ESHAWAR - Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) President Maqsood Amwar Per- vaiz has voiced deep concern at the snail-paced clearance of export goods trucks at Torkham. Long queues of trucks and containers from the Ring Road in Peshawar to Torkham could be seen as the clearance process was so slow, he told a meeting in Peshawar.

He said there was a lack of facilities on the other side of the border as well, depletion that the government and relevant departments were reluctant to resolve the issue amicably. Amwar, noted with concern: “This inaction is negatively impacting the economy by affecting exports to Afghanistan and other countries.”

The SCCI head said exports to Afghanistan via Torkham had witnessed a decline despite the Pak-Afghan border staying open round-the-clock. Amwar said the business community and exporters had never faced such a situation even at the time when the Torkham border used to remain open for eight hours. He lamented exports had fallen instead of going up. Food and perishable items loaded onto trucks/containers were going rotten, inflicting huge financial losses on the exporters, he said.

No government department was ready to take responsibility and address the issue, he deplored, saying that the trade volume between Pakistan and Afghanistan was already low.

The SCCI president urged Prime Minister Imran Khan, his Advisor on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood and other relevant officials to take effective measures to resolve the issue. (Pajhwok)

KHOST CITY - Hundreds of people have been earning money by removing pine nuts from pine cones in southeastern Khost province.

The pine nut cones are unloaded at an open ground west of the Administrative Complex in Khost City to dry them up under the sun that separates cones and pine seeds.

Hundreds of poor women, men and children are engaged collecting the empty cones before they are sold. (More on P4)...(3)

KABUL - The price of gold has increased while that of other items remains steady during the outgoing week in capital Kabul, market sources said Saturday.

Haji Fawad Ahmad Salehzada, a jeweler in Timor Shahee area of Kabul, told Pajhwok Afghan News that the price of one gram of Arabian gold was increased from 2,950 Afghans to 3,000 Afghans and the same quantity of Russian variety from 2,400afs to 2,500afs.

However, the prices of food items remain stable. In food items, the price of flour increased. (More on P4)...(4)

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