

ECONOMIC BULLETIN

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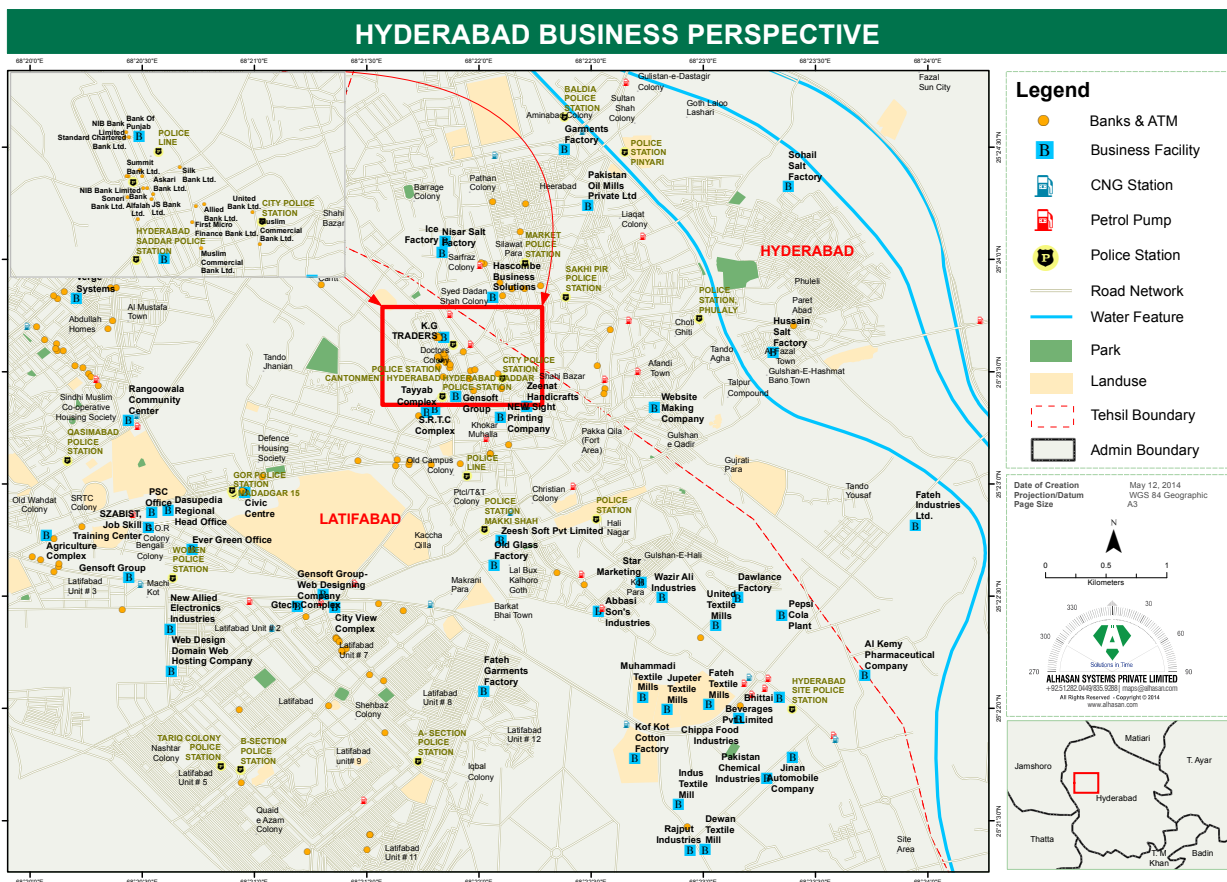
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10-15pc hike in salary, pensions proposed
Daily Dawn, 31st May 2014

Per capita income calculated at \$1,370
The News, 30th May 2014

Unemployment rate increases to 6.2 percent: survey
The News, 29th May 2014

Issues resolved: Pak-China border reopens for trade

DETAILS

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Finance has proposed 10 to 15 per cent increase in salary and pensions of all civil and uniformed government employees and six special honoraria for its officials in the next federal budget. Sources told Dawn on Friday that the ministry had presented two options for the increase and at a recent meeting on budgetary proposals presided over by the prime minister. In the first option, the ministry has proposed the increase in salary and pensions, with a total financial impact of Rs30 billion on the budget. In the second option, it has proposed a 15pc increase in salary and pensions as an ad hoc relief involving an additional fiscal impact of about Rs45bn. A decision on the proposals will be taken at a meeting of the federal cabinet.

ISLAMABAD: The per capita income in Pakistan rose to around \$1,370 in the ongoing fiscal 2013-14, up four percent over the revised per capita income for the last fiscal year, revealed an official document on Thursday. The figure is included in the Economic Survey for 2013-14 to be unveiled a day before the budget announcement, which is scheduled on June 3, 2014. The official said that in the wake of new base of the economy, the per capita income of \$1,368 for 2012-13 was revised downward. Explaining the mathematics behind the latest per capita income figure, he said the government has worked out the size of the economy at \$245 billion, equal to Rs25.04 trillion, based on the market price, as against the revised estimate of Rs22.489 trillion in the last fiscal year. Keeping in view the 4.14 percent growth, the per capita income comes at \$1,370. The growth rate was set at 4.4 percent for the fiscal year. However, the government revised it downward to 3.7 percent. To a question he said: "We have adopted the population figure of 188 million this time." When asked whether the authorities concerned included the chapter about poverty incidence in the forthcoming economic survey, he said: "We have decided to include the chapter about social safety net instead of the poverty incidence." About the impact of ongoing war against terror on Pakistan's economy, he said the foreign office had earlier calculated it at \$80 billion without background working. The finance minister is in touch with the foreign office in this regard, he added. "Now, finance and foreign ministries would come up with a reliable figure about the impact of war," said the official. About the GDP, he said it has been projected to go up to \$267 billion in the next fiscal 2014-15. In rupee term, the size of the economy is projected at Rs28.901 trillion in the next fiscal year. Official sources calculated one percent of GDP at Rs289 billion. Therefore, the country's fiscal deficit of 4.8 percent of GDP will require bridge financing of Rs1,387 billion in the next fiscal year. About the tax to GDP ratio, they said the Federal Board of Revenue will have to collect Rs2,800 billion in the next fiscal year to bring it to 9.7 percent, they said.

ISLAMABAD: The unemployment rate in Pakistan has gone up to 6.2 percent from an earlier figure of six percent, The News learnt on Wednesday. The latest figure will be incorporated in the upcoming Economic Survey 2013-14 to be launched by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on June 2014. According to the Labour Force Survey, the unemployment ratio was 6.2 percent in 2012-13 as against six percent in 2010-11. The unemployment rate was highest among women at nine percent in FY13 compared with 8.9 percent in FY11. The unemployment among male increased up to 5.4 percent from 5.1 percent. The unemployment in rural areas was standing at 5.1 percent in FY13 compared to 4.7 percent in FY11. The unemployment rate among urban population stood at 8.8 percent with male ratio of 7.3 percent and female of 19.2 percent. A World Bank's report said Pakistan has one of the fastest growing labor forces in the world with 1.2 million people being added every year. This number is likely to increase significantly in the coming years, it said. The report further said that over two million workers would be entering the labor force every year during the next 20 years, according to the report. The country's strength, wellbeing and future economic prospects will depend on creating enough quality jobs to absorb these new entrants into the job market. The unemployment rate started declining from 7.8 percent in 2001-02 to 5.1pc in 2006-07 and curved up gradually to fare at 6.2pc in 2012-13. Males and females unemployment rates make the similar pattern. However, the latter are higher than the formers. The labor force increased from 57.24 million in FY11 to 59.74 million in FY13. The volume of labor force shot to 1.35 million in Punjab, 0.67 million in Sindh, 0.34 million in Baluchistan and 0.14 million in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, showed an official document. Further, the change is more pronounced in case of males in all the provinces. The number of employed (2.17 million) climbed from 53.84 million in FY11 to 56.01 million in FY13, it noted. Increase stems more from rural (1.29 million) than urban areas (0.88 million). The size of change is in the descending order of Punjab (1.17mn), Sindh (0.60mn), Baluchistan (0.31mn) and KP (0.09mn). Employment share of community/social and personal services was recorded at 13.3pc in FY13 as against 10.8pc in FY11. In construction sector, it was 7.4pc as against seven percent. In manufacturing, the employment share stood at 14.1pc as compared with 13.7pc. In transport/storage communication, the share was 5.5pc compared with 5.1pc. The share of employment of agriculture and allied activities was 43.7pc and wholesale and retail trade 14.4pc in FY13 as against 45.1pc and 16.2pc in FY11, respectively. According to the latest survey, skilled agriculture and fishery workers had the largest chunk in labor force in FY13 with 37.6pc, followed by elementary occupations 16.3pc, craft and related trades workers 14.7pc, legislator/senior officials and managers 11.5pc, services workers 6.5pc, technicians and associate professionals 5.5pc, plant/machine operators and assemblers 4.8pc, professional 1.7pc and clerks 1.4pc.

ISLAMABAD: After remaining closed for over 20 days, Pakistan-China border has finally been reopened for trade with successful negotiation between traders and the central government in Islamabad. After a series of meetings held with the commerce minister, FBR chairman, minister for Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan (G-B) Affairs, the traders' representatives here on Wednesday

Express Tribune, 29th May 2014

New tobacco taxes to boost revenue, discourage smoking

Daily Dawn, 28th May 2014

Rs1.31tr development plan approved

Daily Dawn, 27th May 2014

announced the reopening of Sost dry port for all kinds of imports and exports.

The announcement was made at the Ministry of Kashmir and G-B Affairs after a detailed meeting held with Minister Chaudhry Barjees Tahir and other officials of the ministry. The delegation of traders was also accompanied by members of G-B Council including Advocate Amjad Hussain and Ataullah Shahab. According to official sources, all the demands of traders have been accepted by the authorities concerned and following the development, the dry port has been opened for bilateral trade on Wednesday. One of the major demand of the traders regarding an end to the existing two-day-a-week closure of the port has been accepted and a notification regarding the development will be issued by June 10, 2014.

Federal Board of Revenue and custom officials have assured that the consignments of importers/exporters will not be opened for any re-check and inspection in other parts of the country once they are cleared from the dry port. "The traders have withdrawn their demand related to Income Tax and Sales Tax being collected at the port keeping in view that the issue needed new legislation," said former president of the G-B Chambers of Commerce and Industry Javed Hussain. Apart from the issue of having technical complexities, 80% of the taxes would now go towards G-B. Since the larger part of the taxes will benefit the people of G-B, the traders will not object for their collection.

ISLAMABAD: Economic and health experts have suggested that the government impose a uniform specific tax of Rs31.2 per pack on cigarettes, in a bid to raise revenue and discourage people from smoking. The proposed move is expected to raise additional revenue to the tune of Rs27 billion and comes at a time when Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's team is considering various proposals to generate much-needed to meet next year's revenue target of Rs2,810bn.

A study, conducted by former World Bank vice president Shahid Javed Burki, former finance minister Hafeez Pasha, Federal Board of Revenue member Aftab Baloch and other international academics, revealed that a tax that accounted for 70 per cent of the average price of cigarettes could reduce overall tobacco consumption by 7.5pc. This is expected to lead over half a million smokers to quit or reduce their intake, reducing tobacco-related deaths by over 180,000 per year. The study, prepared for the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union) and the World Health Organization (WHO), was released in Islamabad on Tuesday by the Coalition for Tobacco Control in Pakistan. The increased tax may also prevent 725,000 young people from taking up smoking every year. The report links a 10pc increase in average cigarette prices to a 5pc reduction in cigarette consumption across the board. Over 22 million Pakistanis over the age of 18 (approximately 19pc of the population) currently use some form of tobacco. Almost one third of Pakistani men (32.4pc) and 5.7pc of women smoke, while the use of smoke-less tobacco products such as gutka, naswar and paan is also quite widespread.

WHO National Programme Officer Shahzad Alam Khan said the cigarette market in Pakistan was highly concentrated, with two companies controlling 98pc. He said these manufacturers were now looking to target young people and women to expand their sales. Saying that tobacco among children under the age of 10 had also increased, Khan suggested that naswar and other tobacco products should also be taxed. Developed countries use excessive taxation as a way of discouraging citizens from smoking, but Pakistan is one of the few countries where prices of tobacco products are still quite low.

Dr Foudad Aslam, an expert with The Union, said that low taxes coupled with low costs for manufacturers made cigarette prices in Pakistan among the lowest in the world. He said Pakistan's tiered system led smokers to switch to cheaper brands rather than quitting. He said that a fixed excise duty of Rs31.2 per pack would guarantee more revenue for the government and jack up retail prices for the consumer, discouraging tobacco use in the long run.

ISLAMABAD: The Annual Plan Coordination Committee (APCC) cleared on Monday a plan for the fiscal year 2014-15 envisaging a consolidated development programme of Rs1.310 trillion, economic growth rate at 5.1 per cent and inflation at 8pc. A meeting of the APCC, presided over by Planning and Development Minister Ahsan Iqbal and attended by provincial ministers, also decided to do away with hundreds of politically motivated projects, discretionary schemes for parliamentarians under the People's Works Programme and Tameer-i-Pakistan Programme and other old but slow-moving projects. Talking to journalists after the meeting, Mr Iqbal said the committee had also recommended to the National Economic Council, headed by the prime minister, to authorise the launch of 303 schemes at a cost of Rs1.6trn, a few new initiatives and the vision 2025 programme to pick up as part of the next year's development programme to transform Pakistan into an export-oriented country. This will be done through focus on taxation, investment and export growth. He said the highest-ever Rs1.310trn plan would include a federal Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) of Rs525 billion, provincial annual development plans of Rs650bn and separate projects of Rs135bn to be launched by Wapda and the National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC) from their own resources. The PSDP will have a foreign exchange contribution of Rs102bn. The minister said the PSDP would be 23pc higher than the revised estimate of Rs425bn for the current fiscal year. In reply to a question about the announcement of higher outlays and then cutting down the development plans due to a shortfall in revenue collection, Mr Iqbal said the PSDP would remain protected because it had been finalised after deliberations with the prime minister. Mr Sharif himself attended at least three meetings.

The power sector has been given top priority with the highest allocation of Rs260bn, apart from Rs135bn self-financing by Wapda and NTDC. The generation sector has been given a lion's share of

Britain plans business centres to boost trade
Express Tribune, 27th May 2014

\$670mn FDI in nine months shows 6.1pc increase

Business Recorder, 26th May 2014

Rs155bn — Rs84bn for hydroelectricity, Rs23bn for thermal power and Rs48bn for nuclear power generation. The sector will get another Rs105bn from the federal budget for improvement and expansion of transmission lines. The transport and communication sector will get Rs163bn, including Rs114bn for the National Highway Authority and Rs40bn for rehabilitation and revival of the Pakistan Railways. Mr Iqbal said the transport sector had been neglected for 15 years and because of this it was unable to support a growing economy. The sector would be revived through improvement in tracks and locomotives so that it could provide logistic support for transportation of coal for power generation. The minister said the federal government would allocate Rs51bn for education, health and population welfare projects across the country, although these subjects were devolved. Another Rs12.5bn will be allocated for a new initiative to achieve millennium development goals in two to three years. With the current pace, the MDGs could not be achieved even until 2040 which was shameful for the country, he added. Mr Iqbal said the government was launching a programme for human resource development through an endowment fund of Rs1bn which would be increased to Rs10bn in four years. It will be used for providing scholarships to poor students on merit for vertical social mobility of talent. An amount of Rs45bn will be allocated for acquisition of land for the Karachi-Lahore motorway. It will be constructed on a build, operate and transfer basis with Chinese investment. The minister said the Pakistan-China economic corridor would also be given priority in next year's development programme. Another new initiative of Rs36bn would be launched by the prime minister for national unity and strengthening of the federation by removing disparities in development and mainstreaming of underdeveloped areas across the country and in the provinces, except Punjab. Under the initiative, Rs15bn will be invested in Balochistan, Rs8bn in Sindh, Rs4bn each in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Fata, Rs3bn in Azad Kashmir and Rs2bn in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Another scheme will be launched with an initial allocation of Rs500 million for directing over 7000 PhD holders towards practical development and industrial projects through a technology fund. Another scheme will reach out to poor students and educate them to the level of PhD at public expense. The minister said Rs100 million would be allocated for mainstreaming Madressah education. The implementation of PSDP would be monitored through a newly created delivery unit at the Planning Commission. Mr Iqbal said the APCC had decided to complete projects with 70pc progress next year and with 50pc progress in two years and give up low priority politically motivated projects on which 25pc money had been spent. He said the government had set a target of \$27bn for exports next year, investment at 15.7pc of GDP, saving at 14.6pc and the current account deficit at 1.1pc of GDP, or \$2.8bn.

Lahore: With an objective to increase bilateral trade and investment, the UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) is planning to establish British business centres in all major cities of Pakistan and the first such facility will be set up in Karachi. British Deputy High Commissioner John Tucknott stated this while speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). Tucknott said the business centres would provide expert trade advice and practical support to the companies that wanted to grow their business overseas. "Through a range of unique services, these centres will help businessmen to trade successfully in foreign markets and become familiar with overseas business practices." He pointed out that the UKTI, a UK government department, was working with all chambers in Pakistan, government institutions and the Trade Development Authority in an effort to step up bilateral trade. A number of large British companies are already working with the government of Pakistan in the energy sector. Shortage of energy is the most burning issue and the UK has expertise in quite a few energy-related sectors. "These are the most exciting times for the UK-Pakistan commercial ties to grow as synergies exist in private sectors of the two countries," Tucknott remarked. The UKTI was closely working with British companies to make them more focused on exports, he said. Speaking on the occasion, LCCI President Engineer Sohail Lashari said it was a positive sign that the volume of bilateral trade had touched the \$2-billion mark. Trade analysis of the last three years has been encouraging as the commerce is growing in favour of Pakistan. Lashari said flow of foreign direct investment (FDI) from the UK is around \$155 million until April this year. Only Switzerland, USA and Hong Kong have greater inflows with figures of \$257 million, \$241 million and \$200 million respectively. The LCCI believed that UK companies would increase FDI in coming months, he said stressing there were a number of sectors that offered a lot of opportunities to UK investors. Lashari pointed to alternative energy solutions like solar, wind and coal energy and new hydroelectric power projects as areas where Pakistan badly needed assistance both in the form of finance and technology.

ISLAMABAD: The country has received Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of US \$ 670 million during first nine months of current fiscal year 2013-14 as compared to US\$ 631 million during same period of previous year. This shows an increase of 6.1 per cent with the corresponding period (July-March 2012-13). According to Board of Investment here on Sunday, numerous steps were being taken to increase FDI in the country which included offering of competitive incentives through investment policy to attract FDI. Moreover, Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act, 2012 has been operationalized for industrial clusteralization in the country. The SEZ Act has attractive incentives and these are protected by Law. SEZ at Khairpur district has been approved. The investment policy, 2013 and FDI Strategy, 2013-17 has been implemented and come into effect. Investment Policy is focused on reducing the cost of doing business, providing ease of doing business with creation of industrial clusters as Special Economic Zones (SEZs). The FDI Strategy 2013-17 has been designed to implement the policy provisions. The BOI further informed that the government was reviewing the existing concessionary regime and complex tax structure with aiming to simplify and rationalize the tariff structure for facilitation, growth of local/export oriented industry. The government in collaboration with Chinese government has also taken an initiative of Pak-China Economic Corridor

Govt advised to revisit privatization policy

The News, 24th May 2014

which spreads from Khunjerab to Gwadar. This greater connectivity will promote the investment activities in the country and enhance regional trade with China, South Asia, Central Asia and Middle East countries. Furthermore, to improve the investment and business climate in the country, the BOI in consultation with stakeholders and provincial governments is working to simplify the procedures and reduce time/cost for ease of doing businesses. The investment promotion campaign by holding of investment conferences in countries having potential of investing in Pakistan and investors facilitation services by BOI (online visa and branch/ liaison office registration services for foreign companies were also part of the measures adopted to increase FDI.

LAHORE: Experts advised the government on Friday to revisit its privatization policy to ensure that no profit-making public entity is handed over to foreign investors that start repatriating profits immediately. They said profit making assets worth Rs476 billion had been privatized during the past 26 years. The experts said all foreign investors want to buy lucrative profit-making public sector at throwaway prices. These investors intend to milk profit without expansion and development. Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited was sold to Etisalat for Rs156.32 billion; the government has yet to receive the total proceeds from this privatization and since July 05, 2008, the outstanding amount in rupee terms has exceeded with payment due in dollars. The foreign investor has been holding back over one billion dollar for the last six years on one or the other pretext. Kot Adu Power Company was handed over for Rs11 billion only and Habib Bank Limited Rs22.4 billion. Both companies must have repatriated more amount than they did at the time of privatization.

Economists and local industrialists pointed out that the flawed privatization of the previous governments had effectively stopped foreign direct investment in green projects in Pakistan. The foreign investors bought some banks and other companies, like United Bank Limited, when they were on the verge of turnaround. In fact, the experts reminded that a local bank was the highest bidder of UBL but the then government rejected its bids and adopted a non-transparent method for its privatization to a foreign buyer. Likewise, there was no need to hand over businesses of liquefied petroleum gas of Sui Southern Gas Company and Sui Northern Pipelines Limited to foreign oil companies. These could have been handed over to domestic consumers through better marketing, convincing and creation of awareness among domestic investors. The experts pointed out outflow of huge capital during the past one and half decade shows that the local investors have money but they do not have confidence in their government. The foreign investment, they added, is fully protected, while the local investors remain prone to the blackmailing by the authorities. The argument that the foreign investors bring in better technology or increase productivity has been proved wrong, "if we compare the performance of companies acquired by foreign and local entrepreneurs," they said.

Allied Bank of Pakistan bought by a local investor brought all its branches online much earlier than the banks taken over by foreign investors. MCB Bank has emerged as the most efficient bank of the country after being handed over to local investor. A foreign investor acquired Al-Ghazi Tractor and a local Employees Management Group took over Millat Tractors. The performance of both the companies is open to all. No doubt Al-Ghazi has made good progress but Millat has made much higher progress. The cement sector acquired mostly by the local investors has reached new heights and is now exploring foreign markets after fulfilling domestic needs. It would soon become a regular source of foreign exchange in coming years. The experts said that the public sector companies earmarked for privatization still include lucrative profit-making entities, like Oil and Gas Development Company, Pakistan Petroleum Ltd, Pakistan State Oil Company Ltd, while loss-making entities like Pakistan International Airlines, Pakistan Steel Mills and power distribution companies are being retained. They said the share value of all state-owned profit-making companies is much higher than their realistic low prices. They said these companies are performing excellently and that it would be folly to privatize them.

