

Khuzdar

District Economic Profile



Turn Potential into Profit

Small & Medium Enterprise Development Authority

Government of Pakistan

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1. INTRODUCTION TO SMEDA

The Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEDA) was established with the objective to provide fresh impetus to the economy through the launch of an aggressive SME support program.

Since its inception in October 1998, SMEDA had adopted a sectoral SME development approach. A few priority sectors were selected on the criterion of SME presence. In depth research was conducted and comprehensive development plans were formulated after identification of impediments and retardants. The all-encompassing sectoral development strategy involved recommending changes in the regulatory environment by taking into consideration other important aspects including financial aspects, niche marketing, technology up gradation and human resource development.

SMEDA has so far successfully formulated strategies for sectors including, fruits and vegetables, marble and granite, gems and jewelry, marine fisheries, leather and footwear, textiles, surgical instruments, urban transport and dairy. Whereas the task of SME development at a broader scale still requires more coverage and enhanced reach in terms of SMEDA's areas of operation.

Along with the sectoral focus a broad spectrum of business development services is also offered to the SMEs by SMEDA. These services include identification of viable business opportunities for potential SME investors. In order to facilitate these investors, SMEDA provides business guidance through its help desk services as well as development of project specific documents. These documents consist of information required to make well-researched investment decisions. Pre-feasibility studies and business plan development are some of the services provided to enhance the capacity of individual SMEs to exploit viable business opportunities in a better way.

This document is in the continuation of this effort to enable potential investors to make well-informed investment decisions.

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;

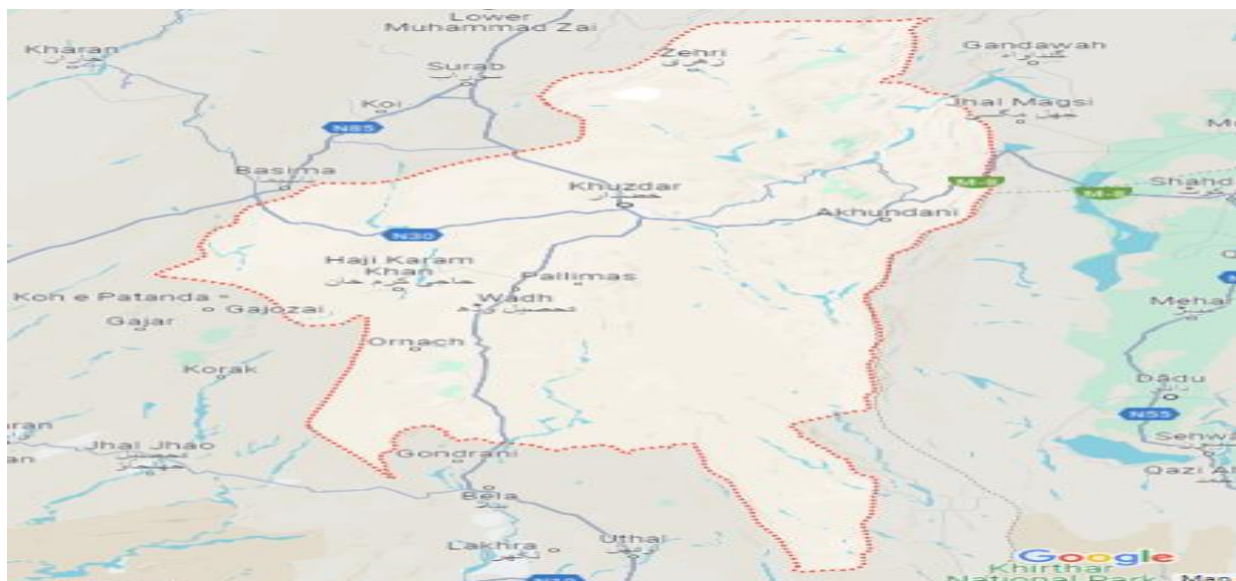
however, it is based upon certain assumptions, which may differ from case to case. The information has been provided on as is where is basis without any warranties or assertions as to the correctness or soundness thereof. Although, due care and diligence has been taken to compile this document, the contained 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.

