



PBIT NEWSFLASH

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PUNJAB BOARD OF INVESTMENT & TRADE

23 AIKMAN ROAD, G.O.R-1, LAHORE, PUNJAB - PAKISTAN.

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MINISTER INDUSTRIES CHAIRED A MEETING WITH THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM OF PBIT



Minister Industries chaired a meeting with the senior management team of PBIT to discuss way forward for bringing investments in various potential sectors in Punjab.



CHINESE INVESTORS SEEK PBIT FACILITATION TO INVEST IN PUNJAB



Minister for Industries, Mian Aslam Iqbal presided a meeting with Chairman of Sichuan Halal Food Committee and Vice President of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) at Punjab Board of Investment and Trade.

EXPLORE POTENTIAL INVESTMENT AVENUES OF COOPERATION IN VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING LIVESTOCK, AGRICULTURE-CORPORATE FARMING, CONSTRUCTION AND FOOD PROCESSING

He briefed the delegation about establishment of Priority Special Economic Zones (PSEZs) under the framework of CPEC in Faisalabad consisting of 3000 acres which shall offer great opportunity to the people of Punjab and China to join hands and work towards a more technologically advanced and industrialized Punjab.



PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING LAHORE PERMANENT DISPLAY CENTER AT CHENGDU

The delegation showed keen interest in investing in Punjab and asked PBIT to facilitate them in their ventures. CMEC and PBIT discussed many areas of collaboration which included housing-50 million houses project, agriculture-corporate farming, food processing, construction of expo centers, development of Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Faisalabad and Quaid-e-Azam Apparel Park (QAAP), Sheikhpura, Logistics Platform and water smart metering projects in Pakistan.



SEVEN NEW SEZs PLANNED IN PUNJAB

The Special Economic Zone Authority (SEZA) has recommended the establishment of seven new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Punjab.

ESTIMATED INVESTMENTS AT AROUND RS. 27 BILLION (\$194 MILLION) THROUGH SEZ'S

Punjab Minister for Industries, Commerce and Investment Mian Aslam Iqbal, while chairing the SEZA board meeting at the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT), emphasised that government's role was critical in order to encourage and expand industrialisation.



CREATION OF AROUND 400,000 DIRECT AND INDIRECT JOBS

The Minister of Industries said the establishment of seven new SEZs would definitely lead to trade enhancement, job creation and effective administration of industries.

SEZA will provide a one-window facility. The respective provincial governments will delegate authority for implementing labour, environmental and other laws and for the collection of local and provincial taxes. The provincial governments will also depute representatives of their respective departments in the SEZA office.



MEETING UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MINISTER IC&I



Meeting under the chairmanship of Minister IC&I with the delegation from China First Metallurgical Group Co. Ltd. was held at PBIT. The objective of the delegation's visit was to seek investment opportunities in waste treatment plants, infrastructure, special economic zones (SEZs), housing, steel and cement projects in Punjab. For his part, the CEO PBIT elaborated the snapshot of agriculture, automotive, cement, textile, pharmaceutical and IT industries of Punjab.



SWISS COMPANIES KEEN TO INVEST IN PUNJAB – MEETING AT PBIT !

Envoy Deputy Head of the Mission, Embassy of Switzerland Mr. Bernhard Furger said that the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) of Switzerland were keen to enter Pakistan's market and explore potential opportunities.

During his visit to the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT), along with Mr. Beat Ineichen, Sr. Consultant South Asia and Oceania



from Switzerland Global Enterprise, an umbrella organisation of Switzerland to promote the Swiss exports and joint ventures of the Swiss companies in other countries, discussed investment and trade promotion with Punjab.

He told that a business delegation is to visit Pakistan in the next half of the year to explore potential of Pakistan and look for business partnerships.

**PRIME INTEREST WAS THE
FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR
IN WHICH THEY ARE
INTERESTED TO DEVELOP JV'S**



TOTAL ALLIANCE HEALTH PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL (TAHPI)

DELEGATION - AUSTRALIA

EXPLORING HEALTH AVENUES FOR INVESTMENT IN PUNJAB

Total Alliance Health Partners International (TAHPI) delegation from Australia visited PBIT to discuss avenues of cooperation and investment in health sector of Punjab.

