

LAHORE CHAMBER NEWS

An Official Publication of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry



President of Pakistan H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Punjab Higher Education Minister Raja Yasir Humayn, LCCI Executive Committee Members **Sitting** (From L to R) Haji Muhammad Asif Sahar, Sajjad Afzal Sheikh, Malik Muhammad Khalid, Wasif Yousaf, Fiaz Haider, Uzma Shahid. **Standing** (From L to R) Shahid Nazir, Saleem Asghar Bhatti, Naeem Hanif, Yasir Khursheed, Mardan Ali Zaidi, Malik Riaz Iqbal, Zeeshan Sohail Malik, Muhammad Ali Afzal, Muhammad Imran Bashir and Muhammad Nadeem Qureshi, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on IT infrastructure and Development Haroon Arora in a group Photo after the 1st IT Awards ceremony organized by the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



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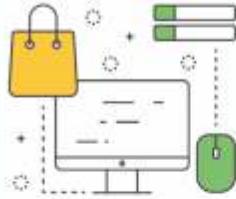


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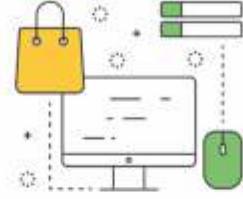
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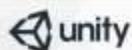
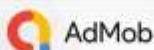
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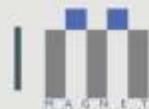
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OVERVIEW OF PAKISTAN'S I.T INDUSTRY

PAKISTAN IT INDUSTRY

Pakistan's IT sector is the fastest growing sector of Pakistan, with the potential to become the largest export industry of the country. It is holding a distinguished rank for having the preferred source software developers, programmers, designers and BPO specialists. Over the last 5 years, IT export remittances have increased by 137% at CAGR of 18.85%. Pakistan IT industry is among the top 5 net exporters of the country with the highest net exports in the services industries.

DIGITAL GROWTH IN PAKISTAN

Digital growth in Pakistan is going through a rapid evolution. IT/ITeS Sector is one of the fastest growing sectors of Pakistan contributing about 1% of GDP of Pakistan at about 3.5 billion USD. It doubled in the past four years and experts expect it to grow a further 100% in the next two to four years to \$7 billion. IT exports were recorded to be the highest in the history at \$1.067 billion in the fiscal year 2017-18 compared to \$939 million registered in the previous fiscal. Pakistan's software exports are currently worth \$700 million, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). However, the country's freelancers also earn another \$1.2 billion in exports, an amount not recorded by the central bank as they are not registered.

Moreover, another \$600 million in exports are from those companies that do not bring their revenues to Pakistan. In accordance with Pakistan Vision 2025 and the Digital policy of Pakistan 2018, the ICT industry size is targeted to reach \$20 billion by 2025.

Pakistan, which has about 60% of its 209 million population in the 15 to 29 age group, represents an enormous human and knowledge capital. Pakistan has more than 2000 IT companies & call centers and the number is growing every year. Pakistan has more than 300,000 English-speaking IT professionals with expertise in current and emerging IT products and technologies, 13 Software technology parks, More than 20,000 IT graduates and engineers are being produced each year coupled with a rising startup culture.

According to A.T. Kearney's Global Services Location Index 2019 Pakistan is ranked 5th most financially attractive location in the world for offshore services.

Pakistan has been ranked at number four for freelance development in the world. The exports for IT exports have increased 70% during the last three year.

In accordance with Pakistan Vision 2025 and the Digital policy of Pakistan 2018, the ICT industry size is targeted to reach \$20 billion by 2025.

Companies like careem, daraz, zameen.com, rozee.pk and their success is bringing investment into Pakistan as the recent acquisition of daraz and easypaisa by AliBaba. Traditional investors from other Pakistani sectors like textile, fertilizers are also taking special interest in the startup ecosystem.



HIGHLIGHTS

- » Pakistan has a thriving community of freelancers. Its digital gig economy growth is the fastest in Asia and fourth fastest in the world, according to digital payments platform Payoneer.
- » Pakistan's IT exports have increased 70% during the last three years
- » zero income tax on IT & ITeS exports
- » zero Income tax for PSEB registered IT start-ups
- » 100% foreign ownership of IT & ITeS companies
- » 100% repatriation of profits to foreign IT & ITeS investors
- » tax holiday for venture capital funds till 2024.

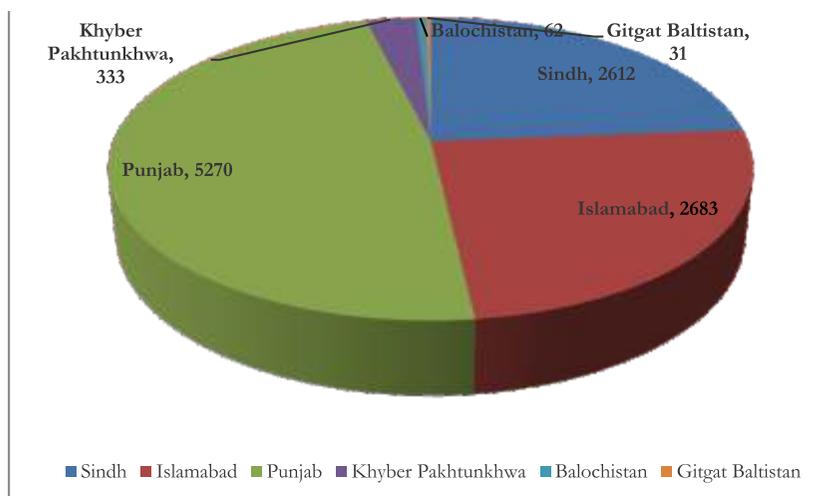
REASONS TO INVEST IN IT SECTOR OF PAKISTAN

- » Pakistan is the fifth most financially attractive country in the world. (A.T.Kearney's Global Services Location Index 2019)
- » Pakistan has been ranked as the 4th most popular country for freelancing.
- » An agreement has been signed between ministry of technology and Korea for PKR 10bn in order to establish a technology park in Islamabad.
- » Development of tech SEZ's has been seen as a key enabler in all countries where growth has taken place.
- » Tech Special Zones have been included in the PM's Package so this will help companies bringing business and investment to Pakistan
- » Pakistan's IT sector doubled in the past four years to \$3.5b and experts expect it to grow a further 100% in the next two to four years
- » Pakistan's IT market is full of qualified people who are able to service the needs of the market at relatively low costs.
- » There is a rapid increase in internet penetration with the introduction of 3G/4G services.
- » In Pakistan, the trend of establishing incubation centers and accelerator is on rise, since every year 10,000 IT graduates are produced.
- » The mobile-wallet (m-wallet) channel processed 21.8 million transactions valuing at \$3.07 billion during FY18.