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 TO KHUZDAR

4.1 Map of District Khuzdar



Map of District Khuzdar¹

4.2 Brief Introduction

Khuzdar is situated at the heart of Balochistan, serves as the capital of Khuzdar District. Originally part of the Kalat District, Khuzdar gained its district status on March 1, 1974. Nestled in a narrow valley, Khuzdar boasts an elevation of 1,237 meters (4,000 feet).

Strategically located on the National Highway, Khuzdar connects Quetta, Balochistan's capital, located approximately 300 kilometers away, to Karachi, the capital of Sindh, approximately 387 kilometers away. The former college, now a university, sprawls over 200 acres at the foothills.

In ancient times, Khuzdar was the capital of the province of Turan during Arab rule and served as an important cantonment and headquarters of the Arab General Commanding the Indian frontier. Later, it became part of the Kalat State. Notably, it witnessed a historic battle between the people of Jhalawan and the Khan of Kalat in 1869, resulting in the construction of a fort by the victorious Khan of Kalat, Mir

¹<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Khuzdar,+Balochistan/@27.2971298,66.499869,8z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x3eca3e5e7a2cdab1:0xb10758154e89d8d4!8m2!3d27.5757642!4d66.8081979!16zL20vMDlrOV96?entry=ttu>

Khudaidad Khan, made of painted pottery. The vicinity also holds the remnants of an old fort built by the Arabs.

Established as a separate district on March 1, 1974, Khuzdar comprises three tehsils: Khuzdar, Naal, and Wadh, further enhancing its administrative significance within Balochistan.²

4.3 History

Khuzdar was designated as a distinct district on March 1st, 1974, having formerly been a part of the Kalat district. Historically, Khuzdar served as the primary city of the Jhalawan state. The origins of Khuzdar, like much of Balochistan's history, are shrouded in mystery, with limited documented information available prior to the Arab conquests in the 7th century. It is speculated that portions of Alexander the Great's army may have traversed the region during his campaigns in the Indus Valley.

Positioned at a pivotal juncture, Khuzdar was strategically important for Arab invaders due to its central location, moderate climate, and convergence of trade routes from Multan, Makran, and Kandahar. The city was defended by a fortress, likely situated atop the Biradari (Shahi Bagh) peak. Arab poetical descriptions highlight the area's natural beauty and the allure it held for invaders. Throughout history, Khuzdar witnessed various rulers and conflicts. In 664 AD, Al-Manzar captured Khuzdar during the caliphate of Muawiya, marking Arab dominion over the region. Subsequently, it passed through the hands of different rulers, including Amir Nasir-ud-din Subuktegin and Mahmud Ghaznivi, before eventually falling under Mughal suzerainty in the 16th century.

During the 18th century, Khuzdar experienced significant influence from Hindu communities, indicating a diverse cultural landscape. By the 19th century, it became a focal point for British administrative efforts in the region, culminating in the appointment of a political agent in 1903.

On March 15th, 1974, Khuzdar attained district status, marking a milestone in its administrative evolution. Today, it serves as the divisional headquarters of Kalat and is situated approximately 302 kilometers from Quetta, standing at an elevation of 1,249

² <https://bhc.gov.pk/district-judiciary/khuzdar/introduction/history>

meters above sea level. The city's strategic location along the RCD highway facilitates connectivity with Iran and Karachi.

Khuzdar boasts several archaeological sites of significance, including the Meri Bhar or Palace Mound, believed to be the residence of the last Mongol governor. The remnants of ancient dams, tombs, and the Shahi Bagh offer glimpses into the city's storied past, juxtaposed with modern developments such as the striking mosque along the RCD highway, emblematic of contemporary Islamic architecture.³

4.4 Topography

The Khuzdar district stretches between 25° 44' 4" to 28° 51' 25" north latitudes and 65° 35' 35" to 67° 24' 8" east longitudes. It is surrounded by Kalat and Kharan districts to the north and northwest, Bolan, Jhal Magsi, and Lasbela districts, along with Larkana and Dadu districts of Sindh to the east, Lasbela district to the south, and Awaran district to the southwest.⁴

The district's borders extend to Kalat district in the north and northwest, while Kachhi, Larkana, and Dadu districts mark its eastern boundaries. To the south lie Lasbela district, and to the southwest and west, Awaran district. Characterized predominantly by mountainous terrain, the district comprises a multitude of ridges and valleys of varying breadth. Prominent hill ranges include Jhalawan, Moda, Pab, and Kirthar. Within the district, the primary rivers are Moola, Mosina, Nal, and Kalachi.

