



2025

# SHAHID LEGAL GROUP

## SLD NEWS UPDATES

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# SLD E-LAW UPDATING SERVICE

News Updates on Taxation, Business, Corporate, Technology, Fuel & Energy and Much More.

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Gold Rate

## Business & Finance » Taxes

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### BEAUTY CLINICS: PRA INTENSIFIES CRACKDOWN ON TAX EVASION

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APP Published about 3 hours ago

**LAHORE: Beauty clinics in Punjab, particularly in major cities like Lahore and Karachi, have been generating crores in profits annually, but many have been quietly evading taxes, officials said.**

The Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) has announced intensified efforts to bring these lucrative businesses into the tax net.

The disclosure came during a high-level meeting chaired by Moazzam Iqbal Sipra, Chairman of the PRA. All divisional commissioners have been instructed to complete surveys and ensure the registration of beauty clinics by December.

PRA sources confirmed that despite substantial annual revenues, numerous beauty clinics have not been contributing to the government treasury. As part of the crackdown, all clinics will be formally registered and integrated into the E-IMM (E-Information Management) system to enable complete tracking and compliance.

To address the shortage of enforcement officers, the PRA is deploying additional personnel in the field. A dedicated cell will also be expanded to monitor the performance of officers and staff digitally, ensuring accountability. Digital tracking will target operators who delay or fail to pay taxes.

Officials emphasized that the initiative aims to widen the tax base, improve revenue collection, and ensure that profitable businesses meet their fiscal responsibilities.

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### TRADERS DECRY 'CUMBERSOME' TAX PROCEDURES

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Recorder Report Published about 3 hours ago

**PESHAWAR: Members of the business community have urged the government and Federal Board of Revenue to widen tax network instead of introducing new taxes, and take proactive initiatives to simplify the procedure.**

They made these remarks during an awareness session on 'Tax Culture and Taxpayer Facilitation' organised in collaboration with FBR Tax Facilitation Wing at the Chamber House.

KP businessmen, despite challenging situation, want to continue their role in documented economy but cumbersome tax-system, and allied issues were making them hard to register in the tax-net, the speakers said.

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The session was chaired by SCCI SVP Muhammad Nadeem while Secretary Tax Education and Facilitation, FBR Muhammad Mutiur Rehman, Second Secretary (Tax Facilitation) Abdul Rehman and Javed were the keynote speakers.

Traders highlighted several hiccups and irritants, including difficult tax procedures, navigating digital filing systems, managing compliance timeliness and interpreting fiscal documentation and called upon the Federal Board of Revenue to take tangible measures to address all these issues and simplify the whole procedure.

They emphasised that tax authorities need to talk openly to eliminate a sense of fearlessness among the business community that would increase understanding and restore/boost the confidence of businesspeople.

Muhammad Nadeem emphasised awareness, guidance and practical support to businesspeople that would assist to broaden the tax-base and many people can contribute to the national economy and growth.

SCCI SVP mentioned the KP businessmen's ordeals, stating that trade and commercial activities have been slowed down due to various reasons, especially high logistic cost, instability, lawlessness and other constraints and stressed issues must be addressed to ease difficulties of businessmen and to flourish business, trade and economy.

Earlier, Mutiur Rehman said that FBR has a zero-tolerance policy for misbehaviour with traders. He assured the business community concerns on digital integration deadline would be taken up with high ups and the issue would be addressed promptly.

He urged SCCI to play a role in connecting taxpayers with the FBR facilitation wing to mutually address the issues.

He requested that the check list for taxpayers should be uploaded to a website for taxpayer ease. He assured that recommendations of SCCI will be fully incorporated in the upcoming fiscal year budget.

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## PAKISTAN TO UNVEIL COMPREHENSIVE TAX SIMPLIFICATION STRATEGY BY 2026

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Written by

Shahnawaz Akhter

Islamabad, November 23, 2025: Pakistan is set to introduce a comprehensive tax simplification strategy next year, a key step recommended by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to strengthen governance and enhance public sector efficiency.

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The strategy aims to streamline Pakistan's tax system, reduce complexities, and improve the overall effectiveness of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

According to an official IMF document, Pakistan has been advised to publish the tax simplification strategy by May 2026. The strategy will focus on several key areas, including:

- **Simplifying Tax Structure:** Reduce the number of rate schedules, special regimes, excessive withholding and advance taxes, rationalize tax exemptions, and limit discretionary rulemaking powers. Pakistan will also report annually on the reduction in the number and value of granted tax exemptions.
- **Strengthening FBR Governance:** Improve the organizational structure to align oversight with core objectives, reduce autonomy of field offices, enhance human resource management, and improve FBR's ability to identify and mitigate key risks.
- **Enhancing Accountability:** Publish audit findings related to the Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited (PRAL) within 12 months and release a public report tracking FBR's response to major audit recommendations.
- **Improving Budget and PSDP Transparency:** Strengthen top-down budget processes, limit in-year adjustments without parliamentary approval, enforce a 10% cap on new PSDP projects, retain high-priority initiatives, protect capital spending from mid-year cuts, and integrate parliamentarians' projects into PSDP planning.
- **Risk-Based Anti-Corruption Measures:** Implement a risk-based framework to address corruption vulnerabilities in federal agencies. This includes publishing an action plan for the top ten agencies with the highest corruption risks and reporting annually on progress and risk reduction outcomes.

The IMF emphasized that these reforms are essential to address governance weaknesses that hinder public sector performance, improve fiscal discipline, and promote transparency.

Officials believe that the tax simplification strategy will reduce compliance burdens for taxpayers, increase transparency in revenue collection, and strengthen institutional governance across Pakistan's public sector.

With implementation slated to begin next year, this move signals Pakistan's commitment to modernizing its tax system and enhancing public accountability, aligning with international best practices recommended by the IMF.

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## FBR DIGITIZES COTTON BALE TRACKING TO CURB TAX EVASION IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY

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Written by

Shahnawaz Akhter

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Islamabad, November 22, 2025 – The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has intensified scrutiny of the textile industry by officially rolling out an electronic monitoring system that uses video analytics to track the processing of cotton bales in textile spinning units.

The move aims to curb tax evasion, ensure transparency, and document production across one of Pakistan’s largest industrial segments.

The FBR announced the decision through Sales Tax General Order (STGO) No. 8, issued on November 20, 2025. Under the order, all registered textile spinning units are required to install an advanced video analytics solution to enable real-time monitoring of production.

According to the FBR, the directive has been issued under the powers granted by Section 40C(2) of the Sales Tax Act, 1990, and Rules 150ZQR and 150ZQT of Chapter XIV-BA of the Sales Tax Rules, 2006. The tax authority stated that all registered persons engaged in textile spinning must immediately begin installing the specified monitoring system.

The system will monitor cotton bale processing through video surveillance and automated analytics, ensuring transparent documentation of production volumes. Monitoring equipment will be installed at key production points, including production lines, blendomats, and auto-plucker machines, using technology provided by vendors approved by the FBR.

The FBR has directed textile spinning units to complete installation of the required hardware and software by December 31, 2025. To ensure timely implementation, Chief Commissioners of Inland Revenue have been instructed to appoint dedicated focal persons who will coordinate between textile units and authorized vendors.

Field formations have been told to prioritize enforcement, especially focusing on “high-risk registered persons” suspected of using undocumented cotton bales or underreporting production.

The FBR also released a jurisdiction-wise list of textile spinning units under monitoring, along with details of authorized vendors approved under Chapter XIV-BA. These vendors are required to ensure their video analytics solutions meet mandatory compliance standards outlined in Rule 150ZQT, including:

- Real-time capture of the production process
- Object detection and counting for accurate production data
- Real-time transmission, storage, and archiving of data at FBR’s Central Control Unit
- Detection and reporting of unexpected operational stoppages
- Quantitative analysis of production levels
- Provision of data analytics essential for legal and enforcement actions

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The tax authority stated that the electronic monitoring system has been approved by the Member IR – Operations, and the directive takes effect immediately.

The initiative marks another significant step by the FBR in expanding digital oversight, increasing documentation, and promoting transparency across Pakistan’s textile supply chain.

## FBR UPDATES RULES FOR PERSONS NOT APPEARING IN 2025 ACTIVE TAXPAYERS LIST (ATL)

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Written by

Shahnawaz Akhter

Islamabad, November 22, 2025 – The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has issued updated rules regarding individuals and entities not appearing in the Active Taxpayers List (ATL) for the tax year 2025.

According to FBR, only persons who have filed their income tax returns by the due date, or filed late with the payment of surcharge, will be included in the ATL.

The FBR issued the 10th Schedule of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, specifying detailed provisions for tax collection and deduction from persons not on the ATL. Under the updated rules, tax rates on transactions involving non-ATL persons are increased to discourage non-compliance.

### Tax Rates for Persons Not Appearing in ATL (Section 236K)

S. No. Fair Market Value of Immovable Property Tax Rate

|   |                                   |       |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Up to Rs. 50 million              | 10.5% |
| 2 | Rs. 50 million to Rs. 100 million | 14.5% |
| 3 | Above Rs. 100 million             | 18.5% |

### Tax Collection on Other Transactions for Non-ATL Persons

| S. No. | Section Description                                      | Tax Rate |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1      | 236C Sale/transfer of immovable property                 | 11.5%    |
| 2      | 236G Sale to distributors/dealers (excluding fertilizer) | 2%       |
| 3      | 236H Sale to retailers                                   | 2.5%     |

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FBR also clarified rules for persons on the ATL who have not filed returns by the due date, imposing higher tax rates depending on the fair market value of property or consideration received. Provisional assessments may be made by the Commissioner if returns are not filed within the due period, with such assessments treated as final after 45 days unless returns or wealth statements are submitted within the timeframe.

The regulations require withholding agents to provide complete details of non-ATL persons, and failure to do so may result in penalties under sections 182 and 191. Moreover, the Commissioner retains the authority to amend assessments based on definite information, undisclosed income, or misclassification of income.

Certain exemptions are also defined, including taxes collected or deducted under specific sections like 149, 152 (certain clauses), 154, 154A, 231AB, 235, 236, and 237A. FBR emphasized that these measures aim to strengthen tax compliance and expand the active taxpayer base across Pakistan.

