

PM Imran orders crackdown against gas theft

Says govt can't give Hajj subsidy due to soaring debt

✎ OUR CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday ordered a countrywide crackdown against gas theft, saying fuel worth Rs50 billion was being stolen annually, while the government was giving Rs100 billion subsidy to 91 per cent consumers.

Chairing a high-level meeting on the gas sector, the prime minister received a briefing on the issues concerning it. He was informed that Rs50 billion stolen gas was being put in the category of unaccounted-for gas (UFG) and the burden was passed on to the consumers.

The premier, while ordering the crackdown against gas theft, said no leniency

“The country would have sent pilgrims to perform Hajj for free if we did not have these shortcomings

PM Imran Khan

should be shown in the case of UFG. He added that the performance of the heads of the gas companies would be evaluated on the basis of stopping the UFG.

The prime minister was briefed about the demand and supply of gas in summer and winter seasons, arrangements to fulfil the current demand of domestic, industrial and other sectors as well as

the future requirements.

The meeting was also informed about the policy to fulfil requirements of gas for 2019 and 2020. It was decided that 200 million cubic feet daily of gas would be added to the system, in view of the requirements for electricity and other sectors during the coming months.

The prime minister was briefed about the complaints of inflated gas bills. He was told that despite the costly contracts for buying imported gas and other expenditures, merely 12 to 35% increase had been made in the bills of 91% consumers.

The meeting was informed that less than 10% consumers who used 500 to 1,000 units of gas per month had been is-

sued inflated bills. The meeting was also briefed about the steps taken for discovery of gas reserves and the facilities given to such companies.

The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Asad Umar, Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry, Petroleum Minister Chulam Sarwar Khan, Adviser to Prime Minister on Trade Abdur Razzak Dawood, Task Force on Energy Chairman Nadeem Babar, federal secretaries, the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) chairman and the managing directors of the Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) and the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC).

Meanwhile, addressing the inauguration ceremony of GAS THEFT, PAGE 8

GAS THEFT, FROM PAGE 1

Pakistan Railways' live tracking system and the Thal Express train service at the Prime Minister House in Islamabad, the premier said that the government was compelled to increase gas prices as the industry suf-

fered immense losses because of gas theft.

He accused the previous governments of burying Pakistan in debt. "The country would have sent pilgrims to perform Hajj for free if we did not have these shortcomings," said the prime minister. However, he

added that foreign investment was coming to Pakistan and "the future is bright" for the country.

The prime minister said the ongoing accountability drive will rid the nation of corruption. He said he had directed all the ministries

to cut costs, while the expenditures of the Prime Minister House had been slashed by 30%. "If I can cut costs by 30%, other ministries can slash their expenditures by at least 10%."

(WITH ADDITIONAL INPUTS FROM APP)

RD on import of over 43 items rationalised

SOHAIL SARFRAZ

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has rationalised regulatory duty on imports of over 43 items including abolition of RD on the import of input materials used for manufacturing of auto parts by local vendors.

The FBR has amended SRO 1255(I)/2018 through an SRO 190(1)/2019 issued here on Tuesday under which RD has been abolished or reduced on different items of Pakistan Customs Tariff (PCT) headings. RD has also been abolished on the import of certain

> P 4 Col 6

RD on import of over 43 items rationalised

> from page 1

items under SRO 190(1)/2019.

According to the notification, the RD would not be applicable on the import of sub-components, components and sub-assemblies of automotive vehicles, automotive climate control equipment and automotive batteries meant for in-house use or supply to OEMs and assemblers or sale in the open market.

The federal government has also abolished RD on the import of raw materials, sub-components, components and sub-assemblies, as are not manufactured locally, imported for the manufacture of components and assemblies by importer-cum-manufacturer having suitable in-house facilities.

The RD has been reduced on the import of ground nuts (not roasted) 40 percent to 30 percent; chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa (except PCT codes PCT code 1806.2020) from 30 percent to 15 percent; malt extracts, food preparations of flour, groats, meal, starch or malt extract from 20 percent to 15 percent; master batches from 15 percent to 10 percent; preparations put up for retail sale from 25 percent to 15 percent; RD of 5 percent would be applicable on products suitable for use as glues or adhesives, put up for retail sale as glues or adhesives, not exceeding a net weight of 1kg; floor coverings of plastics 30 to 20 percent; other woven fabrics of cotton of polyester 5 percent to 2.5 percent; parts of footwear 15 percent to 10 percent; other glass from 15 percent to 5 percent; padlocks, locks of a kind used in furniture, other locks and other locks suitable for furniture from 10 percent to 5 percent; enamelled and coated for antitrust purposes (if imported by registered units of air conditioner manufacturers) from 10 percent to 5 percent; covers for inner body (except imported by registered units of air conditioner manufacturers) from 10 percent to 5 percent; furniture parts from 35 percent to 15 percent and RD has been reduced on the import of vacuum flacks from 40 percent to

30 percent.

