

DISTRICT ECONOMIC PROFILE CHAMAN



Turn Potential into Profit

Small & Medium Enterprise Development Authority

Government of Pakistan

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1. INTRODUCTION TO SMEDA

The Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) was established in October 1998 with an objective to provide fresh impetus to the economy through development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

With a mission "to assist in employment generation and value addition to the national income, through development of the SME sector, by helping increase the number, scale and competitiveness of SMEs", SMEDA has carried out 'sectorial research' to identify policy, access to finance, business development services, strategic initiatives and institutional collaboration and networking initiatives.

Preparation and dissemination of prefeasibility studies in key areas of investment has been a successful hallmark of SME facilitation by SMEDA.

Concurrent to the prefeasibility studies, a broad spectrum of business development services is also offered to the SMEs by SMEDA. These services include identification of experts and consultants and delivery of need based capacity building programs of different types in addition to business guidance through help desk services.

2 DISCLAIMER

This information memorandum is to introduce the subject matter and provide a general idea and information on the said matter. Although, the material included in this document is based on data/information gathered from various reliable sources; however, it is based upon certain assumptions, which may differ from case to case. The information has been provided on as is where is basis without any warranties or assertions as to the correctness or soundness thereof. Although, due care and diligence has been taken to compile this document, the contained information may vary due to any change in any of the concerned factors, and the actual results may differ substantially from the presented information. SMEDA, its employees or agents do not assume any liability for any financial or other loss resulting from this memorandum in consequence of undertaking this activity. The contained information does not preclude any further professional advice. The prospective user of this memorandum is encouraged to carry out additional diligence and gather any information which is necessary for making an informed decision; including taking professional advice from a qualified consultant/technical expert before taking any decision to act upon the information.

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3 PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The objective of the document is primarily to facilitate potential entrepreneurs in project identification for investment. The project may form the basis of an important investment decision and in order to serve this objective, the document/study covers various aspects of project concept development, start-up, and production, marketing, finance and business management.

The purpose of this document is to facilitate potential investors, by providing them with a general understanding of the business with the intention of supporting potential investors in crucial investment decisions.

The need to come up with reports for undocumented or minimally documented sectors attains greater imminence as the research that precedes such reports reveal certain thumb rules; best practices developed by existing enterprises by trial and error, and certain industrial norms that become a guiding source regarding various aspects of business set-up and its successful management.

Apart from carefully studying the whole document one must consider critical aspects provided later on, which form basis of any Investment Decision.

4. INTRODUCTION

DISTRICT CHAMAN

Chaman District is an administrative district of Balochistan Province, Pakistan. Chaman District was created after bifurcating Qila Abdullah District in year 2021. It is situated just south of the Wesh–Chaman border crossing with the neighbouring Kandahar Province of Afghanistan with elevation of 1,338 m (4,390 ft). It is an international border crossing between Pakistan and Afghanistan, just like Wahga Crossing between Pakistan and India. The border is well-known as the main crossing point for Afghan refugees entering Pakistan after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. The district borders Spin Boldak, the border town in Kandahar province of Afghanistan. Chaman District is also known as the 'Dry port' for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects.

It contains the following Tehsils

- Chaman City Tehsil
- Chaman Saddar Tehsil

Sardar Asghar Khan Ashezai a member of Awami National Party is the current MPA of Chaman District. Recently Capt. (R) Juma Dad Mandokhail has been appointed as the first Deputy Commissioner of the district.

4.1 CHAMAN DISTRICT MAP



4.2 DISTRICT CHAMAN HISTORY

Chaman is a historical place and dates back centuries. This territory was heavily used by Afghans, Mughals, and the British as a passage. Historian describes two legends associated with its name. One credits the town's name to a Hindu merchant named Chaman Das, who frequently traveled in this town for trade. Another tale narrates that this town received this name because of its lush green gardens or grass, as Chaman means Garden in the Persian language. In 1891, Khojak (railway) Tunnel was constructed under the Khojak Pass to Qilla Abdullah with Chaman. It used to be the longest tunnel in South Asia until 2017. In 1894, the British purchased 5604 acres of land from the locals for just Rs.5000. Their objective was to build a military station to attack Spin Boldak, a bordering town in Afghanistan, and then invade Afghanistan. But they never succeeded and remained in this region and established Chaman as a town.

