

EXPO PAKISTAN 2006 INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

Pakistan: An Export-Friendly Destination

Located at the crossroads of one of the ancient trade routes of the world, Pakistan's strategic location has always kept it open to the rest of the world. Blessed with a versatile land and dynamic people, it is rich in natural and human resources. With these strategic and natural endowments, exports have traditionally been an integral part of this region; from raw cotton in ancient times to 'Super Mushshak' aircrafts in the modern era.

In the last few years, Pakistan has emerged as a fast growing economy with sound macroeconomic indicators, political stability, low production cost, effective regulatory framework and investment-friendly policies. All these factors have contributed in making Pakistan's traditional and non-traditional exports more competitive, both in quantity and quality. The increment in Pakistan's exports since 2002 is nearly equal to the cumulative rise in export value in the preceding 15 years.

With an investment-conducive environment, rapidly developing infrastructure, and growing peace in the region, Pakistan offers enormous opportunities for foreign investors. The World Bank report 'Doing Business in 2006' has placed Pakistan amongst the leading economic reformers of the world and the top one in South Asia. Specifically, Pakistan is better placed in *disclosure* and *investor protection index* in comparison to the average of the OECD and South-Asian region. For foreign businesses, investing in Pakistan not only facilitates production but also provides export potential in many markets in central and south Asian region.

The aim of the Expo 2006 conference is to highlight the potential of Pakistani exports and the opportunities that Pakistan offers to foreign buyers and investors.

PROGRAMME

31 March 2006

09:00	Arrival of Chief Guest
09:15	Recitation from Holy Quran
09:30 to 10:00	Keynote address by Dr. Shamshad Akhtar , Governor, State Bank of Pakistan on “ <i>Pakistan-Export and Industrial Competitiveness, Issues and Outlook</i> ”
10:00 to 10:15	Discussion session
10:15 to 13:30 (Tea-break 11:15 – 11:30)	<p>Panel Discussion: Opportunities to Diversify Pakistani Exports and Markets.</p> <p>Chairperson : Mr. Humayun Akhtar, Federal Minister for Commerce</p> <p>This session aims to explore the opportunities to diversify Pakistani exports and markets and assess the export potential of non-traditional sectors, including services.</p> <p><u>PANELISTS AND THEIR TOPICS</u> (10-15 minutes each)</p> <p>1. Infrastructure Panelist: Dr. M. Akram Sheikh, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission</p> <p>2. Engineering and Industries Panelist: Mr. Razzak Dawood, Chairman Descon Engineering Ltd & Member, Central Board of Directors, State Bank of Pakistan</p> <p>3. Textiles Panelist : Mr. M. Idrees, Textile Commissioner, TCO, Karachi</p> <p>4. Electronics and Software Industry Panelist : a) Mr. Rizwan Sheikh, Chairman Punjab Information Technology Board b) Mr. Shahid Zaki, Managing Director, Phillips Electrical Industries Pakistan</p> <p>5. Financial Services Panelist: a) Mr. Naved Khan, Country Manager, ABN Amro Bank N.V. b) Mr. Shaukat Tarin, CEO and President, Union Bank</p> <p>6. Trade and Export Facilitation – Role of State Bank Panelist: Mr. Riaz Riazuddin, Economic Adviser, State Bank of Pakistan</p>