4.5 Population

Following are the population details of khuzdar district:

ADMN - UNIT	POPULATION			
	Households	Population 2023	Population 2017	Growth Rate
Khuzdar District	161,594	997,214	798,896	3.78

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics⁵

³ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/271525676_Khuzdar_A_District_Profile

⁴ <https://pakistanalmanac.com/balochistan-khuzdar/>

⁵ <https://www.pbs.gov.pk/sites/default/files/population/2023/Balochistan.pdf>

4.6 Climate

Khuzdar is at the apex of a narrow valley at an elevation of 1,237 metres (4,058 ft). Despite this altitude, Khuzdar like most of Balochistan has an arid climate (Köppen BWh) with very low and erratic rainfall. Unlike most parts of the province, the heaviest average rainfall comes from the Asian monsoon in July and August, though this rainfall tends to be very erratic and in many summers there is no significant rain at all.

Based on existing meteorological records, Khuzdar climate is typically characterized as having "warm summers and mild winters." With an average annual rainfall exceeding 250 mm, the region exhibits semi-arid conditions. Prevailing winds primarily include the northerly "goorich" and the southern/southeastern "nambi." The decline of goorich and garro winds during summer often leads to wheat crop rust and increases the likelihood of fevers among residents. Conversely, the nambi and gazgi winds signal impending rainfall. It's worth noting that the southern region of the district tends to experience higher temperatures compared to its northern counterpart.

4.7 Education

According to recent data from GoB and EMIS sources, the number of schools in district khuzdar is given below:

Schools in District Khuzdar	
	Total
Primary	641
Middle	64
High	36
HS	1

Source: EMIS⁶

Of the data mentioned above, 70% pertains to boys' schools, 29% to girls' schools, and 1% to co-educational schools.

⁶ EMIS. (2017). Education Management Information System, Education Department, Government of Balochistan.

5. ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF KHUZDAR

The district serves as a significant hub for both agriculture and mineral resources. Its fertile land sustains diverse crops, while the presence of valuable minerals such as barite, chromite, granite, copper, manganese, and marble enhances its economic value. Despite these natural advantages, Khuzdar development has not matched its potential.

Agriculture remains the cornerstone of Khuzdar economy, with crops like wheat, maize, and rice playing pivotal roles in driving economic activity. Livestock breeding, including cattle, goats, and sheep rearing, also contributes substantially to local livelihoods.

The construction sector serves as a vital source of employment, offering opportunities for skilled and unskilled workers alike. Strategic investment in infrastructure development, including roads and buildings, not only stimulates economic growth but also enhances living standards for residents.

Additionally, handicrafts and embroidery represent important sectors contributing to the local economy. These traditional crafts involve the creation of unique, handmade items that find markets both domestically and beyond, particularly in urban centers like Quetta and Karachi. Products such as embroidered apparel, caps, vests, and locally crafted footwear known as chawat showcase the district's artisanal heritage.⁷

5.1 Agriculture Sector

The district lies within a temperate zone, encompassing a total cultivated area of 86,006 hectares. Prominent crops with significant potential include wheat, barley, fodder, sunflower, sorghum, mung beans, mash beans, moth, onion, various vegetables, melons, coriander, and cotton. Agriculture represents a significant sector in Khuzdar, showcasing strength through the cultivation of various crops such as wheat, rice, jowar, barley, pulses, and vegetables. The region boasts fertile land; however, its agricultural potential is constrained by limited irrigation water availability, resulting in a relatively small amount of arable land. The agricultural calendar in

⁷ <https://www.balochistanvoices.com/2023/03/the-khuzdar-paradox-a-city-rich-in-possibility-poor-in-investment/>

Khuzdar revolves around two main cultivation seasons: Rabi and Kharif. Rabi crops, including wheat, barley, cumin, and masoor, are sown during winter and harvested in early summer. Conversely, the Kharif season sees the cultivation of fruits, rice, jowar, bajra, moong, mash, moth, onion, melons, and guar seed. Furthermore, vegetable and fodder production occurs consistently throughout the year, contributing to the agricultural diversity and sustenance of the local economy. Following are the details;

