



PBIT NEWSFLASH

March 2019

PUNJAB BOARD OF INVESTMENT & TRADE

23-AIKMAN G.O.R-1 LAHORE - PAKISTAN

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PBIT HOSTS TECH/ TECH-ENABLED SECTOR AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINAR

MINISTER IC&ID SPEAKS AT PBIT SEMINAR

Speaking at a Tech and Entrepreneurship seminar arranged by the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade on Wednesday, the 27th of March, the Provincial Minister of Punjab for Industries, Commerce and Investment, Mian Muhammad Aslam Iqbal said that a soft loans scheme would be launched for the skilled youth next month.



CHAIRMAN PBIT SPEAKS AT PBIT SEMINAR

The Chairman of PBIT, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan was invited to speak at the seminar. He highlighted the work PBIT has done in facilitating entrepreneurship in Punjab and also stressed the need for continued hard work to boost Punjab's economy.



MR. KHURRAM ZAFAR SPEAKS AT PBIT SEMINAR

Mr. Khurram Zafar, Director of the National Incubation Centre was invited to speak on the occasion.



MS. ANN MASON OF THE US CONSULATE SPEAKS

Ms. Ann Mason, the Political and Economic Chief at the US Consulate in Lahore spoke at a tech and entrepreneurship seminar conducted by PBIT. She appreciated the organization's desire for regulatory reform and commended the new government for its efforts.



PBIT HOSTS TECH/ TECH-ENABLED SECTOR AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINAR

A panel discussion took place discussing the issues involved in setting up tech enterprises in Pakistan. The discussion was moderated by Mr. Ahmad Habib of Daftarkhwan and included the likes of Ahmed Haleem Khan, Ali Mukhtar, Bilal Zafar, Badar Khushnood, Bashir Sheikh and Atif Mumtaz.



The Provincial Minister of Punjab for Industries, Commerce and Investment, Mian Muhammad Aslam Iqbal and the Chairman of PBIT, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan visited various stalls displayed during the seminar and tested the products presented by young entrepreneurs.



MINISTER INDUSTRIES CHAIRED A MEETING ON THE LABOR DELETION POLICY AT PBIT

Minister Industries, Mian Aslam Iqbal chaired a meeting on the Labor Deletion Policy at Punjab Board of Investment and Trade. The meeting aimed at discussing reforms in the labor policy which are required for enhancing the skills as well as productivity of the labors. Secretary IC & ID Punjab, Additional Secretary (Commerce), Minister Labor , Secretary Labor, Professor of Economics (LUMS), CEO PBIT, COO PBIT, Director China cell were also present in the meeting.



CHAIRMAN PBIT MET WITH ICCI DELEGATION

“Punjab is an ideal destination for investment and offers potential investment opportunities in various sector of its economy. The business community should capitalize on these opportunities to maximize their business prospects” said Chairman PBIT, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan in a meeting held with Islamabad Chamber of Commerce’s delegation. He stated that PBIT being a premiere Investment Promotion Agency is working relentlessly for promoting and facilitating investments and assured that PBIT will take measures to address issues of investors and create conducive environment for trade and investment in the province.



A WORLD BANK TEAM HEADED BY LARS GRAVA HAD A MEETING WITH CEO PBIT

A World Bank team headed by Lars Grava had a meeting with CEO PBIT Mr. Jahanzeb Burana. The objective of the meeting was to review the business processes and identify NOCs and requirements involved to start and operate a business in priority sectors of Pakistan. Steps have been identified to facilitate and promote businesses in the country.

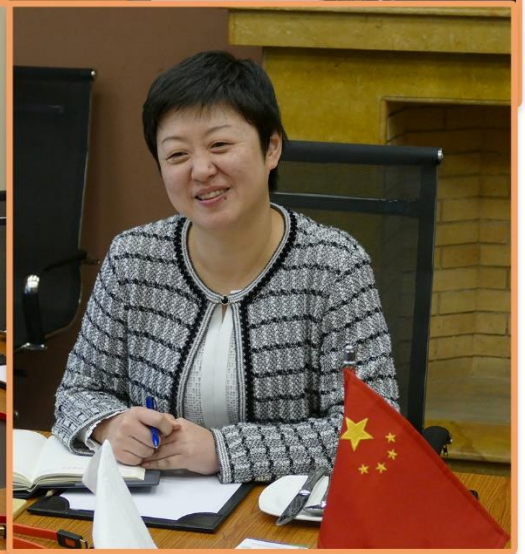


MR. KIMIHIDE ANDO, CEO OF THE MITSUBISHI CORPORATION PAKISTAN MET

Mr. Kimihide Ando, CEO of the Mitsubishi Corporation Pakistan and recipient of the 'Sitara-e-Pakistan' civilian award met Jahanzeb Burana, the CEO of PBIT. During the meeting, potential investment opportunities in various sectors of the Punjab province's economy were discussed.



