

LAHORE CHAMBER NEWS

لاہور چیمبر نیوز

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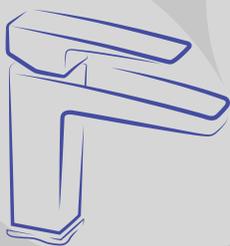
July-August 2016

Issue No. 05

An official Publication of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry



LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, former LCCI Presidents Mian Muhammad Ashraf, Iftikhar Ali Malik, Muhammad Ali Mian, Farooq Iftikhar and Executive Committee Members Amjad Ali Jawa, Rizwan Akhtar Shamsi, Main Abdul Razzaq and Trade leader Mehboob Ali Sirki at a reception arranged by LCCI Executive Committee Member Ch. Khadim Hussain.



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LCCI chief calls for steps to expedite economic growth



LCCI understands that the economic situation has improved a lot when compared to yester years but we need to take extra measures to expedite growth.

**LCCI President
Sheikh Muhammad Arshad**

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has called to overcome trade imbalance which has become one of the biggest challenges being experienced by the economy since long. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said “the LCCI understands that the economic situation has improved a lot when compared to yester years but we need to take extra measures to expedite growth.” He said that a few events took place at global level in favor of developing countries including Pakistan like tremendous cut in oil prices but country’s trade deficit worsened during the current financial year. He said that it is a matter of concern that Pakistan has been running consistent trade imbalance from last over a decade. He said that China has emerged as Pakistan’s biggest trading partner. He said that during the last couple of years, Pakistan has witnessed huge trade deficit with China, India, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia while recorded trade surplus with only a few countries like United States, United Kingdom, Afghanistan and Germany. The LCCI President said that trade deficit always pressurizes the economy and forces the country to depend on borrowing which ultimately give birth to various economic worries. He said that it is not only a concerning but a surprising matter that Pakistan’s exports have always remained below the par despite having all sorts of mineral and human resources. He said that though a number of factors, including high input cost, energy shortage and undue delay in refund of claims, have played role in this regard but most important one is depend on a few products and few markets for exports. Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said that Pakistan’s most favorite export markets

have been Europe, North America and Gulf. He said that the exporters need to look for new markets in Central Asia, Africa and Indonesia. He said that the Central Asian Republics have on the whole over \$ 65 billion imports whereas Pakistan’s exports are negligible. He said that trade within the region is being governed by multilateral treaty such as SAFTA. It is advisable to use bilateral mechanism for trade such as FTAs with most of the countries. India for instance has reached billion dollar export figure to Pakistan under SAFTA, whereas Pakistani exports have faced non-tariff barriers since the very inception of the trade. He said that only a bilateral agreement can control such issues more effectively. He said that Pakistan should particularly sign Free Trade Agreements with Central Asian Republics and the countries in Gulf and also in South such as Indonesia and Malaysia. He said that Pakistani exports have suffered due to the high input cost and unstable supply of energy together with mind boggling tax regime. He said that exports would grow rapidly once these issues are tackled. The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has urged the Punjab government to spend a part of development fund to the markets of city where traders are doing business in difficult conditions. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said that traders should be provided good business atmosphere as they are backbone of the economy and major source of revenue for the government. He said that around the globe, traders are being considered major force for economic growth and being facilitated to the maximum but here situation is quite different. He said that one hand traders are facing mistreatment by the FBR, Custom

Intelligence, Anti-Smuggling, EOBI and Labour Department etc while at the other lack of facilities, haphazard traffic and unavailability of parking facilities have made them hostage. Therefore, it is a must to shift focus of development budget towards the markets to ensure good atmosphere for the trading community. Sheikh Muhammad also called to reduce the interference of government departments in the business activities saying that the business community needs hand-holding by the government to overcome the challenges but departments like FBR, Labour, EOBI are creating more troubles for the business community. He said that all government departments should give honor to the taxpayers who are backbone of the economy. He said that it would be very hard to give expansion to the tax net if FBR and other departments continue to squeeze

the existing taxpayers. It would also be hard to achieve the huge revenue target set for the financial year 2016-17 if business community is not given due facilities and respect. The LCCI President said there is a dire need that all concerned department should act as facilitator to the business community but unfortunately situation is quite different. He said that measures, being taken on the name of controlling smuggling, are actually affecting those traders who are doing their businesses legally. He said that reportedly intelligence officials establish their own check posts out of the markets, stops all consignments and harass the traders without any solid reason. He said that there is a dire need to encourage the honest businessmen through stopping raids on business premises.

LCCI demands power system upgradation

Aging power transmission and distribution system is not only causing electricity wastage and unable to bear burden of extra production of power but is also causing untoward incidents therefore it should be upgraded without any delay. LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that government is working on various power projects to fulfill the electricity demand which is growing with the passage of time. They said that repeated incidents of power failure in near past have already revealed weakness of power transmission and distribution system. The LCCI office-bearers said that it is a very good sign that government is well aware of the rising demand of electricity and working on a number of power projects days and nights but government should also be aware of the fact that existing power distribution system cannot bear the load of additional power. They urged the government not to tolerate any laxity towards the upgradation of power transmission and distribution system as any negligence could cause unbearable loss to the trade, industry and economy. They also urged the government to ensure early completion of ongoing power projects as it is not a must to keep the industrial wheel moving but economic growth is also

linked with sufficient and cheap energy. The LCCI office-bearers that business community does not have any doubts about the seriousness of present regime in solving the energy crisis as it has already started a number of power projects but there is a dire need of their completion in the shortest possible time as an acute shortage of electricity is hitting the economic activities hard. They said that the timely completion of hydropower projects was vital for mitigating water and power shortfall. They said that government should exploit all available options to stop unscheduled power cuts which are hitting the economic activities hard. The LCCI office-bearers said that the government should understand that economic well being is a must. Therefore, the government should understand the ground realities and reset its priorities as far as power generation is concerned. They said the private sector is engine of the growth and in the developed countries it is facilitated to the maximum but in Pakistan circumstances are quite the other way round. They said that promotion of alternate energy resources would definitely curtail the burden from conventional energy system therefore government should bring down duties and taxes on the equipment being used for power generation through alternate energy resources.

LCCI supports Chairman Wapda on Kalabagh Dam



Chairman Water & Power Development Authority (WAPDA) Zafar Mehmood has said that work on various hydel power projects is well on the way and three big power projects will be commissioned next year and generate around 2500 MW of electricity. This would eliminate loads hedding to a great extend. He said that genuine reservations of the stakeholders on Kalabagh dam would be addressed and WAPDA is ready to work hand in hand with the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry in this regard. He was talking to the LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed here at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Chairman WAPDA and LCCI Senior Vice President suggested to form a committee comprising Chief Ministers of all provinces should be formed on Kalabagh dam. Former Chairman WAPDA Tariq Hameed, former LCCI Presidents Mian Misbah-ur-Rehman, Shahid Hassan Sheikh, Muhammad Ali Mian, Sohail Lashari and Former Chairman Punjab Board of Investment & Trader (PBIT) Abdul Basit also spoke on the occasion while former LCCI Vice President Aftab Ahmed

Vohra, LCCI Executive Committee Members Mian Abdul Razzaq, Iftikhar Bashir Chaudhry and Shahzad Ahmed were present in the meeting. The LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder spoke highly about the rising energy needs and importance of new water reservoirs in general and Kalabagh Dam in particular. He said that share of hydropower should be enhanced in energy mix to bring down the energy cost which is a biggest reason of decline in exports. Chairman WAPDA informed the participants that Nelum Jhelum project of 960 MW, 4th tunnel of Terbal of 1410 MW and Golen Gol hydropower project of over 100 MW would be operational during the next year while work on Dasu dam is also well on the way. Part 1 and Part 2 of Dasu dam would produce 2160 & 2160 MW electricity respectively. He said that land acquisition process of Bhasha dam has been completed. Zafar Mehmood said that all misunderstandings should be removed about Kalabagh dam. He said that KBD would produce 1550 million units of electricity annually. He said that wrong perceptions about Kalabagh dam have been generated through rumors while the facts and

figures are quite different. “Operational control of Kalabagh Dam should be given to Sindh to address its reservations and Sindh’s role in IRSA should also be more powerful”, Chairman WAPDA said. He said that Kalabagh dam is beneficial for all and it would not be a threat for Noshera or Peshawar valley. The LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder said that projects of national importance should not be unduly controversial. He said that policy of criticism for criticism is damaging the national cause. Reservations could be addressed through talks. While announcing the unconditional support for Kalabagh dam, Almas Hyder said that it would help economic growth, would bring down the oil import bill and would also reduce the trade

& current account deficits. He said that we should focus on the fact and discuss the technical aspects and benefits of Kalabagh dam instead of blaming each other. He said that dams always beneficial for the country. Kalabagh dam would be good for all and it would provide additional water to the provinces. “Pakistan is not a major oil producing country and it could not afford to generate electricity through costly thermal resources. Pakistan needs cheap hydropower to bring down the energy cost to boost its manufacturing sector and national exports”, Almas Hyder concluded. The LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed also called to generate cheap electricity through hydel resources.