5. SOCIO – ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

5.1 GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

In Chaman, the summers are sweltering, arid, and clear and the winters are cold, dry, and mostly clear. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 32°F to 100°F and is rarely below 25°F or above 104°F. The hot season lasts for 3.9 months, from May 18 to September 14, with an average daily high temperature above 90°F. The hottest month of the year in Chaman is July, with an average high of 99°F and low of 75°F. The cool season lasts for 3.1 months, from November 29 to March 1, with an average daily high temperature below 62°F. The coldest month of the year in Chaman is January, with an average low of 33°F and high of 53°F. The geographical coordinates of Chaman district are 30.918 deg latitude, 66.453 deg longitude, and 4,383 ft elevation. The topography within 2 miles of Chaman contains only modest variations in elevation, with a

maximum elevation change of 482 feet and an average elevation above sea level of 4,391 feet. Within 10 miles contains only modest variations in elevation (4,111 feet). Within 50 miles also contains extreme variations in elevation (5,810 feet). The area within 2 miles of Chaman is covered by bare soil (69%) and artificial surfaces (31%), within 10 miles by bare soil (75%) and cropland (12%), and within 50 miles by bare soil (70%) and grassland (19%).

5.2 CULTURE

It is the home to Achakzai, Barech, kakar, Badizai, Durrani and Syed tribes. Because of its proximity to Afghanistan, some influence of the Afghan-pashtoon culture is deeply embedded and blend of culture is in vogue. A vast supply of daily consumable items goes to Afghanistan via chaman border. Flour and rice, cloth, tea moreover fruits like watermelons grapes, pomegranate and fertilizers are exported or imported via chaman border. Inhabitants can speak and understand Pashto, Balochi, Brahuvi, Urdu, Persian, dari and uzbeki.

5.3 AREA

The area of CHAMAN Division is 1,341km². According to 2017 census, CHAMAN division has a population of 434,561 which make it 5th most populated city in Balocistan moreover population density is 324.1/km².

5.4 POPULATION

Admin unit	Area (SQ. KM)	All sexes(2017)	Male	Female	Population density per SQ. KM.	Average household size	Population 1998	1998-2017 average annual growth
Nushki district	1341 . km ²	434,561	229,749	204,811	324.1/km ²	7.79.	151,854	5.7%
Rural		311,355	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urban		123,206	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

5.5 LAND UTILIZATION

Reported Area. (in hectares)	Cultivated Area			Cropped Area		Un-cultivated Area			
	Total	Current fallow	Net Sown	Total	Area sown more than once	Total	Culturalable waste	Forest Area	Area not available for cultivation
16317	15704	4202	11502	11589	87	613	0	613	0

5.6 RESOURCE ENDOWMENT

MAIN CROPS

The primary occupation of people is agriculture. High hills and deserts surround the region. The cultivation of the supreme quality of grapes, watermelons, and melons is abundant in this region.

LIVE STOCK

District	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep	Goats	Camels	Horses	Mules	Asses	Total	poultry
CHAMAN	109413	1350	395372	149008	424	1092	460	5214	662333	385819

Source:GOB

5.7 EDUCATION

State of Education in district Chaman is not very different from education situation in other districts in Balochistan. Access and quality indicators of the district are very weak. The district suffers from multiple issues in the backdrop of poverty and cultural constraints. Access and quality of education in the district is not very promising. Low population density