Tax exemptions causing Rs500bn loss to economy

The News, 23rd May 2014

ISLAMABAD: The economy is losing Rs500 billion every year because of various statutory regulatory orders (SROs), giving tax exemptions to politicians, members of parliament and civil military bureaucracy, Dr Ikramul Haq, renowned economist and tax consultant, said on Thursday. He was addressing a policy dialogue, "Pre-Budget Policy Dialogue: Equitable Tax Regime in Pakistan", jointly organised by The Network for Consumer Protection and Oxfam Novib. This huge amount accounts for about 22 percent of the country's total tax revenue. The government set the tax revenue target at Rs2.275 trillion for the current fiscal year. The tax consultant said, "This is increasing gap between the rich and the poor, which is widening every passing day. Taxpayers are being squeezed further." Although it is the sole prerogative of the parliament to impose or withdraw tax, the government issued 80 SROs last year to exempt the powerful from paying taxes, he said. Therefore, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has never been able to meet its collection targets. He sought the constitution of the National Tax Authority to force all those having taxable income to file returns according to their liability. Currently, Pakistan needs a judicious and equitable tax system because the prevailing system is causing inequality in the society and supporting those who manage to evade taxes in one way or the other, said the economist. Progressive taxation, said Dr Haq, is envisaged in Article 3 of the Constitution of Pakistan and poverty is directly linked with an inequitable distribution of income and wealth, reveals his recent study. The SRO culture should come to an end as it does not exist even in India or other neighboring countries. However, he appreciated the government's recent statement that it would discourage SROs culture and add Rs120 billion to national exchequer in this way. On the occasion, Muhammad Abdullah Yousuf, former chairman of the FBR, said the federal government was facing widening fiscal and trade deficits. The fiscal deficit is around Rs1.9 trillion. Exports are relatively poor as compared to the quality of imports. "The government should draw a clear line as who should pay and who should not pay," Yousuf said. He called for automation

Textile exports post 6.5pc increase in 10 months

Business Recorder, 22nd May 2014

SMEs urge govt to relax regulations

Daily Dawn, 21st May 2014

Forced labour \$150bn-a-year business

Daily Dawn, 21st May 2014

Sindh excise collects Rs26bn taxes

The News, 20th May 2014

of the current tax system. At present, low-income groups pay 77 percent of the total taxes. The ex-chairman FBR asked everyone, individual and institution to help the government and tax authorities.

Tashfeen K Niazi, chief of Sindh Revenue Board (SRB), said that provinces and the provincial tax authorities were doing much better than the FBR. Giving example of his own province, he said after the devolution of powers under the 18th amendment, Sindh was empowered to collect taxes in different heads and last year, it earned Rs333 million as compared to Rs73 million the FBR collected in the previous year. Niazi said that the FBR lacked direction and kept changing policies, which ultimately took toll on the province's revenue. Sindh has made a monumental increase of 133 percent in revenue in the last three years, he noted. The SRB chief called for capacity building and automation of the tax system. Dr Asad Zaman was of the view that the poverty was a much complicated issue and should be seen in a broader and larger perspective. He advocated different strategies to bring the wealthy in the tax net, keeping in view the strength and the level of resistance. Programme Manager Essential Services Hague Netherlands Ollariak Sawade called for the tax justice as it could have very fruitful and positive effect on the country's social and infrastructural development.

ISLAMABAD: Textile group exports from the country during last 10 months of current financial year registered an increase of 6.50 percent as compared to the exports of same period last.

From July-April, 2013-14, textile products worth US\$ 11.437 billion were exported compared to exports of US\$ 10.739 billion during the corresponding period of last financial year. According to the data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), the raw cotton exports from the country grew by 41.80 million as about 109,822 metric tons of raw cotton worth US\$ 196.074 million exported as against 83,168 metric tons valuing US\$ 138.27 million of same period last year. During the period under review exports of cotton cloth grew by 5.52 percent and reached at 1,969,200 thousand square meters valuing US\$ 2.346 billion as compared to 1,776,243 thousand square meters costing US\$ 2.22 billion of same period last year. However, the data revealed that exports of cotton yarn decreased by 8.19 percent which was recorded at 568,508 metric tons worth US\$ 1.70 billion as compared to the exports of 612,718 metric tons valuing US\$ 1.86 billion of corresponding period of last year. Meanwhile, the exports of knitwear increased by 10.73 percent, bed wear by 20.37 percent whereas readymade garments posted 7.48 percent growth respectively. During the period from July-April, 2013-14, knitwear goods worth US\$ 1.842 billion were exported as compared to US\$ 1.66 billion exports of same period last year. Country earned US\$ 1.76 billion by exporting the bed wear products in last ten months which was recorded at US\$ 1.46 billion during the same period of last year, the data revealed.

KARACHI: The Small and Medium Enterprises Alliance (Samea) has urged the government to relax regulations, reduce tax rate and increase the threshold of number of employees for registration with Employees' Old Age Benefit Institute (EOBI) for small and medium enterprises. The SMEs which contribute up to 38 per cent towards the gross domestic product (GDP) need special attention so that they could really work as the backbone of the economy, like other countries of the world. In budget proposals for 2014-15, Samea President Zafar Iqbal demanded that there should be one-window operation for SMEs where all basic amenities such as land, building, utilities, security should be provided in industrial parks. He said only those countries developed which gave importance to SMEs as they constituted up to 96pc of enterprises and industrial set-ups and provide jobs to 80pc of the workforce. He asked Finance Minister Ishaq Dar to reduce sales tax rate to 5pc because high tax rate is causing massive corruption of up to 12pc and only 5pc sales tax is being collected. The Samea chief added that NTN holders should be allowed to withdraw as much cash amount for their banks as needed without deduction of withholding tax. Furthermore, incentives be given to Pakistanis bringing their foreign exchange in the country and there should be no bar on keeping their funds and assets in banks. There is need that government should adopt austerity and taxpayers' money should be used judiciously. The withholding tax for indenting companies should be reduced from 5pc to 3pc which would help generate more revenue and reduce corruption, he added.

GENEVA: Trafficking, forced labour and modern slavery are big business generating profits of around \$150 billion a year, the UN labour agency said on Tuesday. The report by the ILO finds global profits from involuntary workers. Around 21 million of them, have more than tripled over the past decade from at least \$44bn in 2005. ILO Director Guy Ryder said the report calls attention to the need "to eradicate this fundamentally evil, but hugely profitable practice as soon as possible". Two-thirds of the profits come from sexual exploitation, it says, and one third is the result of "forced economic exploitation". With poorer and less-educated people more vulnerable to exploitation, Ryder said his agency "for the first time provides solid evidence for a correlation between forced labour and poverty" by taking a look at both the supply and demand for workers.

KARACHI: The Sindh excise and taxation department collected Rs26 billion taxes during the first 10 months of the current fiscal 2013-14 (FY14), showed an official document on Monday. The provincial excise department had set the tax revenue target at Rs32 billion for FY14. The officials claimed that the department would achieve the annual target by the end of this fiscal year as the provincial government launched campaign to encourage people pay property, professional and motor vehicle taxes. The Director General of the Excise and Taxation department Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqi told The News that the major achievement of the department was the recovery of the motor vehicle tax from the police and other government departments.

The Sindh Revenue Board (SRB) has so far a shortfall of more than Rs40 billion, while the Board of

Dar reviews budget proposals

Business Recorder, 19th May 2014

Interest rate kept unchanged

Daily Dawn, 18th May 2014

Revenue (BoR) could not achieve even 50 percent of the revenue target of FY14. The excise and taxation department set the revenue target at Rs36 billion for the next fiscal year. The department requested the chief minister to increase the staff to achieve the future target. The major achievement of the department was the recovery in infrastructure cess. According to the document, the taxation department recovered nearly 100 percent of the estimated revenue under this head of Rs20 billion. The department recovered Rs17.66 billion till 30 April, while the recovery during the same period last fiscal was Rs14.67 billion. The department recovered 95 percent of the estimated target in motor vehicles tax as it recovered Rs3.78 billion till 30th April. In the same period last fiscal year, the department collected Rs2.07 billion. Siddiqui said that Rs47.5 billion was recovered from the police and other departments in this head. The excise and taxation registered its 24 vehicles and paid due taxes. According to the officials, the Sindh police paid motor vehicle tax of its 3,666 four-wheeler and 1,303 two-wheeler for which the finance department released special fund to clear the taxes of police vehicles. The health department paid taxes of its 38 vehicles, while fisheries, IG Prisons, Commissioner Larkana, Population Welfare, Industries and Commerce, Social Welfare, women division, local government, planning and development, forest, Interior Ministry, SBR, and other departments registered their vehicles and paid the taxes. The excise department also achieved 91 percent target in the excise enactment tax and recovered Rs2.87 billion against the estimated Rs3.80 billion for the FY14. In July-April FY13, the recovered amount was Rs2.44 billion. The department received 58 percent tax in cotton fee and recovered Rs2.50 billion against the estimated three billion rupees, while the recovery of the cotton fee in the same period last fiscal was Rs1.31 billion. The recovery in professional tax till 30th April, 2014 was Rs333 million against the estimated four billion rupees. The recovered amount was Rs2.18 billion in the same period last fiscal. The property tax was collected at Rs2.25 billion in the period under review against the estimated Rs2.70 billion. Earlier, the recovery was Rs1.25 billion. The recovery in entertainment duty was Rs3.50 billion, while the estimated target is Rs4.20 billion and the department has achieved 99 percent of the target.

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar chaired a meeting here Monday to review budget proposals. Chairman FBR briefed the Finance Minister on the measures being considered for inclusion in the proposals, with the objective to broaden the tax base and encourage documentation of economy. The Finance Minister considered proposals on expanding the tax net and directed the officials to further fine tune these proposals. He underlined that they have to work with whole dedication for the uplift of country. He added that the taxpayers should be facilitated by simplifying tax procedures and emphasized that the overall economic vision must be roped in the budgetary proposals. Dr. Waqar Masood, Finance Secretary, Rana Assad Amin, Advisor to the Finance Ministry and senior officials of the Finance Ministry and FBR attended the meeting.

KARACHI: The State Bank has decided to maintain the interest rate at 10 per cent, meaning that no change was made during the entire second half of the current financial year. The bank stressed the need for more sustainability in positive economic indicators. The SBP's monetary policy for May-June announced here on Saturday threw doubts on the sustainability of positive indicators. "Recent gains in confidence in the economy, backed by improvement in key indicators, need to be nurtured to ensure their sustainability," it said. The last change in the interest rate was made in November. Although keeping the rate unchanged could be surprising and disappointing for the business community, a sudden jump in the main inflation had created doubt over the rate cut. "Importantly from the point of view of monetary policy it is the outlook of inflation that matters," the central bank said. "The year-on-year CPI inflation has remained volatile during FY14. It increased sharply till November 2013 then declined for [a] few months before increasing again to 9.2pc in April 2014." The average CPI inflation for July-April, FY14 is 8.7pc; higher than the year's target of 8pc. The policy statement said: "The main reason for this volatility is unexpected movements in food prices and changes in administered prices." The SBP expects average CPI inflation to remain around 8pc during FY15, barring any exogenous shock. The central bank said the GDP growth during the current financial year is expected at around 4.1pc. "Indicators of current economic activity are looking better. Provisional estimates of real GDP show a growth of 4.1pc for FY14." This growth has been led by a 5.8pc increase in the industrial output, credit off-take by the private sector was almost two and a half times more during the first nine months of the current financial year compared to the same period of last year and the monthly average gross credit disbursements are about Rs150 billion higher this year. The SBP said these trends show that interest rate is only one factor in affecting economic activity. It is the improvement in sentiments, relatively better availability of energy, and reduction in government borrowing from the banking system that has encouraged the private sector. The continuation of these trends, however, would require a sustained effort to ease impediments to growth through implementation of necessary reforms. It said that because of the gap between imports and exports, the trade deficit remains at an elevated level of \$12.2bn during July-March, FY14. Mainly due to robust growth in workers' remittances, the external current account deficit, at \$2.3bn, seems quite manageable at this point in time. This is because the capital and financial account net flows have also improved to \$2.2bn, considerably easing the pressure on the balance of payments position. "In fact, the SBP was able to meet the IMF's adjusted Net International Reserve (NIR) target for end-March 2014 by a wide margin." Despite a shortfall in tax collection, the government has been able to contain the fiscal deficit at 3.1pc during July-March, FY14, said the SBP. Consequently, government borrowing for budgetary support from the banking system has come down to Rs276bn between July 1 and May 2, FY14 compared to Rs1,021bn during the corresponding period of last year. In particular, government borrowing from the SBP shows a net retirement of Rs287bn as compared to an increase of Rs393bn last year. Moreover, the government

Economy's size swells to \$245 billion

The news, 17th May 2014

Govt eyes 7.2pc growth rate by 2016-17

Daily Dawn, 16th May 2014

US supports farmers grow off-season vegetables

Business Recorder, 15th May 2014

was also able to keep its borrowings from the central bank below the IMF target for end-March 2014. "Based on a balanced assessment of these considerations, the SBP's board of directors has decided to maintain the policy rate at 10 percent."

ISLAMABAD: The size of Pakistan's economy jumped to \$245 billion during the outgoing fiscal year (2013-14) against a revised estimate of \$232 billion in the last fiscal year (2012-13), official sources confirmed to The News on Friday. They said the economy's size is projected to go up to \$267 billion in the next fiscal year. Before the announcement of the budget 2014-15, the Prime Minister will approve the macroeconomic figures at the National Economic Council. The government will present the next budget document on June 3 into the parliament. In rupee term, the size of the economy is projected to touch Rs28,901 billion in the FY15 budget. The sources calculated one percent of gross domestic product at Rs289 billion. Thus, the country's fiscal deficit of 4.8 percent of GDP will require bridge financing of Rs1,387 billion in the next fiscal year. The Federal Board of Revenue will have to collect Rs2,770 to Rs2,800 billion next year to bring tax to GDP ratio close to 9.7 percent, said the sources. The annual plan coordination committee (APCC) is expected to be convened on May 22. But, it depends on the availability of the Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal, who is on a visit to US at present. The minister is expected to come back on May 22. Therefore, the APCC will be convened on the same or the next day. However, some policymakers hinted at a possibility of no APCC meeting this year as was happened last time because of the absence of deputy chairman Planning Commission. The present government calculated the size of the economy at Rs25,402 billion, based on market price, for the ongoing fiscal year as against the revised estimate of Rs22,489 billion in the last fiscal year. The National Accounts Committee has validated the figure. The country's finalized budget deficit would rise to 8.2 to 8.3 percent of GDP for FY13 as against an earlier provisional figure of eight percent.

ISLAMABAD: After missing the economic growth target in its first year because of a poor show by agriculture and services sectors, the PML-N government has set an ambitious target to expand the economy at a rate of 7.2 per cent by the financial year of 2016-17. A meeting of the cabinet, presided over by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Thursday, cleared the "Budget Strategy Paper 2014-17", envisaging fiscal deficit at 4.8pc for the next financial year, rate of inflation at 7.5pc, federal development programme at Rs525 billion and tax revenue at Rs2.810 trillion. The meeting was informed that the federal budget was being planned for presentation in the National Assembly on June 3. The macroeconomic targets for the next fiscal year and an outline for the two subsequent years were finalized after the annual meeting of the National Accounts Committee in the morning approved data on the country's economic performance during the current fiscal year. The committee provisionally concluded that the growth rate stood at 4.14pc of GDP during the current fiscal year against a target of 4.4pc. This performance, however, was better than last year's 3.7pc. The committee has powers to approve the country's real economic indicators based on actual data. A lacklustre performance by the agriculture sector was the major reason behind slower than targeted economic growth rate. During 2014-15, the agriculture sector is estimated to have showed a growth rate of 2.12pc, significantly lower than a target of 3.8pc envisaged in the budget strategy paper last year. It was even lower than last year's 2.9pc growth rate. This was despite a bumper wheat crop of 25.3 million tons against last year's 24.2m tons. Cotton output this year was, however, reported at 12.7m bales against last year's 13m bales. The industrial sector was the major driving force behind 4.14pc GDP growth rate. It grew by 5.84pc during the current fiscal year against a target of 4.8pc. This showed a significant improvement over about 1.4pc of the last year. Among the industry's sub-sectors, large-scale manufacturing grew by 5.31pc against a target of 4.5pc and last year's growth rate of 4.1pc. A major improvement was seen in the electricity sector which grew by 3.7pc against a negative performance of 16.33pc last year. The services sector posted a growth rate of 4.29pc against a target of 4.6pc and last year's growth rate of 4.85pc. An official statement said the finance minister informed the cabinet that the government was reframing the budget structure for the next three years, placing emphasis on major policy objectives. As a consequence, some indicators set for three years as part of BSP last year would need to be changed. The cabinet was informed that an increase in the industrial sector and import of machinery for use in large-scale manufacturing was an indicator of growing economy. The performance of credit towards the private sector has increased approximately three times as compared to corresponding period of the last financial year. The cabinet also discussed the budget proposals for 2014-15. The prime minister praised the finance team for its persistent efforts to improve the overall economy and for coming up with a balanced three-year budgetary framework. Explaining his vision, Mr Sharif directed for taking all possible economic measures to place Pakistan amongst emerging economies of the region while ensuring maximum relief for people. He said the appreciation in the value of Pakistani rupee against the US dollar and consequent reduction in the prices of POL was possible because of pragmatic economic measures taken by the government. Mr Sharif stressed the need for maintaining the pace of development and economic growth in the coming years.

ISLAMABAD: The United States, through its Agency for International Development (USAID), showcased the results of Pakistani farmers using new technology to grow high value off-season vegetables here at its Vegetable Fair 2014. Acting Mission Director for USAID Pakistan Nancy Estes underscored the US government's commitment to develop Pakistan's agricultural sector: "The produce we see here today marks the introduction of greenhouse technology in Pakistan on a large scale. USAID's goal is to help farmers establish 1,200 high tunnels and to adopt modern farming practices. These initiatives will significantly transform vegetable farming, increase yields, create more jobs, and help farmers earn higher incomes," said US embassy statement here. A large

Govt plans new taxes in next budget

Daily Dawn, 14th May 2014

Remittances rise to \$12.89 billion in 10 months

The News, 13th May 2014

number of participants involved in the industry showcased Pakistani grown fruits and vegetables as well as related products and services at the fair. Vegetable Fair-2014 also connected farmers with packing specialists, marketing experts and exporters, helping them integrate into the global economy.

USAID's Agribusiness Project, which organized the fair, works to improve product quality and value, increase agriculture productivity, and remove constraints to agricultural production and marketing. Through the project, USAID also provides quality high yield seed, toolkits, low and high greenhouse tunnels, and technical assistance to Pakistani farmers. The tunnels enable farmers to produce off-season vegetables, greatly increasing land productivity and profitability. The United States, through USAID, boosts Pakistan's agricultural productivity by introducing advanced farming technologies, services, and practices; building irrigation infrastructure; and introducing improved water management practices. Over the last 18 months, US assistance has helped create 9,000 new jobs in Pakistan's agricultural sector and generate more than \$60 million in new Pakistani agriculture export orders.

ISLAMABAD: The government is set to introduce new taxes in the upcoming budget, in addition to Rs80 billion it hopes to collect this fiscal year by withdrawing tax exemptions. "We have to levy taxes for higher revenue collection in 2014-15," Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Afzal Bajwa told reporters on Tuesday after briefing the Senate Standing Committee on Finance on the performance of tax machinery. The statement is in contrast to Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's pledge last week that the budget 2014-15 will not bring new taxes. In its first budget, the PML-N government introduced more than Rs200bn taxes. Bajwa said total exemptions given through SROs are Rs480bn. Of these, only Rs240bn can be withdrawn which are believed to be benefiting the elite, he said. The decision will be finalized in a committee meeting to be held in a week. A senior tax official told Dawn that it depends on the government to withdraw all exemptions in this budget or spread it over a period of three years. "Next year's budget will have two major tax components — withdrawal of exemptions and introduction of new taxes." FBR's chairman said the total cost of tax exemptions is two per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). Of these, 0.9pc or 1pc can be withdrawn as recommended by the committee. He said the government would have to introduce new taxes as revenue collection could not grow without them. On the pattern of last year's seven new withholding taxes, the FBR is planning similar measures to collect easy money from the people. Bajwa hinted that the coming budget will introduce a string of revenue measures to raise the cost of doing business for those people who are not on the tax net. "We will introduce higher rates of taxes for the non-taxpayers," the chairman said. For example, the tax rate will be high for those who consume gas bill of around Rs15,000 a month, but do not exist on the tax roll. The government projected the budget deficit to fall to 4.8pc in 2014-15 from current year's 6.3pc, for which it will either have to increase revenue or reduce expenditure. But FBR's chairman said growth in economy and inflation is insufficient to ensure enough growth in revenue, suggesting that new revenue measures are inevitable. The tax base of Pakistan is lowest in the region. The government has issued more than 91,000 notices to potential taxpayers during this fiscal year. Of these, only 8,600 have voluntarily filed their tax returns. These people have deposited only Rs50 million in revenue. But an FBR official said that notices were issued to over 12,000 people involving a tax amount of Rs4.1bn. Former finance minister Saleem Mandviwalla criticised tax officials for the poor outcome of the drive to increase tax collection. He said the previous government introduced a tax reform bill which was lying with the parliament for the last nine months. "If you want to increase the tax base, re-introduce the bill in the parliament." The chairman admitted that a revenue shortfall of around Rs70bn will be witnessed in the last quarter of this fiscal year. He said overall shortfall in revenue collection from the budgetary projected target will be Rs170bn this year.

KARACHI: Remittances from overseas Pakistanis have shown a significant growth of 11.45 percent in the first 10 months of the current fiscal year, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said on Monday. Pakistani migrant workers sent home \$12.894 billion during July-April of FY14, up from \$11.569 billion remitted in the same period of the last fiscal year, the central bank said. Analysts believe that remittances from overseas workers are expected to be \$14.5 billion by the end of this fiscal year. However, some foresee remittances to surpass the mark of \$15 billion at the end of the current fiscal year that will fall on June 30. Remittances inflow to Pakistan was recorded at \$13.92 billion in FY13. "The current pace of the remittances is growing, which shows that the government is close to achieve its target of \$14.5 billion," Muzzamil Aslam, managing director at Emerging Economics Research, said. "Despite a steepest appreciation of around eight percent in the exchange rate since March, remittances continue to rise, depicting the confidence of the overseas Pakistani workers and diaspora on the national economy," he said. The rupee is stable and the foreign exchange reserves of the State Bank of Pakistan are at a comfortable level. "Expatriates rushing to bring money home, as there is no restriction on remittances to the country. Due to the government's amnesty schemes, what is happening is that the black foreign money is coming in the shape of white to the country," he added. Foreign remittances are the second source of foreign exchange for the country, after exports. The majority of this money (in absolute terms) flows to middle-income families to meet their expenses. The latest SBP figures show that inflow of remittances in July-April of FY14 from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, US, the UK, GCC countries, including Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman and the EU countries amounted to \$3.806 billion, \$2.522 billion, \$2.02 billion, \$1.798 billion, \$1.527 billion and \$355.31 million, respectively as compared to the inflows of \$3,371.59 million, \$2,312.01 million, \$1,819.85 million, \$1,611.11 million, \$1,331.67 million and \$297.69 million, respectively, in the same period of FY13. Remittances received from Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, Japan and other countries during the first 10 months of the current fiscal year amounted to \$857.31 million as

WB proposes steps to boost provincial revenues

Daily Dawn, 11th May 2014

Textile sector profits down by 9 percent

The News, 10th May 2014

Reserves rise to two-year high

Daily Dawn, 9th May 2014

against \$825.8 million received in the first 10 months of the last fiscal year. In April, the inflow of remittances from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, US, the UK, GCC countries, including Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman and the EU countries amounted to \$415.09 million, \$233.97 million, \$206.15 million, \$166.07 million, \$169.67 million and \$36.37 million, respectively, as compared to the inflows of \$392.28 million, \$226.07 million, \$183.19 million, \$176.14 million, \$135.81 million and \$28.65 million, respectively, in April 2013. Remittances received from Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, Japan and other countries during the 10th month of the current fiscal year (April FY14) amounted to \$84.51 million.

