

Payment of taxes must for development: Dr Pasha

Provincial Minister for Finance Dr Aisha Ghous Pasha has said that payment of taxes is a must condition for nation's development and being a Pakistani citizen it is rightly considered a part of our national obligations. The Punjab government, she said, through its words and actions, has explicitly demonstrated that every penny of public exchequer is spent on public welfare in form of better health services, outstanding transport facilities & infrastructure, agriculture & energy projects and reforms in law and order system. She said without taxes none of the completed or ongoing development projects would have been undertaken.

She express these views while addressing the launching ceremony of Sales Tax Real Time Invoice Verification System (STRIVE) organised by the Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA).

The provincial minister said the Punjab government is striving hard to build a society based on the principles of social and economic justice. As a part of our ambitious growth and development agenda, we are investing in the socio-economic capital of the province. In doing so, our aim is to attain a growth trajectory that brings a qualitative change in the life of people especially of the poor and marginalized sector, she added.

She further said that STRIVE is another milestone of PRA which would not only provide a clean and correct analysis of tax revenue but also help for increasing the tax net which will provide the provincial government additional revenue to further initiate and develop useful welfare projects. The implementation of this system shall make sure that all inputs are verified and due share of government taxes is ensured.

She appreciated efforts made by PRA during last five years for tax reforms including automation and digitalization of returns, establishment of appellant tribunal and e-courts, awareness campaigns and youth internship programs. Chairman PRA Dr Raheel Ahmed Siddiqui briefed the Finance Minister and participants about the process and the salient features of the system. Senior Project Manager FBR Iftakhar Ali gave a detailed presentation on sales tax real time invoice verification system.

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