



POST EVENT REPORT

THE INAUGURAL PAKISTAN ELECTRIC VEHICLES CONFERENCE 21ST DECEMBER 2024



Table of Contents

Authors.....	2
Executive Summary.....	3
Chief Organizer's Note.....	4
1. Introduction.....	5
1.1. Conference Overview.....	6
1.2. List of speakers.....	7
2. Key takeaways from speeches.....	8
2.1 Dr. Aazir Khan.....	8
2.2. Sherry Rehman.....	9
2.3. Zafar Masud.....	10
3. Panel Discussions.....	11
3.1. Finance and Policy Panel Discussion.....	11
Recommendations.....	14
Suggested Actions for Stakeholders to Enhance EV Adoption:.....	15
3.2. Industry and Innovation Panel Discussion.....	16
Key Takeaways.....	16
Recommendations.....	18
Conclusion.....	19
4. Closing Remarks.....	20
5. Conclusion.....	22
Appendices.....	24

Authors

Strategic Guidance



Bilal Hussain
Editorial & Research
Lead, Invest 2 Innovate



Yasir Husain
Director, Climate Action
Center Karachi (CAC)

Editor & Authors



Warda Mumtaz
Researcher, CAC



Hussain Rizvi
EV Lead, CAC



Javeria Faiz
Project Coordinator, CAC

Design Support



Kinza Naseem
Manager Green Energy, CAC



Maira Mumtaz
Researcher, CAC



Muhammad Faez
Manager Social Media, CAC

Executive Summary

The EV Conference 2024, hosted by the Climate Action Centre (CAC) in Karachi, represented a significant step towards harnessing electric vehicle (EV) technology as a viable solution for reducing emissions and improving air quality in Pakistan.

Grounded in the urgent need to address climate change and urban pollution, the event brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including policymakers, industry leaders, and financial experts, to discuss pathways for advancing the nation's EV ecosystem.

The conference highlighted key perspectives on the role of EVs in Pakistan's sustainable future. Senator Sherry Rehman also added to the discourse, emphasizing the importance of local solutions and government initiatives to support EV adoption.

Experts from the financial sector detailed innovative financing strategies and the necessity of public-private partnerships (PPPs) to create accessible funding environments for EV buyers. Furthermore, industry representatives shared insights into the current challenges of scaling production, enhancing infrastructure, and increasing consumer trust in electric mobility.

Panel discussions focused on two critical themes: Finance and Policy, and Industry and Innovation. The Finance and Policy panel emphasized the need for comprehensive financial instruments and strong government incentives to promote EV adoption. In contrast, the Industry and Innovation panel showcased technological advancements and the integration of EVs within ride-hailing and local production contexts.

As a result, the conference served as a platform for vital discussions and laid the groundwork for actionable strategies to overcome existing challenges. The collective vision outlined at the conference is one of collaboration, innovation, and commitment to fostering a sustainable transportation sector in Pakistan.

Chief Organizer's Note

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I present this report on the First Electric Vehicle Conference, a significant milestone in our journey toward combating climate change through sustainable solutions. This conference has been a testament to the power of collaboration, as tackling climate issues is far beyond the capacity of any single individual, organization, or nation. It requires collective action from provinces, cities, and communities worldwide.

Pakistan faces some of the most severe impacts of climate change, disproportionately affecting low-income populations. Addressing these challenges demands a focus on climate justice, ensuring equitable solutions for all. A sustainable future is within our reach if we embrace technologies that address critical issues like air quality and urban smog while minimizing resource use and environmental damage.

I extend my deepest gratitude to key stakeholders and contributors, including Sherry Rehman for championing loss and damage cases globally, and Dr. Aazir, Zafar Masud, Naveed Arshad, and the PakEVO team for their pioneering efforts in promoting EV adoption and establishing industry standards.

The Climate Action Centre is committed to engaging youth, whose leadership will shape a green, clean, and economically beneficial future. We can create a sustainable path forward for future generations through collaboration and innovation.

Yasir Husain

Director, Climate Action Center Karachi



1. Introduction

The global push toward electrification of transport has taken center stage in the fight against climate change, with electric vehicles (EVs) offering a transformative solution to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality. For Pakistan, where the transportation sector accounts for a substantial portion of greenhouse gas emissions and urban pollution, the transition to EVs is an environmental necessity and an economic opportunity. Recognizing the need for multi-stakeholder collaboration to accelerate this transition, the Climate Action Centre (CAC), based in Karachi, hosted the EV Conference 2024, bringing together leaders and innovators from diverse sectors to shape the future of Pakistan's EV ecosystem.

This pivotal event drew participation from a broad spectrum of stakeholders, including Senator Sherry Rehman, who emphasized policy reforms and government initiatives supporting EV adoption. Experts from the banking sector outlined strategies for financing EV uptake, while industry leaders representing auto and EV bike manufacturers discussed challenges and opportunities in scaling local production. Representatives from the ride-hailing industry, such as inDrive officials, shared insights on the evolving role of shared mobility platforms in fostering EV adoption, especially in urban centers.

A unique aspect of the conference was its focus on innovation and investment. Sarmayacar Founder and CEO, a prominent venture capitalist, participated in discussions exploring the role of startups and venture funding in driving technological advancements and accelerating the transition. These conversations emphasized the need to foster a vibrant ecosystem supporting local innovation, from developing EV components to establishing charging infrastructure.

The conference featured two highly engaging panel discussions: Finance and Policy and Industry and Innovation. The Finance and Policy panel delved into the National Electric Vehicle (NEV) Policy, highlighting its role in incentivizing adoption, overcoming financing barriers, and enabling public-private partnerships. The Industry and Innovation panel brought together manufacturers, ride-hailing companies, and technology experts to discuss the challenges of scaling EV production and infrastructure while exploring creative solutions to make EVs more accessible and sustainable for all.

