard rate of sales tax would remain unchanged at 18 percent from July 1, 2024. Sources told Business Recorder that the budget proposal of raising sales tax rate from 18 to 19 percent was again discussed between the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and top government decision makers.

Glitch in IRIS portal: Taxpayers unable to submit applications

KARACHI: A glitch in the IRIS portal has made it impossible for the registered taxpayers to submit applications to revise their sales tax returns after the 120-day revision period.

Around 24 SOEs to be privatised in coming years

ISLAMABAD: Amid strong reservations by both treasury and opposition benches over a “flawed” privatisation approach, the government on Monday informed the National Assembly that it is going to privatise around 24 state-owned entities (SOEs) in the coming years.

THE RUPEE PKR: marginal decline

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee depreciated marginally against the US dollar, falling 0.06% in the inter-bank market on Monday. At close, the local unit settled at 278.37, a decline of Re0.17 against the greenback.

Gold prices remain unchanged

KARACHI: The local gold and silver prices remained steady with the global bullion value unchanged, traders said. At the week open, gold was available for the unchanged Rs 239400 per tola and Rs 205247 per 10 grams.

Prices steady on cotton market

The local cotton market on Monday remained steady and the trading volume remained low. According to Cotton Analyst rate of new cotton in Sindh is in between 20,000 to Rs 20,500 per maund. The rate of Phutti in Sindh is in between Rs 9,000 to Rs 10,000 per 40 kg.

DAWN NEWSPAPER

State Bank delivers first rate cut in four years

- Interest rate reduced by 150 basis points to 20.5pc to stimulate growth
- Central bank says near-term inflation outlook susceptible to risks
- Notes several key developments since last monetary policy decision in April

Business community terms interest rate decision ‘too little, too late’

KARACHI: The policy rate cut of 150 basis points by the State Bank on Monday disappointed most of the industrialists as they expected that a much bigger cut would bring the interest rate down to 15 per cent.

UK, Schengen states make millions off rejected visas

LONDON: The United Kingdom and Schengen countries raised millions of pounds and euros in fees from rejected visa applications from Pakistan, new research published this month shows.

Think tank calls for simplifying tax system

The newly formed Tax Reforms Commission — a joint venture of two state-run and private think tanks — on Monday called for a stable and predictable tax regime through simplification and harmonisation of the tax system instead of arbitrary budgetary measures targeted at revenue enhancement, to facilitate taxpayers and tax payments and build government trust.

Incentives likely for solar panel making, net-metering

KARACHI: The government may provide some incentives to encourage local assembly of solar panels in the budget 2024-25. Pakistan Solar Association (PSL) Senior Vice-President Mohammad Zakir Ali, who was part of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent delegation to China, said, "I do not think the government will impose any new taxes and duties on solar panels,

SOS APPEAL: EXPORT FACE UNCERTAINTY AMID POLICY CHANGES

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Value-added textile exporters reject new tax regime proposals

KARACHI: The Value-Added Textile Exporters Forum has jointly rejected the proposed imposition of both the final tax regime (FTR) and the normal tax regime in the 2024-25 budget. The forum comprises various textile associations including the PHMA, PRGMEA, **Towel Manufacturers Association of Pakistan (TMA)**, PCFA, PDMEA, PAKSEA, and PBEA.

SBP cuts interest rate for first time in four years: NEC approves 13th five-year uplift plan

ISLAMABAD/KARACHI: The National Economic Council (NEC) Monday approved the 13th Five-year Development Plan. Chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Council was informed that the targets of the plan included the development of every region,

Export of 150,000 tonnes of sugar allowed

ISLAMABAD: In a move laden with caution and regulatory scrutiny, the Pakistani government has conditionally approved the export of 150,000 (0.15 million) metric tons of sugar, mandating the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association (PSMA) to maintain adequate local stocks to ensure stable domestic supply and prices.

Failure to retrofit IPPs causes loss of UN carbon credits: report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has failed to harness the UN carbon credit facilities from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) because the government did not push Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to retrofit their plants to reduce carbon emissions.

Govt took Rs3tr domestic loans in two months, NA told

The Finance Ministry informed the National Assembly on Monday that the total amount of domestic loans during the tenure of the present government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif from March 1, 2024 to April 30, 2024 were Rs3,004 billion whereas the total amount of external loans raised during the same period were \$433 million excluding that from the IMF.

