

# **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**

### **SC sets up 'anti-corruption hotline'**

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan established a dedicated Anti-Corruption Hotline to curb the menace of bribe allegedly demanded by SC staff for fixation of a case or supply of attested copy of SC order/ judgment.

### **EU envoy, Jam discuss trade ties**

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to Pakistan, Dr Riina Kionka, called on Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan to discuss strengthening bilateral trade ties and upcoming business engagements between the EU and Pakistan.

### **APTMA for passing on full negative Jan 2025 FCA relief to KE consumers without deduction**

ISLAMABAD: All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) has requested the power sector regulator to pass on the full negative Jan 2025 FCA relief to KE consumers without any deduction.

### **MoC suspends order on KCCI's plea**

KARACHI: The Ministry of Commerce has ruled in favour of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) by suspending Order No. 03/ 2025, issued by the Directorate General of Trade Organizations (DGTO) on March 3, 2025. The decision was announced by the Federal Secretary of Commerce, following a hearing on March 13, 2025.

### **SBP likely to unveil initial 'green taxonomy policy' draft by month-end**

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) is set to unveil the initial draft of the National Green Taxonomy Policy by the end of this month. This was disclosed in the meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change & Environmental Coordination held on Wednesday at SBP head office.

### **Budget FY26: PBF submits proposals to MoF**

KARACHI: President of the Pakistan Business Forum (PBF), Khawaja Mahboob Rahman, has submitted budget proposals for 2025-26 to the Ministry of Finance.

### **Why net metering reforms alone won't fix the grid crisis**

Pakistan has long struggled with comprehensive, long-term energy policies that take a consolidated approach to addressing sector-wide challenges. Today, the power and petroleum sectors are burdened with circular debt and massive leakages, a situation that threatens the country's economic security.

## **Guidelines to prevent hacking of WhatsApp accounts issued**

ISLAMABAD: An international cybersecurity firm Wednesday issued detailed guidelines to prevent WhatsApp accounts of general public from being hacked. In this regard, the cybersecurity company issued guidelines on Wednesday.

## **Eid holidays**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Wednesday officially announced public holidays for Eidul Fitr, starting from March 31 to April 2. A notification issued by the Cabinet Secretariat said that the prime minister has declared these dates as public holidays in celebration of Eidul Fitr.

## **THE RUPEE PKR: marginal improvement**

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee saw a marginal improvement against the US dollar, appreciating 0.02% in the inter-bank market on Wednesday. At close, the currency settled at 280.21, a gain of Re0.06 against the greenback. On Tuesday, the rupee had closed at 280.27.

## **Gold rises to new historic peak**

KARACHI: Local and international gold prices continued mounting to new record levels on Wednesday, as world market hovered near \$3,050 per ounce, traders said. Gold hit all-time high of Rs319,000 per tola and Rs273,491 per 10 grams, up by Rs1,650 and Rs1,415, respectively,

## **Not much activity on cotton market**

LAHORE: The local cotton market on Wednesday remained bearish and the trading volume remained low. Cotton analyst Naseem Usman told Business Recorder that the rate of cotton in Sindh as per quality is in between Rs 16,000 to Rs 17,200 per maund,

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **World Bank approves \$102m for microfinance**

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank has approved \$102 million in financing for a project aimed at expanding access to microcredit and strengthening the resilience of Pakistan's microfinance sector, particularly against climate-related shocks.

### **Expert asks WhatsApp users to beware of cybercriminals**

ISLAMABAD: While WhatsApp accounts are being hacked and stolen, and stolen accounts are used for various criminal activities, ranging from spam distribution to sophisticated financial frauds, technology expert Hafeez Aziz has suggested that the masses be careful.

### **Foreign loan inflows fall by a quarter**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has received almost \$12bn foreign loans in the first eight months (July-February) of 2024-25, aiming to cross the \$19.2bn target by June 30. While half of this portfolio was legacy rollovers from China, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates,

### **Govt borrows less than half of target in T-bill auction**

KARACHI: The government borrowed less than half of its target in the latest auction of short-term treasury bills (T-bills) held on Wednesday, despite strong interest from banks. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported that the government raised Rs392 billion against a target of Rs800bn,

### **Gold surges to record Rs319,000 per tola**

The domestic gold continued its record-setting spree on Wednesday, propelling the 10-gram and one-tola rates to Rs273,491 and Rs319,000, showing a jump of Rs1,415 and Rs1,650 day-on-day.