By convening policymakers, financiers, people from the mobility sector, and civil society advocates, the EV Conference 2024 underscored the need for collaborative efforts to address policy gaps, unlock investment potential, and drive innovation. This event provided a roadmap

for overcoming existing challenges and reaffirmed the collective vision of a cleaner, greener future for Pakistan's mobility landscape.

1.1. Conference Overview

The inaugural EV Conference 2024, held on December 21, 2024, at Avari Towers, Karachi, was a milestone event to shape Pakistan's electric vehicle (EV) future. Organized by the Karachi-based Climate Action Centre (CAC), the conference provided a comprehensive platform for key stakeholders to address the opportunities and challenges in driving EV adoption nationwide.

The event featured two dynamic panel discussions: Finance and Policy and Industry and Innovation, each focusing on critical aspects of Pakistan's EV transition. Policymakers, industry leaders, and experts gathered to explore strategies for fostering a robust and sustainable EV ecosystem.

The Finance and Policy panel delved into the implications of the National Electric Vehicle (NEV) Policy, emphasizing how financial instruments, public-private partnerships, and targeted incentives can accelerate EV adoption. Discussions highlighted the role of banks and financial institutions in creating accessible financing models for EV buyers, ensuring affordability and scalability. Sarmayacar Founder and CEO, representing the venture capital community, provided valuable insights on the potential of startups and investment opportunities to drive technological breakthroughs and create a sustainable EV ecosystem.

The Industry and Innovation panel showcased the intersection of creativity, technology, and entrepreneurship in shaping Pakistan's EV landscape. Participants, including ride-hailing industry officials from inDrive, auto and EV manufacturers, and technology leaders, discussed innovations in EV design, local production, and charging infrastructure.

Attendees also included members of academia who contributed to developing the NEV Policy, civil society advocates pushing for equitable EV adoption, and government officials who reiterated their commitment to creating an enabling environment for EV growth.

The conference concluded with a shared vision of building a sustainable transportation future for Pakistan. It stressed the importance of collaborative efforts among policymakers, financiers, industry leaders, and innovators to overcome existing challenges and unlock the country's EV potential. The EV Conference 2024 facilitated meaningful dialogue and laid the groundwork for actionable steps toward a greener, cleaner, and more inclusive mobility future.

CAC Team with Senator Sherry Rehman at the sidelines of the EV Conference



1.2. List of speakers

- Dr. Aazir Khan: Founder, IECE University of Lahore; Lead, PakEvo
- Senator Sherry Rehman - Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change
- Zafar Masud - President & CEO of The Bank of Punjab
- Yasir Husain - Chief Organizer and Director of the Climate Action Center Karachi

Moderators

- Dr. Aazir Khan: Founder, IECE, University of Lahore; Lead, PakEvo
- Bilal Hussain: Editorial and Research Lead at Invest2Innovate

Panelists

- Mr. Zafar Masud – President & CEO, The Bank of Punjab
- Dr. Naveed Arshad – Director, LUMS Energy Institute
- Capt. Kashif Riaz – Director of Dewan Farooq Motors Ltd. and Projects Director for the Pakistan Army's EME Corps
- Sadullah Ejaz – General Manager of Corporate Affairs and HR at Atlas Honda Ltd.
- Mr. Muhammad Atif Hanif – Chief Executive Officer, Al Baraka Bank (Pakistan) Limited
- Mr. Rabeel Warraich – Founder and CEO, Sarmayacar
- Hasan Qureshi – Government Relations Lead for InDrive
- Sheikh Osama Nadeem – CEO of E-Turbo Motors

2. Key takeaways from speeches

2.1 Dr. Aazir Khan

1. **Personal Commitment to Climate Action:** Dr. Aazir Khan's passionate advocacy for climate solutions stems from personal health experiences linked to pollution, highlighting the urgency of addressing air quality issues in Pakistan. His journey underscores a deep-seated commitment to promoting sustainable technologies like electric vehicles (EVs).
2. **Progress in EV Development:** Dr. Khan emphasizes the gradual yet promising advancements in Pakistan's EV industry. Despite skepticism surrounding government support and infrastructure readiness, the potential for significant growth exists, particularly as stakeholders unite around a shared vision for sustainable transport.
3. **Formation of PakEvo:** He proposes establishing PakEvo, an oversight platform dedicated to uniting various stakeholders—including manufacturers, policymakers, and investors—to foster collaboration and streamline efforts toward EV adoption, signifying the importance of a coordinated strategy.
4. **Holistic EV Ecosystem:** Dr. Khan highlights the diverse ecosystem surrounding EVs, encompassing vehicle technology, infrastructure, policy regulation, and environmental management. This integrated approach is crucial for the overall sustainability of the EV sector in Pakistan.
5. **Climate Commitments and Policy Development:** He draws attention to Pakistan's commitments under the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the necessity for policies that are both clear and realistic. This alignment with global climate dialogues emphasizes Pakistan's determination to phase out internal combustion vehicles.
6. **Long-Term Economic Benefits:** Dr. Khan articulates the financial advantages of transitioning to EVs, suggesting that the long-term savings associated with reduced fuel



imports would greatly offset initial investment costs, promoting both environmental and economic sustainability.

7. **Call to Action for Inclusion:** Concluding with a powerful rallying cry, he champions an inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach to accelerate EV adoption, encouraging collective efforts toward creating a robust EV ecosystem that positions Pakistan as a leader in sustainable mobility.