ISLAMABAD: Provinces have failed to effectively utilise the tax bases assigned to them under the 18th Amendment, and the World Bank has proposed measures to help them increase their revenue collection to over one per cent of GDP over the next two years. In a new report, the bank says provincial taxes, on the average, have contributed less the 4pc to overall tax collection, which is equivalent to less than 0.5pc of GDP. However, this contribution increased to almost 7pc after GST on services was transferred to provinces, for which Punjab and Sindh have set up adequate mechanisms to collect revenue. The report suggested four measures that can help provinces to increase their contribution to revenue, and finds significant scope in expanding the base of services GST by bringing import of services into the tax net or levying presumptive tax on informal services. Provinces can update the evaluation of properties by reducing the differential in rates of property tax for tented and owned properties, and devolving the property tax to city governments. The World Bank report suggests that provinces can levy a presumptive agricultural income tax at marketing stage; and strengthen provincial tax administrations by modernising them not only to support enforcement and audit, but taxpayers' compliance and e-filing, one of the major obstacles identified by the 'Doing Business' reports. The government has designed a tax reform strategy aimed to increase tax collection from 9.7pc to 14pc of GDP by 2016-17, estimating that no less than two-thirds of such efforts will have to come from the federal government and one quarter from the provincial governments. The success will however, rely on significant improvement in tax compliance and in the broadening of the tax base by improving registration, closing the tax gaps and making taxation more equitable. Such a goal is consistent with its commitment to achieve a sustainable deficit of around 4 per cent of GDP by 2016-17 where over half of such adjustment should come from revenue mobilization. About the elimination of most tax exemptions and loopholes granted through statutory regulatory orders (SROs), the report says that the government has so far issued no new SROs granting so-called "special exemptions" compared to some 56 in the previous fiscal year, and by end-December 2015 legislation is expected to permanently prohibit this practice. FBR plans to start eliminating the first batch of SROs identified for the budget 2014-15 to be approved next month, as part of a package of identified actions totalling 0.75 per cent of GDP. Necessary changes will also be made in the tax laws to prohibit a future resort to such ad hoc policy measures. While referring to improvements in revenue collection as a result of tax administration reforms, the report says one of the critical success factors for reforms is its broad ownership by the country. In Pakistan with the exception of few occasions, there has never been a broad-based ownership of reforms nor has any reform package been designed and formulated by the economic managers of the country. In most cases, the main motivation for reforms has been to secure infusion of short term liquidity to avert the impending foreign currency crisis. As soon as the liquidity situation improves, the will to continue with reforms wanes. This moment is then utilized by powerful interest groups to reverse or at least dilute the policy content. Government policies are then reversed or at the minimum diluted, report says.

KARACHI: Textile sector has posted a decline of nine percent in earnings during the nine months (July-March) of FY14, according to a brokerage house on Friday. "Decline in profits is mainly attributed to massive drop in the earnings during the third quarter of the fiscal year led by appreciation of the rupee against the dollar, eroding yarn margins and weak textile exports, which declined by 1.1 percent," Tahir Saeed at Topline Securities, said. The textile sector performed well in the first half of the fiscal year but then the rupee appreciated by almost six percent in the third quarter of FY14 (Jan-Mar 2014) against the dollar, causing profits of the export-oriented textile companies drop significantly by 73 percent only in the third quarter of FY14. This significant drop in profitability in the last quarter eroded the overall earnings of the textile sector for nine months, he said. Although, Pakistan's overall textile exports increased by 2.3 percent in dollar terms but the rupee appreciation against the dollar offset those gains. Thus, textile exports, in rupees term, declined by 1.1 percent in the quarter ended March 31 to reach Rs358 billion against Rs361 billion in the previous quarter. Major decline, in rupee terms, can be observed in the export of raw cotton, knitwear and cotton yarn, which declined by 43.5 percent, four percent and 3.4 percent, respectively. Decline in raw cotton and cotton yarn can be attributed to relatively lesser orders from China. In addition, availability of cheaper Indian yarn in the local market further dented the profit margins as evident from the eight percent fall in the primary margins of yarn. "Further rupee appreciation in the current quarter, subdued orders from China, any disruption in the gas supply to the textile sector and materialization of the proposed 2-17 percent tax on the exports of textile products may exert further pressure on the profits of the textile sector." "That said, the recently awarded GSP Plus status from the EU and resultant surge in the local demand will likely to ease-off this pressure to some extent. New cotton crop, which is likely to reach the market by August, will set the direction for the next season," Saeed added.

KARACHI: The foreign exchange reserves of the country rose to two-year high with a further addition of \$198 million during the week ended on May 2. The State Bank reported on Thursday that the reserves rose to \$12.044 billion, which included SBP's \$7.24bn and commercial banks'

Potato import may cost over \$60m

Daily Dawn, 9th May 2014

GSP Plus yet to reflect in textile stocks

The News, 8th May 2014

\$4.804bn. At the end of fiscal year 2012, the total reserves of the country stood at \$11.019bn. The holdings of commercial banks dropped to \$4.8bn during the last two years, as these stood at \$5.011bn in fiscal year 2012. However, SBP's holdings rose to \$7.24bn from \$6.008bn in FY-12. The main reason for higher SBP reserves was inflows from IMF, the World Bank and other bilateral sources. "The increase in the central bank's reserves is primarily attributed to inflow of \$403m from multilateral and bilateral sources, of which \$400m were received from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)," said the State Bank. During the week ending on May 2, the SBP made a payment of \$210m from its reserves on account of external debt-servicing and other official payments.

KARACHI: The imposition of 25 per cent regulatory duty on potato exports and making its import at zero per cent have yet to make the vegetable cheaper in domestic markets. The government issued two statutory regulatory orders (SROs) on May 2 to fix regulatory duty on potato exports at 25pc. On the same day, another SRO was issued stating that no regulatory duty and other levies would be charged on import of 200,000 tonnes of potatoes from May 5 to July 31. The government is trying to keep duty-free import of potato till July 31 to curb prices in Ramazan, starting from end of June. The issue of removing duty on imports and fixing regulatory duty on exports had been in news for the last many days, but consumers have continued to pay Rs50 per kg for one of the most sought-after edible items. Retailers blamed lingering high wholesale price of the main staple food at Rs45 per kg. However, the government has claimed that the country had surplus stocks of 1.1 million tonnes of potatoes lying in the cold storage. But retailers and wholesalers said that more than 500,000 tonnes of potato had already found way to Afghanistan and Iran through informal channels, thus rising prices in local markets. Importers and market traders are reviewing options to import potato from various countries after the government's decision on imports.

Waheed Ahmed, the co-chairman of All Pakistan Fruit and Vegetable Exporters, Importers and Merchants Association, told Dawn that in case import is made by sea from India, potato would cost Rs38-42 per kg keeping in view rates of \$375-425 a tonne (C&F). Imports by road through Wagah border from India would definitely be lower at \$300 a tonnes (C&F), around Rs30-34 per kg. "In view above price in India, the import bill of 200,000 tonnes of potato till July 31 is estimated at \$60m-80m based on one dollar value of around Rs100 in the inter-bank market," he said. Ahmed claimed that some 80 trucks loaded with potato had arrived at Wagah border in the last three days in which the landed cost was Rs30 per kg. It was sold at Rs38 per kg in Lahore's wholesale market after adding transportation and other expenses. One truck was carrying a load of 10-12 tonnes. He said importers and traders would also examine Chinese import option where new crop would arrive in the next 10 to 15 days and shipments take 18 to 22 days to reach Pakistan. Imports from India arrive in Pakistan in five to seven days while transit time from Bangladesh is 16 to 18 days. Communication with the exporters of India, Bangladesh and China was under way to see the possibility of imports from these countries, he said, urging the government to keep a check on the Iran and Afghanistan borders so that Pakistan's cold storage stocks and imported potato should not reach there in the garb of smuggling. The government, he said, should devise a policy now that it should not hurt the interest of growers. To ensure a reasonable price, the government should fix Jan 1 as the date of harvesting of potatoes for growers so that immature potatoes do not find their way into the market.

KARACHI: The grant of generalized scheme of preferences (GSP) Plus by the European Union to Pakistan doesn't seem to do any good to the textile companies listed on the Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE) with 46 of them having recorded zero turnover in April 2014, The News learnt on Wednesday. Out of total 569 listed companies, 111 stocks registered zero turnover in April 2014, albeit there was an overall 6.5 percent increase in the KSE 100-index during the month. The data revealed that 46 out of 180 listed textile companies suffered zero turnover. Others companies with zero turnover were one each from electricity, engineering, forestry (paper and board), healthcare equipment and services, industrial transportation and travel and leisure, two each from chemicals, general industrials and industrial metals and mining, three each from commercial banks and automobile and parts and future contracts, four construction and materials, five household goods, seven equity investment instruments, eight non-life insurance, and 10 each from food producers and financial services. The KSE-100 index is the benchmark of the KSE, but only three major textile companies, including Azgard Nine, Nishat Chunian and Nishat Mills Limited, are part of it. Textile is the largest export sector of the country but its weight in the stock exchange remains behind other sectors i.e. oil and gas, banking, chemicals and cement. There has not been a big change in the demand of textile shares in the market despite GSP+ effective from January 2014. Under the GSP plus, 20 percent of Pakistani exports are allowed to enter the EU market at zero tariff and 70 percent at preferential rates. "Some textile shares recorded a growth for a few months but after rupee revaluation, the demand of textile stocks fell again," said Yaqoob Habib Khandwala, a small investor at the KSE. US dollar rate was hovering around Rs104 to Rs105 in January this year, which increased to Rs108 in March. However, rupee dragged it down at Rs98 and profit margins of textile sector were reduced.

Azfar Naseem, director research and business development at BMA Capital, said that spinning sector of Pakistan was presently facing problems because of a decline in the margins but it had nothing to do with the GSP+, as the sector was not the beneficiary. "The value-added textile sector was a beneficiary but that was also facing issues after the rupee appreciation," he said. "Overall, all the textile companies are under pressure as big players of value-added sector were also spinners at the same time and their margins had declined."

Bilal Mulla, former chairman of Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA), said big brokers need some reason to raise prices of textile shares in the stock exchange. "They earn on fluctuation in share prices," he said. There were several other

SECP registrations witness 43pc growth in April

Business Recorder, 7th May 2014

Auto sales at 99,033 units

The News, 6th May 2014

Sitara to invest Rs2bn in coal power project

Daily Dawn, 5th May 2014

reasons for not benefiting from the GSP+, as gas and electricity crisis had forced the factories to work at 50 percent shortage, Mulla said. "We are not able to meet the deliveries of buyers as factories remain shut or partially closed most of the times," he said. "Law and order situation is also worse, which results in closing down of factories amid strikes." Former chief PRGMEA said that an industrialist would not benefit from GSP+ since industrial gas connections were not available for the industry for the next five years.

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) registered 467 new limited liability companies in April, raising the total corporate portfolio to 63,681 companies. Compared to the corresponding month last year, a very healthy growth of 43% was witnessed in the registration of companies. In addition, the SECP granted 3 licenses to non-profit associations, said a statement issued by the SECP here on Wednesday. Around 92 percent companies were registered as private limited companies; while around 5 percent were registered as single member companies. Three percent of the companies have been registered as public limited companies and associations under Section 42 of the 1984 Companies Ordinance. The trading sector took the lead in new registrations with the incorporation of 55 companies, followed by services and tourism with 52 companies each, information and technology with 32, construction with 30, corporate agricultural farming with 25, communications with 19, pharmaceutical with 18 and food and beverages with 15 companies. The foreign investment has been witnessed in 27 new companies. These companies have foreign investors from Belgium, China, Egypt, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, North Korea, Panama, South Africa, Turkey, the UK and the US. These companies are from trading, construction, education, engineering, fuel and energy, power generation, cables and electric goods, chemical, pharmaceutical, communications, corporate agricultural farming, ginning, leather and tanneries, steel and allied, textile and transport sectors. During the month, 151 companies were registered at the Company Registration Office (CRO), Lahore, followed by 124 and 116 companies registered at CRO Karachi and Islamabad respectively. The CROs in Multan, Peshawar and Faisalabad registered 37, 20 and 13 companies respectively. The Quetta CRO registered 4, while the Sukkur CRO registered 2 companies. The returns for an increase in the authorized capital of 82 companies were accepted, with a total authorized capital increment of Rs 30.36 billion. In addition, 92 companies filed returns for increase in the paid-up capital with a total increment of Rs6.82 billion.

KARACHI: Local auto sales were recorded at 99,033 units in nine months of this fiscal year (9MFY14) against 96,010 units in the similar period last fiscal, showing a slight improvement in the industry performance, revealed data by Alternate Research on Monday. In 9MFY14, Pak Suzuki Motor Company (PSMC) retained its dominance in the market with 56 percent market share followed by Indus Motors Company (IMC) with 27 percent and Honda Atlas Cars (HCAR) with 17 percent. Overall, cars with 1300cc engine capacity commanded the highest market share of 51 percent during nine months, while 1000cc and 800cc held 13 percent and 37 percent market share, respectively. The 1300cc is the leader in all segments with consumers having presently five brands offered by all three assemblers. In this category, IMC has the highest market share with just one variant Corolla. HCAR has its presence in this segment only with the popular Honda City and Honda Civic. With Corolla reaching its maturity age, the market share in the luxury segment has been shifted to HCAR, said Ahmed. However, IMC still held the highest market share of 53 percent in 9MFY14. Both the assemblers have to be extremely sensitive towards setting the price of their cars, he said. If Corolla and City are launched at the same time, the dominance of one over the other assembler would shrink. Therefore, both the assemblers launch their models after a span of few years after realising the maturity age of their competitor's variant, said the analyst. PSMC has the lowest market share in the luxury segment. HCAR sold 12,957 units of City aspire in the current fiscal year to date. It was launched on April 17, 2013. Ever since Hyundai Santro was phased out in April 2010, PSMC had dominated the 1000cc segment and cherished its monopoly with two brands Cultus and Alto. PSMC is facing competition from the imported used vehicles. Nearly, 80 percent of imported cars in FY12 comprised of 600cc to 1000cc vehicles, said HM Shahzad, chairman of the All Pakistan Motor Dealers Association. Local assemblers are not giving anything new, dealers argued. Moreover, they keep increasing their prices leaving no option for the consumers other than used imported vehicles, he said. Therefore, the dealers plead government to increase the age limit on used imported vehicles, said Syed Ali Ahmed, auto analyst at Alternate Research. The volume of auto industry is expected to grow by four percent in the fiscal 2013-14, though the industry's performance remained subdued during the last fiscal year. Major reasons behind the dismal performance of local auto industry in the last fiscal year, Ahmed said, were the import of used cars, absence of auto industry development programme and economic slowdown in Pakistan. The industry officials are expecting AIDP-II any time before the budget FY15. According to the Alternate Research, HCAR's cumulative volumes sold were recorded at 23,271 in FY14 (Apr-Mar) – highest since calendar year 2007.

It is after a long gap of 10 years that Chief Executive Officer of Sitara Chemicals Industries Mian Mohammad Adrees plans to invest in his business. But this time around he is not investing in capacity expansion or in any new product. He is investing in coal power to revive a closed capacity. "It's a captive power plant, which will produce 35 megawatts of electricity that we require to bring our full caustic soda production capacity into production," Mian Adrees told Dawn in an interview. The Rs2bn project which will be financed by a consortium of banks and the LCs (letters of credit) for the supply of equipments — boiler, turbine and generator (BTG) — is expected to be established before the end of the present financial year. Sitara Chemicals is the largest manufacturer of caustic soda in the country with a production capacity of 600 tonnes a day. For some time now it is using only one-

third of the capacity, or equal to the total capacity of the country's third largest caustic soda producer, Engro, because of gas shortages. The second largest plant, Ittehad Chemicals, is running less than half of its capacity of 400 tonnes. "Running the plant on costly electricity is not viable. Besides our main consumer, textile industry, in Punjab is in trouble - also because of energy crunch," he said. During the first three quarters of the present financial year, Sitara Chemicals posted revenues of Rs6.66b, up from Rs6.09b last year. The profit after tax stood at Rs746m, slightly down from Rs756m a year ago. The EPS (earning per share) declined to Rs34.8 from Rs35.3 as reported in the unaudited accounts of the company for the period July-March. The last time Mian Adress had planned investment was in 2004 when he wanted to set up a PVC manufacturing project with a total capacity of 6,000 tonnes and at a cost of Rs2-2.5bn. The plan had to be shelved after Pepco demanded a staggering amount of Rs2.2bn from him for the construction of a grid station to supply electricity for his new plant. Now the cost of putting up the same PVC project has more than doubled. "Until that project was shelved, we had been investing continuously," he said. His decision to invest in coal power 'amounts to his vote of confidence' in the economic policies of the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. "Security and energy shortages are the two problems that are crippling life and economy in this country. It is because of this reason that foreign investors are not returning to Pakistan. If we succeed in addressing these issues, the economy will start to boom," he contended. While he was critical of the previous government economic management, he was happy to note that the Nawaz Sharif government is seriously trying to tackle the issues confronting the economy. "We cannot predict success of this government. Nevertheless, it is trying. And the key to success is in making an effort rather than sitting still and waiting for miracles to happen," he argued. His family started business after migration from Amritsar in Indian Punjab by opening a cloth shop in Faisalabad at the time of Independence and within a span of 10 years ventured into textile manufacturing by setting up once one of the three largest textile mills of the country - Sitara Textiles. In the 1980s they started to export textiles before diversifying into spinning and chemicals business in the later years. In 1994, the group ventured into energy sector by putting up a gas-fired plant, Sitara Energy, with generation capacity of 80 megawatts of electricity. By the time the project became operational, Punjab was hit by gas shortages. "Since the plant is run on oil and has never achieved its optimal capacity," he said. Energy crunch, especially gas shortages, has created an uneven field for industry - be it chemical or textile or any other - in Punjab vis-a-vis Karachi, according to him. "The energy crisis, adverse security environment, exchange rate appreciation and slowdown in textile industry demand (for caustic soda) because of reduction in textile exports owing to currency appreciation is proving challenging for his company to maintain its growth momentum. Engro is running its full caustic soda production capacity because it has access to gas," he said. "Gas shortages and dependence on high cost electricity is affecting our margins as well as forced us to discontinue exports to India and Sri Lanka. It is not viable to run the plant on electricity at the present rates and still earn profits, especially when our major consumer - textile industry - is facing a slowdown," he said. Once the coal plant is established and starts fueling production, he hopes to not only resume his exports to India and Sri Lanka but also create 1000 new jobs at his factory.

Pakistan receives \$400m loan from ADB

The News, 4th May 2014

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan received \$400 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Saturday on account of support to the government of Pakistan's ongoing reforms to tackle the chronic energy crisis, a statement said. In recognition of the government's commitment to carry out reforms, particularly those in the energy sector, which is important for the overall economic development, the Asian Development Bank had, on April 24, approved the loan worth \$400 million for Pakistan and an agreement to this effect was signed on April 28 at the Finance Ministry, it said. Finance Minister Ishaq Dar had already indicated that coal power projects will be set up in various parts of the country with the help of the soft loan, which is virtually a free loan and reflected the trust of the international community in the government efforts to improve the economy, the statement said. The loan is part of an assistance programme, which will underwrite reforms needed to make the energy sector affordable, reliable, sustainable and secure. It will accelerate industrial activity needed to boost economic growth and help create jobs, which are key to reducing poverty levels, it said. The ADB is the lead development organisation in Pakistan's energy sector, supporting energy efficiency, transmission, distribution, cross-border natural gas pipelines, power generation and renewable energy projects. The full programme is expected to total \$1.2 billion, with future commitments, it added.

Improved quality of products to increase Pak exports to EU, UK

Business Recorder, 3rd May 2014

ISLAMABAD: Economist Abid Qayyum Sulehri said that historically economic ties between British and Pakistan had been since the creation of Pakistan and even British government granted visas to thousands of Pakistanis after construction of Mangla Dam. Talking to Radio Pakistan, he said that British people express their concerns over any mishap inside Pakistan and Pakistani diaspora in UK also play role in decision making in Britain. He said that Pakistan was major beneficiary of several British development funds. He said that GSP Plus status was awarded to Pakistan for four years and Pakistan's performance on environmental and women rights would be monitored. Sulehri said that Pakistani exports to EU and UK could be enhanced with improved quality of products and export of substandard products could result in ban on Pakistani exports to European markets. Former diplomat B.A. Malik said that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to UK was very important because he held successful meetings with British key government figures. He said that government should try to reduce political temperature inside the country so that foreign investors could think about investing in Pakistan. He said that UK could invest in defence, energy, education, counter terrorism and other sectors in Pakistan and some agreements had also been inked in this regard. B.A. Malik said that UK also played important role in award of GSP Plus status to Pakistan by European Union and now

Pakistan, Turkey to form working group in power sector

Daily Dawn, 2nd May 2014

GSP Plus status a great opportunity for Pakistan

Business Recorder, 2nd May 2014

ADB, Pakistan sign \$167 million deal

The News, 1st May 2014

British could also play role in the resolution of Kashmir issue. Talking about Prime Minister's recent visit to UK, former Ambassador Javed Hussain said, "Pakistan and Britain have vowed to expand cooperation in different sectors. Both the countries renewed their commitment to increase bilateral trade to three billion pounds next year". Dr. Nauman Sattar from Quaid-i-Azam University also said that Britain has agreed to assist Pakistan in improving the business environment and attracting investment in the country. Both the countries have agreed to exchange expertise and business dialogue on energy, he added.

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Turkey have agreed to form a technical working group in the energy sector to chalk out ways for working together. While Pakistan has on its agenda privatisation of power distribution companies, Turkey has successfully done so and created a multi-buyer and multi-sector electricity market. Secretary Water and Power Saifullah Chatta, who is currently in Ankara as the head of a three-member delegation, on Thursday met Secretary of the Turkish Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Metin Kilci, who offered to help Pakistan in organizing a road show to attract Turkish entrepreneurs by showcasing potential projects in the hydro, coal and renewable energy sector. Mr Kilci informed that Turkey generated about \$50 billion by privatizing its power sector. He said that as a result of privatization, the public sector is saving over \$10bn a year. Similarly, line losses were also reduced substantially in the post-privatisation era, he added. Deputy Director General of State Hydraulic Works, Yakup Basogulu, informed that Turkish entrepreneurs have great experience in hydro projects, and that the country's investors would be interested in such projects in Pakistan. President of Privatization Administration of the Turkish Prime Ministry Ahmet Aksu gave a briefing on power sector privatization. He also offered to share the relevant legal framework whereby Turkey was successful in privatizing its energy sector. Ambassador Muhammad Haroon Shaukat, Chief Engineering Advisor of the Ministry of Water and Power, Asjad Imtiaz Ali, and Director-General of Energy Management at Alternate Energy Development Board, Musaddiq Ahmed Khan Tahirkheli also attended. The Pakistani delegation will also talk with the executives of Turkish companies in the renewable energy sector to review progress on the ongoing Turkish projects in Pakistan and discuss new initiatives.