## Markets » Cotton & Textile

### WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW: MARKET SEES MIXED PRICE TREND AMID SUBDUED BUSINESS ACTIVITY

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Naseem Usman Published November 24, 2025 Updated about 2 hours ago

**KARACHI: The cotton market experienced mixed price trends while business activities remained limited. The spot rate remained stable at 15,200 rupees per maund.**

Cotton production has witnessed a dangerously continuous decline, according to experts. Relevant sources indicate that this year production is expected to barely reach 5.5 million bales, matching last year's output.

Despite the persistent decline in cotton production, the federal government has granted permission to establish additional sugar mills, which raises concerns about further negative impacts on cotton crops. Commenting on the situation, Ehsan ul Haq stated that the government's unfriendly policies have resulted in more than 300 ginning factories and over 150 textile units becoming inactive, including mills belonging to major textile groups.

On another front, the government has decided to increase textile and apparel exports by 64 percent over the next five years.

The local cotton market experienced a mixed trend in cotton prices during the past week. Textile mills are engaged in limited cotton purchasing, while several ginneries are stocking cotton in anticipation of an increase in quality cotton prices in the coming days, which has resulted in relatively lower business volumes and prevented any significant price fluctuations. The Spot Rate Committee of the Karachi Cotton Association has maintained the spot rate steady at 15,200 rupees per maund.

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According to market sources, due to the low cotton production report from the Pakistan Central Cotton Ginners Association as of November 15, it appears that the total official cotton production may fall slightly below 55 lakh bales. Because of this reduced cotton production, some ginners are showing interest in stockpiling quality cotton.

On the other hand, it is regrettable that while the government, the Minister of Agriculture, and several organisations associated with the cotton business are talking about cotton revival, the government appears to be taking practical measures that reduce cotton production rather than increase it. The reason for this is that permission has been granted to establish additional sugar mills in cotton-producing areas. According to sources, this will lead to increased sugarcane cultivation at the expense of cotton crops. Cotton farmers are already turning toward other crops due to inadequate pricing for raw cotton. Despite the impact on textile exports, the federal government has decided to lift the ban on establishing new sugar mills across the country. This measure raises concerns that increased sugarcane cultivation will lead to higher imports of premium cotton and edible oil worth billions of dollars.

Due to unfriendly government policies, more than 300 ginning factories and over 150 textile mills have already become non-operational, including mills belonging to major textile groups. These factors clearly indicate the dangers of further decline in cotton consumption.

According to an analysis, Pakistan's three main cotton stakeholders including farmers, cotton ginners, and spinners are currently passing through their most difficult period.

Cotton farmers are not receiving quality seeds, quality agricultural medicines, and proper guidelines. The cotton farmer is purchasing the region's most expensive fertilizer and other agricultural inputs while separately battling against seasonal conditions. Lower crop yields and reduced prices for this crop have left cotton farmers disappointed.

The second stakeholder consists of cotton ginners who are trapped in unjust taxation. Those cotton ginners who have closed their factories this year have managed to save some money, but the Federal Board of Revenue has its full attention on their earnings, and the reality is that the ginners simply cannot pay the tax demands that the FBR is making.

The third and important stakeholder comprises the spinning mills, and during the past three decades, the spinning sector is currently witnessing the most problems and difficulties. The spinning sector has reached the brink of disaster due to several-fold increases in production costs, electricity expenses, interest rate hikes, and the pressure from imported yarn.

Cotton prices in Sindh and Punjab provinces are running at 14,700 to 16,000 rupees per maund depending on quality, while Phutti prices are running at 6,000 to 8,200 rupees per 40 kilograms.

In Balochistan province, cotton prices are running at 15,300 to 16,000 rupees per maund, while Phutti are running at 7,800 to 9,200 rupees per 40 kilograms.

The prices of Phutti, cottonseed cake, and cottonseed oil remain stable.

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The Spot Rate Committee of the Karachi Cotton Association has kept the spot rate stable at 15,200 rupees per maund.

Naseem Usman, Chairman of the Karachi Cotton Brokers Forum, reported that international cotton prices showed a mixed trend. New York cotton futures prices remained between 62.50 and 66.50 American cents.

Meanwhile, despite the closure of hundreds of textile mills and ginning factories due to unfriendly government policies toward the entire cotton sector and the continuous decline in textile exports, the federal government's decision to lift the ban on establishing new sugar mills across the country has raised concerns about record depletion in foreign exchange reserves. This is expected to occur through billions of dollars worth of standard quality cotton imports as well as billions of dollars worth of edible oil imports, exacerbated by further increases in sugarcane cultivation.

Ehsan-ul-Haq, Chairman of the Cotton Ginners Forum, explained that according to reports, the federal government has decided to deregulate the sugar industry. Consequently, the Ministry of Food Security will send a summary to Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif within the next day or two, which includes the decision to lift the ban on establishing new sugar mills. This decision has raised concerns about a record increase in sugarcane cultivation and further decline in cotton cultivation due to the establishment of new sugar mills.

He explained that due to unfriendly government policies, which particularly include an extraordinary sales tax rate, the world's highest power tariff, and non-payment of billions of rupees in income and sales tax refunds for several years, more than three hundred ginning factories and over one hundred fifty textile mills have already become non-operational, including mills belonging to major textile groups.

He stated that despite the total domestic cotton production falling to the lowest level in the country's history, revelations have emerged about a further decrease in cotton consumption in Pakistan rather than its production. This is due to the closure of several ginning factories and textile mills in Pakistan and the deterioration of cotton quality caused by sugarcane contamination, raising concerns about severe impacts on the country's agricultural economy.

He mentioned that according to the Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association report, by November fifteenth, a total of 4,857,000 bales of seed cotton had arrived at ginning factories across the country, which is only one percent less compared to the same period last year.

According to the report, during the mentioned period, 2,168,000 bales arrived at Punjab's ginning factories and 2,689,000 bales in Sindh, which represents a three percent decrease in Punjab and a two percent increase in Sindh compared to last year. The report indicates that during this period, textile mills purchased 3,992,000 bales from ginning factories while exporters purchased 167,000 bales.

He explained that by October thirty-first, 2025, textile mills had purchased 3,590,000 bales from ginning factories, which was 55,000 bales more compared to the same period last year. However,

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by November fifteenth, these purchases were 148,000 bales less compared to the same period last year, which indicates the severe economic crisis ongoing in the textile industry.

He stated that according to the Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association report, by November fifteenth, cotton production in Punjab stood at 2,168,000 bales, while according to the Crop Reporting Services of the Government of Punjab, by November seventeenth, cotton production in Punjab was 3,810,000 bales, which is incomprehensible.

He mentioned that certain American organizations had demanded from the Government of Pakistan to exempt American cotton imported through Karachi Port from fumigation to increase their cotton exports to Pakistan, so that this imported cotton could reach the relevant textile mills without any delay. In response, the Government of Pakistan established a six-member committee headed by Federal Minister for Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain, which included the Prime Minister's Special Assistant for Industry and Production, Federal Minister for Environment, Federal Secretary National Food Security, Secretary Commerce, and Director General Plant Protection as members. The committee was asked to submit recommendations within seven days. However, despite several days passing, the committee's report has not yet come to light.

He explained that if American cotton is granted exemption from fumigation in Pakistan, imports from other countries, especially Brazil, where cotton is considerably cheaper than American cotton this year and Pakistani textile mill owners are importing most cotton from Brazil this year, could decrease significantly while American cotton imports could increase substantially. This could further exacerbate the economic problems of the Pakistani industry.

Furthermore, the federal government has devised a plan to increase textile and apparel exports by sixty-four percent over five years. The Ministry of Commerce has prepared a draft of the new five-year Textile and Apparel Policy from two thousand twenty-five to two thousand thirty. Under the draft, the new textile policy will promote "Made in Pakistan" products.

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## Business & Finance » Money & Banking

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### SCCI, AL-BARAKA BANK INK MOU

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Amjad Ali Shah Published November 24, 2025 Updated about 3 hours ago

**PESHAWAR: Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Al-Baraka Bank have entered into collaboration to strengthen small and large scale businesses, industries and uplift and diversify various important sectors in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.**

The commitment was made during a meeting between SCCI President Junaid Altaf and Chief Executive Officer, Al-Baraka Bank Mr Atif Hanif here at the Chamber House.

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The meeting thoroughly discussed a number of challenges and issues that were hampering small and large scale business and industries, and bringing diversification in various potential sectors to boost trade and export from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

To execute the commitment practically, SCCI chief Junaid Altaf and CEO Al-Baraka Atif Hanif signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the meeting.

The Area Head of the Al-Baraka Bank Anwar Kazmi, Regional Manager Aftab Haider Khan, Cluster Manager Zain Shah, and Branch Manager Asif Shazhad were accompanied by the CEO Atif Hanif during the visit to the Chamber House.

Meeting was attended by the Chamber senior vice president Muhammad Nadeem, former president Haji Muhammad Asif, former senior vice president Abdul Jalil Jan, Sanaullah Khan, former vice president Anees Ashraf, members of the SCCI' executive committee Aftab Iqbal, Abbas Fuad Azeem, Ashfaq Ahmad and Saddam Hussain, and WCCIP President Ms Qurtul Ain, Vice President Zareen Akhtar, and Syed Ejaz Ali Shah, Saddar Gul, Faiz Rasool, Fazl e Wahid, Ishtiaq Muhammad, SCCI Secretary General Muqtasid Ahsan and others.

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## Markets » Stocks

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### STOCKS RISE AS TRADERS PUSH UP BETS OF DECEMBER FED CUT

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- MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan rose 0.4% and South Korea's tech-heavy Kospi index was up 0.7%

Reuters Published 10 minutes ago

**SINGAPORE: Global stocks began an event-filled week on the front foot on Monday, as investors took heart from growing expectations of a Federal Reserve rate cut in December even as policymakers remain divided over such a move.**

Markets were gearing up for potential catalysts, including the release of U.S. retail sales and producer prices data due later in the week, while British finance minister Rachel Reeves is also set to unveil her highly anticipated budget.

