

FATE Wing briefs media on VAT



Facilitation and Taxpayer Education (FATE) Wing of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) arranged an interactive meeting with a select group of journalists from the Urdu Daily Nawa-e-Waqt, Islamabad, on Wednesday (the 17th March, 2010) for an informal interaction on the proposed Value Added Tax and its key features for the education and awareness of the taxpayers and stakeholders.

The session was chaired by Chief (FATE) Mr. Sajjad Haider Khan and attended among others by Secretary (FATE-DT) Mr. Sajid Hussain Shah, Secretary (FATE-Customs) Mr. Akhtar Hussain, Secretary (PR) Mr. Hamid Raza Wattoo, Second Secretary (FATE-Helpline) Mr. Mazhar Iqbal, Second Secretary (PR) Mr. Mujeebur Rahman Talpur and Mr. Ashfaq Ahmad Chaudhry, Additional Commissioner Inland Revenue, LTU, Islamabad.

During the interaction, the FBR officials briefed the journalists on a range of measures adopted by FBR in recent days to create awareness and understanding of the Value Added Tax and its role in reforming and enhancing the scope of the economy.

Chief (FATE) Mr. Sajjad Haider Khan said the FBR had been trying to create a positive view of the VAT which had already been adopted by more than 130 countries of the world as an instrument to rationalize taxation and enhance tax-to-GDP ratio. He said FATE Wing had been using a broad range of communication tools to educate the taxpayers and promote a tax-compliance culture and a series of interaction with the media had been initiated to provide necessary information to the stakeholders.

The visiting journalists welcomed the FBR's initiative which they felt could go a long way in enhancing understanding of VAT and lessen an unnecessary hostility to the VAT by the business community whose concerns stemmed largely from their ignorance of the possible benefits and advantages of VAT for them and the national economy.