CEO CHALLENGE APPAREL LTD. VISITED PBIT



Ms. Karen Chen, CEO Challenge Apparel Ltd. had a detailed meeting with Mr. Jahanzeb Burana, CEO PBIT and Mr. Shoaib Malik, Chairman PIEDMC at PBIT. Different areas of mutual interest were discussed, especially with respect to exploring potential of Punjab for attracting investments and industrialization in the value-added textile segments.

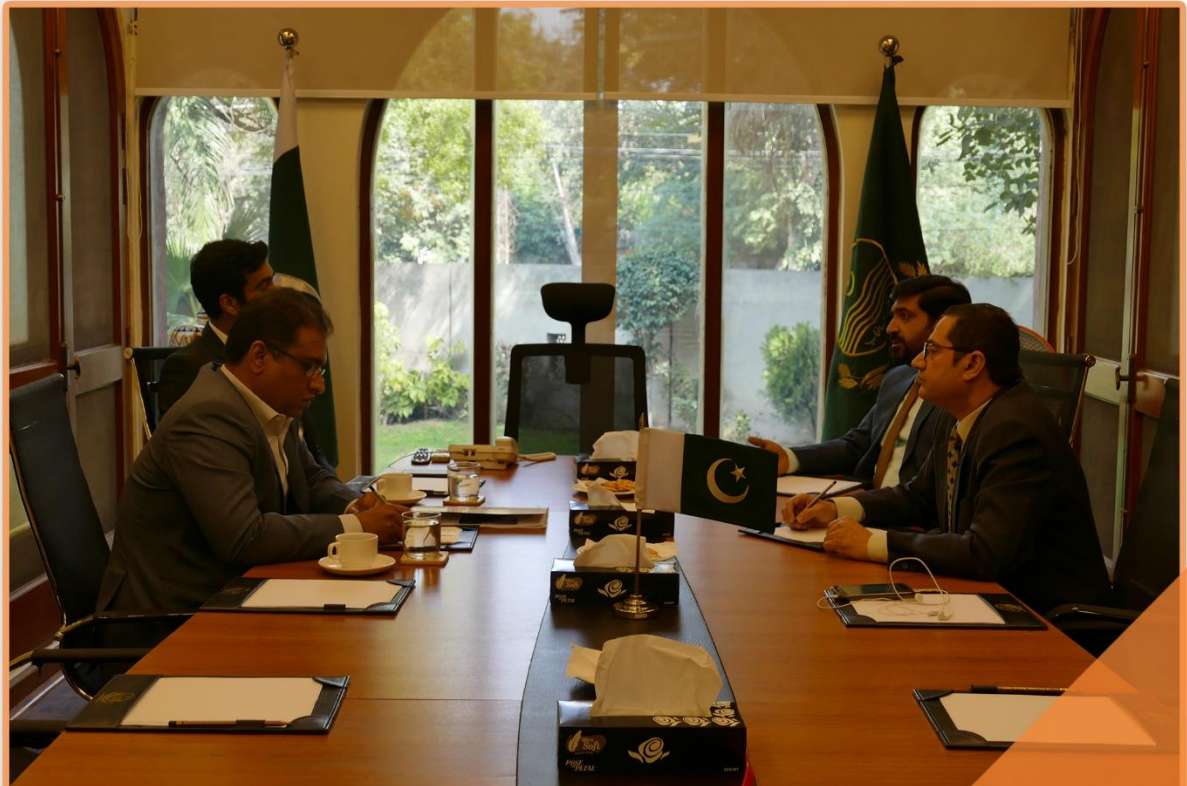
SIALKOT TANNERY ASSOCIATION ALONG WITH REPRESENTATIVE OF UNIDO VISIT PBIT



Sialkot Tannery Association along with representative of UNIDO visit PBIT to discuss the establishment of Sialkot Tannery Special Economic Zone. It was discussed that there are around 250 tanneries existing in 10 clusters in and around Sialkot. The meeting was held to resolve environmental issues of Sialkot and develop state of the art tannery zone, PBIT extended full support to Sialkot Tannery Association for the declaration of Sialkot Tannery Zone as 'Special Economic Zone'. Sialkot Tannery Association has also requested PBIT to facilitate the issues of electricity and gas supply, upon which PBIT extended full support and cooperation to raise the issue at federal level.