Geopolitical developments were also front and centre of trading rooms, after the United States and Ukraine said they had created an "updated and refined peace framework" to end the war with Russia, keeping pressure on oil prices on hopes of a potential supply boost.

After a rough ride for global equity markets last week driven in part by worries over lofty tech valuations, Monday's session in Asia gave stocks some much-needed reprieve.

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Trading was thinned with Japan markets closed for a holiday, but MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan rose 0.4% and South Korea's tech-heavy Kospi index was up 0.7%.

Nasdaq futures and S&P 500 futures rose 0.64% and 0.45%, respectively, while EUROSTOXX 50 futures advanced 0.78%.

The latest boost came after remarks from influential Fed policymaker John Williams, who said on Friday that interest rates can fall "in the near term", boosting the likelihood of further easing in December.

"We expect another Fed cut in December, followed by two more moves in March and June 2026 that take the funds rate to 3-3.25%," said Goldman Sachs chief economist Jan Hatzius in a note.

"The risks for next year are tilted toward more cuts, as the news on underlying inflation has been favourable and the deterioration in the job market - especially for college-educated workers - might be difficult to contain via the modest cyclical growth acceleration we expect."

Fed funds futures now point to a 57% chance that the Fed will cut by 25 basis points next month, up from less than a 30% chance a week ago.

Trading of cash U.S. Treasuries was closed in Asia on Monday owing to the Japanese holiday, but futures held steady.

A record U.S. government shutdown that ended earlier this month has muddled the outlook for U.S. rates, as policymakers grapple with gaps in data that would normally guide their view of the world's largest economy.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics said on Friday it had cancelled the release of October's consumer price report because the shutdown had prevented the collection of data.

## **On alert for yen intervention**

The main focus in the currency market was on the yen , which fell 0.2% to 156.72 per dollar and remained pinned near a 10-month trough.

Traders have been alert to the risk of intervention from Japanese authorities to prop up the sliding yen, which has come under pressure from growing worries about the nation's fiscal health and low domestic rates.

Finance Minister Satsuki Katayama ramped up her jawboning last week, which seems to have put a floor under the currency for now, though investors see an increasing risk of an intervention.

"Dollar/yen will definitely be going upwards even if you try to intervene. So I think they will have to live with this. The only way for them to do it is intervention to stop the pace maybe, but I

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don't think they can stop the direction," said Saktiandi Supaat, regional head of FX research and strategy for global markets at Maybank.

"It'll be costly... you're going to fight against a tide. The dollar seems to be very supported now."

Japan can actively intervene in the currency market to mitigate the negative economic impact of a weak yen, Takuji Aida, a private-sector member of a key government panel, said in a television programme on public broadcaster NHK on Sunday.

Elsewhere, the dollar was firm despite the greater Fed easing bets, leaving the euro languishing near a two-week low at \$1.1506. Sterling eased 0.06% to \$1.3091 ahead of Wednesday's budget announcement.

In commodities, Brent crude futures eased 0.16% to \$62.46 a barrel, while U.S. crude fell 0.17% to \$57.96 per barrel.

Spot gold was down 0.3% to \$4,054.19 an ounce.

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## BROAD-BASED LOSSES WEIGH ON SRI LANKAN SHARES

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Reuters Published November 24, 2025 Updated about an hour ago

**COLOMBO: Sri Lankan shares ended lower on Friday and logged their worst weekly decline since early-April, weighed down by losses across sectors.**

The CSE All-Share index settled 0.53 percent lower at 22,982.72 points. It dropped 2 percent for the week.

Sri Lanka's consumer prices rose 2.7 percent year-on-year in October, accelerating from a 2.1 percent increase in September, the statistics department said on Friday.

Ambeon Holdings and HDFC Bank of Sri Lanka were the biggest percentage losers on the benchmark index, down 7.8 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively.

Trading volume on the CSE All-Share fell to 146.7 million shares from 151.2 million shares in the previous session.

The equity market's turnover climbed to 3.82 billion Sri Lankan rupees (USD12.41 million) from 3.49 billion rupees in the previous session, according to exchange data.

Foreign investors were net sellers, offloading stocks worth 290.8 million rupees, while domestic investors were net buyers, purchasing shares worth 3.69 billion rupees, the data showed.

## WALL STREET WEEK AHEAD: BLACK FRIDAY PUTS FOCUS ON CONSUMER SPENDING FOR ROCKY MARKETS

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Reuters Published November 24, 2025 Updated about an hour ago

**NEW YORK: With US stocks in the midst of a grim month, investors will look in the coming week for signs of strength in the US consumer with Black Friday putting the spotlight on the holiday shopping season.**

The rally in stocks has stalled in November, with the benchmark S&P 500 declining more than 4 percent so far during the month.

Strong quarterly results from semiconductor giant Nvidia Corp failed on Thursday to calm markets, which have been rattled by concerns about elevated valuations and questions about returns on massive corporate investments in artificial intelligence infrastructure.

Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of US economic activity, will now come under Wall Street's microscope.

The trading week will be interrupted by the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, followed by Black Friday, known for ushering in discounts, then Cyber Monday and holiday shopping promotions heading into year end.

Recent readings have shown a slump in consumer sentiment, while other data has been missing due to the government shutdown. This could make any signals about holiday spending more significant than usual.

"From a sentiment standpoint, the early reads we get on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, due to the lack of data we have, will be important," said Chris Fasciano, chief market strategist at Commonwealth Financial Network.

"The entirety of the holiday shopping period will be an important read for where we are with the consumer and what that means for the economy." While the S&P 500 remains up 11 percent year-to-date, it has declined just over 5 percent from its late October all-time high. The Cboe Volatility index on Thursday posted its highest closing level since April.

Stock market performance could factor into how consumers spend over the holidays, particularly those with higher incomes who are more invested in equities. Despite the recent wobble, the S&P 500 has soared over 80 percent since its latest bull market began just over three years ago.

"If you get a pullback there, a lot of the wealth in the upper income is in the stock market ... so it will be interesting to see if they spend like they have in the past," said Doug Beath, global equity strategist at the Wells Fargo Investment Institute.

This month, the National Retail Federation said it expected US holiday sales to surpass USD1 trillion for the first time. Still, that November-December forecast equated to growth of between

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3.7 percent and 4.2 percent from the year-earlier period, slower than the 4.3 percent growth in 2024.

Household balance sheets are “in a very strong place,” yet slowing employment growth could pressure holiday spending, said Michael Pearce, deputy chief US economist at Oxford Economics.

“The most important factor for consumer spending is the health of the labor market,” Pearce said.

Data from the delayed monthly employment report released on Thursday showed US job growth accelerated in September. But the unemployment rate increased to a four-year high of 4.4 percent.

Persistently firm inflation, with import tariffs contributing to higher prices, also could weigh on spending, Pearce said. Holiday shopping is critical for retailers. Walmart on Thursday raised its annual forecasts in a signal of confidence heading into year end. Reports from other retailers during the week were mixed.

Another read on the consumer will come with Tuesday’s release of US retail sales for September. That report has been delayed along with other government releases because of the 43-day federal shutdown that ended earlier this month.

The influx of pent-up data in the coming weeks could further ramp up volatility for investors as they assess the economy’s health and prospects that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates at its December 9-10 meeting.

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## FTSE 100 CLOSES HIGHER ON FED RATE CUT HOPES

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Reuters Published November 24, 2025 Updated about an hour ago

**LONDON: London’s FTSE 100 recovered ground on Friday, trimming earlier losses as increased expectations for Federal Reserve interest rate cuts improved global market sentiment, while investors now await next week’s UK budget announcement. The blue-chip index, however, ended the week down 1.7 percent, marking a steeper weekly decline than those seen in April when markets were rattled by US President Donald Trump’s sweeping tariff announcements.**

The more domestically-focused mid-cap index extended its losing streak to an eighth consecutive session, dropping 0.1 percent on Friday and recording weekly losses of 2.2 percent.

Thursday’s global rally, fueled by chip giant Nvidia’s upbeat forecast, proved short-lived as concerns about a potential AI bubble resurfaced.

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However, markets regained some footing after New York Fed President John Williams, a voting member of the Federal Open Market Committee, suggested the central bank could still implement rate cuts - boosting both rate cut expectations and overall sentiment.

In UK markets, beverages stocks rose 2 percent, while homebuilders' stocks gained 3.4 percent.—Reuters

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## MOST GULF MARKETS GAIN ON FED RATE CUT BETS

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Reuters Published November 24, 2025 Updated about an hour ago

**DUBAI: Most stock markets in the Gulf ended higher on Sunday, amid growing optimism for a Federal Reserve interest rate cut in December, although gains were restrained by subdued oil prices.**

US monetary policy shifts have a significant impact on Gulf markets, where most currencies are pegged to the dollar, and financial markets are pricing in an increased likelihood of a third and final Fed rate cut this year after Thursday's jobs data.

The delayed US employment report showed a mixed labor market picture, with non-farm payrolls rising by 119,000 in October, well above forecasts for a 50,000 gain, while the unemployment rate climbed to a four-year high.

In Qatar, the index rose 0.4 percent, led by a 3.6 percent jump in telecoms firm Ooredoo .

Last week, Ooredoo finalized its fully marketed secondary global offering of shares previously owned by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

Saudi Arabia's benchmark index finished flat, with Saudi Arabian Mining Company (Maaden) advancing 3.3 percent.

Rare earth miner MP Materials said on Wednesday it would build a refinery in Saudi Arabia for the minerals, with the US Department of Defense and state-owned Maaden, to expand Middle Eastern processing of the critical minerals.

On the other hand, oil giant Saudi Aramco lost 0.7 percent.

Oil prices extended their decline for a third session on Friday, touching a one-month low, as the US pushed for a Russia-Ukraine peace deal that could boost global oil supplies.

Outside the Gulf, Egypt's blue-chip index was up 0.4 percent.

