

Rawalpindi

The word 'Rawalpindi' roughly translates to 'Village of Rawals'. The city had served as the capital of Pakistan for nearly a decade (from 1959 to 1969) when Islamabad was under construction. District Rawalpindi takes the lead in terms of financial outreach when compared to the other districts of Punjab. Almost 40% of the population avails financial services from various banks. The city possesses immense economic potential in terms of industrialization as a large number of industrial units have been operating here, such as oil refineries, pharmaceuticals, cement production units, glass, textile, cigarette and engineering products. A dry port is also operating to cater to the needs of exporters/importers of the region. Major attractions of the city include Rawal Dam, Liaqat Gardens, Ayub National Park, Rawalpindi Public Park, and the Cricket Stadium where 1996 World Cup matches were organized. It also houses the Headquarters of Pakistan Army.

State Bank of Pakistan, Rawalpindi office had been situated at Napier Road (now Iftikhar Janjua Road) since 1959, but was later shifted to a purpose built building at The Mall Road on 1st September 1965 (presently known as 'Old Block'). However, it is now housed in its new building facing Iftikhar Janjua Road (presently known 'New Block') since the early 1990s.