TAHPI is successfully operating in over 50 countries

in our region and globally. TAHPI offers a package of services to support efficiency and transparency of health sector policy and services. It also has a proven record of designing ready-to-use standards and guidelines which can be used by the Public and Private sectors to brief, design and construct healthcare facilities quickly.



BARQ BOX INVESTS IN COST EFFECTIVE TECHNOLOGY



CEO Barq Box, Mr. Mansoor Lashari visited Punjab Board of Investment and Trade to discuss the establishment of a battery manufacturing unit. It will be an innovative as well as cost effective technology to be introduced in Pakistan. PBIT assured them of their complete facilitation in the respective plan.



DELEGATION FROM LESHAN CITY OF CHINA VISITED PBIT

Delegation from Leshan City of China comprising of nine members led by Deputy Mayor Ms. Guo Jie from People's Government of Leshan City visited PBIT to promote educational cultural and tourism cooperation with Punjab.



VISIT OF GUANGZHOU ZHENXIN FLAVOURS & FRAGRANCES CO. LTD.

The delegation from Guangzhou Zhenxin Flavours & Fragrances Co. Ltd. visited PBIT to explore the market and tax regime for investors in Punjab.

INTEREST IN SETTING UP MANUFACTURING UNIT OF DETERGENTS, FRAGRANT SOAPS, BEVERAGES AND PERFUMES

The main objective of the delegation was to seek opportunity for setting up manufacturing unit of detergents, fragrant soaps, beverages and perfumes etc. They require an area of 10000 sq. meter (2.5 acres).

PBIT facilitated them and gave a detailed overview of opportunities in Punjab and the special economic zones.



JOURNEY OF SUCCESS OF A WOMAN ENTREPRENEUR



Sara Tanvir Ahmed

Senior Embryologist

*Tanwir Ahmed Medical Centre
(TAMC)*

Marketing team of PBIT interviewed Sara Tanvir Ahmed, Senior Embryologist at Tanwir Ahmed Medical Centre (TAMC), established in 2011. TAMC is a complete care Infertility Centre in Lahore providing premium fertility and gynecological services to the public at affordable rates.

Sara Tanvir is the first qualified clinical embryologist from University of Nottingham, U.K with an experience of more than 20 years in Embryology having training in ICSI, IVF, IUF and embryo freezing. TAMC is her own state-of-the-art infertility center.

**FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS ARE
WORKING AS BACKBONE FOR
GROWTH OF THE ECONOMY**

Q: As a female entrepreneur tell us about your business?

The idea of female entrepreneurs is yet a fresh concept in Pakistan but female entrepreneurs are working as backbone for growth of the economy from the past many years. I have been in this field since last 20 years with the aim of helping couples who are faced with an extreme social stigma of infertility. It is a pleasure to assist the less fortunate couples by giving them one of the greatest gifts life has to offer - a child of their own!

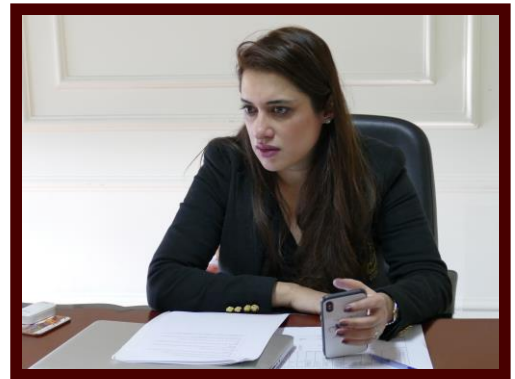
Q: Why did you decide to become an entrepreneur in health sector?

FIRST FEMALE TO HAVE A DEGREE IN EMBRYOLOGY IN PAKISTAN

Being the first female to have a degree in embryology in Pakistan was a big step towards achieving my goal of serving mankind as I have always been interested in pursuing a career in medicine. The feeling of serving people gives me pleasure and complacency. Medical science has always appealed to me as there is always something innovative going on in this field so it's quite interesting to explore the massive changes taking place in the health sector.

