## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

## The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry

## **RCCI Standing Committee Meeting on**

## **Agriculture**

Venue: RCCI conference room

Date:11<sup>th</sup> march, 2015

Chairman: Mr.Kamran

Vice Chairman:

**Minutes Recorded by: Umer Zia** 

	Points Of Discussion
No	
	The meeting was formally started with the recitation of Holy Quran.
1.	The chairman of Standing committee Agriculture started the meeting with the word of thanks to all participants and Emphasized on the issues regarding Encroachments and tax and transportation.
2.	<b>Chairman</b> said that Congested markets in raja bazaar and adjacent areas for the businessmen / shops are also one of the problems.
	And Problems of Traffic increase the distance as well for the other clients from other cities.
	Chairman said that We have already provided the list of our problems and demands in the committee.
3	<b>Presidents Mr. Syed Asad mashadi</b> seconded all the suggestions and also suggested that we can sell our shops in high price and can buy the places in cheaper prices in rawat or tarnool area. President said that in case of shifting the shops we need to plan our supply route. Also there is a chance to make warehouses in the rawat/tarnool area. We have to think very carefully before making any decision. Everyone seems to agree on shifting the markets as well.
4	<b>President</b> started the discussion related to the problems of licenses and their issuances from the committee.
5	<b>Mr.Abid</b> replied to President that Punjab government established the institutions regarding issuance of licenses but names of the institution and areas are not cleared to the business community.
6	<b>President</b> : We need to work on short term plan first which is possible to initiate the process which will help us to make our efforts into some practical results and also construct a long term plan to develop the industry.

7	One of the Member provided the information to the committee and president that we have sent a request letter to CM regarding the acquisition of the land in rawat/tarnool or outside the areas of Rawalpindi.
8	<b>Member informed</b> the committee about the threat from a party of Karachi who is interested to buy the whole land in rawat/tarnool areas, which is a threat for our business community to acquire land there.
9	<b>Member</b> told that There was a meeting that we had with a lady from Norway .she wants to build a market for traders and give away the places on lease, but traders didn't agree to go on lease when they have the option to work in their owned places.
10	<b>President</b> suggested 3 person committee to solve the all the issues quickly.
11	Member identified the issue that There are also problems regarding ban on the supply trucks which causes decrease in sales for the trader's sales.  Sheikh Hanif: we also have to request government to construct proper roads for tarnool areas.
12	Raja asim made his point that we don't want lands on lease. It will be better and beneficial if we will be allotted with the lands. He further emphasizes on Economic zone in Rawalpindi region, he raised the point that RDA should also get on board and allot a piece of land for that economic zone.  He continued the discussion and said there is need to discus regarding custom, karyana, and mandi shifting to i-18, which is very far for the customers to reach and shop and a threat to decrease inbusiness.  Mr.Asim also invited President RCCI to visit the our markets, e,g ganj mandi, daal giran etc,.
13	One of the Member suggested 5 member committee consisting of 3 transporters and 2 traders to solve the prevailing transportation problem and improve the industry.
14	<b>Mr.Muhamamd Amir</b> : Prevailing Traffic Problems creating difficulties for transportation of goods and not just these issue but also for ambulances and also increasing the chances of Criminal activities, e.g. street crimes etc.

15	Mr.Shaukat: We also need to improve the existing markets as well before shifting the markets to tarnool, he also appreciated the Rawal Shopping Festival. , he second the comment of Mr. Muhammad Amir that Traffic jam also encouraging the terrorism chances such as blasts etc. He Criticized the Punjab government because they charging the parking fees which is too high for the transporters, and ultimately it will increase the prices as well because of increase in the cost. He highlighted the problems of Trading carts or persons occupying the places in front of the shops are also the he said that we can't be able to display our goods properly and theses persons are backed by the TMA but we don't have evidence but it will be very kind if TMA help in this matter.
16	<b>Members</b> requested to president Mr. Syed Asad mashadi that Traders representative would like to accompany president RCCI in the meeting with the Chairman FBR as well.
17	<b>Members</b> showed their concerns about Smuggled goods. They emphasized on this issue and said that it is really important and we want attention by the government on this issue, because it's a threat for the local businesses. Members said that our supply vehicles don't get the custom clearance to entering into the city for the supply, we request President RCCI to raise this issue and discuss it with the government officials.
20	<b>President</b> said that there is a need to implement onetime tax on transporting vehicles from Kashmir to whole Pakistan not just for Rawalpindi region it will also save the time of transportation.
21	<b>Member</b> : we should also grow soya bean and tomato and stop the import from India, it will help grow the indigenous industry and also products will be available in the market at much cheaper cost.
22	President concluding the meeting and discussed main points of the meeting and said that will request CTO and TMO regarding traffic issues and_Tax issues are very important, need to solve the issues of corrupt TAX officers, All the chambers are planning to request FBR on the tax issues.  Registration of every of shop is necessary to maintain the record of the shops for the allotment of lands according to the business level, and ware housing project also known as markets shifting project to tarnool.
	President said we need to work together as soon as possible on this project by working together we can able to find the solution of Law & order situation he continued and said that we should hire security

guards to control the situation. And also should discuss the Kashmir trade issue to the government officials.