

Exclusive

# Interview



Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Industries & Production



## Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi

Federal Minister for Industries & Production

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**ICMAP:** What are the objectives and functions of the Ministry of Industries and production?

**GMKJ:** The sole objective is to formulate and implement a comprehensive strategy for sustainable industrialization of Pakistan aiming at poverty alleviation, job creation and enhancing Pakistan's international competitiveness. The Ministry's primary role is, however, to act as a facilitator in creating an enabling environment for industrial growth in the country.

**ICMAP:** What is Ministry's role in skill development and entrepreneurship?

**GMKJ:** The Ministry of Industries has a pivotal role in skill development and entrepreneurship for which it has established the Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), National Productivity Organization (NPO) and Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA). Skill development is one of our highest priorities for which these organizations are being used to help reduce unemployment and give opportunities and vocational training to the people. SMEDA plays its role by supplementing the small and medium entrepreneurs through financial and administrative support and empowering them to grow and prosper.

**ICMAP:** What are the main hurdles to sustainable industrialization in Pakistan?

**GMKJ:** The major hurdles towards achieving sustainable industrialization are power and gas shortages which would Insha Allah be resolved by the next year. The slow industrial growth is only due to gas and power shortages which have also led to industry slump.



**ICMAP:** The different industrial estates in the country have not been so successful. Do you agree?

**GMKJ:** The government is offering different kinds of incentives like duty free imports etc. and the Ministry is facilitating the government in this whole process. Due to Ministry's efforts, the industrial growth has increased upto almost 6.8 percent.

In my view, small economic zones are of vital importance to increase job opportunities. For this purpose almost 80 acres of land has been allocated to Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) which will increase industrialization as well as job opportunities. The Federal Government is also planning to set up an Industrial Zone on 1200 to 1500 acres of land. We have proposed to set up nine economic zones in all the provinces in connection with CPEC.

The Karachi Industrial Zone is being extended and 3rd phase of extension is covers upto 80 acres of land. The investors must now come forward to invest in these Zones as it is very easy and free to setup industry in Pakistan. Just an NOC is required from the provincial government.

**ICMAP:** Which priority industry sectors your Ministry is focusing to attract foreign investment?

**GMKJ:** It is duty of the Board of Investment (BOI) to attract foreign investment. After the 18th amendment, more powers have been delegated to provinces so the Ministry is only playing

a role of policy maker, facilitator and coordinator to resolve the issues like SRO's etc.

**ICMAP:** What would be the impact of CPEC on the growth of industrial sector of Pakistan?

**GMKJ:** It is being feared that China will relocate its industry to Pakistan along with their labour. We have proposed to the government to allow relocation of Chinese industry only through joint ventures in order to protect the interest of local industrialists. Moreover, if our local semi-skilled and skilled labour is used in China in case of labor shortage, this would be an advantage for Pakistan.

**ICMAP:** How management accountants can assist in improving industrial production and efficiency?

**GMKJ:** The management accountants are specialized in costing aspect and therefore I think they have a pivotal role to play in improving the industrial efficiency and advising the manufacturing sector to adopt cost-efficient measures for enhancing production capacity. The Ministry of Industries would fully support any proposal from ICMA Pakistan that aims at capacity building and training of the industry in areas of cost management and control.

**ICMAP:** In what specific areas do you think ICMA Pakistan and Ministry of industries can work together for sustainable industrialization of Pakistan and enhancing Pakistan's international competitiveness?

**GMKJ:** In my view, ICMA Pakistan and Ministry of Industries can collaborate in conducting industry-specific research to identify the bottlenecks that are impeding industrial growth and to suggest pragmatic measures to tackle such issues. We can also join hands to organize workshops on improving cost efficiency that would greatly help the industry to gain technical knowledge and skills from the management accountants on how to address cost-related issues in production.

*The interview ended with a vote of thanks to Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi, Federal Minister for Industries & Production who spared his valuable time and gave his candid views exclusively for this Journal - Editor*



*Mr. Waqar Ali Khan, member, National Council is presenting a memento to Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi, Federal Minister for Industries & Production. Mr. Zakir Hussain Satti, FCMA, Director North Region, ICMA Pakistan and Mr. Javed Iqbal Shehzad, Principal Staff Officer to Minister are also seen in the photograph.*