

Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan

- ❖ TO :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION
- ❖ SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING
- ❖ DATE :- 17th March, 2026

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BUSINESS RECORDER

Power sector: Required improvements not taking place: APTMA

ISLAMABAD: The All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) has warned that improvements required in the power sector are not taking place within the required timeframe, leaving Pakistan's economy vulnerable.

ME conflict: FPCCI urges govt to help protect trade, industry

KARACHI: Atif Ikram Sheikh, President Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), has stressed that escalating military tensions in the Middle East and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz have triggered alarm across Pakistan's trade and industry landscape – with business leaders warning that soaring freight costs and delayed shipments could derail country's economy.

BMP slams Gerry's Dnata for imposing ad hoc handling charge on export cargoes

Saqib Fayyaz Magoon, Chairman BMP-Progressive and Senior Vice President Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI), has strongly criticised Gerry's Dnata for imposing an ad-hoc handling charge of Rs 50 per kilogram (excluding taxes) on export cargo, terming the move unfair, unilateral and detrimental to Pakistan's already strained export sector.

FBR to launch digital e-Bilty system, end paper documents

ISLAMABAD: The flagship project of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), i.e., Cargo Tracking System (CTS), will replace the paper document with a digital e-Bilty generated on a central portal.

C/A posts record surplus in Feb

KARACHI: Pakistan's current account continued to perform well and posted a record surplus in February 2026, mainly due to lower import bill and healthy workers' remittances.

THE RUPEE PKR: marginal gain

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee registered marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Monday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.30 against the greenback. On Friday, the local unit closed at 279.31.

23rd March: Bank holiday

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and all banks will remain closed on March 23, 2026 (Monday) being public holiday on the occasion of "Pakistan Day" as declared by the Government of Pakistan.

Banks' Eid holidays

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and all banks will remain closed on 20th and 21st March, 2026 (Friday and Saturday) being public holidays on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

Gas price hike worsens pain

The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority's (Ogra's) notification, announcing a sharp 19-22 percent increase in RLNG prices for March for the country's two gas utilities, comes as little surprise, given the disruption unfolding in global energy markets amid the US-Israel war on Iran.

DAWN NEWSPAPER

Subsidised fuel scheme on the cards for bikes, rickshaws

- Senate panel told ample petrol, diesel available; import of lower-quality fuel okayed; price hike 'did not benefit' OMCs
- Officials tell panel no LNG supply from Qatar since March 2, gas will not be available after April 14
- Petrol committee briefed March fuel requirements fully secured, coverage available up to mid-April

C/A posts \$479m surplus

KARACHI: Pakistan's current account position improved significantly during the ongoing fiscal year (FY26) as February posted a surplus of \$479 million, bringing some relief to the government that is facing uncertainty over rising oil prices amid the Gulf war.

FDI inflows drop 33pc in July-February

KARACHI: Foreign direct investment (FDI) fell by 33 per cent to \$1.195 billion during the first eight months of the current fiscal year (FY26), with inflows largely dominated by China.

Pakistan opens up to foreign investment

ISLAMABAD: The government on Monday expanded the scope of the Roshan Digital Account (RDA) Scheme to include foreign nationals and institutional investors, from overseas Pakistanis only at present, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb announced.

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Foreign firms, nationals allowed to open Roshan Digital Accounts

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to expand the Roshan Digital Account (RDA) framework to allow foreign nationals, foreign companies and institutional investors, to open Roshan Digital Accounts and invest in government securities as well as Naya Pakistan Certificates, which offer a 'very attractive' rate of return.

Federal govt debt rises by Rs14.5tr in 23 months

ISLAMABAD: The country witnessed a significant rise in public debt during the first 23 months of the current federal government. Official figures indicate that the federal government's debt increased by a substantial Rs14,512 billion during this period.

Current account surplus widens on strong remittances

KARACHI: Pakistan's current account surplus increased in February, thanks to the nation's resilient remittances and lower services imports, data from the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) showed on Monday.

FDI drops 33pc to \$1.195bn in July-February FY26

KARACHI: Foreign direct investment (FDI) into Pakistan fell by 33 per cent in the eight months of the fiscal year 2026, the central bank data showed on Monday, a drop that coincided with high economic uncertainty caused by the oil shock amid the ongoing war in the Middle East.

Banks to remain closed on March 23

The SBP has announced a bank holiday on Monday, March 23, on the occasion of 'Pakistan Day'.

Aptma warns power inefficiencies driving up electricity costs

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's textile industry has warned that deep-rooted inefficiencies in the power sector continue to keep industrial electricity tariffs uncompetitive, despite recent government efforts to lower costs.

FPCCI criticises Gerry's dnata over Rs50/kg export cargo handling charge

KARACHI: Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, senior vice president of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), has criticised Gerry's dnata for imposing an ad hoc handling charge of Rs50 per kilogramme (excluding taxes) on export cargo, calling the move unfair, unilateral and damaging to Pakistan's already strained export sector.

FPCCI warns Hormuz tensions could drive freight surge, threaten trade

KARACHI: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) has warned that escalating military tensions in the Middle East and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz have triggered alarm across Pakistan's trade and industrial landscape, with business leaders cautioning that soaring freight costs and delayed shipments could derail the country's economy.

TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

Pakistan has oil reserves for days, not months

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan currently has crude oil reserves sufficient for 11 days, diesel for 21 days, petrol for 27 days, LPG for nine days and jet fuel (JP-1) for 14 days, the secretary petroleum informed the Senate Standing Committee on Petroleum on Monday amid growing concerns over supply disruptions caused by conflict in the Middle East.

Current account slips into \$700m deficit

KARACHI: Pakistan's external sector showed renewed strain in February as the country's current account slipped back into deficit, highlighting the fragility of recent macroeconomic stability despite strong remittance inflows.

ME conflict may reduce remittances by \$3-4b

ISLAMABAD: Rising tensions in the Middle East may negatively affect Pakistan's economy as well as overseas Pakistanis and the annual inflow of remittances could decline by \$3-4 billion.

IMF rejects relief on CPPs gas levy

The International Monetary Fund has rejected Pakistan's requests to freeze the 15% additional gas levy on industry's in-house power plants and to exempt efficient plants from the levy.

Exporters warn Punjab cess will raise costs

The Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association North Zone on Monday sent a letter to Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, expressing reservations about the proposed 0.9% infrastructure development cess and urging the provincial government to reconsider the plan.

ایکسپریس نیوز

مالی سال کے 8 ماہ میں 700 ملین ڈالر کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ خسارہ

کفایت شعاری مہم سے بچنے والے 23 ارب سے موثر سائیکل اور رکشا کو سبسڈی دینے کا فیصلہ