

US businessmen delegation visits LCCI

An 11-member delegation of US businessmen, led by the Mayor of Bolingbrook (USA) Roger C Claar, on Wednesday visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry and had B-2-B meetings with their Pakistani counterparts to ensure strong sector-specific liaison.

"It is a good opportunity to know each other," the Mayor of Bolingbrook said and added that private sectors of the United States and Pakistan can take the mutual trade and economic relations to a new height. He hoped that businessmen of both the countries would capitalize this visit and establish business relations.

The mayor said that the purpose of the visit of US delegates to Pakistan is to explore business opportunities and cultural exchanges that can mutually benefit both the countries. The areas of interest of the delegation members are financial services, event planning, education, telecommunication solutions and fuel injection pumps.

Speaking on the occasion, LCCI President Almas Hyder said that Pakistan and the USA have a long history of a multi-faceted relationship including diplomatic, strategic, cultural and economic relations. The USA is the second largest trading partner of Pakistan.

Among the top exporting and importing countries, the USA comes at 1st and 3rd places, respectively. He said the total bilateral trade in 2017 went as high as US \$6.4 billion but it has the potential to get doubled in few years through favourable policy initiatives. He said exchange of trade delegations can greatly help in this connection. It is high time that Lahore Chamber and Bolingbrook Chambers should come forward and increase the frequency of exchanging such delegations. Development of private to private contacts is the need of the hour and we are ready to play our due role in this regard, he added.

The LCCI chief hoped that the US delegation's visit will result in bringing both Pakistan and USA closer to each other. Pakistan is a very safe country and its people are civilized and peace loving, he said. A lot of room is available to give a boost to trade between the two countries, he said. He also offered felicitations to Claar for becoming the longest serving Mayor of Bolingbrook by way of continuously serving for the last more than 32 years.

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