## Business & Finance » Industry

### 'FCCI IS READY TO PLAY ROLE IN ARRESTING IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE'

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Press Release Published about 3 hours ago

**FAISALABAD: Climate change is no more a buzzword as Pakistan has recently experienced its worst manifestation and FCCI being an apex trade body is ready to contribute its role to sensitize industrial sector to voluntarily abandon the use of hazardous ingredients before its manufacturing or use is prohibited globally, said Farooq Yousaf Sheikh, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI).**

He was talking to a team from the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC & EC). He said that the share of Pakistan in climate change is hardly 0.9 percent but it has faced horrific onslaught of floods, cloud bursts and other unexpected natural calamities. He said that we must motivate concerned stakeholders, particularly the SME sector, to play a productive role in arresting the ill impacts of climate change.

He appreciated the endeavours of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and said that FCCI will circulate the awareness material among its members in addition to arranging a full-fledged seminar to involve them in the exercise of saving the environment threatened by molested human activities. He also explained in detail the contribution of industry in environmental degradation and said that its share in smog is only 9 percent but most of the punitive actions are initiated against it.

Earlier Yasir Arafat, Deputy Secretary Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and Sajid Raza, National Project Coordinator on "Reducing Uses and Release of Chemicals of Concerns, including persistent organized pollutants in the textile sector of Pakistan" explained the aims and objectives of this project.

A question answer session was also held while Waheed Khaliq Ramay offered vote of thanks. Later President FCCI Farooq Yousaf Sheikh decorated the guests with special collar pins to mark the 50 Years of FCCI. He also presented FCCI shield to Yasir Arafat, Deputy Secretary Climate Change and Environmental Coordination. Dr Muhammad Sarfraz and Rashid Ghuman were also present during this meeting.

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### CONCERN VOICED OVER FEE COLLECTION DISPUTE BETWEEN HSATI, HMC

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Recorder Report Published November 24, 2025 Updated about 2 hours ago

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**HYDERABAD: Chairman of the Hyderabad SITE Association of Trade & Industry (HSATI) Zubair Ghangra has expressed deep concern over the ongoing dispute between the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) and SITE Limited regarding tax and fee collection in the Hyderabad SITE area.**

He stated that the imposition of unclear, overlapping, and in some cases, unlawful charges has created unrest within the industrial sector. He emphasised that this dispute is not only destabilizing Hyderabad's industrial economy but also poses a serious threat to the future development of the entire region.

Numerous industrial units have reported to HSATI that HMC staff have been collecting generator fees, parking fees, road-usage charges, and several other unclear levies, while SITE Limited maintains that these collections fall outside HMC's lawful jurisdiction. Such forced and unauthorized collections are significantly increasing the cost of doing business and undermining investor confidence.

The Chairman affirmed that HSATI is willing to cooperate with all government departments, particularly HMC and SITE Limited. However, he stressed that the final solution must be constructive, lawful, and aligned with the interests of the industrial community. He noted that the SITE area serves as the economic backbone of Hyderabad, and it must not be allowed to suffer due to administrative conflicts.

He urged the committee to complete its work on a priority basis and issue a decision that is not only legally sound and fair but also supportive of industrial growth. HSATI hopes that this dispute will be resolved soon so that the industries of Hyderabad can continue moving forward on the path of sustainable development.

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## LABOUR LEADERS VOW TO DEFEAT BIDS TO DIVIDE ON RACIAL AND LINGUISTIC LINES

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Press Release Published about 3 hours ago

**KARACHI: Workers will defeat the conspiracy to divide them on the basis of race and language, as well as the lawlessness prevailing in factories, through the power of their unity.**

This resolution was expressed by labour leaders at the Labour Conference organized by the National Trade Union Federation Pakistan (NTUF) at the Karachi Export Processing Zone, Landhi. The conference was presided over by NTUF Sindh's President, Comrade Gul Rahman.

Thousands of workers from various industries, along with a large number of women affiliated with the Home-Based Women Workers Federation (HBWWF), also participated.

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NTUF General Secretary Nasir Mansoor said in his address that from Khyber to Karachi, workplaces had turned into slaughterhouses. The greed for profit had pushed the working class into unbearable conditions. Instead of addressing real issues, the ruling classes had planned to entangle people in unnecessary controversies.

One example, he said, was the attack on the unity of Sindh and the dangerous plan to divide working people on linguistic lines — a plan that workers, peasants, and oppressed communities would defeat through the power of unity.

Speaking about the situation in factories and workplaces, he said that even in the 21st century, workers were deprived of basic rights such as union formation, written appointment letters, payment of officially notified minimum wages, social protection and pensions.

The illegal contract labour system imposed on them had turned them into modern-day slaves, while institutions responsible for protecting workers' rights had completely failed. These institutions and their officials, he said, had become tools of the capitalists.

Veteran labour leader Habibuddin Junaidi said that every passing day was increasing the difficulties of workers. The capitalist model of development had given nothing but poverty, helplessness and unemployment. Punjab was being showcased as a model of development, but the tragic Faisalabad incident had proven that this so-called model had brought only death and destruction to workers. Without a safe working environment, better wages and socio-economic justice, he stressed, development was impossible.

Saira Feroz, President of the Home-Based Women Workers Federation Pakistan (HBWWF), said that lawlessness dominated industrial units, especially textile and garment factories producing for international fashion brands.

The unending greed for profit had blinded international brands and their local suppliers. This was why national and international labour laws, GSP Plus, Global Framework Agreements, the Pakistan Accord and bilateral protocols had failed to ensure justice for workers in factories and workplaces.

NTUF Sindh General Secretary and SITE Labour Forum leader Riaz Abbasi said that a conspiracy was underway in Pakistan and across South Asia to strip away the hard-earned rights of 700 million workers — rights won over 150 years of workers' struggle — under the guise of a new labour code. This conspiracy, he said, would be strongly resisted.

The conference expressed solidarity with the people of Palestine and Venezuela, who were resisting Israeli Zionism and U.S. imperialist military aggression.

It was announced that a historic protest would be organized in mid-December in Karachi against anti-worker laws, the conspiracy to divide workers, and the attack on the unity of Sindh. Strong participation was expected from peasants, workers, political activists and conscious citizens.

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Participants of the conference also expressed solidarity with the 26 November protest organized by Indian trade unions against the labour code.

Other speakers of the conference were Wasim Jamal of SEESI Officer Association, Hussain Badshah, General Secretary Dock Workers Union, Parveen Bano and Mahru of HBWWF, Himmat Ali Phalpoto, Rabail Abro of the textile and garment workers' union, Aqra Kanwal of HBWWF, Iqbal Abro of Alternate, Owais Qureshi, Muhammad Akram, Bilawal Khan of Alternate, Advocate Ahsan Mahmood and others.

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## RCCI WELCOMES RESTORATION OF SRO 760

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APP Published November 24, 2025 Updated about 3 hours ago

**RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has welcomed the reinstatement of Statutory Regulatory Order (SRO) 760 of 2013, which is a regulatory framework governing the trade of precious metals, including the import and export of gold. The Chamber termed the development a major breakthrough for Pakistan's business community, particularly the gems and jewelry export sector.**

In a statement issued on Sunday, the RCCI expressed its profound appreciation to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and Commerce Minister Jam Kamal for their proactive and committed efforts in restoring this crucial policy framework.

RCCI President Usman Shaukat also extended heartfelt congratulations to Akhtar Khan Tessori, Patron-in-Chief of the Pakistan Gems Jewellery Traders and Exporters Association, President Imran Khan Tessori, and the entire gems and jewelry community.

He praised their exemplary leadership, perseverance, and dedicated advocacy, which played a decisive role in the successful reactivation of SRO-760.

"The issuance of this notification by the Ministry of Commerce is a milestone development," said President Usman Shaukat.

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## PAKISTAN'S CEMENT EXPORT EARNINGS HIT 11-YEAR HIGH DESPITE DECLINING VOLUMES

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BR Web Desk Published November 22, 2025

**Pakistan's cement export proceeds surged to \$42.6 million in October 2025, the highest monthly level in 11 years, even as export volumes dropped sharply, shared Topline Securities on Saturday.**

"Pakistan's monthly cement export proceeds in Oct-2025 surged to \$42.6mn, marking the highest level in 11 years since the record of \$43.9mn in Sep-2014," said the brokerage house.

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“This reflects renewed momentum in Pakistan’s cement exports,” it added, attributing the growth to supply-side disruption from key European exporting markets.

The development comes as export dispatches declined by a massive 23.44% in October 2025, as volumes fell from 1.081 million tons in October 2024 to just 0.827 million tons in October 2025, according to data released by the All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association (APCMA).

At the time, APCMA urged the government to take export-friendly measures to make the cement sector more competitive and attractive for foreign markets.

“If the decline continues, it may dent hopes of the cement sector’s revival,” said a spokesman of the Association.

However, total cement dispatches in Pakistan stood at 4.754 million tons in October 2025, reflecting a 6% increase, as compared to 4.490 million tons in October 2024.

The growth was driven by strong domestic demand, even as export volumes continued to slide.

Meanwhile, the local cement dispatches surged by over 15% year-on-year in October 2025, clocking in at 3.926 million tons compared to 3.409 million tons in the same month last year.

## CARPET MANUFACTURERS FLAG EXPORT ISSUES IN CRUCIAL MEETING WITH STATE BANK

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Written by

Mrs. Anjum Shahnawaz

Islamabad, November 23, 2025 – The delegation, led by Chairman Mian Atiq-ur-Rehman, included Patron-in-Chief Abdul Latif Malik, and senior members Usman Ashraf, Shahid Hassan Sheikh, Naeem Khokhar, and Muhammad Naeem Sajid, according to a press release.

During the meeting, the delegation presented a detailed briefing on the difficulties faced by handmade carpet exporters, particularly in documentation, transaction processing, and compliance with updated banking procedures. They urged the SBP to:

- Issue clear instructions to all commercial banks
- Conduct awareness sessions on new export regulations
- Train bank staff so exporters and financial institutions operate on the same page

The SBP officials assured the delegation that the central bank would take “every possible step” to resolve the issues raised, promising improved coordination with commercial banks to facilitate export-related processes.

