

## **Government urged to focus on economic crisis**

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President of Lasbela Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), Yakoob Karim, has asked the newly-formed government to focus on surmounting economic crisis by an effective industrial policy and boosting exports to bring precious foreign exchange.

"By putting economy back on track, Prime Minister Imran Khan will get rid of many in-house problems and can focus on other major national issues," he suggested, citing that PM Khan had promised wide-ranging reforms, safeguarding Pakistan's resources and redistributing them from rich to the disadvantaged. He lauded those pledges.

Yakoob said that the PM had promised that instead of trying to rebuild the economy via external loans, his government would try and fulfill its needs from within as no country could succeed by begging all the time.

He urged that Imran-led government must adopt measures to cut down expenses, introduce tax reforms instead of seeking loans, eradicate poverty, motivate overseas Pakistanis, root out corruption, revamp the judiciary, apply the KP police model in Punjab, educational, healthcare and civil service reforms, and build dams and they must start implementing said pledges now to shut up enemies.

Lasbela CCI president said also lauded the decision of PM Khan regarding devolution of power and plan to provide jobs to youth, a new housing project and a boost to the industrial sector.

"Government should cut indirect taxes, strengthen institutions, reduce trade deficit with China and bring back the stolen funds as soon as possible which will discourage corruption in future," he urged, highlighting that all the chambers, FPCCI and trade bodies have offered unconditional support to the agenda of the new government.

Karim said retail sector should be taxed, expats should be encouraged to send money through banking channels by offering relaxations, state-run corporations should be sold, FBR and other institutions should be monitored, and diplomats should be given export targets.

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