**Prime Minister’s Office**

**Board of Investment**

**(Media Section)**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**ITALIAN COMPANIES SHOWN KEEN INTEREST TO INVEST IN PAKISTAN**

**Islamabad April5, 2015**: A business delegation comprising entrepreneurs from various sectors is visiting Rome, Italy from 4-5 April, 2016. The delegation also include representatives of Italian companies working in Pakistan. The delegation is being led by MOS / Chairman, BOI. The purpose of the visit is to invite the Italian businessmen to invest in Pakistan and expand trade relations between the two countries. CEO PBIT and Chairperson, SBOI also accompanying the delegation.

The delegation held different meetings with both public and private sectors. It includes meeting with Italian foreign minister, economic minister, federation of industries, traders, etc and discussed different available investment opportunities in Pakistan for the Italian entrepreneurs.

On 5th April, 2016 Pakistan Board of Investment in collaboration with embassy of Pakistan, Italy organized 1st Pakistan Italy Business & Investment Forum, in Rome, Italy. A number of sectors were represented in the forum including Packaging and Packaging Products, Agro Chemicals/ Agricultural Machinery, Fertilizers, Environmental Products, Chemicals, Industrial Equipment/ Industrial Machinery, Pharmaceutical Products, Foot wear Equipment, Services, Design, Laboratory Equipment and Railway Equipment. Around 125 Italian businessmen / companies representing from different sectors participated in the forum

The forum was inaugurated by the Italian foreign minister. While addressing the forum, Dr. Miftah Ismail, MOS / Chairman, BOI highlighted Pakistan economic and mineral strengths, investment policy and investment opportunities in Pakistan. He said that Pakistan Trade and Business Forum will be useful in both showcasing the investment opportunities of Pakistan and also getting feedback from Italian investors for their future investments and prospects in Pakistan.

He pointed out that as a result of consistent efforts of government, GDP growth of 4.24 percent was achieved in 2014-15 which was the highest in last seven years. Per capita income in dollar terms recorded a significant growth of 9.25 percent in 2014-15. The economic outlook is from negative to positive and confidence of foreign and local investors has increased due to the friendly policies of our government. Pakistan has successfully brought down its fiscal deficit and improved the balance of payment position.

BOI made a comprehensive presentation on the economic and investment climate in Pakistan. CEO PBIT and Chairperson, SBOI also made presentations and responded to various queries made by the Italian businessmen.

Many B2B (business to business), G2B (government to business) and G2G (government to government) meetings are also expected to take place during the 2nd day of the visit.

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