2.2. Sherry Rehman

1. **Local Action is Crucial:** Senator Sherry Rehman asserts that Pakistan must utilize local solutions to combat pollution, emphasizing that the nation can effect change through homegrown initiatives rather than awaiting global directives.
2. **Role of Electric Vehicles:** She identifies the transition to electric vehicles, including two- and three-wheelers, as a critical component of reducing vehicular emissions which contribute notably to air pollution in the country.
3. **Incentivizing Growth:** Rehman champions the development of policies that incentivize both consumers and local manufacturers, advocating for tax reductions and tariff adjustments to make EVs more affordable and accessible.
4. **Holistic and Lifecycle Approach:** She calls for a comprehensive approach that encompasses the entire lifecycle of EV technology, addressing potential environmental impacts and ensuring sustainability in production and infrastructure development.
5. **Whole-of-Society Engagement:** Emphasizing the importance of active citizen participation, Rehman notes that climate action must engage all segments of society, bridging gaps between the public, the private sector, and government efforts.
6. **Critique of Global Climate Initiatives:** She critiques the insufficient global progress in carbon emission reduction, arguing that Pakistan must focus on developing tangible, local solutions instead of waiting for international consensus.
7. **Emergency for Action:** Rehman's conclusion reinforces the call for urgent policy actions to foster sustainable mobility. By promoting locally relevant initiatives and fostering



collaboration, Pakistan can pave the way towards a cleaner, healthier environment for future generations.

2.3. Zafar Masud

1. **Tailored Local Solutions:** Zafar Masud stresses Pakistan's need to develop homegrown solutions in its battle against pollution and smog, rather than relying solely on global models. A custom approach will ensure that initiatives are relevant and effective locally.
2. **Collaboration Across Sectors:** He emphasizes that environmental challenges require collective action across industries and nations. The need for public-private partnerships to elevate the Electric Vehicle (EV) sector is paramount in overcoming obstacles associated with infrastructure and technology.
3. **“Carrot and Stick” Strategy:** Masud advocates for a balanced approach combining incentives and regulatory measures, which he terms the “carrot and stick” strategy. This dual approach is crucial for motivating businesses and consumers to embrace EV technologies.
4. **Opportunities Within the EV Market:** He points out the significant growth of the global EV market, particularly in collaboration with Chinese manufacturers like BYD. Pakistan has a unique opportunity to harness local assembly and join the global shift towards electric mobility.
5. **Addressing Challenges:** Identifying key hurdles such as high upfront costs and insufficient financing options, Masud indicates the need for developing local charging infrastructure and financing models that facilitate consumer access to EVs.
6. **Government Involvement is Essential:** Highlighting the role of government, he underscores the importance of subsidies and supportive policies to reinforce the EV market, ensuring that both consumers and businesses can adapt.
7. **Empowering Youth and Inclusive Policies:** He closes his address with an emphasis on inclusivity, advocating for initiatives that empower women and youth through access to clean technologies, thereby creating equitable opportunities for all segments of society.



3. Panel Discussions

3.1. Finance and Policy Panel Discussion



Introduction

The growing importance of electric vehicles (EVs) in combating climate change has driven significant interest across sectors, from manufacturing to finance. Panel 1, titled “Industry and Finance,” explored the critical role of industrial and financial sectors in driving EV adoption and sustainability.

Experts from academia, venture capital, and banking provided insights into challenges and opportunities for advancing EV adoption. The discussion addressed technological advancements, consumer financing models, and regulatory frameworks essential for growth. Leaders highlighted the role of financial institutions and government-backed initiatives in bridging critical gaps and accelerating the EV market’s development in Pakistan and beyond.

Moderator: Dr. Aazir Khan – Founder, IECE, University of Lahore; Lead, PAKEVO

Dr. Khan is the founder of the Institute of Energy and Climate Engineering (IECE) at the

University of Lahore and leads the Pakistan Electric Vehicle Observatory (PAKEVO). He is an Ivy League graduate with a Ph.D. in AI-driven vehicle systems and over 34 years of experience in renewable technologies.

Panelists:

- **Dr. Naveed Arshad:** Professor and Director of the LUMS Energy Institute, with nearly 70 publications and expertise in energy informatics and EVs. Co-author of Pakistan's Electric Vehicle Policy 2025 and member of key government committees.
- **Mr. Muhammad Atif Hanif:** CEO of Al Baraka Bank (Pakistan) Limited, with over 25 years of banking experience, including 18 years in Islamic banking. Contributor to provincial industrial policies and youth development programs.
- **Mr. Zafar Masud:** President & CEO of The Bank of Punjab, bringing 30 years of expertise in banking and governance. Co-author of Pakistan's Electric Vehicle Policy 2025 and recognized internationally for transformative projects.
- **Mr. Rabeel Warraich:** Founder and CEO of Sarmayacar, Pakistan's first venture capital firm, and the Climaventures climate-tech fund. A Kauffman Fellow with extensive experience in fostering startups and innovation in Pakistan.



Discussion on Funding Mechanisms, Government Incentives, and Policy Alignment (Key Takeaways)

The Industry and Finance panel centered on the crucial intersection of financial mechanisms, government support, and policy alignment to drive the growth of Pakistan's electric vehicle (EV) sector. The panelists addressed the need for a collaborative approach between the government, private industry, and financial institutions to address the EV ecosystem's multiple challenges.