THE PUNJAB GROUP VISITED PBIT

The Punjab Group visited PBIT to discuss business opportunities in various sectors including cement and construction sector. Investment openings were shared by team PBIT and maximum facilitation was offered.



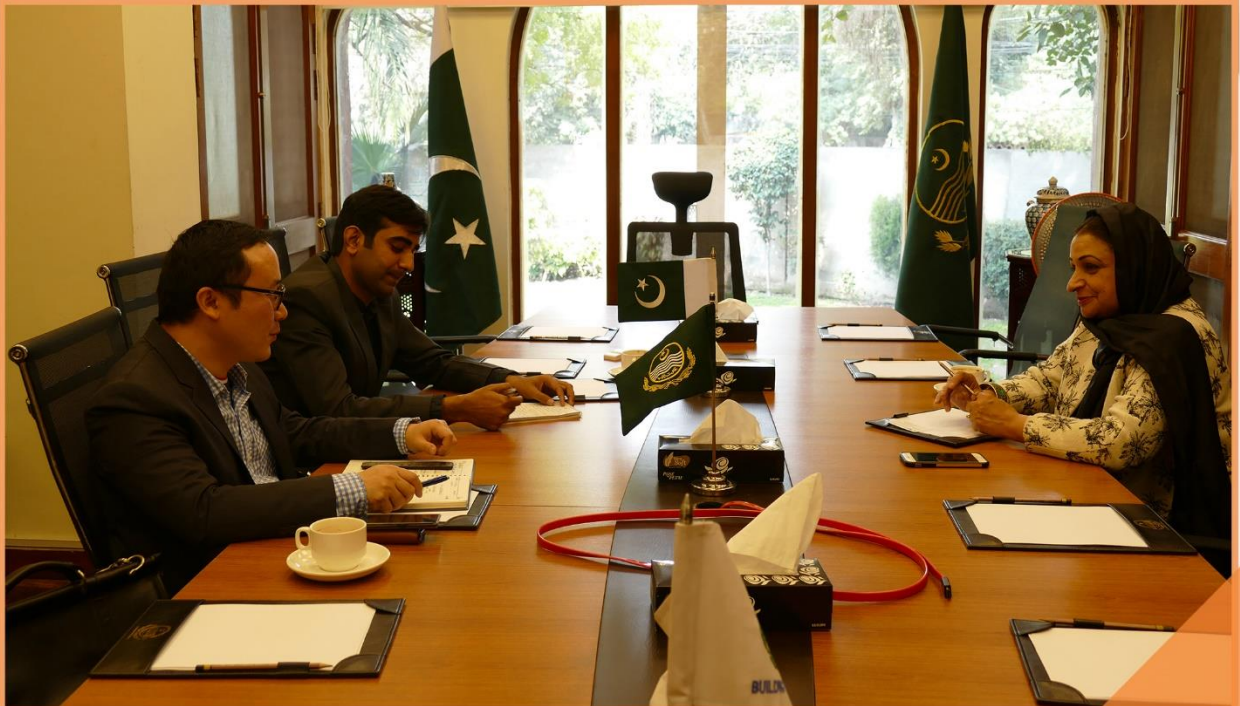
THE PREMIER PRODUCTS (PVT.) LIMITED VISITED PBIT

The Premier Products Pvt Ltd visited PBIT to identify business opportunity in baby products including diapers. The group is looking to invest in SEZs, PBIT assured maximum facilitation.



PBIT FACILITATES PAKISTANI & CHINESE INVESTORS FOR POTENTIAL MANGO EXPORT

The Chinese Representative from M/s Longer Development Pvt. Ltd. was looking for mango potential in Punjab to export to Chinese market. We arranged their meeting with M/s Maliha Fruit Company as they are seeking to expand their trade in China. Both sides discussed their queries and quotation and exchanged their contacts with the decision to be in touch with each other with further possibility of starting trade. PBIT assured them of full facilitation in this regard.