Q: Who is your strong woman role model that provides you guidance to where you are today?

My mother has always been my role model in every aspect of life especially my career. Apart from my interest in medicine, she has always pushed me to do something productive in order to serve humanity. Luckily, following her advice has made me into a successful and contented person. I owe my drive and determination to my upbringing, which instilled in me a set of values that make me who I am today. The courage to pursue my ambition was my passion for innovation and being open to new ideas and experimentation.



Q: What are the most important lessons you have learned during your business venture?

Based on my experience, I will say that defined guidelines are the basic element of attaining your goal. When I decided to start my own work with a leap of faith, I figured out that once you are focused and have taken the decision to start your work, then there is no going back. Apart from that, when I started getting positive results, it gave me the strength to keep going forward with much more passion. Clarity of purpose is another factor that determines your success, being carried away or having grey perception will take you nowhere so it's better to remain focused to succeed.

Q: What makes your business unique?

THERE IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE HEALTHCARE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM TO BE A ROLE MODEL FOR OTHER INDUSTRIES

There is a great opportunity for the healthcare startup ecosystem to be a role model for other industries. Moreover, fertilizing a

baby outside of a woman's body is something that created hype in 1990s. I have noticed that lack of education and misgivings often turn IVF controversial in Pakistan but now there is a growing demand for IVF treatments. We are strongly committed to help people having healthy babies and complete their families with the help of the most talented medical professionals from across the world.

Q: It sounds like a real passion project! What have been the greatest highlight so far?

"EVERY CHILD COMES WITH THE MESSAGE THAT GOD IS NOT YET DISCOURAGED OF MAN"

Childlessness is regarded as a common cause for divorce and separation and is also the most readymade rationale for husbands to remarry, moreover infertility is a growing health problem in Pakistan. Helping people to cope up from this brutal disorder is a great victory for us. Apart from that, interaction with the patients, their counselling sessions and effective treatments make us realize that we our fulfilling our duties at our best.

Q: What are your expectations from the government in the promotion of this facility to the masses?

Unfortunately there is not much awareness regarding these treatments, along with that people are quite conservative that has raised multiple questions about the concept of fertility. People considered such treatments unislamic but now it has been declared

REQUEST PBIT TO ASSIST US IN GETTING J.V PARTNERS TO FULFILL OUR DREAM OF PROVIDING HEALTH FACILITIES IN THIS FIELD OF INFERTILITY IN REMOTE AREAS OF PUNJAB

that treatments between husband and wife are legal. Mother-Child health care facilities in remote areas are inadequate so I have a keen desire to have satellite setup in villages providing services to the people in need and definitely I

would like to make TAMC an international franchise to serve people globally as well. We really appreciate the role

of PBIT in trying to bring in foreign investment in all sectors. We would request the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade to assist us in getting J.V partners to fulfill our dream of providing health facilities in this field of infertility in remote areas of Punjab.

Q: What will you advise other women entrepreneurs who are looking to start a business or to continue to grow their businesses?

Entrepreneurship serves as a catalyst of economic development of the country and women empowerment has become a buzzword now a days. The need of the hour is to inspire them to set up their own enterprises so active and enthusiastic entrepreneurs should fully explore the aptitudes of the country's available resources like labor, technology and capital with an objective to fulfill their passion. Entrepreneurship is still considered as a male-dominated field and it may be difficult to surpass these conventional views. The only advice that I would like to give to my fellow entrepreneurs is to stay focused throughout their journey and have well define guidelines.



Q: What is your opinion on fulfillment of corporate social responsibility and how you are implementing this in your business?

We believe that fulfillment of Social Corporate Responsibility should be one of the main objectives of any business. Given the current situation, there is much that needs to be done,

RECENTLY OUR TEAM VISITED KASUR AND HAD FREE COUNSELLING SESSIONS TO INFERTILE COUPLES REGARDING INFERTILITY CAUSES AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

possibly in every domain of the health sector. There is a dire need for aggressive intervention to strengthen the network of health services, expand the outreach of health programmes and introduce technologies to improved monitoring and strengthening health care system. We appreciate the current government which is endeavoring to provide modern and basic health facilities to the poor masses. The initiative of the current government in setting up mother & child hospitals in five districts of Punjab is a great achievement and is highly appreciated.