Dr. Naveed Arshad, Director of LUMS Energy Institute, highlighted the importance of aligning government policies with the fast-paced evolution of electric vehicle technologies. He pointed out that while the global EV industry has seen substantial technological advances, Pakistan's policies still need to catch up. Dr. Arshad emphasized the necessity for continuous government-backed research into areas like solid-state batteries, which promise to make EVs lighter, more efficient, and cheaper to produce. He noted that EV-related R&D should be incentivized through government grants or subsidies to make these technologies viable in the local market. In addition, he stressed that the government should play an active role in creating an environment conducive to innovation by supporting universities and research institutions at the forefront of clean energy and EV-related research.



Dr. Arshad also discussed the evolving regulatory framework for EV adoption in Pakistan. He argued that a lack of clear, long-term policies regarding the EV sector has created uncertainty for investors. He proposed that the government introduce binding targets for EV adoption, both in private and commercial sectors, to create market predictability. He also suggested that policies should encourage local manufacturing of key components like batteries and electric motors, as reliance on imports increases costs and slows adoption.

Rabeel Warraich, Founder & CEO of Sarmayacar, delved into the role of private sector investment in Pakistan's EV ecosystem. He highlighted the need for government-backed financial incentives to reduce the burden on startups working to innovate in the EV space. These incentives, he said, should include tax exemptions on key raw materials for EV production, reduced tariffs on the importation of electric vehicle components, and direct subsidies to encourage local manufacturing of EVs. He also pointed to the crucial role of public-private

partnerships (PPPs) in funding large-scale infrastructure projects, such as developing charging stations and battery-swapping networks. Rabeel stressed that public-private collaborations could help de-risk investments in the early stages of EV market development and create an ecosystem that attracts further private capital.

Warraich elaborated on the challenges investors face, particularly in the absence of government incentives that could make EV production and infrastructure development more financially feasible. He suggested that the government could ease the financial burden on manufacturers by providing tax credits for every EV produced or infrastructure developed. He also recommended the creation of an EV fund, where both the public and private sectors could pool resources to provide affordable financing options for manufacturers.



Muhammad Atif Hanif, CEO of Al Baraka Bank, focused on the critical role of the financial sector in facilitating the transition to EVs. He pointed out that the high upfront cost of EVs remains one of the largest barriers to consumer adoption in Pakistan. To address this, Atif proposed that banks collaborate with the government to design low-interest, long-tenure loans for consumers interested in purchasing EVs. He suggested that these loans could be structured to incentivize consumers to switch from internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles to electric ones. Atif also highlighted the potential for green financing products, such as green bonds or loans, which could fund the development of EV-related infrastructure like charging stations and battery swapping hubs.



Hanif also addressed the challenges financial institutions face when offering loans for EVs, such as the perceived high risk associated with new technologies and limited consumer awareness. He suggested that the government could help reduce these risks by guaranteeing loans issued to EV buyers and manufacturers. This would give banks more confidence in financing the

transition to electric mobility. Atif stressed that creating an enabling financial environment for EV financing is crucial to accelerating market penetration.

Zafar Masud, President of the Bank of Punjab, built upon Hanif's ideas by discussing the need for tailored financial instruments for the EV sector. He introduced the concept of "green bonds," which are debt securities issued to fund environmentally friendly projects like EV infrastructure development. Zafar proposed that the government issue sovereign green bonds to attract foreign and local investment in the EV sector. These bonds could fund the construction of charging networks and other infrastructure required to make EVs a viable transportation option for Pakistan's population. He also suggested that Pakistan explore international financing models to raise capital for its EV projects.



Masud pointed to the rising interest among banks in funding green projects, emphasizing that banks like the Bank of Punjab are already exploring green financing options. However, he noted that the absence of clear government-backed guidelines and incentives was a major hindrance to the rapid deployment of capital into the EV sector. To address this, he proposed the creation of a dedicated green financing task force that could streamline financing processes and connect local banks with international green funding sources. Masud also suggested that special EV financing packages could be designed to help consumers purchase EVs, with attractive interest rates and flexible repayment terms.

Recommendations

- **Dr. Naveed Arshad** recommended that the government develop long-term, binding policies to promote EV adoption, including incentives for R&D in local battery production. He also suggested that regulatory frameworks should be updated regularly to reflect the latest technological advancements in the EV sector. The government should collaborate with universities to foster innovation in EV technologies.
- **Rabeel Warraich** recommended that the government provide greater incentives for startups and manufacturers in the EV sector, such as tax breaks, subsidies, and reduced tariffs on imported components. He also called for increased infrastructure development

support through public-private partnerships to ensure that charging stations and battery-swapping networks are deployed at scale across Pakistan.

- **Muhammad Atif Hanif** recommended creating specialized financial products such as low-interest loans, green bonds, and government-backed loan guarantees for consumers and manufacturers. He also emphasized the need for banks to play an active role in financing the transition to EVs, helping reduce the financial barriers for consumers looking to switch to electric mobility.
- **Zafar Masud** recommended issuing sovereign green bonds to fund the development of EV infrastructure and attract international investors. He also suggested that the government should develop clear guidelines and incentives for green financing, helping banks and financial institutions provide affordable and accessible financing options for consumers and businesses in the EV sector.

Suggested Actions for Stakeholders to Enhance EV Adoption:

- **Policy Reforms:** Governments should introduce clear and supportive policies that promote the growth of the EV sector. These policies should include tax incentives for manufacturers, reduced tariffs on key EV components, and subsidies for consumers to lower the upfront cost of EVs.
- **Investment in Charging Infrastructure:** Both public and private sectors should invest in expanding the EV charging infrastructure. This includes installing fast-charging stations along highways and in major urban centers to support long-distance travel and daily commuting.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** To drive consumer demand, public awareness campaigns should be launched to educate the public about the benefits of EVs, including lower operating costs, reduced emissions, and long-term sustainability. These campaigns should also address misconceptions about EV reliability and infrastructure availability.

