

Governor's Address to the Launch Ceremony of Pakistan Banking Awards 2016 at the Institute of Bankers Pakistan on 29th February, 2016

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Distinguished guests, Assalam u alykum and Good Morning!

It is my pleasure and privilege to address this noble gathering of eminent bankers, accounting professionals, academicians and representatives of Dawn media group at the launch event of Pakistan Banking Awards 2016. This initiative is the first of its kind in Pakistan's economic history.

Ladies and gentlemen, the financial sector plays a very vital role in the economy and national development of a country. In order to cherish the milestones achieved by this sector there was a need to provide a platform where all those who are making a difference and stand out among the rest are acknowledged.

I strongly support that such awards should be held at regular intervals to encourage more entrants to strive to make a difference in our lives. I must commend IBP, Dawn media group and AF Ferguson for this new & imaginative initiative and setting a stage to honour the performers and contributors to our financial systems to celebrate revival in our economy.

I am very proud to see the list of jury members selected. Indeed they are institutions in themselves and carry the repute and wisdom to perform the honourable job on hand. I am positive that in order to ensure transparency and independence at all levels, this distinguished jury would maintain necessary confidentiality and nominations will emerge on merit.

On behalf of State Bank of Pakistan and organizers, I extend a warm welcome to all of you to participate wholeheartedly to make this event a great success. I am sure "The Best Will Win".

Thank you all.