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H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan, Ms. Samina Alvi, First Lady, Mr. Kashif Anwar, President LCCI, Mr. Zafar Mehmood Ch, Senior Vice President and Ms. Fareeha Younas, EC Member in a group photo with the winners of 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony 2024 organized by The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

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Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony held



President Arif Alvi lauds LCCI for recognizing women

While taking another giant leap towards women empowerment, the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has recognized best performance of 26 Women Entrepreneurs.

President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi was the Chief Guest while LCCI President Kashif Anwar presented the address of welcome. Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Ch, Convener of Standing Committee Fareeha Younas, Executive Committee Members and a large number of representatives of business community were present on the occasion.

Dr. Arif Alvi, First Lady Samina Alvi along with LCCI President Kashif Anwar, gave the awards.

Annie Mansoor of Alle'nora Annie's Signature received Lifetime Achievement Trophy, Kashmiri Khan Women Entrepreneurs of the Year, Natasha Kamal of Natasha Kamal received Rising Star

Appreciation. CEO Expo Center Maryam Khawar, Deebea Shahnaz Akhter of Rescue 1122, Aisha Imran of Aisha Imran, Amna Wahaj of Creative Director Limelight, Uzma Ramzan of Journey to Joy, Dr. Amnah Raaj of Cosmetique Institute, Hamna Amir of Hamna Amir, Humaira Fazal of Takmeel Square, Bahjat Rai of Bahjat Rai Atelier, Farheen Ijaz of Bright Kids, Hifsa Khan of Hifsa Khan Salon & Studio, Mehrunisa Kabir of Art Lounge, Mehreen Waseem of Mehreen Mirza, Bakhtawar Shabbir of Fashion Products, Saera Fazal of Kollage Concepts, Hira Tahir of Six B Food Industry, Shaista Khawar of Shaista Khawar, Sundas Mustafa of Whimsical and Hamda Tariq of Wise Education Society received Outstanding Women Leadership Awards. LCCI Executive Committee Members Fareeha Younas and Shamim Akhtar received LCCI Appreciation Shields.

President of Pakistan Dr. Alvi appreciated LCCI efforts for the promotion and encouragement of women entrepreneurs and expressed hope that other would also organize such an event for women.

He said that according to the First Lady, LCCI has extended valuable support in breast cancer and other initiatives. He said that he has always emphasized that women should be brought into the trade industry and LCCI is leading in this regard. He said that Fatima Jinnah supported her brother's cause, while the role of women in the history of Islam is also has been important.

Dr. Arif Alvi said that harassment for working women must be ended. He said that only one day was reserved for breast cancer in a year but first it was expanded to a week and then to a month campaign. Till October last year over 140 million messages were sent regarding breast cancer.



The President said that we need to work for special people. 52% percent women are a part of the society, we cannot move forward without them. In the meeting with the State Bank, it was emphasized to provide more facilities to women, today 25% of the staff in most banks are women. Women who are working from home through Amazon and other sources should be supported. He said that 80 percent women enroll in medical colleges, become doctors, out of which fifty to sixty percent sit at home, they should work. Women and children are suffering the most in Gaza.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar thanked Dr. Arif Alvi for supporting LCCI endeavors aimed at economic stability of the country. He also appreciated special efforts of Dr. Arif Alvi and First Lady Samina Arif for the empowerment of women.

Kashif Anwar said that LCCI is convinced that the economic condition of the country cannot improve until half of our population i.e. women do not utilize

LCCI is convinced that the economic condition of the country cannot improve until women do not utilize their potential in the development of the country.

Kashif Anwar, President LCCI

their potential in the development of the country. This is possible only if they are empowered along with ensuring a

Lahore Chamber News

conductive environment.

He said that Pakistan has a specific culture in which our women face many challenges. Our working women have to look after their home, children and business at the same time, which is not easy at all.

"We believe that when she gets better recognition, she will be able to play each role with great responsibility", LCCI President added that Lahore Chamber being the Premier Chamber of Commerce of the country is active in empowering women in every field and building their capacity. LCCI has about 2000 women members and the number is increasing significantly every year. It is also commendable that our women executive committee members are particularly active for their guidance and support. Kashif Anwar said that LCCI has established Women Empowerment Lounge for women business community in Lahore Chamber, in which work is being done all the time to solve the business problems of women and guide them. Apart from this, we have also established



Women Entrepreneurs Display Corner in Lahore Chamber in which the products manufactured by women especially belonging to Cottage Industry and SME sector are displayed for the purpose of marketing.

He said that Lahore Chamber regularly organizes awareness seminars and sessions on important topics to train our women members and keep them up-to-date on various economic issues. LCCI also celebrates International Women's Day every year on a vast scale.

Kashif Anwar informed the participants that LCCI has signed MOUs with several government and non-government organizations, educational and medical institutions.

He said that this is the era of doing business online, so we also provide necessary awareness and training to our female members about successful E-Commerce

Dr. Arif Alvi appreciated LCCI efforts for the promotion and encouragement of women entrepreneurs and expressed hope that other would also organize such an event for women.

Platforms like Amazon and Alibaba. It is our endeavor that women get the best use of Latest Digital Technologies.

The LCCI President added that most of the non-traditional sectors of the economy belong to women. There is an urgent need of the hour to help improve the access of women to the international exhibitions who are producing products like Handicraft, Pottery, Embroidery, Traditional Jewelry, Handmade textile to exhibitions held at national and international level. He emphasized the Ministry of Commerce to provide Financial Subsidy to Women Entrepreneurs so that their dream of displaying their products in Trade Fairs can become a reality.

He said that everyone would have to play his role in the economic and social development of the country so that we all can save the country from the most difficult times.

Kashif Anwar added that a large number of women in our rural areas are associated with agriculture and livestock sectors. Apart from this, our women are actively playing their role alongside men in other sectors as well. It is necessary to increase the participation of women in the workforce of the country.

He said that many countries including Japan, China, South Korea, Vietnam, United Arab Emirates and Bangladesh, etc., have included women in economic activities, which has resulted in them growing faster than other countries. He said that Saudi Arabia has committed to increase the participation of women in education, health, financial support and training under Vision 2030. We also need to work on the same model.

He said that women entrepreneurs with best performance are also role models for our new generation and are also the guarantee of our bright future. He requested President of Pakistan that the government should give special tax relief to all women entrepreneurs and such single parent women who are running a beauty

Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan, Ms. Samina Alvi, First Lady, Mr. Kashif Anwar, President LCCI, Mr. Zafar Mehmood Ch, Senior Vice President in a group photo with LCCI EC Members at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony 2024 organized by The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Saera Afzal at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Maryam Khawar at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Deeba Shahnaz Akhter at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Sundas Mustafa at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Shaista Khawar at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Hira Tahir at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.

Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Bakhtawar Shabbir at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Mehreen Waseem at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Hifsa Khan at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Humera Afzal at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Hamna Amir at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Amnah Raaj & Ms. Hamnah Raaj at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.

Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Prof Hamda Tariq at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Aisha Imran at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Uzma Ramzan at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Bahjat Rai at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Shamim Akhtar at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Lifetime Achievement Trophy to Ms. Annie Mansoor at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.

Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony

ORGANIZED BY THE LAHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Farheen Ijaz at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Mehrunisa Kabir at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Fareeha Younas at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Outstanding Women Leadership Award to Ms. Amna Wahaj at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Women Entrepreneurs of the Year to Ms. Kashmali Khan at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.



H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan presenting the Rising Star Appreciation to Ms. Natasha Kamal at the 1st Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony.

Governor Punjab distributes First LCCI IT Freelancing Awards 2024



The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry has organized First LCCI IT Freelancing Awards 2024 which was a part of its untiring efforts for the promotion of IT Sector in the country.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Bligh-ur-Rehman was the chief guest while LCCI President Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry, Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt, Convenor Standing Committee for IT Abdul Wahab Ahmed and others participated in the event.

Speaking on this occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rahman said that it is a good to see that a good work has started, the journey of thousands of miles begins with a single step, this is another honor of Kashif Anwar. He said that IT is very important in today's world. It will increase jobs but will change their nature. Those who are doing better in IT are also showing the way to others. He said that there are many economic models in the world where facili-

ties have been given to business and private sector and it has been successful.

He said that IT has made communication easier and the whole

The 21st century belongs to technological advancement, particularly, digitalization has revolutionized almost every aspect of life, including the way we live, work and communicate.

**Kashif Anwar
President LCCI**

world is connected. Our character leads to our development. He said that Pakistan is advancing rapidly in the world of IT. India has made a lot of progress in IT sector. All de-

veloping countries have adopted policies, which should be analyzed through data.

He said that There is a lot of potential in IT sector. He said that the governor is also the chancellor of the universities. He has sent the directive of e-rozgar in universities, He said that there was a lot of criticism on the distribution of laptops. They were given to the students with a transparency, the fruits of which are in front of us today.

He said that people should be educated on merit. After getting the laptop, our ranking improved and freelancing increased. Umar Saif is bringing PayPal and other apps to the country for safe payment which is a great move. Freelancers are doing great work. The biggest potential is young people who are doing this work.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that the 21st century belongs to technological advancement. Particularly, digitalization has revolutionized almost every aspect of life, including the way we live, work



and communicates. He said that at all countries throughout the world are working to promote modern technology in accordance with the fourth industrial revolution to become an active part of the global digital economy worth more than 10 trillion dollars.

The LCCI President said that the Lahore Chamber has been engaged in promoting the IT industry for a long time and for this purpose LCCI organizes IT Awards on annual basis to acknowledge best performance of IT companies. IT Freelancers Awards have been organized to encourage IT freelancers in which those IT freelancers are being honored who are earning valuable foreign exchange for the country through IT services.

Kashif Anwar said that Pakistan's IT industry has is developing and today it has become an important contributor to the national economy. He said that according to the data of the Board of Investment, the share of IT in Pakistan's GDP is around one percent.

He said that according to an estimate, there are 20 IT companies in Pakistan and more than 5 lakh IT professionals are associated with this sector. Apart from this, there are more than 20 IT parks in our country. He said that Pakistan ranks 4th in terms of IT freelancing worldwide.

The LCCI President said that because of the government's efforts, PayPal payments will now start coming to our freelancers' accounts through third-party

\$2.5 billion per year for the country. Along with this, the government has launched Pakistan Startup Fund with 2 billion rupees, which will boost investment. About ten thousand e-employment centers are being established where one million IT freelancers will be able to work and with the help of their potential, an annual income of 10 billion dollars will be ensured. He said that IT freelancers earned 400 million dollars in the financial year 2023.



The way these young people are fulfilling the needs of international clients, the day is not far when Pakistan will get billions of dollars in foreign exchange because of them. He mentioned that India is earning more than \$300 billion from the exports of IT services.

He said that Lahore Chamber continues to guide its members about modern IT



wallets. Kashif Anwar said that the government has issued 50 percent dollar retention accounts for IT companies, after which it has become possible for them to keep 50 percent of their remittances in foreign currency. After this decision, a 13 percent increase in Pakistan's IT exports has been seen in just thirty days.

He added that the government has recently arranged IT training for 100,000 students, which will generate an additional

through awareness sessions and training. He said that instead of working on the traditional sectors of the economy, we need to promote and provide facilities to sectors with unlimited potential like IT. He congratulated the winners of Lahore Chamber IT Freelancing Awards.

Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhary said that Lahore Chamber has done a lot for exports and industry. Now it is playing its role for IT sector. Our neigh-



boring countries are earning a lot of foreign exchange from IT. In our country, round two lakh companies and freelancers are exporting but these numbers are low. Companies should bring their foreign exchange into the country. Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt said that the first IT Freelancing Award is a milestone. It is hoped that the award holders will continue to play their role. Convener Standing Committee Abdul Wahab said that the role of Lahore Chamber is very important for the promotion of IT. This is the first such event in

stan have been selected for these awards, all of them have earned 5 million dollars foreign exchange in the last year.

Later, Governor Punjab Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, along with LCCI President Kashif Anwar, distributed the awards and sponsor shields. Ali Raza Received award in AI Chatbot/APPs, Khalid Rasheed in Cartoon Character Artist, Usman Ali Awan in E-Book Publishing, Sadia Kouser in Digital Marketing, Hafiz Waqas Haider in Game Development, Sidra Sarfraz in Leads Generation, Fozia Atta ul

zation, Azka Mahmood in UI/UX Design+Graphic Design, Muhammad Umer Rafique in Social Media Strategist, Ahsan Iqbal in Video Animation, Faisal Mubasher in Video Content Creator, Shahrukh Ahmad in Virtual Reality Expert, Nouman Khizar in Content Writing, Muhammad Atif Hanif in Web Development, Umai Laila in Rising E-Commerce Entrepreneur, Humaira Zaidee in Visionary New Comer Emerging Talent, Hafiz Ahmad Ali received award in Amazon, Wall Mart and other Market Places.



the history of Pakistan which has been organized by Lahore Cham-

ber. SIFC is also important in this regard. People from all over Paki-



and Label Design, Nauman Ali Akhtar in Search Engine Optimi-

zation, Azka Mahmood in UI/UX Design+Graphic Design, Muhammad Umer Rafique in Social Media Strategist, Ahsan Iqbal in Video Animation, Faisal Mubasher in Video Content Creator, Shahrukh Ahmad in Virtual Reality Expert, Nouman Khizar in Content Writing, Muhammad Atif Hanif in Web Development, Umai Laila in Rising E-Commerce Entrepreneur, Humaira Zaidee in Visionary New Comer Emerging Talent, Hafiz Ahmad Ali received award in Amazon, Wall Mart and other Market Places.