### **EU envoy calls for fostering trade**

ISLAMABAD: The European Union will launch an EU-Pakistan Business Network (EUPBN) to serve as a unified voice of European businesses, fostering investment and trade relations.

### **Pakistan Business Forum calls for reducing GST, abolishing super tax**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has called for reduction in general sales tax (GST), elimination of super tax and fixed tax for traders in the coming federal budget to rev up economic activities and create job opportunities in the country.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **Govt caps retail sugar price at Rs164 per kg**

ISLAMABAD: The government and sugar sector on Wednesday struck an agreement, capping sweetener's ex-mill and retail prices at Rs154-159 and Rs164 per kg, respectively for one month. However, a kilo of sugar at 274 fair-price shops countrywide will cost Rs130 per kg.

### **Torkham border reopens after 26 days**

LANDIKOTAL : After remaining closed for 26 days, causing heavy financial losses to traders and a significant revenue shortfall for Pakistan and Afghanistan, the Torkham border finally reopened at 4:30 pm on Tuesday,

### **PM in Saudi Arabia on 4-day visit**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday departed here for a four-day official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from March 19-22, accompanied by a high-level delegation.

### **Murad discusses bilateral ties, investment opportunities with Chinese CG**

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Wednesday held separate meetings at the Chief Minister House with the consul general of China, Yang Yundong, and the consul general of Iraq, Dr Mehr Mujahid Jejan.

### **Eid holidays from March 31 to April 2**

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has officially announced the public holidays for Eidul Fitr, granting a three-day break. According to a notification issued by the Cabinet Division, the holidays will run from Monday, March 31, to Wednesday, April 2.

### **Pakistan, US discuss consular issues amid visa, immigration uncertainty**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the United States discussed consular issues between the two countries on Wednesday. This comes at a time when the Trump administration has made sweeping changes in immigration-related executive orders and cracked down on illegal immigrants, leading to domestic and international tourism including visa references.

## **Negative FCA: Aptma asks Nepra to be neutral regulator in hearing KE's plea today**

ISLAMABAD: The textile industry from Sindh has asked the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) to prove itself as a neutral regulator in the hearing scheduled for Thursday (today) on the petition of K Electric (KE) seeking negative FCA (Fuel Charge Adjustment) of Rs4.48 per unit for the month of January 2025 with an impact of Rs4.695 billion in favour of consumers.

## **Govt raises Rs392bn via T-bill auction**

KARACHI: The government raised Rs392 billion through the auction of market Treasury Bills on Wednesday, falling short of its target of Rs800 billion. The amount raised was also less than the maturity amount of Rs513 billion.

## **PBF submits tax, investment proposals for Budget FY26**

KARACHI: President of the Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Khawaja Mahboob ur Rehman has submitted budget proposals for fiscal year 2025-26 to the Ministry of Finance.

## **KCCI LEADERSHIP REINSTATED: Commerce secretary suspends DGTO decision**

KARACHI: The Secretary of Commerce has suspended the Directorate General of Trade Organizations' (DGTO) decision, which had declared the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) election null and void.

## **KCCI seeks extension for membership renewal deadline due to Eid holidays**

KARACHI: The Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) has formally requested an extension of the membership renewal deadline due to the upcoming Eidul Fitr holidays.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **Govt gives in to IMF demand to liberalise trade**

ISLAMABAD: The government has accepted the IMF's major demand to completely open its economy to foreign competition by slashing the effective average import tariffs by one-third to just 7.1% over five years, particularly to open up the highly restricted automobile sector.

### **Power tariff likely to go down by Rs8/unit next month**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was expected to announce a reduction of Rs8 per unit in the electricity tariff on March 23 in the following the approval of the government's proposals by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), sources said on Wednesday.

### **World Bank approves \$102m for microfinance**

The board of directors of the World Bank has approved \$102 million in financing for the Resilient and Accessible Microfinance project to enhance access to microcredit and support the resilience of the microfinance sector and its borrowers, particularly in the face of climate-related shocks.

## **EXPRESS NEWSPAPER**

### **Positive trend continued in stock market; Gold uncontrolled**