Conclusion:

This panel concluded that addressing the financial barriers, providing policy support, and creating a collaborative framework between the government, private sector, and financial institutions are key to ensuring the successful transition to electric mobility in Pakistan. By fostering an ecosystem that encourages investment, innovation, and consumer adoption, stakeholders can build a sustainable and competitive EV industry in the country.

3.2. Industry and Innovation Panel Discussion



Introduction

The Industry and Innovation Panel at the EV Conference brought together leading experts from Pakistan's electric vehicle (EV) sector to discuss technological advancements, infrastructure challenges, and the road to sustainable transportation.

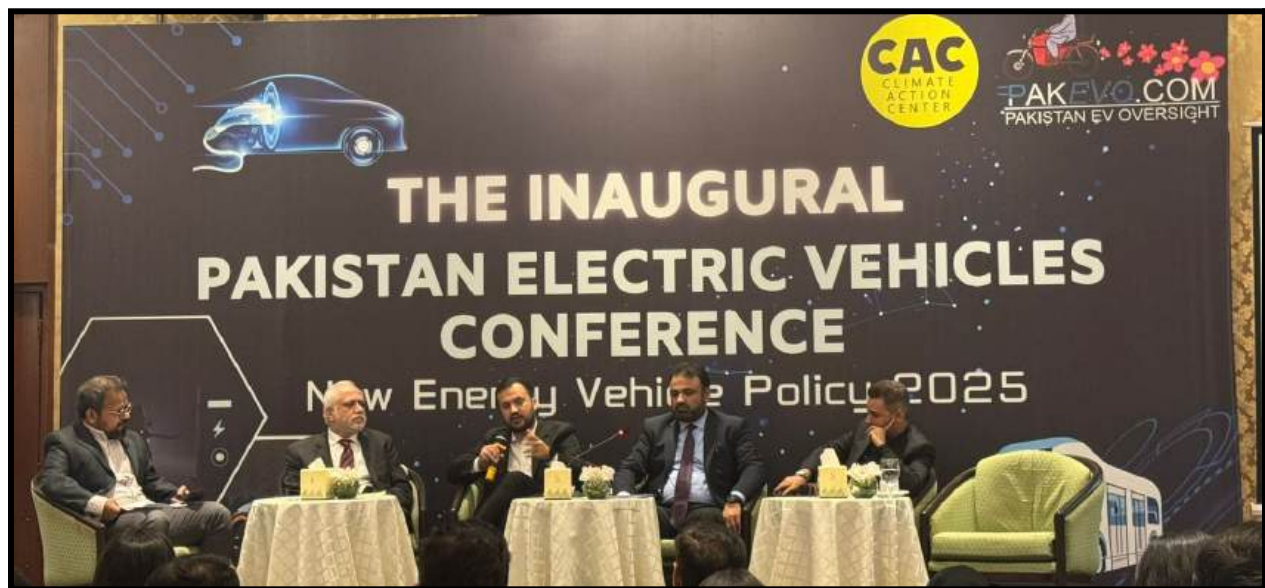
Moderator: Bilal Hussain – Editorial and Research Lead at Invest2Innovate

Hussain has over 15 years of experience in the media industry, specializing in business and economics, and has contributed to leading publications including Business Recorder, The News, Samaa, Express Tribune, Profit Magazine, and Al Jazeera.



Panelists:

- **Capt. Kashif Riaz:** Director of Dewan Farooq Motors Ltd. and Projects Director for the Pakistan Army's EME Corps, with extensive experience in automotive innovation.
- **Sadullah Ejaz:** General Manager of Corporate Affairs and HR at Atlas Honda Ltd., bringing over two decades of expertise in policy and management.
- **Hasan Qureshi:** Government Relations Lead for inDrive, who spearheaded the company's launch in Pakistan and focuses on sustainability and stakeholder engagement.
- **Sheikh Osama Nadeem:** CEO of E-Turbo Motors, one of the early assemblers in Pakistan's EV sector, dedicated to advancing eco-friendly transportation.



Key Takeaways

The discussion explored technological innovations, infrastructure challenges, consumer expectations, and the steps needed to accelerate EV adoption in Pakistan. Each panelist provided unique insights into their contributions and the hurdles they face in the evolving EV landscape.

Sadullah Ejaz: Pioneering Atlas Honda's EV Vision

Sadullah Ejaz detailed Atlas Honda's commitment to electrification, highlighting the company's global investments of \$3.4 billion in EV research and development, focusing on



solid-state batteries. He shared that Atlas Honda is testing its Benley-E electric bike in Pakistan, gathering user feedback, including research institutes, government bodies, and private stakeholders.

He emphasized Atlas Honda's goal of launching an electric vehicle for passenger use within 8-10 months, aiming to achieve 30% EV production by 2030. While acknowledging barriers such as charging infrastructure, battery costs, and range anxiety, he noted, "Electric vehicles are undoubtedly the future of transportation, and Atlas Honda is committed to being a key player in this transition."

Sheikh Osama Nadeem: Building Consumer Trust in EVs

Sheikh Osama Nadeem highlighted that Pakistan's EV industry is in its infancy, but collaboration between stakeholders, including the government, signals a promising future. E-Turbo Motors has invested two years in research and development to design EVs suited to local road conditions and infrastructure.

He emphasized the importance of improving battery life and cost to promote adoption. E-Turbo Motors offers a two-year battery warranty with an optional extended warranty costing just PKR 136 per day, ensuring affordability and safety. Reflecting on the shift in consumer trust, he remarked, "It took decades for consumers to trust gasoline motorcycles. This transition will take 2-3 years for EVs as reliability improves."



