

Sindh governor forms ‘Exporters liaison committee’

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Imran Ismail has announced to set up “Exporters Liaison Committee” to address the issues related to exports.

On invitation of Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) the Governor Sindh on Thursday visited REAP House Karachi and discussed issues relating to rice trade. During the visit, the Governor Sindh announced to form “Exporters Liaison Committee” and appointed Mahmood Moulvi Advisor to Ministry of Maritime Affairs and former Chairman REAP as “Coordinator” of the committee. “First meeting of the committee will be held very soon to formulate other modalities of the committee”, he added.

Addressing the REAP members, the governor Sindh thanked all business community for reposing confidence in PTI government and assured that government would make all possible efforts to meet the expectations of the business community. He said that now the Governor House is a public place and the doors of Governor House are open for all.

On the request of REAP, he also announced to organise Biryani Festival every year in Governor House for promotion of Pakistani rice. “All the stakeholders as well as diplomats of all countries will be invited in the Biryani Festival to promote Pakistani rice”, he added.

In the end, Safder Hussain Mehkri and Abdul Rahim Janoo presented REAP’s crest to Governor Sindh.

Safder Hussain Mehkri Chairman REAP during his welcome address thanked the Governor Sindh for meeting with rice exporters. He apprised him about various aspects of rice exports trade and updated him about recent development after REAP Rice conference held in Larkana.

Mehkari said that with adoption of best international practices Pakistan can easily enhance the rice production, which ultimately helpful to increase the rice exports to fetch much more foreign exchange. However, he said that these tasks cannot be done successfully without the support of provincial and federal governments. He requested the governor Sindh to extend his help to achieve the targets.

Rafique Suleman former chairman REAP talked about the rice trade/export issues and urged the government for introduction of new seeds to get higher crop yield. “Pakistan’s rice exports cannot be increased without getting a higher and quality rice crop”, he added.

Suleman said that REAP has recently organized a “REAP Rice Conference” in Larkana to identified the issues related to rice trade. After the conference, recommendations have been prepared for promotion of rice exports, he added.

Abdul Rahim Janoo ex-Chairman REAP appreciated the PTI government for improving law and order situation in Karachi which become helpful to increase the trade related activities in Karachi city.

He said that business community of Karachi understands that current government is facing difficulties, however, with the pace of implementation of government’s plan economic situation is moving in right directions.

He requested governor Sindh to give time for meeting with rice exporters once in two months to share the proposals for the betterment of trade and industry.

In addition, he also requested to organize a Rice Biryani Festival at Governor House for the promotion and marketing of Pakistani rice. He informed that REAP has already organized Biryani Festival in many countries as it is very helpful to increase the rice export trade manifolds. On occasion Safder Hussain Mehkri, Rafique Suleman and Abdul Rahim Janoo presented REAP's crest to Governor Sindh.

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