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NBP: Bank of Nation

Appointment of Dr. Asif A. Brohi as President of National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) has been warmly welcomed not only by the employees but also by the investors. At Karachi Stock Exchange share price of the NBP increased by Rs3.00 within three days of the change in guards. The share price closed at Rs51.50 on January 24, the last working day of the week from Rs48.50 on January 18, 2013.

Investors' confidence is restored because they feel that a permanent employee has been made President of the bank after a very long time, a move that is likely to yield positive change. Dr. Brohi has been associated with NBP for almost three decades. He has very good understanding of working as he has been associated with various important functions of the Bank during his tenure.

He has been on the Board of Directors on behalf of the Bank of more than eight companies belonging to various sectors. He enjoys good reputation and strong relations with all the stakeholders including unions, federations and customers. This will pave way for the quick resolution of any prevailing and future issues and eventually help in achieving Bank's vision.

Dr. Brohi, an MBA from Northrop, California and Doctorate in Public Administration joined NBP in 1984 and his last portfolio was Chief Operating Officer and Head of Commercial and Retail Banking Group. He carries rich experience in all spheres of banking. He has headed Bank's Operations Group, Strategic Planning Group, Information Technology Group, Culture Change Program Group and Training.

Dr. Brohi has been part of this long journey that made NBP the first ever commercial bank of Pakistan to cross the 'One Trillion Rupee' benchmark, with more than 16,500 employees and 1,283 branch network across

Pakistan and 23 overseas branches and representative offices in four countries. The Bank also handles treasury transactions for the Government of Pakistan (GoP) as an agent to the State Bank of Pakistan.

A feather in hat is NBP is the leader in agriculture credit financing. It lent over Rs45,789 million (106% of the target) among nearly 241,296 farmers as on 30th June 2012. Out of total 1,283 domestic online branches, 875 are involved in catering to the needs of farmers. While NBP offers complete range of commercial banking services, one key area is lending to farmers. During this period, non-performing loans of NBP was about 7.6 per cent as compared to the sector average of 15 per cent in agricultural.

NBP can rightly take pride in being the key partner of the GoP's program of achieving food security and poverty alleviation. Besides, having the largest share in total lending to farmers the other distinguishing feature is the competitive mark up rate, which is lower than the rate being charged by other commercial banks.

With one of the largest domestic branch networks across Pakistan as well as representation in 6 international geographical areas ranging from North America to the Far East as well as a joint venture operating in the United Kingdom and a subsidiary in Kazakhstan, NBP can be termed Pakistan's largest international commercial bank.

Lately, NBP was conferred the "Max Factor of the Year 2011-12" award from Xpress Money Services, which is the third largest money transfer service provider in the world. NBP has been awarded for maximum distribution growth in home remittances in the above mentioned regions/receiving markets, in the year 2011/12. This award proves NBP's commitment to the home remittances business, in pursuit of the national cause. Home remittances play a key role in building Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves, improving quality of life through poverty alleviation which ultimately strengthens the economy of the country.