The FBR has abolished RD on the import of cocoa powder; chocolate preparations; PVC resin; pigment thickener; acrylic thickener and a few other items.

The regulatory duty shall not be levied on imports of input materials used for manufacturing of auto parts by local vendors under Notification SRO 655(1)/2006, dated the 5th June, 2006. The RD would not be applicable on the import of sub-components, components and sub-assemblies of automotive vehicles, automotive climate control equipment and automotive batteries meant for in-house use or supply to OEMs and assemblers or sale in the open market.

Following is the text of the SRO 190 (1)/2019 issued here on Tuesday:- In exercise of the powers conferred by subsection (3) of section 18 of the Customs Act, 1969 (IV of 1969), the federal government is pleased to direct that the following amendments shall be made in its Notification No SRO 1265(1)/2018, dated the 16th October, 2018, namely: -

In the aforesaid notification, (a) in the Table, in column (1), -

(i) against No. 81, in column (4), for the figure "40", the figure "30" shall be substituted;

(ii) against S. No. 92, for the entries relating thereto in columns (2), (3) and (4) the following shall be substituted, namely: -

"18.06 Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa (except PCT codes PCT code 1806.2020), 15;

(iii) against S. No. 95, in column (4), for the figure "20", the figure "15" shall be substituted;

(iv) against S. No. 134, in column (4), for the figure "15", the figure "10" shall be substituted;

(v) against S. No. 149 and 150 in column (4), for the figure "25", the figure "15" shall respectively be substituted;

(vi) for S. No. 153, and entries relating thereto in columns (2), (3) and (4), the following serial numbers and entries relating thereto shall be substituted, namely: -

"153 3506.1000 Products suitable for use as glues or adhesives, put up for retail sale

as glues or adhesives, not exceeding a net weight of 1 kg. 5.

153A 3506.9990 Other 5" (vii) against S. No. 161, in column (4), for the figure "30", the figure "20" shall be substituted;

(viii) against S. No. 166, 167 and 168, for the figure "20", the figure "15" shall respectively be substituted;

(ix) against S. No. 169 and 170, in column (4), for the figure "35", the figure "25" shall respectively be substituted;

(x) against S. No. 193, 194, 195 and 197, in column (4), for the figure "5", the figure "2.5" shall be substituted;

(xi) against S. No. 241, in column (4), for the figure "15", the figure "10" shall be substituted;

(xii) against S. No. 270, in column (4), for the figure "15", the figure "5" shall be substituted;

(xiii) against S. No. 339, 340, 341 and 342, in column (4), for the figure "10", the figure "5" shall respectively be substituted;

(xiv) against S. No. 369, 375, 377 and 380, in column (4), for the figure "10", the figure "5" shall respectively be substituted;

(xv) against S. NO. 542, in column (4), for the figure "35", the figure "15" shall be substituted;

(xvi) against S. No. 566, in column (4), for the figure "40", the figure "30" shall be substituted;

(xvii) S. NO. 93, 94, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 157, 158, 159, 328, 409 and 434 and the entries relating thereto in column (2), (3) and (4), shall be omitted; and

(b). In paragraph 2, - (i) in clause (c), after the expression "Part VII", the expression "and Part VIII" shall be inserted; and

(ii) after clause (n), the following new clause shall be added, namely: -

"(o) imports of input materials used for manufacturing of auto parts by local vendors under Notification S.R.O.655(1)/2006, dated the 5th June, 2006."

25pc RD abolished on export of waste & scrap of copper, other items

RECORDER REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has abolished 25 percent regulatory duty on the export of waste and scrap of copper and other specified items produced from material imported under the duties and tax remission for export (DTRE) scheme and

> P 4 Col 6

25pc RD abolished on export of waste & scrap

> from page 1
manufacturing bonds scheme.

The FBR has amended SRO 645(1)/2018, dated the 24th May 2018 through an SRO 192(1)/2019 here on Tuesday.

