

# **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**

### **Export refinance facility: Voluntarily, banks cut mark-up rate**

KARACHI: In a major move to support the country's economic revival, Pakistan's banking sector has yet again stepped up to voluntarily reduce markup rate on the Export Refinance Facility (ERF) by 3 percent, Pakistan Banks Association (PBA) said on Wednesday.

### **FPCCI hails reduction in export refinance facility rate by 3pc**

KARACHI: Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the FPCCI, has warmly welcomed the banking sector's voluntary decision to reduce the Export Refinance Facility (ERF) rate by 3%, bringing the end-user cost down to a competitive 4.50% – while reiterating FPCCI's stance that export-led economic growth is the only viable, sustainable and pragmatic way forward for the country.

### **Karachi Airport: PHMA says concerned at persistent mismanagement, prolonged delays**

KARACHI: The PHMA on Thursday expressed serious concerns over persistent mismanagement, inadequate facilities and prolonged delays at Jinnah International Airport, Karachi and said the situation was causing hardship to exporters and businesspersons and damaging the country's image among foreign investors and visitors.

### **DGTO suspends RWCCI; TDAP director made administrator**

ISLAMABAD: The Directorate General of Trade Organisations has suspended the Rawalpindi Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry for a period of six months and appointed Muhammad ArifUllah, Director, TDAP, Islamabad, as Administrator.

### **Power tariffs: Industries get their wish**

Islamabad seems to be in a giving mood, if you are an industry. Having offered yet another concessional financing scheme to exporters, the latest comes in the form of a substantial relief in electricity tariffs for industries.

### **EFS and the illusion of export competitiveness**

The banking sector has positioned the recent reduction in export refinance rates as a demonstration of commitment to economic revival. Financing for exporters now sits at 4.5 percent, and the broader narrative emphasises strong private sector credit growth,

### **THE RUPEE PKR: marginal gain**

The Pakistani rupee posted marginal gain against the US dollar in the inter-bank market on Thursday. At close, the local currency settled at 279.65, a gain of Re0.01 against the greenback. On Wednesday, the local currency closed at 279.66, according to the SBP.

## **DAWN NEWSPAPER**

### **MNAs slam shift to net billing as minister defends 'fair pricing'**

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Wednesday witnessed rare unity across the aisle as members from both the treasury and opposition benches challenged the government over changes to the net-metering regime, and demanded a debate on Israel's illegal actions in the occupied West Bank.

### **Lahore High Court curtails FBR's suo motu powers**

The LHC Rawalpindi bench has curtailed the FBR's suo motu power to amend deemed tax assessments, ruling that Section 122(5A) of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, cannot be used for "roving or fishing inquiries" or speculative revenue recovery.

### **SBP reserves up \$21m**

KARACHI: The foreign exchange reserves of the SBP increased further by \$21 million to \$16.177 billion during the week ended on Feb 6, announced the central bank. The SBP's forex holdings have been gradually increasing each week, ranging from \$20 to \$40m.

### **Govt mulls 'debt restructuring' to reduce power tariffs**

ISLAMABAD: While launching a subsidised scheme for households to replace old fans with efficient ones, Power Minister Sardar Awaiz Leghari said on Thursday the government was considering 'debt restructuring' of the energy sector to bring down consumer-end tariffs for improved grid consumption and lower circular debt.

### **Federal minister sets new deadline for completion of K-IV water supply project**

THATTA: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday directed the authorities to expedite work on the K-IV water supply project and set December 2026 as the new deadline for its completion, saying that the scheme was vital for addressing Karachi's chronic water shortage.

## **THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL**

### **UAE extends \$2bn lifeline to Pakistan ahead of IMF talks**

ISLAMABAD: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has agreed in principle to grant a rollover of a \$2 billion deposit for a short-term period of just two months, at a time when the one-month extension was set to expire in four days, The News has learnt.

