

SEPTEMBER 2018

NEWS FLASH



**PUNJAB BOARD OF
INVESTMENT & TRADE**



CHIEF MINISTER PUNJAB SARDAR USMAN BUZDAR

“Rather than depending on any aid, special attention is being paid to investment in new Pakistan in accordance with the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan”

The Nation.



**MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES,
COMMERCE & INVESTMENT
MIAN MUHAMMAD ASLAM IQBAL**

“Alleviation of poverty and unemployment has much importance in 100-days plan of government and SME sector will be promoted with the consultations of all the stakeholders”

Pakistan
Observer.

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6TH PAK-CHINA BUSINESS FORUM INDUSTRIAL EXPO 2018

The proactive participation of Punjab Board of Investment and Trade in a three day event named 6th Pak-China Business Forum - Industrial Expo 2018, held at the Expo Center Lahore aimed to highlight the role of PBIT in the facilitation of investments in the region and to give the visitors a brief introduction on what PBIT does. Hundreds of potential investors visited the booth and showed interest in the services provided by PBIT. The dedicated team of PBIT's conducted several B2B meetings with business executives and companies to discuss potential investment opportunities for Chinese and Pakistani enterprises.



On the 2nd day of Pakistan China Business Forum, Mr. Sohail Qadri, Director China Desk gave an instructive presentation on PBIT and its operations in a workshop conducted on the renewable energy. He briefed the entire attendees about the investment climate and potential opportunities that Punjab offers. PBIT being the landmark for investors is persistently working to provide them with one window facilitation.

The industrial expo is held every year and proves to be an essential bridge for Sino-Pakistan growing relationship.

TEXTILE ASIA-2018 EXPO



Punjab Board of Investment and Trade eagerly participated in the Asia's biggest international trade exhibition, Textile Asia-2018. The exhibition was jointly organized by Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) and E-commerce Gateway. The event provided an effective platform for collaborations to the textile sector's SMEs, majority of which are located in Punjab.



PBIT's team set their booth in the expo to attract businessmen for generating new business contacts and to facilitate new alliances and joint ventures. The team met a number of business entities and guided them to tap all possible opportunities in the province as well as the smooth facilitation PBIT provides to its valued shareholders. The Trade fair was attended by More than 55,000 people from different sectors of textile industry. A number of MoUs worth US\$175 million in total were signed for joint ventures, which would definitely help develop the textile sector in Pakistan. The exhibition proved to be a unique opportunity to check out what international and local industry has to offer.

INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING & MACHINERY ASIA-2018 EXPO



Punjab Board of Investment and Trade, being an Investment Promotion Agency of Punjab with its core mandate to support and facilitate business growth and attract investments in the region keenly took part in the International Engineering & Machinery Asia-2018 Expo. The Pakistan's Leading Business Exhibition on Engineering, Machinery Tools and allied products attracted high quality potential Trade Visitors from Engineering, Machinery and Manufacturing Industry across Pakistan as well as neighboring countries creating a unique platform to leverage the rapidly growing Pakistan's market.

The team at PBIT's booth interacted with hundreds of business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs and briefed them about the functioning of PBIT. They communicated, addressed the queries and set-up B2B to encourage investments and assured the participants of their absolute support in all aspects for business expansion and growth. PBIT claimed itself to be a one stop facilitation that investors can count on to whenever governmental assistance is required. As a result, the expo provides a boost to Pakistan's economy by encouraging the machinery export sector.



THE CEO PBIT & SENIOR PBIT OFFICIALS AT THE UBERPITCH EVENT

Uber Pakistan in collaboration with AranNet made a wave in startup scene of Pakistan. It launched startup idea competition in Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad where regional startup heroes and industry leaders listened to the creative ideas of budding entrepreneurs. The winning startup stands a chance to showcase their business idea at ArabNet Digital Summit in Dubai, free of cost work space at one of the NICs for two months, mentorship hours with Uber team and Uber credits.

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PUNJAB SIGNS \$20M MoU WITH CHINESE FIRM

Punjab Board of Investment and Trade signed a \$20 million memorandum of understanding (MoU) with China's state-owned Norinco Group, for the establishment of state-of-the-art manufacturing unit in Punjab.



