# **Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan**

**❖ TO** :- MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION

**❖** SUB :- T.M.A NEWS CLIPPING **❖** DATE :- 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2025

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#### **BUSINESS RECORDER**

#### FTO closes six Secretariat Regional Offices

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) has decided to close six offices, including regional offices at Mianwali, Sargodha, Gujranwala, Hyderabad, Sukkur, and Abbottabad. Some of the Advisors Incharge at the Regional Offices have also been removed from their respective positions, including Mianwali and Sargodha.

#### Salaried individuals: Jan-Jun WHT collection soars 54.7pc YoY

ISLAMABAD: The withholding tax collection from salaried class showed an extraordinary increase of 54.7 percent during January-June (2024-25) against same period of 2023-24. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) data revealed that the salaried class contributed Rs214.2 billion (under section 149 of Income Tax Ordinance 2001) during the second half of 2024-25.

#### PIA being put under the hammer today

ISLAMABAD: Bidding for Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) is going to take place today (Tuesday). Submissions will be accepted from 10:45 AM to 11:15 AM, and the bids will be opened later this afternoon at 3:30 PM.

#### LHC suspends Punjab property ordinance, 2025

LAHORE: Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Justice Aalia Neelum on Monday suspended the enforcement of the Punjab Protection of Ownership of Immoveable Property Ordinance, 2025, and ordered the reversal of all property possessions taken under the law across Punjab.

# Solar power growth creates challenges to national grid: expert

ISLAMABAD: A Chinese energy expert has warned that the rapid expansion of decentralized solar power in Pakistan is placing additional pressure on the national grid and increasing costs for consumers who cannot afford solar systems.

# <u>Pending applications with Discos: KATI urges Nepra to notify cut-off date for net billing</u>

ISLAMABAD: The Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) has requested the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) to notify a clear cut-off date for net billing applicable to pending net metering applications with power distribution companies (Discos).

# Public holiday on 25th

KARACHI: The SBP will remain closed on December 25, 2025 (Thursday) being public holiday on the occasions of Quaid-e-Azam Day and Christmas, as declared by the Government of Pakistan.

#### PBF seeks PM's urgent intervention to 'restore economic competitiveness'

KARACHI: The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has written a letter to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, urging his personal and urgent intervention to arrest the declining business confidence and restore the competitiveness of Pakistan's economy.

#### **PKR:** marginal gain

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee recorded marginal gain against the US dollar, appreciating 0.01% in the inter-bank market on Monday. At close, the local currency settled at 280.22, a gain of Re0.03 against the greenback, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

#### Gold, silver at new all-time highs

KARACHI: Local and international gold and silver prices galloped to fresh historic highs on Monday, mirroring a global uptrend, traders said. Gold prices soared by Rs6,200 to new all timehigh of Rs462,362 per tola and Rs5,315 to Rs396,400 per 10 grams, APSGJA said.

#### Gold jumps to all-time peak

NEW YORK: Gold jumped more than 2 percent to a record high on Monday, powered by safe-haven flows as US-Venezuela tensions flared, while silver also touched an all-time peak.

### **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### 'High-tech services key to Pakistan's growth'

- Prof Amir Sufi urges shift from low-tech industry to innovation-driven services
- Calls for new lending models for intangible assets
- SBP official stresses financial access to SMEs, youth and women for inclusive growth

### **Competitive tariffs**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday reiterated that the power sector was vital for economic growth, emphasising the government's focus on improving electricity transmission and making power affordable for industries.

# **Industry demands revival of confidence**

ISLAMABAD: Pakis-tan Business Forum (PBF) on Monday sought Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's urgent intervention for revival of business confidence and Pakistan's economic competitiveness. In a letter to the prime minister, one of the national representative bodies of trade industry,

# Gold, silver prices hit record high

KARACHI: The 10-gram and one-tola (24 karat) gold rates hit an all-time high of Rs396,400 and Rs462,362 after surging by Rs5,315 and Rs6,200, respectively. The previous peak of Rs391,718 and Rs456,900 was recorded on Oct 17.

# Another huge fire breaks out in EPZ factory

KARACHI: A huge fire broke out in the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) of Landhi on Monday evening, officials said. The blaze erupted on the second floor of the Z.A. Enterprises building and was brought under control after several hours.

# THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

### Pakistan moves to accrual-based accounting across all levels of govt

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has initiated a transition from a cash-based accounting system to accrual-based accounting across all levels of government, including the federal, provincial and local tiers.

