# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

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

# China rolls over \$2bn loan for a year: MoF

ISLAMABAD China has rolled over a \$2 billion loan to Pakistan for another year, the Ministry of Finance confirmed it on Saturday. The \$2 billion loan was due for return on March 24 and has been extended for one more year, the ministry said.

## <u>Electricity top contributor: Jul-Dec GST collection soars 53.5pc to</u> <u>Rs283.177bn YoY</u>

ISLAMABAD: The sales tax (domestic) collection at local stage from electricity stood at Rs 283.177 billion during July-December (2024-25) against Rs 184.468 billion during corresponding period of 2023-24, reflecting an increase of 53.5 percent.

### Business community leader praises govt for successfully reining in inflation

KARACHI: The Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, the President of the Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, the President of All Karachi Industrial Alliance, the Chairman of the FPCCI Advisory Board, Mian Zahid Hussain, said that inflation has come down due to the government's strict economic policies.

### Gold prices dip

KARACHI: Gold saw a noticeable decline on Saturday, as global market lost momentum, traders said. The yellow metal was selling for Rs306,000 per tola and Rs262,345 per 10 grams after falling by Rs1,000 and Rs858, respective, All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association said.

### No visible change on cotton market

LAHORE: The local cotton market on Saturday remained bearish and the trading volume remained low. Cotton analyst Naseem Usman told Business Recorder that the rates in the market remained unchanged.

# **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### PM Shehbaz pledges gender equality, unveils endowment fund

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday reaffirmed his commitment to gender equality, stressing that women's empowerment could only be achieved through equal access to education, skill development and employment opportunities.

### **Global trade continues to undervalue women's contributions: UN agency**

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has stated that global trade despite progress continued to undervalue women's contributions, and their share of domestic value added to exports remains lower than men's in all regions.

### US citizens told to be cautious while visiting Pakistan

KARACHI: The US Dep-artment of State, Bur-eau of Consular Affairs, has said that American citizens should reconsider travelling to Pakistan "due toterrorism and the potential for armed conflict", Dawn.com reported.

# Tax rationalisation must for boosting exports: Pakistan Textile Exporter Association

ISLAMABAD: The value-added textile and clothing sector has asked the government to lower tax rates to boost export competitiveness. This demand was part of a string of proposals submitted to the finance ministry by the PTEA for incorporation in the budget 2025-26.

### Pakistan bridging gender gap in digital economy: IT minister

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for IT & Telecom Shaza Fatima Khawaja said on Saturday that Pakistan was not just bridging the gender gap in technology but also redefining the future of women in digital economy.

### Exchange firms see \$5bn inflow by end of Ramazan

KARACHI: Inflows of remittances are higher than ever and the exchange companies alone could accumulate \$5 billion by the end of Ramazan, said exch-ange companies on Saturday.

# **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

#### China rolls over \$2bn loan to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: China has extended the repayment period of Pakistan's \$2 billion loan by one year, the finance ministry confirmed on Saturday. According to the ministry, the loan was originally due for repayment on March 24, but China has agreed to extend the deadline, providing Pakistan with crucial financial relief.

#### Business wins NAB's new friendly face restores trust, ends harassment

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's business community has expressed satisfaction with the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) new business-friendly approach which, in consultation with the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI), has led to the closure of 10 cases and resolution of several complaints against businessmen.

#### Govt plans to introduce digital prize bonds

ISLAMABAD: The Finance Division has instructed CDNS (Central Directorate National Savings) to introduce digital prize bonds to fulfil the void left by the discontinuation of bearer prize bonds.

# <u>Women linked to cottage industries, small businesses to be integrated into</u> <u>SME sector</u>

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has announced a major initiative to integrate women associated with cottage industries and small businesses into the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) sector.

### Roof solar net metering shifts Rs159bn burden on grid consumers

ISLAMABAD: Roof solar net metering facility has shifted a burden of Rs159 billion onto grid consumers through an additional tariff hike of Rs1.5 per unit. This has been disclosed in the latest data of Power Division showing the adverse impact of net metering facility on consumers using only grid electricity.

## **Business delegation proposes trade-tax liaison committee to strengthen relations**

KARACHI: A delegation of businessmen met Chief Commissioner RTO-1 Dr Faheem Mohammad on Saturday and proposed the creation of a trade-tax liaison committee with a broad mandate to bridge the gap between traders and tax authorities.

# TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

### China once again rolls over \$2b loan

ISLAMABAD: In a significant development, China has once again extended the deadline for the \$2 billion loan owed by Pakistan by another year. The debt was originally set to mature on March 24.

#### **<u>Concerns mount as cotton output falls 34%</u>**

LAHORE: Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Chairman for South Punjab Malik Suhail Talat has expressed concern over the recent data released by Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association, which showed production of only 5.524 million bales in the cotton season 2024-25, a sharp decline from the previous year's harvest of 8.393 million bales.

#### Punjab incentivises early cotton sowing

LAHORE: Under the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, a special package of Rs25,000 is being provided for cultivating cotton over five acres early in the season. Farmers are showing great interest in early planting of the crop, which has decreased significantly in season 2024-25.

# EXPRESS NEWSPAPER

Weekly Review; Boom in stock market; limited raise in Dollar value

90 percent of Gas issues in Karachi has resolved; Amin Rajput