SRO 491 should be implemented on DTRE as well

DTRE for packing material should not be allowed to the exporters/export houses while SRO 491 should be implemented on DTRE as well. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that this will have far reaching consequences for the nascent packaging sector of the country.

The LCCI office-bearers said that most of the said packaging industries are supplying packing material to the exporters and are duly registered for sales tax. They said that the denial of input tax/refund to exporters will encourage them to make purchases from un-registered persons so that only 1% tax is required to be withheld, instead of making purchases from said registered manufacturers/suppliers who will charge sales tax @ 17%. They said that the business of registered manufacturers/suppliers of packaging material will, therefore, come to a standstill and they will be forced either to close down or to de-register themselves and go in the un-organized sector. They said that the problem will be aggravated in view of the fact that most of the large exporters/export houses will obtain DTRE

for import or local purchase of various items including packing material. They will import packing material free of customs duty and sales tax under the said scheme and there will be no need for them to make purchases either from registered suppliers or from un-registered suppliers.

They said that this will cause loss of local economic activity resulting in huge revenue loss to the national exchequer. They said that the above facts point towards one thing that registered SMEs manufacturing/supplying packing material to exporters will not be able to continue their businesses.

The LCCI office-bearers urged the Federal Board of Revenue to resolve the issue in such a manner that registered SMEs are able to continue their business and to supply packing material to exporters/export houses. They said that businesses are coping with number of internal and external challenges and direly needed a helping hand from the government departments to play an instrumental role for economic uplift of the country.

Brazil wants more trade with Pakistan, says Brazil Ambassador



Ambassador of Brazil Claudio Lins has said that Brazil covers more than 42 per cent of its energy needs through renewable sources and ready for knowledge sharing with Pakistan. He was speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder, Vice President Nasir Saeed, former LCCI President Iftikhar Ali Malik, Executive Committee Members Amjad Ali Jawa, Mian Abdul Razzaq, Tariq Mahmood, Waqar Ahmed Mian and Honorary Consul of Brazil Mian Hassan Mansha also spoke on the occasion. Brazilian Ambassador said that Brazil is ready to extend cooperation to Pakistan in renewable energy sector. He said that Brazil has improved per hector yield through modern technology and double cropping and is also one of the largest exporters of poultry meat. He said that Pakistani businessmen can take benefit from Brazilian expertise in these sectors. He said that Brazil is the 9th biggest economy of the world with \$1.7 trillion GDP and best place for doing business and investment. He said that despite having various commonalities and good diplomatic relations, trade volume between Brazil and Pakistan is meager. He said that mutual trade volume in 2015 was hardly 369 million US\$ which does not match the potential exists in the two countries. “Brazil is looking for new trade partners in Asia while Pakistan products are

best and can easily make their way in the Brazilian market”, Brazilian envoy said. He invited the Pakistan businessmen to work for joint ventures with their Brazilian counterparts and also report their reservations to the Brazilian Embassy in Pakistan regarding tariff etc. The LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder said that Brazil-Pakistan relations are characterized as friendly and cooperative. He said that traditionally, the balance of trade has been in favour of Brazil. Although trade figures do not match the actual potential of trade but these are following an upward trend. From 2013 to 2015, the two way trade has surged from dollar 227 million to dollar 316 million. However, in contrast to that Pakistan exports are falling in terms of value which contracted from dollar 87 million to dollar 56 million. He said that we should work on ways to improve our trade and economic relations. Almas Hyder said that the private sector of Pakistan can definitely take advantage of exporting to Brazil various types of consumer goods like ready-made garments, fabrics, knitwear, towels, leather & leather products, pharmaceutical, surgical instruments etc. He said that Brazil offers a huge potential for the exports of high quality footballs. Everyone knows that the game of football is very close to the hearts of Brazilian people. We can also supply agro products including rice, pulses, fruits and vegetables etc. For this, we

need to work closely with your office to find the right partners. Brazil has earned good repute in the field of hydro electric technology and in expanding commercial use of ethanol. We will certainly like to have the expertise of Brazilian experts who could share technical aspects and general information regarding production of ethanol (bio-fuel) by sugarcane and its usage in cars and power generation. It will certainly help Pakistan in reducing dependence on petroleum products. Former LCCI President Iftikhar Ali Malik called for B2B meetings between the businessmen of the two countries. He said that tariff issues should be resolved to give boost to the mutual trade. He said that Brazil could take benefit from the cheap but skilled human resources of Pakistan. Honorary Consul of Brazil Mian Hassan Mansha also spoke highly about the trade and economic relations between the two countries saying that Pakistan's geographical location is very important and could be beneficial for the Brazilian investors. Pakistan's measures to further strengthen its export controls and non-proliferation steps are well organized and recognized by the international community. The country has an effective and foolproof export control law relating to export control of sensitive goods, technologies, material and equipment. This was stated by the Director General of Strategic Export Control Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and head of 4-member team Dr.

Zafar Ali while speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed, Executive Committee Members Mian Rehman Aziz Chan, Amjad Ali Jawa and Waqar Ahmed Mian also spoke on the occasion. Dr. Zafar Ali said that Pakistan's export control policy addressed both tangible and intangible export or sale and transportation of sensitive goods and technologies. He said that Pakistan had already framed out Export Control legislation in the year 2000 and implemented in the year 2004 after legislation on this law in the Parliament. Speaking on the occasion LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed appreciated the initiative to brief the LCCI members about the laws and regulations related to implementation of internal compliance program for nuclear and biological weapons and their Delivery System Act 2004. He said that in defence sector, the private sector has very marginal involvement. At present, the defence sector is only controlled by strategic and public sector enterprises. It is a fact that the local sector is working with low technology and has limited access to defence sector. How private sector can be engaged in production of defence related items, he questioned and said that it is high time that certain operations should be transferred to private sector so that through knowledge sharing and capacity building, the employment generation could be made possible.

LCCI for abolition of duties on energy saving equipment

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry called for abolition of recently imposed customs duty on energy saving electric equipment to bring them in the reach of all. While speaking at the meeting of LCCI Executive Committee, the LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said that zero custom duty on all energy saving equipment like LED and SMD etc is a must to bridge the gap between energy demand and supply. The LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder also spoke on the occasion. The LCCI President said that Pakistan is an energy starved-country and there is a dire need to take extra ordinary measures to fill the electricity demand and supply gap but illogical decisions like imposition of duty on energy saving equipment like LED and SMD etc are being taken. He said that all sorts of energy saving equipment should be exempted from all kinds

of taxes and duties to get rid of the load shedding within the shortest possible time. He said that all kind solar equipment should also be included in the list of duty-free items to encourage utilization of alternative energy resources. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad and Senior Vice President Almas Hyder said that we all are aware of the present challenges to our economy and especially the menace widely caused due to severe energy crisis. They said that we desperately need some good alternatives and viable solutions in this connection. They hoped that government would accelerate its efforts for the promotion of alternative energy resources besides allowing duty free import of all energy saving equipment to bring them in the reach of common man.

Letter from Italy



Pakistani Embassy in Rome

Via Della Camilluccia 682
00135 Rome
Italy

August 4, 2016

Dear Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Arshad,

I am impressed by your dynamic approach. With person like you heading the business community of Lahore we will inshallah increase the size of our footprint in Italy.
Cotton fabrics and yarn, readymade garments, towels, hosiery, beddings, carpet and rugs, cotton, leather, sports goods and surgical instruments are the major items exported from Pakistan to Italy. Whereas, Pakistan is importing Textile machinery, general industrial machinery, power generating machinery, petroleum products, transport vehicles, iron and steel, pharmaceuticals, acrylic fiber, chemicals and paper and paperboard.

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Leather, Fashion, Tourism and Home Interior
Machinery
Education
Defense

Pakistan's total exports to Italy in 2015 (ITC Trade map) are us\$ 618 Million

Pakistan imports from Italy in 2015 (ITC Trade map) US \$ 443 Million

Trade Fairs in which TDAP is participating in calendar year 2015-16 are :

1. Marmomacc, Verno Italy , September 2016
2. EICMA MOTO, Milan Italy, November 2017
3. Expo Riva Schuh Italy, January 2017
4. Cosmoprof Italy , April 2017
5. MICAM SHOE Italy, September 2016
6. EIMA, Bologna Italy, November 2016

Fairs allocated to PTA:

1. Lineapelle Fair , Bologna Italy, October 2016
2. Lineapelle Fair, Bologna Italy, April 2017

Important International Events in Italy:

IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL FAIRS IN ITALY				
S#	NAME OF THE FAIR	DATES	PRODUCTS	CITY/VENUE
1.	VICENZAORO Fall	03.09.2016 to 07.09.2016	Gold, Jewellery, Watches, Gemology	FIERA DI VICENZA S.P.A - Vicenza
2.	MIPEL	03.09.2016 to 06.09.2016	Shoes, Leather Goods, Hides and Furs	FIERA MILANO - Milano