Kashif Riaz: Advancing EV Infrastructure and Accessibility

Despite industry challenges, Kashif Riaz emphasized Dewan Farooq Motors Ltd.'s (DFML) pioneering role in launching electric cars in Pakistan. The company has already introduced over 100 EVs on the road, with 500+ orders in the pipeline. DFML's EV models, such as the Honri (200km and 300km range), are designed for mass adoption.



He shared DFML's infrastructure milestones, including installing Pakistan's first EV charger in Karachi in 2016 and deploying 40-50 low-cost AC chargers nationwide. Collaborating with Chinese company Donar, DFML is expanding a DC fast-charging network and venturing into battery manufacturing to strengthen the EV ecosystem.

Kashif stressed the importance of financial accessibility, revealing DFML's partnerships with banks like Soneri and the Bank of Punjab to facilitate EV financing. He remarked, "Switching to EVs reduces costs by 70% over time, making them a financially viable choice for consumers."

Hasan Qureshi: Green Mobility in Ride-Hailing

Hasan Qureshi discussed inDrive's efforts to integrate EVs into its fleet, focusing on two- and three-wheelers, which make up 50-60% of their driver base. He highlighted challenges like range anxiety, battery costs, and limited charging infrastructure.

inDrive's pilot project with EZ Bike in Islamabad offers a solution: converting gasoline to electric bikes through a battery-as-a-service model. This approach eliminates high upfront battery costs and allows drivers to swap batteries at charging stations. Hasan shared, "Our model has increased drivers' incomes by 40%, making EVs financially attractive."

He emphasized scaling the project by partnering with industry players and the government to develop charging infrastructure and build a sustainable green mobility ecosystem in Pakistan.



Recommendations

The panelists outlined actionable steps to accelerate EV adoption in Pakistan:

1. **Sheikh Osama Nadeem:** Focus on product durability and affordability. He urged the government to lower sales and import taxes to reduce EV prices and introduce EV registrations to benefit consumers.
2. **Kashif Riaz:** Advocate for targeted policies and incentives specific to EVs. He called for enhanced subsidies and additional government support to reduce costs for consumers

and encourage adoption.

3. **Sadullah Ejaz:** Promote corporate fleet conversions to EVs with government subsidies. He emphasized prioritizing corporate adoption to drive wider market acceptance.
4. **Hasan Qureshi:** Invest in charging infrastructure and public awareness campaigns. He highlighted the need for a balanced approach to supply (charging stations) and demand (EV adoption).

Conclusion

The Industry and Innovation Panel underscored the immense potential of Pakistan's EV sector. Collaborative efforts between stakeholders, targeted policies, and strategic investments in infrastructure and R&D are crucial for overcoming challenges and driving the country towards sustainable mobility.

As Pakistan aims to electrify 30% of its fleet by 2030, the insights shared by the panelists provide a roadmap for stakeholders to navigate the evolving EV landscape. The session highlighted the importance of innovation, consumer trust, and policy support in shaping a greener future for Pakistan's transportation sector.

4. Closing Remarks

Yasir Husain, Chief Organizer and Director CAC

Husain stressed the importance of collaborative efforts in combating climate change. He emphasizes that tackling climate issues cannot be done by individuals or countries alone; it requires joint action from provinces, cities, and communities. Husain highlights the impact of climate change on Pakistan, particularly on low-income populations, and calls for a focus on climate justice to ensure equitable solutions for all.

He stresses the need for a collective approach, with an eye on the future, where minimal resources are used to reduce land loss and environmental damage.

Husain underscores the need to develop technologies that benefit people, particularly those addressing air quality issues like the smog in Lahore, which has become a pressing concern. He argues that environmental problems should be placed at the center of agendas for present and future generations.

The speech also touches upon the importance of climate finance, noting that Pakistan has not fully tapped into the financial resources available for climate action. Husain praises the efforts of key figures such as Sherry Rehman, Pakistan's Minister of Climate Change, who successfully advocated for accepting loss and damage cases in climate negotiations. He also acknowledges the contributions of individuals involved in electric vehicle (EV) policies and the push toward sustainable energy, including Zafar Masud, Naveed Arshad, and others.

Husain expresses gratitude to various stakeholders, including the team behind PakeVO (Pakistan Electric Vehicle Oversight), for their work in promoting EV adoption and ensuring industry standards. He particularly thanked Dr. Aazir for laying the foundation for PakeVO and supporting the development of sustainable technologies.

The Climate Action Center is committed to integrating youth perspectives into its efforts, as they will be the ones to continue the work in the future. Husain concludes by emphasizing the need



for a green, clean, healthy, and economically beneficial future, encouraging collaboration between technology, people, and the environment to achieve these goals.

Key takeaways from Yasir Husain's speech:

1. **Collaborative Effort:** Climate change cannot be tackled by individuals or single countries alone; it requires collective action from provinces, cities, and communities, both within Pakistan and globally.
2. **Climate Justice:** Emphasizing the importance of including marginalized groups, particularly low-income populations, in the conversation on climate change to ensure equitable solutions for all.
3. **Sustainable Future:** Pakistan, as a developing country, should strive for a future that minimizes resource use and environmental damage, emphasizing sustainable development.
4. **Technological Solutions:** There is a need to develop and implement technologies that benefit people and address pressing issues like air quality and smog, especially in urban areas like Lahore.
5. **Climate Finance:** Pakistan has not fully leveraged available climate finance, particularly from banks and investors. Taping into these resources to support climate action, including electric vehicle (EV) adoption is crucial.
6. **Support for EV Policies:** Acknowledging the contributions of individuals and organizations, such as Zafar Masud and Naveed Arshad, in pushing forward EV policies and the transition to sustainable energy.
7. **PakEVO and Standards:** Highlighting the role of PakEVO (Pakistan Electric Vehicle Oversight) in ensuring that the electric vehicle industry meets safety and quality standards to foster growth in this sector.
8. **Youth Engagement:** The Climate Action Centre prioritizes youth involvement in climate initiatives, as they will be the future leaders continuing to address climate change.
9. **Green, Clean, and Economically Beneficial Future:** Advocating for a future that is environmentally sustainable, healthy, and economically beneficial through collaboration between technology, society, and the environment.
10. **Acknowledgment of Key Figures:** Gratitude towards individuals and organizations contributing to climate action, including Sherry Rehman, Dr. Azar, and the various stakeholders involved in the EV sector and climate finance initiatives.

