

AJK Finance Minister Qasim Majeed advises IRD to broaden tax net, improving revenue collection on latest stipulated lines:



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Altaf Hamid Rao. MIRPUR (AJK): November 27: Azad Jammu Kashmir Minister for the State

Inland Revenue and Finance, Ch. Qasim Majeed has advised the IRD, the state levies relising

department to broaden the tax net and improving revenue collection, including registering new

taxpayers, ensuring tax registration of markets, brands, restaurants, shopping malls, factories, and other business units, and facilitating industries by providing guidance on tax laws to generate better revenue, it was officially said..

He was chairing a high level meeting of the department during a detailed visit to the South Zone of the Inland Revenue Department in Mirpur on Wednesday, a spokesman of the department told our Special Jammu Kashmir state Correspondent Altaf Hamid Rao here on Thursday.

The Minister reaffirmed his commitment to establishing a strong, fair, and transparent revenue system essential for the economic self-reliance of Azad Kashmir.

Qasim emphasized that through modern technology and effective reforms, the Inland Revenue system will be strengthened, made transparent, and more citizen-friendly, he added.

The minister was briefed comprehensively on the current revenue situation, expansion of the tax net, and departmental performance. The visit was held under the special directives of the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Faisal Mumtaz Rathore.

The meeting was attended by senior departmental officials as well as officers and inspectors from Mirpur, Bhimber, and Kotli. The Commissioner of Inland Revenue, South Zone, Syed Ansar Ali, provided the Minister with a detailed briefing on the department's operational mechanisms,

revenue targets, tax collection procedures, and the performance of field formations. He also highlighted challenges faced by the department, including technical and legal complexities in taxation, obstacles in achieving revenue targets, administrative issues of field staff, shortage of buildings, vehicles, and financial resources, as well as promotion and HR-related matters.

The Minister of Inland Revenue appreciated the overall performance and efforts of the department, emphasizing that while the work of officers and staff is commendable, continuous revenue growth is essential for the sustainable development of the state. He stressed that expanding the tax net is a critical need of the time, and all field formations must play an active and effective role in this regard.

He also emphasized making tax filing and payment processes easier and fostering a friendly environment to restore taxpayers' confidence.

Furthermore, the Minister assured the prompt resolution of departmental issues, instructing that all matters related to buildings, official vehicles, promotions, and financial requirements be processed immediately according to regulations. He held separate meetings with officers and staff to hear their concerns, technical challenges, and operational difficulties, assuring full government support