

Press Release

SEC Chairman Inaugurates National Leasing Register and Defaulter's Database

Karachi – August 10, 2005: The Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SEC), Dr. Tariq Hassan has said that the establishment of National Leasing Register and Defaulters' Database by the Leasing Association of Pakistan (LAP) will have far reaching benefits, both for lessors and the national economy.

He was addressing a ceremony organised by LAP on National Leasing Register and Defaulters' Database.

Dr. Hassan said that data sharing through the consumer and corporate credit bureau helps in achieving transparency and efficiency in the business operations. He further said that, "The system of National Leasing Register will serve to reduce the incidents of defaults and overdue. With online access to members of LAP, leasing companies will be able to make quick on-line referrals to confirm as to whether the assets being offered to them have not been previously leased by another member."

The SEC Chairman said that this database would also help Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector in becoming more organised and reduce the risks associated with financing of SMEs. Furthermore, the involvement of investment banks in the leasing sector and the onset of universal NBFC regime would accentuate the need for and usefulness of such data, he maintained.

Dr. Hassan assured the SEC's full support to such initiatives adding that the SEC may consider making referral to the leasing register mandatory through the prudential regulations. He urged individuals and institutions to become members of the database.

Earlier, a detailed presentation on the National Leasing Register and Defaulters' Database was organised by JCR-VIS. Chairman LAP, Mr. Khalid Ali was also present on the occasion.