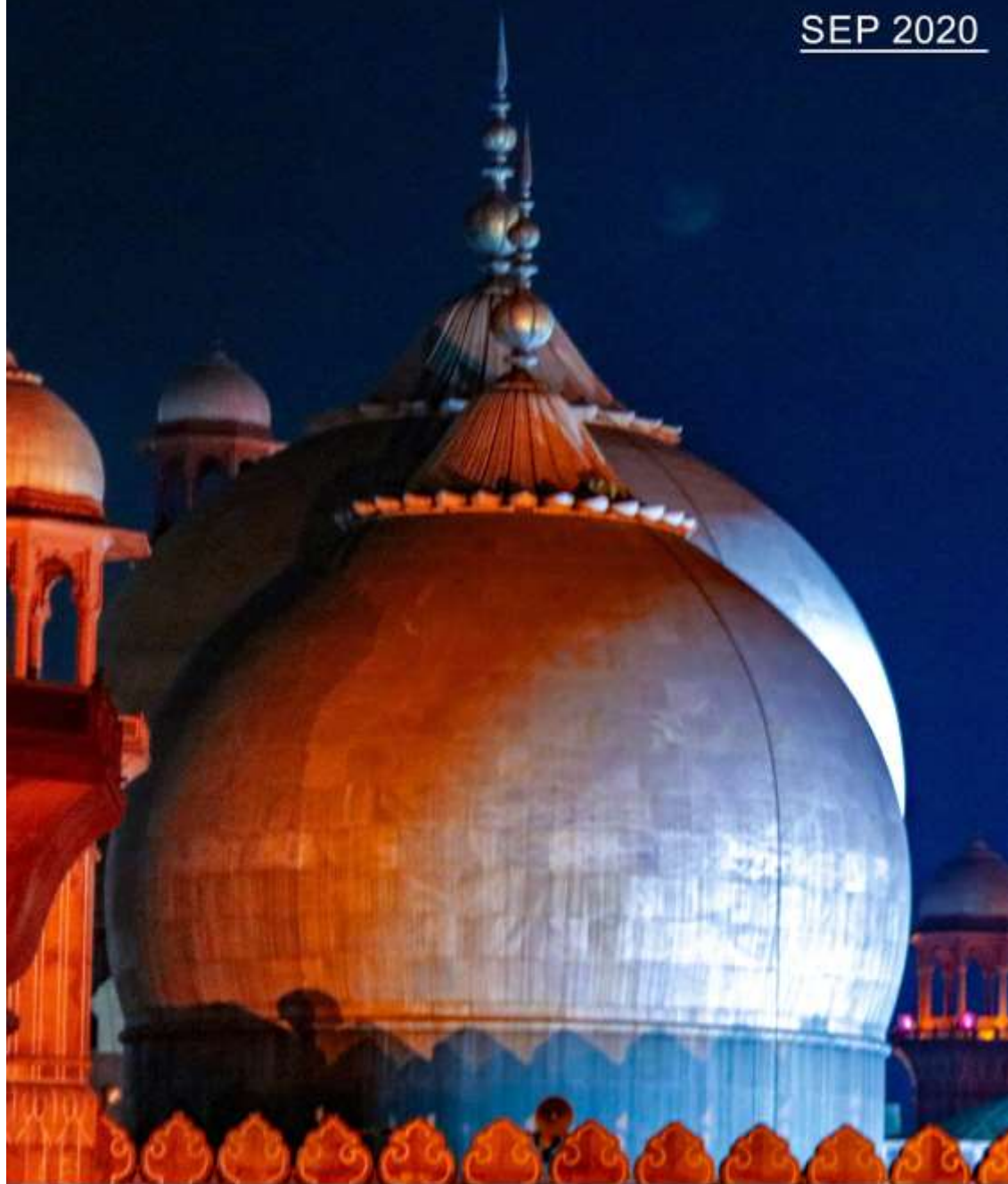


PBIT NEWSFLASH

SEP 2020



Punjab Board of Investment & Trade
23 - AIKMAN ROAD, G.O.R - 1, LAHORE , PUNJAB - PAKISTAN.

CEO's Message



Government of the Punjab is striving hard to bring reforms in its policies and practices to promote exports, and facilitate investments in the province. We, at PBIT are committed to the goal of facilitating exporters and investors to expand their export base and materialise their investments.