The Governor presented special appreciation awards to LCCI President Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry, Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt and Convener LCCI Standing Committee on IT Infrastructure Development and Training Abdul Wahab Ahmad. Shehryar Amir Turab Ali of Stars Pvt Ltd, Wahab Younas of PNY Training, Muhammad Uzair Arshad of EMBLEM Technologies, Sarosh Naseem of NJ Dynamic Solutions received Platinum Sponsor, Muhammad Ammar Ghaffar of ABFA Technologies, Rukhshanda Jabeen of Co Build Pvt Ltd, Muddassar Naeem Ch of Peak Solutions, Farhat Munawar Bajwa of Bajwa Pharmaceuticals received Gold Sponsor. Faraz Haider of The Resource Management, Muhammad Azeem Akram of AlphaSquad Technologies, Muddassar Ismail of Sandy APPs and Mudassar Malik of Apps

First LCCI IT Freelancing Awards 2024

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Enforcement of environmental laws, strong policies imperative to improve AQI: Chinese Environmental Experts



A delegation of Chinese Environmental Experts, led by Chinese Consul General Zhao Shireen, visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and had a detailed discussion with the LCCI President Kashif Anwar on environmental issues.

Xu Haihong from Environment Engineering Assessment Center, China, Zaheer Abbas Malik, DG Environment Department, LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry and representatives of Chinese Academy of Environmental Sciences also spoke on the occasion.

Chinese Consul General Zhao Shireen said that the environmental expert's delegation was invited by the Chinese Consulate and Commerce Ministry of Pakistan to study air quality in Lahore & Punjab and collaborate in reducing the pollution in this region.

He lauded the LCCI for hosting the Chinese delegation which shows the enhanced cooperation with LCCI and Chinese Consulate which could be further strengthened.

Xu Haihong from Environment Engineering Assessment Center, China said that although China in the past decade has made significant improvement in environmental standards but air preventive control is still very important.

She said that we have implemented strict environment enforcement laws with strong policies towards industrial enterprises.

President LCCI acknowledges responsibility of industrial sector to contribute to a cleaner environment

She further informed that since 2015, China has eliminated all coal powered power plants and from 2011, developed policies for coal power plants. Due to these efforts, 95 percent of industrial sectors now have controlled emission centers.

Xu Haihong said that China has the world's largest control emission standards. She said that at this visit we hope to be able to carry out few plans to cater the problems of air quality in Lahore and Punjab to contribute to the friendship between the two countries and we will be working for improving the air quality in Lahore. Xu Haihong said that we visited two steel making factories in Lahore and saw scrubbers installed which is a very good beginning.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar appreciated the Chinese friends who have visited Lahore on the invitation of Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi in order to make a critical study of our environment and also share their knowledge and experience as they successfully combatted the issue of SMOG in China. The visit symbolizes the importance of international collaboration in finding sustainable solutions to shared environmental issues.

He said that we are really amazed to learn that China has invested several billion dollars into air pollution control over the past few years and resultantly succeeded in tackling smog, particularly in cities like Beijing. The steps taken by Chinese Government like the implementation of stringent emission standards, the promotion of cleaner



technologies, and the establishment of green zones in urban areas have significantly improved air quality. Kashif Anwar said that similarly, the focus on renewable energy sources and the adoption of electric vehicles have also played a pivotal role in reducing air pollution levels. It is worth mentioning that China has reduced air pollution nearly as much in seven years as the US did in three decades. These achievements are really remarkable and worth-following by other nations. "We understand the gravity of the

more responsibly. The media is playing its due role as well. There are ads in print and electronic media advising general public not to burn the waste. Our farmers are also not fully aware of the hazards of burning agri-leftovers. It is the result of efforts made by government and civil society that the air quality index of Lahore has shown some improvement. Zaheer Abbas Malik, DG Environment Department said that when we started working for AQI, we have encountered certain local constraints

have been successful to reduce air pollution by 14 to 15 percent this year. The delegates include representatives of Chinese academy of environmental sciences suggested to formulate mid to long terms plans to mitigate air quality issues.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that we are actively engaged in organizing awareness sessions. By promoting a sense of environmental responsibility among the business community, we hope to create a collective effort that will contribute to a substantial reduction in smog levels. We are equally grateful to the management of Environment Department as they always respond very positively to our recommendations and submissions while implementing various policies that are directly concerned with industry. He said that there are multiple factors that are causing smog in Lahore. Transport contributes nearly 83.5% in creating SMOG while other factors are related to industry, agriculture, waste burning and commercial activities whose share in this issue is in single digit.

Kashif Anwar said that the business community is well aware of its responsibility and we are taking all sorts of measures to control SMOG. The industry has installed scrubbers to minimize gas or smoke omission. Moreover, there are certain industrial operations that industry keep suspended from December to January for this purpose. "We have been asking the government to ensure that there should be soft loans facility for the industry which is willing to obtain such solu-



situation and acknowledge our responsibility to contribute to a cleaner environment. We have seen that due to lack of awareness among masses about maintaining pollution free environment and because of lack of required technology, the situation of SMOG has aggravated over the few years", he added. LCCI President praised the efforts of Government of Punjab which is educating the masses in many ways to act

in implementing ambitious environment policies. The environment department faces both the technical and resource issues even then cooperation extended by the industry in Lahore, Faisalabad and other cities is commendable. The DG said that cooperation between LCCI and EPA is a best example of co-operation between private and public sectors. Due to continuous support and patronization of private sector, we

LCCI Chief emphasises on implementation of human rights, women empowerment

Special Assistant to PM Mushaal Mullick sheds light on 100-day plan

Implementation of human rights can guarantee peace and stability around the globe. World leaders should take notice of blatant violation of human rights and genocide in Palestine and Occupied Kashmir.



These views were expressed by Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Mullick while speaking at a meeting at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry, Advisor to Special Assistant to Prime Minister for Youth Empowerment, Art and Culture Prof Zafar Iqbal Sindhu and Focal Person Ms Sabine Hussein Mullick Focal Person also spoke on the occasion.

Mushaal Mullick shed light on the said plan initiated by the Ministry of Human Rights while LCCI President Kashif Anwar expressed views ranging from LCCI efforts for women empowerment to the need of human rights to ensure peace and stability, not in the region but in the world.

PM's Special Assistant while discussing the 100-day plan, said that it is a comprehensive human rights charter. She highlighted the plan's particular emphasis on eradicating gender-based violence and empowering women in society through various steps including capacity building, gender equality, women

participation in economic activities, training programs, scholarships etc. LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that human rights are key instrument for justice, freedom and peace. He said that Lahore Chamber of Commerce and

Industry strongly condemns genocide in occupied Kashmir and Palestine. While talking about women empowerment, LCCI President said that the

Human rights are key instrument for justice, freedom and peace

**Kashif Anwar,
President LCCI**

country cannot move ahead without due participation of women entrepreneurs in economic activities. He said that Pakistan has a specific

culture in which our women face many challenges. Our working women have to look after their home, children and business at the same time, which is not easy at all.

Kashif Anwar said that when women get better recognition, they will be able to play each role with great responsibility. He said that Lahore Chamber is active for empowering women in every field and building their capacity. LCCI has more than 2000 women members and the number is increasing significantly every year. It is also commendable that our women executive committee members are particularly active for their guidance and support.

The LCCI President informed the participation that Lahore Chamber has recently organized a Women Entrepreneurs Recognition Ceremony at Aiwan e Sadar to acknowledge their best performance.