5. Conclusion

The EV Conference 2024 successfully fostered a collaborative environment, drawing attention to the myriad opportunities available for advancing electric vehicle adoption in Pakistan. The insights shared by leaders and experts revealed a shared commitment to overcoming challenges in financing, infrastructure, and consumer acceptance.

Key themes emerged from the discussions, including the necessity of tailored financing solutions, the importance of inter-ministerial coordination, and the dynamic role of startups and technological innovations in shaping the EV landscape. The call for public-private partnerships underscored the potential for diverse stakeholders to work together effectively to achieve shared sustainability goals.

Looking ahead, the event paved the way for an inclusive and forward-thinking strategy to ensure that the transition to electric mobility reduces emissions and supports economic growth and social equity. The collaboration affirmed the belief that through sustained dialogue, active participation, and strategic investment, Pakistan can be a leader in the global shift towards electric mobility. All involved parties must continue to champion initiatives that promote a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable future for the transportation sector in Pakistan.

Photo Gallery





Director CAC, Yasir Darya warmly welcomes the senator Sherry Rehman



Yasir Darya with CEO AI Baraka Atif Hanif



Hussain Rizvi, EV lead greeting Rabeel Warraich



Dr. Naveed Arshad, Director LUMS Energy Institute



Dr. Aazir Khan, Director IECE pictured with a colleague.



Experts engage in a dynamic discussion regarding the financial and regulatory landscape shaping future of EVs.



Hasan Qureshi, Government relations officers, Indrive



Zafar Masud
President Bank of Punjab, offering insights during the panel discussion.



Muhammad Faez, CAC Social Media Manager, behind-the-scenes action during the event.



Hussain Rizvi & Kinza Naseem - Hosts



Bilal Hussain, moderator for the panel, engages with Rabeel Warraich, Founder-CEO Sarmayacar



Atif Hanif, CEO Al Baraka Bank, sits with Zafar Masud



Sadullah Ejaz - Atlas Honda



Yasir Darya having a chat with senator Sherry Rehman



Warda Mumtaz, Reseacher, with senator Sherry Rehman



A candid moment, as Yasir Darya , Atif Hanif & Khalid Mehmood, enagage in a meaningful discussion.



Yasir Darya giving out souvenirs.



CEO Al Baraka Atif Hanif in the networking session

**Attendees networking and sharing
their insights during the Q and A session.**



**A packed house at the EV-Conference
showcasing the strong interest .**



Appendices

Official Press Release

Press Release:

First EV Conference ends with call to ‘Phase Out Fossil Fuels’ to combat climate crisis

Karachi, December 21: The inaugural Pakistan Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference, themed “Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable Future,” was organized by the Climate Action Center (CAC) in Karachi. This groundbreaking event marked a significant milestone in Pakistan’s journey toward sustainable transportation, convening stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and financial institutions. The conference ended with a resounding call to phase out fossil fuel use in traffic, underscoring the urgent need for climate action.

Aims and Objectives

The conference aimed to foster an insightful dialogue between key players in the EV ecosystem, identify challenges and opportunities, and explore avenues for collaborative growth. Among its primary objectives were:

- Initiating dialogue among EV stakeholders.
- Highlighting industry hurdles.
- Discussing the draft New Energy Vehicle Policy 2025 and addressing its gaps.
- Exploring the establishment of an EV industry alliance or association.

This two-phase conference will continue in Lahore in February 2025, building upon the discussions initiated in Karachi.

Distinguished Participants and Panels

The event featured Senator Sherry Rehman, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, as the chief guest. In her keynote address, she emphasized the importance of civil society’s engagement in climate action and the need for transformational policies. Rehman stated, “Civil society is central and pivotal in addressing climate change. Without its

engagement, there is no meaningful action.” She also highlighted the urgency of making EVs affordable and the necessity of local manufacturing to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

The conference comprised two thought-provoking panel discussions. The first panel, “Finance and Policy,” was moderated by Dr. Aazir Khan, Director of the Integrated Engineering Center of Excellence at the University of Lahore. The panelists included:

- **Dr. Naveed Arshad:** Director of LUMS Energy Institute, specializing in energy informatics and electric vehicles.
- **Rabeel Warraich:** Founder and CEO of Sarmayacar, a venture capital firm.
- **Muhammad Atif Hanif:** CEO of Al Baraka Bank (Pakistan).
- **Zafar Masud:** President & CEO of The Bank of Punjab and Chairman of Pakistan Banks Association.

Discussions centered on unlocking private finance for decarbonization, addressing provincial capacity issues, and the strategic use of international climate funding. Zafar Masud remarked, “Provinces have sufficient resources, but they face serious capacity issues when developing and implementing policies. Decision-making is much easier at the provincial level.”