Punjab has immense investment opportunities in sectors like health, education, tourism, low cost housing, mines & minerals, agriculture & livestock, halal meat and food processing. Punjab offers state of the art industrial estates and skills institutes which are at the core ingredients of doing business. This is being supplemented by a rigorous ease of doing business approach whereby a modernised conducive business environment will be created. It is heartening to see that more and more domestic and international investors are taking interest in Punjab. The copy of the newsletter in hand is a glimpse of PBIT's active engagement with the business community through meetings, public-private dialogues, seminars, conferences and exhibitions.

CAPT. (R) MUHAMMAD ZAFAR IQBAL

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News Buzz

- Buzdar briefed on PBIT
- PBIT Chairman meets PSIC Managing Director
- Business PSX becomes Asia's best market
- Pakistan, China to sign development agreement of CPEC SEZ Rashakai
- PM wants action plan for agriculture sector
- 'Punjab being transformed into hub of trade, economic activities'

MINISTER ICI&SD CHAIRED A MEETING REGARDING SEZs



Meeting Chaired by Minister ICI&SD with Secretary ICI&SD and Acting CEO PBIT Capt. (R) Muhammad Zafar Iqbal for discussion on SEZ's, facilitation of local business community & international investors and for creating a congenial environment for enhancing business and employment opportunities in Punjab.



RISEN ENERGY VISITED THE PBIT

A Chinese company Risen Energy visited the Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) to explore the potential of solar energy projects in Punjab. Honorable Minister Industries, Commerce, Investment & Skills Development (ICISD) shared the opportunities of solar projects and further convinced them to start manufacturing solar panels in Punjab. Head of China Cell and Director Facilitation of PBIT were also present in the meeting.



INVESTMENT AND TRADE OPPORTUNITY FORUM 2020

Honorable Governor Chaudhary Muhammad Sarwar, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan Chairman PBIT, Mian Muhammad Kashif Ashfaq Chairman FIDMEC, Mr. Javed Malik Former Ambassador & Chairman Pakistan-UK Business Council, Mr. Shafiq A. Shahzad Trade & Investment Counsellor High Commission for Pakistan (London), Mr. Khursheed Barlas Head of Pak-UK Business Council, all addressed the "Investment and Trade Opportunity Forum 2020" through a "Zoom Conference" organized by the Pakistan-UK Business Council. The conference was also attended by a large number of overseas Pakistanis from the Middle East and Europe.



PBIT AS SECRETARIAT OF SEZA

PBIT as Secretariat of SEZA Punjab convened a meeting of key SEZ Developers of the public and private sector. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss current issues faced by the SEZ Developers in Punjab and devise a way forward.



DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH SEZ

A proposal was moved by the Chief Minister's Office for the "Development of Health SEZ" (Surgical and Pharma Companies and Hospitals). In this context, a preliminary meeting with concerned departments was scheduled to discuss the modalities of the proposal and way forward.



PBIT OFFICIALS VISITS PFMA



Transactions Department- Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) visited the Head Office of Pakistan Footwear Manufacturers Association (PFMA).

Mr. Muhammad Younas (CEO Starlet Group & Chairman PFMA) welcomed PBIT's team. The meeting was attended by Mr. Muhammad Imran Malik -Managing Director BATA, Mr. Zahid Hussain - Chairman Borjan (Pvt) Ltd., Mr. Mansoor Sheikh - CEO Xarasoft, Mr. Nasir Anwar Shiekh – CEO Elegant Footwear, Hafiz Hamza – Sartaj Shoes and Mr. Mahmood Ahmad – Global Footwear.

The participants discussed the roadmap to increase footwear exports. Footwear is amongst the top employment generating sectors. Together PBIT & PFMA would work for strengthening of the footwear sector in Punjab.



TRANSACTION DEPARTMENT MEETING WITH APTMA



Transaction Department met with All Pakistan Textile Mills Associations (APTMA) Executive Director, Mohammad Raza Baqir. The focus of the meeting was to connect with major textile sector key players especially those who are willing for joint ventures.

PBIT HOSTS AN ONLINE SESSION REGARDING LEATHER INDUSTRY OF PAKISTAN

Mr. Khawaja Mehr Ali – (Chief Executive Officer Khawaja Tanneries) and Mr. Agha Saiddain (Ex-Chairman Pakistan Tanners Association) joined the Transactions Department of Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) in an online meeting. Potential issues regarding the leather industry were discussed during the meeting. It was discussed that Pakistan's leather industry produces top leather products after Italy and the sector offers a huge potential for JVs and local investments. The way forward regarding highlighting the investment opportunities for the leather sector were also discussed.



