

## **Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer, Syed Munawar Hasan Visit LCCI.**

The Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer, Syed Munawar Hasan, Thursday gave a well-elaborated framework, based on transparency and good governance, to ensure the revival of economy, progress and prosperity in real terms. The JI Chief was speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry at a function arranged in connection with LCCI national economic agenda 2010-30. LCCI Vice President Faisal Iqbal Sheikh, former Presidents Mian Anjum Nisar and Mian Shafqat Ali, Liaquat Baloch and Dr Farid Ahmad Piracha also spoke on the occasion. The Jamaat Chief said that if the framework given by the Jamaat-e-Islami was implemented in letter and spirit the country would not only have self-sufficiency in all fields but it would be standing tall in the comity of nations. Syed Munawar Hassan, while stressing the need for redefining of the meaning of development, said that the government would have to focus on masses' welfare instead of taking care of economic indicators and to turn Pakistan into a welfare state. There was a dire need to work simultaneously in five areas including social, administrative, economic and strategic. He said that the private sector's role was of prime importance to improve the social infrastructure in the country. But, he said, to maximize the involvement of the private sector in national policy making, there was a need for special initiatives and incentives. He said that bridging the gap between the haves and the have-nots and access to basic necessities for all segments of the society should be the very basis of all economic policies. He called for a tailor-made strategy to expedite equity circulation, increase investment and enhance exports to give boost to the economic activities in the country. He said that we would have to promote the culture of Research and Development to get the benefit of most modern techniques in vogue in the world and to enhance the productivity. He said the burden of foreign loans on the country had risen by 15 billion dollars during the last two years and the development budget had been cut by 45 per cent but no relief had been provided to the common man. Syed Munawar Hasan accused the Pakistani government of criminal negligence regarding India's persistent water aggression against this country. He said that Jamaat-e-Islami would extend every possible help and support to the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry in finalization of National Economic Agenda 2010-30. Speaking on the occasion, LCCI Vice President Faisal Iqbal Sheikh said that the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry was taking all the political parties and leading economists onboard to have National Economic Agenda 2010-30 that would be independent of the political force running the country as the business community suffers the most whenever the change of government takes place in the country. Giving a detailed briefing on National Economic Agenda 2010-30, he said that it was aimed at utilizing the natural resource base of Pakistan for value addition and developing industries in an improved environment of doing business. He said that National Economic Agenda 2010-30 would not only be taking care of trade and industry but it would also cover agriculture, livestock and poultry, mining, seaport and tourism. Faisal Iqbal Sheikh said a special focus would be given to bringing more area under cultivation, development of seed, pesticides, access and provision of fertilizers, types of crops to be harvested, means of harvest/mechanization, managing higher yield, farmer access to the market, development of finished goods and byproducts, development of agro-based industry for exports

especially finished goods, tinned food, medicines, ready to wear garments both wool and cotton etc.