**Chitral Marble City**

**PC-1**

KPEZDMC has taken over from Sarhad Development Authority (now defunct and merged with KPEZDMC) around 320.87 kanals (40.11 acres) of land, which was acquired at village Gang Distt Chitral at cost of PKR. 91.871 million. To expedite industrialization in the province and to capitalize on the local strengths, Industries Department approved the PC-I amounting PKR. 463.026 million from PDWP dated 18/10/2021 for infrastructure development of the Zone. The amount Rs. 204 Million requested to be allocated from ADP 2021-2022, while the remaining Rs. 259.026 million to be provided by the KPEZDMC from plot sales proceeds.

The District Chitral is located in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province of Pakistan; covering an area of 14,850 km². It is the northernmost district of Pakistan. It shares a border with Gilgit-Baltistan to the east, with Kunar, Badakshan and Nuristan provinces of Afghanistan to the north and west, and with the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa districts of Swat and Dir to the south. A narrow strip of Wakhan Corridor separates Chitral from Tajikistan in the north.

In Chitral very extensive deposits of mineral are available. Three parallel famous belts of marbles Rashun, Gahriat and Drosh, are accessible in chitral and millions of tons marble reserves are available. There are also some important marbles occurrence in the chitral district are Bamborat, Kidori, Chitral Gol and near shoghor. the mineral resources have never been properly explored in the region. The illiteracy and lack of enterprise of the inhabitants proves an effective bar to the profitable exploitation of her mineral even for internal use. Orpiment or Yellow Arsenic is found in the Lonkhuh valley in Tirich village. It is extracted but in small quantity. Lead is found in various parts in small quantity but is not exported. The best quality of marble stone is available in Chitral. Director of Industries, Commerce, Mineral Development Department have issued a number of licenses for exploration of minerals in some selected areas.

The project will also generate revenue through selling left over materials to Marble and Granite handicrafts. Furthermore, properly squared shall add value besides improve processing efficiency and exportability at low and affordable charges.

In general, the marble and granite has abundant use by the potential investors of marble/granite and other decorative stones etc. relating to construction industry. This will bring prosperity and industrial development which will boost-up economic growth and social development opportunities would be risen and as a result new avenues and destinations will emerge due to recent development in the region.

Chitral being close to the gateway to Afghanistan is expected to make optimum use of the enormous available raw material in the various kinds and having great exposure to produce and export various destinations including neighboring countries, Europe, Arab countries, Afghanistan and the Central Asian Republics. Economic and industrial development activities have already been initiated in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, especially focusing investment in the construction building/shopping plaza, handicraft made from marble and other important goods are being produced with the help of these minerals and industries etc.

Presently only a handful processing Units are working with some home based cutting facilities, despite the fact having huge amount of reserves, in and around Chitral District. As a result, most of the units are working much below their installed capacity. Moreover, most of the workforce related to cutting and polishing skills have been trained conventionally with no or limited knowledge of international precision standard. As a result, substandard products, with little value addition and market compatibility, are produced, and so are the socio-economic conditions of the locals.

The Chitral Economic Zone (CEZ) land is 40 Acre and specifically for Marble type industries and industry for readymade Garments/Embroidery & Knitting, Handicrafts Development, furniture, food and cold storages. Its maximum demand will be 5 to 10 MW. Initially 5 MW feeder will be applied for.

PESCO has its own grid stations in chitral district (132 KV Jutlishat & 132 KV Drosh) which are close to the CEZ. As per PESCO in near future, they will add some more transformer in their existing grid stations and after that, they can easily provide 5 to 10MW load to the industry, which would cover the energy needs of the zone. The Ministry of Energy (Power Division) has approved funds in 2019 for the establishment of 132KV grid station and electrification works of different valleys of chitral. The PESCO grid station is about 24.4 KM from the CEZ and the cost of 11 KV feeder line would be 4 million per Km. The estimated cost of the electrification is PKR. 97 million, to be adjusted from KPEZDMC own sources.

Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed and submitted to EPA for review and consideration.

Key feature of the Zone are provided below.

* Total Land is 320 Kanals (40 Acre)
* Total Industrial Land is 224 Kanals (28 Acre)
* Total Industrial Plots are 94.
* The price of industrial plot is Rs. 2.2 million per Kanal.
* Total Expected Investment 4 Billion.
* Mass job opportunities will be created through establishment of Zone, which includes 5,000 direct and 10,000 in-direct Jobs.
* Nature of business in bullets =
* Marble and Granite Industry.
* Textile Industries
* Furniture Industries
* Food & Beverages industries
* Plastic Industries
* Packaging Industries