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## Industry leadership reviews strategy to revive carpet exports

Meanwhile, at a separate review meeting held at the PCMA office, Chairman Mian Atiq-ur-Rehman and Vice Chairman Riaz Ahmad reaffirmed the association's commitment to strengthening Pakistan's handmade carpet sector—an industry known globally for craftsmanship but currently facing rising production costs and skilled-labour shortages.

Discussions also covered problems related to the Torkham border, which continues to impact logistics and timely shipment of export consignments.

## Call for government support and long-term export strategy

PCMA office-bearers emphasized the need for strong government support to revitalize the sector. They recommended:

- Reducing production costs through policy incentives
- Ensuring availability of skilled artisans
- Providing freight subsidies to remain competitive internationally

## Upcoming international exhibitions seen as key opportunity

The association revealed that three major international exhibitions are scheduled for next year. Leadership described these events as a “golden opportunity” for Pakistan's handmade carpet industry to boost global outreach, secure new buyers, and expand export markets.

Chairman Atiq-ur-Rehman and Vice Chairman Riaz Ahmad stressed the importance of beginning preparations immediately to maximize participation and showcase Pakistan's craftsmanship on the world stage.

## Technology

### META BURIED 'CAUSAL' EVIDENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA HARM, US COURT FILINGS ALLEGE

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Reuters Published about 3 hours ago

**WASHINGTON: Meta shut down internal research into the mental health effects of Facebook after finding causal evidence that its products harmed users' mental health, according to unredacted filings in a lawsuit by US school districts against Meta and other social media platforms.**

In a 2020 research project code-named “Project Mercury,” Meta scientists worked with survey firm Nielsen to gauge the effect of “deactivating” Facebook, according to Meta documents

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obtained via discovery. To the company's disappointment, "people who stopped using Facebook for a week reported lower feelings of depression, anxiety, loneliness and social comparison," internal documents said.

Rather than publishing those findings or pursuing additional research, the filing states, Meta called off further work and internally declared that the negative study findings were tainted by the "existing media narrative" around the company. Privately, however, a staffer insisted that the conclusions of the research were valid, according to the filing.

"The Nielsen study does show causal impact on social comparison," (unhappy face emoji), an unnamed staff researcher allegedly wrote. Another staffer worried that keeping quiet about negative findings would be akin to the tobacco industry "doing research and knowing cigs were bad and then keeping that info to themselves."

Despite Meta's own work documenting a causal link between its products and negative mental health effects, the filing alleges, Meta told Congress that it had no ability to quantify whether its products were harmful to teenage girls. In a statement Saturday, Meta spokesman Andy Stone said the study was stopped because its methodology was flawed and that it worked diligently to improve the safety of its products.

"The full record will show that for over a decade, we have listened to parents, researched issues that matter most, and made real changes to protect teens," he said.

## **Plaintiffs allege product risks were hidden**

The allegation of Meta burying evidence of social media harms is just one of many in a late Friday filing by Motley Rice, a law firm suing Meta, Google, TikTok and Snapchat on behalf of school districts around the country.

Broadly, the plaintiffs argue the companies have intentionally hidden the internally recognized risks of their products from users, parents and teachers. TikTok, Google and Snapchat did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Allegations against Meta and its rivals include tacitly encouraging children below the age of 13 to use their platforms, failing to address child sexual abuse content and seeking to expand the use of social media products by teenagers while they were at school. The plaintiffs also allege that the platforms attempted to pay child-focused organizations to defend the safety of their products in public.

In one instance, TikTok sponsored the National PTA and then internally boasted about its ability to influence the child-focused organization. Per the filing, TikTok officials said the PTA would "do whatever we want going forward in the fall... (t)hey'll announce things publicly(,), (t)heir CEO will do press statements for us."

By and large, however, the allegations against the other social media platforms are less detailed than those against Meta. The internal documents cited by the plaintiffs allege:

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1. Meta intentionally designed its youth safety features to be ineffective and rarely used, and blocked testing of safety features that it feared might be harmful to growth.
2. Meta required users to be caught 17 times attempting to traffic people for sex before it would remove them from its platform, which a document described as “a very, very, very high strike threshold.”
3. Meta recognized that optimizing its products to increase teen engagement resulted in serving them more harmful content, but did so anyway.
4. Meta stalled internal efforts to prevent child predators from contacting minors for years due to growth concerns, and pressured safety staff to circulate arguments justifying its decision not to act.
5. In a text message in 2021, Mark Zuckerberg said that he wouldn’t say that child safety was his top concern “when I have a number of other areas I’m more focused on like building the metaverse.” Zuckerberg also shot down or ignored requests by Nick Clegg, Meta’s then-head of global public policy, to better fund child safety work.

## NEW INTERNET CABLE TO BOOST CONNECTIVITY IN PAKISTAN, SAYS IT MINISTRY

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- SEA-ME-WE 6 submarine cable system to provide one of the lowest-latency routes between Southeast Asia, Middle East, and Western Europe, ministry says

BR Web Desk Published November 22, 2025

**Pakistan has strengthened its global digital connectivity with the deployment of the SEA-ME-WE 6 submarine cable system, a 19,200-km high-capacity fibre network linking Pakistan to countries between Singapore and France, a statement from the Information Technology (IT) said on Saturday.**

Offering more than 100 Tbps of total capacity, SEA-ME-WE 6 will provide one of the lowest-latency routes between Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Western Europe, according to the statement.

“The consortium includes Transworld Associates (Pakistan), Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company, Bharti Airtel, Dhiraagu, Djibouti Telecom, Mobily, Orange, Singtel, Sri Lanka Telecom, Telecom Egypt, Telekom Malaysia, and Telin.”

As per the details, SEA-ME-WE 6 features more fibre pairs and more than double the capacity of previous SEA-ME-WE systems, enhancing resilience and diversification across high-traffic Asia-Europe routes through trans-Egypt geo-diversified crossings and landing points. The system enables rapid scalability, improved fault protection, and lower total network ownership costs for participating service providers, while adding an essential new redundancy layer to the global internet backbone.

“Under this deployment, Pakistan has been allocated a total of 13.2 Tbps, with 4 Tbps being activated immediately—expanding the country’s international bandwidth capacity and enhancing

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support for cloud services, data centres, fintech, e-commerce, streaming, and the broader digital economy,” the IT ministry said.

## APPLE IPHONE 15 PRO MAX PRICES, PTA TAX IN PAKISTAN (NOV 23)

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Written by

Hamza Shahnawaz

The Apple iPhone 15 Pro Max is now officially available in Pakistan, with updated pricing and PTA tax details as of November 23, 2025.

Apple’s premium flagship continues to lead the high-end smartphone market, offering a refined titanium design, advanced performance, and a professional-grade camera system.

iPhone 15 Pro Max Price in Pakistan (November 2025)

256GB – PKR 481,500

512GB – PKR 575,499

1TB – PKR 625,799

### Available Colors

Apple offers the iPhone 15 Pro Max in four elegant titanium finishes, providing a sleek and durable look:

Black Titanium

White Titanium

Blue Titanium

Natural Titanium

### Key Features of iPhone 15 Pro Max

**Pro Camera System** – Equipped with seven pro-level lenses, engineered for exceptional photography and cinematic videography.

**A17 Pro Chip** – Apple’s fastest and most efficient processor, delivering ultra-smooth performance, fast app loading, and seamless multitasking.

**48MP Main Camera** – Features a high-resolution 24MP shooting mode for stunning clarity and professional-quality images.

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Titanium Build – A lightweight yet durable construction that enhances the overall premium feel of the device.

With its powerful A17 Pro chipset, advanced 48MP camera setup, and premium titanium design, the iPhone 15 Pro Max is an excellent choice for users who value performance, durability, and top-tier photography.

Following are the latest iPhone 15 PTA TAX:

| Apple Device      | Tax on Passport (PKR) | Tax on CNIC (PKR) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| iPhone 15         | 107,300               | 130,700           |
| iPhone 15 Plus    | 113,100               | 137,000           |
| iPhone 15 Pro     | 135,300               | 161,500           |
| iPhone 15 Pro Max | 148,500               | 176,000           |

Following are the complete specifications of Apple iPhone 15 Pro Max:

|                                  |                                                 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| SIM Support                      | Dual SIM (Nano-SIM, dual stand-by) – HK Version |
| Phone DimensionsSmartphone deals | 159.9 x 76.7 x 8.2 mm                           |
| Phone Weight                     | 221 g                                           |
| Operating System                 | iOS 17                                          |
| Screen Size                      | 6.7 Inches                                      |
| Screen Resolution                | 2796 x 1290 Pixels                              |
| Screen Type                      | Super Retina XDR OLED                           |
| Screen Protection                | Ceramic Shield glass                            |
| Internal Memory                  | 256/ 512 GB/ 1 TB                               |
| RAM                              | 8 GB                                            |
| Card Slot                        | No                                              |
| Processor                        | Apple A17 Pro Hexa-core                         |

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|                       |                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GPU                   | Apple GPU (6-core graphics)                                                                                                                                           |
| Battery type          | 4422 mAh                                                                                                                                                              |
| Front Camera          | 12 MP                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Front Flash Light     | No                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Front Video Recording | 4K@24/25/30/60fps, 1080p@25/30/60/120fps, gyro-EIS                                                                                                                    |
| Back Flash Light      | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Back Camera           | 48 MP + 12 MP + 12 MP                                                                                                                                                 |
| Back Video Recording  | 4K@24/25/30/60fps, 1080p@25/30/60/120/240fps, 10-bit HDR, Dolby Vision HDR (up to 60fps), ProRes, Cinematic mode (4K@24/30fps), 3D (spatial) video, stereo sound rec. |
| Bluetooth             | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3G                    | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 4G/LTE                | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 5G                    | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Radio                 | No                                                                                                                                                                    |
| WiFi                  | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |
| NFC                   | Yes                                                                                                                                                                   |

DISCLAIMER: PkRevenue has no responsibility for the correct prices. Because prices are subject to change due to variation in Rupee/Dollar parity and imposition of duty and taxes.

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## ONEPLUS ACE 6T RENDERS REVEAL SLEEK NEW DESIGN

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Written by

Hamza Shahnawaz

OnePlus is gearing up to expand its Ace series once again. After launching the OnePlus Ace 6 in China last month, the company is now preparing to unveil the highly anticipated OnePlus Ace 6T.