The MoU is designed to formalize the economic ties as well as set a mutually acceptable roadmap to work collaboratively on the potential projects and bolster Investment & Trade promotion between respective regions.

The Norinco is a Fortune 500 company owned by the Chinese government with presence in Pakistan since 1971. CEO PBIT Mr. Burana ensured that the board will facilitate Norinco Group to promote communication, coordination and will utilize their full resources for mounting investment and commercial engagement in Punjab.



EXPATRIATE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE HELD AT PBIT FOR INVESTMENTS IN PUNJAB

Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) hosted a roundtable discussion focusing on attracting small ticket investments from overseas Pakistanis. A broad range of Pakistani expatriates, from across a variety of sectors such as healthcare, energy, finance and IT, attended the roundtable. One of the most potent recommendations emphasized by the overseas community was the need to have a robust overseas investment protection program, with the right legislative backing and approval.



The proposed Overseas Investment Protection Program (OIPP) must in essence ensure protection from fraud, theft and other possible risks that threaten small ticket investments from overseas Pakistanis. Linked to this recommendation was the emphasis by the overseas community on streamlining the efficiency of the banking channels so that key concerns such as repatriation of profits from investments be sufficiently addressed.

The overseas Pakistani community expressed strong enthusiasm in investing in Pakistan, and includes both passive investments in assets such as real estate and more active investments in new or existing ventures. Punjab offers a wide range of investment opportunities in a variety of key sectors, and the overseas Pakistani community can play a vital role in the economic growth journey of Punjab and Pakistan.



PAKISTAN MUST INVEST IN ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN OF TEXTILE SECTOR



The Textile industry is the largest manufacturing industry in Pakistan. Pakistan is the 8th largest exporter of textile commodities in Asia hence the significance of textile sector in Pakistan's economy can hardly be debated. The theme of the conference was to address the potential growth and challenges of the Textile industry,

Punjab Board of Investment & Trade (PBIT) hosted a roundtable, bringing together notable textile sector stakeholders including prominent members from APTMA.

Pakistan's textile industry has experienced decreasing investments over the last decade and has been faced by massive challenges so certain urgent issues were addressed among the participants for the revival of this growing sector. According to the participants, the issue of energy price differentials between the provinces and rebates that the government owes to the industry must be given top priority. They emphasized that Pakistan must defend and invest in the entire value chain of the textile sector on a priority basis, including innovative solutions for enhancing cotton yields.

To fully realize its potential, it was recommended that with low energy consuming industry and immense job creation potential, links with China, especially with the industry on China's west coast, which is closer to Pakistan, in the form of contract manufacturing of garments are an interesting avenue to explore. Participants at the roundtable emphasized and look forward to see credible commitment and follow-up from federal and provincial governments, including simplification of cumbersome processes and procedures through effective one-window facilitation.



ESTABLISHMENT OF ECONOMIC ZONES STRESSED

Provincial Minister for Industries, Trade and Investment Mian Aslam Iqbal Wednesday said industrialisation could be boosted by establishing 'Special Economic Zones' (SEZ). It would help increasing investment and generating new opportunities of employment. Talking to a delegation of stakeholders and developers of SEZ, the minister said steps would be taken rapidly for establishing SEZ. He said projects of such important should not be victim of red tapism.

Action plan will be made and implemented for establishment of SEZ. He said Punjab Investment Board would be made a facilitation centre for investors. By launching one window operation, the board will provide facilities to the investors under one umbrella. He said there were vast opportunities of investment in various sectors of Punjab and we have to get benefit fully from these opportunities.



US CONSUL GENERAL VISITS PBIT



The US Consulate-General in Lahore and the Punjab Board of Investment & Trade have discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral relations and drive economic, trade and investment cooperation to a higher level.

US Consul General Colleen Crenwelge, accompanied by her senior team members Ann Mason, Political & Economic Chief, and Hassan Raza, commercial specialist, US Consulate General, Lahore visited Punjab Board of Investment & Trade and discussed ways to enhance trade and economic relations. CEO PBIT Jehanzeb Burana briefed the consul general on various prospective sectors and noting availability of numerous potential opportunities for investors in Punjab.