ISLAMABAD: Economic expert Mirza Ikhtiar Baig said that Pakistan has got an opportunity to utilize the GSP Plus status given to it by European countries. Talking to Radio Pakistan, he said that the current visit of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to UK will restore investors' confidence to invest in Pakistan. He said similarly, Pakistan will also benefit from British expertise in educational fields as British have pledged to train Pakistan teachers, he added. He said Pakistan is not a new place for British investors and they have previous experience in this regard. Dr. Ghulam Mustafa of Peshawar University also said that education has been one of the main issues during PM Nawaz Sharif's visit to UK. According to Ghulam Mustafa, we still have some very serious issues in education sector. The class rooms' environment, curriculum, and teaching methods prevalent in Pakistan are the ones that used to be in practice in 16th century Europe, said Ghulam Mustafa. Providing training to both male and female teachers is the need of the day, he added. Dr. Talat Wizarat, who works at Institute of Business Administration (IBA), said that there is need for expansion in education to accommodate the expanding number of youth in Pakistan. According Mrs. Wizarat, higher education in Pakistan is facing problems related to standard and quality. The training which British will provide to Pakistani teachers will greatly contribute to improving the standard of education in Pakistan, she added. Talat Wizarat said that there is large number of NGOs working for the promotion of education in the country but majority of them do not have satisfactory record. She said women teacher can produce better results at primary and middle level.

ISLAMABAD: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Pakistan on Wednesday signed an agreement to invest \$167 million to improve the country's power distribution systems. Power outages continue to take place in major cities and rural parts of the country as the gap between demand and supply increase because of the weak distribution system. Nargis Sethi, Secretary Economic Affairs Division and Werner E. Liepach, ADB's Country Director for Pakistan signed the loan agreement. "An efficient power distribution system is crucial to allow the power to reach consumers. The investment will help rehabilitate Pakistan's ageing power distribution infrastructure waiting for up gradation," said Werner Leapach. The loan is meant for Tranche-4 of the Power Distribution Enhancement Investment Programme under the multitranche financing facility (MFF). The MFF was approved in 2008 to invest \$810 million in priority areas to improve distribution systems and help Pakistan meet its pressing energy needs. The programme aims to rehabilitate, augment and expand power distribution systems and remove system bottlenecks. The power projects to be completed by December 2016 will augment the network and improve performance of the power distribution system, which is essential to increase the overall efficiency of the networks and to bridge the widening demand and supply gap of power in Pakistan. "This project is to upgrade transformer capacity at 284 grid stations which will bring stability in the power distribution network," said Adnan Tareen, ADB's Energy Specialist. Financing for the first tranche of \$252 million, second tranche of \$242 million, and third tranche of \$245 million have already been provided and implementation is going on in more than 400 sub-projects which upon completion will help reduce overloading of the system and improve power supply to consumers. ADB, based in Manila, is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration. Established in 1966, it is owned by 67 members – 48 from the region

HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTIONS IN ECONOMIC SECTOR

Pakistan Microfinance Network (PMN)

PMN is a member driven network with a vision to expand access to formal financial services in Pakistan. PMN issues its quarterly report namely Micro Watch. According to issue 29, quarter 1st of 2014, the total number of branches is 2,313 in 94 districts. The penetration rate is 10.40% with 2,999,186 active borrowers. The gross loan portfolio is 57,068 million (PKR). The total number of loans disbursed is 766,942 with total disbursement of 18,841. PMN offers an average loan size of 24,566 (PKR). The network has a strength of 5,854,688 savers with the total worth of 34,450 million (PKR) of saving. The average saving balance is 5,884 (PKR). The total number of policy holders of the PMN are 3,179,341 and the sum insured is 42,344 million (PKR).

AKHUWAT

Progress Report as of April 2014

| PROGRESS INDICATOR | TOTAL |
|--|-------------------|
| Total Benefiting Families | 511,739 |
| Active Loans Utilized by Males Entrepreneurs | 318,159 |
| Active Loans Utilized by Females Entrepreneurs | 193,580 |
| Amount Disbursed | PKR 8,024,142,842 |
| Percentage Recovery | 99.83% |
| Active Loans | 216,697 |
| Outstanding Loan Portfolio | PKR 2,154,526,782 |
| Number of Branches | 260 |
| Number of Cities and Towns | 186 |

KASHF FOUNDATION

General Loan and Outreach
Active Clients and Portfolio

| | Jan – March 2014 | Oct – Dec 2013 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Total Kashf Clients | 336,243 | 323,8200 |
| Cumulative Portfolio | 4,396,104,758 | 4,026,530,363 |
| Cumulative Loans in Quarter | | |
| | Jan – March 2014 | Oct – Dec 2013 |
| Cumulative Loans | 1,761,164 | 1,696,311 |
| Amount Disbursed | 1,823,854,000 | 1,691,772,000 |
| Loans Disbursed | 63,581 | 60,988 |
| Average Loan Size | Rs. 28,123 | Rs. 27,557 |

Citizen Damage Compensation Program (CDCP)

Government of Pakistan, in collaboration with the Provincial Governments, set up a Citizens' Damage Compensation Program (CDCP) to support and provide financial relief to the affected households of the worst floods of 2010 and 2011. As of 30th April 2014 CDCP has processed 1,208,303 households and distributed a cash amount of 46,523,640,000.

The province and region wise breakdown is given below

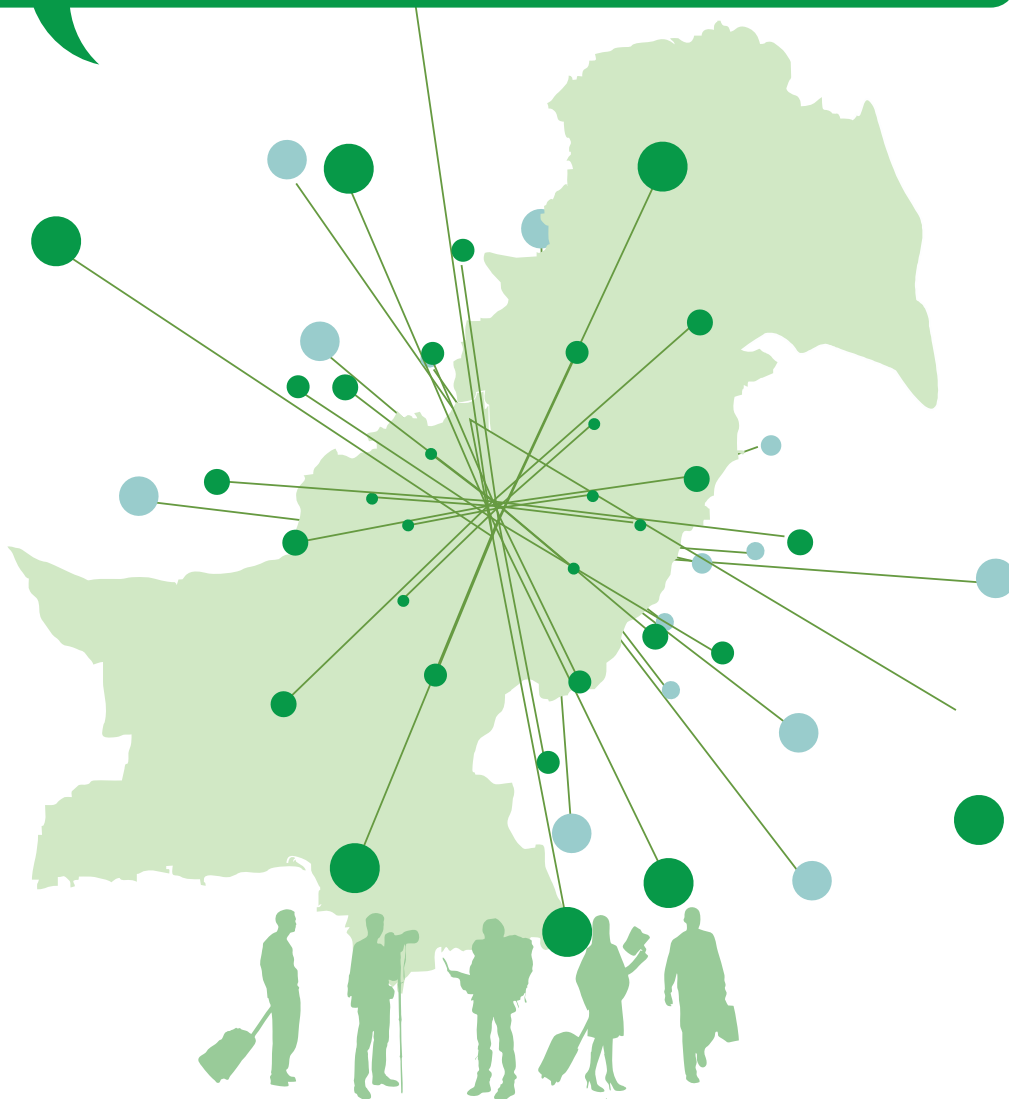
- AJK: Case Processed 14,309 with amount disbursed 570,000,000
- GB: Case Processed 12,445 with amount disbursed 496,720,000
- KP: Case Processed 302,314 with amount disbursed 12,050,060,000
- Baluchistan: Case Processed 117,295 with amount disbursed 3,415,100,000
- Punjab: Case Processed 345,859 with amount disbursed 13,813,760,000
- Sindh: Case Processed 416,081 with amount disbursed 16,178,000,000

Association for Gender Awareness & Human Empowerment (AGAHE)

Credit & Enterprise Development Loan (CED)

Number of target districts: 02
 Number of target tehsils: 03
 Number of target UCs: 36
 Number of field units: 04
 Number of villages: 129
 Number of COs formed: 842
 Total Clients: 7,887
 Number of active clients: 3,825
 Amount disbursed: PKR 133,758,000
 Outstanding Loan Portfolio: PKR 125,905,000
 Recovery Rate: 100%
 OSS: 127.29%

SPONSOR'S MESSAGE



TO SHARE YOUR MESSAGE WITH THOUSANDS OF ECONOMIC INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

Source: Pakistan Bureau Statistics

Economy Profile –District Hyderabad

Since district Hyderabad is an urban district, where 80% of the population resides in urban areas, sources of livelihood are diversified for the resident population. While agriculture is the main source of employment for the rural population, in the urban areas of the district, people are engaged in various other economic activities like trade, services, personal business, and government and private jobs. Hyderabad city is the main trading center of Hyderabad district.

Agriculture

Hyderabad contributes significantly in agriculture sector of Sindh because its climate is suitable for production of various crops including the Kharif crops of cotton, rice and sugarcane and the Rabi crops of wheat, gram and oil seeds. The Hyderabad taluka, which is predominantly rural, due to its soil and topography, is an ideal place for crop and fruits cultivation. The other three talukas i.e., Hyderabad City, Latifabad and Qasimabad are urban populated talukas where agriculture is negligible.

Total reported area of the district is 100,000 hectares, out of which 44,000 hectares (44%) are cultivated. The remaining 56% of the total reported area is un-cultivated; out of which 43,000 hectares are not available for cultivation, 7,000 hectares are forest area and 6,000 hectares are culturable waste.

Land Utilization of District Hyderabad

| Unit | Hectares |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Total Area | 100,000 |
| Annual Cropped Area | 47,000 |
| Cultivated Area | 44,000 |
| Un Cultivated Area | 56,000 |
| Forest Area | 7000 |
| Not Available For cultivation | 43,000 |
| Culturable waste | 6000 |

Source: Sindh Bureau of Statistics 2011

Crops Production in District Hyderabad

| Crop | Area Sown in 2009-10 (Hectares) | Production in 2009-10 (Tonnes) |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Maize | 115 | 60 |
| Rice | 1,669 | 4,929 |
| Wheat | 15,012 | 57,553 |
| Jowar | 428 | 262 |
| Bajra | 40 | 25 |
| Sugar Cane | 5,983 | 348,916 |
| Cotton | 7,896 | 65,464(in Bales) |

Source: Sindh Bureau of statistics 2011

Industry

District Hyderabad has a well-established industrial base which is a major source of livelihood for the residents of this district. The cottage industries also play a significant role in the economy of this district.

The district has two major industrial estates. Sindh Small Industries Corporation (SSIC) Industrial Estate is situated on the outskirts of Hyderabad city, on Tando Muhammad Khan road. This industrial estate is spread over 50 acres of land. There are a total of 63 industrial units in this industrial estate out of which 47 are currently functional and 16 have been declared as sick industries. Major industries include the glass bangles industries, oil mills, flour mills, light engineering and plastic works industries.

Sindh Industrial & Trading Estate (SITE) is another industrial estate situated in this district. SITE is spread over 1,264 acres and is the biggest industrial and trading zone of this district. There are 389 industrial units in this industrial estate out of which 166 are currently running units and 223 are sick industries. Major industries include Textile Industries (spinning, yarn), glass bangles industries, oil mills, flour mills, light engineering and plastic works.

In addition to these industrial estates within the district, there are two other industrial estates established in the vicinity of this district i.e., SITE located at Kotri and SITE located at Super Highway (M9). Though these industrial estates are outside the district boundary, these also provide employment to the residents of the district.

Sindh Small Industries Corporation Industrial Estate, Hyderabad

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Total number of Industrial Units | 63 |
| Total number of Running Units | 47 |
| Total number of Sick Units | 16 |

Source: Small & Medium Enterprise development Authority (SMEDA), "A Brief Profile of Hyderabad"

Sindh Industrial and Trading Estate, Hyderabad

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Total number of Industrial Units | 389 |
| Total number of Running Units | 166 |
| Total number of Sick Units | 223 |

Source: Small & Medium Enterprise development Authority (SMEDA), "A Brief Profile of Hyderabad"

Livestock

Livestock sector maintains a unique position within the agriculture sector of Pakistan. It contributes 51% to the value addition in agriculture sector of Pakistan. It also contributes 9% to the GDP of Pakistan. Besides, this sector provides foreign earnings, dairy products' needs, food security and daily cash income to the people of Pakistan. It helps to reduce the income inequalities, especially in case of emergencies (floods, crop failure). Hence this sector is considered as the most secure source of livelihood for small farmers and landless poor. The share of Sindh province in livestock population of Pakistan is 20%. The livestock population of district Hyderabad is given in the following table.

Livestock in District Hyderabad

| Animal | Number |
|-----------|---------|
| Cattle | 76,000 |
| Buffaloes | 309,000 |
| Sheep | 29,000 |
| Goats | 296,000 |
| Camels | 1000 |
| Horses | 2000 |
| Poultry | 316,000 |
| Asses | 16,000 |

Source: Pakistan Census livestock, 2006

Fisheries

Apart from marine fisheries, inland fisheries are practiced in rivers, lakes, dams and ponds etc. It contributes about 4% of agricultural production and about 1% of GDP and engages 1% of the current labor force. The principal kinds of fish found at Hyderabad are Palla, Khagga, Laanchi and Baam etc.

Inland Fisheries in Hyderabad District (in Metric Tons)

| District | Fish Production | No of Fisherman | | | No of Boats | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|-------------|-----|-------|
| | | Full Time | Part Time | Total | Sail | Row | Total |
| Hyderabad | 5,533 | 480 | 740 | 1,220 | 205 | 20 | 225 |

Source: Sindh Bureau of Statistics

District Hyderabad - Economic Infographic

Annual Budget 2013-14
Rs. 0.4 Billion

Area
1,021 Sq. Km

Population
Estimated Population 2013 **2,042,020**

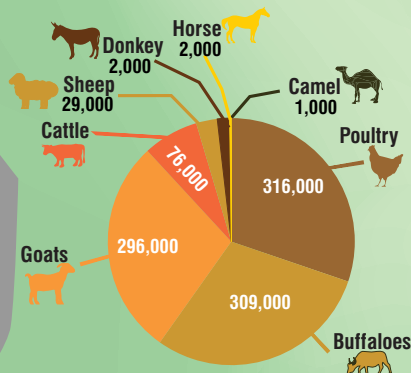
Industry

| | |
|---|-----|
| Sindh Small Industries Coop Hyderabad | |
| Industrial Units | 63 |
| Running Units | 47 |
| Stick Units | 16 |
| Sindh Industrial & Trading State Hyderabad | |
| Industrial Units | 389 |
| Running Units | 166 |
| Stick Units | 223 |

Fisheries

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Fish Production | 5,533 |
| Number of Fisherman | 1,220 |
| Full Time | 480 |
| Part Time | 740 |
| Number of Boats | 225 |
| Sail | 480 |
| Row | 740 |

