

PR

**BQATI urges SBP to extend banking hours**

KARACHI: In a joint statement, Bin Qasim Association of Trade & Industry (BQATI) President Naveed Shakoor and Patron In-chief BQATI Mian Muhammed Ahmed said that the post lockdown economic activities have started in the country and industrial and commercial activities are in full swing following SOPs.

On the other hand it has been observed that minimum banking hour services with minimum branches and bare minimum staff, industrial and commercial consumers are facing lot of difficulties including waste of time due to rush in banks also this may lead to spread of coronavirus among staff and customers due to rush in branches.

Mian Muhammed Ahmed said that the decision to reduce the branches and banking services hours with minimum staff was due to lockdown, industrial and commercial activities had fallen somewhere around 20-25 percent, now lockdown has over and economic activities have started in the country.

Keeping in view of current scenario, President BQATI urged Governor SBP to ensure uninterrupted supply of banking services and request that the banking hours be extended as normal, also services be provided on Saturdays as well as closed branches to be opened.