

**PM vows to remove obstacles in way of doing business**

Prime Minister Imran Khan Monday vowed to remove obstacles in the way of doing business and give boost to small and medium-sized enterprises. This he stated while addressing the 42nd award ceremony of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry here on Monday. "Small and medium-sized industry is the backbone of commerce and trade in any country. Several steps have already been taken to facilitate the exports industry," the PM added.

He said obstacles in the way of doing business will be removed to give boost to small and medium-sized enterprises. Khan further said that the nation needs to change its mindset regarding the business or setting up industry in Pakistan. He said the attitude of bureaucracy towards the business sectors will also be changed and it would need to remove bottlenecks in the way of doing business. The Prime Minister said increased prosperity will come into the country through commerce and industry.

Khan said Singapore is exporting \$ 330 billion worth of goods despite having much smaller population than Pakistan. "Our exports of \$ 24 billion are meager keeping in view the size of our population and economy," he added. He said wealth creation and profitability are genuine concerns of any business. He said wealth creation leads to increased taxes, more employment opportunities and overall prosperity. The Prime Minister said besides facilitation of exporters, efforts are also afoot to make the industry competitive for international markets.

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