

Maldives offers huge opportunities for exporters

Head of a high power Maldivian delegation has said that with 187 resorts and 500 local guest houses, Republic of Maldives offers huge opportunities for Pakistani exporters to explore new business avenues in the South Asian region.

Abdul Bari Abdulla, a Member of Maldives' Parliament, heads the delegation of businessmen and parliamentarians of his country who is currently visiting Karachi.

During visit to Towel Manufactures Association of Pakistan (TMA) on Monday, he said that being highly dependant upon imports, Maldives wants quality products from (South Asian neighbour) Pakistan.

"Maldives offers huge export opportunities for Pakistani products particularly relating to catering, hotel, fruits and vegetables sector," he said. He told the TMA members that there are some 187 resorts (150 more to come) and 500 local guest houses already operational in their Island republic. He asked the towel manufactures to send a business delegation along with best quality samples in the next 'Food Hotel Tourism Expo' to be held in their country. Also he called for the Pakistani businessmen to conduct business-to-business meetings and frequent visits and tap the Maldives market.

As per quality and durability, Pakistani towels are the best and being used worldwide, including Maldives," Abdul Bari said.

TMA chairman Farrukh Maqbool said that Maldives is amongst the best tourist places in the world besides potential market for the export of towels. He said his association members would be happy to enter into that market with the best quality products.

Ahmed Marzoog, member of the parliament who is involved in the business of fruits and rice, Mohammad Afraz from hotel industry and Fathimath Shaziyya from textile business, were those other members of the Maldivian delegation who also spoke at the meeting. They invited Pakistani business counterparts for bilateral trade enhancement between the two South Asian countries.

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