Kashif Anwar said that LCCI has established Women Empowerment Lounge for women business community in Lahore Chamber while a Women Entrepreneurs Display Corner in Lahore Chamber is also established where products manufactured by women especially belonging to Cottage Industry and SME sector are displayed for the purpose of marketing.

He said that Lahore Chamber regularly organizes awareness seminars and sessions on important topics to train our women members and keep them up-to-date on various economic issues. LCCI also celebrates International Women's Day every year on a vast scale. Kashif Anwar informed the participants that LCCI has signed MOUs with several government and non-government organizations, educational and medical institutions. He said that LCCI has also organized awareness session on mental health and different types of cancer.



LCCI President meets AIG Highway Petrol

discusses goods, cargo issues

President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashif Anwar, in a high profile meeting with Additional IG Punjab Highway Petrol Rao Abdul Karim, has raised various issues being faced by the business community and called for measures to ensure smooth running of businesses.

While bringing the concerns of traders into the knowledge of Additional IG Punjab Highway Petrol, LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that vehicles, containers and trucks loaded with goods are being stopped by the authorities which wastes the time and also increases the spoilage risk of perishable items. Measures may be taken in this regard.

He said that axle load management is a good and important initiative but reducing the limit from 90 ton to 60 ton at once is not feasible for the traders. He said that it should be reduced gradually and as the prices of energy and petroleum products would come down, the axle load management would also improve.

The LCCI President said that the weighing stations are 30 to 40 kilometers away from the highways. These

**Weighing
stations must
be established
near highways.**

**Kashif Anwar
President LCCI**

may be established near highways. He said that the unloading stations

should also be built on the highways to ensure nearby facility for the un-loaders. While calling for further improvement in traffic management, Kashif Anwar said that one-way violations on the highways are deadly. He said that awareness sessions should be conducted for the business community in Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Additional IG Punjab Highway Petrol Rao Abdul Karim said that Punjab High Patrol was established in 2004. At that time its role was only to ensure security on the highways. Over the time, PHP responsibilities have been expanded. Our system has been automated which has developed our data and has yielded excellent results during the last one year.

He said that PHP has nabbed around 8,000 criminals and recovered thousands of stolen vehicles. He said that the accidents have been dropped by 23% over the past year due to better patrolling. Hopefully it will improve further.

“Delegation of Trade and Investment Officers from TDAP visits LCCI”

A 40-member important delegation of Trade and Investment Officers from Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry. LCCI President Kashif Anwar welcomed the delegation and shed light on the issues ranging from Pakistan's external trade, taxation system, economic scenario and private sector's role in policy making. Director General Trade Development

prices are jacking up the cost of production. He said that number of duties and taxes on energy sector should be brought down. LCCI President also called to resolve the issues like non opening of LCs. He added that the role of trade and investment officers is very important to promote exports of the country. He said that market diversification is a key to achieve the desired goals. We have to focus on Africa and Central

itiveness. “Ongoing economic scenario calls for further strengthening of public-private sector relations. The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry aims to promote trade & investment in the country through enacting upon the policies of the government and securing a business friendly environment in the country”, LCCI President added. Director General Trade Development Authority of Pakistan Shahzad Rana said that the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry is our partner and it helps us in formulating strategies. He said that when we formulate



Authority of Pakistan Shahzad Rana was leading the delegation while LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry also spoke on the occasion. President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashif Anwar said that high cost of doing business is one of the major hurdles coming in the ways of exports promotion. He said that Pakistani products have finest quality but are struggling in the international market due to high production cost. He said that energy is a major raw material of the industry but its high

Asia to find new destinations for Pakistani goods. He emphasized that Pakistani missions posted abroad should share business opportunities related all queries with the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry so that these can be disseminated among the LCCI members. Kashif Anwar urged the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan to ensure participation of businessmen in TDAP delegations. He said that it is important to reduce the cost of doing business to enhance exports compet-

Market diversification a key to achieve desired goals, says

**Kashif Anwar
President LCCI**

any strategy, LCCI always supports us in implementation and getting good results.

The DG said that the stations of the trade officers were relocated in order to avail potential of trade opportunities.

He said that the trade officers will be posted in different countries of European Union, Africa, GCC, USA, Central Asia and their prime focus will be a dual task including increasing trade to boosting exports and they will also work for imports substitution. Secondly, they will be doing rigorous work to bring investment in the different sectors of economy of Pakistan. He said that in today's digitalized world, we are always reachable and easy to access any time.