KHUZDAR DISTRICT
AREA , PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF ALL CROPS
2021-22

CROPS	Area in Hectares			Production in Tonnes			Yield in Kgs / Ha:		
	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Total	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Total	Irrig:	Un-Irrig:	Average
RABI CROPS									
Wheat	50,400	2,016	52,416	128,016	2,318	130,334	2,540	1,150	2,487
Barley	1,783	-	1,783	2,372	-	2,372	1,330	-	1,330
Rape Seed/ Mustard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mutter Pulse	55	-	55	27	-	27	491	-	491
Masoor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	1,835	-	1,835	27,168	-	27,168	14,805	-	14,805
Fruits	91	-	91	685	-	685	7,527	-	7,527
Fodder	4,201	-	4,201	113,151	-	113,151	26,934	-	26,934
Canola	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sunflower	46	-	46	60	-	60	1,304	-	1,304
Safflower	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Rabi Crops	58,411	2,016	60,427	271,479	2,318	273,797			
KHARIF CROPS									
Rice	1,185	-	1,185	2,954	-	2,954	2,493	-	2,493
Sorghum (Jowar)	285	85	370	314	60	374	1,102	706	1,011
Millet (Bajra)	215	45	260	207	24	231	963	533	888
Maize	465	130	595	475	108	583	1,022	831	980
Sesamum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Castor seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moong	727	5	732	669	3	672	920	600	918
Mash	1,260	230	1,490	1,512	138	1,650	1,200	600	1,107
Moth	664	-	664	997	-	997	1,502	-	1,502
Fruits	3,010	-	3,010	24,554	-	24,554	-	-	-
Onion	5,360	-	5,360	107,827	-	107,827	20,117	-	20,117
Potato	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	2,594	-	2,594	33,972	-	33,972	13,096	-	13,096
Melons	830	-	830	15,373	-	15,373	18,522	-	18,522
Chillies	475	-	475	632	-	632	1,331	-	1,331
Fodder	767	-	767	20,709	-	20,709	27,000	-	27,000
Coriander	79	-	79	48	-	48	608	-	608
Garlic	38	-	38	304	-	304	-	-	-
Guar Seed	20	-	20	13	-	13	650	-	650
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sugarcane	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cotton	7,110	-	7,110	10,220	-	10,220	1,437	-	1,437
Total Kharif Crops	25,084	495	25,579	220,780	333	221,113			
GRAND TOTAL	83,495	2,511	86,006	492,259	2,651	494,910			-

*Source: Agricultural Statistics of Balochistan (2021-22)

KHUZDAR DISTRICT

AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF ALL FRUITS 2021-22

FRUITS	AREA IN HECTARES			PRODUCTI ON IN TONNES	YIELD IN KGs / HECTARE
	BEARING	NON - BEARING	TOTAL		
RABI FRUITS					
Citrus	87	0	87	666	7655
Banana	0	0	0	0	0
Papaya	0	0	0	0	0
Guava	4	0	4	19	4750
Chikoo	0	0	0	0	0
Coconut	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rabi Fru	0	0	0	0	0
Total Rabi Fru	91	0	91	685	
KHARIF FRUITS					
Almond	114	189	303	923	8096
Apple	802	59	861	10827	13500
Appricot	135	37	172	1312	9719
Grapes	77	43	120	763	9909
Peach	17	45	62	138	8118
Plum	90	78	168	1215	13500
Pear	0	0	0	0	0
Pomegranate	132	358	490	2865	21705
Cherry	0	0	0	0	0
Pistachio	4	0	4	22	5500
Dates	391	185	576	5279	13501
Mangoes	0	0	0	0	0
Fig	0	0	0	0	0
Olive	69	72	141	921	13348
Loquat	0	0	0	0	0
Other Kharif F	47	66	113	289	6149
Total Kharif F	1878	1132	3010	24554	
GRAND TOTAL	1969	1132	3101	25239	

*Source: Agricultural Statistics of Balochistan (2021-22)

KHUZDAR DISTRICT AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF ALL VEGETABLES 2021-22

