

PRESS RELEASE – June 25 2020

BOARD OF INVESTMENT LAUNCHES E-PORTALS FOR FACILITATING LOCAL AND FOREIGN INVESTORS

Islamabad: Chairman Board of Investment (BOI), Mr. Atif Riaz Bokhari, launched three online portals, Electronic Joint Venture, Branch/Liaison office Management Information System and Special Economic Zones Information Portal, in an online event which was attended by the Secretary BOI, senior officers and other stakeholders, including the International Finance Corporation (IFC) , Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom (FCO) , Pakistan Business Council (PBC), Federal Board of Revenue(FBR), National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) and Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB).

In his remarks, Mr. Atif Bokhari appreciated the efforts of BOI team, spearheaded by the Secretary, BOI for the drive to digitize all services for the benefit of investors. Mr. Bokhari highlighted that BOI is one of the leading organizations in the Federal Government, which has been effectively introducing technology-driven innovative solutions in terms of service delivery, with the ultimate objectives of bringing transparency, improving Ease of Doing Business and facilitating Foreign Direct Investment in Pakistan. Chairman BOI also acknowledged the role of all stakeholders for providing support to BOI in developing the online modules, including IFC who provided technical assistance in partnership with the FCO.

In his inaugural statement, Secretary BOI, Mr. Omer Rasul, explained the objectives of the launch of the new portals, which will help reduce human interaction and facilitate investors in accessing the services from BOI. He added that, following the policy of Federal Government, BOI not only aims to facilitate the investors through digitization of services but also by reducing the timelines for seeking necessary approvals.

The three modules were officially launched by Minister of State / Chairman, Board of Investment.

The Electronic Joint Venture (EJV) module is Pakistan's first public sector online free Business Match-Making Service, which allows Businesses to create partnerships Worldwide. It allows the enterprises to enlist their profiles on the website and provide useful information regarding new opportunities for investment. It facilitates companies looking for projects and Joint Venture Partners. The platform provides an opportunity for Business to Business (B2B) as well as Business to Government (B2G) collaboration.

The Branch/Liaison Management Information System (BLMIS) is an online application for the opening of Branch offices and Liaison offices in Pakistan. This is a continuation of BOI's success story of Online Work Visa module which has enabled companies to apply for Work Visas online, including payment of fees and the provision of final Visa documents. BLMIS is a major milestone to provide world class facilitation to the Investors.

The Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Information Portal will help BOI to collect information from the Enterprises and Developers based in the Special Economic Zones. The empirical data will also demonstrate the pace of development work at SEZs, bringing transparency and one window services to SEZ Enterprises and Developers.