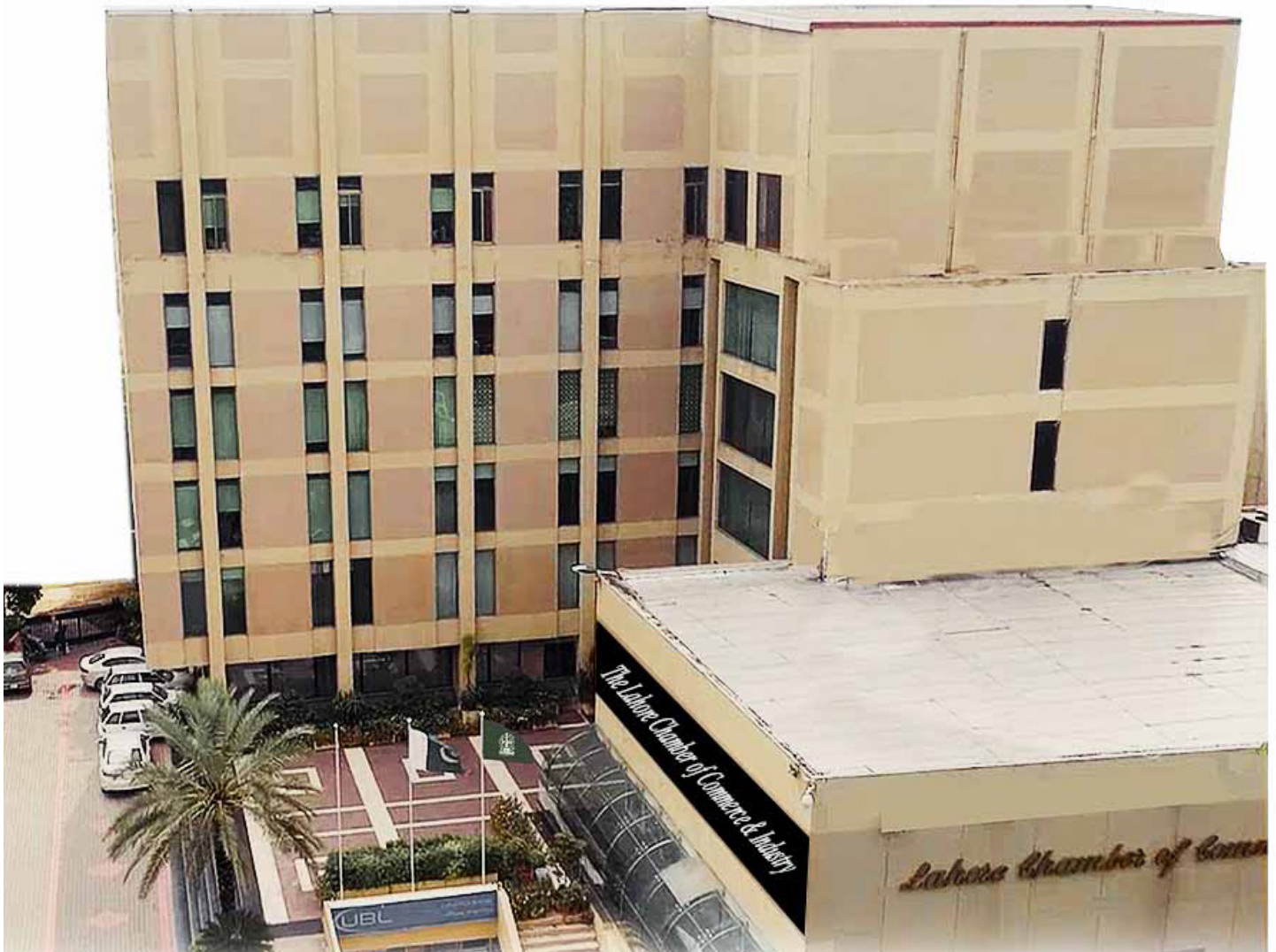
LCCI Membership

renewal for 2024-25 starts

Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry has started renewal of memberships for the year 2024-25 and bills have been issued to more than 37 thousand members. For the renewal of membership, proof of income tax return filing for the financial year 2022-23 will be mandatory. Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Kashif Anwar has appealed to the LCCI members to get their memberships renewed for the year 2024-

other problems.

He said that it is very important for the members to get their renewals done as the LCCI certificate is a very important document along with other commercial documents to carry on business activities. The LCCI President further emphasized that the members should get their memberships renewed well before the last date which is March 31, 2024 to save their precious time and efforts.



Seminar on **Myths & Realities of Alternative Treatment at LCCI**



The best active lifestyle, food supplements and natural medicines can be helpful in preventing many problems, so people should get rid of all myths in this regard to ensure a healthy life. These views are expressed by the experts from different sectors while speaking at a seminar on Myths and Realities of Alternative Treatment at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar presided over the seminar while Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhary, Executive Committee Member Shamim Akhtar, experts Tahir Mehmood Khan, Najam Jawa, Irfan Shahid, Dr. Tanveer Khan, Dr. Bushra and others spoke on the occasion.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that natural treatment is not only getting popularity in Pakistan, but the use of natural foods and herbal medicines is also increasing all over the world. He said that in Pakistan,

a large number of people also use natural medicines to cure various diseases.

He said that the World Health Organization has also recognized

Natural treatment, use of natural foods and herbal medicines is increasing all over the world.

**Kashif Anwar
President LCCI**

natural medicine and natural treatment as an alternative method. Apart from this, a parallel industry

may also develop. LCCI EC member Shamim Akhtar said that there are many myths in the minds of people regarding food supplements and natural medicines which are not correct. She said that it is important to stay near to nature to stay healthy. She said that many problems can be avoided by adopting natural food, natural sleep and active lifestyle. All the experts said that herbal, homeopathic medicines and food supplements are made from natural ingredients and not only provide benefits but also have no side effects. They said that these goods are within the reach of people due to their low cost. They said that Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has also regulated these medicines and food supplements due to which all safety parameters are being followed. They said that at present the use of natural sources in food is very less while the use of processed food is more. This trend has to be changed.

LCCI chief praises latest technology in Ghurki Hospital, inks MOU



The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ghurki Trust Teaching Hospital have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to ensure state-of-the-art health facilities for the masses. President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashif Anwar and Chairman of Ghurki Trust Hospital Prof. Dr. Amer Aziz inked the Memorandum of Understanding. Chief Operating Officer Naeem Ghurki, Member Board of Trustee Asif Iqbal, Medical Director Dr. Khurram Ijaz, Deputy Medical Director Dr. Adil, Marketing Consultant Atif Khan and LCCI Executive Committee Member Fareeha Younas were also present on the occasion. According to the MOU, Ghurki Trust Hospital would facilitate LCCI staff, members and their families with 25% discount on Executive Room charges for private patients and 30% discount on General Patient for medical treatment cases. For dependent patients, only LCCI

valid membership/employment card would be required for treatment. Hospital will only see the card and give discount to LCCI members/employee's family.

**Ghurki Trust
Hospital will provide
25% discount on
executive room charges
for private patients and
30% discount on
general patient for
medical treatment cases**

Both the organizations would collaborate to raise awareness about

the cutting-edge cyberknife technology which is used to treat cancerous and non-cancerous tumors. President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kashif Anwar said that the business community is fulfilling its social responsibilities and utilizing its all resources for the help of ailing humanity. He said that the LCCI would extend maximum cooperation to the Ghurki Trust Teaching Hospital in its endeavor for provision of health facilities to the ailing humanity. Kashif Anwar said that LCCI is willing to make joint efforts with an objective to help boost the standard of services being offered by the Ghurki Trust Hospital to the patients. Prof. Dr. Amer Aziz gave a detailed briefing to the President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry about the services and performance of the hospital. Later, LCCI President Kashif Anwar took a round of the various depart-

LCCI wants for restoration of PM Relief Package, end to over billing

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry while expressing grave concern over withdrawal of Prime Minister Relief Package for the industrial consumers, has urged the government to restore the facility in the larger interest of the economy.

"It is not good news for the business

age for the industry.

They also demanded of the LESCO authorities to take notice of the continuous over billing. They said that the LCCI has received a number of complaints about over-billing and the business community is quite disturbed.

They said that the Lahore Chamber

over billing and high prices of electricity are bound to increase the incidence of electricity pilferage that already is eating up billion rupees and causing irreparable damage to the economy.

They said that how the industry would remain competitive at such a high price of electricity which is one of the basic



community as it would jack up the cost of doing business manifold", said LCCI President Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry and Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt in a statement on Friday.

They said that the industry needs low cost energy as it is one of the primary raw materials of the industrial sector and its prices are already increased manifold. They said that PM Relief Package was a great favor to the industrial sector and its withdrawal will add to the miseries of the business community.

The LCCI office-bearers appealed to the government to continue PM Relief Pack-

of Commerce & Industry has already invited the attention of the authorities towards the inefficiencies in the power sector.

They said that besides controlling line losses and electricity theft, the government would also have to chalk out a plan to convert oil based power generators to alternative fuels.

They said that Pakistan has become the only non-oil producing country in the world where bulk of the electricity is being produced through oil run power plant that has kept the energy rates volatile to the extent.

The LCCI office-bearers opined that

LCCI has already invited the attention of the authorities towards the inefficiencies in the power sector.

industrial raw materials.

With unjustified huge over billing, our electricity tariff is already out of reach, leaving Pakistan totally uncompetitive and unviable in the international market place.

They said that the country has already lost a number of international markets to China, Bangladesh and India due to high cost of doing business and the decision to withdraw PM Relief Package would make the Pakistani goods more uncompetitive.