The FBR will not charge 25 percent regulatory duty on the export of waste and scrap of copper, unwrought lead, ferrous and non-ferrous waste of scrap of lead, lead plates/sheets/strip/foil/lead powers and flakes and lead bars, rods profiles and wire produced from material imported under the facility of DTRE, as provided under subchapter 7 of Chapter XII of the

Customs Rules, 2001, or the manufacturing bonds scheme as licensed under Chapter XV of the said Rules.

Under the SRO 645(1)/2018, the FBR had imposed RD on the export of certain items including molasses and raw and wet blue hides and skins up to June 30, 2019.

Following is the text of the SRO 192(1)/2019 issued here on Tuesday:- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Customs Act, 1969 (IV of 1969), the federal government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment

shall be made in its notification # SRO 645(1)/2018, dated the 24th May, 2018, namely:-

In the aforesaid notification, after Table-I, the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

“Provided that no regulatory duty shall be levied on export of goods against S No 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 produced from material imported under the facility of DTRE, as provided under subchapter 7 of Chapter XII of the Customs Rules, 2001, or the manufacturing bonds scheme as licensed under Chapter XV of the said Rules.”

Additional duty on import of 22 items abolished

RECORDER REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has abolished additional customs duty on the import of 22 items including synthetic organic tanning substances from March 31, 2018.

The FBR has amended
> P 4 Col 6

Additional duty on import of 22 items abolished

> from page 1

S.R.O.630(1)/2018 through an S.R.O.191(1)/2019 issued here on Tuesday.

According to the notification, additional customs duty would not be applicable on the import of toluene (Pakistan Customs Tariff heading 2902.3000), Butanone (methyl ethyl ketone) (PCT 2914.1200), other (PCT 2915.1290), - Other (PCT 2933.9990), - synthetic organic tanning substances (PCT 3202.1000), tanning substances, tanning preparations based on chromium sulphate (PCT 3202.9010), Other (PCT 3202.9090), disperse dyes and preparations based thereon (PCT 3204.1100), basic dyes and preparations based thereon (PCT 3204.1300), Other (PCT 3207.1090), Other (PCT 3208.1090), Other (PCT

3208.9090), Mould release preparations (PCT 3403.9910), shoe adhesives (PCT 3506.9110), other (PCT 3812.3900), acrylic binders (PCT 3906.9020), - other (PCT 4005.1090), Other (PCT 4005.9900), machinery for making or repairing footwear (PCT 8453.2000), buttons (PCT 9606.2920) and other falling under the PCT heading 9606.2990.

Following is the text of the S.R.O.191(1)/2019 issued here on Tuesday: - In exercise of the powers conferred by subsection (5) of section 18 of the Customs Act, 1969 (IV of 1969), the Federal Government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in its Notification No.S.R.O.630(1)/2018, dated the 24th May, 2018, namely: -

In the aforesaid Notification,

(i) after clause (iii), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:

“(iia) import of goods classifiable under PCT codes 2902.3000, 2914.1200, 2915.1290, 2933.9990, 3202.1000, 3202.9010, 3202.9090, 3204.1100, 3204.1300, 3207.1090, 3208.1090, 3208.9090, 3403.9910, 3506.9110, 3506.9190, 3812.3900, 3906.9020, 4005.1090, 4005.9900, 8453.2000, 9606.2920 and 9606.2990;”

(ii) in clause vii in sub-clause (c) after the words “Part VII, the words “and

Part VIII” shall be added. This notification shall take effect on and from the 31st day of March, 2019.

Goods' transfer

FBR recommends undertaking for exporters

RECORDER REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has prescribed an undertaking for the exporters to be submitted to the collectors for transfer of goods from an export-oriented unit, DTRE licensee or a customs bond to an export-oriented unit (EOU).

The FBR has proposed amendments to Export Oriented Units and Small and Medium Enterprises Rules, 2008 through an SRO 194(I)/2019 issued here on Tuesday.

According to the FBR, the following draft amendments in the Export Oriented Units and Small and Medium Enterprises Rules, 2008 which are proposed to be made by the Federal Board of Revenue, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 218 of the Customs Act, 1969, are hereby published for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby

In the aforesaid Rules,-
 (a) in rule 2, in sub-rule (1), in clause (f), after the word "coal," the expression "coke of coal, carbon blocks," shall be inserted;
 (b) in rule 10, in sub-rule (1), in clause (af), after the words "transfer of input goods from", the expression "the units operating under Notification # SRO 327(1)/2008, dated the 29th March, 2008 or DTRE Rules or" shall be inserted, and after the words "Customs Bond to an", the word "other" shall be inserted; and
 (c) for Appendix-VII the following shall be substituted, namely:-
"APPENDIX-VII
 [See rule 10(1)(al)]
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
COLLECTORATE OF CUSTOMS
APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF GOODS FROM AN EXPORT ORIENTED UNIT,
DTRE LICENSEE OR A CUSTOMS BOND TO AN EXPORT ORIENTED UNIT.
 The Collector,
 Collectorate of Customs,
 Customs House
 I/We M/s _____ intend to transfer the following goods from _____ (Name, address & license No. of the EOU, DTRE, Customs Bond) to _____ (Name, address of EOU) for the purpose of _____
 Signatures with date _____ Name & Designation of consigner _____
 Signature with date _____ Name & Designation of consignee _____

and, as required by sub-section (3A) of given that any suggestions or objections thereon may, for consideration of

the Federal Board of Revenue, be sent within fifteen days of the publication of the proposed draft amendments in the official Gazette. Suggestions or objections received, if any, before the expiry of the said period shall be taken into consideration by the Federal Board of Revenue, namely:-

UNDERTAKING:

1. I/We hereby declare that the information furnished by me/us is true to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.
2. I/We would produce further documentary evidence in support thereof if and when called for.
3. I/We also agree to abide by any such specific conditions as may be laid down from time to time.
4. I/We also agree to inform the Collector or any officer authorized in this behalf of any change in the information provided in the application.

CCPIT decision to invest in Saarc countries hailed

RECORDER REPORT

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) Tuesday hailed the decision of China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) for Chinese investment in industrial parks of each member country for pilot project.

Talking to a traders' delegation, SAARC Chamber's Senior Vice President Iftikhar Ali Malik appreciated the cooperation between SCCI and CCPIT and called for the accomplishment of all those commitments pledged by the association as well as finding of appropriate solutions for the problems between Chinese and South Asian business.

He said SAARC CCI welcomed this Chinese idea from the platform of CCPIT for potential investors who are interested in foreign direct investment (FDI) projects of each member state. He called for more economic cooperation between China and South Asian countries with regard to green development and producing clean products. He also said South Asian countries are

working in the same direction individually "why they don't work together". He sought deeper economic cooperation with China to usher into a new era of progress, prosperity, development, growth and public welfare in the region.

Malik said that another good omen is that SAARC Chamber President Ruwan Edirisinghe and CCPIT Chairman Liu agreed in principle to jointly organize 14th China South Asia Business Forum (CSABF) in Kuming China on June 12 next. It was also decided to give chair of 14th edition to Sri Lanka. He said that SAARC chamber to extend all possible assistance and close co-operation to Chinese investors for investment in member countries.

He said that Prime Minister Imran Khan has already offered excellent package of incentives to all foreign investors especially Chinese for investment in their choice areas of interest resulting in economic growth in the country. It is now high time for all foreign and local investors to take full benefits of the pack-

age and come forward with their investments, he added.

CSABF is the first ever cooperation mechanism established for the regional economic cooperation between Chinese and SAARC industrial and commercial circles in 2005, in this context of ever increasing mutual trust in political affairs and continuous economic cooperation between China and South Asian countries under the aegis of CCPIT and SAARC Chamber, he said.

He said that purpose of Beijing meeting was to seek valuable input from members for a meaningful and productive 14th CSABF. The meeting attended by Vice Presidents Chandni Ra Dhakal Nepal, Dr Rohita Silva, Sri Lanka, executive members Zubair Ahmad Malik, Pakistan, Keerthi Gunawardana Sri Lanka, Ms Shama Saleem, Maldives, DG Indian chamber Dr Rejeev Singh, Hina Saeed, Secretary General SAARC Chamber was aimed at fostering economic and trade cooperation between China and South Asian countries through this forum.

Umar reviews progress on Pak-Turkey SEF

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Asad Umar on Tuesday chaired the meeting of the Committee on Pak-Turkey Strategic Economic Framework. The meeting reviewed the progress on formation of the proposed framework.

Minister for Energy, Advisor to Prime Minister on Commerce & Textile, Minister for IPC and Minister for Privatization attended the meeting. Secretary Economic Affairs Division gave a detailed presentation and shared with the meeting proposals from various ministries and divisions. Important among them include proposal from the Ministry of Commerce for enhancing trade through FTAs and easing of customs procedures by both sides. Ministry of textile proposed that the two countries should consider setting up textile and garment cities. The

participants felt that Pakistan should benefit from the best practices adopted by Turkey for development of tourism industry, says a press release issued here.