3.	MICAM SHOEVENT	03.09.2016 to 06.09.2016	Shoes, Leather Goods, Hides and Furs	FIERA MILANO - Milano
4.	MILANO UNICA	06.09.2016 to 08.09.2016	Textiles & Haberdashery	FIERA MILANO CITY - Milano
5.	LINEAPELLE	07.09.2016 to 09.09.2016	Shoes, Leather Goods, Hides and Furs	FIERA MILANO - Milano
6.	EXPOBICI	09.09.2016 to 11.09.2016	Sport, Recreation and Hobbies	PADOVA FIERE S.P.A - Padova
7.	SANA	09.09.2016 to 12.09.2016	Food, Beverages and related Technologies	BOLOGNA FIERE S.P.A - Bologna
8.	FIERA INTERNAZIONALE DELLA MUSICA	09.09.2016 to 11.09.2016	Musical Instruments and Equipment	LARIO FIERE CENTRO ESPOSITIVO E
9.	FIERA DEL LEVANTE	10.09.2016 to 18.09.2016	General	E. A. FIERA DEL LEVANTE BARI - Bari
10.	SALONE DEL CAMPER	10.09.2016 to 18.09.2016	Vehicles, Transport and related equipments	FIERA DI PARMA S.P.A - Parma
11.	HAPPY BUSINESS TO YOU	14.09.2016 to 16.09.2016	Services a) Technical and logistic services b) peronnel service c) Catering serivce	PORDENONE FIERE S.P.A
12.	MACFRUT	14.09.2016 to 16.09.2016	Agriculture, Zootechny, Fishing and related Technologies	RIMINI FIERA S.P.A - Rmini
13.	Marmomacc	28.09.2016 to 01.09.2016	Stones, art, related machinery	Verona Italy
14.	ECIMA MOTO	10.11.2016 to 13.11.2016	Motocycle and accessories	Milan
15.	Expo Riva Shuh (2 Editions in Jan and other in june)	14.11.2016 to 17.01.2016	Footwear sector	Riva Del Garda
16.	Cosmoprof	16.03.2017 to 19.03.2017	Beauty	Bologna
17.	EIMA	09.11.2016 to 13.11.2016	Agriculture and gardening implements	Bologna

LCCI flays violation of human rights in held Kashmir

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has strongly condemned continuous violation of human rights in held Kashmir and urged the government to forcefully raise the issue at all international fora. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that international community should not play the role of silent spectator on the issue as violation of human rights in Kashmir by India is creating unrest in the region. They said that Indian forces are adding new chapters of brutality. They said that the issue of the Kashmir should be resolved according to the wishes of Kashmiri people. While expressing concern over the role of International community, LCCI office-bearers said that United Nations should take notice of the Indian aggression and intervene in the matter as any irresponsibility by the Indian side could give birth to a historic human tragedy. They said that business community has serious concern on the alarming situation in held Kashmir. They said that brutal killing of innocent people in occupied Kashmir is not acceptable for the business community of Pakistan and it is standing shoulder to shoulder with Kashmiri brothers. They said that the use of force against innocent civilians protesting peacefully over extrajudicial killings was a blatant violation of the right to life, right to freedom of expression and opinion, right to peaceful protest, right to peaceful

assembly and other rights. “Irresponsible act of Indian government raising alarm bells for prospects of peace and tranquility in otherwise volatile region. The growing tension, caused by Indian provocative policy, is not a good sign as confrontation between two nuclear powers could lead mass destruction.” They said that occupied Kashmir is a longstanding dispute between Pakistan and India which has not only created tension and instability in the region but also a big threat to international peace. The LCCI office-bearers said that “India can no longer be in denial of these facts by terming the situation as its internal matter, a position that has no standing whatsoever, in view of the internationally recognized disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir. They said that Indian security forces are trampling the fundamental freedoms of the Kashmiri people with complete impunity. “Pakistani business community will continue to extend its moral support for realization of the right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir”. The LCCI office-bearers said that business community unanimous condemns the Indian aggression and demands the international community to take notice of this blatant violation of the international norms. The LCCI office-bearers lauded the government and people of Pakistan for taking a strong stand against Indian aggression in India.

LCCI condemns terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, while strongly condemning the barbaric act of terrorism in Saudi Arabia, has said that Pakistani nation in general and business community in particular stands shoulder to shoulder with their Saudi Brothers. Terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia are a tragedy for whole Islamic World. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that our prayers and hearts go out to our Saudi brothers in this testing time. They said that terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia are an ample proof of the fact that terrorists have no religion and they are busy to do crime against the humanity. The LCCI office-bearers said that it is not just a terror attack on the people of Saudi Arabia but it is a heinous

crime against the entire humanity. Leaders around the globe should join heads and evolve strategy to fight common battle against terrorism. They said that the terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia are a well planned conspiracy to shatter the global peace. They said that OIC and United Nations should convene a roundtable of all heads of states to make a consensus policy to cope with terrorism related incidents that have jolted the very basis of the globe. They said that these terrorists should be brought to justice. “Any further delay in taking a strong stand against terrorists would cause undue damage to the internal peace and harmony therefore there is a dire need to sit together and evolve a methodology to get rid of the menace of terrorism”, the LCCI office-bearers said.

Safe City Project welcomed

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry welcomed the government decision to set up database of the citizens of Karachi under Safe City Project and termed it an important move to establish peace in the largest city of the country. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that database of Karachiites' to identify locals and non-locals and surveillance cameras will ensure security of Karachi which is hub of the trade and economic activities. They said that Safe City Project will definitely improve the law and order situation in Karachi and will reduce the incidents of extortion, target killing and kidnapping for ransom which are already declining because of concrete measures of the government and law enforcement agencies. The LCCI office-bearers said that extension in anti-terrorism and Pakistan protection laws would also help improve law and order situation therefore parliament should make immediate decision in this regard. They said that these are one of the effective and permanent solutions to the threat of terrorism that would be implemented in true sense of word. They said that such measures are need of the hour as enemies of Pakistan are busy in damaging the soft image of the Pakistan. They said that no sympathy should be shown to the terrorists as they are playing havoc with the interests of Pakistan. They said that though the law and order situation is far better as compared to past but still a lot of work has to be done to establish complete peace from Khyber to Karachi. The LCCI office-bearers said that federal and provincial government should be on the same page to remove the menace of terrorism in the country and all segments of society should play role in this regard. The LCCI office-bearers said that law enforcement agencies should enhance their coordination to destroy the networks of the terrorists. Though Pakistan Army and intelligence agencies have played laudable efforts to eliminate terrorism but recent incidents have shown that story is not ended and still a lot of work has to do. They said that there are several causes of terrorism and there is a need to find the root causes of this threat to save our next generations. They said that injustice, corruption, unemployment, poverty and illiteracy are some of the main causes of terrorism therefore these issues also be tackled with aggressive approach. They particularly stressed the need for speedy justice saying that immediate justice and exemplary punishments to the terrorists and their facilitators would give a clear message to anti-Pakistan elements. They said that killing of innocent people is an ugly attempt to destabilize country by creating an impression of unsafe place in the eyes of

international community. They urged the government to convene a roundtable of all the political parties and business community representatives to make a consensus policy to cope with law and order related incidents that have jolted the very basis of the country. They said that it was very strange that despite all our efforts, the terrorists were attacking the place of their choice and killing innocent people. "Any further delay would cause undue damage to the country therefore the President, Prime Minister and all the Chief Ministers should sit with the politicians and business leaders to evolve a methodology to get rid of this menace" the LCCI office-bearers concluded. The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry on Wednesday complained of low gas pressure to the industry and called for corrective measures without any delay. After listening the point of view of the representatives of Ferozepur Road Industrial Association (FRIA), the LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said that low gas pressure is like non provision of gas. It hurts industry badly therefore the authorities should take all steps to keep the industrial wheel on the run. Representative of the Ferozepur Road Industrial Association (FRIA) Adnan Khalid Butt informed the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry that low pressure of gas has become one of the biggest issues being faced by the industrialists of the area. He said that because of low pressure of gas, industrial production is at the lowest ebb. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad said that at a time when country is struggling to achieve export target, unavailability of gas to the industrial sector would play a devastating role. He said that how the government would be able to collect revenues to run its day-to-day affairs when the industrial wheel is coming to a halt. The LCCI President said that the government should understand that economic well being is a must and it is only possible when business community would be able to play its due role. He said that the industry needs a continuous supply of gas and electricity to keep the units operational and to complete the export orders well within the given timeframe but only because of the shortage of electricity the exports are not up to the mark. He said that Pakistan had already lost a number of international markets and the new longer hour power cuts would further aggravate the situation. He said that cheaper and uninterrupted power supply is only way to achieve economic targets set for the year 2016-17. The LCCI President said that Ferozepur Road Industrial Area is not the only victim of unavailability/low pressure of gas therefore Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) should resolve this issue on at the earliest.