### **PM halted implementation of Nepra's solar regulations, NA told**

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Sardar Awaiz Leghari informed the National Assembly on Thursday that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has halted the implementation of Nepra's new Prosumer Regulations—which replace net-metering with net-billing—following concerns expressed by various quarters.

### **Nepra okays 15MW KE solar purchase deal**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's power regulator has approved a 25-year energy purchase agreement for a 15MW solar project in Thatta, rejecting dollar-denominated returns for shareholders and instead mandating rupee-based returns in a decision aimed at shielding consumers from foreign exchange volatility.

### **Proposed power prices to lift inflation, analysts say**

KARACHI/SINGAPORE: Pakistan's new power price proposals will increase inflation and shift the International Monetary Fund-mandated (IMF) subsidy cuts onto middle-class households while easing pain for industries, analysts say.

### **Banks cut ERF rate to 4.5pc**

KARACHI: The Pakistan Bank Association (PBA) on Thursday announced a voluntary 3 percentage-point reduction in the markup rate on the Export Refinance Facility (ERF), lowering the end-user cost for exporters to 4.50 per cent effective immediately.

### **FPCCI welcomes cut in export refinance rate**

KARACHI: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) has welcomed the banking sector's voluntary decision to reduce the Export Refinance Facility (ERF) rate by 300 basis points, lowering the end-user cost to 4.5 per cent.

### **SBP forex reserves increase by \$21m to \$16.2bn as of February 6**

KARACHI: Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves held by the central bank rose by \$21 million to \$16.178 billion during the week ending February 6, the SBP said on Thursday.

### **Industries in Karachi resume operations after water supply restored**

KARACHI: The resolution of a dispute between the Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation (KWSC) and subsoil contractors has led to the restoration of water supply to key industrial areas, allowing factories to resume production, President of the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) Muhammad Ikram Rajput said on Thursday.

### **Japan envoy highlights auto sector's 100,000 jobs at Pakistan Business Seminar**

KARACHI: Japan's Ambassador to Pakistan Akamatsu Shuichi said Japanese automotive manufacturers have created more than 100,000 jobs in the country and localised a majority of their supply chains.

## **TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER**

### **Banks urged to scale up agri-finance**

KARACHI: State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) governor has urged banks to focus on expanding the agricultural borrower base, strengthening inclusion of small farmers and scaling up digital delivery channels to support sustainable growth in the farming sector.

### **Banks cut export refinance rate to 4.5%**

KARACHI: The local banking sector has announced a voluntary 3% reduction in the rate of return for the export sector, bringing the markup rate under the Export Refinance Facility down to 4.5%. The move is expected to lower business costs for exporters and help boost foreign exchange earnings.

### **Debt risks keep economy vulnerable**

LAHORE: The fragile external financing system of Pakistan is one of the main reasons for the weak economic structure of the country, as heavy reliance on foreign loans continues to expose the economy to sudden shocks, business leaders and economists said.

### **PHMA seeks fast-track immigration counters**

KARACHI: The Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PHMA) has called for the establishment of fast-track immigration counters at airports for exporters, saying local exporters and foreign business visitors are facing prolonged delays in the name of security checks.

### **Over 90% buildings in Sindh lack fire safety**

KARACHI: A staggering 91.3 per cent of buildings surveyed by a Sindh government's committee were found deficient in fire safety arrangements. The panel was formed in the aftermath of Gul Plaza deadly blaze which claimed nearly 80 lives, injured hundreds and financially devastated thousands of people.

### **ایکسپریس نیوز**

سندھ فائر سیفٹی قوانین کی خلاف ورزی کرنیوالی، ہائی رسک عمارتیں سیل کرنے کا فیصلہ

ٹیکس فائلرز کو کی براساں کرنے کا کلچر ختم کرنا ہوگا: ظفر حجازی  
اسٹاک مارکیٹ میں بری نوعیت کی مندی، 2 کھرب 71 ارب روپے ڈوب گئے