The US diplomat affirmed that the Consulate is ready to work closely with PBIT to strengthen economic and commercial partnerships between Punjab and the US companies. The two sides discussed innovative proposals of Punjab Board of Investment and Trade, including holding of Private Equity Roundtable to create a greater role of private equity in the Punjab market and improved economic cooperation and assisting the startups in Pakistan.

Punjab Board of Investment and Trade and US consulate have held periodic webinars to sensitize potential US partners on business opportunities in specific sectors and another webinar on agriculture sector is going to be held soon. Participants also explored the possibility of holding a Sectorial Virtual Trade Expo for a live discussion among Pakistani and US entrepreneurs



DELEGATION OF UNIDO, PSIC MET CEO PBIT



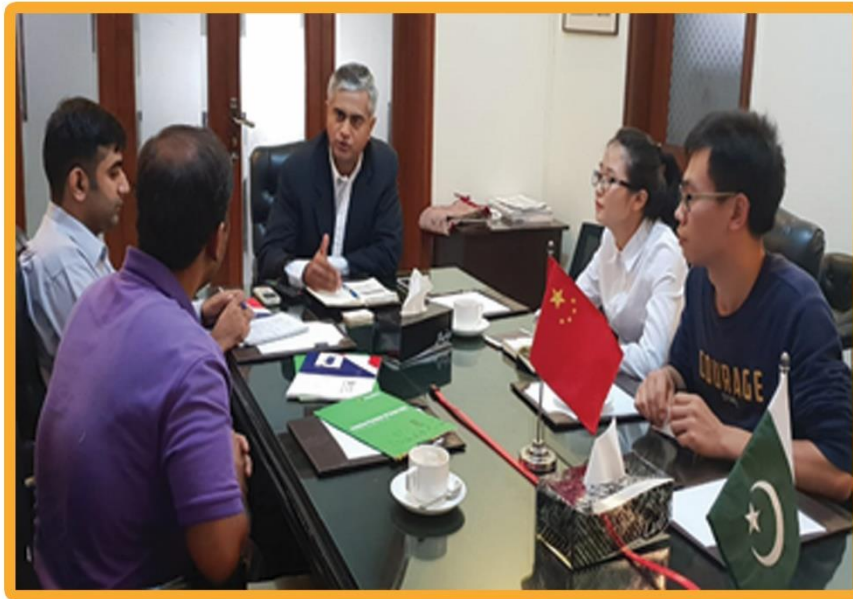
Delegation of United Nations Industrial Development Organization & Punjab Small Industries Corporation met CEO PBIT to discuss areas of mutual interest and potential for collaboration. During the discussion detailed exchange of views were shared with respect to development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Punjab.

TRADE REPRESENTATIVE OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION VISITED PBIT

Trade Representative of Russian Federation, Mr. Yury M. Kozlov visited PBIT and met CEO PBIT, Mr. Jahanzeb Burana. During the meeting, different matters of mutual interest came under discussion, including promotion of the Punjab-Russia trade relations and enhancement of bilateral cooperation in different sectors.



A DELEGATION FROM FUZHOU TECHNOLOGIES VISITED PBIT



A delegation from Fuzhou Technologies visited PBIT to extend cooperation with Punjab for developing smart cities/safe cities.

CEO GREENENERGY UK VISITED PBIT



CEO Green Energy UK Mr. Nadeem visited PBIT today. A way forward regarding on-going projects and other business opportunities were discussed. Mr. Nadeem appreciated the efforts by PBIT. Green Energy assured full technological support and assistance to start-ups in Pakistan

CHAIRMAN OF HALAL FOOD PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND A MEMBER OF SICHUAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (SICC) VISITED THE OFFICE OF PBIT

Mr. Ma Zhijun, Chairman of Halal Food Professional Committee and a member of Sichuan International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) visited the Office of PBIT on 3rd September, 2018 to hold meeting with the Mr. Jahanzeb Burana CEO and the team of PBIT.



MEETING OF JCDECAUX MIDDLE EAST, THE LARGEST OUTDOOR ADVERTISING CORPORATION IN THE WORLD



Mr. Wissam Zaatar, Business Development Director from JCDecaux Middle East, the largest outdoor advertising corporation in the world visited Punjab Board of Investment and Trade to seek potential investment opportunities in Punjab.



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