

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry	
Meeting of RCCI Standing Committee	
On Export Trade	
Venue: Khalid Waheed Conference Hall, RCCI	
Date: 18 th March, 2015	Time: 2:30pm
Chairman: Mr. Manzar Khurshid Shaikh	Vice Chairman: Ch. Nadeem A Rauf
Minutes Recorded by: Ms. Amara Saleem R&D Officer	

S. No.	Points Of Discussion
	The meeting was formally started with the recitation of Holy Quran.
1.	Chairman of Standing committee on Export Trade Mr. Manzar Khurshid Shaikh welcomed all members to the meeting and acknowledged their participation. Chairman feels privileged to chair this committee.
2.	<p>Presentation was given by Mr. Manzar Khurshid Shaikh related to the Export Trade issues of Rawalpindi Region.</p> <p>He discussed some pertaining issues related to the Rawalpindi region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Facilitate Export Trade of the region for Enhancement of Regional Industries. Both at Domestic & International Items. • Primary objective is to expand domestic trade. • To make this region a hub and gate way to the Central Asian States. <p>Steps proposed by this committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Effective working of Rawat Industrial Estate <input type="checkbox"/> Provision of uninterrupted power supply at the estate <input type="checkbox"/> Export is more viable through this region; government should pay special attention on it. <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement of Law & Order situation in the region <p>Hurdles to be eradicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient support of government to SME's <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of trained labor <input type="checkbox"/> Energy <input type="checkbox"/> Physical infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Rawalpindi Exports are limited to a few markets <p>Chairman Mr. Manzar discussed about the upcoming events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 28th Annual Achievement Awards to be organized in first week of 1st August, 2015. 2) To organize Exports related seminar for the exporters of this region.

	<p>Your inputs and guidance in this regard are welcomed.</p> <p>Few recommendations on behalf of committee presented were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A subcommittee to be formed to resolve the hurdles <input type="checkbox"/> To reinsure refund of duty drawbacks by Government <input type="checkbox"/> Focus on our region core strengths like Pharmaceuticals, Gems & Jewelry and Marble etc <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitions to be organized at SAARC Region
3.	<p>President RCCI Syed Asad Mashadi acknowledged the presence of all and congratulates the Chairman. He highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He continued to organize a seminar for the exporters on the topic related to the sales tax refund. • He further added to organize our regular feature of Annual Achievement Awards with new theme.
4.	<p>Group Leader Sheikh Shabbir stated that this committee is very effective and viable. He focused on the point that industry of Rawalpindi must produce exportable commodities.</p>
5.	<p>Mr. Sohail Altaf, Former President RCCI suggested that we can invite all members to give their ideas to improve our annual achievement awards. He further added that to increase the participation of members on event day personal call will be beneficial.</p>
6.	<p>Mr. Najam Rehan, Former President RCCI stated following main issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We should need to focus on our regional exports 2. 2-3 Export related seminars to be organized at chamber
7.	<p>Mr. Kashif Shabbir, Former President discussed the following pointers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Seminars should be arranged for members to state how to increase exports 2) To take export development fund on board and create liaison. 3) He focused to take input from main sectors, than enlist the issues with ministry of commerce & trade development authority of Pakistan so that exporters can take benefit. 4) One country exhibitions to be organized for the exporters of the region.
8.	<p>Dr. Shimail Daud, Former President RCCI highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcome issues of corporate governance • To arrange workshops on diverse topics
9.	<p>Sheikh Hafeez, Former Senior Vice President RCCI stated that to increase exporters we need to improve our infrastructure.</p>
10.	<p>Other members discussed he following issues like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To discuss the export policy • Our products should be value added • Reports should be made on sectors in which exports is done more in international markets. • Gems & Jewellery sector need to be focused
11.	<p>At the end, Vice Chairman Standing Committee Ch. Nadeem Rauf thanked all the participants. He proposed to done a survey related to export orientation and meeting was adjourned with the vote of thanks.</p>