leaves a lot of settlements without school and within the existing schools there are enrolment gaps. Missing facilities like water and toilets adversely affects the enrolment and retention. School availability bottleneck that appears at the primary to middle and secondary to higher secondary level further hampers the access situation. Teaching learning quality is a key concern in Chaman district. Annual Status of Education Report 2014 shows poor learning outcomes of the students which leads to the low survival and transition rates. Gender wise 67% boys and 90% girls of 6-15 age groups are out of school. Around 51% boys and 86% girls of age 6 to 10 are out of school. The percentages increase beyond primary where 96% girls, 85% boys of age 11-13 and 99% girls and 94% boys of age 14-15 are out of school. The out of school children not only include children who never enrolled but also those who drop out of school. District Chaman also faces the issue of dropouts at primary and middle level. The survival rate over the last two years has been around 24% at primary level and 72% at middle level. According to 2013-14 BEMIS data, survival rate of girls is 32% at primary level where as it is 21% for boys at primary level.

5.8 INFRASTRUCTURE

5.8.1 ROADS

National Highway N-25 connects Chaman, Qilla Abdullah, Pishin and Quetta and ends up in Karachi. Travelers from throughout the country can reach by road. Several transport services are operating in this region. The railroad network at Chaman runs along the main road and links the Chaman with other cities. Chaman railway station was made operational in 6 October 1879. The station serves as the terminus of the Rohri-Chaman Railway Line.

5.8.2 TRANSPORTATION

Buses, pick-ups, taxis and vans ply between chaman and Quetta and Karachi and other and other parts of the district. Transport is available 24 hours a day in Chaman is located halfway the N-25 highway which connects to rest of the country. Most of the vehicles in the district are registered at Karachi and Quetta, but a large number of vehicles move around in the district. Every day vans and buses travel between different destinations. Motorcycles, cars and rickshaws are the main means of transport for local people.

Chaman Mixed is a local Pakistani passenger train. According to the Pakistan Railway train numbers Chaman Mixed Quetta to Chaman is 349 Up and Chaman to Quetta is 350 down via Shelabagh , Kila Abdullah , Gulistan , Yaru , Bostan Jn , Kuchlak , Beleli and Sheikh Mandah. This train takes approximately 4 hours and 45 minutes to complete its journey of 142 K.M. Chaman Mixed 350 up have 10 stops and Chaman Mixed 206 DN have 10 stops. Chaman Mixed have only Economy class in it.

5.8.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunication and postal facilities are available to the major towns of the district while about 60 percent of the population has access to electricity however load-shedding has become major issue in the district therefore residents of Chaman district have installed solar panels in their residences and shops. The district is linked to all parts of the country through telecommunications services. Telecommunication companies likes PTCL, Mobilink, Telenor, Ufone, Zong are operational in the district and provide with cellular and internet connectivity.

5.8.4 ENERGY

An affordable and regular supply of power is crucial for basic needs such as cooking and heating; essential for adding value to and diversifying livelihoods (mechanization of agriculture, modernization of mining, poultry farming, ecotourism, value addition to agriculture and livestock products); and for the provision of basic social services such as education, health care and piped water. In Chaman District Quetta Electric supply company (QESCO) supplies electricity to the district. Gas is yet to be provided to the district.

5.8.5 AIRPORT

Nearest airports to the Chaman district is Quetta International Airport (UET), 113 km from chaman, Pakistan.

6. ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

6.1 TRADE (IMPORT/EXPORT)

The major source of income for the residents of District Chaman is quite different from that of the residents of the other districts. It is interesting to note that a large number of persons originating from the district are engaged in trade activities. The majority of the male population in District Chaman is engaged in trade and commerce. Some of them have trade links with foreign countries such as Japan, Hong Kong, Korea etc. Chaman border crossing point is located in Chaman district, Balochistan connecting Pakistan to Afghanistan moreover Pashtoons residing in Afghanistan share a similar language and cultural background. Therefore, visa restrictions are not strictly followed by the local residents on either side of the border. The district is an important trade point in the Balochistan region, providing a gateway on the trade routes between Afghanistan and Karachi. However Chaman border crossing point in its current condition lacks infrastructure and equipment in the form of administrative buildings for cargo and pedestrian processing, segregated entry and exit gates, priority (fast

track) lanes, parking, secondary inspection areas, testing or detection equipment such as baggage and vehicle scanning as well as the lack of information communication technology (ICT). The lack of adequate infrastructure and equipment result in long lines of queuing trucks, longer than required processing times and security concerns.