COMPANIES REGISTRATION ACCORDING TO SECP

In year 2020 IT company registrations in Pakistan witness the largest number with 2826 companies compared to 581 companies registered in the year 2016

IT Companies by Province



LCCI 2021 1st IT Awards

13 Companies receive LCCI 1st IT Awards

As many as 13 top companies have received 1st IT Awards of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

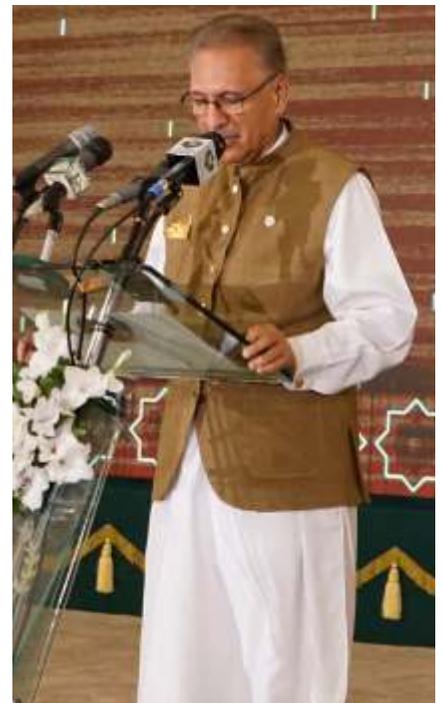
President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi was the Chief Guest. LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on IT Infrastructure Development Muhammad Haroon Arora and Punjab Minister for Higher Education & Information Technology Raja Humayun Yasir were the key speakers while LCCI Executive Committee Members, former office-bearers including Mian Misbah-ur-Rehman and Farooq Iftikhar attended the ceremony.

great potential and the present government is focusing on its development.

Underscoring the need for the training of IT graduates and youth to boost their skills to meet the country's IT requirements, Dr. Arif Alvi said that IT sector of the country has the potential to boost IT exports upto \$5 billion by 2023.

Dr. Arif Alvi said that information technology and digital communication have always been vital but importance of these has been multiplied during the COVID-19 era. He said that information technology is the prime area for focus for the government. He said that investment in IT sector is being encouraged.

taken us out of trap of negative growth rates and enabled us to grow by almost 4% in 2020-21. He hoped Pakistan will be able to achieve the growth rate of 6-7% in next 2-3 years as envisaged in the Federal Budget.



IT sector of the country has the potential to boost IT exports upto \$5 billion by 2023.

Dr. Arif Alvi - President of Pakistan

Speaking on the occasion, President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi said that promotion of information technology and digital communication lead economic development of the country. IT sector of the country has a

Dr. Arif Alvi also appreciated the LCCI for taking initiative of I.T. Awards.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that the prudent economic policies of the Government have

He said it is a proven fact that all those countries who gave key importance to IT sector have experienced growth in their economies and businesses, leading to more jobs, higher levels of



The LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that IT exports of our neighbouring country have surpassed 130 billion dollars whereas all the emerging economies are especially utilizing information technology services to enhance their exports. We have no choice but to follow the similar path to exploit the enormous potential of IT exports. President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi and LCCI President congratulated the winners of LCCI IT Awards who have excelled in the provision of outstanding services to both the domestic and international clients and also won laurels for the country in these challenging economic times. Convener Standing Committee Muhammad Haroon Arora highlighted aims and objectives of the LCCI 1st IT Awards. He said that the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry is making all out efforts to promote Information Technology.

Later, President Dr. Arif Alvi distributed awards amongst the winners. Asif Akram of Systems Ltd, Muhammad Usman Ahmad of Bilytica Pvt Ltd, Fatima Asad Khan of Abacus Consulting Technology Pvt Ltd, Adnan Hayat Zaidi of Multinet Pakistan Pvt

All those countries who gave key importance to IT sector have experienced growth in their economies and businesses..

Mian Tariq Misbah
President LCCI

Ltd, Muhammad Zeshan Altaf of Mentor Graphics Pakistan Pvt Ltd received President IT Awards, Raheel Iqbal of The Games Storm Studios Pvt Ltd, Syed Nadeem Alam of Cyber Advances Solutions, Waqas Ahmed Khan Pitafi of DevBatch Pvt Ltd, Jazib Zaman of TechAbout Pvt Ltd received Best Software House Awards, Abdul Aziz of Lumensoft Technologies, Shahzad Ahmed of OZI Technology, Noman Ahmed Said, Hamza Nadeem Qureshi received Best IT Services Award while Provincial Minister for Higher Education and Information Technology Yasir Humayun, LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, SVP Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry and Convener Standing Committee on IT Infrastructure and Development Muhammad Haroon Arora received special awards.

opportunities emerging from digitization, such as supply chain efficiency, enhanced production quality and lower transaction costs etc.

This facilitates the creation of adequate value added goods and services in the economy.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that both Government and Private Sectors need to join hands to stimulate the growth in this sector. It is encouraging that in this federal budget, Government has incentivized the IT industry by giving tax exemptions to the IT Companies for the sake of motivating them to become active part of Special Technology Zones.

He added that exports hold great importance for Pakistan's economy as they are the main source of revenue generation and maintaining balance of payments stability etc. It must be a matter of concern for all of us that Pakistan's IT exports have not even crossed 1.5 billion dollars so far.

















COO Systems Limited Mr. Asif Akram receiving President IT Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO Bilytica (Pvt) Ltd. Mr. Muhammad Usman Ahmad receiving President IT Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO Abacus Consulting technology (Pvt) Ltd Ms. Fatima Asad Khan receiving President IT Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



COO Multinet Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Adnan Hayat Zaidi receiving President IT Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO Mentor Graphics Pakistan Development (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Altaf receiving President IT Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO The Games Storm Studios (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Raheel Iqbal receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



GM Cyber Advance Solutions Syed Nadeem Alam receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO DevBatch (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Waqas Ahmed Khan Pitafi receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO TechAbout (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Jazib Zaman receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO Lumensoft Technologies Ltd Mr. Abdul Aziz receiving Best IT Services Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO OZI Technology Mr. Shahzad Ahmed receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



CEO SI Global Solutions (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Nomad Ahmed Said receiving Best IT Services Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



COO SiliconSt. (Pvt) Ltd Mr. Hamza Nadeem Qureshi receiving Best Software House Award from President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at President House, Islamabad. President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry are also present.