Office-bearers of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry also emphasized the government to lower the

Pakistan abundant with business opportunities for Rwanda: LCCI Chief Kashif Anwar

Rwanda needs all Pakistani products, says Pakistani HC to Rwanda



A high-level business delegation from Rwanda visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry to have B2B meetings with their Pakistani counterparts besides exchanging views on the trade and investment scope in the two countries.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar warmly welcomed the delegation and presented the address of welcome while head of the delegation and High Commissioner of Pakistan to Rwanda Naeem Khan, LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry and Commercial Attaché of Rwanda Mr. Samuel Abikunda also spoke on the occasion.

High Commissioner of Pakistan to Rwanda Naeem Khan said that Africa is the land of opportunities so that don't ignore it. He said that Rwanda is Singapore of Africa and developing with a rapid pace.

He said that Rwanda is a safe, clean and green country where business atmosphere is ideal. He said that the businessmen are being facilitated through one window operation.

LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that Rwanda, situated in the heart of East Africa, holds signif-

icant economic importance in the region. Rwanda has made remarkable strides in recent years, establishing itself as an emerging economic force.

In order to further facilitate the partnership, developing close liaisons between private sectors of Pakistan and Rwanda is imperative
Kashif Anwar
President LCCI

He said that Pakistan has a sound and diverse economy, driven by various sectors that have shown remarkable growth over the years. Kashif Anwar encouraged the delegation from Rwanda to explore the vast opportunities that exist within the Pakistani market. Our businesses are capable of provid-

ing high-quality products at competitive prices. Pakistan is ready to cater to import needs of Rwanda and we believe that our collaboration will be mutually beneficial.

The HC said that Pakistani businessmen can also have access to other countries through Rwanda. He said that Pakistan and Rwanda have the capacity to meet each other's needs. Most of the trade is going on through third countries which should be direct. He said that all the products of Pakistan are needed in Rwanda. He said that the members of the delegation are interested in joint ventures in agriculture machinery, rice, pharmaceuticals, sports equipment and other sectors. He said that there is a lot of scope for Pakistan's IT sector in Rwanda.

He informed the members of the delegation that Lahore Chamber is 100 years old. Lahore is the cultural, commercial and industrial capital of Punjab while Punjab is 50 percent of Pakistan. Pakistan has a key position in the fields of freelancing and tourism.

He said that Rwanda has one of the best gender equality index.

Men and women parity is everywhere. Naeem Khan said that the economy of Pakistan needs diversification. He said that we would like to sign MOUs with LCCI. The LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that to further facilitate this partnership, we have to focus on the importance of developing close liaisons between the private sectors of Pakistan and Rwanda. Strong relationship built on trust & understanding is the foundation of successful business collaborations. LCCI is committed to promoting these connections and creating an environment that encourages fruitful partnerships.

He apprised the participants of meeting that the delegates from Rwanda belong to important

solid regulatory framework and a commitment to quality, our pharmaceutical companies have the capacity to supply high-quality medications to Rwanda at competitive prices.

He said that the dynamic automotive sector in Pakistan produces a wide range of quality components. Collaboration with Rwandan importers in this sector can lead to the provision of reliable automotive parts, contributing to the growth of Rwanda's automotive industry. By supplying tractors and related parts, Pakistan can play an important role in the agri-mechanization of Rwanda.

Kashif Anwar said that renowned for craftsmanship and durability, Pakistan's furniture industry offers a diverse range of products. Col-

of supplying a range of construction materials, from high-quality cement to innovative building solutions. This sector presents opportunities for collaboration to support Rwanda's infrastructure development", he added.

He said that Pakistan has a growing safety equipment industry, ensuring the highest standards of protection across various domains. Our range of products, from personal protective equipment to industrial safety solutions, holds the potential to meet Rwanda's safety requirements effectively.

LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry said that Rwanda is Switzerland of Africa as it is a beautiful country. He said that Pakistan is a largest



sectors like pharmaceuticals, surgical instruments, safety equipment, furniture, construction materials, engineering, packaging, auto-parts, gem & jewelry etc. He hoped that our members will fully utilize the B2B meetings after this session and explore ways to develop networking with their counterparts from Rwanda. The LCCI President said that Pakistan's pharmaceutical industry has witnessed remarkable growth in recent years. With a

laborative ventures in this sector could contribute to fulfilling Rwanda's demand for quality furniture and mattresses.

He said that Pakistan's gems and jewelry sector is renowned for its exquisite craftsmanship. Our gemstones and jewelry pieces have the potential to add a touch of elegance to the Rwandan market, creating avenues for trade and cultural exchange.

"With a flourishing construction industry, Pakistan has the potential

market. There is a dire need to enhance existing trade volume between the two countries. Pakistani products are best and able to cater to the needs of Rwanda.

The Commercial Attaché thanked the Lahore Chamber for the warm welcome. He said that the delegation includes businessmen from pharma, construction, agriculture and other sectors.

He said that we would like to strengthen partnership and want



مضبوط معیشت استحکام کی ضمانت

پاکستان جہاں بہترین جغرافیائی مقام پر واقع اور بے مثال وسائل کا مالک ہے وہاں اس کی بدقسمتی یہ ہے کہ یہ تین اطراف سے انتہائی منافق قسم کے ہمسایوں سے گھرا ہوا ہے۔ بھارت تو پاکستان کا ازلی دشمن ہے ہی لیکن ایران اور افغانستان بھی پاکستان کے خلاف زہرا لگتے رہتے ہیں جو بہت افسوسناک ہے۔ افغانستان اور ایران دونوں ہی پاکستان میں دہشت گردی کرنے والے دہشت گردوں کی محفوظ گناہ گاہ بن گئے ہیں۔ ان منافقین کی وجہ سے بہت پہلے ہی یہ بات پتھر پر لکیر ہو چکی تھی کہ پاکستان کی بقاء کے لیے ایک مضبوط فوج ناگزیر ہے اور پاک فوج نے یہ ثابت بھی کیا ہے۔ بھارت اور اب ایران کی جارحیت کا منہ توڑ جواب دیکر پاک فوج نے یہ ثابت کر دیا ہے کہ پاکستان کو عسکر بطور پر کوئی فتح نہیں کر سکتا۔ ملک دشمنوں کو یہ ادراک بہت پہلے ہی ہو چکا تھا چنانچہ انہوں نے پاکستان کے خلاف ہائبرڈ وار چھیڑ رکھی ہے جس کے اہم ہتھیار پاکستان کو معاشی طور پر غیر مستحکم کرنا، اندرونی طور پر انتشار پیدا کرنا، نفرتوں کو فروغ دینا اور غداروں کے ذریعے وسائل استعمال نہ ہونے دینا ہیں جس کی منہ بولتی مثال کالا باغ ڈیم ہے جو پاکستان میں ہی رہنے والے پاکستان کے مخالفوں کی وجہ سے آج تک نہیں بن پایا۔ پاکستان پر بیرونی قرضوں کا بوجھ 200 ارب ڈالر کے قریب پہنچ چکا ہے جبکہ آئی ایم ایف قرضوں کے عوض ہر دوسرے روز تاجروں اور عوام پر بجلیاں گرا رہا ہے۔ پاکستان کو عسکری طور پر تو کوئی فتح نہیں کر سکے گا مگر حقائق بیان کرتے ہیں کہ دشمن ہائبرڈ وار بخوبی جیت رہے ہیں۔ ایک مضبوط فوج اور ایک مستحکم وطن کے لیے معیشت مضبوط ہونا بہت ضروری ہے لہذا اہتمام سیاسی و عسکری اقدارین کو اس کی طرف توجہ بھر پور توجہ دینا ہوگی۔ چیف آف آرمی سٹاف جنرل عامر منیر نے باگ ڈور سنبھالنے کے چند یوم بعد ہی نامور تاجروں سے ملاقاتیں کر کے ملک کی معاشی حالت درست کرنے سے متعلق اپنے عزم بخوبی واضح کر دیئے تھے مگر معیشت تاحال سیاستدانوں کے فعال، با معنی اور شہت کردار کی متقاضی ہے۔ ایک محتاط اندازہ ہے کہ پوری دنیا میں انٹرنیشنل ریزیروں کی تعداد چار سو بلین یعنی چالیس کروڑ ہے جو دنیا کی کل آبادی کا تقریباً پانچ فیصد بنتی ہے۔ جہاں تک تعلق پاکستان کا ہے تو یہاں تین بلین یعنی تیس لاکھ کے قریب این اے این ہولڈر ہیں مگر انٹرنیشنل ریزیروں کی تعداد صرف ساٹھ ہزار کے آس پاس ہوگی۔ یہ وہ لوگ ہیں جو انکم ٹیکس اور سیلز ٹیکس دونوں میں رجسٹرڈ ہیں۔ اگر ان کی فیصدی شرح نکالنے بیٹھیں تو یہ شرح نامک طور پر 0.01 فیصد بنتی ہے۔ چوبیس کروڑ آبادی والے ملک میں یہ شرح بہت ہی تشویشناک ہے۔ اس ناکامی کا تجزیہ انتہائی سنجیدگی سے کرنے کی ضرورت ہے کہ تمام وسائل ہونے کے باوجود آخر ہمارا ملک انٹرنیشنل ریزیروں پیدا کرنے میں کیوں ناکام ہے۔