LCCI urges private sector to focus on new markets

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has urged the private sector to establish close contacts in Central Asian States, Africa and South America to enhance exports while government should support export-oriented industry through resolving their issues like undue delay in refund claims, energy shortage and high input cost etc. LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that at a time when regional countries are taking big strides towards economic prosperity and gaining the status of global economic players, decline in the exports of Pakistan is a matter of concern and needed to be resolved within the shortest possible time. The LCCI office-bearers said that dependence on limited products and a few countries for exports is one of the major reasons of sluggish and discouraging exports. They said that Pakistan's main export partners are United States (13.6 percent of the total exports), China (11 percent), United Arab Emirates (8.5 percent) and Saudi Arabia (8.5 percent). They said that our reliance for exports on a few countries is unremarkably high which has forced our exports to remain limited. They said that Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Venezuela and Chile do not require introduction in Pakistan if discussed under the subjects of sports, geography and culture etc. But in

economic scenario, they carry a very inadequate eminence among us. They said that a very few Pakistanis know that the unblemished and strong economies of South America yearn for the attention of Pakistani investors to do business we cannot avail this unique opportunity. The LCCI office-bearers said that government and private sector should recognize the importance of these regions and should gear up efforts to strengthen trade and economic ties. They said that bilateral discussions should be held between the diplomats and private sectors of these countries. They said that the trade relations with South America although already have been initiated but these must have to touch the core of available opportunities, which are still overlooked or minimally exercised. They said that Pakistan have to focus other than the traditional partners to gain more economic benefits and to give boost to the national exports. They said that the upcoming global economic shift would be more advantageous for us if Pakistan extends its economic associations towards South America that is not a traditional trade destination for Pakistan merchandise. The LCCI office-bearers also urged the government to resolve the issues being faced by the export-oriented industry to increase the exports.

LCCI strongly condemns terrorism in Quetta

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, while strongly condemning the heinous act of terrorism in Quetta, has said that Pakistani nation will not bow to the terrorists who are enemies of entire humanity. In a strong worded statement issued here, the LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that entire nation is saddened by the huge loss of life and injuries caused by the brutal terrorists attack in Quetta. They said that business community stands shoulder to shoulder with their Balochi brothers. They said that our prayers and hearts go out to our brothers of Balochistan in this testing time. They said that terrorist attacks in Quetta are an ample proof of the fact that terrorists have no religion and they are busy to do crime against the humanity. The LCCI office-bearers said that it is not just a terror attack on the people of Pakistan but it is a heinous crime against the entire humanity. The LCCI office-bearers said that international community should not sit

silent on the terrorism attacks in Pakistan as terrorists are fulfilling their ugly designs around the globe. They said that terrorists had already done serious terrorist attacks in Europe and could play havoc anywhere therefore all heads of states should join heads and evolve strategy to combat common battle against terrorism. They said that the terrorist attacks in Quetta are a well planned conspiracy to shatter the peace in South Asia. They said that government should urge Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) and United Nations to convene a roundtable of all heads of states to make a consensus policy to cope with terrorism related incidents that have jolted the very basis of the globe. The LCCI office-bearers said that these terrorists, their supporters and facilitators should be brought to justice. "Any further delay in taking a strong stand against terrorists would cause undue damage to the internal peace and harmony therefore there is a dire need to sit together and evolve a methodology to get rid of the menace of terrorism", the LCCI office-bearers said.

Tax overcharging: 40pc business shifted from Lahore airport



Importers have shifted their 40 percent business from Lahore airport to other airports due to heavy overcharging. This was stated by LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed during a meeting with CAA officials here at Lahore Chamber of Commerce &

Industry. The LCCI Vice President said that the LCCI has invited the authorities attention towards the issue but no step has so far been taken. Nasir Saeed said that there should not be any discrimination in the cargo throughput charges in the country as it is a federal tax. While giving an overview, he said that per KG rate for USA, Dubai, China, Korea, Japan, Europe/UK from Lahore Airport is Rs. 55, 30, 30, 45, 45 and 50 while rate for same destination from Karachi and Islamabad Airports are Rs. 23, 13, 14, 17, 45 and 35 per KG and Rs. 41, 22, 22, 41, 41 and 41 respectively. He said that in a such situation, importers of Lahore have left with no other option but to shift their businesses from Lahore. He said that copy of contract between PCAA and Contractor should be made available to Customs Clearing agents Association, Importers and all

Chambers of Commerce & Industry. He said that computerized bills should be generated instead of issuing manual invoices. He further suggested that list of cargo throughput charges' rates should be made available to all the stakeholders. He said that formula / computation of charges should be shared with the stakeholders. He said that cargo throughput charges should be imposed at standard rate of 2% instead of 5% in case of same day clearance. He said that cargo throughput charges should be calculated on the basis of actual weight break. He said that cargo throughput charges should be electronically calculated through an automated system by PRAL and PCAA should act as a collecting agency only. He said that airlines increase their tariff during export seasons (like mango export season), this is unethical and should strictly be dealt with, as this practice is badly hurting exports. Director Commercial & Estates, Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, Karachi Alqera Atiq were of the view that genuine reservations of the business community will be addressed on priority. He said that he has visited LCCI second time on the instructions of high-ups with the clear instructions to facilitate the business community.

Comparative Analysis of Civil Aviation Throughput Charges at major Airports of Pakistan

(Rs. Per KG)

Origin	Lahore	Karachi	Islamabad
USA	55	23	41
Dubai	30	13	22
China	30	14	22
Korea	45	17	41
Japan	45	45	41
Europe / UK	50	35	41

Pakistani mission in Netherlands to play supportive role

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Pakistan mission in Netherlands would work hand-in-hand to expedite two-way trade. This was decided at a meeting between the Ambassador-designate to the Netherlands Iffat Imran Gardezi and LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed here at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Both sides also agreed to work on exchanging sector-specific potential business delegations. Nasir Saeed said that Netherlands is located at North-West of Europe and shares borders with Germany and Belgium. He said that both Netherlands and Pakistan have good diplomatic relations and it is an encouraging sign that two way trade is maintaining a level of billion dollars. From 2014 to 2015, the total trade inched up from dollar 1.01 billion to dollar 1.03 billion. He said that Pakistan's exports to Netherlands were to the tune of dollar 685 million in 2014 which decreased to dollar 667 million in 2015. Similarly in the same period, Pakistan's imports from Netherlands slightly enhanced from dollar 325 million to dollar 361 million. He said that businessmen of Pakistan would like to develop good trade and economic relations with businessmen from Netherlands that will be possible if Pakistani mission in Netherlands play a helping role. The LCCI Vice President said that Market Intelligence Reports are serving as a good tool

to know about the potential areas where Pakistan can try to take some share. He said that Pakistani mission in Netherlands can market Pakistan as a beneficial place for Dutch investors who can joint venture with their Pakistani counterparts. "It has been observed that trade diplomacy has done wonders in bringing two countries closer to each other. Pakistani Mission should make use of all the options available to you to generate as many business opportunities for Pakistan as possible. We will appreciate to receive any business inquiry through your reference", Nasir Saeed concluded. Pakistan Ambassador designate to Netherlands Iffat Imran Gardezi said that the fact remains that Netherlands can open up doors of neighbouring countries to Pakistani merchandise. She stressed the need for exchange of trade delegation and their participation in each other's exhibition. "I will ensure timely dissemination of trade related information and will try level best to send more and more businessmen of Netherlands to Pakistan to pave way for joint ventures between the private sectors of the two countries", Iffat Imran Gardezi said and added that Pakistani businessmen would have to adopt aggressive strategy to enter into the market of Netherlands because they are not only quality conscious but very selective and careful while making deals with other countries.

New marketing plan to boost FDI

Since the government has achieved certain economic targets, the focus needs to be shifted to promote local and foreign investment. The LCCI President said that it was happy sign that things on economic front are far improving. He said that there should be a solid strategy to facilitate the private sector that can be of great help for the promotion of local and foreign investment. He said that a number of sectors in Pakistan including infrastructure development, coal, energy, agriculture, livestock, textiles and pharmaceutical offer lucrative investment opportunities to foreign investors but due to absence of a proper marketing strategy these opportunities are unattended even today. He said that Foreign Direct Investment is one of the major players for economic development of any country. It is a matter of concern that Foreign Direct Investment is slowing down with the passage of time which has posed a number of economic challenges for the country. He said that China is the only major country whose Foreign Direct

Investment in Pakistan has jumped up from \$ 13.7 million in 2007-08 to \$ 255.3 in 2014-15. He said that Foreign Direct Investment of USA in Pakistan has come down from \$ 1309.3 million in 2007-08 to \$ 209 million in 2014-15, of UK from \$ 460.2 million to \$ 174.3 million in 2014-15, of UAE from \$ 589.2 in 2007-08 to \$ 216.4 in 2014-15 and of Japan from \$ 131.2 million to in 2007-08 to \$ 71.1 in 2014-15. He said that situation is not different as far as various other countries is concerned. The LCCI president said that those issues should be tackled through well thought strategy, which are coming in the way of Foreign Direct Investment in Pakistan. He said that quality improvement of infrastructure throughout the country is essential to encourage Foreign Direct Investment. He said that lowering of taxes and duties would lead to more firms wishing to invest in Pakistan while it would also encourage the local investors. He said that international investment conferences in Pakistan on permanent basis that would pave way for

much needed foreign direct investment in Pakistan. He said that by encouraging Foreign Direct Investment, Pakistan can gain technological advancement, knowledge and expertise from the global arena therefore every possible step should be taken to make this piece of land attractive for the foreign investors. He urged the government to

initiate meaningful discourse with the private sector to boost up Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) that is not up to the mark. “He said that existing Foreign Direct Investment does not reflect the available potential and resources” he said adding that economic vitality should be promoted by strengthening private sector.

