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New industries can eradicate poverty: Tareen

■ Says Pakistan has to remove obstacles in way to smooth cement export to India

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LAHORE: The Federal Minister for Industries, Production & Special Incentives, Jahangir Tareen on Wednesday said that to eradicate poverty, new industries were being established in the country.

"Industrial parks have become imminent to enlist Pakistan in the industrialized countries," he added. The minister was addressing the groundbreaking ceremony of Auto Cluster Industrial Park at Iffatabad, Sheikhupura. He said that

owing to government economic policies, Pakistan had been put on the path to prosperity. The economy, he said, was strengthening and continued to grow under the leadership of President Pervez Musharraf. He said that National Industrial Parks Development (NIPs) had assignment to develop model industrial estates. Sundar Industrial Estate near Lahore was one of glaring examples of this public-private partnership, he added.

Tareen said that the Auto Cluster Industrial Park would lead to industri-

al growth besides reducing poverty and generate more employment opportunities. He said the prime objective of setting up the park was to support just-in-time deliveries to original equipment manufacturers in the vicinity. "This will enable the auto manufacturers to increase their production and add revenue generation to the entire supply chain," he added.

About the project cost, the minister said a revolving fund of Rs 2 billion had been set up, which interest would be paid by the government itself to the

banks. He informed the audience that the NIPs had initiated the Korangi Creek Industrial Park project in Karachi for specific industrial cluster and provided one-step service and trouble-free business environment for potential customers of small & medium sized enterprises. Tareen said, "the National Industrial Parks Development has opened a marble city in FATA while two more marble cities are being set up in Rajalpur and Warsak."

Later, talking to the reporters, the minister said that legal cover had

been given to the projected undertaken by the NIPs.

To a question, he said that the cement export had increased up to three million tonnes. He agreed with the questioner that Pakistan could not fully exploit Indian market for cement export. "Indian market is potential area and we have to remove all the obstacles in way to smooth cement export to India," he opined. National Industrial Parks Development Chief Executive, Zubair Habib and Regional Director, Mohsin Syed also spoke on the occasion while Chief Executive Officer Smeda, Shahid Rasheed was present on the podium.



LAHORE: Federal Minister Jahangir Khan Tareen unveiling the plaque on the eve of foundation-stone laying ceremony of National Industrial Parks Development, with him are standing Mohsin Syed, Zubair and Shahid Rashid.

