MORNING BRIEFING



February 12, 2025

NEWS

Turkish President Erdogan due today

- President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan is scheduled to arrive in the federal capital on Wednesday (today) for a two-day visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.
- During the visit, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Erdogan will co-chair the 7th Session of the Pakistan-Turkiye High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council (HLSCC).
- There are a number of Joint Standing Committees (JSCs) under the HLSCC, covering sectors including; trade, investment, banking, finance, culture, tourism, energy, defense, agriculture, transport, communication, IT, health, science and technology, and education.
- So far, six sessions of the HLSCC have been held. The last session was held here on 13-14 February 2020, the FO statement said.

Total RDA inflows reach \$9.56 bn by Jan-end since its launch

- Out of the total received funds, approximately \$7.76 billion have been repatriated or locally utilized.
- A significant portion of \$6.052 billion has been utilized within the country, while inflows worth \$1.711 billion have been repatriated abroad.

SBP updates buyback rules for govt. securities

- The new guidelines, which supersede the previous instructions outlined in DMMD Circular No. 06 of 2024, aim to streamline the buyback process.
- Under the revised framework, SBP will conduct buyback auctions on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, covering various types of PIBs—Zero Coupon, Fixed, and Floater—alongside MTBs.
- The central bank will announce auction details, including security types, target amounts, schedules, and results, through its pages on Refinitiv and Bloomberg, as well as its official website.

Zarea Limited raises Rs1.03 billion in PSX's first IPO of 2025

- Zarea Limited, a leading B2B commodities platform in Pakistan. The company sold 62.5 million shares
 at a strike price of Rs16.5 per share during a two-day Dutch auction held on February 10-11. proceeds
 to fund Zarea's expansion, logistics infrastructure, and investment in the growing agri biomass sector
- The next phase of the IPO will take place on February 17-18, when 25% of the total offering—16.3 million shares—will be made available to retail investors at Rs16.5 per share.

First-ever commercial shipment: BYD electric vehicles arrive at port

- This marks the arrival of the first-ever commercial shipment of BYD electric vehicles in Pakistan.
- It reaffirms KPT's commitment to environmental sustainability contributing to climate sustainability and a greener future.
- It is also expected to bring in significant advancements in Pakistan's auto industry.
- BYD was founded in November 1994 and holds a leading position globally in the electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle industry.
- The company is renowned for its innovation and technological advancements in electric vehicle production.

New Year effect: Pakistan car sales soar 73% MoM in January 2025

- Car sales in Pakistan significantly increased by 73% MoM to 17,100 units. On a yearly basis, car sales (passenger cars, jeeps, and pickups) in the country soared by 61% against the same month last year.
- The MoM increase is primarily due to the low base effect, as December sales are typically low with buyers delaying purchases for new-year registrations.
- The YoY rise in car sales is driven by lowered interest rates, improved consumer confidence, and the introduction of newer variants and models.
- The outstanding growth in January sales was exceptionally led by Toyota high-end LCV Revo/Hilux, Honda City, Suzuki Alto, Hyundai Sonata, and Sazgar SUVs.
- Cumulatively, the car sales surged 55% to 77,686 units in the first seven months (Jul-Jan) of the current fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25) compared to 49,989 units in the same period of the last year.
- Two and three-wheeler sales rose 33% YoY and 18% MoM to 139,161 units, a 31-month high (last recorded on Jun 22). The Jul-Jan FY25 sales clocked in at 836,000 units, a 29% YoY rise.

APTMA warns of textile industry collapse as over 100 spinning mills shut

- APTMA has warned that the ongoing crisis exacerbated by issues in the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) is pushing the spinning industry toward collapse.
- Over 100 spinning mills, representing nearly 40% of Pakistan's total production capacity, have already shut down, while the remaining mills are operating at less than 50% capacity.
- The impact is not limited to spinning alone Pakistan's entire textile value chain is at risk, as weaving and other downstream sectors are already experiencing similar hardships.
- APTMA stressed that if the current sales tax policy, which imposes an 18% sales tax on local supplies
 for export manufacturing while keeping imported inputs tax-free, is not immediately reversed,
 Pakistan's textile manufacturing base will be entirely replaced by imports.
- The crisis continues to escalate, with yarn imports soaring to a record 32 million kilograms in January 2024. APTMA warned that if this trend persists, yarn imports for FY25 could triple compared to FY24, severely crippling the domestic industry.

ANALYSTS:

Syed Danyal Hussain | Danyal.hussain@vis.com.pk

Madiha Mohammad Ilyas | madiha.ilyas@vis.com.pk