While the official launch date remains unknown, a fresh leak from renowned tipster Evan Blass has given us our first clear look at the smartphone's design.

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Blass shared two official-looking renders of the OnePlus Ace 6T on X, showcasing a device that features a clean, modern aesthetic. On the front, the Ace 6T sports a punch-hole display, continuing the brand's trend of slim bezels and immersive screens. Turning the phone around, the rear panel reveals a dual-camera setup, arranged neatly within a minimalist camera island.

Along the sides, the phone carries a familiar layout. The power button and volume rocker sit on the right, while the left side features what appears to be the customizable Plus Key — a feature previously seen on the OnePlus 15 and the Ace 6. This key is expected to offer quick access to apps and functions, further enhancing the user experience.

The OnePlus Ace 6T sports flat metal frames, giving it a premium feel. While the overall design closely resembles the Ace 6, there are subtle differences, such as a redesigned flash module and a cleaner camera island without any printed text. Side-by-side comparisons show that the Ace 6T sits stylistically between the Ace 6 and the OnePlus 15.

Although OnePlus has not yet revealed the full specifications, the company previously confirmed two major features: a 165Hz display and Qualcomm's upcoming Snapdragon 8 Gen 5 chipset, which is set to debut on November 26. These upgrades indicate that the Ace 6T will deliver top-tier performance, especially for gamers and power users.

The OnePlus Ace 6T is also expected to debut globally under a different name — the OnePlus 15R. The brand has already begun teasing the device alongside a new smartwatch, though official launch timelines for both products remain unannounced.

With powerful hardware, a sleek design, and a global variant on the horizon, the OnePlus Ace 6T is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated mid-flagship releases of the coming months.

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## SAMSUNG GALAXY S26 ULTRA TIPPED FOR BIGGER BATTERY

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Written by

Hamza Shahnawaz

Samsung's upcoming flagship, the Galaxy S26 Ultra, continues to make headlines as new leaks shed light on one of its most anticipated upgrades — the battery.

While earlier reports were conflicting, a fresh leak from China now suggests that the Galaxy S26 Ultra will indeed offer a modest boost in battery capacity.

According to the latest leak, the Samsung Galaxy S26 Ultra will come equipped with a 5,200mAh battery. Although this isn't a major jump from the 5,000mAh battery used in several previous Ultra models, it still represents a meaningful improvement that could help extend daily usage, especially for power-hungry users.

However, this new claim doesn't align with information revealed through a Chinese certification listing back in August. That certification stated the Galaxy S26 Ultra would feature a battery

with a rated capacity of 4,855mAh, which typically corresponds to an advertised 5,000mAh typical capacity. With two opposing reports now in circulation, Samsung enthusiasts may need to wait for additional certifications or more reliable leaks to confirm the final battery size.

Leaked renders of the Galaxy S26 Ultra, shared by OnLeaks and AndroidHeadlines, have also surfaced alongside the battery news, giving fans an early glimpse at Samsung's 2026 premium flagship. The design appears familiar yet refined, hinting at Samsung's continued focus on durability and sleek aesthetics.

Beyond battery capacity, charging speed is another area expected to see a significant upgrade. Previous reports indicate that the Galaxy S26 Ultra may support 60W wired charging and 25W wireless charging.

This would mark a noticeable improvement over the Galaxy S25 Ultra, which offers 45W wired and 15W wireless charging. If accurate, these enhancements could reduce charging times considerably, making the S26 Ultra more convenient for users who rely heavily on fast power top-ups.

As always, with the launch still months away, these details remain unofficial. More leaks and certifications will likely emerge soon, helping paint a clearer picture of what Samsung has in store for its next-generation Ultra smartphone. For now, fans can look forward to a slightly larger battery and faster charging — upgrades that could make a meaningful difference in everyday performance.

## Business & Finance » Companies

### TELENOR-UFONE MERGER LIKELY IN FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER

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Nuzhat Nazar Published November 23, 2025

**ISLAMABAD: The long-pending merger of Telenor Pakistan and Ufone is finally entering its closing phase and is likely to be formally concluded in the first week of December.**

After a year of deliberations and procedural completion from competition and op efficiency perspective, it has been learnt that all major milestones have been cleared and the final approvals are now underway.

According to the process, the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has already issued its order, paving the way for the next regulatory steps. The merger case is being reviewed by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), which will issue its order once due diligence is completed. Following PTA's approval, the case will proceed to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) for financial clearance, and finally to the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) for corporate and structural approval.

According to the officials, the completion of this high-value merger will bring a major shift in Pakistan's telecom landscape, bringing two key operators under a consolidated structure.

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## Markets » Energy

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### OIL FALLS AS UKRAINE PEACE TALKS EDGE TOWARD A SOLUTION

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- Brent crude futures fell 14 cents, or 0.22%, to \$62.42 per barrel

Reuters Published 31 minutes ago

**PERTH: Oil prices slipped Monday, extending losses from last week, as Russia-Ukraine peace talks edged closer to a solution and the US dollar strengthened.**

Brent crude futures fell 14 cents, or 0.22%, to \$62.42 per barrel at 0148 GMT.

West Texas Intermediate was down 15 cents, or 0.26%, at \$57.91 a barrel.

Both crude benchmarks were down about 3% last week and hit their lowest settlements since October 21, as market participants worried that a Russia-Ukraine peace deal could lift sanctions on Moscow and flood the market with previously sanctioned supply.

"The sell-off was triggered mainly by President Trump's forceful push for a Russia-Ukraine peace deal, which markets see as a fast track to unlocking substantial Russian supply," IG analyst Tony Sycamore wrote in a note.

"The sell-off was triggered mainly by President Trump's forceful push for a Russia-Ukraine peace deal, which markets see as a fast track to unlocking substantial Russian supply," IG analyst Tony Sycamore wrote in a note.

He added that moves toward a peace deal far outweighed the near-term disruption from U.S. sanctions on Rosneft and Lukoil that took effect Friday.

The sanctions have stranded nearly 48 million barrels of Russian crude at sea.

On Sunday, the U.S. and Ukraine said they made progress during their talks on a peace plan that would require the war-torn nation to cede territory and walk back plans to join NATO.

U.S. President Donald Trump has given a deadline of this Thursday, though European leaders are pushing for a better deal.

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A peace deal could roll back sanctions that have curbed Russian oil exports. Russia was the second-largest producer of crude oil in the world after the U.S. in 2024, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The threat of more oil coming to the market and uncertainty regarding U.S. interest rate cuts have also suppressed investors' appetites.

However, the possibility of a rate cut next month increased after New York Federal Reserve President John Williams suggested a cut "in the near term."

The greenback was headed for its biggest weekly rise in six weeks with the dollar index hitting its highest since late May.

The stronger US dollar makes oil more expensive for holders of other currencies.

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## IRON ORE EXTENDS FALL ON SOFTER CHINA DEMAND, SET FOR SECOND WEEKLY GAIN

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Reuters Published November 23, 2025

**BEIJING: Iron ore futures prices declined on Friday for a second straight session, weighed down by signs of softer demand and shrinking steel margins in top consumer China.**

The most-traded January iron ore contract on China's Dalian Commodity Exchange (DCE) closed daytime trade 0.32percent lower at 785.5 yuan (USD110.43) a metric ton.

The benchmark December iron ore on the Singapore Exchange was down 0.1percent at USD103.85 a ton, as of 0657 GMT. Average daily hot metal output, a gauge of iron ore demand, fell by 0.3percent from the previous week to 2.36 million tons as of November 20, data from consultancy Mysteel showed.

Meanwhile, steel margins continued to narrow, with only just above one-third of steel mills operating at a profit, versus nearly a half a month before, according to Mysteel data. However, both benchmarks were set for a second weekly gain, both up by 1percent so far this week.

Seaborne iron ore prices have stayed well above the key psychological level of USD100 so far in November, defying earlier expectations of an average price at USD90-95 in the fourth quarter.

Protracted negotiations between China's state iron ore buyer and miner BHP have tightened availability of some iron ore, underpinning prices despite weakening demand for the key steelmaking ingredient, Reuters reported on Wednesday.

Also, Reuters exclusively reported that the state-run iron ore buyer has ordered steel mills and traders to stop purchasing a certain type of BHP iron ore, adding to a separate ban already in place and escalating a dispute over a new contract.

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Coking coal and coke, other steelmaking ingredients, slid 1.82 percent and 1.31percent, respectively. Steel benchmarks on the Shanghai Futures Exchange were mixed. Rebar nudged up 0.07 percent, hot-rolled coil was flat, wire rod advanced 0.36percent and stainless steel shed 0.16percent.

## US NATGAS

Reuters Published November 23, 2025

**NEW YORK: US natural gas futures climbed about 2 percent to a one-week high on Friday with flows to liquefied natural gas export plants back near record highs on the expected return to full service of Freeport LNG's plant in Texas and on a planned jump in demand in two weeks with the coming of some colder-than-normal weather.**

Front-month gas futures for December delivery on the New York Mercantile Exchange rose 10.6 cents, or 2.4 percent, to settle at USD4.580 per million British thermal units (mmBtu), their highest close since November 13.