# <u>US economist calls for creating enabling environment to foster high-growth</u> sectors in Pakistan

KARACHI: An American professor has said that to promote high-growth sectors in Pakistan, regulators must collaborate to create a supportive environment, which includes developing an efficient bankruptcy system aimed at preserving business value and establishing strong contract enforcement mechanisms for complex equity arrangements.

#### PBF urges PM to step in as business confidence slips

KARACHI: The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has written to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, seeking his intervention to reverse declining business confidence and restore the competitiveness of Pakistan's economy ahead of 2026.

#### SBP to remain closed on Thursday

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) will be closed on December 25 for Quaid-e-Azam Day and Christmas, a statement said on Monday. "The SBP will remain closed on December 25, 2025 (Thursday), being a public holiday on the occasions of Quaid-e-Azam Day and Christmas, as declared by the Pakistan government," it said.

#### **SMEDA launches free online registration portal for SMEs**

LAHORE: The Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) has introduced the SME Registration Portal (SMERP), a new initiative aimed at improving transparency and convenience for small and medium-sized enterprises.

# Rupee ends higher in interbank

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee closed marginally higher against the US dollar in both currency markets on Monday. The rupee settled at 280.22 per dollar, up slightly from 280.25 in the previous session in the interbank market.

# Gold prices surge again to all-time high, climb to Rs462,362 per tola

KARACHI: Gold prices extended their relentless upward trend on Monday, rising by Rs6,200 per tola in the local market, as international bullion rates also moved higher azmid persistent global uncertainty and strong investor demand for safe-haven assets.

# TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER

# Textile exports to China show sustained strength

BEIJING: Pakistan's textile and apparel exports to China demonstrated resilience during January-November 2025, supported by steady demand for core textile inputs and a gradual expansion of value-added categories. According to the latest figures released by the GACC, Pakistan's shipments

across major textile and apparel product categories covered in the trade data totalled about \$488.5 million during January-November 2025.

#### **Industry flags risks to 2026 growth**

As 2025 nears its end, the country is looking towards 2026 with growing concern within industrial and commercial circles that high costs, weak competitiveness and policy uncertainty could further slow economic momentum unless decisive steps are taken to support productive sectors.

#### Fire at EPZ raises safety concerns

KARACHI: A major fire broke out on Monday at a used clothing factory located within the Landhi Export Processing Zone (EPZ), quickly escalating in intensity and sending thick plumes of black smoke into the sky, visible from several kilometers away.

#### SBP urged to rethink banking for high-tech growth

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) hosted the 25th Zahid Husain Memorial Lecture in Karachi, featuring a keynote address by renowned economist Professor Amir Sufi, according to an official statement issued on Monday.

#### Gold, silver at new highs on global rally

KARACHI: Gold prices in Pakistan surged to a fresh all-time high on Monday, mirroring a sharp rally in international markets driven by escalating geopolitical tensions and heightened safehaven demand. Silver also climbed to an unprecedented level in the local market.

یی آئی اے کے 75 فیصد حصص کی نجکاری آج ہوگی پی آئی اے کے 75 فیصد حصص کی نجکاری کے لیے بولی آج اسلام آباد میں ہوگی، کامیاب پارٹی کو بقیہ 25 فیصد حصص

سونے کی قیمت میں آج یہر ہوشربا اضافہ، نرخ تاریخ کی بلند ترین سطح پر یہنچ گئے عالمی اور مقامی مارکیٹوں میں سونے کی قیمتیں بڑھ کر تاریخ کی بلند ترین سطح پر آگئیں۔ بین الاقوامی بلین مارکیٹ میں فی اونس سونے کی قیمت 62ڈالر کے اضافے سے 4ہزار 400ڈالر کی سطح کی نئی بلند سطح پر آگئی۔ عالمی مارکیٹ میں اضافے کے بعد ملک میں فی تولہ سونے کی قیمت بھی 6ہزار 200روپے کے بڑے اضافے سے 4لاکھ 62ہزار 362روپے

لانڈھی، استعمال شدہ کیڑوں کی فیکٹری میں لگنے والی آگ پر قابو پالیا گیا لانڈھی ایکسپورٹ پروسیسنگ زون میں استعمال شدہ کپڑوں کی فیکٹری میں آگ بھڑک اٹھی جس نے دیکھتے ہی دہی دیکھتے شدت اختیار کی تاہم کئی گھنٹوں کی جدوجہد کے بعد آگ پر قابو پالیا گیا۔