6.2 AGRICULTURE/ HORTICULTURE

District Chaman is a water stressed area for both agriculture and drinking water. Additionally, the choice of crops in the area is high-delta; high value cash crops like vegetables and fruits, which are water intensive. 99.98 per cent of the irrigated area is irrigated by tube wells. Wheat is the major crop for the Rabi Season. Apple, Apricot, Grapes, Peach and Pomegranate are the leading fruits of the district. Wheat is sown in irrigated as well as rain fed areas. The major kharif crops are cash crops including onion, fruit, fodder, vegetables, and melon.

6.3 LIVE STOCK

Livestock is an important source of livelihood for a majority of the rural population and a large percentage of the workforce and households in the district are engaged in livestock rearing. Livestock are a major source of nutrition (milk, yogurt, lassi, kurt, meat, beef) and income (sale of animals, wool and hides). These are an important source of transportation particularly where the area is hilly or the terrain is rugged. Both men and women are involved in the livestock sector. Women are responsible for watering and feeding the animals, cleaning their abodes and making dairy products such as yogurt, butter and ghee. Local livestock markets exist with fluctuating prices that drop during periods of drought and increase at the time of Eid-ul-Azha. Animals are slaughtered generally in the open and there is no meat processing plant in the district. Hides, skins and wool are not processed in the district and are sold raw. There are shops present in the district, selling milk and cream locally.

6.4 POULTRY

One government poultry farm and small scale private/commercial poultry farms of broiler and layer breeds exist in the district. Enormous potential has been observed in rural poultry where every household has 8 to 10 poultry birds in their homes. The eggs and poultry meat is usually consumed domestically. The department had launched a project “Development of Rural Poultry” in the year 2005-06 through which many of the poor families had been provided poultry birds at 80% subsidized rates. Rural poultry can be converted into commercial scale by improving the skills of the young rural women. In poultry farming, especially broiler breed is much preferred business over other breeds because it provides maximum return in very short time.

6.5 INDUSTRIES

Not many industries are located in this bordering town. However, several ice factories in the city are providing employment opportunities to the people in the region. Factories include:

- Hafiz Malak Ice Factory
- Hajji Bacha Khan Ice Factory
- Haji Sado Khan Ice Factory
- Ice Factory Murda Karaz Road
- New Ice Factory Rehman Kawol
- Old Ice Factory

6.6 MINERAL

The major mineral of the area is Antimony, which is an element and important metal; occurs as native metal in nature. The Ore of this metal is in the form of Sulphide or Oxide. Important Oxide minerals are valentinite (Sb_2S_3) Stibiconite ($\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$).

6.7 HANDICRAFTS

Balochistan is recognized for its intricate handicraft creation, which includes hand-made Balochi shoes, which are known throughout the country for their durability, distinctiveness, and delicacy, excellent mirror work, embroidery, and marble work and fine quality precious stones. The embroidery of Makran, mirror work of Quetta, Kalat, Khuzdar, Dera Bugti and Panjgor, gold thread embroidery of Zhob and Sibi, leatherwork of Marri area, Lehri, Kalat and Turbat, Rugs and Namdas of Chaghi, Kalat, Ziarat and Pishin, Saddle bags of Bugti and Marri Tribal areas, Pottery of Dhadar, Bhag and Gulistan, perfume making of Kharan, Makran and Kalat, Wood carving of Kalat, stone carving of Nushki, Dalbandin and Quetta, shoe making of Marri and Bugti areas, woolen products of Makran, Kharan and Chaghi, copper utensils of Loralai, jewellery of Makran, Khuzdar, Pishin, Loralai and Nushki and beadwork of Marri tribal areas. Chaman is known for its embroidery work especially on shalwar kameez worn by Pashto men. The local name for such embroidery is called shahbazi ghara (neck). Demand for such embroidery is relatively high these days and such work is sold at lucrative prices. Moreover Pashtun women tend to wear a standard Afghan outfit made up of trousers (partug), a dress with long sleeves and full skirt (kamiz), often a waistcoat (waskat) and some form of head covering (shal, chador). The trousers are usually made out of a contrasting color to the dress and a common color for the trousers is mid-green. Festival dresses are usually made out of silk or velvet in rich colors, especially deep red. Such work is in high demand these days.