Infertility treatments are expensive and need much awareness. I believe it's my job to fulfill the Corporate Social Responsibility hence our team has been conducting several awareness campaigns in remote areas providing them free consultation and counselling. Recently our team visited Kasur and had free counselling sessions to infertile couples regarding infertility causes and precautionary measures. Ideally I like to help people so I have been treating every 10th patient free of cost. I would like to train doctors in this field, arrange workshops so exchange of expertise could benefit majorities.

THE DELEGATION FROM GUANGZHOU ZHENXING FLAVOURS & FRAGRANCES CO. LTD. SIGNED AN MoU WITH PBIT



The delegation from Guangzhou Zhenxing Flavours & Fragrances Co. Ltd. signed an MoU with PBIT to establish their footprint in Punjab. Their main area is manufacturing fragrances and flavours. They want to extend their production to dairy products, fragrant soaps, beverages and perfumes etc.



DELEGATION OF CHINA MACHINERY ENGINEERING COMPANY VISITED PBIT

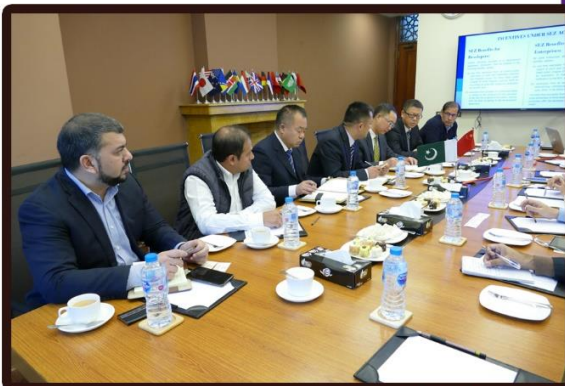
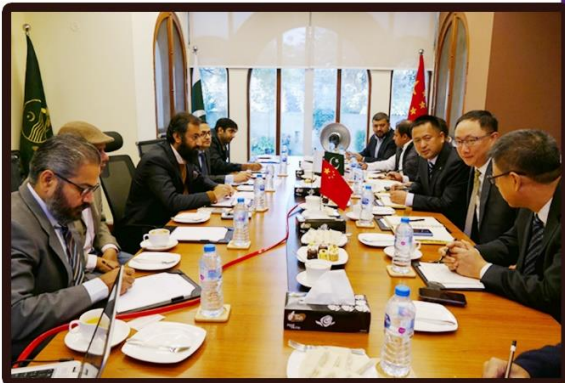


Delegation from China Machinery Engineering Company visited PBIT as they are looking for establishing agri park in Punjab.



CHINESE KEEN TO SET UP TYRES MANUFACTURING

PLANT IN PUNJAB



Chinese investors have expressed keen interest in entering into joint ventures with Pakistani businesses for setting up state-of-the-art truck & bus radial tyre (TBR) manufacturing plant in Punjab. A detailed discussion over partnership between the two countries including existing as well as new potential projects was held between the delegation and the higher management of PBIT.

A delegation from Chaoyang Long March Tyres Ltd. along with Services Group of Pakistan visited PBIT to seek assistance in setting up TBR manufacturing plant as well as to attain better understanding of the government policies and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) regimes for investors in order to enhance economic cooperation.

Long March Tyres is a Chinese Manufacturer and has roots going decades back and is one of the leading manufacturers of Truck and Bus Radial Tyres in China. Their tyres are supplied to several countries around the world offering high quality of their entire range whereas Servis Group is Pakistan's largest manufacturer of tyres, tubes and footwear products and has a rich heritage spanning over half a century.

THE LARGEST SEZ DEVELOPER 'SURBANA & JURONG GROUP' SINGAPORE, VISITED PBIT

The largest SEZ Developer 'Surbana & Jurong Group' Singapore, visited PBIT. The Transactions Department discussed plausible business opportunities and investment openings in Punjab. Construction and Allied Sector, Smart Cities and Development Projects were discussed in the meeting.