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi giving Special Award to President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah in recognition of his services for the business community and LCCI.



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi giving Special Award to Vice President LCCI Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry in recognition of his services for the business community and LCCI.



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi giving Special Award to Convener LCCI Standing Committee on IT Infrastructure and Development Mr. Haroon Arora.



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi giving Special Award to Minister Higher Education Punjab Raja Yasir Humayun.

First-ever “FRIENDS OF LCCI AWARDS” to civil servants & journalists

Governor Punjab Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar has distributed first-ever “Friends of LCCI Awards” among the Civil Servants and journalists at Governor House.

The idea behind first-ever “Friends of LCCI” Awards is to recognize the outstanding services and worthy achievements of the personalities from public, private and media sectors who have made notable impact in national interest and contributed significantly to the country's social and economic development.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry and Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Achievement Awards Muhammad Haroon Arora also spoke on the occasion.

The Governor Punjab said that the government will continue its mission of development and prosperity of the

Commerce & Industry saying that its services are being recognized at global level.

He said that representatives from public, private and media sectors have always extended their best cooperation to the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry which has enabled it to serve the business community in a better way.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that public-private partnership provides benefit to both the government and the private sector. He said that private sector is the main source of revenue and supports the government to run financial affairs of the state. He said that the government also avails benefits from the technologies and innovations of the private sector and provide better services through improved operational efficiency. He said that the public sector, for its part, facilitates the private sector to grow their businesses.



country and to support the business community. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, the country's economy is on the path of steady growth.

He said that the business community has appreciated the Budget. We are trying our best to remove the obstacles to ensure smooth running of businesses. He said that special attention is being given to the agriculture sector and new cotton seed is being introduced as per acre cotton yield has creased during the yster years.

He added that shortage of clean water has become a biggest challenge and to tackle this issue, all segments of society would have to play their role. He said that clean water will be available for 7.6 million by the end of this year. He said that international donors are also ready to support in this regard.

The Governor appreciated role of the Lahore Chamber of

**“ Lahore Chamber of
Commerce & Industry will
continue to play its role
for economic stability
of the country ”**

LCCI Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan and Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry will continue to play its role for economic stability of the country. He said that economic targets can be met only through strong public-private partnership.



Later, Governor Punjab Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar gave awards to the Secretary Local Government of Punjab Noor-ul-Amin Mengal, Secretary Industries Punjab Dr. Wasif Khurshid, DC Lahore Mudassar Riaz Malik, SSP Admin Waqar Shohaib Qureshi received award on behalf of CCPO Lahor Ghulam Mahmood Dogar, Ex-CTO Lahore Capt ® Syed Hammad Abid, CEO Punjab Board of Investment and Trade Dr. Erfa Iqbal, Chief Commissioner Regional Tax Office Lahore Ahmad Shuja Khan, Collector Customs Mughalpura Dry Port, Lahore Mohsin Rafique, Chief Manager State Bank of Pakistan Javaid Iqbal Marth, SP Headquarter, Security Division Lahore Khalid Mehmood Afzal, DSP Race Course Police Station Lahore Muhammad Naveed, Chief Security Officer to CM Muhammad Furqan Bilal, SP Investigation Captain ® Ali Bin Tariq, Assistant Commissioner Multan Saddar Adnan Badar, Assistant Commissioner City Faizan Ahmed Riaz, Assistant Commissioner Lahore Zeeshan Ranjha, President Lahore Press Club Arshad Ansari, President Lahore Economic Journalists Association Amir Naveed

Chaudhry, Ex-Commerce Reporter Business Recorder Muhammad Riaz, Commerce Reporter Geo TV Jawad Malik, Commerce Reporter ARY Mazhar Iqbal, Commerce Reporter Nawai Waqt Ahsan Siddique, Commerce Reporter 92 News Mian Shahid Nadeem, Commerce Reporter City 42 Shahzad Khan Abdali, Commerce Reporter PTV Sadiq Baloch, Commerce Reporter Daily the Business Jahangir Hayat, Commerce Reporter Ausaf Sheikh Rasheed, Commerce Reporter Bol TV Sudhir Chaudhry, Commerce Reporter Nai Baat Ashraf Mehtab while special awards to the LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Convener Standing Committee on LCCI Achievement Awards Muhammad Haroon Arora and LCCI Secretary General Shahid Khalil. Former LCCI Presidents Mian Misbah-ur-Rehman, Muhammad Ali Mian, Shahid Hassan Sheikh, Farooq Iftikhar, Abdul Basit, Tahir Javed Malik, Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, former office-bearers and Executive Committee Members were also present.



Pakistani businessmen invited to visit Uzbekistan

Deputy Governor of Namangn Region, Uzbekistan & Head of Uzbek delegation Inamov Okibjon Odiljonovich has invited Pakistani businessmen to visit Uzbekistan and avail benefit from the opportunities through joint ventures with their Uzbek counterparts.

He was speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah presented the address of welcome while Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry also spoke on the occasion.

The Deputy Governor said that Uzbekistan is keen to enhance trade relations with Pakistan as both countries have great potential to cooperate with each other in many from Uzbekistan increased from 3.3 million dollars to 9.1 areas of economy. He identified pharmaceutical, tourism, agriculture, food processing, automobile, construction,

million dollars whereas Pakistan exports to Uzbekistan went up from 17.4 million dollars to 25.2 million dollars. There is a great potential for both countries to enhance trade and economic relations.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that absence of banking Channel, difficulties in land route and communication are some of the major bottlenecks behind low trade

volume. Lahore Chamber has also participated in sessions arranged in connection with Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Uzbekistan. Hopefully, this PTA will open new avenues of economic cooperation between two countries.

“We are hoping that Trans-Afghan Railway Line Project agreed among Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan will play key role in linking up the Central Asian chemicals, oil & gas, mining and electrical & electronics as other potential areas of mutual cooperation between both countries. He invited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry to form a sector-specific

delegation for Uzbekistan.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that the Government of Uzbekistan deserves appreciation for sending this high profile delegation to Pakistan in continuation of a virtual summit held between the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan and the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in April this year. During this summit, multiple MoUs were signed and both countries agreed to reinforce ties in a number of sectors.