6.8 TOURISM

Chaman has beautiful scenery especially majestic mountain range and koshak pass carved on mountain is worth visiting and experiencing. Chaman is also known for its traditional dishes likewise rosh, lassi and green tea is very famous and well known by people of Balochistan. Anyone visiting Chaman can't resist complimenting dishes prepared in Chaman district specifically dishes prepared with meat. However more needs to be done by the government to promote tourism in this district likewise tourist spots may be established and scenery of Chaman may be marketed to attract tourists from around the world.

6.9 SME PRESENCE IN THE DISTRICT

- Groceries shop
- Tailor shops
- Vegetable shops
- Filling stations
- Poultry farm
- Bakeries
- Meat shops
- Handicrafts

7. POTENTIAL SECTORS FOR INVESTMENT

- Pharmaceutical
- Agriculture machinery
- Fruit Processing
- Cattle farming
- Electric Appliance
- Tunnel farming
- Poultry farms
- Private schools and colleges
- Flour mills
- Ice factory
- Poultry farms
- Tailor shops

8. MAJOR ISSUES & POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

AGRICULTURE

Issues

- A main consideration in the agricultural sector is a lack of training.
- The major hindrance in any agricultural development planning effort is a lack of data.
- Crop diseases are common these days, but a lack of pesticides makes it challenging for farmers to archive optimal levels of production.
- Tube wells utilize power, but insufficient supply of electricity suppresses expansion in this sector.
- Access to finance
- Agricultural research is either non-existent or is not conveyed to farmers. As a result, the agricultural industry is underdeveloped

Recommendations

- Subsidized availability of certified seeds for all major crops can enhance productivity.
- The establishment of a district-level government farm may be considered.
- Farmers may be provided with loans on low markup rates.
- Surveys may be done in the district for agricultural sector
- Arrangements for field days, seminars, lecture on pest management and demonstration of improved package of technology plots by the concerned department will contribute positively.
- Agricultural loans on easy installments for purchase of farm implements can increase employment.
- Training may be provided to the farmers.
- Electricity demand can be addressed by supplying an adequate amount of electricity.

LIVESTOCK

Issues

- Current market premises have inadequate facilities of stock water points, feed stores and quarters, veterinary aid facilities, weighing scales and other such amenities.
- Lack of technology for manufacturing traditional and non-traditional
- Difficulty in access to finance
- Lack of awareness of the significance of hygienic milk in its various production, distribution, and consumption processes.
- Scarce source of water for livestock farming.
- Low milk yields per animal.
- Lack of veterinary and laboratory testing facilities for milk and feeds adulteration

- Ticks/Mites
- Worm-infestation

Recommendations

- Quality feed may be provided by the government on subsidized rates.
- Access to finance is yet another hurdle and may be resolved by providing loans on low markup rates
- Veterinary labs may be established by the government
- Training may be provided on how to cope with low milk yields per animal.

MINERAL

Issues

- Lack of exploration and reserve estimates.
- Poor infrastructure
- Lack of modern mining equipment
- Reliance on traditional mining techniques
- Poor Safety measures in the mining sector
- Access to finance
- Scarcity of skilled Labor

Recommendations

- Safety policies may be ensured
- Exploration licenses may be awarded to private companies
- Infrastructure may be provided by the government
- Trainings may be provided by the government to divert from traditional mining technique to modern mining techniques.
- Government may procure latest equipment for mining
- Training programs may be provided for the development of human resource.

