

# PHMA urges govt to support running textile units instead of 'dead' ones

## RECORDER REPORT

KARACHI: Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers & Exporters Association (PHMA) on Saturday urged the government to support the operational textile manufacturing units instead of reviving the 'dead' industrial plants to avoid production and export slump.

"This idea of rejuvenating the dead textile units at the cost of ailing units will hit the export oriented industries since the country is short of gas and power supplies," said chief coordinator PHMA, Javed Bilwani on Saturday.

He warned the government of mass unemployment that is feared to result in an economic and social distress across the country. He urged the government to drop the proposal to resurrect the dead units, urging the federal commerce ministry to help the struggling industrial setups.

"The government should first provide adequate power and gas supplies to the operational export-oriented industri-

al units to create some 200,000 new jobs and boost textile export to the US by around \$2 billion," he maintained.

Bilwani said the government should build the much-needed infrastructure for the export-oriented textile sector to help the country come out of the economic crisis. He suggested the government to focus on the dead units' revival after solving the problems of operational units.

"The government claim to revive the closed textile units to enhance annual export to the US by \$1 billion and create 100,000 jobs undoubtedly appears promising but all this requires proper infrastructure, adequate supply of gas and electricity to the operational industries," he added.

He said these operational industries continue to struggle to meet the global buyers' commitments in the wake of growing power and gas cuts, besides the textile industry requires a proper infrastructure and resolution of its problems, Bilwani said.