He shared the bilateral trade figures that are on rise. He said that during the last three years, Pakistan’s imports transport network with Pakistan’s seaports of Gwadar, Karachi, and Qasim”, the LCCI President added.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that the delegation will be arranged after keeping in view COVID situation. “We



have already visited Uzbekistan which was successful and are keen to visit that region again”, he added.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that the LCCI has always emphasized on the exchange of trade delegations. The formal introduction of delegates after formal speeches will allow us to know the specific business areas of the honorable delegates. Let’s make best use of each other’s potential areas and create win-win situation for both the countries. Former LCCI Vice President Zeshan Khalil, EC Members Naem Hanif, Haji Muhammad Asif Sehar, Mardan Ali Zaidi, Zeshan Sohail Malik and Sheikh Sajjad Afzal were also present.

Norway Envoy

sees great bilateral trade scope

Norwegian Ambassador Kjell Gunnar Eriksen has said that Norway and Pakistan have a great potential to boost mutual trade. Various Norwegian companies are operating here including Telenor and more ready to invest.

While talking to the LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the Ambassador said that Norway is one of the largest foreign investors in Pakistan.

He said that that Pakistan needs to take measures for ease of doing business for the foreign investors. He said that all procedures should be simplified which would attract more companies of Norway to start their businesses in Pakistan. The Ambassador said that Norway is establishing a solar power plant of 150 MW in Sindh.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that Norway is second home to many Pakistanis and both the countries have excellent relations ranging from diplomatic, cultural and economic relations. “We wish to further strengthen the economic and trade relations with Norway”, he added.

He said that the volume of bilateral trade has not even touched 100 million dollars as it stood at around 83 million dollars in 2020. Exports from Pakistan to Norway are around 57 million dollars while our imports from Norway are around 26 million dollars. It is worth mentioning that Pakistan’s exports to Norway are heavily concentrated in Textiles.

The LCCI Vice President said that although Pakistan enjoy a positive trade balance with Norway but the volume can be increased by many times and in this connection the support and guidance of the Embassy of Norway holds great importance.

He said that Norway holds a special place in the world’s economy due to its Energy sector. He said that there are tremendous opportunities for Norwegian companies to enter into joint ventures with Pakistani companies, particularly in Oil, Gas, Renewable Energy and Maritime sectors.

Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that the other potential areas where Pakistan and Norway can enhance trade and economic cooperation are Mobile Phone Manufacturing, Electric Vehicle Manufacturing, Automotive Parts, Pharmaceuticals, Processed Food, and Surgical Instruments etc.

There are tremendous opportunities for Norwegian companies to enter into joint ventures with Pakistani companies

Tahir Mazoor Chaudhry - Vice President LCCI

He said that Special Economic Zones are being established all across the country under China Pakistan Economic Corridor with all the essential infrastructure facilities. The government is also giving lucrative tax incentives to both the local and foreign investors in these SEZs. We would request you to play a role in apprising the Norwegian companies about these latest developments. He said that there is a vast scope for joint ventures between the two countries in the fields of biotech and cosmetics. Former LCCI Senior Vice President Amjad Ali Jawa, Muhammad Khalid, Dr. Riaz Ahmad, Haji Asif Sehar, Wasif Yousaf and Naeem Hanif also spoke on the occasion.





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CTO visits LCCI, *discusses traffic related issues*

Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Lahore Muntazer Mahdi revisited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry to discuss traffic related issues and permanent licensing test centre at LCCI.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Nasir Hameed Khan and Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry gave various suggestions to the CTO for smooth flow of traffic, especially at the surrounding areas of busy markets where traffic mess is hampering business activities. The meeting was also attended by the Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Traffic Police Liaison Khamis Saeed Butt and Executive Committee Member Haji Muhammad Asif Sehar.

Muntazer Mahdi said that to keep the traffic moving is the prime task of Traffic Police and staff is putting in its best efforts for this. He said that violence of traffic rules is not being tolerated and the department is also creating awareness amongst the masses.

The CTO said that licensing structure is being changed while the department is creating awareness about traffic rules and regulation amongst the youth. He said that Pakistan is one of those countries where accidents ratio is very high.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry will continue to provide

the trade and industry. He said that smooth flow of traffic not only cuts cost of doing business but ensures on-time delivery of goods at their destination.

He said that keeping the flow of traffic is a Herculean task but the traffic police are managing it in such a nice manner that every segment of society is appreciating them. He said that the liaison between police and the business community was a must and the LCCI was always giving a special focus to enhance the liaison with police.

“ **Liaison between police and business community is a must, LCCI always gives special focus to enhance the liaison with police.** ”

LCCI said that the traffic police role is very vital in the sense that a disciplined traffic flow gives a picture of whole society on the one hand while on the other hand it plays its role in economic turnaround by cutting transportation time of goods carriers.



Pharmaceutical sector

needs support to increase export, says Mian Tariq Misbah

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has been striving to create a conducive environment for the uplift of the Pharmaceutical sector.

These were the views of CEO DRAP Asim Rauf during a meeting with LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah.

Asim Rauf said that to enable Pakistan's pharmaceutical industry compatible with the rest of the world, the DRAP is working for the ease of doing business and in order to achieve the goals set by the Prime Minister Imran Khan, we have introduced maximum automation system in the DRAP to ensure transparency and merit in all respects.

He further said that during the pandemic, the DRAP has increased its testing capacity substantially and has contributed in every aspect from making the vaccines available and creating awareness among the people to get vaccinated to curb the rising positive ratio.

President LCCI Mian Tariq Misbah said that DRAP introduced a new format for drug registration (CTD). The pharmaceutical industry has unanimously opposed the implementation of CTD because of its extremely lengthy procedure and suggested that an easy way should be introduced for the registration of drugs.

He said the yearly revision letters of Consumer Price Index (CPI) are pending for many companies these should be issued without any further delay.

The President further said that it was observed that the minutes of registration board meetings were not published timely which should be published on the website within two weeks after the meeting. HOTC (Health and OTC) minutes

are also not posted on DRAP website, he said, adding that these should also be published on time.

Mian Tariq Misbah said there is a long queue of pendency in HOTC, it should be expedited with immediate effect. He said DRAP fee for any document is very high which should be reduced, furthermore, he demanded one window service at DRAP for the raw material (API).

Asim Rauf, while reacting to the concerns of the stakeholders said, DRAP is ready to review implementation of CTD but this decision was taken by the cabinet and they have the authority to undo such decisions. He also said that we are reviewing the Fee structure in our next board meeting.

Yearly revision letters of Consumer Price Index (CPI) are pending for many companies these should be issued without any further delay.
Mian Tariq Misbah
President LCCI

LCCI office-bearers said that in new Export Processing Zones (EPZs) the government should allow industry with a 50 percent export target which will be increased by time.