The finance minister observed that there is a great scope for the development of auto sector in Pakistan with the help of Turkey. He also said that banks from both sides should be encouraged to establish branches in each other's country to promote business linkages and facilitate financial transactions. He also viewed that collaboration between PIA and Turkish Airlines may be promoted to improve communication facilities for Pakistan citizens travelling to various destinations.

The finance minister appreciated the proposal for establishment of a credit Guarantee Fund for trade enhancement. The minister was informed that all provincial chief secretaries

have been asked to send their proposals for the economic framework and their responses are being compiled.

Secretary EAD said that through this framework, it is expected that there would be a threefold expansion in the areas of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The finance minister directed that all the proposals being sent by different ministries and divisions may be consolidated on priority so that these can be shared with the Turkish side for consideration and concurrence.

It may be added that establishment of the economic framework was discussed and agreed with the Turkish side during the recent visit of the prime minister to Turkey.

It aims to enhance bilateral economic cooperation with particular focus on trade.—PR

■ **OVERHAUL**

ECC approves Rs5.6bln in loan guarantee for PLA

By our correspondent

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet on Tuesday approved Rs5.6 billion in loan guarantee for the ailing state-owned Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) for its overhauling and new procurement.

The ECC of the cabinet took the decision in its meeting presided over by the Finance Minister Asad Umar.

"ECC accorded approval for additional guarantees to PIACL of Rs5.6 billion for repair and maintenance of engines and acquisition of related spare parts for operationalising grounded planes," an official statement said. "The step would strengthen PIACL's route rationalisation initiatives and add to revenue generation of the national flag carrier."

The ECC, in consideration of a proposal submitted by the petroleum division, further allowed the Frontier Oil Company to implement the Machike-Tarujabba oil pipeline project. The project, consisting of three sections – Machike-Chak Pirana, Chak Pirana-Rawat and Rwat-Tarujabba – aims at transportation of high speed diesel and motor spirit.

Last year, the ECC approved the summary on 460 kilometers – Sheikhpura to Khyber Paktunkhwa – long oil pipeline wherein Inter State Gas System Limited (ISGS) was assigned to implement the project. ISGS invited bids for the selection of build-operate-own-transfer operators in February this year.

In June, the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra) licenced the Frontier Oil Company, a part of Frontier Works Organization, for the construction of the pipeline.

"The authority has carried out detailed in-house scrutiny of the application on the basis of supporting documents, heard the arguments of the applicant and the interveners during public hearings at Lahore and Peshawar at length as well as on the basis of all available information," Ogra was quoted as saying in an energy ministry's document. "This is a first oil pipeline project in which a company has come with strong potential for construction of oil pipeline without seeking any financial and sovereign liability, tax exemption or throughput guarantee from government, which strengthen the commitment to complete the said pipeline project."

The ECC approved measures proposed by the ministry of national food security and research for uplift of the cotton crop in the country.

ECC asked the food ministry to present, within a month, a plan for strengthening research and development services for various crops with particular focus on cotton.

The food ministry was also asked to submit plan for revitalisation of federal institutions tasked with the responsibility of developing the cotton sector. The ECC also directed the food ministry to expedite efforts for implementing pink bollworm ropes technology to counter the pest.

The meeting further directed the ministry of industries and production to take measures for recovery of cotton cess from textile mills to give impetus to cotton promotion activities, which are to be funded through the cess.

The committee directed the ministries to work out the medium to long term requirement of LNG in the country and present their recommendations on relocation of RLNG plants.

■ CONTAINING DEFICIT

No compromise on FY2019 revenue target, says FBR chief

By Shah Nawaz Akhter

KARACHI: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Jehanzeb Khan on Tuesday directed tax officials to ensure achievement of the revenue collection target of the current fiscal year of 2018/19 through facilitating taxpayers and use of technology, during his maiden visit after assuming the charge.

The FBR chairman, during a daylong visit, met commissioners of Inland Revenue and collectors of Pakistan Customs to discuss the revenue collection strategy during the remaining months of the current fiscal year.

The sources, who attended the meeting, said the FBR chairman told the officers that they should not compromise on revenue collection targets.

The FBR collected Rs2.060 trillion in tax revenue during the first seven months of the current fiscal year of 2018/19, slightly up 3.26 percent year-on-year.

The revenue collection was still showing a shortfall of Rs190.25 billion compared with the target of Rs2.251 trillion for the period under review.

The sources said the FBR urged the ministry of finance to revise downward the col-

lection target of Rs4.398 trillion for the current fiscal year.

