

NEWS

[Wheat crop may fall below 28m tons](#)

- The Ministry of Finance has projected an 11% decline in Pakistan's wheat production for this year, estimating it to fall below 28 million metric tons due to dry weather conditions.
- This is a significant decrease from last year's bumper harvest of 31.4 million metric tons.
- The Pakistan Meteorological Department has indicated that the relatively dry conditions may cause water stress for Rabi crops, especially wheat in rain-fed areas.
- This shortfall suggests that the country may need to import wheat to meet domestic demand.

[Jefferies Investors team meets Aurangzeb](#)

- A delegation from Jefferies Investors, led by Alia Moubayed, met with Pakistan's Finance Minister, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, to discuss the country's macroeconomic outlook, investment climate, and ongoing economic reforms.
- The delegation extended an invitation to the Finance Minister for the Pakistani Investors Day in London, scheduled for May 2025, aiming to enhance engagement with global investors.
- Senator Aurangzeb emphasized the government's commitment to structural reforms in taxation, energy, state-owned enterprises, and privatization, noting that the economy has achieved quantitative stability.
- He also highlighted proactive measures in fiscal discipline, revenue mobilization, and investment facilitation, including key tax reforms and the activation of the National Tax Council to improve federal and provincial coordination.
- Jefferies is a global investment banking firm that provides financial advisory, capital markets, asset management, and research services. It primarily serves institutional investors, corporations, and

[Water, snow shortage: NPCC warns of lower hydel generation](#)

- The National Power Control Centre (NPCC) has cautioned that Pakistan's hydropower generation is expected to decline this summer due to reduced water and snow levels.
- This shortfall is anticipated to increase reliance on more expensive RLNG-fired electricity.
- During a public hearing at the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA), an NPCC representative noted that current water levels are only 2 to 4 feet above the dead storage level, with inflows also below projections.
- This situation is likely to diminish the availability of cost-effective hydropower.

[OGDCL to organise Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum 2025 in April](#)

- The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL), in partnership with the Government of Pakistan and strategic collaborators, is organizing the Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum 2025 (PMIF25) on April 8-9, 2025, at the Jinnah Convention Centre in Islamabad.
- This event aims to provide a premier platform for global stakeholders to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan's burgeoning minerals sector and to unlock the country's extensive mineral potential.
- The forum is held under the auspices of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) and the Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division). Key partners include Barrick and Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL).

[PTA conducted trials, market assessment for 5G, Senate panel told](#)

- The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has conducted trials and completed a market assessment for the deployment of 5G technology in the country.
- This information was shared during a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunications, chaired by Senator Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan.
- Despite these advancements, an Advisory Committee, led by the Finance Minister, has been established to further evaluate market readiness and spectrum capacity to meet national demands.
- Officials assured the committee that any issues related to the 5G auction process would be resolved promptly.
- In line with these efforts, the PTA has engaged the consultancy services of National Economic Research Associates Inc (NERA) to assist with the "Release of IMT Spectrum for Improvement of Next Generation Mobile Broadband Services in Pakistan." This contract was signed on November 5, 2024.
- Additionally, the Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, announced that Pakistan is set to offer 5G spectrum by May or June 2025.

[Aurangzeb, MUFAP team discuss mutual fund industry growth](#)

- Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, recently met with a delegation from the Mutual Funds Association of Pakistan (MUFAP) to discuss the growth and challenges of the mutual fund industry.
- The delegation emphasized the need to develop Infrastructure Funds, allowing private sector participation in essential infrastructure projects.
- They also advocated for Contributory Pension Scheme Reforms, highlighting the importance of expanding structured retirement savings at the federal level.
- Additionally, they proposed policy measures to enhance market liquidity for Government Ijarah Sukuks (GIS) by improving institutional participation and introducing open market operations.
- To encourage retail investor participation, MUFAP recommended reinstating tax credits for mutual fund investments to provide incentives for long-term savings.

APTMA, Brazilian delegation discuss cotton sector collaboration

- In a significant development for the textile and cotton industries, the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) recently engaged in discussions with a Brazilian delegation to explore potential collaboration in the cotton sector.
- This meeting underscores APTMA's commitment to enhancing Pakistan's cotton industry by fostering international partnerships and adopting best practices from leading cotton-producing nations like Brazil.
- Such collaborations aim to improve cotton yield, quality, and sustainability, thereby bolstering the country's textile exports and overall economic growth.

PSX News

- Kohinoor Energy reports 57% drop in 1HFY25 profit to Rs325mn
- BankIslami reports Rs12bn profit for 2024
- Azgard Nine reports 32% decline in 1HFY25 profit to Rs200mn
- Nishat Power takes a shocking jolt, records nearly Rs3bn loss
- Ghandhara Tyre's profits hit a bump in the road with 83% drop
- Bata Pakistan reports Rs851mn profit for 2024, down 7% YoY
- TPL Corp reports Rs1bn 1HFY25 loss, improving 34% YoY
- PREMA reports 38% surge in 1HFY25 profit to Rs146mn
- HBL approves Rs2bn investment in HBL Microfinance Bank
- Symmetry Group reports 36% surge in 1HFY25 profit, reaching Rs103mn
- THALL reports Rs4bn profit for 1HFY25, down 20% YoY, declares dividend
- Gandhara turns tide with Rs1.3bn profit
- Citi Pharma makes first MENA export, EUR 560,000 deal
- Sitara Energy reports Rs131mn loss for H1FY25, escalating 3x YoY

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