

the original capital of

Pakistan until the construction of Islamabad and is the location of the Port of Karachi and Port Bin Qasim, one of the region's largest and busiest ports. After the independence of Pakistan, the city's population increased dramatically when hundreds of thousands of Urdu speaking migrants or Muhajirs from India, East Pakistan (later Bangladesh) and other parts of South Asia came to settle in the city.

After the Creation of Pakistan Karachi Development Authority was being established for the development of city and different residential and commercial was launched for the downtrodden and marginalized communities.

Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui Director General of Karachi Development Authority (KDA), who before joining the KDA



# Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui

## Director General KDA

Karachi is the largest city, main seaport and the financial capital of Pakistan, and the capital of the province of Sindh. With a city population of 18.5 million, Karachi is one of the world's largest cities in terms of population, 13th largest urban agglomeration (2006), the 4th largest metropolitan area in the world, and the 2nd largest city within the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. It is Pakistan's premier centre of banking, industry, and trade. Karachi is home to Pakistan's largest corporations, including those that are involved in textiles, shipping, automotive industry, entertainment, the arts, fashion, advertising, publishing, software development and medical research. The city is a major hub of higher education in South Asia and the wider Islamic world. Karachi is ranked as a Beta world city.

Karachi enjoys its prominent position partly because of its location on a bay, making it the financial capital of the country. It is one of the fastest growing cities in the world. It was

had served in various capacities for the government of Sindh. In this interview, Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui talks about the city's plans, current and the likely revision, its infrastructural needs, the timelines during which some of the projects will be completed, and also sheds light on the reasons behind slow progress. During Interview he said that we would like to get down to the specifics of city in terms of the targets and timelines for the city's hard and soft infrastructure but before that we would like to know the population projections for Karachi.

Director General said that After the creation of KDA in 1975, 43 schemes have been successfully completed in which 1500 flats are also included and different projects also given in Gulshan Iqbal, North Karachi, Sarjani, Clifton, Korangi, Shah latif Town, Federal B area, Nazim Abad and North Nazim Abad while four New projects will be launched very soon. He said that first project would be given in KDA scheme one, Second in Sarjani Sector 7 B, third in Federal B



It is necessary to create an effective

planning agency for Karachi. Proposals for such an agency have already been put forward and have been notified. This would be a priority.

Area Block 1, fourth in Korangi Sector 10, in which flats and shops are included.

Answering regarding China Cutting Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui said that China-cutting would not be allowed on KDA land while a strong mechanism is being formed for the protection of land property while monitoring system has been introduced on evicted land and if any officer involved in this act than legal action will be taken against him. He said that 80 marriage lawn have been demolished which was illegally built on KDA land

Director General said that for solving the financial problems of department as in this regards additional grant of 60 million demanded from provincial Government as it is our top priorities to solve the issues of employees. Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui said that we are looking the problems of contractual employees while legal action have been taken against Ghost employees. Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui said that we are going to launch a new project on 23 acre KDA land which is in pipe factory. He said that it is KDAs mandate to provide a residential and commercial schemes for the poor citizens. I would appreciate Sindh Government for their contribution in the progress. The provincial government has also been of great help.

Answering to a question regarding Development schemes Mr. Samiuddin Siddiqui said that for the development of social sector in City, KDA would started several basic infrastructural. This includes construction of residential and commercial schemes, Sports Grounds etc.

About one-third of Karachis housing demand is met through the formal sector. This demand supply gap is demystifying existing settlements, creating katchi abadis and vulnerable populations, pushing the poor to the city fringes and increasing the rich-poor divide. It is also increasing transport problems and creating difficulties for the poor in accessing health and education facilities