DELEGATION FROM KHAWAJA GROUP VISITED PBIT



The transaction team of PBIT highlighted plausible business opportunities in Punjab. Khawaja Group is one of the leading businesses with current investments in steel, iron and textile sectors.

THE PBIT TEAM CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH A CAKE-CUTTING CEREMONY AT THE OFFICE

Christmas Celebrations at **PBIT**



MEETING WITH THE STARTUP FACILITATION TEAM AT PBIT



Miss Huma Ehsan, CEO OrgoPest, dropped by to have a meeting with the Startup Facilitation team at PBIT to seek assistance in getting its patent's registered. OrgoPest provides organic solutions for pest control, their mission is to eliminate the chemical pesticides completely. OrgoPest is incubated at Women Innovation Network (WIN).



NEWS BUZZ



INDONESIA ABOLISHES UP TO 30 IMPORT DUTIES ON PAKISTANI PRODUCTS

Indonesia abolished import duties of up to 30 percent on 20 Pakistani products in a trade deal to secure future of more than one billion dollars of palm oil exports to the south Asian economy that is shifting to a new supplier on long-awaited tariff concessions. "The renegotiated trade deal is a step towards securing future of Indonesian palm oil exports to Pakistan," Ehsan Malik, chief executive officer of a pan-industry advocacy group Pakistan Business Council (PBC) told The News.

TheNews

December 1, 2018.



GOVT ATTRACTS MOROCCAN INVESTMENT IN TOURISM SECTOR

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Khusro Bakhtyar on Monday invited Moroccan investors to invest in Pakistan's tourism sector in partnership with local companies. "Moroccan investors in collaboration with local companies can invest in Pakistan's tourism sector especially in northern areas, which will give boost tourism industry in the country.

TheNews

December 4, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



CHINESE COMPANY KEEN TO INVEST IN PAINT, COATING INDUSTRY

A Chinese Company specialized in manufacturing world class paint for buildings, furniture and automobile has shown keen interest to invest through local partnership in the paint and coating industry in Pakistan.

"We are an international chemicals supplier and our company intends to explore business and investment opportunities in paint and coating industry in Pakistan as the country has become an important investment destination for the Chinese Businessmen and entrepreneurs after launch of multi-billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework," Li Xing Xinong, founder of Hunan Banfert New Materials Technology told APP.

PakistanObserver

December 10, 2018.



GOVT TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE BUSINESS, INVESTMENT: IMRAN

Prime Minister Imran Khan Sunday said the government had come up with a positive mindset to protect and promote the business and investment besides bringing stability in the market.

The delegation felicitated the prime minister on assumption of the office and lauded the efforts by government's economic team for economic stability. The delegation apprised the prime minister on various matters regarding the stock market and put forward the proposals for financial stability most of which were accepted by the Prime Minister.

DailyTimes

December 10, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



RAILWAYS TO LAUNCH THREE TOURIST TRAINS SOON

Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Trade, Abdul Razak Dawood on Monday underscored the importance of furthering trade and investment relations between Japan and Pakistan and invited Japanese businesses to explore the huge opportunities in trade and investment in Pakistan.

The Advisor was speaking at a seminar, "Trade & Investment Opportunities in Pakistan," at the Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI) of Japan, a message reaching here from Tokyo said. The seminar was jointly organized by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), METI, Pakistan's Ministry of Commerce & Textiles and the Embassy of Pakistan in Japan. Around 200 participants primarily from the Japan business community attended the seminar.

Pakistan's massive investment in infrastructure projects with the potential to make Pakistan a regional hub for trade and investment was highlighted.

PakistanObserver

December 11, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



GOVERNMENT LAUNCHING ONLINE PORTAL TO SIMPLIFY TAXPAYING PROCEDURES

The government is going to launch an online portal by December 30, 2018 to simplify and consolidate 47 types of taxes and procedures as part of its campaign to improve Pakistan's ranking on 'Ease of Doing Business' indicators. "We would reduce the number of procedures to at least 15 that would also reduce time. We would also seek the support of the Prime Minister and make these procedure simplified and consolidated through online portal," Haroon Sharif, chairman BoI, told The News.