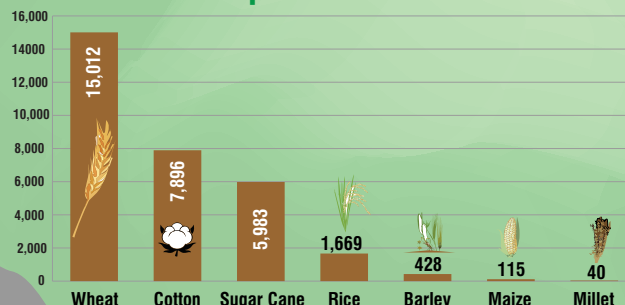
Number of Livestocks



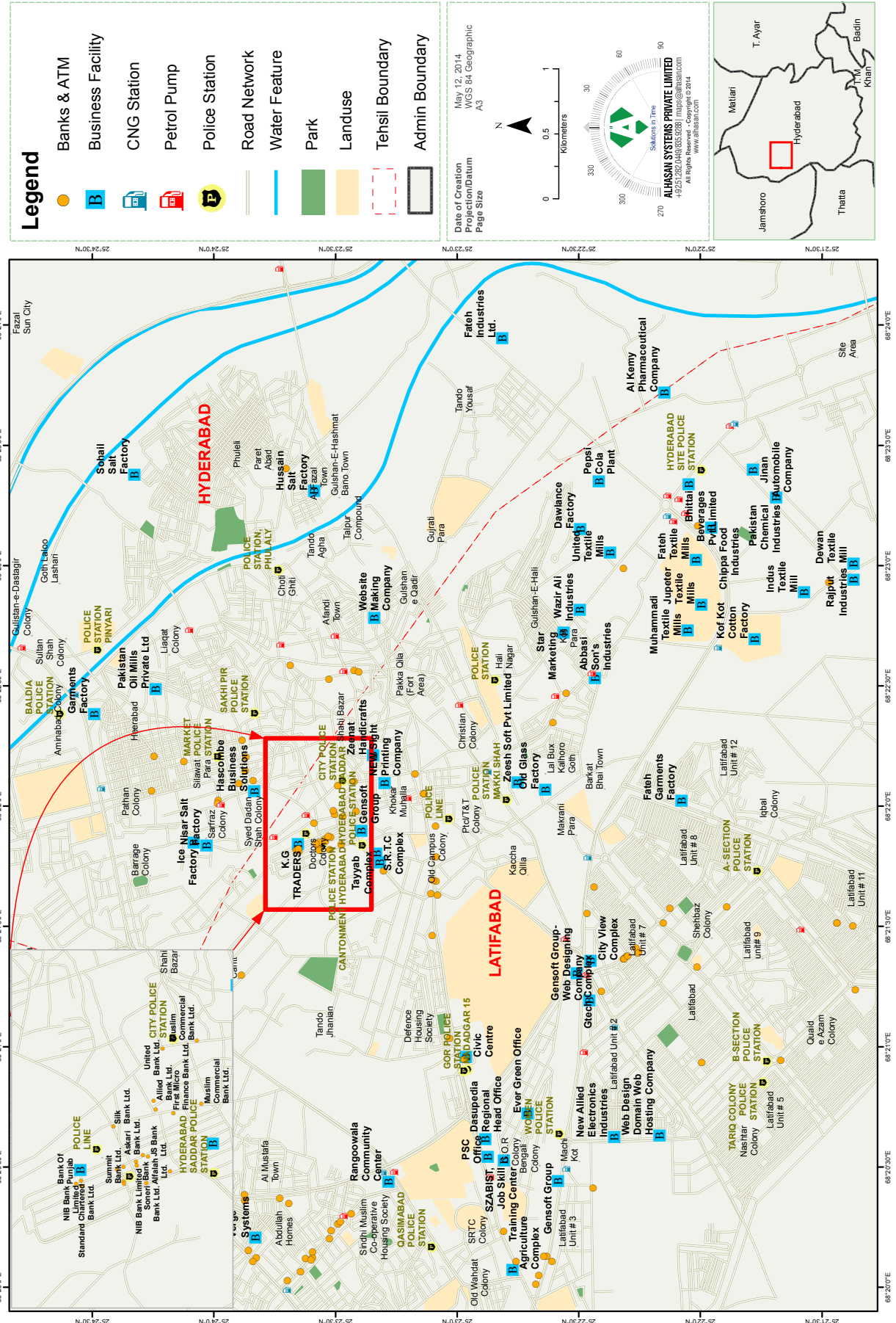
Land Utilization



Annual Crop Area



HYDERABAD BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE



Agriculture neglected

By Ahmad Faraz Khan

Published in Daily Dawn, 26th May 2014

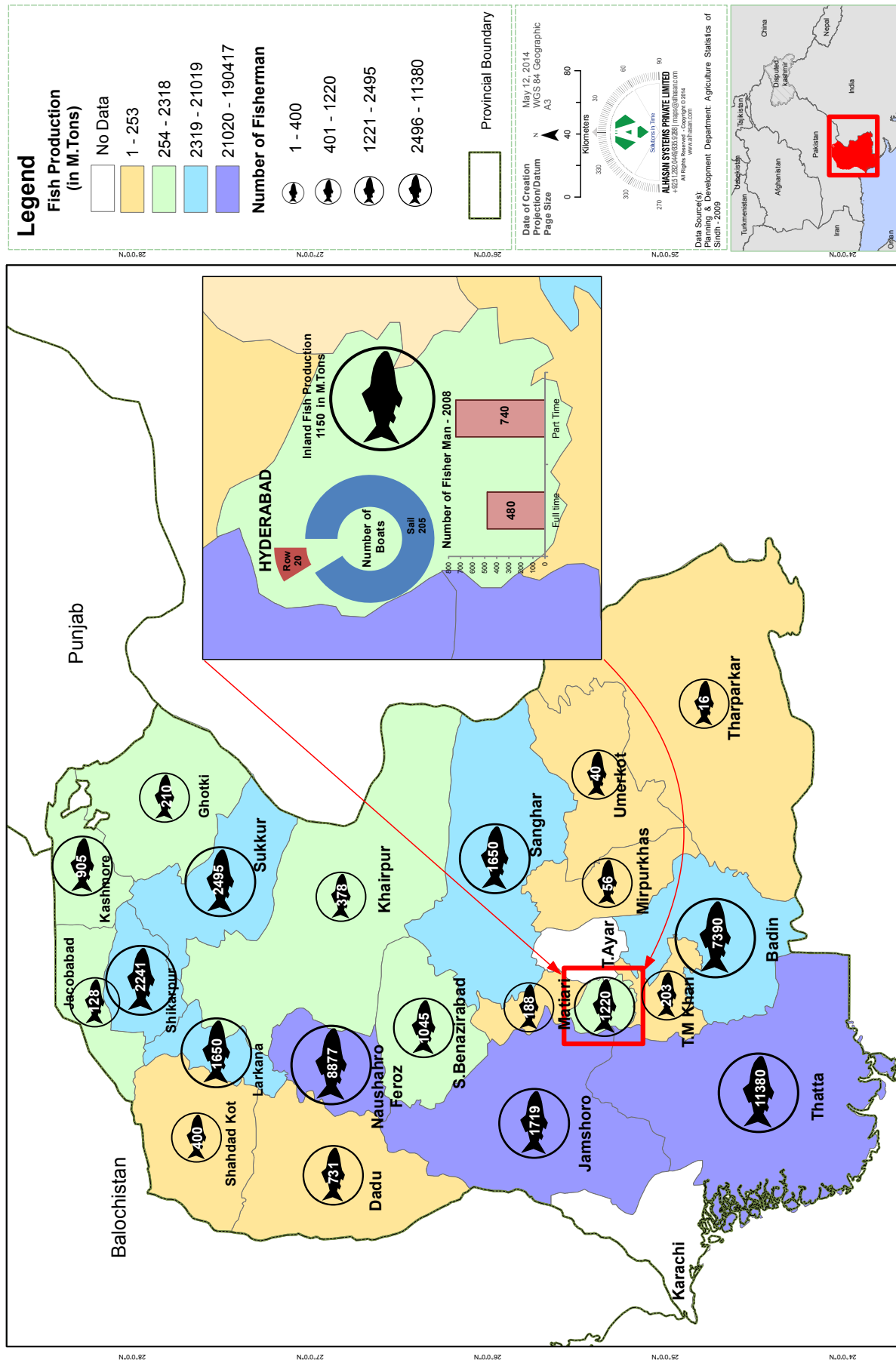
In the run up to the announcement of the federal budget, farmers usually get nervous because they have no clue about what the document would hold for them. It is largely prepared by the bureaucracy, with professional input from urban intellectuals who are not so conversant with the rural setting. This year, the worry is deeper than usual. The farmers feel that agriculture has become a neglected sector, going by the experience of the last one year. There has hardly been any policy statement that reflects the government's priority for the sector. The farmers have no idea what the government is planning for them. But they anxiously wait as the federal budget provides the environment in which the sector operates. Though the sector has been devolved to provinces, there are key areas that still remain with the federation. These have the capacity to make or break the sector. The taxation regime is one such area. Seed certification is another. Import of inputs and export of agricultural products is yet another. To top them all is the monetary policy, which affects marketing and prices of the whole sector. These policies provide the crucial context in which agriculture performs in the country. Unless these are in favour of the sector, the provinces can do little, even if they try. And how much the provinces are trying to exploit, if even by a small margin, remains a debatable point. But the federation, on its part, has failed to establish an enabling environment and lead policy initiatives. Farmers pray that this budget-making exercise, led by the spirited Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, proves to be an exception. If one can suggest some measures, they must start with taking a long-term policy decision about whether the government wants to use the sector as a revenue-generating source, or if its social impact weighs more than the small collection of Rs14 billion in general sales tax?

The question is crucial for two reasons. Firstly, it flies in the face of international practices. Many countries subsidize the sector, whereas Pakistan taxes it. Secondly, taxes on inputs have strangled production. Even next door India is subsidizing inputs and outputs to the tune of over \$10 billion in order to promote production and trade.

In Pakistan, the sector assumes added social importance because of its role; it provides food security to 180 million people and provides direct employment to over 44pc of the population (72 million people). If the government keeps on

taxing the sector, and production continues to fall (as it has for the last many years), it will be increasingly hard for the state to ensure harmonious economic development. Since the imposition of the general sales tax, imports of pesticides and fertilizer have fallen exceptionally. The current taxation regime is hitting production at the cost meager collection. The government would be well advised to tax the product, not the inputs; let farmers increase their produce with cheaper inputs and then tax the production. By doing so, the government will not only increase its revenue, but also unleash sectoral potential and create necessary social impact in rural areas. The second area where urgent federal attention is needed is the international marketing of agricultural products. Pakistan is currently holding over \$1 billion of rice, which has not been exported. For many years, it has carried huge wheat surpluses at massive administrative and financial cost, i.e. unless the domestic crop failed and the stocks were consumed locally. This year, the scenario may be repeated as the country has harvested a bumper wheat crop. Agricultural exports are banned regularly, even those to low-end markets like Russia and Iran. None of the produce has been able to establish a brand outside our borders because of marketing failure. This is an area where the government needs to commit its financial, political and administrative capital, because agriculture can earn billions of dollars in revenue every six months with the right set of production and export policies. The budget provides an opportunity to readjust these. The government's monetary policy has only negatively impacted the sector. The positive side does not touch the farmers, as the exploitative private sector occupies space between the government and the market. The fluctuation of the rupee against the dollar is one case in point. The rupee's depreciation immediately translates into higher input prices, but a 10pc appreciation in the last two months has not impacted the market prices of those inputs. The entire benefit is monopolized by the private sector because of weak regulation. These are areas where the federal government needs to work on in the upcoming budget. If it can somehow correct the bigger agricultural picture, smaller details would fall in place with little effort by the provinces. However, if the federal policy framework continues extracting cost from the sector, precious little can be expected from the provinces.

INLAND FISH PRODUCTION - SINDH



The inequality of opportunity

By Dr Hamid Siddiqi

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Economic growth takes place when income generating ideas become a reality. A key hurdle in the way of an income generating idea becoming a reality is financing. People are the custodians of ideas, and the financial sector is the custodian of a society's savings. Growth takes place through successful linking of income-generating-ideas with funding. However, there is a fundamental inequality of opportunity that lies at the heart of this mechanism. When it comes to funding, a rich person is preferred over a poor person regardless of the quality of their respective ideas.

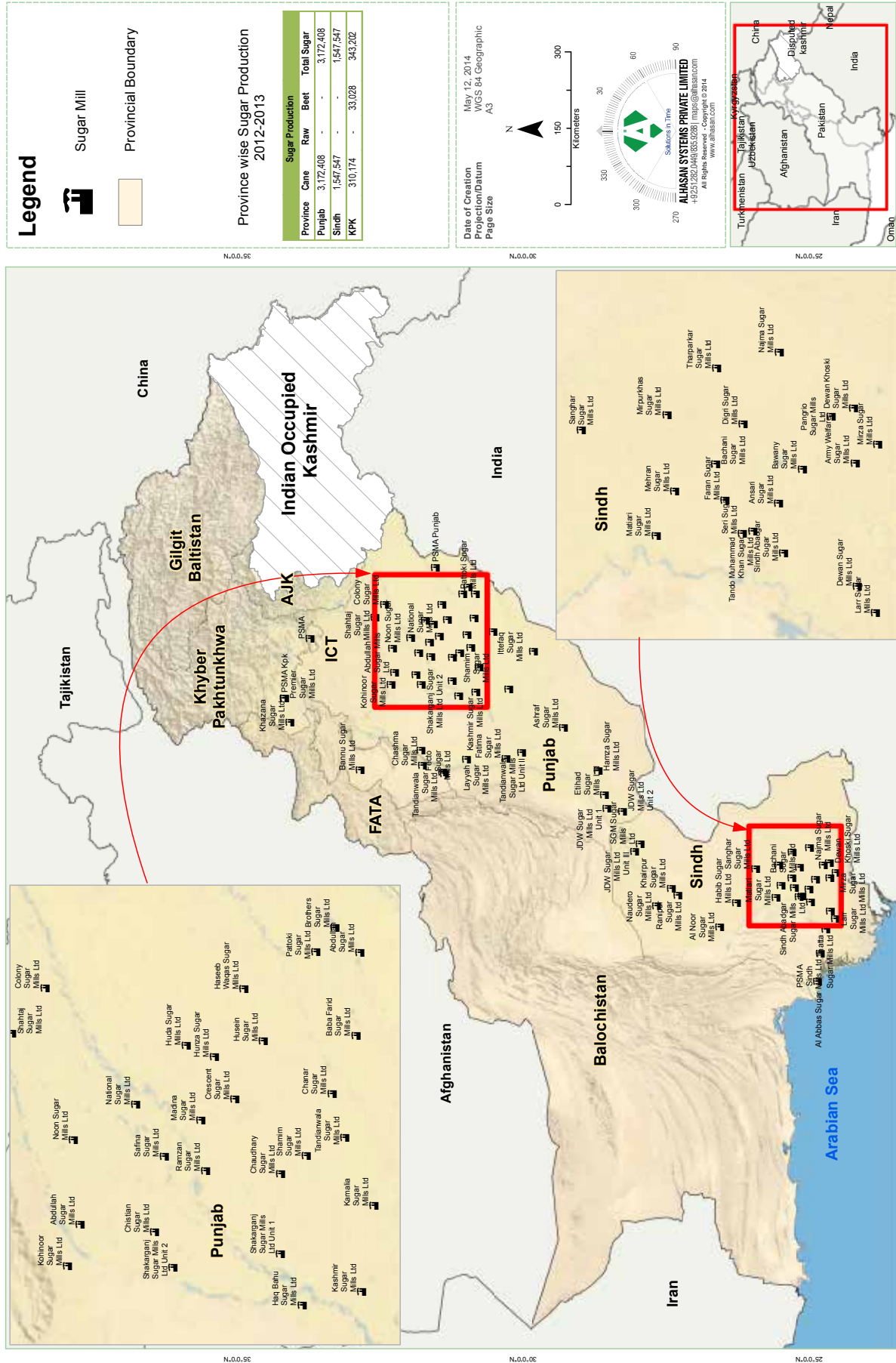
Consider the case of Javed. He is a skilled electronic repairman working as a driver in Lahore. He knows that if he opens an electronic repair shop in his home town, his business may take off as people in his town, have to travel over 25 miles to get their electronic items fixed. He needs about Rs500,000 to start his business. Masood is working as a bus conductor in Rawalpindi. He had a rickshaw before ill health forced him to sell it. All he needs now is about Rs200, 000 to buy a CNG rickshaw, and start transporting people from his village to the nearest major inter-city bus stop, a journey which is presently done on foot. There are a lot of people like Javed and Masood around us. They have the skills to succeed in their respective business plans but nobody is willing to finance them. Banks do not lend to them because they cannot provide collateral. Microfinance institutions lend much smaller sums, which are not sufficient to start new businesses. People like Javed and Masood are all around us. They have valid income generating ideas and the required skills and experience, but nobody is willing to fund them. The average income per rupee of investment in their proposed businesses can be quite large when compared with a typical business that banks willingly lend to. Still, they remain unfunded. What's the reason behind this inequality of opportunity?

The problem is that both the banks and microfinance lenders rely on the same inflexible debt contract. In a debt contract, a lender has no stake in the upside potential of an endeavor beyond the fixed payoff. Naturally, in a debt contract, a lender's entire focus is on minimizing downside risk. That is, the objective is to fund the safest borrowers. Wealthy borrowers who can provide collateral and the government which can always print money to pay off its debt are the safest borrowers in the traditional banking sector. Microfinance institutions have taken the debt contract to the poor by developing extensive monitoring and selection networks; however, they cannot lend amounts large enough to start new businesses because poor have low debt repaying capacity. In practice, we have a financial system that collects the country's savings, and makes it available only to the wealthy who can provide collateral. Assuming that only the wealthy have income generating ideas is wrong. From a bank's perspective, the wealthy may have the safest ideas as they provide collateral, but, surely, from the society's perspective, they may not be the best income generating ideas. Ideally, the financial sector should select the best ideas irrespective of the level of wealth of the idea generator. However, the financial sector is in no position to do that. All it does is collateral management. Think about

the loan officers approving bank loans. What do they know about the business being funded? Hardly anything.

In general, a lender has two major concerns: 1) The borrower may play unfair with the money 2) There is a downside from backing losers. In a debt contract, such concerns are mitigated by requiring collateral. But, the ability to reach the wider population is sacrificed as only a few can provide collateral. Mitigating these concerns without collateral requires investment in a selection and monitoring network. And if collateral is dropped, and funding has to be large enough to support people like Javed and Masood, then one needs to move beyond the inflexible debt contract. The only way people like Javed and Masood can be funded is through a risk sharing or a mudarabah contract. The upside potential in a mudarabah contract can counter-weight the downside risk of business failure. Microfinance institutions have developed extensive monitoring and selection networks that allow for very high recovery rates. However, research indicates that micro lending does not bring about a meaningful change in the lives of the poor. Such lending is typically consumed as it is not large enough to start a new business. By sacrificing breadth in favor of depth, a mudarabah- type contract can be implemented. For example, instead of lending Rs50, 000 to 20 people through a debt contract, lend Rs500, 000 each to two people on mudarabah basis. The amount is large enough to start a small business, and the upside stakes can potentially counter-weight the risk of failure. Hence, the selection and monitoring networks of micro lenders can be tweaked to experiment with mudarabah contracts. Growth comes from realization of opportunities. Behind every opportunity is an idea. For a country like Pakistan, ideas that Javed and Masood have are representative of our untapped growth potential. For our sake, we need to tap this potential. And, it is not going to happen through the inflexible debt contract. The question is: is someone willing to try the risk sharing contract?

PAKISTAN SUGAR MILLS



تفصیلات

سرخیال

پاکستان اور ایران کا تجارتی حجم کو 5 ارب ڈالر سالانہ تک لے جانے پر اتفاق

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

31 مئی 2014

زرمبادلہ ذخائر میں ایک ہفتے کے دوران 30 کروڑ 67 لاکھ ڈالر کا اضافہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

30 مئی 2014

محکمہ ایکسائز اینڈ ٹیکسیشن پر اپریل ٹیکس کا ہدف پورا کرنے میں ناکام

روزنامہ پاکستان

29 مئی 2014

گردشی قرضوں کا بوجھ بجلی صارفین پر ڈالنے کا اختیار نیپرا کو مل گیا

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

29 مئی 2014

آئندہ مالی سال کیلئے اقتصادی ترقی کا ہدف 5.1 فیصد مقرر

روزنامہ جنگ

27 مئی 2014

شیڈول بجٹ کی 30 فیصد تجاویز وفاقی بجٹ میں شامل کرنے کی منظوری

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

26 مئی 2014

تہران (آن لائن) پاکستان اور ایران نے مشترکہ تجارت کے حجم کو 5 ارب ڈالر سالانہ تک لے جانے کیلئے اقدامات کی ضرورت پر زور دیا ہے۔ سٹیٹ بینک آف پاکستان کے گورنر اشرف محمود و تہران اور ایران کے نائب وزیر خزانہ و اقتصادی امور پیر و علی شہری کے درمیان تہران میں ہونے والی ملاقات میں پاکستان اور ایران کے درمیان تجارت اور اقتصادی بات کے مختلف شعبوں میں تعاون کو فروغ دینے کا تفصیل سے جائزہ لیا گیا۔

کراچی: حکومت کو اتحادی سپورٹ فنڈ کی مد میں 37 کروڑ 50 لاکھ ڈالر سمیت مجموعی طور پر 41 کروڑ ڈالر کی وصولیوں کے بعد زرمبادلہ کے ذخائر میں ایک ہفتے کے دوران 30 کروڑ 67 لاکھ ڈالر کا اضافہ دیکھا گیا۔ جس کے بعد زرمبادلہ کے مجموعی ذخائر کی مالیت 13 ارب 43 کروڑ 95 لاکھ ڈالر کی سطح پر پہنچ گئی ہے۔ اسٹیٹ بینک آف پاکستان کے مطابق 23 مئی کو اختتام پذیر ہونے کے دوران کمرشل بینکوں کے ذخائر 2 کروڑ 25 لاکھ ڈالر کی کمی سے 14 ارب 79 کروڑ ڈالر رہ گئے جبکہ مرکزی بینک کے ذخائر 32 کروڑ 92 لاکھ ڈالر کے اضافے سے 8 ارب 64 کروڑ ڈالر کی سطح پر پہنچ گئے۔ مذکورہ ہفتے کے دوران حکومت کو ملٹی لٹرل، بانی لٹرل اور دیگر آفیشل ذرائع سے 41 کروڑ ڈالر موصول ہوئے جس میں کو لیٹن سپورٹ فنڈ کی مد میں ملنے والے 37 کروڑ 50 لاکھ ڈالر شامل ہیں، اس دوران مرکزی بینک نے قرضوں کی ادائیگی اور دیگر آفیشل پیمنٹس کی مد میں 2 کروڑ 30 لاکھ ڈالر کی بیرونی ادائیگیاں بھی کیں۔

لاہور (انٹرنیٹ ڈیسک) محکمہ ایکسائز اینڈ ٹیکسیشن پنجاب رواں مالی سال میں پراپرٹی ٹیکس کا ہدف پورا کرنے میں بری طرح ناکام ہو گیا ہے۔ 8 ارب روپے کے ہدف کی نسبت ابھی تک صرف ساڑھے چار ارب روپے پراپرٹی ٹیکس اکٹھا کیا جا سکا ہے۔ افسر اور عملہ ٹارگٹ پورا کرنے کی بجائے ساز و سازدہ شہریوں سے کم مکا کر کے اپنی جیبیں بھرنے پر صرف کر رہے ہیں۔ محکمہ کے عملہ کے ارکان شہریوں کو ڈرا دھمکا کر، گھر سے روٹا، جاکر، جائیدادوں کو سیل کر کے، بھاری جرمانے، جائیدادوں کی نیلامی اور قرضی کے نوٹس جاری کر کے کم مکا پر مجبور کرتے ہیں۔ شہریوں کو کئی گنا زیادہ پراپرٹی ٹیکس کے چالان فارم بھجوا کر انہیں پریشان اور ہراساں کیا جاتا ہے۔ عملہ نے شہریوں پر شکنجہ کسے کے لئے غنڈوں کی خدمات حاصل کر لی ہیں۔ محکمہ کی طرف سے جاری کردہ چالان نوٹسز کو چیک کریں تو 90 فیصد لوگوں کو غلط رقم کے چالان ثابت ہوں گے۔ مگر خزانے میں بہت تھوڑی رقم جمع کرائی جاتی ہے جس کی وجہ سے حکومت کا ہدف تو پورا نہیں ہو رہا مگر ایکسائز عملہ کا اپنا ٹارگٹ پورا ہو رہا ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ محکمہ کے افسر غلط ٹیکس بھیجے پر شہریوں کی جانب سے کی جانے والی اہیلیں بھی نہیں سن رہے جس پر شہری اپنی جان خلاصی کرانے کے لئے محکمہ ایکسائز عملہ سے کم مکا پر مجبور ہیں۔

اسلام آباد: کابینہ کی اقتصادی رابطہ کمیٹی نے گردشی قرضوں کا بوجھ بجلی صارفین پر ڈالنے کا اختیار نیپرا کو دینے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ نیپرا کو سالانہ بنیادوں پر ٹیرف میں اضافہ کر کے گردشی قرضوں کی ادائیگی پر آنے والے اخراجات اور 15.75 فیصد تک ٹرانسمیشن و ڈسٹری بیوشن لاسز صارفین سے وصول کر کے اختیار مل گیا، کمیٹی نے 3 ذخائر سے حاصل ہونے والی گیس بجلی پیدا کر نیوالے منصوبوں کو فراہم کر نیکی منظوری دیدی۔ آئی این پی کے مطابق وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار کی زیر صدارت اجلاس میں وزارت پانی و بجلی کی سمری پر کمیٹی نے گردشی قرضوں کو مقررہ حد میں رکھنے کیلئے نیپرا کو گردشی قرضوں کی ادائیگی پر آنے والے اخراجات سالانہ بنیادوں پر ٹیرف میں اضافے کے ذریعے صارفین سے وصول کر نیکی منظوری دیدی جبکہ نمائندہ ایکسپریس کے مطابق بجلی کی تقسیم کار کمپنیوں کے ٹرانسمیشن اینڈ ڈسٹری بیوشن لاسز 12.82 فیصد سے بڑھا کر 15.75 فیصد کرنے کی منظوری بھی دی گئی جو کہ صارفین سے وصول کیے جائیں گے۔ تقسیم کار کمپنیاں ٹرانسمیشن اینڈ ڈسٹری بیوشن لاسز 17.55 فیصد کر نیکا مطالبہ کر رہی تھیں، اجلاس میں ضلع گھوکھی میں موجود سارا اور سوری گیس فیلڈ سے حاصل ہونے والی گیس جینکو ٹو اور بابو گیس فیلڈ سے حاصل ہونے والی گیس فوجی کبیر والا پاور کمپنی لمیٹڈ کیلئے دوبارہ مختص کر نیکی منظوری دی گئی۔

اسلام آباد... وفاقی حکومت نے آئندہ مالی سال کیلئے اقتصادی ترقی کا ہدف 5.1 فیصد مقرر کیا ہے۔ آئندہ مالی سال کیلئے ہجگائی کی شرح 8 فیصد اور برآمدات کا تخمینہ 27 ارب ڈالر لگایا گیا ہے۔ اسلام آباد میں وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی و ترقی احسن اقبال کی زیر صدارت ہونے والے اجلاس میں آئندہ مالی سال کے سالانہ پلان کی منظوری دی گئی۔ دستاویزات کے مطابق آئندہ مالی سال زرعی شعبے کی ترقی کا ہدف 3.3 فیصد جبکہ صنعتی پیداوار میں اضافے کا ٹارگٹ 6.8 فیصد مقرر کیا گیا ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ خدمات کے شعبے میں پھیلاؤ 5.2 فیصد رہنے کی توقع ہے۔ بجلی کی پیداوار اور گیس کی تقسیم کا ہدف ساڑھے پانچ فیصد رکھا گیا ہے۔ آئندہ مالی سال درآمدات کا تخمینہ 44 ارب ڈالر سے زائد لگایا گیا ہے۔

اسلام آباد: آئندہ مالی سال 2014-15 کے وفاقی بجٹ میں متنازع ایس آر اوز کے خاتمہ اور سیلز ٹیکس ایک ہندسے پر لانے اور ری فنڈ جاری کرنے میں تاخیر پر مبنی تجاویز کا جائزہ لینے کیلئے کمیشن تشکیل دینے کا اعلان کیا جا چکا۔ نئے بجٹ میں ایس ایم ای سیلکس اور مینوفیکچرنگ کو فروغ دینے کیلئے ٹیکس مراعات کا اعلان کیا جائے گا جبکہ مقامی صنعت کو تحفظ دینے کیلئے اقدامات تجویز کیے گئے ہیں۔ وزارت خزانہ کے ذرائع کے مطابق وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار پارلیمنٹ میں بجٹ پیش کرنے کے موقع پر اس کمیشن کا اعلان کریں گے۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ وزیر خزانہ ایف بی آر کے چیمبر میں اور سیکریٹری خزانہ پر مشتمل اقتصادی ٹیم فیڈریشن آف پاکستان جیمیر