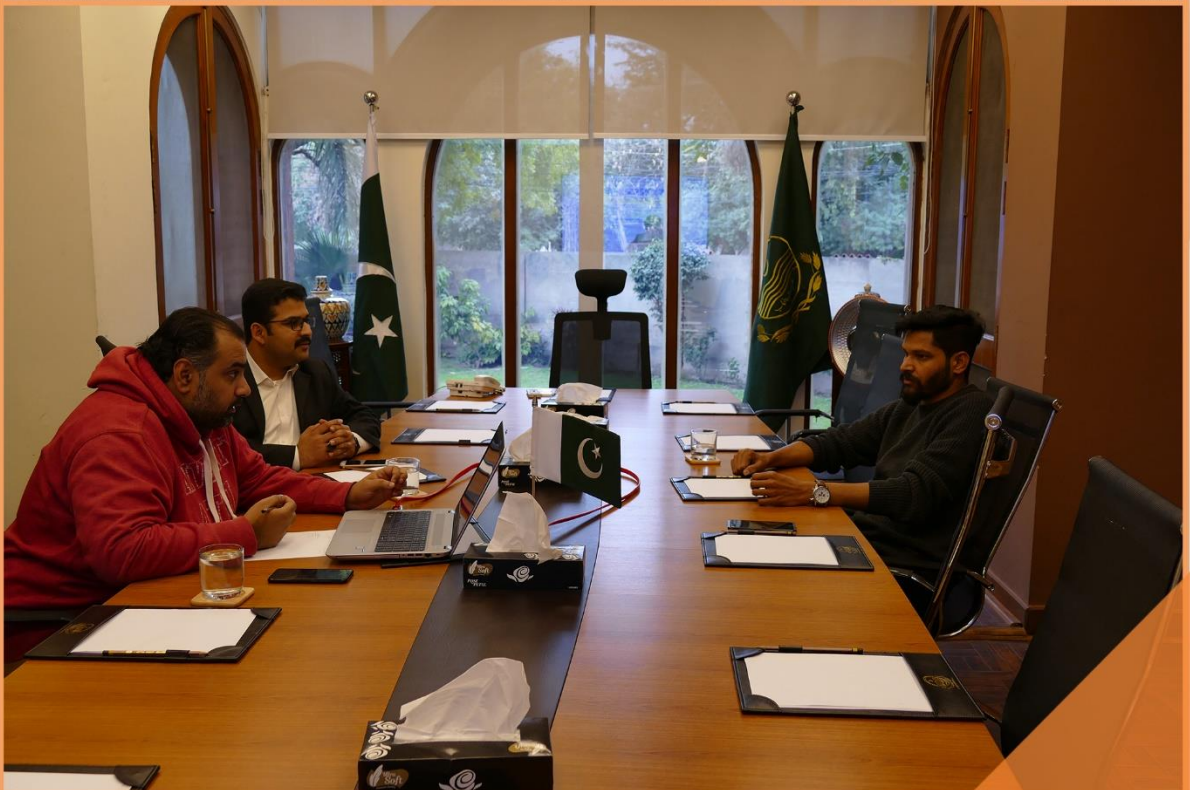
FACILITATING THE STARTUPS!

Muhammad Jazil and Areab Shuaib, graduates from FC College visited Punjab Board of Investment & Trade to talk about their business model and how PBIT can assist them to scale it towards becoming more profitable for investment.



FACILITATING THE STARTUPS!

An up & coming startup "AJAZ FAISAL" from Pakistan Institute of Fashion Designing's SSBC (Student Startup Business Center) Department visited PBIT to discuss how PBIT's Entrepreneurship team can help the startup in having his company registered with the SECP.



BOI CHIEF DISCUSSES INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH ABD DELEGATION

Director General of Central West Asia Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Werner E Liepach along with his delegation called on Minister of State /Chairman Board of Investment (BOI) Haroon Sharif at the BOI office. During the meeting, Haroon Sharif stated that the Prime Minister has taken a clear leadership role in reviving the economy and making Pakistan a lucrative destination for investors.

He also said that investors have also shown great interest and at least 5 multinational hospitality chains were in negotiations with BOI with their investment plans. He said that ADB could assist the government by providing expert technical advice to BOI as well as by creating a fund to finance and address the shortcomings in the existing 7 Special Economic Zones. The Director General ADB told Haroon Sharif that his organization is ready to help by bringing in its expertise for formalization of different policy frameworks as well as by linking the private sector investments with investment opportunities in Pakistan. Liepach shared that ADB was keen to enhance connectivity for trade and investment with Central Asia as well.

