

Industry & austerity

THE government wants to increase industries and also reduce the country's fiscal deficit. One way to do this will be to increase regulatory duties on all imported processed foods, small electronics and other household items by 50 per cent in 2019 and 100pc in 2020, or ask companies to establish manufacturing plants in Pakistan to get zero regulatory duty for 10 years.

A special cell must be set up to provide one-window facility to investors to enable them to set up facilities and use local raw material to manufacture their products.

Having such a huge population and also being a gateway nation to land-locked Central Asia and having easy access to the Middle East, Pakistan can attract many manufacturing companies to set up plants for local consumption and export.

For large manufacturing units, our government can allot land for housing schemes to cater to the demand of housing for workers.

Shahryar Khan Baseer

Peshawar