آف کامرس زکریا عثمان اور ملک بھر کے چیئرمین کے نمائندوں کے اجلاس میں نمائندہ تاجروں نے اپنا شیڈول بٹ پیش کیا جس میں ٹیکس کم کرنے کی ٹیکس سنگل ڈیجیٹل کی سطح پر لانے کی فہم کی مسائل اور ٹیکس نیٹ بڑھانے کی تجاویز دی گئی ہیں۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ وزیر خزانہ نے فیڈریشن کے شیڈول بٹ کی 30 فیصد تجاویز بٹ میں شامل کرنے کی منظوری دیدی ہے جبکہ وفد کو یقین دہانی کرائی ہے کہ دیگر تجاویز کا جائزہ لینے کیلئے ایک کمیشن تشکیل دیا جائیگا جس کا اعلان نے بٹ میں کیا جائیگا کمیشن میں ایف بی آر اور تاجروں کی نمائندہ شامل ہونگے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق نے بٹ میں ایس ایم ای سیکٹر اور مینوفیکچرنگ کو فروغ دینے کیلئے ٹیکس مراعات کا اعلان کیا جائے گا جبکہ مقامی صنعت کو تحفظ دینے کیلئے اقدامات تجویز کیے گئے ہیں۔

اسلام آباد... آئندہ مالی سال کے لیے قومی ترقیاتی بٹ کا حجم 11 سو 75 ارب روپے رکھے جانے کا امکان ہے، اینول پلان کو آرڈینیشن کمیٹی کل ترقیاتی بٹ کی منظوری دے گی ذرائع کے مطابق وفاقی وزیر مضمونہ بندی و ترقی احسن اقبال کی زیر صدارت اینول پلان کو آرڈینیشن کمیٹی کا اجلاس کل ہوگا جس میں آئندہ مالی سال 2014-15 میں وفاقی اور صوبوں کے لیے ترقیاتی پروگرام کی منظوری دیے جانے کا امکان ہے۔ اجلاس میں وفاقی ترقیاتی منصوبوں کیلئے 525 ارب روپے اور صوبوں کیلئے 650 ارب روپے کے فنڈز کی منظوری دی جاسکتی ہے۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ وفاق کیلئے مختص کیے جانے والے ترقیاتی فنڈز میں 70 فیصد رقم انفراسٹرکچر اور 25 فیصد سماجی شعبے کے لیے مختص ہے۔ ترقیاتی بٹ کو خاتمی منظوری کیلئے 29 مئی کو وزیر اعظم کی صدارت میں ہونے والی قومی اقتصادی کونسل کے اجلاس میں پیش کیا جائے گا۔

ملتان: وفاقی وزیر نیشنل فوڈ سیکورٹی اینڈ ریسرچ سکندر حیات بوسن نے کہا ہے کہ ایکسپورٹ میں کمی ہو جائے لیکن یورپی یونین کو پاکستانی آم پر پابندی لگانے کا موقع نہیں دیا جائے گا۔ یورپی یونین کو فروٹ فلائی سے پاک آم کی برآمد کے لیے ہنگامی بنیادوں پر اقدامات کیے گئے ہیں، یورپ کو ایکسپورٹ کرنے کے خواہش مند سخت ترین قرضہ فراہم کرنے کے لیے تیار ہیں، ملک میں نیشنل سیڈز اتھارٹی قائم کی جائے گی، پاکستان میں بیج تیار کرنے والی عالمی کمپنیوں کی سرمایہ کاری کو تحفظ فراہم کرنے اور عالمی معیار کے بیج فراہم کرنے کے لیے ترقیاتی بل جلد قومی اسمبلی سے منظور کر لیا جائے گا۔ یہ بات انہوں نے آل پاکستان فروٹ اینڈ وینٹریبل ایکسپورٹرز ایسوسی ایشن کے زیر اہتمام یو این آئی ڈی او (یونیزو) کے ٹی آر ٹی اے پروگرام اور پلانٹ پروڈکشن ڈپارٹمنٹ کے تعاون سے ملتان میں آم کے کاشت کاروں اور ایکسپورٹرز کیلئے آگنی سیمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہی۔ سیمینار سے پی ایف وی اے کے چیئرمین عبدالملک، کوچیز مین وحید احمد، پنجاب کے پارلیمانی سیکریٹری ایگری کلچر رانا انا احمد نون، ڈی جی پلانٹ پروڈکشن ڈاکٹر مبارک، یو این آئی ڈی کے نمائندے کٹ چین نے بھی خطاب کیا۔ وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ موجودہ حکومت کی ترجیح زراعت کے شعبے کی ترقی ہے، کابینہ نے سیڈز ترقیاتی بل کی منظوری دے دی ہے، اسی طرح آئندہ اجلاس میں پیٹنٹ ایکٹ کا ترمیمی بل پیش کیا جائے گا جبکہ نیشنل سیڈز اتھارٹی کے قیام کے لیے مسودہ قانون بھی کابینہ کی منظوری سے جلد قومی اسمبلی میں پیش کیا جائے گا، ان اقدامات کے ذریعے پاکستان میں عالمی معیاری کی بیج بنانے والی کمپنیاں سرمایہ کاری کر سکیں گی اور ان کے کاروبار کو تحفظ حاصل ہوگا۔ وفاقی وزیر نے کہا کہ اس سال یورپی یونین کو ایکسپورٹ کی کنسنٹنٹ کی سختی سے جانچ کی جائے گی، فروٹ فلائی کی روک تھام کے لیے پنجاب حکومت کا کردار مثالی ہے تاہم سندھ حکومت نے وزارت کے خط کا جواب تک دینا ضروری نہ سمجھا۔ اس موقع پر پی ایف وی اے کے شریک چیئرمین وحید احمد نے فروٹ فلائی سے پاک یورپی یونین کے معیار پر پورا اترنے والے آم کو مارکیٹ سے 20 فیصد زائد پریمیم پر خریدنے کی پیشکش کی جسے کاشت کاروں نے سراہا۔ انہوں نے حکومت پر زور دیا کہ آم کے معیار کی بہتری کے لیے آگنی مہم جاری رکھی جائے اور کیٹو کے معیار کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے بھی قومی سطح پر مہم شروع کی جائے، زرعی پالیسی کی تشکیل کیلئے ایسوسی ایشن سے مشاورت، ہارٹی کلچر کی نیشنل کانفرنس منعقد اور ملک میں کاسن فیسیلیٹی کے لیے ایسوسی ایشن کی مشاورت لازمی قرار دی جائے۔ ایسوسی ایشن کے چیئرمین عبدالملک نے نے معیار کی بہتری اور جدید رجحانات کے لیے کاشت کاروں کو مکمل سپورٹ کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ پنجاب کے پارلیمانی سیکریٹری ایگری کلچر رانا انا احمد خان نون نے کہا کہ فروٹ فلائی کے موثر تدارک کے لیے آم پیدا کرنے والے 5 اضلاع میں آگنی مہم جاری ہے۔ پلانٹ پروڈکشن ڈپارٹمنٹ کے ڈی جی ڈاکٹر مبارک نے کہا کہ ہنگامی حکمت عملی کے تحت سندھ اور پنجاب کے 100 سے زائد باغات کا معائنہ کیا جا چکا ہے، معیار پر پورا اترنے والے باغات کی فہرست جلد جاری کر دی جائے گی۔ گزشتہ سال پاکستان کے 236 کنسنٹنٹس برطانیہ اور یورپ نے مسز دیے، اس سال پہلے سے بہت زیادہ سختی ہوگی، بعض اطلاعات ہیں کہ پاکستان پر جولائی تک پابندی لگ سکتی ہے لیکن وفاقی وزیر سکندر بوسن کا عزم ہے کہ کسی صورت پابندی نہیں لگنے دی جائیگی کیونکہ پابندی لگنے کی صورت میں پروگرام کے انٹرنیشنل ایکسپورٹ کٹ چین نے کہا کہ پاکستان کو اچھا موقع ملا ہے، معیار کو TRTA فٹریز کی طرح پابندی کھلانے میں کئی سال لگیں گے۔ یونیزو بہتر بنا کر یورپی منڈی سے بھر پور فائدہ اٹھایا جاسکتا ہے ورنہ نقصان بھی ہو سکتا ہے۔ سیمینار سے پلانٹ پروڈکشن کے ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر طارق خان، محمد اشفاق، انجم علی بھٹ، عبدالغفار، کاشت کاروں کے نمائندوں میجر ریٹائرڈ طارق خان، فرید خا کوئی نے بھی خطاب کیا اور کاشت کاروں کو فروٹ فلائی کے تدارک کے طریقوں سے آگاہ کیا۔

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) انڈونیشیا اور پاکستان کے درمیان ایس ایم ای سیکٹر میں مشترکہ سرمایہ کاری کے روشن مواقع موجود ہیں اور ان مواقع کا استعمال دونوں ممالک کے اقتصادی ترقی میں مددگار ثابت ہو سکتا ہے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار انڈونیشیا کے سفیر مسٹر برہان محمد نے گزشتہ روز سال اینڈ میڈ ایم ایٹ پر انٹرنیشنل اتھارٹی کے صدر دفتر میں سید کے قائم مقام چیف ایگزیکٹو آفیسر محمد عالمگیر چوہدری سے ایک ملاقات کے دوران کیا۔

آئندہ ترقیاتی بٹ کا حجم 11 سو 75 ارب روپے رکھے جانے کا امکان

روزنامہ جنگ

25 مئی 2014

یورپی یونین کو پاکستانی آم پر پابندی کا موقع نہیں دیئے، وفاقی وزیر قومی غذائی تحفظ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

25 مئی 2014

پاکستان اور انڈونیشیا میں مشترکہ سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع مواقع ہیں: برہان محمد

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

24 مئی 2014

گردشی قرضے ایک بار پھر 298 ارب روپے تک پہنچ گئے

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

24 مئی 2014

کراچی: گردش قرضے ایک بار پھر 298 ارب روپے تک پہنچ چکے ہیں، واجبات کی ادائیگی میں تاخیر کے سبب بجلی کی پیداوار میں کمی اور بحران شدید ہونے کا خدشہ ہے۔ دوسری جانب بجلی پیدا کرنے والے آزاد پلانٹ (آئی پی بیز) کے واجبات ایک بار پھر اسی سطح تک پہنچ چکے ہیں جب سابقہ حکومت کے دور میں آئی پی بیز نے ساون گارنٹی کا مطالبہ کر دیا تھا۔ پاور سیکٹر کے ذرائع کے مطابق گردش قرضوں کی صورتحال دوبارہ اسی جگہ پہنچ رہی ہے جہاں سے پاکستان میں توانائی کے بحران نے شدت اختیار کی تھی۔ پاور سیکٹر کے گردش قرضے مئی تک 298 ارب روپے تک پہنچ گئے ہیں جس میں سے 1994 کی پالیسی کے تحت لگنے والے آئی پی بیز کے واجبات کی مالیت 141 ارب روپے اور 2002 کی پالیسی کے تحت لگنے والے آئی پی بیز کے واجبات 59 ارب روپے، تمام جینکوز، چشمہ پاور اور ہائیڈرو پاور کے واجبات کی مد میں 98 ارب روپے شامل ہیں۔ پاور سیکٹر کے گردش قرضوں کا بحران شدید ہونے کے بعد وفاقی وزارت وائر اینڈ پاور نے آئی پی بیز کا اجلاس طلب کر لیا ہے جو اسلام آباد میں 29 مئی کو منعقد ہو گا جبکہ وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار بھی جلد ہی آئی پی بیز کے نمائندوں سے ملاقات کریں گے۔ بھاری مالیت کے واجبات کے باوجود آئی پی بیز اپریل 2014 تک بجلی کی مجموعی پیداوار میں 57 فیصد بجلی مہیا کرتے رہے اور اپریل میں آئی پی بیز کی 6168 میگاواٹ کی پیداوار گزشتہ چند سال کی بلند ترین سطح قرار پائی۔

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) وزیر ایسٹرن ڈسٹرکٹ سیکریشن، خزانہ پنجاب مجتبیٰ شجاع الرحمن نے کہا ہے کہ خواتین کی اقتصادی و سماجی بہتری کے لئے اقدامات کئے جا رہے ہیں۔ خصوصاً دیہی خواتین کو باعزت روزگار کے مواقع فراہم کرنے کے لئے ابتدائی طور پر 50 کروڑ روپے فنڈز فراہم کئے گئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پنجاب مال انڈسٹریز کارپوریشن کے ذریعے بیرون روزگار نوجوانوں کو خود روزگار سکیم کے تحت 5 ارب روپے کے سود سے پاک قرضہ جات فراہم کئے گئے ہیں اس کے علاوہ ٹیٹا کورسز کے ذریعے نوجوانوں کو بہتر مندرجہ ذیل روزگار کیا جا رہا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وزیر اعلیٰ کی خود روزگار سکیم کے تحت تقریباً تین لاکھ غریب خاندان مستفید ہوئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بلاسود قرضہ جات مستحق افراد میں انتہائی شفاف انداز میں میرٹ پر تقسیم کئے جا رہے ہیں تاکہ مستحق لوگوں کو ان کے پاؤں پر کھڑا کر کے معاشرے کا مفید شہری بنایا جاسکے۔ خواتین کے مختلف وفود سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے مجتبیٰ شجاع الرحمن نے کہا کہ خواتین کو معاشی، معاشرتی اور سیاسی میدان میں سرگرم کئے بغیر کوئی معاشرہ خصوصاً ترقی پذیر ممالک ترقی نہیں کر سکتے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہماری نصف سے زائد آبادی خواتین پر مشتمل ہے اور ہم اپنی آبادی کے اکثریتی حصے کو گھر میں نہیں بٹھاسکتے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ طالبات کو وظائف کی مد میں ایک ایک 50 کروڑ روپے، گزشتہ سکولوں میں بنیادی سہولتوں کی فراہمی کے لئے 3 ارب 50 کروڑ روپے کے فنڈز اور صوبہ کے تین پسماندہ ترین اضلاع میں طالبات کے وظائف کی رقم دگن کر دی گئی ہے۔

اسلام آباد... ایف بی آر کو دکانداروں سے سالانہ 50 ارب روپے تک ٹیکس آمدن ملنے کی توقع ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ ذرائع کے مطابق مالی سال 2014-15 کے لیے حکومت کارٹیل سیکٹر پر ٹیکس عائد کرنے کا ارادہ ہے۔ ایف بی آر کے اعداد و شمار کے مطابق ملک میں 15 لاکھ سے زائد دکانیں ہیں جن سے یہ ٹیکس ماہانہ بنیاد پر لیا جائے گا جو علاقے اور دکان کے رقبے کے اعتبار سے ایک ہزار روپے 7 ہزار 500 روپے تک ہو سکتا ہے۔ سابق وزیر خزانہ شوکت ترین کا کہنا ہے کہ ملک میں ریٹیل سیکٹر کی جانب سے ٹیکس وصولی نہ ہونے کے برابر ہے ایف بی آر نظام میں بہتری لاکر اسے شعبے سے آمدن میں اضافہ کر سکتا ہے۔

اسلام آباد (انٹرنیٹ ڈیسک) پاکستان میں 1800 ارب روپے سالانہ سے زائد کی ٹیکس چوری کا انکشاف ہوا ہے، ذرائع کا کہنا ہے یہ رقم کے لحاظ سے زیادہ ٹیکس چوری فنانس اینڈ انشورنس کے شعبے میں ہو رہی ہے جس کی مالیت 1283.516 ارب روپے ہے۔ ٹیکس چوری کی سٹڈی عالمی بینک کو بھی بھجوائی جا چکی ہے، پاکستان میں سب سے زیادہ ٹیکس چوری مائنگ اور کانکنی میں ہو رہی ہے۔ بھاری ٹیکس شرح ملک میں ٹیکس چوری کی بڑی وجہ ہے۔ نجی ڈی کے مطابق ایف بی آر کی طرف سے بین الاقوامی سینٹر برائے پبلک پالیسی کے ذریعے جاری یونیورسٹی سے کرائی جانے والی سٹڈی پر مبنی رپورٹ میں انکشاف کیا گیا کہ پاکستان میں 1855.254 ارب روپے سالانہ کی ٹیکس چوری ہو رہی ہے جو ایف بی آر کی طرف سے حاصل کردہ ٹیکس وصولیوں سے بھی زیادہ ہے۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق ملک میں آئل اینڈ گیس سیکٹر کی طرف سے 119.154 ارب روپے، کیمیکلز سیکٹر میں 48.480 ارب روپے، آٹوموبائلز سیکٹر میں 45.261 ارب روپے، آئرن اینڈ اسٹیل کے شعبے میں 4.118 ارب روپے، ٹیکسٹائل شعبے میں 4.076 ارب روپے، کھانے کے تیل کے شعبے میں 14.746 ارب روپے، سینٹر سیکٹر میں 16.549 ارب روپے، شوگر سیکٹر میں 144.977 ارب روپے، فارماسیوٹیکلز سیکٹر میں 1.499 ارب روپے، فرٹیلائزر سیکٹر میں 2.371 ارب روپے، ٹیلی کام سیکٹر میں 357.537 ارب روپے، فنانس اینڈ انشورنس سیکٹر میں 1283.516 ارب روپے، ہوٹلوں اور ریستورانس کی طرف سے 16.880 ارب روپے کی ٹیکس چوری کی جا رہی ہے۔

اسلام آباد: پاکستان نے کینیڈا کے ساتھ دوطرفہ سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ اور تحفظ کا معاہدہ کرنیکا اصولی فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ اس ضمن میں ذرائع نے بتایا کہ سرمایہ کاری بورڈ کی طرف سے مختلف وزارتوں اور ڈویژنوں کو کینیڈا کے ساتھ دوطرفہ سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ و تحفظ کے معاہدے کیلئے مسودے کی سری بھجوائی گئی ہے جس میں وزارتوں اور ڈویژنوں سے اس بارے میں ریمارکس مانگے گئے ہیں۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ وزارتوں اور ڈویژنوں کی طرف سے ریمارکس ملنے کے بعد سرمایہ کاری بورڈ اس مسودے کو حتمی شکل دے گا جس کے بعد کینیڈا کے ساتھ باضابطہ طور پر مذاکرات ہونگے جس میں اس معاہدے کو حتمی شکل دی جائے گی۔ دونوں ممالک

دیہی خواتین کو روزگار کی فراہمی کیلئے 50 کروڑ

فراہم کر دیئے: مجتبیٰ شجاع

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

22 مئی 2014

حکومت نے آئندہ بجٹ میں ریٹیل سیکٹر پر ٹیکس

عائد کرنے کی ٹھان لی

روزنامہ جنگ

21 مئی 2014

مالیاتی ادارے سب سے بڑے ٹیکس چور بن گئے

روزنامہ پاکستان

20 مئی 2014

پاکستان کا کینیڈا کے ساتھ دوطرفہ سرمایہ کاری

کے فروغ کا معاہدہ کرنیکا اصولی فیصلہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

19 مئی 2014

کے درمیان معاہدے طے پانے کی صورت میں کینیڈا کے سرمایہ کاروں کیلئے پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کے حوالے سے ترجیحی سلوک کیا جائیگا اور پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کر نیوالے کینیڈین سرمایہ کاروں کو قانونی تحفظ فراہم کیا جائیگا۔ اس کے علاوہ کینیڈین سرمایہ کاروں کو خصوصی اکنامک زونز میں سرمایہ کاری پر بھی خصوصی سہولتیں فراہم کی جائیں گی۔

دالوں کی قیمت میں 10 روپے فی کلو گرام

اضافہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

19 مئی 2014

کاروباری برادری کا شرح سود 10 فیصد پر قرار

رکھنے پر اظہارِ مایوسی

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

18 مئی 2014

پاکستان اور افغانستان کا دوطرفہ تجارت 5 ارب

ڈالر کرنے کے اقدامات پر اتفاق

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

18 مئی 2014

اقتصادی بحالی اولین ترجیح، 10 ماہ کی اصلاحات

کے نتائج ملے شروع ہو گئے: اسحاق ڈار

روزنامہ پاکستان

17 مئی 2014

پاکستان میں اربوں ڈالر کے سونے، تانبے کے

ذخائر کا انکشاف

روزنامہ پاکستان

16 مئی 2014

بیرونی سرمایہ کاری 3 ارب ڈالر کے قریب پہنچ

کراچی: رمضان کی آمد سے قبل ہی منافع خور میدان میں آگئے۔ روپیہ مستحکم ہونے سے درآمدی دالوں کی ہول سیل قیمتیں کم ہوئی ہیں لیکن ریٹیل سطح پر دالوں کی فی کلو قیمت میں 10 روپے تک کا اضافہ کر دیا گیا ہے۔ رمضان المبارک کی آمد سے قبل ہی منافع خور مافیائے عوام کی جیبوں پر شہب خون مارنے کی تیاریاں کر لی ہیں۔ مارکیٹ ذرائع کے مطابق عالمی مارکیٹ میں دالوں کی قیمتوں میں کمی نہیں کی گئی۔ رمضان سے قبل ہی منافع خوروں نے مصنوعی قلت کا جواز بناتے ہوئے مختلف دالوں کی قیمتوں میں اضافہ کر دیا ہے۔ مارکیٹ ذرائع کے مطابق مونگ کی دال 10 روپے اضافے سے 165 روپے کلو کر دی گئی، ماش کی دال 8 روپے اضافے سے 128 روپے کلو ہو گئی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ مسور کی دال 5 روپے مہنگی ہو کر 105 روپے کلو جبکہ چنے کی دال 4 روپے اضافے سے 70 روپے کلو ہو گئی جس کے سبب عوام کیلئے دال روٹی کا حصول بھی مشکل ہو گیا ہے۔

لاہور (کامرس رپورٹر) کاروباری برادری نے سٹیٹ بینک کی جانب سے مائٹری پالیسی میں ڈسکانٹ ریٹ 10 فیصد پر برقرار رکھنے پر مایوسی کا اظہار کیا ہے اور کہا ہے کہ اس فیصلے سے صنعتی و زرعی اور کاروباری گروٹھ متاثر ہوگی۔ حکومت سٹیٹ بینک ڈسکانٹ ریٹ سنگل ڈسکانٹ پر لائے۔ لاہور ایوان صنعت و تجارت کے صدر سہیل لاشاری، پیاف کے چیئر مین ملک طاہر جاوید، آل پاکستان ٹیکسٹائل ملز ایسوسی ایشن کے ترجمان، پاکستان پولٹری ایسوسی ایشن کے سابق چیئر مین عبدالباسط، آل پاکستان انجمن تاجران کے صدر اشرف بیٹی، پاکستان فلور ملز ایسوسی ایشن کے سابق چیئر مین ڈاکٹر بلال اسلم صوفی، انگری فورم پاکستان کے چیئر مین ڈاکٹر ابراہیم مغل، لوہار مارکیٹ بادی باغ کے تاجر فاروق عاقل نے کہا کہ سٹیٹ بینک کے اس فیصلے سے جی ایس پی پلس کی سہولت سے فائدہ نہیں اٹھایا جاسکے گا۔ خطے میں دیگر ممالک کے مقابلے پاکستان میں شرح سود سب سے زیادہ ہے جس کے اثرات صنعتی پیداواری لاگت پر بھی مرتب ہو گئے۔