VEGETABLES	AREA IN HECTARES	PRODUCTION IN TONNES	YIELD IN Kgs /HECTARE
RABI VEGETABLES			
Cabbage	258	3560	13798
Carrot	249	4875	19578
Cauliflower	197	3230	16396
Peas	317	3341	10539
Raddish	165	2757	16709
Turnip	184	3133	17027
Spinach	86	1479	17198
Beet Root	0	0	0
Broad Beans	0	0	0
Rabi Tomatoes	0	0	0
Other Rabi Vegetable	379	4793	12646
TOTAL RABI VEGETABLES	1836	27188	
KHARIF VEGETABLES			
Lady Finger	301	3703	12302
Tinda	153	2004	13098
Brinjal	213	3323	15601
Bitter Gourd	51	719	14098
Bottle Gourd	54	772	14296
Pumpkin	43	821	19093
Luffa	45	563	12511
Kharif Tomatoes	201	3357	16701
Potato	0	0	0
Cucumber	231	3477	15052
Other Kharif Vegetab	1302	15233	11700
TOTAL KHARIF VEGETABLES	2684	38872	
GRAND TOTAL	4428	61140	

Source: Agricultural Statistics of Balochistan (2021-22)

5.2 Livestock Sector

Khuzdar District in Balochistan holds significant potential in the livestock sector. Regions like Nal, Zehri, Wadh, and Moola exhibit favorable conditions for livestock development, particularly cattle farming, sheep farming and goat farming, due to the abundant production of fodder in these areas. Livestock rearing is deeply ingrained in the local culture and economy, with nearly every household engaged in the practice to some extent. Women and children also play active roles in livestock management, further emphasizing its integral nature within the community. Following are the details:

Livestock Census – Khuzdar District	
Description	Population
Cattle	236,944
Buffalos	20,949
Sheep	1,176,462
Goat	1,249,710
Camels	28,432
Horses	1,306
Mules	753
Asses	54,394
Total	2,768,950
Poultry	405,812

Source: Livestock Department, GoB⁸

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<https://livestock.gob.pk/Documents/Notification/Notif129PROJECTEDCENSUSLIVESTOCK2022in36DISTRICTS.pdf>

5.3 Mining Sector

The mining sector in Khuzdar, Balochistan, represents a significant aspect of the district's economic landscape. Rich in mineral resources, Khuzdar is home to various mining operations that contribute to local and regional economic growth. Key minerals found in the region include barite, chromite, granite, marble, lead, zinc and building stones, among others⁹. These resources not only hold intrinsic value but also serve as vital raw materials for various industries, including construction, manufacturing, and infrastructure development. The mining sector in Khuzdar offers employment opportunities to local communities and contributes to government revenue through royalties and taxes.

In the current scenario, mining operations in Khuzdar primarily rely on indigenous technology, employing tools such as trolleys, pick-axes, hoes, and spades. However, certain leaseholders have adopted modern mining techniques to enhance efficiency and productivity. The utilization of generators for tasks such as pulling and loading heavy minerals is a common practice. Technical expertise and guidance are provided by entities such as the Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation (PMDC) and the Directorate of Minerals. Following extraction, all mined products are typically transported directly to markets in Karachi and Punjab, often facilitated by intermediaries. The demand for minerals remains robust in the Karachi market, driving continued interest and activity in the mining sector.

5.4 Industry and Manufacturing

Khuzdar lacks significant industrial presence, with only a handful of cottage industries operating in the region. These cottage industries primarily focus on local embroidery work, engaging women and girls in these activities. However, the growth of industry and manufacturing in Khuzdar is hindered by various factors, including the absence of essential infrastructure and marketing networks, limited access to micro-credit facilities, and a shortage of skilled labor. Small enterprises in the area are carpet centers, woodwork and mazri making. Women and girls do Balochi embroidery work. This embroidery work is sold on the markets in local market and in Quetta.

⁹ <https://gsp.gov.pk/>

There exists a modest number of marble processing enterprises, employing predominantly traditional techniques for the refinement of dimensional stones. These establishments, while limited in number, play a crucial role in the local economy by engaging in the processing of marble using methods passed down through generations.

5.5 Trade

Agricultural goods and minerals are shipped to Karachi and Quetta for exportation, while the majority of consumer goods are imported from Karachi, Quetta, and multiple cities in Punjab. Additionally, some goods illicitly brought in from Iran through Kech and Panjgur find their way into local markets. The embroidery industry holds promise as a potential export commodity if effectively coordinated, offering significant benefits to skilled craftswomen in the region.