Senior Vice President Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Senior Vice President FPCCI Kh.

Shahzaib Akram, Vice Chairman PPMA Centre Khalid Misbah, Chairman PPMA North Khalid Munir, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Pharmaceutical Sector Dr. Faisal Khokhar, LCCI Executive Committee Member Dr. Riaz Ahmed and Hamid Raza were present in the meeting.



Women join heads to promote tourism

Seminar on “Tourism as an Industry for Women Entrepreneurs” at LCCI

Tourism industry in Pakistan can ensure a sustainable economy as it generates revenue for the government and employment for the people. Women entrepreneurs should come forward and show their God gifted abilities in the tourism sector while the government should encourage and extend greatest support.

It was an upshot of the speeches delivered at a seminar on “Tourism as an Industry for Women Entrepreneurs” at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. Wife of Governor Punjab Begum Parveen Sarwar was the Chief Guest while LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Secretary Women Development Department Ambreen Raza, Secretary Punjab Tourism Department Capt ® Mushtaq, Managing Director Punjab Tourism Development Corporation Muhammad Tanveer Jabbar, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Business Women Think Tank Talat Hafeez, Ch. Anees Iqbal, Ms. Zeeshan Zia were the key speakers of the seminar.

Begum Parveen Sarwar said that all segments of society should support our women so that they could get a better standard. Women should be encouraged to take part in trade and economic

activities. She said that women are an integral part of society and no society can develop without active participation of women. She said that women had been facing numerous hurdles while working in different fields.

She said that their contribution to the trade and economic activities will help establish a healthy society on strong footing and get the country a good place in the comity of nations. She said in developed countries, women not only secure their own rights but also play their role in strengthening and taking forward the social and cultural norms. She added that care of places for tourists is the responsibility of everyone.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that after 18th amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan, tourism has become a provincial subject. Now we have got to explore more business opportunities in the tourism sector to embark upon and especially our women entrepreneurs will have to come forward in this sector to prove their mettle.

He said it is encouraging to see that the Prime Minister has declared tourism as one of his top priorities owing to its enormous potential for generating new employment opportunities and earning

foreign exchange.

It will not be wrong to say that so far we have only explored the potential of tourism in Pakistan equal to the tip of the iceberg. It is an undeniable fact that Pakistan offers a wide spectrum of tourism ranging from religious places for Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and Buddhists etc. to ancient civilizations of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa etc.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that our culture is so rich and has so many diversities which can be witnessed in various cities of Punjab. “We have to join hands with each other and both public and private sectors must come up with unique ideas to project the tourism potential of Pakistan in general and Punjab in particular”, he added.

“Both public and private sectors must come up with unique ideas to project the tourism potential of Pakistan”

Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry
Vice President LCCI

He said that Pakistan ranks low in the World Travel & Tourism Index, especially in areas like enabling environment, safety and security, environmental sustainability and tourism infrastructure etc. When women entrepreneurs will take interest in this sector then there will be more chances of improvements in these areas.



Travel Agents seeks LCCI help

The travel agents have sought help of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry to get their issues resolved at the earliest.

A delegation of Travel Agents Association of Pakistan had a meeting with the LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry to discuss the problems of travel agents. The delegation was headed by the Central Chairman of the Association Muhammad Tariq Siraj while other members were include Vice Chairman Nadeem Iqbal, Executive Committee Members Yousaf Jameel Rizvi and Secretary Muhammad Amir Butt.

LCCI Vice President Tahri Manzoor Chaudhry said that the issues of Travel Agents should be resolved on priority as COVID-19 coupled with other problems have caused huge damage to this sector.

He said that the Lahore Chamber is raising the issues of trade and industry at all forums. He said that the role of Travel Agents Association of Pakistan is important and their issues must be resolved.

The delegation head Muhammad Tariq Siraj that COVID-

19 has given a big blow to the Travel Agents. They should be given tax reliefs to get back on their feet. He said that the Lahore Chamber is playing a good role to get the issues of business community resolved.

He said that annual recharge from the tourism industry should be abolished. He said that the travel agents should also be exempted from professional tax.



LCCI & Hounslow Chamber ink MOU

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Hounslow Chamber of Commerce & Industry, UK have inked a Memorandum of Understanding to increase cooperation towards improving trade and economic activities between Pakistan and United Kingdom.

President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Mian Tariq Misbah and Chairman Hounslow Chamber of Commerce & Industry Christopher Durkin signed the MOU. Ms. Tehmina Saeed Chaudhry, Executive Committee Member LCCI and Convener Standing Committee on "Environment", Managing Director, Hounslow CCI Alan Rides, Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in UK Dr. Faisal Aziz Ahmad, Deputy High Commissioner and Trade Officer for Pakistan, British High Commission in Karachi Mike Nithavrianakis also attended the signing ceremony.

The MoU aims at increasing trade and investment opportunities for the members of both LCCI and Hounslow CCI. Both signatories will establish effective consultation, cooperation and exchange of information between them and further agree to hold meetings on regular intervals to identify the focus areas of cooperation.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that such interactions provide linkages for economic and social cooperation. LCCI hopes that this MOU would go a long way in strengthening working relations with the business community of United Kingdom through your good offices. He said that since both LCCI and Hounslow Chamber of Commerce are the premier business support organizations of their countries, therefore, sound relations between us can greatly contribute in exploiting the trade & investment potential between Pakistan and United Kingdom.



Seminar on “Minimum Residue Levels (MRL) in Rice Crop” at LCCI

HIGH LEVEL OF RESIDUE A BIGGEST THREAT FOR RICE EXPORTS



The experts have feared that Pakistan may face ban on exports of rice to the European Union due to excessive use of pesticides.

At a seminar on “Minimum Residue Levels (MRL) in Rice Crop” at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the experts said that the European Union has already issued an alert for Pakistan while 161 consignments of rice have been rejected by the European Union and USA due to high ratio of residue in rice crop. They said that the growers do post-harvest sprays of pesticides that is the main reason of high ratio of residue level in rice crop. Only registered pesticides should be used for rice crop.

Provincial Minister for Agriculture Syed Hussain Jahaniya Gardezi was the Chief Guest while LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah presided-over the seminar. Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Rice & Former LCCI President Shahzad Ali Malik, Pir Nazim Hussain Shah, Dr. Tauqir, Dr. Mubarak Ahmed, former LCCI Senior Vice President Ali Hussam Asghar, Senior Vice Chairman Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan Faisal Jahangir, President Kissan Ittehand Khalid Khokhar and Chairman Pakistan Crop Protection Association Saad Akbar spoke on the occasion.