Industries

Issues

- Institutional arrangements for the development of micro enterprises are not sufficient. For productive employment it is necessary to train the young people for particular enterprises, such as engineering workshops, carpentry, electronics, automobiles or mechanics.
- Female involvement in the industrial sector, excluding embroidery, is negligible. Most private sector businesses are small enterprises.
- The major issue in the way of industrial development is the non-availability of local entrepreneurs.

- Lack of capital is another problem impeding the development of small enterprises.

Recommendations

- Female involvement may be ensured through government intervention
- Entrepreneurial skills may be developed through training programs
- Loans on low markup rates may be provided
- Skilled human resource may be developed through training programs

TOURISM

Issues

- Chaman, due to its scenic beauty, holds potential for tourism but it cannot be explored unless federal and provincial governments take keen interest in the promotion of tourism.
- scarcity of infrastructure
- Lack of human resource
- Access to finance
- Law and order situation

Recommendations

- Awareness programs and promotion may be initiated to promote beauty of the district and domestic tourist may be encouraged to travel domestically,
- Infrastructure may be developed and road may constructed to natural sceneries of the district
- Training may be initiated for human resource development
- Law and order situation may be improved through government interventions
- Access to finance may be made possible.

9 BUSINESS SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS.

9.1 LOCAL BODIES/CHAMBERS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

The Chaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) is the country's major chamber, representing the majority of economic activities due to its location in the country's main industrial and commercial hub. It was founded in 2001 as a result of the merger of four trade associations in Chaman at the time, namely the Pakistan Merchants' Association, Buyers and Shippers' Chamber, Chamber of Commerce Pakistan, and All Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry. It was established under the Trade Organization Ordinance 1961, which governs the operations of the country's Trade Bodies. The CCCI is a member of the

Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and has two types of membership: general members and town associations. Chaman Chamber currently has roughly 22,000 direct members, including industrialists and traders. It comprises the Chaman Business and Industrial Community, which contributes more than 10% of national revenue and has a population of over one million people. The elected members of the Businessmen Group have successfully managed CCCI (NBG).

9.2 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

List of banks operating in Chaman.

Banks	Location	Contact
MCB Bank	Muslim Commercial Bank, Chaman Khasra No.1834, Taj Road, Chaman.	0826-613440
National Bank of Pakistan	National Bank, Tranch Road, chaman	0826-613204
Summit Bank	Khasra No. 1323 & 1324, Abdali Bazar, Dola Ram Road, Chaman.	0826 - 618137-39
Bank al Habib	Aminudin road, M.T, Nushki.	0825-872203
Bank Islamic	Khasra # 208 & 209, Mall Road, Chaman	0826-618032-9.
Soneri bank	Khasra No.1395/1396, chaman, Balochistan	0316-8226144.
Sindh Bank	Khasra No.1311 & 1312, Dularam Road, Chaman	0826-615415-7 0333-8514540 0336-4191061

10 USEFUL REFERENCES

DESIGNATION	STATION	PHONE NO
DIRECTOR GENERAL- LIVESTOCK& DAIRY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	QUETTA	081-9202564
DEPUTY SECRETARY- AGRICULTURE.	QUETTA	92-81-9201179.
DEPUTY SECRETARY (ADMIN) - AGRICULTURE.	QUETTA	92-81-9202332
SECTION OFFICER (COOPERATIVES)- AGRICULTURE	QUETTA	92-81-9201673
DIRECTOR(SPECIAL CROPS)	QUETTA	0300-9389432
ELECTION COMMISSION OFFICE	CHAMAN	0826-614361
(DISTRICT POLICE OFFICER)OFFICE CHAMAN	CHAMAN	0826-920003
DEPUTY DIRECTOR LIVESTOCK	CHAMAN	0826-615347 0336-3468653
DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER	CHAMAN	0826-615232
SDO QESCO	CHAMAN	0319-8088206
SDO QESCO CHAMAN-II	CHAMAN	0319-8088207

11 PICTORIAL VIEW OF CHAMAN

BAB-E-DOSTI CHAMAN



CHAMAN HIGHWAY



KOZAK PASS



CHAMAN