Target revenue collection; credit goes to business community

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry while welcoming the target revenue collection, has said that credit goes to the business community who is playing excellent role for economic uplift of the country despite difficult conditions. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that though trade & industry faced a number of internal and external challenges during the fiscal year 2015-16 but above the target collection is an ample proof of the fact that business community is committed and wants to see the country economically stable. They said that government should appreciate towards the honest taxpayers who are playing their national obligation with honesty. The LCCI office-bearers said that government should promote public-private culture

and resolve the issues being faced by the business community on priority so that dream of economic stability could come true. They said that to achieve the massive revenue target set for the fiscal year 2016-17, government would have to reduce the interference of tax officials in the business matters and stop misuse of discretionary powers. They said that complicated taxation system is coming in the way of tax net expansion. They said that government should make taxation system easy to encourage people to come into the tax net voluntarily. They also urged the government to take private sector on board while taking trade & industry related decisions. It would not only help trust building between the government and private sector but would also create business friendly atmosphere in the country.

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Heavy increase in valuation of garments, mobile accessories and stationary

LCCI flays valuation mechanism, calls for withdrawal of massive increase

People from garments, mobile accessories, stationary and various other sectors have sought the LCCI help on the issue of heavy increase in valuation which has created an atmosphere of uncertainty. They informed the LCCI office-bearers that Directorate General of Valuation has made massive increase in the valuation of garments, mobile phone accessories, stationary and various other items without taking business community onboard. They said that this increase would deprive common people of these products as after huge increase in valuation, prices of these commodities would touch to the sky. They said that astonishing increase in valuation of many goods as compared to previous valuation ruling is a sheer injustice and force commercial importers to find other illegal means to bring these products into the country. They said that if new valuation ruling on garments, mobile accessories and stationary is not withdrawn, it will not only badly affected the businesses but would also not be able to generate the revenue collected against the clearance of these goods. The LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed said that at present when country is struggling for economic revival, such measures would put a reverse gear on all efforts.

They said that traders want to play their due role for economic development of the country provided they are given breathing space instead of squeezing them like any thing. They said that trading community is being beaten from two sides as one hand discretionary power of FBR officials and so-called check posts of anti smuggling unit out side the markets hampering the business activities while huge increase in valuation of goods is adding fuel to the fire. The LCCI office-bearers said that illegal import of garments, mobile accessories and stationary would not be in the favor of national economy therefore Directorate General of Valuation should resolve this issue at the earliest. They said that huge increase in the customs valuation would promote illegal import of merchandise and these commodities likely come into the country under the guise of Afghan Transit Trade (ATT). They said that it would cause massive revenue loss to the national exchequer besides encouraging smuggling which is already a major reason of economic decline. He said that Directorate General of Valuation should withdraw new valuation mechanism immediately otherwise business would be destroyed. They also called to resolve the issue of imposition of various taxes on property sector immediately.



LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed at a post budget meeting at LCCI.

HELPLINE

NAME	NUMBER	NAME	NUMBER
EMERGENCIES		Ganga Ram Hospital	99200572
Race Course Police Station	99200300	General Hospital	99264091-8
Police Help	15	Ittefaq Hospital	111-770-000
Bomb Disposal	99212111	Jinnah Hospital	99231400
Edhi	115	Mayo Hospital	99211100-9
Fire Brigade	16	Services Hospital	99203402
Motorway Police	130	Shaikh Zayed Hospital	35865731
MCL complaints	99211022-29	Shaukat Khanum Hospital	111-155-555
Railway Polics	36308196	U.C.H	35763573-5
Sui Gas	1199	AMBULANCE SERVICES	
Wapda	111-000-118	Edhi	115
HOSPITALS		Fatimid	35210835
Aadil Hospital (Defence)	111-223454	Rescue	1122
Children's Hospital	99230901-3	BLOOD BANK	
C.M.H	99221109	Fatimid	35210835
Doctors Hospital	35302701-14	Islamic Alliance	37427394-8
Farooq Hospital	37813472	Red Crescent	36304702

یعقوب طاہر اظہار کے بیٹے کے انتقال پر لاہور چیمبر کا اظہار افسوس

لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد، سینئر نائب صدر الماس حیدر، نائب صدر ناصر سعید اور ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی اراکین نے لاہور چیمبر کے سابق سینئر نائب صدر یعقوب طاہر اظہار کے جواں سال بیٹے کی ناگہانی وفات پر انتہائی گہرے رنج و غم کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ ایک تعزیتی بیان میں لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے عہدیداروں نے اس ناگہانی سانحہ پر گہرے افسوس کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ یعقوب طاہر اظہار اور ان کے اہل خانہ کے لیے یہ بہت بڑا صدمہ ہے، جواں سال بیٹے کی ناگہانی وفات ایک بہت بڑا دھچکا اور ایسا نقصان ہے جس کی تلافی کسی صورت بھی ممکن نہیں۔ شیخ محمد ارشد، الماس حیدر اور ناصر سعید نے کہا کہ لاہور چیمبر یعقوب طاہر اظہار کے غم میں برابر کا شریک اور دعا گو ہے کہ اللہ تعالیٰ یعقوب طاہر اظہار اور ان کے اہل خانہ کو صبر جمیل دیں اور ان کے جواں سال مرحوم بیٹے کو جو رحمت میں جگہ عطا فرمائیں۔

Glimpses of LCCI Events



LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder, Vice President Nasir Saeed, former Presidents Mian Ashraf, Shahid Hassan Sheikh and former Vice President Shafqat Saeed Piracha at a reception.



Head of Chinese delegation receiving Chamber Souvenir from Senior Vice President Almas Hyder. Vice President Nasir Saeed, Executive Committee Member Mian Abdul Razaq is also seen in the picture.



LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed, Executive Committee Member Amjad Ali Jawa in a meeting with Strategic Export Control Division (SECDIV).

Glimpses of LCCI Events



LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder presenting LCCI souvenir to Mr. Amjad Bashir and Mr. Jaan Zahardil Members of European Parliament.



British Deputy High Commissioner H.E. Belinda Lewis and Ms. Malahat Awan, CEO British Business Centre, in a group photo with Senior Vice President Almas Hyder, Vice President Nasir Saeed, former LCCI President Bashir A Buksh, former Senior Vice President Abdul Basit, Executive Committee Members Syed Mukhtar Ali, Amjad Ali Jawa, Tanvir Ahmad, Shehzad Ahmed and Asad Noor Puggannwala.



LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed in a group photo with Badami Bagh businessmen. Executive Committee Members Asad Noor Puggannwala, Shahzad Ahmed, Mian Abdul Razaq and former Executive Committee Member Nasir Hameed are prominent.

Glimpses of LCCI Events



LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Vice President Nasir Saeed presenting LCCI souvenir to Mr. Moin-ul-Haque ambassador-designate to France.



Vice President LCCI Nasir Saeed presenting chamber souvenir to Chinese Media Team.



Chairman Institute of Policy Research Humayun Akhtar Khan, LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed & Foreign Policy expert Moeed Yousaf at a round table on Pak - US relations arranged by institute of policy research at LCCI.

Glimpses of LCCI Events



Media Liaison: LCCI President Sheikh Muhammad Arshad, Senior Vice President Almas Hyder, Vice President Nasir Saeed, former Presidents Mian Muhammad Ashraf, Sheikh Muhammad Asif, Shahid Hassan Sheikh, Muhammad Ali Mian, Farooq Iftikhar, Ijaz Ahmed Mumtaz, former Senior Vice President Main Nauman Kabir, former Vice President Shafqat Saeed Piracha, Executive Committee Member Dr. Qurat-ul-Ain Irfan with Economic Journalists of Lahore at a dinner hosted in honour of Lahore Economic Journalists Association.



FPCCI regional Chairman Aziz-ur-Rahman Chan presenting souvenir to LCCI Senior Vice President, Vice President Nasir Saeed, Former President Iftikhar Ali Malik, Executive Committee Member Mian Waqar are also present.



LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed in a group photo with ACCA officials after having a meeting over high cargo throughput charges.