کابل: پاکستان اور افغانستان نے دوطرفہ تجارت 2.4 ارب ڈالر سے بڑھا کر 5 ارب ڈالر تک لانے کی ضرورت پر زور دیا ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں دوطرفہ عملی اقدامات کرنے پر بھی اتفاق کر لیا گیا ہے۔ اتوار کو جاری کردہ بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ پاک افغان مشترکہ چیئر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹریز اور افغانستان کے سینٹر حکام کے ایک وفد نے افغان نائب وزیر تجارت مزمل شنواری کی قیادت میں کابل میں پاکستانی سفیر سید ابراہیم حسین سے ملاقات کی۔ کابل میں پاکستانی سفارت خانے میں ہونے والی اس ملاقات میں دونوں ممالک کے درمیان دوطرفہ تجارت اور دیگر امور زیر بحث آئے۔ دونوں اطراف کی جانب سے دوطرفہ تجارت میں حائل و مشکلات اور تاجر برادری کو درپیش مسائل کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ دونوں جانب سے دوطرفہ تجارتی حجم بڑھانے پر زور دیا گیا۔ ملاقات کے دوران پاکستانی سفیر سید ابراہیم حسین نے وفد کو آگاہ کیا کہ پاکستان علاقائی تجارت کی حوصلہ افزائی اور اس میں مزید بہتری چاہتا ہے، خصوصاً پڑوسی ممالک کے ساتھ دوطرفہ تجارت میں توسیع چاہتا ہے کیونکہ اس سے خطے کی معاشی اور اقتصادی ترقی کو یقینی بنایا جاسکتا ہے۔ سید ابراہیم حسین نے مزید کہا کہ پڑوسی ممالک کے ساتھ دوطرفہ تجارت کے فروغ کیلئے پشاور سے جلال آباد تک ریلوے لائن اور موٹروے تعمیر کرنے کا ارادہ رکھتا ہے۔ انہوں نے افغان وفد سے کہا کہ پاکستان پاک افغان ٹرانزٹ ٹریڈ معاہدے میں توسیع چاہتا ہے جس کے تحت ہم تاجکستان سے بھی ٹرانزٹ ٹریڈ چاہتے ہیں۔ یہ ٹرانزٹ ٹریڈ سہولتیں ملکی ہونا چاہیے تاکہ خطے کی تجارت کو فروغ اور استحکام مل سکے۔ انہوں نے افغان تاجر برادری سے کہا کہ وہ پاکستان میں سرمایہ کاری کریں، بزنس کمیونٹی کو سرمایہ کاری دوست ماحول فراہم کیا جائیگا۔ افغان تاجر برادری کو اس بات کی بھی یقین دہانی کرائی گئی کہ ان کو کسٹم کلیئرنس کے حوالے سے درپیش مسائل کو بھی حل کیا جائے گا۔ ملاقات میں پاک افغان مشترکہ چیئر آف کامرس کے صدر خان جان الوکوزی، نائب صدر یونس مہمند، یرگل ایڈوائزروں دود موسیٰ ڈاکٹر نجیب اللہ وردک اور دیگر حکام موجود تھے۔

اسلام آباد (مائٹنگ ڈیسک) وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار نے کہا ہے کہ اقتصادی بحالی حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ہے، دس ماہ کی اصلاحات کے نتائج آنا شروع ہو گئے ہیں۔ ٹیکس مشاورتی کونسل کے اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے اسحاق ڈار کا کہنا تھا کہ ایف بی آر نے ان کی منظوری کے بغیر متنازع ایس آر آر 350 جاری کیا تھا جس پر عملدرآمد معطل کرنے کی ہدایت کر دی ہے، آئندہ تین سال کے اندر تمام امتیازی ایس آر آر ختم کر دیئے جائیں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اقتصادی بحالی حکومت کی اولین ترجیح ہے، گزشتہ 10 ماہ میں اقتصادی ترقی کو درست راہ پر گامزن کیا جس کے نتائج آنا شروع ہو گئے۔

اسلام آباد (مائٹنگ ڈیسک) جیالوجیکل سروے آف پاکستان کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل ڈاکٹر عمران خان نے انکشاف کیا ہے کہ پاکستان کے پاس اربوں ڈالر مالیت کے سونے، تانبے اور لوہے کے بھاری ذخائر موجود ہیں۔ قومی اسمبلی کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے پٹرولیم و قدرتی ذرائع کو بریفنگ میں انہوں نے کہا کہ ریکورڈ میں 5 ارب ٹن تانبے اور سونے کے ذخائر ہیں جن کی مالیت ایک ٹریلین ڈالر ہے۔ سینڈھک میں 400 ملین ٹن کے تانبے اور سونے کے ذخائر ہیں۔ حال ہی میں ہی کام کرنے والی ایک چینی کمپنی نے 15 ہزار ٹن تانبہ 1.5 ٹن سونا اور 2.8 ٹن سالانہ کے حساب سے چاندی نکالی ہے۔ کوئٹہ کے 175.5 ارب ٹن کے ذخائر بھی پائے جاتے ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ ہیرے جواہرات کے ذخائر سوات اور ہنزہ میں پائے جاتے ہیں۔

کراچی: ملک میں رواں مالی سال کے پہلے 10 ماہ کے دوران مجموعی غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری 133.3 فیصد اضافہ سے 2 ارب 97 کروڑ 90 لاکھ ڈالر رہی تاہم براہ راست

غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری 13 فیصد کمی سے 75 کروڑ 9 لاکھ ڈالر ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ یاد رہے کہ وفاقی حکومت نے گزشتہ ماہ انٹرنیشنل مارکیٹ میں ساورین یورو بانڈ متعارف کرائے تھے جس پر بیرونی سرمایہ کاروں نے بھاری پیشکشیں کی تھیں جس میں سے 2 ارب ڈالر کی آفرز قبول کر لی تھیں۔ اسٹیٹ بینک کے اعداد و شمار کے مطابق جولائی سے اپریل کے دوران مجموعی غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری 133.3 فیصد اضافے سے 2 ارب 97 کروڑ 90 لاکھ ڈالر رہی، گزشتہ مالی سال کے اسی عرصے میں مجموعی غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری 1 ارب 27 کروڑ 70 لاکھ ڈالر تھی، اس دوران ایف ڈی آئی 86 کروڑ 23 لاکھ ڈالر کے مقابلے میں 75 کروڑ 9 لاکھ ڈالر رہی، غیر ملکی نجی سرمایہ کاری 15 فیصد کمی سے 91 کروڑ 91 لاکھ ڈالر رہی۔ پورٹ فولیو سرمایہ کاری 23.4 فیصد کمی سے 16 کروڑ 82 لاکھ ڈالر رہی، فارن پبلک انویسٹمنٹ 954.6 فیصد اضافے سے 2 ارب 5 کروڑ 99 لاکھ ڈالر رہی جو گزشتہ مالی سال کے اسی عرصے میں 19 کروڑ 53 لاکھ ڈالر رہی تھی۔ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق اپریل میں فارن پبلک انویسٹمنٹ 1.997 ارب، ایف ڈی آئی 8 کروڑ 11 لاکھ اور فارن پرائیویٹ انویسٹمنٹ 19 کروڑ 89 لاکھ ڈالر رہی۔ اسٹیٹ بینک کے مطابق رواں مالی سال کے پہلے 10 ماہ کے دوران سب سے زیادہ 39 کروڑ 40 لاکھ ڈالر کی براہ راست غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاری تیل و گیس کی تلاش کے شعبے میں کی گئی، فنانسل بزنس 13 کروڑ، پاور سیکٹر 2 کروڑ 61 لاکھ، فوڈ 8 کروڑ 23 لاکھ اور کیمیکلز سیکٹر میں 8 کروڑ 19 لاکھ ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کی گئی، کمیونیکیشن سیکٹر میں ایف ڈی آئی منفی رہی۔

اسلام آباد: وفاقی حکومت نے ریونیو سٹارٹ فال کے باعث رواں مالی سال کیلئے مقررہ 2345 ارب کے نظر ثانی شدہ ہدف میں مزید 70 ارب روپے کی کمی کردی ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ کے ذمے دار افسر نے گزشتہ روز ”ایکسپریس“ کو بتایا کہ گزشتہ پختہ دہائی میں آئی ایم ایف جائزہ مشن کے ساتھ ہونے والے مذاکرات میں آئی ایم ایف نے رواں مالی سال کیلئے ایف بی آر کی طرف سے مقرر کردہ 2345 ارب کے نظر ثانی شدہ ہدف کو بھی ناقابل حصول قرار دیا اور واضح کیا کہ پاکستان یہ ہدف حاصل نہیں کر سکے گا۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ آئی ایم ایف کے ساتھ اتفاق رائے کے تحت رواں مالی سال کیلئے ٹیکس وصولیوں کا نیا ہدف مزید 70 ارب روپے کی کمی سے 2275 ارب روپے مقرر کر دیا گیا ہے۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ مذکورہ نظر ثانی شدہ ہدف کے حصول کے لیے بھی ایف بی آر کو 30 کروڑ 53 ارب روپے کا ریونیو حاصل کرنا ہو گا کیونکہ ایف بی آر نے جولائی سے اپریل تک 1743 ارب روپے کی ٹیکس وصولیوں کی ہیں جبکہ ایف بی آر نے رواں ماہ کیلئے ٹیکس وصولیوں کا ہدف 234.1 ارب روپے مقرر کر رکھا ہے۔

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار نے کہا ہے کہ ایشیائی ترقیاتی بینک نے 23 منصوبوں میں مالی معاونت فراہم کی ہے اور 3,799 ملین امریکی ڈالر امداد دینے کا وعدہ کیا ہے۔ سینیٹ اجلاس میں اپنے خطاب کے دوران انہوں نے بتایا کہ جون سے نومبر 2013ء کے درمیان سمندر پار پاکستانیوں نے 7,571 ملین ڈالر بھیجے اور یہ رقم گزشتہ سال کی نسبت 471 ملین ڈالر زیادہ ہے۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ ایشیائی ترقیاتی بینک نے 23 منصوبوں میں مالی معاونت فراہم کی ہے جبکہ 3,799 ملین امریکی ڈالر امداد دینے کا وعدہ کیا ہے جو ترقیاتی منصوبوں پر خرچ کئے جائیں گے۔

کراچی: پاکستان سے رواں مالی سال کے پہلے 10 ماہ کے دوران ماربل اور ماربل مصنوعات کی برآمدات میں 45 فیصد اضافہ ہوا۔ آل پاکستان ماربل مینٹگ انڈسٹری اینڈ ایکسپورٹ ایسوسی ایشن کے چیئرمین شاد اللہ خان کے مطابق جولائی سے اپریل تک ایکسپورٹ 6 کروڑ 97 لاکھ ڈالر رہی جو گزشتہ مالی سال کی اسی مدت میں 4 کروڑ 80 لاکھ ڈالر تھی۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ اس وقت ماربل کی ایکسپورٹ کے بھاری مالیت کے آرڈرز موجود ہیں لیکن بجلی کی لوڈ شیڈنگ اور بد امنی کی وجہ سے یہ آرڈرز پورے نہیں کیے جاسکتے۔ بجلی کی بدترین لوڈ شیڈنگ اور امن و امان کے مسائل کے سبب ماربل ایکسپورٹ انڈسٹری 50 فیصد پیداواری صلاحیت پر چل رہی ہے، برآمدی یونٹس کو یومیہ 6 تا 8 گھنٹے اعلانیہ اور 4 سے 6 گھنٹے غیر اعلانیہ لوڈ شیڈنگ کا سامنا ہے، دوسری جانب بد امنی، بھتہ خوری بھی کاروباری سرگرمیوں میں کمی کا بڑا سبب بنی ہوئی ہے۔ انہوں نے امید ظاہر کی کہ رواں سال ماربل کی ایکسپورٹ 10 کروڑ ڈالر تک پہنچ جائے گی۔

کراچی: بیرون ملک مقیم پاکستانی ورکرز کی جانب سے رواں مالی سال کے پہلے 10 مہینوں (جولائی تا اپریل 2014) میں 12 ارب 89 کروڑ 46 لاکھ 10 ہزار ڈالر کی ترسیلات زروطن بھیجی گئیں۔ جو گزشتہ مالی سال کے اسی عرصے میں 11 ارب 56 کروڑ 98 لاکھ 20 ہزار ڈالر کی ترسیلات زر سے 11.45 فیصد زیادہ ہیں۔ اسٹیٹ بینک آف پاکستان سے جاری اعداد و شمار کے مطابق اپریل میں بیرون ملک مقیم پاکستانیوں نے 1 ارب 31 کروڑ 18 لاکھ 30 ہزار ڈالر وطن بھیجے جو اپریل 2013 میں ارسال کردہ 1 ارب 21 کروڑ 59 لاکھ ڈالر سے 7.89 فیصد زائد ہیں۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ 10 ماہ اور اپریل کے دوران بیشتر قوم خلیج تعاون کونسل کے رکن ممالک سعودی عرب، متحدہ عرب امارات، بحرین، قطر، کویت و عمان میں مقیم پاکستانیوں نے وطن بھیجیں جبکہ ترسیلات زر کی فراہمی میں سعودی عرب سرفہرست رہا۔ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق گزشتہ 10 ماہ کے دوران پاکستانی ورکرز نے سعودی عرب سے 12.90 فیصد کے اضافے سے 3 ارب 80 کروڑ 63 لاکھ 60 ہزار، متحدہ عرب امارات 9.12 فیصد بڑھ کر 2 ارب 52 کروڑ 28 لاکھ 90 ہزار ڈالر، امریکا سے 11.39 فیصد کے اضافے سے 2 ارب 2 کروڑ 70 لاکھ 60 ہزار ڈالر، برطانیہ 11.62 فیصد کے اضافے سے 1 ارب 79 کروڑ 82 لاکھ 80 ہزار ڈالر، جی سی سی ممالک (بشمول بحرین، کویت، قطر و سلطنت عمان) 14.70 فیصد بڑھ کر 1 ارب 52 کروڑ 74 لاکھ ڈالر، یورپی یونین کے ممالک سے 19.36 فیصد کے اضافے سے 35 کروڑ 53 لاکھ 10 ہزار ڈالر اور ناروے، سویٹزر لینڈ، آسٹریلیا، کینیڈا، جاپان اور دیگر ممالک سے 3.81 فیصد کے اضافے سے 85 کروڑ 73 لاکھ 10 ہزار ڈالر کی ترسیلات زر موصول ہوئیں۔ جبکہ جولائی تا اپریل 2013 کے دوران ان ملکوں سے بالترتیب 3 ارب 37 کروڑ 15 لاکھ 90 ہزار ڈالر، 2 ارب 31 کروڑ 20 لاکھ 10 ہزار ڈالر، 1 ارب 81 کروڑ 98 لاکھ 50 ہزار ڈالر، 1 ارب 61 کروڑ 11 لاکھ

گئی

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

16 مئی 2014

سالانہ ٹیکس ہدف نظر ثانی کے بعد 2275 ارب

روپے مقرر

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

14 مئی 2014

ایشیائی ترقیاتی بینک نے 3,799 ملین امریکی ڈالر

امداد کا وعدہ کیا ہے: اسحاق ڈار

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

14 مئی 2014

ماربل اور ماربل مصنوعات کی برآمدات میں 45

فیصد اضافہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

13 مئی 2014

ترسیلات زر میں جولائی تا اپریل 11.45 فیصد

اضافہ، 12 ارب 89 کروڑ ڈالر تک پہنچ گئیں

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

13 مئی 2014

10 ہزار ڈالر، 1 ارب 33 کروڑ 16 لاکھ 70 ہزار ڈالر، 29 کروڑ 76 لاکھ 90 ہزار ڈالر اور 82 کروڑ 58 لاکھ ڈالر کی ترسیلات زر موصول ہوئی تھیں۔ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق گزشتہ ماہ سعودی عرب 41 کروڑ 50 لاکھ 90 ہزار ڈالر، متحدہ عرب امارات 23 کروڑ 39 لاکھ 70 ہزار ڈالر، امریکا 20 کروڑ 61 لاکھ 50 ہزار ڈالر، برطانیہ 16 کروڑ 60 لاکھ 70 ہزار ڈالر، جی سی سی ممالک (بشمول بحرین، کویت، قطر اور سلطنت عمان) 16 کروڑ 96 لاکھ 70 ہزار ڈالر، یورپی یونین کے ممالک 3 کروڑ 63 لاکھ 70 ہزار ڈالر اور ناروے، سوئٹزرلینڈ، آسٹریلیا، کینیڈا، جاپان اور دیگر ممالک سے 8 کروڑ 45 لاکھ 10 ہزار ڈالر کی ترسیلات زر وطن آئیں۔

کراچی: پاکستان میں آلو کی قلت دور کرنے کے لیے بھارت سے آلو کی بڑے پیمانے پر درآمد شروع کر دی گئی ہے۔ درآمد کنندگان کے مطابق واپک کے راستے پر مہیا 150 سے 200 ٹن آلو پاکستان پہنچ رہا ہے جو لاہور کی منڈی میں 37 سے 38 روپے فی کلو کی تھوک قیمت پر فروخت کیا جا رہا ہے۔ بھارت سے آلو کی درآمد گزشتہ ہفتے سے شروع ہوئی ہے۔ آئندہ دنوں میں درآمدات میں مزید اضافہ ہو گا۔ بھارتی آلو زیادہ تر پنجاب کے شہروں میں فروخت کیا جا رہا ہے۔ سندھ اور کراچی میں اب بھی مقامی آلو فروخت ہو رہا ہے۔ بھارت سے آلو کی درآمد شروع ہونے کے بعد مقامی سطح پر آلو کی قیمت میں استحکام آیا ہے اور ذخیرہ کیے گئے آلو مارکیٹ میں لائے جانے سے قیمتوں میں کمی کا امکان ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ حکومت نے آلو کی طلب پوری کرنے کے لیے درآمدات پر عائد ڈیوٹی اور ٹیکسز ختم کر دیے ہیں جبکہ پاکستان سے آلو کی ایکسپورٹ پر 25 فیصد ریگولیٹری ڈیوٹی عائد کر دی گئی ہے۔

لاہور (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک): لاہور سے کراچی آنے والی سٹیٹ بنک کی 3 کروڑ روپے کی رقم ٹرین سے غائب ہو گئی ہے، ریلوے پولیس نے سکیورٹی پر تعینات اہلکاروں کو حراست میں لے لیا ہے۔ میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق گزشتہ شب سٹیٹ بینک کے 3 کروڑ روپے مالیت کے پرائز بانڈز 10 بیٹھوں میں رکھ کر کراچی ایکسپریس کے ذریعے لاہور لائے جا رہے تھے جن میں سے ایک بیٹھ چوری ہو گئی۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق رقم کی سکیورٹی پر 16 پولیس اہلکار تعینات تھے جنہیں ریلوے پولیس نے حراست میں لے لیا ہے۔ ریلوے ذرائع کے مطابق کراچی ایکسپریس روزانہ 12 بجے پہنچتی ہے لیکن گزشتہ شب 2 بجے پہنچی اور سکیورٹی پر مامور ایک سب انسپکٹر واشنگ ایریا میں بے ہوشی میں حالت میں موجود تھا جبکہ باقی اہلکار حیدر آباد میں ہی اتر گئے تھے۔ پرائز بانڈز کی چوری کا مقدمہ کینٹ ریلوے پولیس سٹیشن میں درج کر لیا گیا ہے جبکہ منیجر سمیت 17 پولیس والوں کو شامل تفتیش کر لیا گیا ہے۔ سٹیٹ بینک کے ترجمان کا کہنا ہے کہ چوری کئے گئے پرائز بانڈز منسوخ کر دیئے گئے ہیں اور ان کی کوئی قانونی حیثیت نہیں۔

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک): حکومت اور انٹرنیشنل مانیٹرنگ فنڈ (آئی ایم ایف) کے درمیان آئندہ مالی سال کے اقتصادی اہداف پر اتفاق رائے ہونے سے نئے مالی سال میں بجلی اور گیس کی قیمتوں میں اضافے کا امکان پیدا ہو گیا ہے۔ میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق پاکستان اور آئی ایم ایف کے درمیان دہائی میں اقتصادی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لینے کیلئے مذاکرات ہوئے جن میں آئی ایم ایف نے تیسری سہ ماہی کے دوران پاکستان کی کارکردگی کا جائزہ لیا۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق اجلاس میں آئی ایم ایف نے حکومت کو بجٹ تجاویز سے آگاہ کیا اور مجموعی اقتصادی کارکردگی پر اطمینان کا اظہار کیا گیا۔ ذرائع کے مطابق اقتصادی اہداف پر اتفاق رائے ہونے سے آئی ایم ایف کی طرف سے 555 ملین ڈالر قرض کی قسط آئندہ ماہ ملنے کا امکان ہے جبکہ نئے مالی سال میں بجلی اور گیس کی قیمتوں میں اضافے کا بھی امکان پیدا ہو گیا ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار اور آئی ایم ایف مشن کے سربراہ اجلاس کی کارروائی سے متعلق کل میڈیا کو بریفنگ دیں گے۔

اسلام آباد: فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت نے آئندہ بجٹ میں سیلز ٹیکس میں اضافے کے ذریعے عوام پر اضافی بوجھ نہ ڈالنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ سرکاری ریڈیو سے بات کرتے ہوئے فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو کے رکن شاہد حسین اسد نے کہا کہ آئندہ بجٹ میں سیلز ٹیکس کی شرح 17 فیصد پر برقرار رہے گی اور ایف بی آر سیلز ٹیکس میں اضافے کے بجائے ٹیکس وصولی کے طریقہ کار کو بہتر بنائے گا۔ رواں مالی سال حاصل کی وصولیوں میں کمی سے متعلق ان کا کہنا تھا کہ 2 ہزار 345 ارب روپے کے ہدف کے حصول کے لئے خصوصی اقدامات کئے جا رہے ہیں اور ایف بی آر آئندہ بجٹ تک اس کی پر قابو پالے گا۔