Govt asked to withdraw tax exemption for Fata, Pata

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's industries including steel and ghee/cooking oil have warned the government for the closure of their units if the government granted another extension of tax exemption for industries located in erstwhile Fata/Pata in the coming budget.

Govt urged to reduce tax rate to generate more revenue

The Tax Reform Commission jointly constituted by the PIDE and the Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME) has asked the government to reduce tax rates of all major taxes and bring down the GST rate to 10 percent with Value Added Tax (VAT) mode, jacked up the ceiling of taxable income up to Rs0.8 million and reduce the number of slabs for income tax.

Govt economic team briefs allies on budget

ISLAMABAD: The government's economic team Monday briefed its coalition partners on the upcoming budget. According to sources, the government's economic team — led by Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb — briefed the coalition partners on the macro and micro economic policy for the upcoming budget and about what would be the upcoming budget.

Nepra implements 5pc annual indexation on bagasse price for IPPs

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has notified implementation of a 5 percent annual indexation on the price of bagasse for bagasse-based Independent Power Producers (IPPs), effective from October 2022.

Industry views rate cut as 'insufficient'

KARACHI: The business community on Monday termed the State Bank of Pakistan's rate cut "too low" to make any positive impact and suggested a reduction of 10-12 per cent. However, the community believed that the reduction set the direction that it would come down further if economic indicators kept improving.

SBP expects FX to stay above \$9bn despite debt servicing

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) expects that the foreign exchange reserves will remain above \$9 billion by the end of this month, even after clearing external repayment during this period.

KTBA identifies 'glitches' in tax portal

The Karachi Tax Bar Association (KTBA) has identified glitches in the filing of condonation applications on the IRIS portal. In a letter to the FBR, President of the KTBA Syed Zafar Ahmed said that under Section 26(3) of the Sales Tax Act, 1990 (Act), "a registered person can revise his sales tax return within 120 days of filing the original one after the commissioner's approval.

PA passes bill to allow cantonment boards to collect property tax on behalf of Sindh govt

The Sindh Assembly on Monday passed the Sindh Urban Immovable Property Tax (Amendment) Bill 2024 that authorises the provincial government to collect property tax from the cantonment areas of the province.

TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

Policy rate set at 20.5% after 1st cut in nearly 4 years

With the inflation rate easing and the economy holding in, the State Bank of Pakistan on Monday cut its key policy rate by 150 basis points to 20.5% — its first rate reduction in nearly four years.

Budget 2024-25: NEC approves Rs3.5 trillion development budget

ISLAMABAD: The National Economic Council on Monday approved one-fourth higher national development budget outlay of Rs3.5 trillion amid support by the four provinces, including Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme.

SEBRA to cut power tariff in province, says energy minister

KARACHI: Sindh Electric Power Regulatory Authority (SEBRA) will be a fully authorised of power generation-distribution and transmission in the province, said Energy Minister Nasir Hussain Shah.

Local experts defy IMF's tax plan

Contrary to the IMF recommendation to increase tax rates in the next budget to collect an additional Rs2 trillion, Pakistan's renowned local experts on Monday unveiled a package that proposes generating Rs1.2 trillion more by reducing income tax rates while withdrawing some exemptions.

Govt to set ambitious fiscal targets

ISLAMABAD: The coalition government is expected to lay out ambitious fiscal targets in the 2024/2025 (July-June) budget on Wednesday that will help strengthen its case for a new bailout deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), officials and analysts said.

Traders for action against debt crisis

KARACHI: Leading business figures have expressed concern over the rapidly increasing domestic and foreign loans of the country, highlighting the lack of a sagacious and sustainable policy aimed at reducing or eliminating these debts.

Exports to reach \$4 billion: Rice exports soar amid bumper harvest

KARACHI: Due to the bumper production of 9 million tonnes of rice in the country, 5 million tonnes worth \$3.5 billion have been exported from Pakistan so far. By the end of this year, the volume of rice exports from Pakistan is expected to reach \$4 billion.

Refinery plans \$1.3b investment in new unit

ISLAMABAD: A large oil refiner – Pak Arab Refinery Limited (Parco) – has planned long-term investment of up to \$1.3 billion for setting up a hydrocracker unit to convert furnace oil into petrol and diesel.

Industrialist demand larger cut

EXPRESS NEWSPAPER

Recession continued in stock market; Dollar expensive, exceeded Rs. 280

Rejected proposal of additional 1% additional tax – Value added textile