

**SEC Registers 28 Companies during April 2005**

**Islamabad – May 4, 2005:** The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SEC) registered 268 companies during April 2005 as compared to 233 companies registered during the respective month of the previous year, showing an increase of 15 percent.

Of the total 268 companies registered during the month, 263 were companies limited by shares including four public unlisted companies, 250 private companies and nine single member companies. In addition to this, two foreign companies and three associations not-for-profit were also registered.

The Company Registration Office (CRO) at Lahore registered the highest number of 114 companies, followed by Karachi and Islamabad CROs registering 72 and 58 companies respectively. The CROs of Faisalabad, Multan, Peshawar, and Sukkur registered nine, three, 11 and one company respectively.

The Commission also gives license to companies being formed as associations not for profit. During April 2005, two such companies were granted licenses. Furthermore, the Commission also accorded approval to 12 companies for alteration in their Memorandum of Association.

Total authorized capital and paid up capital of the 263 limited-by-shares companies registered during the month amounted to Rs. 2,202.4 million and Rs. 254.782 million respectively. Out of these, 250 were private companies having authorized capital and paid-up capital of Rs. 4,107.1 million and Rs. 252.16 million, nine single member companies with an authorized capital and paid-up capital of Rs. 8.3 million and Rs. 2.002 million, and four public companies with an authorized capital and paid-up capital of Rs. 87 million and Rs. 0.62 million respectively. Further, a total of 38 companies have raised their authorized capital during the month with an increment of Rs. 13,281.6 million.

The most flourishing sector in terms of number of new registration was the trading sector whereby 36 companies were registered, followed by 35 companies registered in services sector, 26 in communication, 23 in real estate development sector and 21 in textile sector.

The month's new incorporation brought the Commission's total portfolio of registered corporate sector to 45,609 companies as on 30 April, 2005, which comprises of 2,785 public companies, 41,480 private companies, 225 single member companies, 294 associations not for profit, 56 companies limited by guarantee, 167 trade organizations, 597 foreign companies and five companies with unlimited liabilities. This is an increase of seven percent as compared to 42, 802 companies registered up to 30 April 2004.

An accelerated growth trend in corporate registration has been recorded in the previous months, with an average new incorporation in excess of 200 companies since March 2004. The corporate sector maintained a similar trend in the first quarter of this year, whereby 219, 224 and 295 companies were registered in the months of January, February and March respectively and now 233 new incorporations have been recorded during the month of April 2005.