WEEKLY INDUSTRIAL WATCH

Jul 27th, 2026 – Aug 02nd, 2026

Major Industrial highlights of the week:

The week of 27 July–2 August 2026 was dominated by developments in Pakistan's textile sector, particularly the implications of new US tariffs imposed under Section 301 following concerns over the enforcement of forced-labor import prohibitions. While the US acknowledged that Pakistan legally prohibits forced labor, it concluded that enforcement requires strengthening, resulting in an additional 10% tariff on Pakistani imports. The development underscores the growing importance of labor compliance alongside competitiveness as a determinant of market access. Discussions on export diversification, industrial energy reforms, and tax measures in the steel sector also remained key themes of the week

- Industry raised concerns over under-invoiced Chinese fabric imports, warning that unfair competition is hurting domestic textile manufacturers.
- Pakistan's SMEs called for greater access to African markets to diversify exports amid disruptions in Gulf markets.
- Pakistan explored new export agreements during Texworld New York, aiming to strengthen trade partnerships and expand textile exports.
- Pakistan's textile exporters responded to new US tariffs, emphasizing the need to improve competitiveness and capitalize on opportunities arising from shifts in global sourcing.

- The government proposed Time-of-Use (ToU) net metering and billing, encouraging industries to optimize renewable energy use and reduce electricity costs.
- Pakistan's textile exporters criticized stringent trade scrutiny, arguing that compliance requirements are creating barriers despite the sector's continued improvements.
- **The textile sector advocated for shared responsibility by global brands to accelerate industrial decarbonization.**
- Pakistan's envoy met US-based textile exporters to discuss preparations for upcoming trade events and strengthen commercial ties with the US market.
- The FBR assured steel manufacturers that outstanding tax refunds would be cleared, providing relief to the sector's liquidity concerns.
- The deadline for voluntary incorporation of iron and steel manufacturers was extended, giving businesses additional time to comply with tax regulations.
- The government linked steel sector sales tax to electricity consumption, introducing a new taxation mechanism aimed at improving compliance.
- Pakistan's cement sector recorded stronger domestic demand in FY26, with local consumption driving industry growth.

TEXTILE	SPORTS	STEEL	FERTILIZER	CEMENT
Cotton Review: Market sees sharp weekly price swings **Business Recorder, 27 Jul 2026**		FBR assures steel sector: Outstanding refund payments to be cleared **Business Recorder, 28 Jul 2026**	FFC declares Rs14.5/share dividend **Business Recorder, 29 Jul 2026**	Cement FY26: Domestic demand takes the lead **Business Recorder, 31 Jul 2026**
HCSTSI seeks ‘adequate’ power allocation thru national grid **Business Recorder, 27 Jul 2026**		Iron, steel manufacturers: FBR extends voluntary incorporation deadline **Business Recorder, 31 Jul 2026**		
Under-invoiced Chinese fabric flooding open market: ginners **Business Recorder, 27 Jul 2026**		Steel melters to pay sales tax on basis of electricity consumed **Business Recorder, 02 Aug 2026**		
Pakistan's SMEs call for Africa market access amid Gulf export disruptions **Business Recorder, 30 Jul 2026**		Steel tax now tied to power use **The Express Tribune, 02 Aug 2026**		
Pakistan showcases textile power at Texworld New York City 2026 **Business Recorder, 30 Jul 2026**				

Pakistan eyes potential export agreements as global textile trade show kicks off in New York

ARAB News, 30 Jul 2026

Pakistan's exports to EU have two years, and govt has one job: implementation

Business Recorder, 30 Jul 2026

Textile sector: shared transition, shared responsibility

Business Recorder, 30 Jul 2026

Pakistan pitches textiles amid new US tariffs

DAWN, 31 Jul 2026

Enhanced evening discharge rates: Advisor proposes introduction of ToU net metering/billing

Business Recorder, 01 Aug 2026

No more stereotypes

The Express Tribune, 02 Aug 2026

Guilty until proven innocent: Pakistan's textile trade on trial

Business Recorder, 02 Aug 2026

Envoy meets US-based Pakistani textile exporters, discusses trade event preparations				

ARAB News, 02 Aug 2026

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