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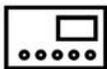
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انڈسٹریل مشینری کی ڈیوٹی فری امپورٹ کی اجازت دی جائے۔

نے کہا کہ تمام انڈسٹریل مشینری کی ڈیوٹی فری امپورٹ سے صنعتوں کو استحکام ملے گا اور وہ برآمدات کے فروغ میں اہم کردار ادا کر سکیں گی۔ انہوں نے حکومت پر مزید زور دیا کہ وہ تمام برآمدی شعبوں بالخصوص انجینئرنگ اور حلال فوڈ کو زیور ریٹڈ رجیم میں شامل کرے جس کی بدولت پاکستان عالمی تجارت میں اپنا خاطر خواہ حصہ ڈال سکے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ انڈسٹریل مشینری کی ڈیوٹی فری امپورٹ کی اجازت اور زیادہ سے زیادہ برآمدی شعبوں کو زیور ریٹڈ سہولت دینے کے بہت دور رس نتائج برآمد ہونگے اور برآمدات انتہائی تیزی سے بڑھیں گی جو اس وقت تشویشناک سطح پر ہیں۔ لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر نے برآمدات بڑھانے کے لیے زیادہ سے زیادہ ممالک کے ساتھ آزادانہ اور ترجیحی تجارت کے معاہدے کرنے، موجودہ معاہدوں پر پوری طرح عمل درآمد کرانے، نئی منڈیوں کی تلاش اور تجارت کے لیے نئی مصنوعات متعارف کرانے کی ضرورت پر بھی زور دیا۔

لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد نے حکومت پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ تمام انڈسٹریل مشینری کی ڈیوٹی فری امپورٹ کی اجازت دے جس سے صنعت سازی کو وسعت حاصل ہوگی، روزگار کے نئے مواقع پیدا ہونگے، حکومت کے محاصل میں اضافہ ہوگا اور سب سے بڑھ کر یہ برآمدات کو فروغ حاصل ہوگا جس کی اس وقت اشد ضرورت ہے۔ ایک بیان میں لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد نے کہا کہ وسائل اور صلاحیتوں سے مالا مال ہونے کے باوجود پاکستانی برآمدات کا غیر تسلی بخش سطح پر رہنا تشویشناک ہے جن میں اضافے کے لیے ضروری ہے کہ صنعتوں کو وسعت دی جائے، صنعتی پیداوار میں اضافہ کیا جائے اور صنعتوں کی پیداواری لاگت میں کمی لائی جائے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 60 کی دہائی میں ہمیں بطور رول ماڈل اپنانے والے ممالک کی برآمدات آج ہم سے کئی گنا زیادہ ہو چکی ہیں لہذا حالات کے پیش نظر روایتی طریقوں سے ہٹ کر غیر معمولی اقدامات اٹھانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ انہوں

کمپنی کی تشکیل اور رجسٹریشن کا عمل آسان بنانے کے لیے سکیورٹیز اینڈ

ایکسیچج کمیشن آف پاکستان کے اقدامات کو سراہتے ہیں

اور ایٹ آباد میں سہولیات مراکز کھولنا اچھے اقدامات مگر یہ مراکز دیگر شہروں میں بھی ہونے چاہئیں۔ لاہور چیمبر کے عہدیداروں نے کہا کہ سکیورٹیز اینڈ ایکسیچج کمیشن آف پاکستان کے یہ اقدامات تاجروں کو بین الاقوامی معیار کی سہولیات مہیا کریں گے جبکہ رجسٹریشن کا عمل بھی اب انتہائی آسان اور سادہ ہو جائے گا جس سے پاکستان کی کاروبار کرنے میں آسانوں کے حوالے سے بین الاقوامی رینٹنگ بھی بڑھے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دیگر سرکاری اداروں کو بھی سکیورٹیز اینڈ ایکسیچج کمیشن آف پاکستان کی تقلید کرتے ہوئے تاجروں کے لیے زیادہ سے زیادہ سہولیات کا اجراء کرنا چاہیے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ لاہور چیمبر حکومت اور تاجر برادری کے درمیان پل کا کردار ادا کر رہا ہے اور روابط مزید مستحکم کرنے کے لیے سکیورٹیز اینڈ ایکسیچج کمیشن کے ساتھ ہر ممکن تعاون کرنے کو تیار ہے۔

لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد، سینئر نائب صدر الماس حیدر اور نائب صدر نے کمپنی کی تشکیل اور رجسٹریشن کا عمل آسان بنانے کے لیے سکیورٹیز اینڈ ایکسیچج کمیشن آف پاکستان کے اقدامات کو سراہتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ ان سے کاروباری سرگرمیوں کو فروغ ملے گا۔ ایک بیان میں لاہور چیمبر کے عہدیداروں نے کہا کہ سکیورٹی اینڈ ایکسیچج کمیشن آف پاکستان کی جانب سے کمپنی رجسٹریشن کا عمل آسان بنانے سے تاجروں کی مشکلات کم ہونگی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ نیشنل انسٹیٹیوٹل فنانس ایسوسی ایشن ٹیکنالوجی کی جانب سے آن ڈیجیٹل دستخط کی سہولت اور کریڈٹ کارڈ کے ذریعے ادائیگی سے تاجروں کے قیمتی وقت کی بچت ہوگی کیونکہ پہلے انہیں اس مقصد کے لیے مینول درخواست دینا اور چالان فارم کے ذریعے بینک میں ادائیگی کرنا پڑتی تھی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ رجسٹریشن فیس میں کمی سے نئے کاروباروں کی رجسٹریشن میں اضافہ ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سیالکوٹ

کو تاجروں کے لیے سہولیتی مراکز کا کردار ادا کرنا چاہیے لیکن صورتحال اس کے برعکس ہے اور تاجروں کی شکایات میں دن بدن اضافہ ہو رہا ہے جو معیشت کے لیے کوئی اچھا شگون نہیں ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ٹیکس وصول کرنے اور سمگلنگ پر قابو پانے والے اداروں کے صوابدیدی اختیارات کی زد میں زیادہ تر وہ تاجر آ رہے ہیں جو قانونی کاروبار کرتے ہیں۔ لاہور چیمبر کے صدر نے کہا کہ صوابدیدی اختیارات میں کمی لائے بغیر غیر ملکی سرمایہ کار تو ایک طرف مقامی سرمایہ کاروں کو بھی مزید سرمایہ کاری پر آمادہ کرنا ممکن نہیں ہوگا لہذا وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار صورتحال کا فوری نوٹس لیں اور ٹیکس حکام کے صوابدیدی اختیارات میں کمی لانے کے لیے فوری اقدامات اٹھائیں۔

ماحول کو خراب کر رہے ہیں۔ کاروباری ماحول بہتر بنائے بغیر ٹیکس نیٹ کو وسیع کرنے کا خواب کبھی پورا نہیں ہوگا۔ ایک بیان میں انہوں نے کہا کہ ٹیکس وصول کرنے والا عملہ اپنے صوابدیدی اختیارات کا غیر ضروری استعمال کر کے تاجروں کو پریشان کر رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کبھی تو سمگل شدہ مال کی چیکنگ کے نام پر مارکیٹوں کے باہر ناکے لگا کر تاجروں کو بُری طرح پریشان کیا جاتا ہے اور کبھی مارکیٹوں میں چھاپے مار کر ہراساں کیا جاتا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اگر سمگل شدہ اشیاء ملک میں آ رہی ہیں تو اس کی ذمہ داری تاجروں پر نہیں بلکہ ان متعلقہ اداروں پر عائد ہوتی ہے جو سمگلنگ کو روکنے میں ناکام ہیں لیکن اس کی ذمہ داری قبول کرنے کے بجائے تاجروں کے لیے مسائل پیدا کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ لاہور چیمبر کے صدر نے کہا کہ فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو سمیت تمام وفاقی و صوبائی اداروں

اٹلی کے تاجر پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کی خواہش رکھتے ہیں۔

مشترکہ منصوبہ سازی کی گنجائش ہے۔ لاہور چیمبر کے سابق صدر فاروق افتخار نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور اٹلی سیکٹرز کی مطابقت سے سٹڈی کریں تاکہ باہمی تجارت بڑھانے کے لیے حکمت عملی وضع کی جاسکے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں کے لیے ماحول بہترین ہے جس سے اٹلی کے تاجروں کو فائدہ اٹھانا چاہیے۔ غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں کے لیے ڈیویڈنڈ اور منافع کی وطن واپس ترسیل پر کوئی پابندی نہیں۔ فاروق افتخار نے کہا کہ اٹلی کے تاجر پاکستان کے توانائی، ایگرو بیسڈ انڈسٹریز، تعمیرات، مائننگ، ٹیکسٹائل اور سیاحت کے شعبوں میں سرمایہ کاری کر سکتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کا یہ بہترین وقت ہے کیونکہ یہ تیزی سے تجارتی و معاشی سرگرمیوں کا مرکز بنتا جا رہا ہے۔ لاہور چیمبر کے سابق صدر میاں مظفر علی نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک کے تاجروں کو ڈیری و لائیو سٹاک کے شعبے میں بھی مشترکہ منصوبہ سازی کرنی چاہیے، اس شعبے میں اٹلی کا تجربہ اور مہارت پاکستان کے لیے بہت زیادہ فائدہ مند ثابت ہوگی۔

اٹلی کے لیے پاکستانی سفیر ندیم ریاض نے کہا ہے کہ اٹلی کے تاجر پاکستان کے انرجی سیکٹر میں سرمایہ کاری اور دیگر شعبوں میں پاکستانی تاجروں کے ساتھ مشترکہ منصوبہ سازی کی گہری خواہش رکھتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے ان خیالات کا اظہار لاہور چیمبر میں منعقدہ اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ لاہور چیمبر کے سابق صدر طارق حمید، میاں مصباح الرحمن، فاروق افتخار، میاں مظفر علی، اعجاز اے ممتاز، ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی اراکین رضوان شمسی، خادم حسین اور صوبائی سیکریٹری ٹرانسپورٹ جاوید اکبر بھٹی بھی اس موقع پر موجود تھے۔ سفیر نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک میں تجارت بڑھانے کی وسیع گنجائش ہے جس سے بھرپور فائدہ اٹھانا چاہیے۔ انہوں نے لاہور چیمبر پر زور دیا کہ وہ اٹلی کے لیے ایک وفد ترتیب دے جو وہاں تجارت و سرمایہ کاری کے مواقعوں کا جائزہ لے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اٹلی میں پاکستانی سفارتخانے کو وفد کی تفصیلات سے کم از کم دو ماہ پہلے آگاہ کیا جائے تاکہ ان کی اٹلی کے تاجروں کے ساتھ نتیجہ خیز ملاقاتوں کا بندوبست کیا جاسکے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دونوں ممالک کے تاجروں کے درمیان توانائی، فارماسیوٹیکل، ایگرو انفراسٹرکچر، آٹوموبیل، ٹیکسٹائل اور ماربل سیکٹرز میں

