

## CM orders fresh property survey: SRB to achieve Rs61bn collection target, meeting told

### RECORDER REPORT

KARACHI: Sindh Revenue Board (SRB) has collected Rs 55 billion upto May 30, 2016 and by the end of the current financial year it would achieve the revenue collection target set at Rs61 billion for the outgoing fiscal year.

This was disclosed in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Sindh Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah to review the kitty of the government for finalising the next budget here at the CM House on Tuesday. Those who attended the meeting, include Senior Minister for Finance & Energy Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Secretary Siddique Memon, Principal Secretary Alamuddin Bullo, Senior Member BoR Rizwan Memon, ACS (Dev) Mohammad Waseem, Secretary Finance Sohail Rajput, Secretary Excise Haleem Shaikh, Zulfiqar Shah, Member BOR and others.

The SRB in-charge Kazmi said that his organisation had collected Rs6.1 billion in a single month of May which is itself a record. The overall collection from July 2015 to May 30, 2016 comes to Rs55 billion and by the end of financial year it would achieve collection target of Rs61 billion. On this the chief minister congratulating the SRB and finance minister for achieving the target said that it was a great contribution of PPP government to strengthen financial position of the province by establishing a strong and effective organization like SRB. It may be noted that last year, 2015-16 the collection target was Rs49 billion.

Senior Member Board of Revenue Rizwan Memon while briefing the meeting said that it was given a target of Rs16.6 billion against which they had collected Rs10 billion and by the end of the year their collection would cross Rs12 billion. Thus there would be a shortfall of Rs4.6 billion. Member BoR Zulfiqar Shah told the chief minister that he had cleared the backlog of 36,000 documents at microfilming. Now the entire process has been digitalized and next year not only the revenue recoveries would be increased the people would be happy to receive their record within three days.

It may be noted that the BoR has three wings, registration, Revenue, stamp. All the three wings are being revamped which would not only increase revenue collections but develop great convenience for the people. Secretary Excise & Taxation Department was given a target of Rs41.78 billion against which it has collected Rs42 billion. He added that the department would go much ahead of the target.

The chief minister said that the last property survey was conducted in 2001, therefore, a fresh survey must be conducted to bring in the more housing units in the tax net. He directed the chief secretary to call a meeting to evolve mechanism for fresh survey of property units. Secretary finance Sohail Rajut said that through a World Bank project property survey was being conducted in Sukkur through a private firm. He suggested that the department has no physical resources to conduct the survey, therefore, it may be outsourced. The chief minister authorized the chief secretary to evolve mechanism for next survey.

The chief minister giving guidelines to his finance, development and planning teams said that in the next budget maximum employment opportunities be created. Focus must be given to the development of social sector. "I want you to give special focus to women empowerment, youth, sports, welfare, special education and such others department." he said and added that additional funds be allocated for local governments.

Senior Minister for Finance Syed Murad Ali Shah said that he had already requested all the departments to send their new SNE for allocation of the budget in the next financial year. He added that there would be plenty of new jobs in police, education, health, irrigation and in some other departments.