The new government led by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has already revised up budget deficit estimate to 5.6 percent of GDP for FY2019. It would bet on privatisation of regasified liquefied natural gas-based power plants, proceeds from spectrum licences and new revenue measures to contain the fiscal deficit, which is feared to increase to seven percent this fiscal year from 6.6 percent in the last fiscal year.

The meeting discussed the fall in revenue collection owing to various factors, including slowdown in disbursement for development projects, lower sales tax rates on petroleum products and measures to facilitate export and manufacturing sectors.

Sales tax and federal excise duty collection from imports declined to Rs338.4 billion during the first half of the current fiscal year from Rs339.3 billion a year earlier. Officials at the Large Taxpayer Unit Karachi – the biggest revenue collection arm of the FBR – said lower rates of sales tax on import of petroleum products resulted in fall of revenue collection at the import stage. The officials said the government cut sales tax in order to pro-

vide relief to the masses on higher international oil prices.

The chairman told the officers that FBR would propose an award mechanism on achievement of revenue collection target in

“ FBR would propose an award mechanism on achievement of revenue collection target in the upcoming federal budget ”

the upcoming federal budget.

Khan further said the transfers and postings in the apex revenue body would be based

on merit. He said the FBR would keep merit, efficiency and performance of officials under consideration for their promotions.

The sources said the chairman reviewed the revenue collection by the Inland Revenue offices in Karachi and expressed satisfaction over the department's performance.

The FBR chief informed the meeting about the reform agenda of the FBR. He said the FBR is focusing on improving use of information technology to expand the tax net.

The chairman asked the officials to facilitate the existing taxpayers and make efforts to broaden the tax base and enhance tax-to-GDP ratio.

The chairman later addressed the staff and officials of the Inland Revenue to encourage them in the ongoing efforts for revenue collection.

It was the first visit of Jehanzeb Khan as FBR chairman to Karachi.

The chairman also visited Customs House, Karachi for reviewing collection at import stage, including customs duty, sales tax and income tax.

Member Inland Revenue Operation Seema Shakil and other senior officers also accompanied FBR chairman during his visit.

Dutch firms to invest in KPT projects

KARACHI: Dutch companies are keen to invest in projects at the Karachi Port Trust (KPT), said the Dutch Ambassador Ardi Stoios Braken during a visit to the port on Tuesday.

The ambassador was accompanied by a high-level 20-member Dutch maritime delegation who expressed their keen interest to invest in the KPT projects including freight corridor, multi-purpose bulk terminal LNG complex, maritime business district, special economic zone, capital dredging and others.

KPT Chairman Rear Admiral Jamil Akhtar briefed the visiting delegation on the future infrastructure plans at the KPT and informed them of the economic opportunities in the boat-building sector.

Representatives of the Dutch maritime private sector companies also visited Pakistan National Shipping Corporation and met with its Chairman Rizwan Ahmed who highlighted the potential for joint ventures in the commercial projects. —Staff Reporter

DAWN WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Services trade deficit declines by 29pc

ISLAMABAD: Services trade deficit shrank by 29.11 per cent during the first half of current fiscal year compared to the corresponding period last year, according to data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) on Tuesday.

The deficit in the first six months of the current fiscal year was recorded at \$1.945 billion against \$2.744bn during same period last fiscal year, showing a decline of 29.11pc, official data

revealed.

The services imports during the period under review decreased by 15.97pc to \$4.545bn from \$5.409bn last year. On the other hand, export of services also witnessed negative growth of 2.42pc during the period clocking in at \$2.599bn down from \$2.664bn during the same period last year.

Meanwhile, on year-on-year basis, the services imports declined by 16.2pc falling from \$1.052bn in December 2017 to

\$0.881bn in December 2018. During the same period, however, services exports also fell by 11.84pc going down from \$0.524bn in December 2017 to \$0.462bn in December 2017.

Based on the figures, the deficit during December was recorded at \$0.419bn against \$0.528bn recorded in December 2017, showing decline of 20.53pc on year-on-year basis.

It is pertinent to mention here that the country's merchandise

trade deficit plunged by 9.66pc during July-January (2018-19) as the deficit contracted by over \$2bn to \$19.264bn in the period under review against \$21.324bn recorded during same period last year.

