

LCCI slams raids on business premises

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has urged the government to constitute a committee having representatives from public and private sectors to sort out the issue of raids on business premises, a statement said on Thursday.

LCCI President Almas Hyder said that the proposed committee should have representatives of the chambers, bar associations, market and industrial associations and the Federal Board Revenue (FBR), as this is the only way to resolve the issue of undue raids at business premises and disrespect to the business community.

“We want to pay tax, but the method adopted by the tax officials is not good,” he said, adding that disrespect to the businessmen is not acceptable at any cost because they are the backbone of the economy.

The LCCI president said Section 38-B of the Sales Tax Act, 1990 is being misused by the tax department officials. Tax officials are visiting markets and godowns to unjustifiably harass businessmen. They not only raise unlawful demands, but also carry all the available records with them, he said.

LCCI Senior Vice President Khawaja Shahzad Nasir and Vice President Faheem-ur-Rehman Saigal said that tax department teams should immediately stop visits to the markets, industrial units and other business premises.

Our Correspondent