BusinessRecorder

SOFT LOAN SCHEME NEXT MONTH: ASLAM

Speaking at a seminar arranged by Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT) on Wednesday, the Provincial Minister of Punjab for Industries, Commerce and Investment, Mian Muhammad Aslam Iqbal has stated a soft loans scheme would be launched for the skilled youth next month. Chairman PBIT Sardar Tanvir Ilyas Khan, CEO Jahanzeb Burana and heads of several IT companies attended the seminar.

Mr. Iqbal stated that an investment-friendly environment has been created. He also assured attendees that the issues of the IT sector would be resolved on a priority basis. He said that the government was aware of the importance of the industry and entrepreneurship and was bringing regulatory and policy reforms to build the confidence of local and foreign investors.

Later, DFID Pakistan head Joanna Reid called on Minister for Commerce and Trade Mian Aslam Iqbal at the PBIT office on Wednesday. Progress on various ongoing projects started in collaboration with DFID was discussed. Mr. Iqbal appreciated DFID for cooperation in education, healthcare, technical education and other sectors. He said the government was taking steps to promote public-private partnership.

TheNation

NEWS BUZZ

PAKISTAN LIKELY TO RECEIVE \$1BN FROM UAE, SAUDI OIL ON DEFERRED PAYMENTS NEXT MONTH

Pakistan is likely to receive \$1 billion, the third and last installment of the \$3 billion loan promised to the country by the UAE, next week, sources.

In January, Pakistan and UAE signed an agreement for a \$3 billion loan to Islamabad. The rate of return for the loan is 3%. The funds were to be transferred to Pakistan in three installments.

In December, 2018, the UAE announced a \$3 billion bailout package for Pakistan to overcome its balance of payment issue under the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

SamaaTVNews

INVESTORS/BROKERS' COMMUNITY: DIGITISED PLATFORM TO BE LAUNCHED: SECP CHIEF

Chairman Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) Farrukh Sabzwari said that in a major move to facilitate investors, the government is all set to launch the digitised platform for investors/broker's community from the first week of April 2019. Talking to a select group of journalists at the SECP headquarters, the chairman SECP said that National Clearing Company of Pakistan Limited is scheduled to launch the Centralised Know Your Customer Organisation (CKO) from first week of April 2019, which will make account opening, closing and shifting from one broker to another easy.

Though the CKO Regulations were finalised in 2017, the regime has yet to be implemented mainly due to resistance from the brokers, as they fear that their clients would easily shift to another broker. Besides the CKO will also streamline several flaws related to money laundering laws in the stock market.

BusinessRecorder

CHINA AWAITS EARLY OIL DISCOVERY IN PAKISTAN

China hopes Pakistan will soon come out with the good news of discovering oil to attract more foreign investment in the country. Quoting official sources, China's influential newspaper, the Global Times, stated that Pakistan may soon hit the big jackpot by discovering crude oil which will be good news for not only the country itself but the whole South Asia region including China and Gulf nations.

There is a possibility that the country may discover an oil reserve in its waters. If the prediction comes true, the discovery will help the South Asian country to tackle its economic problems, Global Times reported on Wednesday.

The US oil giant Exxon Mobil and Italy's ENI have been involved in drilling an ultra-deep oil well since January.

Pakistan may have a more urgent need for foreign investment if the oil reserves are discovered.

PakistanToday

GWADAR TERMINAL DEVELOPER PLANS IPO FOR \$85 MILLION PROJECT

Pakistan's upcoming biggest logistics park with a container terminal has planned to list the \$85 million project on the stocks exchange to capitalise on economic activities in and around the Gwadar port.

Zaheer Barakzai, chairman of logistics provider Mega Movers Pakistan told The News that it is developing Shahdadt Kot Inland Container Terminal along Gwadar Rato Dero M-8 Motorway. The distance between SICT and Gwadar port is 325 kilometres. The terminal is expected to be ready by the mid of next year and to have an annual turnover of approximately \$45 million in the initial years.

"We have evaluated the public listing and our finance team is already working on it," Barakzai said without disclosing the timeframe and quantum of the offer. Spread over an area of 60 acres and having a capacity to handle one million twenty-foot equivalent units annually, SICT will be the country's largest logistics park to cater to the requirements of Gwadar port.

The News

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