5.6 Tourism

District Khuzdar is a rough diamond in Pakistan's landscape that is often overlooked despite its immense potential for tourism. As the largest province, Balochistan is brimming with natural beauty and stunning landmarks that remain largely unexplored. Some of the prime tourist destinations to explore in Khuzdar, Balochistan, include the captivating Moola Chotok Waterfall, the mystical Cave of Lahoot Lamakan, and the scenic Charo Machi Waterfalls.¹⁰

5.6.1 Moola Chotok Waterfall

Moola Chotok, is a hidden ravine in the folds of the Khuzdar District in Balochistan, Pakistan. It is a breathtaking natural wonder waiting to be discovered. Located approximately 105 kilometres northeast of Khuzdar city, this enchanting oasis sits at an elevation of 1,237 metres, surrounded by towering cliffs that add to its mystique. The centrepiece of Moola Chotok is the cascading waterfall, known as Chotok, which is one of the largest waterfalls in Sub Tehsil Moola. The area is perfect for camping, offering a tranquil escape from the hustle and bustle of city life.

¹⁰ <https://www.graana.com/blog/a-peep-at-khuzdar-balochistan/>

5.6.2 Cave of Lahoot Lamakan

Lahoot Lamakan, a sacred cave located in Balochistan, Pakistan, is a place steeped in mysticism and spirituality. This cave holds great significance for Shia Muslim pilgrims, drawing thousands of them each year. According to the chronicles of Sufis in Sindh, a Sufi named Bilawal Shah Noorani left Thatta in the late fifteenth century due to divine frenzy. He ended up in the valley where Lahoot Lamakan is situated, taking over the orchards of Gokal Seth. The site has since become a place of pilgrimage, with devotees embarking on a fortnight-long journey from the shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar Sehwan, stopping at various shrines along the way.

Although Shah Noorani is revered at the site, the primary focus of veneration is Ali, the cousin of Muhammad and the first Shia Imam. Allegedly, inside the cave lies a stone believed to bear the image of Ali's camel. Additionally, a footprint, believed to be Ali's, is said to have been cast when he dismounted from his horse to fight "Gokul Deo," with another footprint attributed to the hoof of his horse.

The cave of Lahoot Lamakan is not just a physical location; it is a place where history, spirituality, and legend intertwine, making it a must-visit for those interested in exploring the mystical aspects of Balochistan's heritage.

5.6.3 Charo Machi Waterfalls

Amidst the arid mountains of Balochistan lies a hidden gem that defies the desert landscape – the Charo Machi Waterfalls. Located 45 kilometres southeast of Khuzdar, Pakistan, this natural wonder is a testament to the beauty and diversity of the region. The journey to Charo Machi is an adventure in itself, with rugged pathways leading to the waterfall. Off-road enthusiasts will relish the challenge of navigating through the untamed terrain to reach this picturesque destination.

The area surrounding Charo Machi has recently gained popularity among both local and international tourists for its oasis-like setting. The waterfall, emerging from a swift-moving stream, is the main attraction, offering visitors the opportunity to swim, dive, or simply soak in the natural beauty of the turquoise waters. Charo Machi Waterfalls is a true marvel of nature, showcasing the raw and untouched beauty of Balochistan. It is a must-visit destination for adventure seekers and nature lovers alike, offering a glimpse into the stunning landscapes that this region has to offer.

5.6.4 Pir Ibrahim Waterfall

The Pir Ibrahim Waterfall is a natural deep water pond nestled in the heart of Khuzdar District, Southern Balochistan, Pakistan, approximately 3 hours from Khuzdar. Known for its mineral-rich waters, cascading down from the mountains, it draws tourists from Karachi and Balochistan seeking nature's marvels. Accessible only by 4x4 jeeps due to the lack of continuous roads, the journey offers a unique off-road experience. Unlike Moola Chotok, no trekking is needed; camping near the waterfall enhances the experience. With deep water and a shorter jeep travel time of 3 hours compared to Moola Chotok's 5 hours, Pir Ibrahim offers a more convenient adventure. Activities include waterfall visits, swimming with life jackets, camping, bonfires, and stargazing amidst the unpolluted night sky, creating a mesmerizing experience.