## Rates

## AUTOMART: CAR PRICES IN KARACHI

Recorder Report Published about 3 hours ago

**KARACHI: The prices of different makes and models of cars prevailing in Karachi in the week ended Sunday (November 23, 2025).**

| =====                        |           |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| =====                        |           |           |
| Product Description          | Prices    |           |
|                              | Standard  | Fully A/C |
| Loaded                       | Model     | Model     |
| Model                        |           |           |
| =====                        |           |           |
| =====                        |           |           |
| SUZUKI                       |           |           |
| -----                        |           |           |
| ----                         |           |           |
| Suzuki Alto VXR AGS Upgraded | 3,166,480 |           |
| -                            |           |           |
| Suzuki Alto VXL AGS Upgraded | 3,326,450 |           |
| -                            |           |           |
| Suzuki Alto VXR Upgraded     | 2,944,860 |           |
| -                            |           |           |
| Suzuki Cultus VXR            | 4,089,490 |           |
| -                            |           |           |

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|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Suzuki Cultus VXL             | 4,359,160 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Cultus Auto Gear Shift | 4,591,460 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Ravi Euro 11           | 2,075,560 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Ravi Deckless          | 1,899,810 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Swift GL Manual        | 4,460,160 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Swift GL CVT           | 4,605,600 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Every VX               | 2,912,230 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Every VXR              | 2,965,200 |
| -                             |           |
| Suzuki Swift GLX CVT          | 4,766,190 |
| -                             |           |

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Honda

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|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Honda BR-V i-VTEC S          | 6,429,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.2L M/T          | 4,696,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.2L CVT          | 4,737,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.5L CVT          | 5,439,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.5L ASPIRE M/T   | 5,649,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.5L ASPIRE CVT   | 6,069,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda City 1.5L ASPIRE S CVT | 6,149,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda HR-V e:HEC             | 8,999,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda HR-V VTi               | 7,549,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda HR-V VTi-S             | 7,799,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda Civic Oriel            | 8,834,000  |
| -                            |            |
| Honda Civic RS               | 10,100,000 |
| -                            |            |

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Toyota

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|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Toyota Yaris Sedan GLI MT 1.3  | 4,649,000 |
| -                              |           |
| Toyota Yaris Sedan ATIV MT 1.3 | 4,829,000 |
| -                              |           |

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|                                                           |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Toyota Yaris Sedan GLI CVT 1.3                            | 4,809,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Yaris Sedan ATIV X CVT 1.5<br>Black Interior       | 6,449,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Yaris Sedan ATIV X CVT 1.5<br>Beige Interior       | 6,389,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Yaris Sedan ATIV CVT 1.3                           | 5,719,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis X Manual 1.6                         | 6,099,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis 1.6 X CVT-i                          | 6,699,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis X CVT-i 1.8                          | 7,029,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis 1.6 X CVT-i<br>Special Edition       | 7,339,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis Grande X CVT-i 1.8<br>Beige Interior | 7,669,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Altis Grande X CVT-i 1.8<br>Black Interior | 7,709,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux Revo G 2.8                                   | 12,329,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux Revo V Automatic 2.8                         | 14,279,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux Revo G Automatic 2.8                         | 12,939,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux E                                            | 11,379,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux Revo Rocco                                   | 14,869,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hilux Revo GR-S                                    | 15,839,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Fortuner 2.7 G                                     | 14,939,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Fortuner 2.8 Sigma 4                               | 18,539,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Fortuner 2.7 V                                     | 17,509,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Fortuner Legender                                  | 19,569,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Fortuner GR-S                                      | 20,499,000 |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Cross 1.8 HEV                              | 8,535,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Cross 1.8                                  | 7,235,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Cross 1.8 X                                | 7,935,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Corolla Cross 1.8 HEV X                            | 8,935,000  |
| -                                                         |            |
| Toyota Hiace Standard Roof                                | 13,069,000 |
| -                                                         |            |

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|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Toyota Hiace High Roof Commuter      | 14,959,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Hiace High Roof Tourer        | 17,059,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Hiace Luxury Wagon High Grade | 21,029,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Coaster 29 Seater F/L         | 26,789,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Prado TX 2.7L                 | 55,000,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Prado VX 2.8L D               | 60,000,000 |
| -                                    |            |
| Toyota Land Cruiser ZX Gasoline 3.5L | 95,000,000 |
| -                                    |            |

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Kia

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Kia SPORTAGE L ALPHA              | 8,899,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia SPORTAGE L FWD                | 10,499,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia SPORTAGE L HEV                | 11,599,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Picanto 1.0 AT                | 4,090,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Shehzore K2700 Grand Cabin    | 7,499,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Shehzore K2700 King Cabin     | 4,479,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Shehzore K2700 Standard Cabin | 4,259,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Stonic EX+                    | 5,999,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Stonic EX                     | 4,862,000  |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Sorento 3.5 FWD               | 13,899,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Sorento 1.6T HEV FWD          | 15,299,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Sorento 1.6T HEV AWD          | 16,699,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia EV5 AIR                       | 18,500,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia EV5 EARTH                     | 23,500,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia EV9 GT LINE                   | 43,200,000 |
| -                                 |            |
| Kia Carnival 3.5L V6              | 18,200,000 |
| -                                 |            |

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Hyundai

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|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Hyundai H-100 Deckless          | 4,345,000  |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai H-100 Flat Deck         | 4,365,000  |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai H-100 High Deck         | 4,385,000  |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Elantra Hybrid          | 9,895,000  |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Tucson Hybrid Signature | 12,240,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Tucson Hybrid Smart     | 11,220,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Sonata 2.0              | 10,330,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Sonata 2.5              | 11,545,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Sonata N Line 2.5 Turbo | 16,521,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Santa Fe Signature      | 14,295,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Santa Fe Smart          | 12,850,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Ioniq 5 EV              | 24,999,000 |
| -                               |            |
| Hyundai Ioniq 6 EV              | 23,000,000 |
| -                               |            |

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Isuzu

|                                              |            |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Isuzu D-Max Hi Rider M/T                     | 10,990,000 |
| -                                            |            |
| Isuzu D-Max X Terrain                        | 13,390,000 |
| -                                            |            |
| Isuzu D-Max V-Auto Plus Double Cab High Ride | 10,790,000 |
| -                                            |            |
| Isuzu D-Max V-Cross G A/T                    | 12,490,000 |
| -                                            |            |
| Isuzu D-Max V-Cross G M/T                    | 11,890,000 |
| -                                            |            |

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Changan

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Changan M9 Sherpa Power 1.2L    | 2,349,000 |
| -                               |           |
| Changan Karvaan Plus 1.2        | 3,299,000 |
| -                               |           |
| Changan Alsvin 1.3L MT Comfort  | 4,189,000 |
| -                               |           |
| Changan Alsvin 1.5L DCT Lumiere | 4,899,000 |
| -                               |           |
| Changan Alsvin Black Edition    | 4,999,000 |
| -                               |           |

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Changan Oshan X7 FutureSense 7 Seat 9,299,000

-

Changan Oshan X7 Comfort 8,474,000

-

Changan Oshan X7 FutureSense 9,149,000

-

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DFSK

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DFSK Glory 580 1.5 CVT 5,610,000

-

DFSK Glory 580 1.8 CVT 5,806,000

-

DFSK Glory 580 Pro 6,790,000

-

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Prince

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Prince K07 S 2,550,000

-

Prince K01 S 2,070,000

-

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Haval

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Haval H6 1.5T 9,099,000

-

Haval H6 2.0T AWD 10,449,000

-

Haval H6 HEV 11,749,000

-

Haval H6 PHEV 12,895,000

-

Haval Jolion 1.5 T 7,949,000

-

Haval Jolion 1.5 HEV 9,295,000

-

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MG

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MG Cyberster GT (Dual) 29,990,000

-

MG Cyberster GT (Single) 26,990,000

-

MG 4 Essence 10,990,000

-

MG 4 Excite 9,799,000

-

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|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| MG 5 EV SE Long Range   | 13,490,000 |
| -                       |            |
| MG HS 2.0T AWD          | 9,299,000  |
| -                       |            |
| MG HS PHEV              | 9,899,000  |
| -                       |            |
| MG HS Trophy            | 8,399,000  |
| -                       |            |
| MG ZS EV MCE Essence    | 10,990,000 |
| -                       |            |
| MG ZS EV MCE Long Range | 14,999,000 |
| -                       |            |

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Audi

|                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| -----<br>Audi e-tron GT Standard               | 58,000,000 |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi e-tron GT RS                              | 81,000,000 |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q2 1.0 TFS Exclusive Line                 | 7,250,000  |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q2 1.0 TFS Standard Line                  | 7,050,000  |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q8 E-Tron 50 quattro (Electric)           | 38,500,000 |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q8 E-Tron 55 quattro (Electric)           | 38,950,000 |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q8 E-Tron Sportback 50 quattro (Electric) | 42,950,000 |
| -                                              |            |
| Audi Q8 E-Tron Sportback 55 quattro (Electric) | 47,500,000 |
| -                                              |            |

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## PKR: MARGINAL GAIN

Recorder Review Published about 3 hours ago

**KARACHI: Pakistan rupee posted marginal gain for another week as it appreciated by Re0.10 or 0.04 percent against the US dollar in the inter-bank market.**

The local unit closed at 280.62, against 280.72 it had closed the week earlier against the greenback, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved loans totalling USD330 million to Pakistan for the Second Power Transmission Strengthening Project, one of the government's top priority

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investments to expand the national transmission network and enable the evacuation of low-cost renewable and hydropower to major load centres.

The foreign exchange reserves held by the SBP increased by USD27 million on a weekly basis, reaching USD14.55 billion as of November 14, 2025.

According to the central bank, total liquid foreign reserves held by the country stood at USD19.74 billion, while net foreign reserves held by commercial banks were recorded at USD5.19 billion.

## Open-market rates

In the open market, the PKR gained 9.00 paisa for buying and 10.00 paisa for selling against USD, closing at 281.29 and 281.65, respectively.

Against Euro, the PKR gained 2.40 rupees for buying and 2.71 rupees for selling, closing at 324.10 and 326.95, respectively.

Against UAE Dirham, the PKR lost 1.00 paisa for buying and gained 3.00 paisa for selling, closing at 76.62 and 77.39, respectively.

Against Saudi Riyal, the PKR remained unchanged for buying and gained 7.00 paisa for selling, closing at 74.94 and 75.52, respectively.

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## THE RUPEE

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## Weekly inter-bank market rates for dollar

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Bid Close Rs. 280.62

Offer Close Rs. 280.82

Bid Open Rs. 280.72

Offer Open Rs. 280.92

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## Weekly open-market rates for dollar

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Bid Close Rs. 281.29

Offer Close Rs. 281.65

Bid Open Rs. 281.38

Offer Open Rs. 281.75

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## FUTURES TRADING SURGES SHARPLY

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Recorder Review Published about 3 hours ago

**KARACHI: Futures trading at the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) recorded a sharp increase during the outgoing week, with derivative activity accelerating across both volume and value indicators despite a largely range-bound performance in the broader equity market.**

According to market data for the week ending November 21, 2025, Futures Average Daily Traded Volume (ADTV) rose 28.4 percent week-on-week, climbing to 225.05 million shares compared with 175.30 million shares in the preceding week.