The exports during current fiscal year also witnessed an increase of 2.24pc to \$13.231bn up from \$12.941bn last year while the imports declined by 5.17pc to \$32.495bn from \$34.265bn during first seven months of current fiscal year, PBS reported.—APP



سراج تیلی کابی ایم جی ایگزیکو کے سی سی آئی کے انتخابات کی تیاری شروع کرنے پر زور

اگلے انتخابات میں سخت محنت سے 10 ہزار ووٹرز کا ٹرن اوور یقینی بنائیں گے، چیئرمین بی ایم جی

اے کیو ظیل کی انتھک محنت، جنرل سیکریٹری بنا دیا، جنید اسماعیل ماگڈا کے کام کی تعریف

زیادہ سے زیادہ ووٹ ڈالنے کو یقینی بنانے کے لیے سخت محنت کرنا ہوگی جس کے نتیجے میں ہمارے حلقوں کی جانتی ضبط ہو جائیں گی کیونکہ ووٹرز کی اکثریت بی ایم جی کے حق میں ہی اپنا حق رائے دہی استعمال کرے گی جبکہ حلقوں بمشکل 10 فیصد ووٹ حاصل کر پائیں گے۔ انہوں نے کے سی سی آئی کے 2018-19 کے انتخابات میں حلقوں کی بڑھتی ہوئی کھٹ بڑھ کر رہے ہوئے امید ظاہر کی کہ حلقوں اس سے سبق سیکھیں گے۔

اپنی جانب سے بی ایم جی ایگزیکو کے اعزاز میں منعقدہ تقریب سے خطاب میں کیا۔ اس موقع پر اس چیئرمین و سب سے سابق صدر کے سی سی آئی طاہر خاں، زبیر مونس والا، ہارون قاروٹی، کے سی سی آئی کے صدر جنید اسماعیل ماگڈا، ایگزیکوٹو نائب صدر خرم شہزاد، نائب صدر آصف شیخ چاچہ، سابق صدر اور چیف جج جی کے اراکین کے علاوہ عام ممبران کی بڑی تعداد تقریب میں شریک تھی۔ سراج قائم تیلی نے کہا کہ بی ایم جی ایگزیکو اگلے انتخابات میں

بڑے پیمانے پر گروپ کے جھڑپوں اور سابق صدر کا پی جی بی آف کانسٹریبل ایگزیکوٹو سراج قائم تیلی نے تمام بی ایم جی ایگزیکو پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ گراہی جھیر کے اگلے انتخابات کی تیاری کریں اور ساتھ ہی یہ عہدیت بھی دی ہے کہ وہ نظم و ضبط، اتحاد و جدوجہد کو برقرار رکھیں اور کے سی سی آئی کے اگلے انتخابات میں مجموعی 1400 ووٹرز میں سے 1000 ووٹرز کے ٹرن آؤٹ کو یقینی بنانے کے لیے حقیقی محنتوں میں محنت کریں۔ یہ بات انہوں نے

روزنامہ خبریں (7) 13 فروری 2019ء



کراچی: کراچی چیمبر آف کامرس بینکنگ اینڈ انشورنس سب کمیٹی کے چیئرمین خرم ریاض نے ایوان تجارت میں کمیٹی کے پہلے اجلاس کی صدارت کی، اس موقع پر کے سی سی آئی کے صدر جنید اسماعیل ماکڑا خطاب کر رہے ہیں، ان کے ہمراہ نائب صدر کے سی سی آئی خرم شہزاد، آصف شیخ، اسے کیو ٹیلی اور افتخار سے وہرا بھی موجود ہیں۔

روزنامہ نوائے وقت کراچی (8) 13 فروری 2019ء



کراچی چیئرمین کے صدر جنید مکنڈا اینڈنگ کمیٹی کے اجلاس کی صدارت کر رہے ہیں اس موقع پر خرم شہزاد، آصف شیخ جاوید، شمیم فریو، ریاض ڈھیدی، ہمایوں ایوب، سلیمان جاوید اور ایس ایم ایچ رضوی موجود ہیں



چیمبرین کراچی چیئرمین ایڈ انشورنس سب کمیٹی خرم ریاض اپنی پہلی سب کمیٹی کی صدارت کراچی چیئرمین آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر جنید اسماعیل ماگڈا کے ہمراہ کر رہے ہیں ان کے ہمراہ سینئر نائب صدر خرم شمز، آصف شیخ جاوید، اے کیو ظلیل، افتخار وہرہ، عسقلین الرحمن، آصف بیگ، اعلم و سیم پوری، عاطف جمیل الرحمن بھی نظر آ رہے ہیں۔