امید ہے کہ نئی حکومت ملک کی معاشی بہتری کو اپنی ترجیح بنائے گی۔ تمام سیاسی جماعتوں کو چاہیے کہ ابھی سے معیشت کو اپنی ترجیح بنائیں اور مسائل اور ان کے پائیدار حل کے لیے حکمت عملی طے کریں۔ وزیر اعظم کو چاہیے کہ سیاستدانوں، پاک فوج، بیوروکریٹس، تاجروں اور میڈیا کے نمائندوں پر مشتمل ایک اعلیٰ سطحی کمیشن تشکیل دیں جو معاشی نامہوار یوں اور انٹرنیشنل ریزیروں کی اتنی قلیل تعداد کی وجوہات تلاش کرے۔ ملک کا نظام تاجروں سے حاصل ہونے والے ٹیکسوں سے چلتا ہے لیکن عالم یہ ہے کہ حکومت اور میڈیا صبح شام تاجروں کو ٹیکس چور، منافع خور، ذخیرہ اندوز اور اب مافیا کے القابات سے نوازتا رہتا ہے۔ کنزیومرز کو پروڈیوسرز سے تنفر کیا جا رہا ہے جبکہ سرکاری ملازمت تاجروں کو اپنا شکار سمجھتے ہیں۔ مارک اپ کی شرح اس قدر زیادہ ہے کہ کاروباری افراد صرف بینکوں کے لیے کام کرتے دکھائی دیتے ہیں۔ وہ تیس چالیس سال تک بینکوں کو اصل رقم کے ہمراہ مارک اپ ادا کرتے رہتے ہیں چاہے کاروبار چلے یا بند ہو جائے۔ بینک اربوں روپے منافع کما رہے ہوتے ہیں۔ اس دوران اس کاروبار کے دو یا تین سال حالات ناساز ہو جائیں تو بینک کھلایا ہو مارک اپ بھول جاتے ہیں اور سخت سے سخت اقدامات شروع کر دیتے ہیں حالانکہ اگر تھوڑا سپورٹ کیا جائے تو کاروبار اپنے پیروں پر کھڑا ہو سکتا ہے۔ بینکوں کی بے رحمی کی وجہ سے کاروبار بند ہو جاتا ہے۔ سارا سرمایہ ڈوب جاتا ہے اور لوگ بے روزگار ہو جاتے ہیں۔ بینک ان کی جائیدادیں کوڑیوں کے بھا؟ نبیلام کر دیتے ہیں۔ یہ سراسر ظلم ہے۔ حکومت کو اس پر بھی کمیشن بنانا چاہیے اور یہ جائزہ لینا چاہیے کہ آج تک کتنے بینک نقصان کی وجہ سے بند ہو اور کتنے کاروبار بینکوں کی وجہ سے بند ہو گئے۔ اس ملک میں تمام قوانین بینکوں کے تحفظ کے لیے بنائے گئے ہیں۔ انڈسٹری یا کاروبار کے تحفظ کے لیے کوئی قانون نہیں ہے۔ جب کوئی کاروبار اصل قرض کی رقم کے برابر اور قرض کی اقساط ادا کر چکا ہو تو پھر اس کے خلاف سخت اقدامات نہ اٹھائے جائیں بلکہ اس وقت تک ان کی مدد کی جائے جب تک کاروبار اپنے پیروں پر کھڑا نہ ہو جائے تاکہ لوگوں کے روزگار کو تحفظ ملے اور وہ ساتھ ساتھ بینکوں کا قرض ادا کرے اور حکومت کو روٹی بھی دے۔ ایک کاروبار ہزاروں افراد کو ملازمت اور حکومت کو روٹی دیتا ہے۔ حکومت روٹی کا جو نازگٹ مقرر کرتی ہے ہر سال اس سے زیادہ حاصل ہوتا ہے جس میں سے اسی فیصد کاروبار اور بیس فیصد تنخواہ دار ادا کرتے ہیں لہذا ان کا خیال رکھا جائے۔ رہی بات ان چھوٹے کاروباروں کی جو ٹیکس نیٹ میں نہیں ہیں تو اس کی وجہ حکومتی اہلکار ہیں جو جانتے بوجھتے بھی انہیں ٹیکس نیٹ میں نہیں لاتے۔ ان کا محاسبہ ہونا چاہیے۔

جب تک اس ملک میں کاروباری افراد کو عزت و احترام نہیں دیا جائے گا اس کی معیشت ٹھیک نہیں ہو سکتی۔ کاروباری برادری کی عزت کا مطلب ہے بے روزگاری کا خاتمہ، یونیورسٹیوں میں اضافہ، مضبوط معیشت، مضبوط دفاع، مضبوط دفاع مضبوط معیشت، دونوں مضبوط ملک مضبوط لہذا اس کے لیے سب کو اپنا پنا کر دار ادا کرنا چاہیے۔

