

Action to be taken for not printing prices on products: S A Hameed

Poverty and unemployment are top on Punjab Government agenda and it has decided to tackle the issues by imparting technical education to the maximum number of students and for the purpose it direly needs the cooperation of Chambers of Commerce in the province. This was stated by Chairman Task Force on Essential Items S A Hameed while speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Monday. LCCI Senior Vice President Ejaz a Mumtaz, Vice President Faisal Iqbal Sheikh, former President Mohammad Ali Mian, former Senior Vice President Sohail Lashari and former Vice President Aftab Ahmad Vohra also spoke on the occasion. The Chairman Chief Minister Task Force said that the Punjab government wants to develop new curricula for the technical courses with the cooperation of chambers of Commerce and other trade bodies in the province as this would help the successful students to get jobs in their respective trade with ease. He said that the technical education would not only help curtail poverty while it would also be doing the needful for controlling fast increasing unemployment.

“The existing curricula of technical institutions have failed to give desired results because the same were not in accordance with present day industry requirement and this was the only reason that the Punjab government has decided to consult Chambers of Commerce and Industry for preparation of curricula for technical courses.” He said that all the courses should be demand oriented. He said that this was for the first time in the history of the country that a huge amount of Rs 2 billion has been allocated by the Chief Minister Punjab Mian Shahbaz Sharif for imparting technical education to the students.

On price-hike, S A Hameed said that the Punjab government has decided to launch action in January 2010 against all those businessmen who do not print prices on their products as this was the only way to stabilize prices. A severe action would be initiated against those who would not be complying with the government directions in this regard. Some black sheep are defaming the entire business community through their wrong doings and it was the responsibility of the chambers in the country to identify these black sheep and get rid of them. About ongling sugar crisis, the Chairman Task Force said that all necessary measures are being taken and it would be over soon.

The Chairman Chief Minister Task Force said that the present provincial government of Chief Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif was focusing on the core issues being faced by the masses and soon the people would get relief. Speaking on the occasion, the LCCI Senior Vice President Ejaz A Mumtaz stressed the need for improvement in supply side because due to gaps in supply and demand, the prices of daily use items go up. He said that the focus of the Punjab government on the development of a self-reliant economy, easy availability of essential items at reasonable rates, provision of flour on cheaper rates and the assurance of complete facilitation to the masses are highly commendable.

He also appreciated the untiring efforts of the Chief Minister Punjab Mian Shahbaz Sharif to form a special committee to monitor the price and supply situation of essential commodities and ensure effective measures to curb smuggling. He, however, stressed the need for ensuring the implementation of laws in the larger interests of the masses. He said that, along-with facilitating the consumers and common people of the country, the problems and issues of business community are also need to be sorted out. The business community is ready as it has been in the past, to play its due role and join hands with the

government in the task of economic revival. He said to play its part, the business community needs peace of mind and stable policies. The government can ensure this by extending it with maximum possible facilitation at the difficult time of rising cost of electricity, oil and gas, for promoting the environment of mutual trust with the business community. These, if provided, will ensure the realization of dream of a prosperous and progressive Pakistan.