5.7 Handicraft

The district boasts a distinct expertise in Balochi embroidery, with its intricately crafted shirts and caps finding their way to markets or being sold to intermediaries who transport them to larger cities like Karachi and Quetta, fetching higher prices. Additionally, carpet weaving and the production of renowned local footwear known as chawats are prevalent artisanal endeavors in Khuzdar. However, despite the popularity of these crafts, they currently lack organization. With access to training programs, micro-financing options, and improved marketing facilities, there is considerable potential for these activities to evolve into a structured economic sector, fostering growth and sustainability within the district.

6. POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR INVESTMENT

Khuzdar district offers various investment opportunities across different sectors. While the district may face certain challenges, including its predominantly rural character, there are several sectors where investment potential exists.

6.1 Mining and Processing Industry

Unlocking the potential of natural resources presents an opportunity to establish a modern mining and processing plants for dimensional stones and minerals. This venture aims to harness abundant stone reservoirs, contributing to economic growth and diversification.

By investing in a modern dimensional stone processing plant, investors can capitalize on rich mineral deposits, adding substantial value to local economies. This initiative meets domestic demands while also opening avenues for lucrative export opportunities.

The project's strategic location ensures proximity to raw materials, minimizing logistical costs and maximizing operational efficiency. Moreover, it aligns with development goals, fostering sustainable economic development and job creation.

Investors stand to benefit through revenue generation, market expansion, and contribution to local development. With the right investment, regions can emerge as key players in the mining and processing industry, driving prosperity and growth for years to come.

6.2 Solar Power Generation Plant

Setting up a solar power generation plant to harness the abundant sunlight in Khuzdar for electricity production. This project can help address energy shortages and promote clean energy.

6.3 Agricultural Processing Units

Khuzdar District presents compelling investment opportunities in agricultural processing units aimed at adding value to locally sourced produce. Among the proposed ventures are modern facilities for olive oil extraction, wheat milling, and processing centers for various agricultural commodities. These initiatives capitalize on Khuzdar's agricultural potential and favorable climatic conditions, offering investors a chance to tap into the burgeoning market for value-added agricultural products.

The establishment of an olive oil extraction facility stands out as a promising endeavor, leveraging Khuzdar's conducive environment for olive cultivation. With advanced machinery and stringent quality control measures, this plant will cater to the growing demand for premium olive oil both locally and beyond. Additionally, investing in a wheat milling plant addresses the region's need for quality flour products while supporting local farmers and ensuring food security.

Beyond olives and wheat, there are ample opportunities to diversify processing capabilities. Setting up facilities for fruit and vegetable processing, dairy processing, and other agricultural commodities prevalent in Khuzdar will further enrich the local

economy. These ventures not only add value to perishable produce but also create employment opportunities across various stages of processing, from production to distribution.

6.4 Livestock Farming and Dairy Development

Khuzdar District presents ripe opportunities for investment in modern livestock farming techniques, with a focus on goat, sheep, cattle, and camel farming, alongside fattening initiatives. By establishing dairy farms for milk production, investors can not only bolster livestock productivity but also invigorate the dairy industry within the district.

Investing in modern livestock farming techniques tailored to Khuzdar's unique environment and agricultural landscape is paramount. The district's conducive climate and ample grazing lands make it ideal for raising goats, sheep, cattle, and camels. By implementing advanced breeding, feeding, and healthcare practices, investors can enhance the overall productivity and quality of livestock, thereby improving the livelihoods of local farmers and meeting the growing demand for meat and dairy products in the region.

Moreover, establishing dairy farms for milk production serves as a cornerstone for the development of the dairy industry in Khuzdar. With proper infrastructure, including modern barns, milking stations, and processing facilities, investors can ensure the efficient collection, processing, and distribution of milk. This not only provides a consistent and high-quality supply of dairy products to meet local demand but also opens avenues for value-added dairy products such as cheese, yogurt, and butter, catering to diverse consumer preferences.

Investing in livestock farming and dairy production in Khuzdar District offers multifaceted benefits. Beyond improving livestock productivity and supporting the local dairy industry, these initiatives contribute to rural development by creating employment opportunities and stimulating economic growth. Additionally, they promote sustainable agricultural practices and food security, ensuring a steady supply of nutritious meat and dairy products to the local population.

