# STUDAL ADIOAC FAISALABAD - PAKISTAN

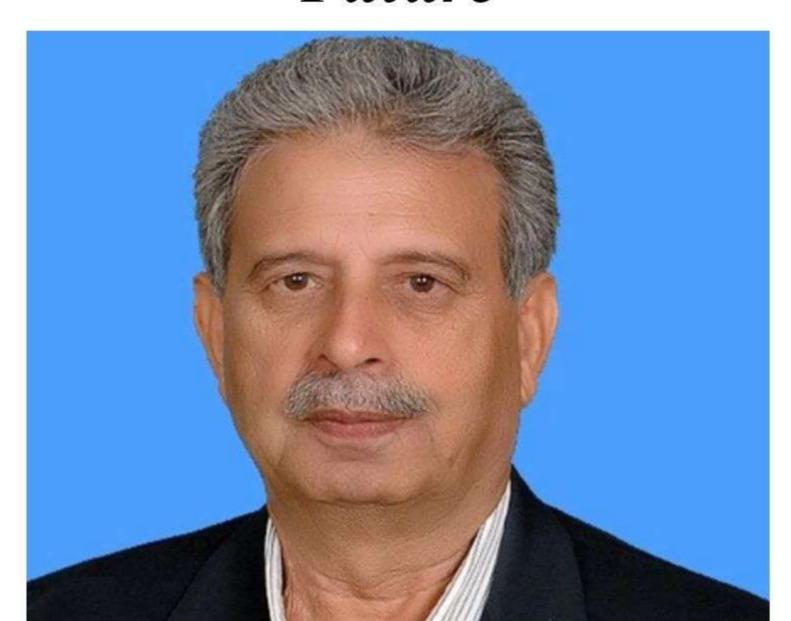
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### Minister Stresses Digital Transformation as Key to Pakistan's Industrial Future



ISLAMABAD (News Desk) – Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain, while addressing the International Summit on Redefining Digital Manufacturing as Chief Guest, commended Octave Technology Solutions (OTS) for organizing a timely gathered national and international experts, industry leaders, and practitioners under one roof. The Minister emphasized that manufacturing historically been the backbone of national economies, but in today's interconnected competitiveness depends on world, embracing digital technologies, automation, and advanced engineering solutions. He observed that tools such as 3D scanning, reverse engineering, additive manufacturing, and precision metrology are redefining industries worldwide, and Pakistan must adapt swiftly to secure its place in the global supply chain. Rana Tanveer Hussain underlined that the government has placed industrial modernization and digital transformation at the heart of its economic strategy, citing the establishment of the Pakistan Digital Authority (PDA) under the Digital Nation Pakistan Act 2025 as a milestone to lead national digital transformation, frame the National Digital Masterplan, enforce governance standards, and enable Industry 4.0 adoption. He highlighted the role of the Special Technology Zones Authority (STZA) in developing high-tech hubs such as Islamabad Technopolis, the Engineering Development Board (EDB) in upgrading the industrial sector, and the National Aerospace Science & Technology Park (NASTP), inaugurated in 2023, in positioning Pakistan as a center for aerospace, cyber, and frontier technologies. He also pointed to the Digital Pakistan Initiative as a driver of connectivity, innovation, and youth entrepreneurship.

#### Pakistan, Kazakhstan Explore Maritime and

Connectivity Cooperation ISLAMABAD (News Desk) - A Kazakh delegation led by Transport Minister Nurlan Sauranbayev held talks with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs to strengthen cooperation in seaports and regional connectivity. The delegation, received by Federal Secretary Syed Zafar Ali Shah, discussed opportunities for collaboration on Pakistani ports and multimodal transport corridors linking Central Asia with the Arabian Sea through road, rail, and sea routes. Shah highlighted the strategic position of Pakistan's ports, offering access to South Asia, Central Asia, Gulf countries, and beyond, noting that Kazakhstan could benefit from container handling, logistics, off-dock terminals,



Islamabad: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, holding a meeting with Acumen Pakistan team led by its CEO and country head Dr. Ayesha Khan, that called on Minister at the Finance Division

## SAPM Haroon Akhtar Khan Highlights Chinese Investment and Announces Technical Assistance Center in AJK



ISLAMABAD (News Desk) - Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Industries and Production, Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan, held a meeting with the President of the Mirpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry where discussions were held on the country's new industrial policy, opportunities for joint ventures with China, and investment in the textile sector as well as in solar systems and battery manufacturing capacity. Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan said that under the vision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan is moving on the path of progress, highlighting that the recent visit to China proved to be extremely productive and will open the doors for new joint ventures, adding that due to the tireless efforts of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, investment from

China is continuously flowing into Pakistan. The SAPM emphasized that value addition is essential to enhance Pakistan's exports and announced that a new Technical Assistance Center will be established in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), which will equip the youth with modern skills, further stating that AJK offers vast opportunities for investment and industrial development. The President of the Mirpur Chamber congratulated SAPM Haroon Akhtar Khan on the formulation of the new industrial policy and announced that a delegation from AJK will soon depart for China to explore investment and joint venture opportunities. Separately, a delegation of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) also called on the SAPM, where they discussed key issues being faced by chambers across the country, and Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan assured the delegation that the government is fully committed to addressing and resolving all such issues on priority.