The Minister said that Basmati Rice is our pride and its quality is best in the world. He said that developed world has set strict standards for food safety. In 2017, Indian rice exports were banned due to non-compliance with the standards and the benefit was shifted to Pakistan.

The Minister said that the government is well aware with the issue of excessive use of pesticides. In 2018, a committee was constituted which formed parameters in this regard. He said that there is a dire need to educate the farmers.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that traditionally, rice has been number one food crop of Pakistan in terms of

earning foreign exchange for the country. He said that the importance of Rice in our exports can be judged from the fact that in 2019-20, the exports of Rice stood at 2.27 Billion Dollars (around 10% of our total exports in that year). Even in the first eleven months of 2020-21, the exports of rice have surpassed 2 Billion Dollars.

He said that the purpose of arranging this seminar is to sensitize all the stakeholders who are directly or indirectly involved in the production and exports of rice about Minimum Residue Level (MRL).

Mian Tariq Misbah underlined the need of focusing on the requirements of developed economies and the potential loss of export orders in case of non-compliance as these economies do not compromise on food safety measures at all.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that agriculture sector is backbone of the economy of Pakistan. He said that agriculture and economy are vital for each other. Development of agriculture sector will bring economic stability.

Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Rice and former LCCI President Shahzad Ali Malik said that we need to be proactive as Western and European countries have further tightened the food safety measures. Pakistan must further reduce Minimum Residue Levels (MRL) in rice crop otherwise we cannot maintain the exports of rice over 2 billion dollars.

The use of fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and herbicides etc. has been on rise for the last couple of decades. In our market, there are national and multinational companies which are selling these chemicals. Since our farmers or growers are sensitive to price so they hardly bother to know about the hazards of using cheaper and inferior chemicals on their crops.

LAHORE **TO BE** CLEANED

in next 3-4 months: Chairman LWMC

Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) is planning to pickup 1500 tonnes of garbage a day through public-private partnership. The Company is still in touch with older contractors and is trying to settle the matters.

These views were expressed by the Chairman Lahore Waste Management Company Malik Amjad Ali Awan while speaking at a meeting at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah and Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry also spoke on the occasion.

Chairman LWMC said that the institution is facing some administrative issues that would be tackled soon. He said that process of accountability is being improved in LWMC to make the things transparent. He said that LWMC is facing the shortage of 6000 containers and 950 vehicles. He said that the LWMC was playing a supervisory role but now it has been converted into an operational company. He informed that 3,000 workers have been recruited for cleaning. He said that the vigilance squads would be created to monitor the system. He said that a proper strategy is being evolved for the disposal of the garbage of housing societies. It is also important to remove garbage from Lakho Dair and Mahmood Booti. He said that about 45% of garbage is being recycled in the world but in Pakistan, this ratio is hardly 3 to 4%. He said that 4 new landfill sites have been identified for garbage as capacity of current sites is saturated. He said that the issue of illegal dumping sites is being tackled.

Speaking on the occasion, LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that the previous government had Joint Venture with Turkish companies M/s Al-Bayark and M/s Ozpak in 2011 which resulted in a considerable substantial increase in cleanness of Lahore.

He said that since the last couple of years, LCCI keep on receiving frequent complaints from our members about the inefficiency of LWMC staff in collecting garbage from the commercial markets like Auto Market Badami Bagh, Brandreth Road, Shoe Market, Azam Market, Landa Bazar, Hall Road, and commercial areas on Ferozpur

Road etc. The garbage keeps lying on the road sides and piles up considerably over time, resulting in spreading of various diseases.

The LCCI President said that now there is limitation of required resources to cover all the union councils of Lahore but there has to be some proper arrangements to clean Lahore which is the provincial capital and hub of commercial activities.

He said that the monsoon season is round the corner. LWMC must take drastic measures to ensure timely collection of waste as the scattered garbage in densely populated areas slows down free flow of rainwater to sewerage. It causes a lot of problems not only to citizens but also creates hurdle in business activities.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that there are godowns and warehouses in busy parts of city which remain under high threats of getting damaged due to rainwater. "It has also been observed that manual sweeping is done generally on main roads and wide streets approaching or linking the major and small markets. The concerned LWMC staff only pile up the garbage in open which gets scattered before it is eventually picked up. We recommend that waste bags must be used to avoid this problem", he added.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that to keep the city clean is the responsibility of all segments of society and they should play their due role in this regard.

Executive Committee Members Mardan Ali Zaidi, Shahzad Butt, Shahid Nazir, Zeshan Sohail Malik, Tehmina Saeed Chaudhry, Haji Muhammad Asif Sehar and former EC Member Haris Attique were also present.



Seminar on “Latest Trends & Collaboration in Fashion and Textile Industry” at LCCI

Technology and globalization have created lucrative opportunities for the Fashion and Textile Industry of Pakistan which should be availed fully through a good approach and concentration on branding and marketing.

These views were expressed by the President of Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry while presiding-over a seminar on “Latest Trends & Collaboration in Fashion and Textile Industry”, organized by the Standing Committee on Fashion & Textile Industry, at the LCCI.

LCCI Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Convener LCCI Standing Committee on Fashion & Textile Industry Nabeel Iftikhar Ahmed, former Senior Vice President Ali Hussam Asghar, Designer Sam Ali Dada, EC Member Naeem Hanif, former EC Member Khalid Jabbar, representatives from well-reputed fashion brands spoke on the occasion.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah said that the textile sector is considered the backbone of Pakistan's economy and it holds great significance as Pakistan is the 8th largest exporter of textile products in Asia, 4th largest producer and 3rd largest consumer of cotton.

Mian Tariq Misbah said that Pakistan's Fashion designing and textile industry has become an important component of national trade because of its export potential. The Fashion and Textile Industry of Pakistan has tremendous depth to get a huge share in the international fashion market that is worth billions of dollars.

He said that Pakistani entrepreneurs have successfully earned good names in the local fashion industry and developed various brands namely Limelight, Bareeze, Maria B, Uniworth, Rafhy, HSY, J., Khadi and Chen One etc., and many more are emerging with the passage of time. Some of them have been able to establish their brands in the international arena.

“I would like to commend the role of Pakistani women entrepreneurs that with the expansion and development of the fashion and textile sector, they have also geared up and are contributing significantly in taking this sector to new heights. I am of the view that Pakistan can grab a significant share in export of the fashion industry if it succeeds in catching the attention of foreign buyers”, Mian Tariq Misbah added.