6.5 Tourism Infrastructure Development

Khuzdar District boasts remarkable natural wonders, including the scenic Moola Chotok, Pir Ibrahim, Charo Machi, and other captivating sites, presenting a prime

opportunity for developing tourism infrastructure. By investing in hotels, resorts, guest houses, and recreational facilities, stakeholders can unlock the tourism potential of Khuzdar, attracting both domestic and international tourists while catalyzing economic growth within the district.

The development of tourism infrastructure, particularly in proximity to renowned attractions like Moola Chotok, pir chattal and Charo Machi, is poised to elevate Khuzdar as a premier destination for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers. Strategically located hotels, resorts, and guest houses will not only provide comfortable accommodations but also offer immersive experiences that showcase the rich cultural heritage and natural beauty of the region.

Investors can leverage Khuzdar's distinctive landscape and cultural assets to design recreational facilities and eco-friendly tours that cater to a diverse range of interests. Activities such as hiking, camping, rock climbing, bird watching, and cultural tours can be curated to provide visitors with unforgettable experiences while fostering sustainable tourism practices that preserve the environment and benefit local communities.

The development of tourism infrastructure in Khuzdar District holds immense potential for driving economic diversification and job creation. By attracting a steady stream of tourists, these initiatives stimulate demand for goods and services, supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs. Additionally, tourism revenue contributes to the preservation of cultural heritage sites and the conservation of natural resources, ensuring the long-term sustainability of Khuzdar's tourism industry.

6.6 Healthcare Facilities Expansion

Expanding healthcare facilities by building hospitals, clinics, and diagnostic centers to improve healthcare access for the local population. This project can address healthcare gaps and improve public health outcomes.

6.7 Education Infrastructure Development

Constructing schools, colleges, and IT training centers to enhance educational opportunities in Khuzdar. This project can contribute to human capital development and improve literacy rates and overall economy of the khuzdar district.

6.8 Information Technology (IT) Hub

Establishing an IT hub with facilities for software development, IT training, and business process outsourcing (BPO) services. This project can create employment opportunities for local youth and promote IT entrepreneurship in the khuzdar district and is the demand of this era.

6.9 Embroidery

Investing in embroidery businesses holds immense promise in Khuzdar District, where traditional craftsmanship thrives. Just like Makran division, embroidery is a cherished handicraft here, showcasing the exceptional skills and craftsmanship of local women. Primarily focused on women's clothing, embroidery work adds intricate beauty and cultural richness to personal attire. Moreover, skilled artisans often receive orders to create dresses for other women, highlighting the demand for their expertise.

Expanding into an embroidery business in Khuzdar can yield high-quality embroidered products including clothing, handbags, and home décor items. The rich cultural heritage and skilled workforce offer a fertile ground for producing exquisite embroidered pieces that cater to both local and broader markets. Additionally, diversifying the business to include textile products like bedspreads and cushions further amplifies its potential for success.

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7. USEFUL WEB LINKS

Small & Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA)	www.smeda.org.pk
Government of Pakistan	www.pakistan.gov.pk
Ministry of Industries & Production	www.moip.gov.pk
Ministry of Education, Training & Standards in Higher Education	http://moptt.gov.pk
Government of Punjab	www.punjab.gov.pk
Government of Sindh	www.sindh.gov.pk
Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk
Government of Balochistan	www.balochistan.gov.pk
Government of Gilgit Baltistan	www.gilgitbaltistan.gov.pk
Government of Azad Jamu Kashmir	www.ajk.gov.pk
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)	www.tdap.gov.pk
Security Commission of Pakistan (SECP)	www.secp.gov.pk
Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI)	www.fpcci.com.pk
State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)	www.sbp.org.pk
Punjab Small Industries Corporation	www.psic.gop.pk
Sindh Small Industries Corporation	www.ssic.gos.pk
Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company (PHDEC)	www.phdec.org.pk
Punjab Vocational Training Council (PVTC)	www.pvtc.gop.pk
Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA)	www.tevta.org
Pakistan Readymade Garment Technical Training Institute	www.prgmea.org/prgtti/
Livestock & Dairy Development Department, Government of Punjab.	www.livestockpunjab.gov.pk
Punjab Industrial Estates (PIE)	www.pie.com.pk
Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development and Management Company (FIEDMC)	www.fiedmc.com.pk

8. PICTORIAL VIEW

