

NEWS

[Pakistan's cotton arrivals drop by 34%](#)

- Cotton arrivals in Pakistan dropped 34% to 5.51 million bales as of January 31, 2025, as compared to 8.35mn bales in the same period of last year as per the latest data released by the Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association (PCGA).
- According to the breakup of the data, cotton arrivals from Sindh province stood at 2.81mn bales, down 32% on a year-over-year basis.
- Meanwhile, cotton arrivals from Punjab province, another key cotton-producing region, decreased by 36% to 2.7mn bales.

[Pakistan produces 31.38m mobile phones in 2024: PTA](#)

- Local mobile assembly and manufacturers have produced 31.38 million mobile phones during the first six months of the ongoing calendar year (2024), which is up by 47% YoY, while commercial imports totaled 1.71m.
- Out of 31.38, 18.64m were smartphones while the remaining 12.74m were 2G devices.
- Brand-wise, Infinix led production in 2024, manufacturing 3.98mn units.
- The top locally assembled brands in 2024 include Itel (3.64mn units), VGO Tel (3.37mn units), Tecno (2.85mn units), Vivo (2.77mn units), Xiaomi (2.35mn units), Realme (1.76mn units), Samsung (1.51mn units), G'Five (1.44mn units), and Nokia (1.36mn units).

[Biafo signs contract with RDMC for blasting services](#)

- Biafo Industries Limited (PSX: BIFO) has entered into a contract with Reko Diq Mining Company (Private) Limited (RDMC) to provide blasting services for civil works, according to notice on PSX.
- This agreement covers the supply of explosives and related civil blasting services for the pre-mining initial infrastructure development at the Reko Diq mining site.

[UAE's Gargash Group acquires majority stake in TPL Trakker's Middle East subsidiary](#)

- Gargash Group, a UAE-based conglomerate, has successfully acquired 50.1% equity stake in Trakker Middle East LLC (TME), a subsidiary of TPL Trakker (TPLT).
- Established in 1918, Gargash Group is one of UAE's leading business enterprises. It is comprised of internationally renowned brands operating across four verticals: automotive, real estate, financial services, and F&B.

[Workers' remittances surge 25% in January to \\$3bn](#)

- Workers' remittances recorded an inflow of \$3 billion in January 2025, witnessing a 25.2% increase compared to the same period last year.
- Cumulatively, remittances for the first seven months of FY25 (Jul-Jan) surged to \$20.8bn, compared to \$15.8bn in 7MFY24, up by 31.7%.
- Saudi Arabia remained the top contributor, with remittance inflows reaching \$728.3m, followed by the United Arab Emirates at \$621.7m.

[IMF mission to inspect regulatory, judicial system](#)

- Team in town to engage with financial, revenue, election bodies
- Assessment report to be published in July, measures to address corruption, governance vulnerabilities to be shared
- Pakistan required to publish corruption report under UN framework immediately after review
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) was scrutinizing the judicial and regulatory system as part of the ongoing \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) to address governance and corruption vulnerabilities.

[Sindh govt, Dewan Group look to introduce 500 electric taxis in province](#)

- A statement from the Sindh government on Monday said Special Assistant to Chief Minister of Sindh for Investment and Public Private Partnership met with head of Dewan Group of Industries Dewan Muhammad Yousuf Farooqui in the office of the investment department.

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