ایف پی سی سی آئی کا گیس کے بحران پر اظہار تشویش

پنجاب اور سندھ کی صنعتوں نے پیداواری سرگرمیوں کو معطل کر دیا ہے داروخان

کراچی (کامرس رپورٹر) فیڈریشن آف پاکستان چیمبرز آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر انجینئر دارو خان اچکزئی نے پاکستان میں موجودہ گیس کے بحران پر شدید تشویش کا اظہار کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گیس کی قلت کی وجہ سے پنجاب اور سندھ کی کئی صنعتوں نے اپنی پیداواری سرگرمیوں کو معطل کر دیا ہے جس کی وجہ سے 140 ارب ڈالر کے برآمدات کا ہدف حاصل کرنے میں دشواری پیدا ہو سکتی ہے۔ انجینئر دارو خان اچکزئی نے کہا کہ پاور سیکٹر گیس کا سب سے بڑا صارف ہے اور اس کے بعد ڈومیسٹک اور کھاد سیکٹر سب سے بڑا صارف ہے۔ گیس کا موجودہ بحران اس وقت ڈھائی ہزار سے تین

ہزار mmcfd تک پہنچ چکا ہے جسکی وجہ مقامی گیس کی پیداوار بھی 4,000 mmcfd سے بھی کم ہو چکی ہے جسکی وجہ سے نہ صرف صنعتی پیداوار متاثر ہو رہی ہے بلکہ گھریلو صارفین کے لیے بھی گیس کی کمی مسائل پیدا کر رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے اعداد و شمار کا حوالہ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ قدرتی گیس کی مقامی سپلائی پاکستان کی انرجی کی پیداوار میں 38 فیصد contributes کرتی ہے جبکہ بھارت میں یہ 6.5 فیصد گیس انرجی پیداوار میں contributes کرتی ہے اور بھارت انرجی کی زیادہ مقدار اینڈیل، کونڈہ اور آئل سے کرتا ہے جبکہ قدرتی گیس کو صنعتی پیداوار میں استعمال کرتا ہے۔

دانش
خان

انفرا سٹیک کے مسائل حل کرنے بغیر برآمدات میں اضافہ ممکن نہیں

میسز کراچی وسیم اختر کی کورنگی ایسوسی ایشن آف ٹریڈ اینڈ اینڈسٹری کے صدر، کمیٹی برائے بلدیات زیر چھاپا سمیت دیگر نے خطاب کیا

صنعتی پمپس سے فی گاڑی دو ہزار روپے ماہانہ پارکنگ فیس کسی طور پر قبول نہیں، ہم نے اپنی مدد آپ کے تحت کروڑوں روپے کورنگی صنعتی علاقے کی تزئین و آرائش پر خرچ کیے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا 5000 روڈ پراسٹیکاری اور مرمت کے ایم سی کا قابل حسین اقدام ہے۔ زیر چھاپا نے بتایا کہ وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ کی جانب سے کانسٹ کو جاری ہونے والے ایک ارب فنڈ کے تحت سیوریج سڑکوں کی تعمیر سمیت کئی منصوبوں پر کام کر رہے ہیں، ای بی ایم کا ذمے کی مرمت کا کام بھی جلد شروع کر دیا جائے گا۔

میسز کراچی نے محدود اختیارات اور فنڈز کے باوجود شہر کی بہتری کے لیے کام کیا ہے، وفاق و صوبے کی سطح پر بھی شہر کو توجیہ کی ضرورت ہے۔ میسر کراچی کی کافی آمد کے موقع پر صدر کاٹی دانش خان، سیکرٹری نائب صدر فرراز الرحمن، کاٹی کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے بلدیات کے سربراہ زیر چھاپا، نائب صدر ماہین سلمان، گلزار فیروز، فرحان الرحمان اور دیگر نے ان کا خیر مقدم کیا۔ کاٹی کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے بلدیات کے سربراہ اور چیئرمین وی ای او کانسٹ زیر چھاپا نے کہا کہ ڈی ایم سی کی جانب سے

کراچی (کامرس رپورٹر) کورنگی ایسوسی ایشن آف ٹریڈ اینڈ اینڈسٹری کے صدر دانش خان نے کہا ہے کہ جب تک صنعتوں کو درپیش انفرا سٹرکچر اور توانائی کے مسائل حل نہیں ہوتے نہ برآمدات میں اضافہ ممکن ہے اور نہ ہی معاشی استحکام۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار صدر کاٹی دانش خان نے میسر کراچی کے دورے کاٹی کے موقع پر کیا، اس موقع پر صدر کاٹی دانش خان نے میسر کو کورنگی صنعتی علاقے کی معاشی اہمیت اور پیداواری صلاحیت سے متعلق تفصیلات سے آگاہ کیا۔ ان کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