He said that there is a need to focus on value addition because it will help increase the profit margins in the export market. For example, Pakistan's hand-made embroidery can be merged with the latest designs to expand the range of fashion industry for local as well as foreign buyers. He said that through enhancing collaboration and liaison among Textile sector and the fashion industry, we can succeed in getting the desired results.

The LCCI President said that the importance of forecasting the trends in apparel business requires certain techniques to safely anticipate the future.

He appreciated the efforts of Nabeel Iftikhar Ahmed, Convener S/C on “Fashion & Textile Industry” for organizing the seminar in a befitting manner.

Vice President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that Pakistani entrepreneurs associated with the fashion industry need to be in tune with the modern requirements and be aware of the changing trends of the global market. He said that Pakistan's fashion and textile sector can play an important role in promoting foreign trade.

Nabeel Iftikhar Ahmed, Convener S/C on Fashion & Textile Industry said that Pakistan's fashion and textile industry has become an important dimension for the national economy because of its export potential. He said that decision makers should realize its significance in view of its huge potential for future expansion and give all possible facilities.



All Chambers reject 203 (A) & Section (28) 156 of Finance Bill 2021

As many as 25 Chambers of Commerce & Industry, at a 2-day Post Budget Convention under the umbrella of Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, have called for withdrawal of anti-business budget clauses. The Chambers also issued a joint declaration to address the genuine reservations of the business community before the Federal Budget 2021-22 is approved.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah presided over All Pakistan Chambers' Post Budget Convention while Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, Provincial Minister for Finance Makhdoom Hashim Jawan Bakht, Presidents, office-bearers and representatives of All Pakistan Chambers addressed the Convention.



The participants of the Convention urged the Government to take prompt action on the recommendations of the Convention's declaration in order to create conducive business environment and for quick revival of economy:

They demanded through the declaration that a formal announcement and confirmation should be made by the Government to withdraw the proposal of adding clause 203(A) in the income tax ordinance. The proposal of



imposing exorbitant fines on the importers under section (28) 156 of the Finance Bill 2021 if they for any reason are not able to complete the paperwork for redemption of their shipments should be withdrawn.

They said that the steep increase in the Taxation target in the Federal Budget 2021-22 should not in any way overburden the existing taxpayers, and should be met by expanding the Tax Base. In addition to the Sales Tax Refunds, Income Tax Refunds should also be paid through the new promised centralized automated refund system.

The participants of the Convention said that the energy tariff for all the sectors of the economy should be capped at Rs 7.5 cents/unit to reduce their cost of doing business and enhancing their export competitiveness. Special measures should be taken in the Federal Budget 2021-22 for the provision of interest-free credit to SMEs/small trad

ers/single shutter shops without any collateral requirement. They said that sizeable allocation should be done in Federal Budget 2021-22 for i) establishing State of the art Testing Labs on the outskirts of major cities across the country and ii) up-gradation of existing labs to serve the export needs to Industry. They added that that for the facilitation of commercial importers and making sure that imports of vital raw materials are not affected, the advance Income Tax at import stage (Withholding Tax) should be eliminated and the Final Tax Regime should be implemented.

They said that commercialization Fee for conversion from Industry to Residential is increased from 5% to 35% of market price. This increase should be withdrawn. They said that the women entrepreneurs engaged in trade should be given reduced duty rates, interest free loans. The Sales Tax on E-Market places should be abolished. The proposals of reducing tax rebates to Researchers should be withdrawn. They said that the pending Refunds (Income Tax/Sales Tax) should be released. Advance income tax should be deferred. State Bank should offer grants to hospitality sector as it is hit badly by COVID.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan and Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry gave a detailed analysis of the Federal Budget 2021-22. They said that the total FBR Revenue target for 2021-22 has been set at Rs 5,829 Billion which is significantly higher as compared to the target of Rs 4,963 Billion in last year's Budget .In our opinion we should convey our concerns to the Government in this regard as such a steep increase in Taxation Target would overburden the existing taxpayers if the Tax Base is not increased in the true spirit.

Provincial Minister for Finance Makhdoom Hashim Jawan Bakht said that the Federal and Punjab Budgets are the growth oriented. He said that Rs. 560 have been allocated for Development Program in Punjab Budget that is 66%

“Taxation target in the Federal Budget 2021-22 should not in any way overburden the existing taxpayers”

higher than the previous budget. He said that the government believes on consultation and facilitating the business community.

LCCI President Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Muhammad Nasir Hameed Khan, Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry, former LCCI Presidents Muhammad

Ali Mian, Shahid Hassan Sheikh, Sohail Lashari, former VP Mian Zahid Jawaid ahmad, Senior Vice President FPCCI Khawaja Shahzeb Akram, LCCI EC Members, Vice President Rahim Yar Khan Chamber Ch. Azam Shabbir & EC member Mian Saad Hassan, President Faisalabad Chamber Hafiz Ihtasham, President Gujrat Chamber Ch. Waheed ud Din, SVP Hassan Adil, VP Hammad Aslam, President Sialkot Chamber Qaiser Iqbal Baryar, President Sahiwal Chamber Muhammad Asim Rafique, President Chakwal Chamber Haji Noor Sultan, President Bahawalpur Chamber Tanveer Mahmood, President Rawalpindi Chamber M. Nasir Mirza, President Jhelum Chamber Irfan Latif Qureshi, Vice President M. Ahmad Sheikh, President Karachi Chamber M. shariq Vohra, President Women Chamber Karachi South Ms. Shehnaz Ramzi, President Women Chamber Multan Novaira Fahad, President Sargodha Chamber Asif Ameer Awan, President Jhang Chamber Shahzad Rafique, President Women Chamber



Faisalabad Tehmina Pasha, Vice President Rubina Shafiq & Founder President Rubina Amjad, President Chaman Chamber Haji Jalal Khan, former President Haji Hameedullah, Member Sanaullah Khan, President Women Chamber Karachi Korangi Dr. Tasneem Kausar, President Gujranwala Chamber M. Umer Ashraf, President Sheikhpura Chamber Adil Mahmood, President Women Chamber Lahore Rukhsana Zafar, President Attack Chamber Dr. Adnan Rehman Mirza, Convener Standing Committee on Finance of Multan Chamber Muhammad Yunus Ghazi, President Women Chamber Bahawalpur Maryam Qasim, President Layyah Women Chamber Shakeela Bano and President Women Chamber Karachi District East Mahreen Ellahi addressed different sessions of the Convention.



