PBIT HOSTS AN ONLINE SESSION WITH THE CEO - US APPAREL

Mr. Asif Malik (CEO-US Apparel) joined the Transactions Department Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) in an online meeting session. Mr. Malik highlighted that Pakistan's textile sector performed overwhelmingly after the revival of economic activity post-COVID-19. Team-PBIT discussed plausible investment openings and opportunities for business enhancement in the textile sector.



PBIT HOSTS AN ONLINE SESSION WITH CEO - XARASOFT FOOTWEAR

Mr. Mansoor Shiekh, CEO Xarasoft Footwear joined the Transactions Department of PBIT via Zoom. The participants discussed potential of the footwear industry and export opportunities. The footwear sector constitute 35% of the total global leather production. It was discussed that identification of new markets and export destinations will not only boom the local market but will also create job opportunities in the province.



PBIT HOSTS AN ONLINE SESSION WITH M/S ELEGANT SHOES

Director Elegant Shoes, Mr. Nabeel Anwar joined the transactions department in a zoom session to discuss the potential in footwear manufacturing. The participants discussed potential business opportunities in the overall leather sector. It was recognized that the leather sector can play a vital role in increasing exports.



THE TRANSACTION DEPARTMENT MET WITH APTMA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Mr. Abid Kamal, CEO Kamal Textile Mills, joined Transactions Department-PBIT in an exclusive session via zoom. Kamal Group is one of the leading producers of textiles. With technical perfection, quality standards and innovative impact, the company operate with unique expertise. The production facility offers a complete modern textile solution and is equipped with the latest machinery which produces the best quality textile. Mr. Abid Kamal shared his insights regarding skilled labor and technical training institutes in Punjab. PBIT intends to further collaborate with them for identifying potential JV partners, both local and international.

NEWS BUZZ

BUZDAR BRIEFED ON PBIT

Chairman Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT) Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan met the Chief Minister of Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar and discussed aspects of the investment opportunities present in the province and the progress so far made, says a press release. He briefed the chief minister about the overall performance of the PBIT, especially about the keen interest shown by the foreign investors in different sectors of trade and investment in the province. He informed Chief Minister Buzdar that very soon the Punjab Board of Investment is going to hold an Investment Conference to facilitate the foreign investors.

The News
September, 2020

PBIT CHAIRMAN MEETS PSIC MANAGING DIRECTOR

Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT) Chairman, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan held a meeting with Managing Director of Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC), Muddassir Riaz Malik. Punjab Small Industries Corporation MD discussed the role of PSIC in promotion of handicrafts and business potential opportunities for businessmen in handicrafts sector especially in black stone.

The News
September, 2020

NEWS BUZZ

BUSINESS PSX BECOMES ASIA'S BEST MARKET

The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) has once again won the title of being the best Asian stock market and has become the fourth best-performing market across the world in 2020 as the government has successfully dealt with Covid-19 challenges and put the economy back on track. "Pakistan's stock market (has become) the best performer in Asia and the fourth best-performing stock market in the world," marketcurrentswealthnet.com, the New York-based global financial markets research firm

The Express Tribune
September, 2020

PAKISTAN, CHINA TO SIGN DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT OF CPEC SEZ RASHAKAI

Islamabad-Pakistan and China to sign Development Agreement of the First China Pakistan Economic Corridor's (CPEC) Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Rashakai. The signing of the Development Agreement of Rashakai SEZ under CPEC would realise the vision of special economic zones' development, ultimately leading to a prosperous and industrial Pakistan, said Board of Investment (BOI) Chairman Atif R. Bokhari.

The Nation
September, 2020

NEWS BUZZ

PM WANTS ACTION PLAN FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday directed the federal food security ministry and the provinces to gather accurate data regarding agriculture production, its consumption, wastage and exports so that the government could exactly know about the demand and supply of commodities. Presiding over a meeting held to review reforms in the agricultural sector, the prime minister called for an action plan based on timelines for medium and long-term projects in the agricultural sector to increase production and ensure modernisation in the sector.

Dawn
September, 2020

'PUNJAB BEING TRANSFORMED INTO HUB OF TRADE, ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES'

Punjab Minister for Commerce & Industries Mian Aslam Iqbal has said that government is transforming Punjab into a hub of trade and economic activities. Within a short span of two years, government had started work on 13 Special Economic Zones and industrial estates.

Business Recorder
September, 2020

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