

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Investment
(Media Section)

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: “THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER ARE COMMITTED TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT IN THE KEY SECTORS”, SAYS FEDERAL MINISTER FOR INVESTMENT, MR. WAQAR AHMED KHAN IN A MEETING HELD WITH MALAYSIAN & BRUNEI BASED JOURNALISTS

Islamabad, 8th Nov. 2008: The following eight Journalists from Malaysia and Brunei called on the Federal Minister for Investment, Mr. Waqar Ahmed Khan today in his office at Ministry of Investment, Board of Investment. Secretary Investment, Mr. Ashraf Hayat was also present during the meeting.

1	Mr. Ashwat Bin Ismail	Broadcast, Journalist cum Anchor on "Astro Awani" Malaysian First 24 hrs News Channel
2	Mr. Sheridan Mahavera	Specialist writer in English Newspaper "New Straits Times"
3	Ms. Jamhariah Jaafar	Journalist of Malay Newspaper "Barita Harian"
4	Mr. Md. Shahri Saripan	Assistant Director South-South Inf. Gateway, Ministry of Information Malaysia
5	Mr. Ahmad Fuad Yahya	Assistant Editor, General News Service, Bernama (Malaysian National News Agency)
6	Mr. Gamal Nasir Bin Mohd. Ali	Production Editor, Utusan Malaysia (Malay Newspaper)
7	Mr. Haji Bujang Bin Haji Masut	Chief Reporter, Media Permata, Brunei
8	Mr. Abdul Rahim Bin Haji Ismail	Group Editor-in-Chief, Brunei Times

The Minister welcomed the delegates in Pakistan and briefed them about the activities of the Ministry of Investment. He referred to the Ministry as “trouble-shooter” and “facilitator”. He said that present government is encouraging investment and has identified infrastructure, oil & gas, power, food & agriculture and communication as priority sectors for investment. He further elaborated upon the investment climate and policy which happens to be very liberal and pro-investor, as it allows 100% ownership and 100% repatriation.

While further elaborating upon the role of the Ministry of Investment, he said that Ministry is working 24/7 and is dedicated to facilitate investors. He said Malaysian and Brunei investors must explore untapped potential of Pakistan, especially in its infrastructure sector.

While answering questions of journalists on security concerns of investors in the country, the Minister said that Pakistan could not be safer than it is today as we have an elected democratic government to address the grievances of the investors, which ensures transparency of procedures and optimum security of investment and investors. Journalists also enquired about the future strategy of the government to attract investment, to which Minister replied while touching upon economic zones policy of the government and taxation / fiscal incentives offered to them in the SEZ.

At the end, the Minister called upon extended support of the visiting journalists to promote an elaborative but true picture of Pakistan among the business community of their respective countries and help encourage investors to choose Pakistan as their preferred investment destination.