عبدالباسط

سابق صدر لاهور چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری



کاروباری شعبہ سے وابستہ خواتین کی حوصلہ افزائی اور آئی ٹی کے فروغ کی ضرورت

پاکستان کی آبادی کا نصف سے زائد حصہ خواتین پر مشتمل ہے جس کے پیش نظر انہیں معاشی دھارے کا حصہ بنائے بغیر آگے بڑھنا ناممکن ہے۔ لاہور چیمبر اس حوالے سے اپنا بہترین کردار ادا اور بے انتہائی کوششیں کر رہا ہے۔ اسی سلسلے میں ہم نے کاروباری شعبہ سے وابستہ خواتین کی بہترین خدمات کا اعتراف کرنے کے لیے ایوان صدر میں ایک شاندار تقریب منعقد کی جس کے مہمان خصوصی صدر مملکت ڈاکٹر عارف علوی تھے۔ صدر مملکت نے کاروباری شعبے سے وابستہ خواتین کی ترقی اور حوصلہ افزائی کے لیے لاہور چیمبر کی کوششوں کو سراہا۔ اس میں ہرگز کوئی دورانے نہیں کہ ملک کی معاشی حالت اس وقت تک

بہتر نہیں ہو سکتی جب تک ہماری نصف آبادی پر مشتمل خواتین ملک کی ترقی میں اپنی صلاحیتوں کو بروئے کار نہیں لائیں گی۔ یہ تب ہی ممکن ہے جب انہیں با اختیار بنانے کے ساتھ ساتھ سازگار ماحول کو یقینی بنایا جائے۔ خواتین کو بہت سے چیلنجز درپیش ہیں لیکن جب ان کی خدمات کا اعتراف کیا جائے گا تو ان کا حوصلہ بڑھے گا۔ لاہور چیمبر ملک کا پریمیر چیمبر آف کامرس ہونے کے ناطے خواتین کو ہر شعبے میں با اختیار بنانے اور ان کی ترقی کے لیے سرگرم ہے۔ یہاں تقریباً 2000 خواتین ممبران ہیں اور ان کی تعداد میں ہر سال نمایاں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے۔ یہ بات بھی قابل ستائش ہے کہ ہماری خواتین ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی ممبران خاص طور پر ان کی رہنمائی اور تعاون کے لیے سرگرم ہیں۔ لاہور چیمبر نے خواتین تاجر برادری کے لیے ویمن اینڈ ایمپاورمنٹ لاؤنج قائم کیا ہے جس میں خواتین کے کاروباری مسائل کے حل اور ان کی رہنمائی کے لیے ہمہ وقت کام کیا جا رہا ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ ہم نے لاہور چیمبر میں ویمن انٹرنیشنل ڈسپلے کارنر بھی قائم کیا ہے جس میں خاص طور پر کٹنگ انڈسٹری اور ایس ایم ای سیکٹر سے تعلق رکھنے والی خواتین کی تیار کردہ مصنوعات کو مارکیٹنگ کے مقصد کے لیے ڈسپلے کیا جاتا ہے۔ معیشت کے زیادہ تر غیر روایتی شعبے خواتین سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں۔ وقت کی اشد ضرورت ہے کہ بین الاقوامی نمائشوں تک خواتین کی رسائی کو بہتر بنانے میں مدد فراہم کی جائے جو ملکی اور بین الاقوامی سطح پر منعقد ہونے والی نمائشوں میں دستکاری، مٹی کے برتن، ایمر ایڈری، روایتی زیورات، ہاتھ سے تیار ٹیکسٹائل جیسی مصنوعات تیار کر رہی ہیں۔ وزارت تجارت خواتین صنعت کاروں کو مالیاتی سبسڈی فراہم کرے تاکہ تجارتی میلوں میں اپنی مصنوعات کی نمائش کا ان کا خواب حقیقت بن سکے۔ اب کچھ بات آئی ٹی سیکٹر کی۔ گذشتہ دنوں لاہور چیمبر نے آئی ٹی فری لانسنگ ایوارڈز 2024 کی تقریب منعقد کی جس میں گورنر پنجاب محمد بلخ الرحمن نے بطور مہمان خصوصی شرکت کی۔ یہ تقریب لاہور چیمبر کی ان کوششوں کا ایک حصہ تھی جو وہ آئی ٹی سیکٹر کے فروغ کے لیے کر رہا ہے۔ اکیسویں صدی ٹیکنالوجی کی ایڈوانسمنٹ کی ہے۔ خاص طور پر ڈیجیٹلائزیشن نے ہمارے رہنے، کام کرنے اور بات چیت کرنے کے انداز سمیت زندگی کے تقریباً ہر پہلو میں انقلاب برپا کر دیا ہے۔ اس وقت دنیا کے تمام بڑے اور چھوٹے ممالک چوتھے صنعتی انقلاب کے مطابق جدید ٹیکنالوجی کو فروغ دینے پر کام کر رہے ہیں۔ لاہور چیمبر ایک عرصہ سے آئی ٹی انڈسٹری کو فروغ دینے میں مصروف عمل ہے اور اس غرض سے ہر سال لاہور چیمبر آئی ٹی ایوارڈز کے ذریعے اعلیٰ کارکردگی دکھانے والی آئی ٹی کمپنیوں کو ایوارڈز سے نوازا جاتا ہے۔ آئی ٹی انڈسٹری نے گذشتہ کچھ عرصہ میں واضح ترقی کی ہے جس کا عکس معیشت کے ہر شعبہ میں نظر آ رہا ہے۔ ہمیں معیشت کے روایتی شعبوں پر کام کرنے کے بجائے آئی ٹی جیسے بے انتہا پونشل کے حامل شعبوں کو فروغ اور سہولیات دینے کی ضرورت ہے۔

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- BS Chemistry - BS Microbiology - BS Mathematics

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

- BS Education - BS International Relations*
- BS Sociology - BS Special Needs Education
- BS Sociology - Post ADP/BSc/BA - BS Political Science
- BS Gender Studies - Post ADP/BSc/BA
- BS Special Needs Education - Post ADP/BSc/BA

INSTITUTE OF LIBERAL ARTS

- BS English (Language and Linguistics)
- BS English (Literature)* - BS Liberal Arts
- BS English (Literature) - Post ADP
- BS English (Language and Linguistics) - Post ADP

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Associate Degree Programs

- Accounting and Finance* - Business Administration and Commerce*
- Artificial Intelligence - Digital Marketing - Computer Science*
- Graphic Design - Fashion Design - Psychology
- Media and Communication Studies
- Information Technology Management*

MS / MPhil admissions are also open

*Programs are also offered at UMT Sialkot Campus

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24 بید کا جدید ڈائلاسنسٹر کی تکمیل (جہاں مستحق مریضوں کا مفت علاج کیا جاتا ہے)

منصورہ ہسپتال کو جدید تقاضوں پر گامزن کرنے کیلئے تقریباً 10 کروڑ روپے کی لاگت سے جدید آلات کی تنصیب کی گئی

گزشتہ سال 2023 میں تقریباً 5 لاکھ سے زائد مریضوں پر 60 کروڑ روپے سے زائد اخراجات ہوئے

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نوٹ:

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