معاشی چیلنجز کو مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے وفاقی بجٹ 2016-17 کا بنیادی ورک فریم

درست کیا جائے

معاشی مشکلات میں مزید اضافہ ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بینکوں سے لین دین پر ود ہولڈنگ ٹیکس، بینک اکاؤنٹس تک رسائی، ٹیکس حکام کی جانب سے صوابدیدی اختیارات کا غلط استعمال اور سمگلنگ کاروباری برادری کو درپیش اہم مسائل ہیں جن کا ترجیحی بنیادوں پر حل ہونا ضروری ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یہ مسائل بطور خاص قومی اسمبلی میں زیر بحث لائے اور فوراً حل کیے جائیں کیونکہ ان کی وجہ سے کاروباری شعبہ شدید پریشانی سے دوچار ہے۔ شیخ محمد ارشد نے کہا کہ ٹیکسوں کا پیچیدہ نظام مطلوبہ نتائج دینے میں ناکام رہا ہے لہذا اسے آسان اور عام فہم بنایا جائے اور ٹیکسوں و ڈیوٹیوں کی شرح میں ہر ممکن حد تک کمی لائی جائے۔ لاہور چیئرمین کے صدر نے کہا کہ غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری کی صورت حال بہتر بنانے کے لیے کاروباری ماحول بہتر بنانا ضروری ہے، اس کے بغیر مقامی و غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں کو مزید سرمایہ کاری کی ترغیب دینا ممکن نہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گذشتہ کئی سال سے برآمدات مطلوبہ ہدف سے کم رہنا اور درآمدات کا زیادہ رہنا تشویشناک ہے، بڑے تجارتی خسارے کی وجہ سے ادائیگیوں کا توازن بھی متاثر ہو رہا ہے لہذا حکومت برآمدی شعبے کو زیادہ سے زیادہ مراعات دے تاکہ برآمدات کو فروغ حاصل ہو۔ انہوں نے توقع ظاہر کی کہ قومی اسمبلی وفاقی بجٹ کے تمام پہلوؤں کا جائزہ لیکر صنعت و تجارت اور معیشت کے وسیع تر مفاد میں معاملات کی درستگی کے لیے اقدامات اٹھائے گی۔

لاہور چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد نے کہا ہے کہ معاشی چیلنجز کو مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے اور صنعتی شعبے کو بین الاقوامی سطح پر مقابلہ کرنے کے قابل بنانے کے لیے وفاقی بجٹ 2016-17ء کا بنیادی فریم ورک درست کرنا ضروری ہے۔ قومی اسمبلی میں بینکوں سے لین دین پر عائد ود ہولڈنگ ٹیکس، ایف بی آر کی جانب سے بینک اکاؤنٹس تک رسائی اور صوابدیدی اختیارات کے غلط استعمال جیسے معاملات کو بطور خاص زیر بحث لایا جائے کیونکہ یہ ثانوی نہیں بلکہ بہت سنگین مسائل اور کاروبار کرنے کی راہ میں حائل بہت بڑی رکاوٹیں ہیں۔ ایک بیان میں لاہور چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد نے کہا کہ نجی شعبہ ملک کو کسی بھی ترقی یافتہ ملک کے ہم پلہ لانے کی بھرپور صلاحیت رکھتا ہے لیکن اس کے لیے موافق معاشی پالیسیاں وضع کرنا بہت ضروری ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اگر وفاقی بجٹ 2016-17ء کے متعلق کاروباری برادری کے حقیقی تحفظات کا ازالہ نہ کیا گیا تو یہ ملک کی معاشی ترقی و خوشحالی کے لیے اپنا کردار ادا نہیں کر پائے گا۔ لاہور چیئرمین کے صدر نے کہا کہ حکومت کاروباری برادری کو اعتماد میں لے لے کہ بھاری بجٹ خسارہ کیسے پورا کیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ قرضوں نے پہلے ہی معیشت کو بھاری نقصان پہنچایا ہے کیونکہ محاصل کا ایک بڑا حصہ قرضوں کے سود کی ادائیگی پر خرچ ہو رہا ہے، اگر بجٹ خسارہ پورا کرنے کے لیے مزید قرضے لیے گئے تو

ٹیکس وصول کرنے اور سمگلنگ کی روک تھام کے ذمہ داروں اور اہلکاروں کے

صوابدیدی اختیارات میں کمی کی جائے

کے ذمہ دار اداروں کے اہلکاروں کے صوابدیدی اختیارات میں کمی کرے کیونکہ وہ ان کا بے جا استعمال کر کے تاجروں کو ہراساں اور کاروباری

لاہور چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر شیخ محمد ارشد نے حکومت پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ فوری طور پر ٹیکس وصول کرنے اور سمگلنگ کی روک تھام

مقبوضہ کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی پامالی اور عالمی برادری کی ذمہ داری

ناصر سعید، نائب صدر، لاہور چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری



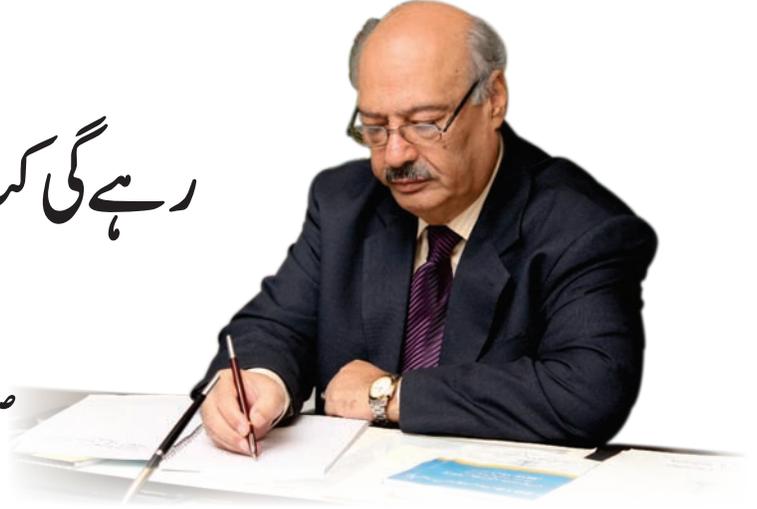
اور نعمتوں سے مالا مال ہے، بھارتی جبر و تسلط کی وجہ سے موت کی وادی بن چکی ہے جہاں کی زمین لاکھوں کشمیریوں کے مقدس خون سے لال ہے لیکن میں کشمیری بھائیوں کو سلام پیش کرتا ہوں جن کے سر کبھی ظلم و ستم کے آگے نہیں جھکے اور وہ آج بھی حق خود ارادیت کے حصول کے لیے جدوجہد کر رہے ہیں۔ آج کشمیریوں کے حقوق کا بہت بُری طرح استحصال کیا جا رہا ہے۔ کشمیری تعلیم اور صحت جیسی بنیادی ضروریات سے محروم ہیں۔ کشمیر وسائل سے مالا مال لیکن ان سے فائدہ بھارت اٹھا رہا ہے۔ بھارت کشمیر کے دریاؤں سے بجلی کر کے بھارتی ریاستوں کو دے رہا ہے اور کشمیر اندھیرے میں ڈوبا رہتا ہے۔ جموں و کشمیر کے مسلمان کسی بھی قیمت پر بھارت کے ساتھ رہنا نہیں چاہتے انہوں نے قربانیوں کے ساتھ جس عزم و ہمت کا مظاہرہ کیا ہے اسے نظر انداز کر کے محض مفاد پرست عناصر کے بل بوتے پر بھارتی تسلط کو کسی بھی شکل میں لانے کی کوشش یا تائید کشمیری عوام سے غداری اور غضب الہی کو دعوت دینے کے مترادف ہے۔ کشمیر بھارت کا نہیں بلکہ پاکستان کا اٹوٹ انگ ہے، کشمیر اور پاکستان دو الگ الگ چیز نہیں ہیں بلکہ ایک دوسرے کا حصہ ہیں، کشمیر پاکستان کی شہ رگ ہے لہذا کسی بھی کمزوری و بے اعتدالی و پسپائی کا مظاہرہ کرنے کے بجائے کشمیر کے اصولی موقف پر سختی سے ڈٹے رہنے اور متحرک رہتے ہوئے عالمی ضمیر کو بیدار کرنے کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔ حکومت کو عالمی برادری کے ذریعے بھارت پر دباؤ ڈالنا چاہیے کہ وہ کشمیر میں ظلم و ستم بند کرتے ہوئے کشمیریوں کو آزادی آزادی سے جینے کا حق دلائے۔ عالمی برادری کو یہ احساس ہونا چاہیے کہ کشمیر میں بھارتی فورسز کی بربریت کی وجہ سے پورے خطے میں کشیدگی پھیل رہی ہے۔ اگر عالمی برادری نے خاموش تماشائی کا کردار ادا کرنا جاری رکھا تو نہ صرف کوئی بدترین انسانی المیہ جنم لے سکتا ہے بلکہ بدامنی کا دائرہ کار بھی صرف جنوبی ایشیا تک محدود نہیں رہے گا۔