خدمت کی روایت

کسی بھی ملک اور قوم کی ترقی میں معاشرے کے تمام طبقات اہم کردار ادا کرتے ہیں۔ پاکستان کی ترقی، خوشحالی اور کامیابیوں میں بزنس کمیونٹی کے ساتھ ساتھ سرکاری ادارے اور صحافی برادری کی گراں قدر خدمات اور کوششیں شامل ہیں جن کو تسلیم کرنا اور ان پر تمام افراد کا شکریہ ادا کرنا انتہائی اہم ہے جنہوں نے کسی نہ کسی طور پر اس ملک کے لئے اپنی توانائیاں وقف کیں۔

یہ تمام افراد لاہور چیمبر سے وابستہ رہے ہیں اور ہر مقام پر انہوں نے کاروباری برادری کی بڑھ چڑھ کر خدمت کی ہے۔ انکی انہیں خدمات کو تسلیم کرتے ہوئے پہلی مرتبہ لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری

نے "فرینڈز آف لاہور چیمبر ایوارڈز" کی تقریب کا انعقاد کیا۔ یہ تقریب گورنر ہاؤس میں منعقد کی گئی جس میں گورنر پنجاب چوہدری محمد سرور نے سول سروس اور میڈیا کے نمائندوں میں پہلے فرینڈز آف لاہور چیمبر ایوارڈز تقسیم کیے۔

فرینڈز آف لاہور چیمبر ایوارڈز کا مقصد ملک کی معاشرتی و معاشی ترقی کے لیے سرکاری، نجی اداروں اور میڈیا سے تعلق رکھنے والی شخصیات کی نمایاں خدمات کا اعتراف کرنا ہے۔ سرکاری، نجی اداروں اور میڈیا کے نمائندوں نے ہمیشہ لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے ساتھ بہترین تعاون کیا جس کی بدولت لاہور چیمبر کا تجارت و معیشت کے لیے بہترین خدمات سرانجام دینا ممکن ہوا۔ پبلک پرائیویٹ پارٹنرشپ سے حکومت اور نجی شعبہ دونوں کو فائدہ ہوتا ہے، نجی شعبہ محاصل کا بڑا ذریعہ ہونے کی حیثیت سے ریاست کے مالی امور چلانے میں حکومت کی مدد کرتا ہے جبکہ حکومت نجی شعبہ کو انفراسٹرکچر اور دیگر سہولیات فراہم کرتی ہے۔

اس سے قبل لاہور چیمبر نے انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی سے وابستہ کمپنیوں کی حوصلہ افزائی کے لئے پہلی مرتبہ آئی ٹی ایوارڈز کا انعقاد کیا۔ آئی ٹی ایوارڈز کی یہ پروکار اور شاندار تقریب ایوان صدر اسلام آباد میں منعقد ہوئی۔ جس میں انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی سے منسلک تیرہ کمپنیوں نے لاہور چیمبر کے فرسٹ آئی ٹی ایوارڈز حاصل کئے۔ صدر مملکت ڈاکٹر عارف علوی تقریب کے مہمان خصوصی تھے۔ آئی ٹی ایوارڈز کے انعقاد کا مقصد اس صنعت کا پاکستان میں فروغ اور اس کے پوٹینشل کے بارے آگاہی فراہم کرنا ہے۔ ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ اس شعبے میں زیادہ سے زیادہ سرمایہ کاری ہو اور حکومت اس شعبے کے لئے بہترین پالیسیاں تشکیل دے۔ جن ممالک نے آئی ٹی کے شعبے کو کلیدی اہمیت دی انہوں نے تیزی سے ترقی کی، پاکستان میں اس شعبے کے فروغ کے لیے حکومت و نجی شعبہ کو مل کر کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ وفاقی بجٹ میں آئی ٹی کمپنیوں کو پینٹل ٹیکنالوجی زون کا فعال حصہ بنانے کے لیے ٹیکس چھوٹ دینے کا بھی ہم خیر مقدم کرتے ہیں۔

پاکستان کی آئی ٹی برآمدات ڈیڑھ ارب ڈالر سے تجاوز نہیں کر پائیں حالانکہ ہماری صلاحیت اس سے کہیں زیادہ ہے، پڑوسی ملک کی برآمدات ایک سو تیس ارب ڈالر سے تجاوز کر چکی ہیں ہم اُمید کرتے ہیں کہ اس شعبے کے لئے ہماری کی گئی کوششیں رائیگاں نہیں جائیں گی۔ کرونا وائرس کے لاک ڈاون کی پابندیوں کی وجہ سے ہم ابھی تک دوسرے شعبوں کے لئے ایوارڈز اور ایڈووکیسی پروگرامز نہیں کر پائے لیکن جیسے جیسے حالات بہتر ہو رہے ہیں ہم کوشش کر رہے ہیں کہ دوسرے سیکٹرز کو بھی اس تمام عمل میں شامل کیا جائے۔ اس کے لئے سینئر نائب صدر ناصر حمید خان، نائب صدر طاہر منظور چوہدری، ایگزیکٹو کمیٹی، سابق صدر، لاہور چیمبر کی کمیٹی برائے آئی ٹی انفراسٹرکچر اینڈ ڈیولپمنٹ کے کنوینر محمد ہارون اور تاجر ہنماؤں کا تہ دل سے شکر گزار ہوں کہ جنہوں نے ہر طرح کے نامساعد حالات میں میرا ساتھ دیا۔ ان سب کی انتھک محنت سے ہی ان تقریبات کا کامیاب انعقاد ممکن ہو سکا ہے۔

میاں طارق مصباح

صدر لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری

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میاں محمد طارق شفیع

آسمان تیری لحد پر شبنم افشانی کرے

The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry has expressed deep grief and sorrow over demise of the former LCCI Vice President Mian Muhammad Tariq Shafi.

President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Mian Tariq Misbah, Senior Vice President Nasir Hameed Khan and Vice President Tahir Manzoor Chaudhry said that entire business community is depressed due to demise of the former LCCI Vice President.

They said that Mian Muahmmad Tariq Shafi was a great man and his services for the cause of business community will always be remembered.

Being Vice President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Mian Muhammad Tariq Shafi rendered matchless services for the cause of trade, industry and economy. "They said that the demise of Mian Muhammad Tariq Shafi is an irreparable loss." They prayed to the Almighty Allah to keep the departed soul in peace and let the family bear this loss with fortitude.



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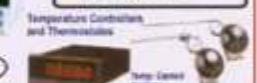
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