

**PLGMEA chief urges government to take businessmen on board**

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan Leather Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PLGMEA) Syed Shujaat Ali has urged the government to take business community on board, including leather sector, for formulation of a strategy to avoid International Monetary Fund (IMF).

He said that domestic leather industry is ready to support the government so that the country could come out of current crisis and move forward. He also added that PLGMEA would fulfill its responsibilities and clarified that it would back the government in every way possible in such difficult times.

He further established that PLGMEA would urgently work on the imperative of boosting exports and introduce ways that can aid in improving the value-added sector of Pakistan.

While complimenting Prime Minister Imran Khan's vision of job creation, Syed Shujaat also claimed that PLGMEA intends to cooperate with the government of Pakistan by creating 20,000 job opportunities till 2019.

"In order to avoid further debt and the consequences of IMF policies, it is essential that the commerce and finance ministries collectively formulate a strategy, along with different industries such as the leather industry, to earn maximum foreign exchange which would solve the economic crisis," he continued.

Syed Shujaat Ali recently held a detailed meeting with Prime Minister's Advisor on Commerce, Textile, Industries and Production and Investment wherein the issues of leather sector were discussed for four hours. According to Razak Dawood, he would hold a couple of more meetings with the leather sector to finalize export strategy.

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