TheNews

December 12, 2018.



PM ALL FOR HYDEL PROJECTS TO RESOLVE ENERGY PROBLEMS

Govt providing enabling environment for all investors: PM Prime Minister Imran Khan said that government was providing enabling environment to all investors and asked foreign companies to take advantage of the incentives Islamabad was offering in diverse fields particularly oil and gas and livestock agriculture sectors.

Luca Vignati - Executive Vice President Central Asia Region of ENI Italian multinational oil & gas company called on Prime Minister Imran Khan at Prime Minister's Office. Luca Vignati briefed the Prime Minister about ENI's activities in exploration and production sector in the country since 2000.

TheNation

December 12, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



ARMY TO ENSURE SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR INVESTORS: COAS

Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa said, the internal security situation of Pakistan has largely improved paving way for foreign investment. "We will continue to play our part in ensuring secure environment for business and entrepreneurship in Pakistan by both local and foreign investors," the army chief said this during his visit to Thar Coal Project.

TheNation

December 13, 2018.



CM VOWS INVESTMENT FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE IN PUNJAB

Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar has said the provincial government is taking different steps on priority basis to promote investment and a friendly atmosphere has been provided to the foreign investors. He said this in a meeting with Australian High Commissioner Margaret Adamson who called on him at his office. Both the dignitaries discussed different matters including promotion of Pakistan-Australia relations and enhancement of mutual cooperation in healthcare, education, livestock, skills-development, water-management and tourism sectors.

He pointed out that Australia had a lot of expertise in livestock, dairy development and agriculture sectors and viable opportunities were available for Australian investment in IT and tourism sectors in Pakistan. "We are also desirous of benefiting from Australian model in these sectors,".

TheNation

December 13, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



TAX REGIME TO BE CHANGED TO BOOST BUSINESS, INVESTMENT: IMRAN

Prime Minister Imran Khan said, he had decided to change the existing tax regime and investment policies in the country to provide ease of doing business to the business community and investors.

He said the government was promoting wealth culture in the country to provide opportunity of wealth creation to investors.

He, however, said the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Government was determined to introduce investment-friendly system and policies. "We have to boost our industry and for that purpose the government will get feedback from the business fraternity,".

DAWN

December 14, 2018.



PM FOR EFFORTS TO MEET TARGET OF 15M COTTON BALES PRODUCTION

Prime Minister Imran Khan called for consorted efforts to enhance the production of cotton to 15 million bales, reiterating his government's priorities to support farmers in adopting the modern practices. Chairing a meeting on the challenges being faced by the country in cotton sector and the way forward towards uplifting the agriculture sector, the Prime Minister approved setting up of a working group headed by the National Food Security Minister to revamp the existing seed registration institutes to bring about qualitative improvement in their output.

PakistanToday

December 17, 2018.

NEWS BUZZ



AIIB, CHINESE FIRMS URGED TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP WITH PAKISTAN

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform, Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar invited Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Chinese corporate leaders for building a sustainable long-term partnership with Pakistan aimed at financing projects that contribute to overall economic growth of the country.

He extended this invitation during a meeting with the president of AIIB Jin Ligun and leadership of Chinese companies including China Railway Construction Corporation, Huawei, Norinco and others on the sideline of China Pakistan Economic Corridor's (CPEC) 8th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting.

Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar will co-chair the JCC meeting with Vice Chairman of National Reform Commission of China. In a meeting at AIIB Headquarters, Bakhtyar said Pakistan has received solid investment in energy generation portfolio; however now Pakistan is encouraging projects based on hydel or renewable resources.

PakistanObserver

December 20, 2018.



FIRST-EVER DEDICATED FREIGHT TRAIN LAUNCHED

The first ever dedicated freight train loaded with 75 cargo containers commenced its journey from Karachi's Cantonment Railway Station to Lahore. The Federal Minister for Railways, Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed, said he was optimistic about the dedicated and regular freight train service for cargo transport.

DAWN

December 26, 2018.

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