مقبوضہ کشمیر تقسیم برصغیر کے بعد سے اب تک مسلسل پاکستان اور بھارت کے درمیان وجہ تنازعہ بنا ہوا ہے اور اسی وجہ سے متعدد بار دونوں ممالک کے درمیان کشیدگی اپنے عروج کو پہنچ گئی۔ اقوام متحدہ میں کشمیر کے لوگوں کو حق خود ارادیت دینے کی قراردادیں بھی پاس ہوئیں اور معاہدے بھی ہوئے لیکن عالمی معاہدوں کے باوجود کشمیریوں کو اُن کے حق سے محروم رکھا جا رہا ہے۔ بھارت نے ساری دنیا کے سامنے کشمیریوں کو حق خود ارادیت دینے کا اعلان کیا اور قراردادوں پر دستخط کیے لیکن 69 سال گزرنے کے باوجود ان قراردادوں پر عمل نہیں کیا گیا۔ تاحال بھارت جبری طور پر کشمیر پر قابض ہے اور ظلم و ستم کی نئی داستانیں رقم کر رہا ہے۔ آئے روز مقبوضہ کشمیر کی زمین بے گناہ کشمیریوں کے خون سے رنگی جاتی ہے، پاک دامن کشمیری ماؤں بہنوں کی چادریں سرکوں پر روندی جاتی ہیں، معصوم بچوں کو بند قوتوں کے بٹ مارے جاتے ہیں لیکن انسانیت کا واویلا مچانے والے ممالک نے اس معاملے پر چشم پوشی اختیار کر رکھی ہے۔ حال ہی میں پرامن احتجاج کرنے والے چالیس سے زائد کشمیریوں کو شہید کر دیا گیا جس کی وجہ سے پاکستان اور بھارت کے درمیان ایک مرتبہ پھر تناؤ کی کیفیت پیدا ہو گئی ہے۔ حسب معمول ساری دنیا نے اس مرتبہ بھی کشمیری عوام کے قتل عام پر خاموشی اختیار کر رکھی ہے جبکہ ہمارے ہاں اُس موم بتی مافیائے بھی اس سلسلے میں احتجاج کرنے کی زحمت گوارا نہیں کی جو پاکستان کو بدنام کرنے والے ہر معاملے پر ٹسوے بہانے لگتا ہے۔ البتہ ساری پاکستانی قوم بالخصوص تاجر برادری نے ہمیشہ اپنے کشمیری بہن بھائیوں کے ساتھ بھرپور اظہار یکجہتی کیا ہے، کشمیر میں بھارتی مظالم کے خلاف یوم سیاہ منایا گیا جس میں تمام تاجر برادری نے شریک ہو کر عالمی برادری کو پیغام دیا ہے کہ پاکستان کبھی بھی کشمیریوں کو تنہا نہیں چھوڑے گا۔ کشمیر کی جنت نذر وادی جو قدرتی وسائل

رہے گی کب تلک وعدوں میں قید خوشحالی

شیخ محمد ارشد

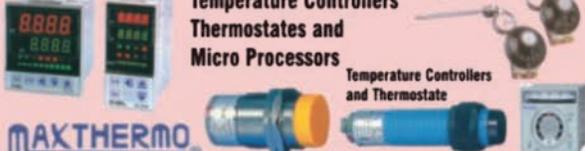
صدر، لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری



انسانی جسم کا سب سے اہم ریڑھ کی ہڈی ہے جس پر سارے جسم کا نظام ٹکا ہوا ہے، اسے ذرا سا بھی نقصان پہنچ جائے تو سارا جسم مفلوج ہو جاتا ہے۔ تاجر برادری بھی ملکی معیشت کے لیے ریڑھ کی ہڈی ہے مگر فرق یہ ہے کہ انسانی ریڑھ کی ہڈی کے برعکس تاجر برادری کو بار بار ضربیں لگتی ہیں جو یہ خود تو سہہ جاتی ہے مگر ملک کو نقصان نہیں ہونے دیتی۔ ملک کو حاصل ہونے والے مجموعی حاصل کا 90 فیصد سے زائد تاجر برادری سے حاصل ہوتے ہیں، سیلاب ہو یا زلزلہ جب کبھی بھی ملک پر کوئی آفت نازل ہوتی ہے تو تاجر برادری ہی سب سے پہلے حرکت میں آتی اور متاثر بہن بھائیوں کے لیے اپنا تن من دھن وارد دیتی ہے۔ تاجر بھائی ملک کو کسی بھی ترقی یافتہ ملک کے ہم پلہ لانے کی بھرپور صلاحیت رکھتے ہیں لیکن مختلف مسائل کے عفریت نے انہیں کچھ یوں اپنی لپیٹ میں لے رکھا ہے کہ یہ چاہنے کے باوجود ملک کی خوشحالی کے لیے اپنی خواہشوں کو عملی جامہ پہنانے سے قاصر ہیں۔ لاہور میں زیادہ تر تاجر مارکیٹوں میں اپنا کاروبار کرتے ہیں اور جن مشکلات کے باوجود یہ کاروبار کر رہے ہیں، اس پر میں انہیں سلام پیش کرتا ہوں۔ ٹیکس وصول کرنے والے عملے کی جانب سے صوابدیدی اختیارات کے غلط استعمال، سمگل شدہ مال کی چیکنگ کے نام پر مارکیٹوں کے باہر ناکوں، ٹیکسوں کے پیچیدہ نظام، ٹیکسوں کی زیادہ شرح، کاروباری امور میں مختلف وفاقی و صوبائی محکموں کی مداخلت، بینکوں سے لین دین پر دہولڈنگ ٹیکس، بینک اکاؤنٹس تک رسائی، ٹریفک کے بدترین مسائل اور جرائم نے تاجروں کا کاروبار کرنا محال کر رکھا ہے جبکہ رہی سہی کسر مون سون کے موسم میں شدید بارشوں کے پانی سے پوری ہو جاتی ہے جو مارکیٹوں میں تاجروں کے گوداموں، دکانوں، دفاتر اور انڈسٹریل یونٹس میں داخل ہو کر تباہی کا باعث بنتا ہے۔ ان تمام مسائل کا حل بہت ضروری ہے کیونکہ یہ کوئی معمولی رکاوٹیں نہیں ہیں۔ پنجاب حکومت کو چاہیے کہ ڈیولپمنٹ فنڈز کا معقول حصہ مارکیٹوں کی صورت حال بہتر بنانے کے لیے استعمال کرے، وہاں انفراسٹرکچر، بجلی کا نظام اور نکاسی آب سمیت دیگر مسائل ترقی بنیادوں پر حل کیے جائیں۔ ٹیکس وصول کرنے والے عملے کے صوابدیدی اختیارات میں کمی لائی اور اسے پابند کیا جائے کہ وہ تاجروں کو بلاوجہ تختہ مشق نہ بنائے، سمگل شدہ مال چیک کرنے کے نام پر ناک لگا کر تاجروں کو ہراساں کرنے کے بجائے سرحدوں پر مانیٹرنگ سسٹم بہتر کیا جائے تاکہ سمگل شدہ مال ملک میں آ ہی نہ سکے۔ جہاں تک بینکوں سے لین دین پر دہولڈنگ ٹیکس اور ایف بی آر کی جانب سے برنس اکاؤنٹس تک رسائی کا تعلق ہے تو ان معاملات پر پارلیمنٹ میں تاجروں کے نمائندوں کی موجودگی میں بحث کی اور موزوں حل تلاش کیا جائے۔ ملک تب ہی ترقی کرے گا جب حکومت اور تاجروں کے درمیان ہم آہنگی ہوگی اور یہ اسی صورت میں ممکن ہے جب تاجروں پر مزید بوجھ لادنے کے بجائے ان کے مسائل حل اور ان کے تحفظات دور کیے جائیں۔ تاجر بھائیوں نے یقیناً پرنٹ اور الیکٹرانک میڈیا کے ذریعے ملاحظہ کیا ہوگا کہ لاہور چیمبر ان کو درپیش مسائل حل کرانے کے لیے کس طرح آواز بلند کر رہا ہے، انشاء اللہ لاہور چیمبر اپنا یہ بہترین کردار آئندہ بھی حل کرتا رہے گا۔ مزید یہ کہ تجارتی و معاشی سرگرمیوں کو فروغ دینے کے حوالے سے میں نے جو اقدامات اٹھائے ان کا ایک جائزہ اگلے شمارے میں پیش کروں گا۔

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