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Press Release

The Chairman BOI of Pakistan Briefed Malaysian Ministers on Investment Opportunities in Pakistan.

Mr. Saleem H. Mandviwalla, Chairman Board of Investment(BOI) of Pakistan who is on a three day official visit to Malaysia to woo Malaysian investors to invest in Pakistan met with four Malaysian Ministers to promote bilateral trade and investment relations between the two countries.

The Chairman who is heading a strong Pakistani delegation of over thirty top representatives of private sector and official of BOI of Pakistan held separate meetings with the Malaysian Ministers including Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, Minister of Plantation, Industries and Commodities, Datuk Seri Samy Vellu, Special Envoy on Infrastructure for South Asia, Dato' Shaziman bin Abu Mansor, Minister of works and Dato' Raja Nong Chik bin Datuk Raja Zainal Abidin, Minister for Federal Territories and discussed with them ways to mean to promote bilateral trade, investment and business relations.

Present during the meetings were the High Commissioner for Pakistan in Malaysia, Mr. Masood Khalid, Dato Mohammad Salim Fateh Din, Chairman of Malaysia Pakistan Joint Business Council, Mr. Saadat Muzaffar, CEO, Punjab BOI & Trade, Mr. Zubair Habib, CEO National Industrial Park (NIP), Syed Asghar Abbas Rizvi, Director General BOI and Mr. Syed Feroz Shah, Advisor, BOI.

The Chairman while discussing the matter of mutual interest with Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, Minister of Plantation, Industries and Commodities said that Pakistan and Malaysia can cooperate in building down stream palm oil industry in Pakistan and learn from Malaysian experience in the development of palm oil plantation in Pakistan which in turn will help Pakistan in reducing its import bill and would also create jobs. The Malaysian Ministers assured his ministry's fullest cooperation in promoting bilateral relations in the palm oil and plantation sector.

The Chairman also met with Datuk Seri Samy Vellu, Special Envoy on Infrastructure South Asia and Minister of works, Dato' Shaziman bin Abu Mansor, and discussed with the possibilities of cooperation in the infrastructure development in Pakistan like roads, bridges, highways etc. The Chairman BOI said that Pakistan has one of the most liberal investment regime and Malaysian companies are welcomed to build bridges, roads, highways and train tracks on Public Private Partnership (PPP) or Build Operate and Own (BOO) basis. He said that Pakistan has a huge deficit in housing sector and Malaysian companies were welcomed to invest in low cost housing sector. Mr. Samy Vellu also hosted lunch in honor of Pakistan delegation which was also attended by Malaysian officials.

The Chairman also met with Dato' Raja Nong Chik bin Datuk Raja Zainal Abidin, Federal Territories Minister who informed the Pakistani delegation that Malaysia has successfully transformed more than 90% of squatter into decent urban residential areas and Pakistan can adopt the Malaysian model to transform its slums and Kachi Abaddies into decent urban living. The Chairman showed keen interest in the Malaysian model and said the Pakistan will certainly study the Model for its adoption by Pakistan

Later, the Chairman was interviewed by the only financial and economic daily of Malaysia, Malaysian Reserve and the highest circulated Malay Language Newspaper of Malaysia, Utusan wherein he briefed them on investment, business and trade opportunities available in Pakistan.

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 29th March, 2011