In value terms, Futures ADTO increased to Rs9.85 billion, up from Rs9.51 billion, reflecting a steady rise in speculative and hedging positions as investors reacted to mixed macroeconomic indicators and increased momentum on the ready counter.

The futures spread expanded sharply to 11.17 percent, up from 5.67 percent last week—an increase of 550 basis points. The wider spread indicates stronger demand for leveraged positions and heightened expectations of short-term volatility.

Analysts note that the jump in futures turnover came amid a 37 percent rise in ready market traded volumes and persistent investor interest in leveraged plays, particularly in technology, banking, and power stocks, which collectively dominated overall market turnover.

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## EQUITY MARKET ENDS SUBDUED BUT STABLE

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Recorder Review Published about 3 hours ago

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**KARACHI: Pakistan's equity market ended the last week on a subdued yet stable note, with the KSE-100 Index largely holding its ground despite sharp fluctuations in macroeconomic indicators and a significant rise in trading activity.**

The benchmark closed the week at 162,102.92 points, up slightly from 161,935.19 a week earlier, reflecting a nominal gain of 0.1 percent. The muted index performance came even as investor participation surged, suggesting a market in consolidation amid heavy turnover.

Market capitalization increased accordingly, rising to Rs18.51 trillion from Rs18.43 trillion, while the dollar-based valuation of the market edged up to US\$65.97 billion, a 0.5 percent improvement over the previous week.

A substantial boost in activity defined the week. Average daily traded volume on the ready counter jumped 37.3 percent to 1.056 billion shares, sharply higher than last week's 769.52 million. The value of shares traded also improved by 6.6 percent to Rs37.87 billion, or USD134.94 million.

The sideways market trajectory unfolded against a backdrop of mixed macroeconomic developments. Pakistan's current account recorded a deficit of USD112 million in October 2025, bringing the cumulative 4MFY26 deficit to US\$733 million. The primary pressure point remained the trade deficit, which expanded 39 percent year-on-year to US\$12.7 billion during July–October 2025. Foreign direct investment also remained weak, declining 26 percent year-on-year to USD748 million over the same period, highlighting continued challenges on the external sector front.

Nevertheless, Pakistan's sovereign dollar bond delivered a bright spot, rallying by 24.5 percent so far in 2025—one of the strongest performances in the region. The government is now planning a return to the global market with new dollar bonds next year after nearly five years of absence, buoyed by improved sentiment.

In another key development, Pakistan satisfied an important IMF condition as the Ministry of Finance released the Governance and Corruption Diagnostics Report ahead of the Fund's Executive Board meeting that will decide on the release of a USD1.2 billion tranche.

On the fiscal side, central government debt declined by more than Rs1.2 trillion during the first quarter of FY26, settling at Rs76.6 trillion. Indicators from the real economy showed encouraging signals as well, with large-scale manufacturing output rising 2.69 percent year-on-year in September 2025.

Cumulative growth for the first quarter of the fiscal year reached 4.08 percent—the highest first-quarter expansion since FY23. Meanwhile, the State Bank of Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves inched higher by US\$27 million during the week to reach US\$14.55 billion.

Sector performance at the Pakistan Stock Exchange reflected broad rotation. Refinery, power, fertilizer, exploration and production, and technology and communication stocks recorded gains over the week. In contrast, autos, banks, cement, textiles, pharmaceuticals, and select industrial

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sectors posted declines. The KSE-100 Index itself demonstrated minimal movement during the week, reinforcing the view that investors were largely positioning cautiously amid mixed cues.

Trading volumes remained heavily concentrated in select sectors. Technology and communication stocks dominated activity with a 22 percent share of weekly turnover. Banks and power stocks followed at 12 percent each, while engineering contributed 9 percent and investment banks accounted for 8 percent of total volume. The remaining sectors collectively formed 37 percent of the market's trading activity.

Weekly performance among individual stocks also varied widely. Pioneer Cement emerged as the top gainer within the KSE-100 basket, surging 21.6 percent. K-Electric climbed 11.5 percent, followed by Pakistan Telecommunication Company at 7.3 percent, and Fauji Fertilizer Company rose 4.8 percent.

On the losing side, TPL REIT Fund I posted the sharpest weekly decline at 9.9 percent. BNWM dropped 8.3 percent, KTML fell 7.8 percent, FABL shed 6.3 percent, and PSEL dipped 6.0 percent. PABC also retreated by 5.2 percent, while ENGROH ended the week 4 percent lower.

Topline Securities in its commentary said that the week's meagre gain can be accredited to the investors' preference to remain on sidelines amid absence of any major news flow.

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## OPEN MARKET FOREX RATES

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Updated at: 24/11/2025 8:13 AM (PST)

| Currency          | Buying | Selling |
|-------------------|--------|---------|
| Australian Dollar | 181.1  | 186.1   |
| Bahrain Dinar     | 745.1  | 752.60  |
| Canadian Dollar   | 199.55 | 204.55  |
| China Yuan        | 39.25  | 39.65   |
| Danish Krone      | 43.15  | 43.55   |
| Euro              | 324.1  | 327.6   |
| Hong Kong Dollar  | 35.85  | 36.1    |
| Indian Rupee      | 3.10   | 3.19    |
| Japanese Yen      | 1.7703 | 1.8703  |
| Kuwaiti Dinar     | 910.85 | 919.85  |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 66.5   | 67.1    |
| NewZealand \$     | 156.15 | 158.15  |
| Norwegians Krone  | 27.3   | 27.6    |
| Omani Riyal       | 729.65 | 737     |
| Qatari Riyal      | 76.55  | 77.25   |
| Saudi Riyal       | 75.05  | 75.5    |
| Singapore Dollar  | 213.75 | 218.75  |
| Swedish Korona    | 29.1   | 29.4    |
| Swiss Franc       | 346.1  | 348.85  |
| Thai Bhat         | 8.45   | 8.6     |
| U.A.E Dirham      | 76.75  | 77.55   |
| UK Pound Sterling | 370.15 | 373.15  |
| US Dollar         | 281.6  | 281.75  |

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## INTER BANK RATES

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Updated at: 24/11/2025 8:13 AM (PST)

| Currency          | Bank Buying<br>TT Clean | Bank Selling<br>TT & OD |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Australian Dollar | 180.92                  | 181.24                  |
| Canadian Dollar   | 199.08                  | 199.44                  |
| China Yuan        | 39.43                   | 39.50                   |
| Danish Krone      | 43.33                   | 43.41                   |
| Euro              | 323.65                  | 324.22                  |
| Hong Kong Dollar  | 36.04                   | 36.10                   |
| Japanese Yen      | 1.7827                  | 1.7859                  |
| Saudi Riyal       | 74.81                   | 74.94                   |
| Singapore Dollar  | 214.57                  | 214.95                  |
| Swedish Korona    | 29.36                   | 29.41                   |
| Swiss Franc       | 348.64                  | 349.26                  |
| Thai Bhat         | 8.65                    | 8.66                    |
| UK Pound Sterling | 367.03                  | 367.69                  |
| US Dollar         | 280.55                  | 281.05                  |

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## GOLD RATE

### Bullion / Gold Price Today

As on Mon, Nov 24 2025, 02:58 GMT

| Metal     | Symbol | PKR<br>for 10 Gm | PKR<br>for 1 Tola | PKR<br>for 1 Ounce |  |
|-----------|--------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Gold      | XAU    | 367,553          | 428,259           | 1,143,238          |  |
| Palladium | XPD    | 124,750          | 145,354           | 388,024            |  |
| Platinum  | XPT    | 137,135          | 159,784           | 426,544            |  |
| Silver    | XAG    | 4,520            | 5,267             | 14,060             |  |

for local market Gold Rates in Pakistan

### Gold Price in Pakistan

As on Mon, Nov 24 2025, 02:58 GMT

| Gold Rate     | 24K Gold    | 22K Gold   | 21K Gold   | 18K Gold   |
|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| per Tola Gold | Rs. 428300  | Rs. 392605 | Rs. 374763 | Rs. 321225 |
| per 10 Gram   | Rs. 367200  | Rs. 336598 | Rs. 321300 | Rs. 275400 |
| per Gram Gold | Rs. 36720   | Rs. 33660  | Rs. 32130  | Rs. 27540  |
| per Ounce     | Rs. 1041000 | Rs. 954243 | Rs. 910875 | Rs. 780750 |

### Gold Rate

FOREX.pk offered latest and upto date Gold Rate in Pakistan as per International market for today gold rates in Pakistan you can visit GOLD.pk, We update international market gold rate in every fifteen minutes from authentic sources, Gold rates may be different in every city of Pakistan. Karachi is the main hub of gold market, in Pakistan, Karachi is leading for gold rate, every city follow Karachi Sarafa Bazar Association for gold price, Today gold prices for different cities including Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar, and Quetta are also available on Gold.pk. FOREX.pk is not liable or responsible to any transactions made on the basis of above

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mentioned gold rate.

\* Above Gold rate are taken from International Market so there may be some fluctuation from Local Market you can visit GOLD.pk for uptodate today gold price in Pakistan.

## Gold Rates in other Major Currencies

| Currency          | Symbol | 10 Gm   | 1 Tola  | 1 Ounce |  |
|-------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| China Yuan        | CNY    | 9,287   | 10,821  | 28,887  |  |
| Euro              | EUR    | 1,135   | 1,323   | 3,532   |  |
| Japanese Yen      | JPY    | 204,541 | 238,324 | 636,205 |  |
| Saudi Riyal       | SAR    | 4,902   | 5,712   | 15,247  |  |
| U.A.E Dirham      | AED    | 4,801   | 5,594   | 14,932  |  |
| UK Pound Sterling | GBP    | 998     | 1,163   | 3,105   |  |
| US Dollar         | USD    | 1,307   | 1,523   | 4,066   |  |