#### PAKISTAN AND KAZAKHSTAN STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC TIES, EYE \$1 BILLION TRADE TARGET

ISLAMABAD (News Desk) – Pakistan and Kazakhstan on Tuesday pledged to transform their historic and cultural ties into a comprehensive economic partnership, reaffirming a shared vision for deeper trade, industrial cooperation, and enhanced regional connectivity, during a meeting in Islamabad between Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and Kazakhstan's Minister of Trade & Integration Arman Shakkaliyev. Welcoming the Kazakh delegation, Minister Jam Kamal Khan stressed that Pakistan attaches great significance to its brotherly relations with Kazakhstan and seeks to expand them into a broad-based economic partnership, adding that both countries must work together to unlock their true trade potential, as current bilateral trade remains far below expectations. The Kazakh side acknowledged Pakistan's role as a key partner in South Asia and expressed confidence that bilateral trade could be raised to USD 1 billion in the near future, while Minister Arman Shakkaliyev underlined agriculture, leather, SMEs, and IT as promising sectors for cooperation, highlighting Kazakhstan's strong export base in beet, grain, and sunflower oil that could help Pakistan meet domestic demand following recent flood damage to crops. Discussions placed particular emphasis on agricultural products and leather processing, with both ministers observing that Central Asia often wastes valuable raw hides and sheepskin due to insufficient processing, and Pakistan offering collaboration in technology transfer, training, and joint ventures; it was agreed to connect the Kazakhstan Leather Association with the Pakistan Tannery Association to formalize this partnership. A milestone achievement will be the signing of the Pakistan-Kazakhstan Transit Trade Agreement soon, expected to enhance regional connectivity and facilitate trade flows between Central Asia and South Asia. Both sides also agreed to intensify business-to-business engagement, with Pakistan having already hosted the Pak-Kazakhstan Business Forum in Karachi earlier this year where over 250 Pakistani and 80 Kazakh companies participated, and the ministers endorsing the idea of joint exhibitions,

composite pavilions, and trade missions to showcase exportable products.

#### COIED Disposes of 103 Missing Persons' Cases in August

ISLAMABAD (News Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances (COIED) has disposed of 103 cases of missing persons and registered 11 new cases during August 2025, according to its Monthly Report. Since its inception in March 2011 up to August 2025, the Commission has received 10,618 cases, out of which 8,873 have been disposed of, reflecting an 83.56% disposal rate. Among these, the whereabouts of 6,809 persons have been traced, while 1,745 cases remain under investigation at the Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore Registries. The Quetta, and Commission's Pakhtunkhwa Khyber Registry is expected to become operational in the third week of September 2025. To facilitate families, the Commission has initiated hearings via video link, reducing travel costs and time for stakeholders. Chairman Justice (Retd) Syed Arshad Hussain Shah has also been undertaking frequent visits to different stations to expedite case disposal and ensure justice at the doorstep of affected families.

## Finance Minister, Acumen Pakistan Discuss \$90m Agriculture Resilience Fund

ISLAMABAD (News Desk) – Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, met with Dr. Ayesha Khan, CEO and Country Head of Acumen Pakistan, and her team at the Finance Division on Tuesday to review progress on Acumen's \$90 million Agriculture Resilience Fund for Pakistan. The fund, designed as a blended finance facility, aims to support climate adaptation in the agriculture sector. The Minister appreciated the initiative, highlighting that Pakistan, ranked among the most climate-vulnerable countries, faces major challenges to its agriculture-dependent economy. He stressed the importance of innovative financing models to enhance adaptive capacity, food security, and rural livelihoods. The Minister welcomed Acumen's efforts to strengthen food systems, promote smart farming, and improve farmer resilience through investments in agribusinesses, assuring full government support for initiatives aligned with Pakistan's sustainable development and climate resilience agenda. It was also shared that a high-level Acumen delegation, including board members and global investors, will visit Pakistan next month to engage stakeholders in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment enhancing to collaboration for a resilient and sustainable agriculture sector in the country.