اسلام آباد: وفاقی حکومت نے آئندہ مالی سال کے وفاقی بجٹ کا مسودہ تیار کر لیا ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ کے ذرائع نے بتایا کہ بجٹ کے ابتدائی خدوخال کے مطابق آئندہ وفاقی بجٹ میں پنشن اور تنخواہوں میں 5 سے 10 فیصد اضافے کا امکان ہے جس کے تحت آئندہ مالی سال کے وفاقی بجٹ میں پنشن کیلئے 163 ارب روپے جبکہ تنخواہوں کے لیے 294 ارب روپے مختص کیے جانے کا امکان ہے تاہم بجٹ اہداف کو حتمی شکل رواں ماہ کے آخری عشرے میں دی جائے گی جس کے بعد آئندہ مالی سال کا وفاقی بجٹ وفاقی کابینہ کے سامنے پیش کیا جائے گا، اس سے قبل قومی اقتصادی کونسل کا اجلاس ہو گا جس میں ترقیاتی بجٹ کو حتمی شکل دی جائے گی۔ ذرائع کے مطابق آئندہ مالی سال کے وفاقی بجٹ کے لیے تیار کیے جانے والے ابتدائی مسودے کے مطابق آئندہ مالی سال کے وفاقی بجٹ کا حجم 37 کھرب روپے سے زائد متوقع ہے جبکہ وفاقی بجٹ کی مد میں 690 ارب روپے مختص کیے جانے کا امکان ہے۔ علاوہ ازیں سسڈی کا حجم ساڑھے 3 کھرب روپے جبکہ آئندہ وفاقی بجٹ میں مالیاتی خسارہ 15 کھرب 50 ارب روپے ہونے کا امکان ہے، پی ایس ڈی پی کے تحت ترقیاتی کاموں کے لیے 520 ارب روپے مختص کیے جانے کا امکان ہے جبکہ ٹیکس وصولیوں کا ہدف 27 کھرب روپے متوقع ہے۔ وزارت خزانہ حکام کے مطابق مالی سال 2014-15 کے وفاقی بجٹ میں نان ٹیکس ریونیو کا ہدف 624 ارب روپے جبکہ قرضوں اور سود کی ادائیگیوں کیلئے 12 کھرب 80 ارب روپے خرچ کیے جانے کا امکان ہے۔

اسلام آباد: وفاقی وزیر تجارت انجینئر خرم دستگیر نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت صوبے میں رواں مالی سال میں کھیلوں کی سرگرمیوں کو فروغ دینے کیلئے دو ارب روپے خرچ

قلت پر کنٹرول کیلئے بھارت سے بڑے پیمانے پر آلو کی درآمد شروع

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

12 مئی 2014

سٹیٹ بینک کے 3 کروڑ مالیت کے پرائز بانڈز ٹرین سے چوری ہو گئے

روزنامہ پاکستان

10 مئی 2014

حکومت، آئی ایم ایف مذاکرات، آئندہ مالی سال میں بجلی اور گیس کی قیمتیں بڑھنے کا امکان

روزنامہ پاکستان

9 مئی 2014

آئندہ بجٹ میں سیلز ٹیکس کی شرح 17 فیصد پر برقرار رہے گی، ایف بی آر

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

7 مئی 2014

وفاقی بجٹ کا ابتدائی مسودہ تیار، پنشن و تنخواہوں میں 5 سے 10 فیصد اضافے کا امکان

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

7 مئی 2014

پاکستان کی معیشت کو بھارت سے کوئی خطرہ

کر رہی ہے۔ نئی ٹی وی سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے کامرس کے وزیر انجینئر خرم دستگیر نے کہا کہ حکومت نوجوانوں کی فلاح و بہبود کیلئے موثر اقدامات کر رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس سلسلے میں پرائم منسٹر یوتھ لوان اسکیم سمیت مختلف پروگرام شروع کیے گئے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حکومت صوبے میں رواں مالی سال میں کھیلوں کی سرگرمیوں کو فروغ دینے کیلئے دو ارب روپے خرچ کر رہی ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر تجارت نے کہا کہ پاکستان کی معیشت کو بھارت سے کوئی خطرہ نہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ توانائی بحران کی رکاوٹوں کو ترقی کے راستے سے ہٹانا ہے۔ جون 2015 کے بعد معاشی اصلاحات کے ثمرات عوام کو ملیں گے۔

اسلام آباد: وزیر خزانہ سینئر اسحاق ڈار نے کہا ہے کہ زرمبادلہ کے ذخائر 12 ارب ڈالر تک پہنچ گئے ہیں جو 30 ستمبر تک 15 ارب ڈالر ہو جائیں گے برطانیہ کے نامور فنڈ منیجر اور لندن اسٹاک ایکسچینج کے چیف ایگزیکٹو زیور رولٹ کی سربراہی میں وفد سے ملاقات کے بعد جاری بیان کے مطابق انھوں نے ملک کے میکرو اکنامک اشاریوں کے حوالے سے وفد کو بتایا کہ ملک میں سرمایہ کی منڈی کی شرح نمونہ 40 فیصد ہے اور غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں کو پرکشش مراعات دی جارہی ہیں۔ وزیر خزانہ نے کہا کہ بین الاقوامی سرمایہ کاروں نے پاکستانی یورو بانڈز کی فروخت میں توقع سے 14 گنا زائد دلچسپی کا اظہار کیا ہے۔ اسحاق ڈار نے بتایا جلد ہی اسلامی بانڈز کا اجرا بھی کیا جائیگا۔

کراچی (کامرس رپورٹر): فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو نے رواں مالی سال دس ماہ کے دوران ٹیکسوں کی مد میں سترہ کھرب چھیالیس ارب روپے وصول کئے، مقررہ ہدف کے حصول کے لئے ماہانہ دو سو تانوے ارب روپے ٹیکس جمع کرنا ہو گا۔ فیڈرل بورڈ آف ریونیو کے ابتدائی اعداد و شمار کے مطابق تیس اپریل تک محصولات کی وصولی میں گزشتہ مالی سال کی نسبت دو سو ستائیس ارب روپے اضافہ ہوا، تاہم ایک سو تانوے ارب روپے ماہانہ ہدف حاصل نہ ہو سکا، اپریل کے دوران ایف بی آر نے صرف ایک سو سترہ ارب روپے ٹیکس وصولی کی، رواں مالہ سال آخری سہ ماہی میں ایف بی آر کو پانچ سو تانوے ارب روپے وصولی کرنا تھی، تاہم مالی سال کے باقی دو ماہ کے دوران ہر مہینے دو سو تانوے ارب روپے جمع کرنا ہوں گے، واضح رہے رواں مالی سال ایف بی آر کی ٹیکس وصولی کا ہدف تیس تیس کھرب پینتالیس ارب روپے ہے۔

کراچی: ملک میں صارف قیمتوں کے اشاریے (سی پی آئی) کی بنیاد پر افراط زر کی شرح گزشتہ ماہ بڑھ کر 9.2 فیصد پر پہنچ گئی جو مارچ میں 8.5 فیصد اور اپریل 2013 میں 5.8 فیصد ریکارڈ کی گئی تھی۔ پاکستان بیورو شماریات سے جاری ماہانہ رپورٹ کے مطابق اپریل میں ماہانہ بنیادوں پر افراط زر کی شرح میں 1.7 فیصد اضافہ ہوا جبکہ مارچ میں 1 فیصد کی ہوئی تھی، اس دوران کورا فٹیشن (نان فوڈ نان انرجی) سی پی آئی میں سال بہ سال 8.5 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ مارچ میں یہ اضافہ 7.6 فیصد تک محدود تھا، ماہانہ بنیادوں پر اپریل میں نان فوڈ نان انرجی سی پی آئی میں 1.9 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ مارچ میں یہ حصہ 0.3 فیصد تھا۔ ماہانہ رپورٹ کے مطابق گزشتہ ماہ اشیائے خوراک کی قیمتوں میں سالانہ بنیادوں پر 9.9 فیصد اور ماہانہ بنیادوں پر 2 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ نان فوڈ یعنی دیگر اشیائے قیمتوں میں اپریل کے دوران ایک سال میں 8.7 فیصد اور ایک ماہ میں 1.5 فیصد اضافہ ہوا۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق رواں مالی سال کے ابتدائی 10 ماہ یعنی جولائی سے اپریل 2014 تک افراط زر کی شرح 8.69 فیصد رہی جو گزشتہ مالی سال کی اسی مدت میں 7.75 فیصد رہی، اس دوران حساس قیمتوں کے اشاریے (ایس پی آئی) کی بنیاد پر افراط زر کی شرح میں 7.86 فیصد اور ہول سیل پرائس اشاریے (ڈبلیو پی آئی) کی بنیاد پر افراط زر کی شرح میں 7.91 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا جبکہ گزشتہ مالی سال کی اسی مدت میں ایس پی آئی میں 6.72 اور ڈبلیو پی آئی میں 11.24 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا تھا، اپریل میں ایس پی آئی میں سال بہ سال 9.4 فیصد جبکہ ڈبلیو پی آئی میں 7 فیصد کا اضافہ ہوا۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق اپریل میں ماہانہ بنیادوں پر سب سے زیادہ اضافہ آلو کی قیمت میں 42.06 فیصد اور سالانہ بنیادوں پر 192.80 فیصد ہوا جبکہ نان فوڈ آئٹمز میں اپریل میں ماہانہ بنیادوں پر تعلیم 9.68 فیصد اور سالانہ بنیادوں پر پوسٹل سروسز 23.66 فیصد مہنگی ہوئیں۔

اسلام آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک): عالمی بینک نے پاکستان کیلئے 12 ارب ڈالر قرض کی منظوری دے دی ہے، یہ منظوری عالمی بینک کے بورڈ آف ڈائریکٹرز کے اجلاس میں دی گئی۔ وفاقی وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار کا کہنا ہے کہ ورلڈ بینک آئندہ پانچ سال کیلئے پاکستان کو 11 ارب ڈالر کا قرض دے گا اور پروگرام کے تحت 11 ارب ڈالر ترقیاتی منصوبوں پر خرچ کئے جائیں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یہ قرضہ آسان شرائط پر فراہم کیا جائے گا اور ایک ارب ڈالر بجٹ سپورٹ کی رقم یکمشت ملے گی۔ ورلڈ بینک نے پاکستان کیلئے ایک ارب ڈالر کارعاقی قرضہ بھی منظور کیا ہے اور نئی کنٹری حکمت عملی کی بھی منظوری دے دی ہے۔

نہیں، خرم دستگیر

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

5 مئی 2014

زرمبادلہ کے ذخائر 15 ارب ڈالر تک لے

جائیگہ، اسحاق ڈار

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

4 مئی 2014

ایف بی آر نے ٹیکسوں کی مد میں 70 کھرب 46

ارب روپے وصول کئے

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

3 مئی 2014

افراط زر کی شرح اپریل میں بڑھ کر 9.2 فیصد

پر پہنچ گئی

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

3 مئی 2014

عالمی بینک نے پاکستان کیلئے 12 ارب ڈالر قرض

کی منظوری دے دی

روزنامہ پاکستان

1 مئی 2014

ECONOMIC DIRECTORY

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|--|---|
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| Planning and Development Government of Gilgit Baltistan 0092 5811 920214 www.gilgitbaltistan.gov.pk/ Gilgit-Baltistan Secretariat, Gilgit. | SMEDA Government of Pakistan 0092-42-99204701-12 helpdesk@smeda.org.pk www.smeda.org 4th Floor, 3rd Building, Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex, Egerton Road, Lahore 54000, Pakistan. |
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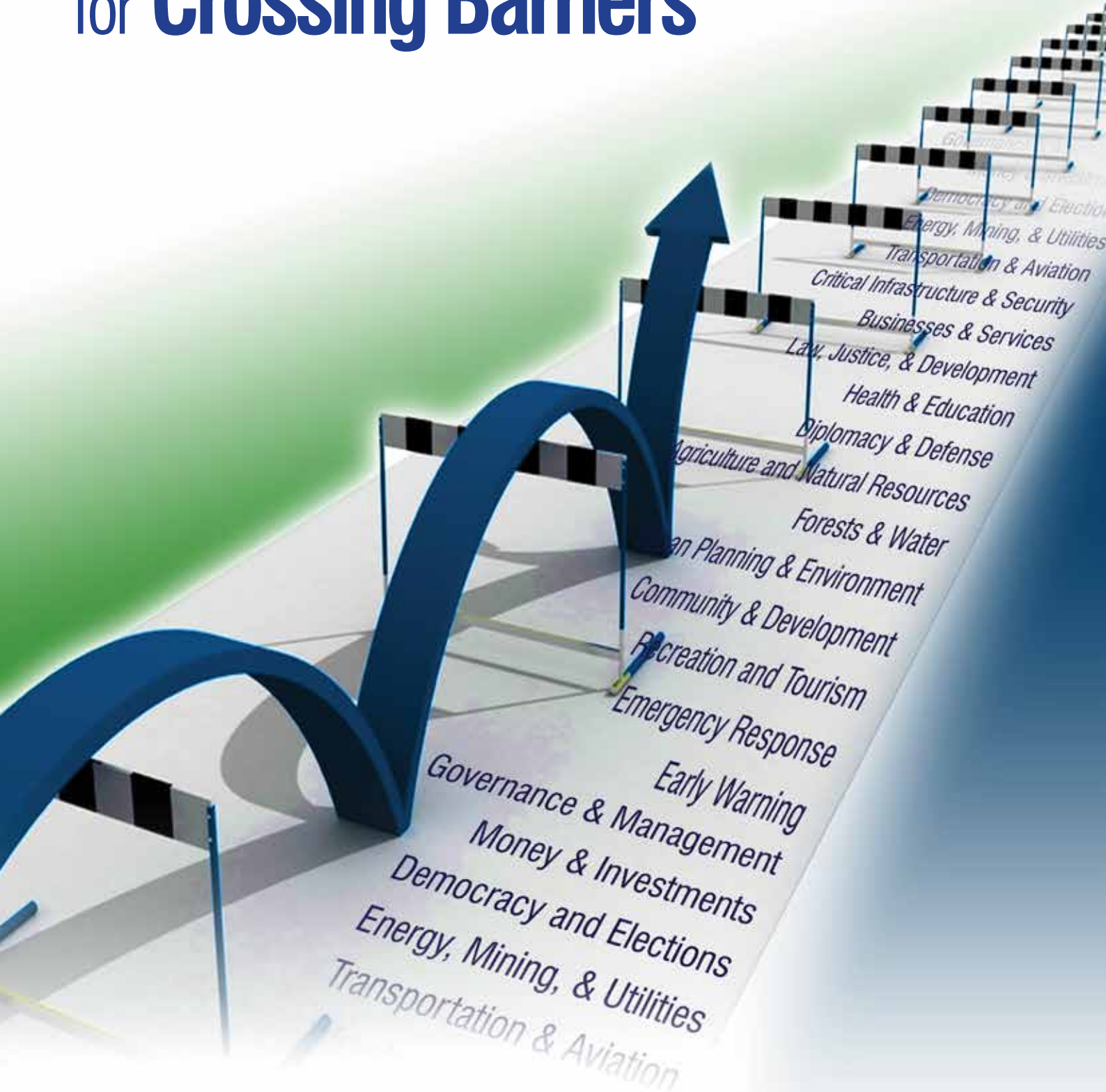
HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

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| <p>Karwan Development Organization Local NGO 0092-459-395760 info@karwan.org.pk Behind Telenor Tower, Near Railway Bridge, Kalabagh, Tehsil Isa Khel, Mainwali</p> | <p>Mercy Corps International Pakistan International NGO 0092-51-2878082-84 anoor@pk.mercycorps.org www.mercycorps.org/countries/pakistan House No. 152, Main Margala Road, Sector F-6/3 Islamabad</p> |
| <p>United Sikhs Local NGO 0092-333-9113230 unitedsikhs-pakistan@unitedsikhs.org Office No.176-A, UG Deans Trade Centre, F.C Chowk, Peshawar</p> | <p>Chenab Development Foundation Local NGO 0092-51-4860974 info@cdf.org.pk House No. 431, West Service Road, Sector: I-8/2 Islamabad</p> |
| <p>Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum Local NGO 0092-213-5092862/0092-213-4534463 pakistanfisherfolk@hotmail.com Sachall Hall, Ibrahim Hyderi, Bin Qasim Town, Karachi</p> | <p>Participatory Development Initiatives Local NGO 0092-21-35842762 pdi@pdi.org.pk PDI House, 2nd Floor, Plot # 34-C, Street # 10, Badar Commercial, DHA Phase- V, Karachi</p> |
| <p>Employers' Federation of Pakistan Local NGO 0092-213-2411049 info@efp.org.pk 2nd Floor, State Life Building No. 2, Wallace Road, Off. I.I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi</p> | <p>Imran Khan Foundation Local NGO 0092-42-35782741-4 yahya.jamil@imrankhanfoundation.org.pk 75-D/1, Gulberg III, Liberty Roundabout, Lahore</p> |
| <p>Caritas Pakistan International NGO 0092-42-36315584 caritas@caritas.org.pk Caritas Pakistan National Secretariat, 23/3 Race Course Road - Pakistan</p> | <p>Sanjh Foundation Local NGO 0092-345-9997877 sanjh_org@hotmail.com, Sanjh Complex Dinpur Alipur road Muzaffargarh</p> |
| <p>AAGAH Local NGO 0092-42-37000730 info@aagahi.org.pk 256 /5 -B, PCHF Defence Road , Lahore</p> | <p>Badin Development Organization Local NGO 0092-300-3314695 bdo.bdn@gmail.com Khaskheli Mohalla near Ali Medical Centre Badin</p> |
| <p>Jahandad Society for Community Development Local NGO 0092 42-35181549, info@jscd.org.pk 100 B, Iqbal Avenue Housing Society (opp. Shaukat Khanum Hospital) Johar Town Lahore</p> | <p>Shah Sachal Sami Welfare Association Local NGO 0092-244-381244 shahsachalsami1live@hotmail.com House No 127, Gulshan Bhattai Colony, Near Mehran Colony Disposal</p> |
| <p>US Agency for International Development, Pakistan Donors 0092-51-2080000</p> | <p>Helping Hand for Relief and Development Local NGO 0092-051-8438800</p> |

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| Peace Through Prosperity Local NGO 0092-51-8437479 info@bringptp.com House.No.107, Street No. 49, Sector: F-11/3, Islamabad | Coastal Association for Research & Development Local NGO 0092-853-361175 card.org.pk@gmail.com ilyasani Mohalla Dam Bunder P.O Winder |
| Friedrich Naumann Stiftung International NGO 0092-51-2278896 office13@pakistan.fnst.org, pakistan@fnst.org House No. 19, Street No. 19, Sector F-6/2, Islamabad | Asian Development Bank Donors 0092-51-2600351-69, 0092-51-2087300 adbprrm@adb.org Level 8, North Wing, Serena Business Complex, Khayaban-e- Suhrawardy, Sector G-5, Islamabad |
| Canadian International Development Agency Donor 0092-51-2279138-41 webmail@cidapsu.org.pk House No. 18, Begum Sarfraz Iqbal Road, Sector G- 6/4, P.O. Box No. 2934, Islamabad | The World Bank Donor 0092-51-9090000 mariamaltaf@worldbank.org 20-A Shahrah-e-Jamhuriat, Sector G-5/1, Islamabad |
| Japan International Cooperation Agency Donor 0092-51-9244500 -7 4th Floor, Serena Office Complex, Plot No. 17, Ramna 5, Khayaban-e-Suhrawardy, Sector G-5/1, Islamabad | The Asia Foundation Donor 0092-51-2650523 tafpk@asiafound.org House No. 7, Street No. 58, Sector F-7/4, Islamabad |
| Youth Commission for Human Rights Local NGO 0092-42-6666404 ychr@syberwurx.com F-6, Capri Center, Firdos Market, Gulberg-3 / House No.122, St.3, Officers Colony, Cavalry Ground, Lahore | Human Oriented Poverty and Education Foundation Local NGO 0092-333-5958405 naveed_ps@yahoo.com Block No. 56, 1st Floor, Suit No. 2, INT Center, Sector: G- 10/4, Islamabad |
| Leadership for Environment and Development International NGO 0092-51-111-511-111 main@lead.org.pk LEAD House, Sector: F-7 Markaz, Islamabad | PAK Education Society/Pakistan Development Network Local NGO 0092-21-34631377 LS-4, ST-23, Qasba Colony, Karachi |
| Sustainable Development Policy Institute Local NGO 0092-51-2278134, 0092-51-2278136 main@sdpi.org House No. 38 Embassy Road, G - 6/3, Islamabad | Socio Agri Development Forum Local NGO 0092-244-314225 socioagriforum@yahoo.com P.O Shah Pur Jahania Nawabshah |
| Democratic Commission for Human Development Local NGO 0092-42-35854412 dchd@dchd.org.pk 40 Block D, Model Town, Lahore | Canadian Hunger Foundation International NGO 0092-992 337033 ikhan@chf-partners.ca Canadian Hunger Foundation House No.881 A, Near Pakistan Radio Station Mansra Road, Jhangi. |
| Semiotcs Consultant (PVT) Limited Privately Held Company 0092-51-2271248 mail@semiotics.pk Semiotics Consultants (Pvt) Limited Flat 6-7, 2nd Floor, Block-13, Pearl Center, Super Market, Islamabad | ShoreBank International Donors 0092-51-2297928-9 contact@sbksbi.com House no,262, Street 5, Sector F 10/3, Islamabad |
| Association for the Development of Pakistan International NGO volunteer@developpakistan.org | Global Fund for Women International NGO 001-415-2484800 |

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| Association for the Development of Pakistan, PO Box 2492, San Francisco, CA 94126 USA | asiapac@globalfundforwomen.org 222 Sutter Street, Suite 500 San Francisco, CA 94108, USA |
| Islamic Development Bank Donors 0092-51-9222249 www.isdb.org Islamic Development Bank, Field Office, Room 415, C-Block, Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad | CIDA's Programme for Advancement of Gender Equality Women Organizations 0092-51-208-6000 isbad@international.gc.ca High Commission of Canada, P. O. Box 1042, Islamabad, Pakistan |
| Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund Local Ngo 0092-51-111-000-102 www.ppaf.org.pk 1 Hill View Road, Banigala, Islamabad, Pakistan | Rural Community Development Society Local Ngo 0092 -423-7901130 www.rcdspk.org 1st Floor Hajvery Plaza, Khajooranwala Road, Begum Kot Ferozwala District, Sheikhupura |
| AKHUWAT Local Ngo 0092-42-35122743, 0092-42-35156382 info@akhuwat.org.pk akhuwat.org.pk 19 Civic Center, Opposite Minhaj-ul-Quran University, Township, Lahore | Rural Support Programme Network Local Ngo 0092-51-2829141, 0092-51-2829556 Info@rspn.org.pk www.rspn.org House No.7, Street 49, F-6/4 Islamabad, Pakistan. |
| Apna Microfinance Bank Microfinance Bank 0092-21-35865352-55 info@apnabank.com.pk www.apnabank.com.pk K-4/3 & 4/4, Ch. Khaliq-uz-Zaman Road, Gizri, Karachi, Pakistan. | Association for Gender Awareness & Human Empowerment Local Ngo 0092-42-35291211, 0092-42-35957916 info@agahe.org.pk www.agahe.org.pk ouse No.3, Block A, Lalazar Colony, Phase II, Raiwind Road, Lahore |

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