The second panel, “Industry and Innovation,” was moderated by Bilal Hussain, Editorial and Insights Lead at Invest2Innovate. Panelists included:

- **Hasan Qureshi:** Government Relations Manager at inDrive.
- **Kashif Riaz:** Director of Projects at DFML, Honeri.
- **Sadullah Ejaz:** General Manager of Corporate Affairs and HR at Atlas Honda Ltd.
- **Sheikh Osama Nadeem:** CEO of E-Turbo Motors.

This discussion explored the challenges of scaling the EV industry in Pakistan, innovation in EV manufacturing, and the role of startups in fostering sustainable transportation solutions.

Key Takeaways from the Discussions

The conference offered many insights into the barriers and opportunities for Pakistan’s EV transition. Among the critical issues highlighted were:

1. **Affordable Access:** Senator Sherry Rehman stressed that affordability is key to driving meaningful change, stating, “Unless the product is affordable, meaningful change cannot be achieved.”

2. **Policy and Regulation:** Panelists called for realistic, accelerated policies that align with Pakistan's unique challenges. Rehman emphasized, "Smart slogans are not enough; we need realistic, accelerated policies."
3. **Local Manufacturing:** The need to establish a local manufacturing base to reduce reliance on imports was a recurring theme. Rehman noted, "Until we begin local manufacturing, our reliance on fossil fuels will continue to hinder progress."
4. **Climate Financing:** Dr. Naveed Arshad and Rabeel Warraich highlighted the inefficiencies in accessing international climate funds. Warraich shared, "We worked for two years to secure \$15 million from the Green Climate Fund, while other countries have received billions. This demonstrates the need for a coherent, actionable plan."

Chief Organizer's Vision

Yasir Husain, the founder of CAC and chief organizer of the conference, underscored the urgency of transitioning away from fossil fuels. He stated, "The use of fossil fuel has to end. Groups like the Climate Action Centre have an important role to play in advocating for and facilitating this transition."

A Call to Action

The Pakistan Electric Vehicle Conference set the stage for a broader dialogue on sustainable transportation. As smog season looms and air quality continues to deteriorate, the discussions held at the conference are a timely reminder of the pressing need for climate action. Sherry Rehman's words captured the urgency: "Pakistan has the fifth-largest population in the world. As traffic doubles, the air will become unbreathable unless action is taken now."

With the second phase of the conference scheduled in Lahore, stakeholders can build on the momentum generated in Karachi. By addressing the gaps identified in policies, fostering collaboration, and prioritizing local manufacturing, Pakistan can accelerate its transition to a sustainable future.

About CAC

The Climate Action Centre (CAC) is a hub for promoting climate awareness and advocacy. Through widespread public engagement with citizens, youth, and local communities, CAC



Karachi has played a pivotal role in enhancing public understanding of urgent climate challenges. Leveraging strong media connections, academic collaborations, expert insights, and partnerships with grassroots organizations, CAC actively champions climate justice and equitable energy access. By emphasizing global solidarity, the center fosters meaningful collaboration to address the pressing realities of climate emergencies.

Media Coverage



Sunday
DECEMBER 22, 2024



INVESTOR CONFIDENCE SHAKEN
The market's focus over the last several days has been on the Fed that while they are lowering rates, they are going to rein in (future cuts)
Ingalls & Snyder Senior Portfolio Strategist, Tim Ghriskey

WEEKLY REVIEW
PSX sees historic decline, recovers in the end
KSE-100 closes down 4.2% WoW as profit-taking weighs PAGE 18

Experts for access to climate financing

Urge govt action to ensure affordable e-bikes with incentives-laden NEV policy

GOHAR ALI KHAN
KARACHI

Experts and climate stalwarts have called for the phasing out of fossil fuels to tackle climate crisis and also urged the government to access the global climate financing.

Additionally, they asked for ensuring the affordability of electric motorbikes and drawing up a new energy vehicle (NEV) policy that could benefit the main stakeholders - customers, parts vendors and assemblers.

They stated this while speaking at "The Inaugural Pakistan Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference, New Energy Vehicles Policy 2024" themed "Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable Future," organised by the Climate Action Centre (CAC) on Saturday.

The moot marked a significant step towards promoting sustainable transportation in Pakistan.

They stressed the need for phasing out the use of fossil fuel in vehicular traffic, as part of urgent steps towards climate action.

Speaking as the chief guest, Senator Sherry Rehman, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, underlined the pivotal role of civil society in tackling climate change and the need for transformational policies. "Civil society is pivotal in addressing climate change. Without its engagement, there is no meaningful action," she said.

Rehman highlighted the urgency of making electric vehicles (EVs) affordable and putting in place local manufacturing capabilities to reduce Pakistan's reliance on fossil fuels.

"If the EV revolution comes with the removal of all hindrances, such as high prices, energy tariffs, etc, we can advance faster than many other countries. We can be leaders in the field, as we can manage it locally. The future is EVs," she said.

Rehman emphasised that without incentives, customers would not purchase e-bikes and the industry would not be able to run, adding that the policy could only be unlocked with the aid of incentives that would benefit the public.

"Green economy is a circular economy. This is truly a sustainable future," she remarked and stressed the need for policies tailored to Pakistan's unique challenges. "Smart slogans are not enough; we need realistic, accelerated policies."

As Pakistan faces worsening air quality and smog every winter, the senator highlighted the urgency of addressing the challenges. "Pakistan has the fifth-largest population in the world. As traffic doubles, the air in the atmosphere will become unbearable unless action is taken now," she warned.

The conference featured panel discussions that brought together experts from various fields.

The first panel, moderated by Dr Aazir Khan, Director of the Integrated Engineering Centre of Excellence at the University of Lahore, focused on finance and policy.

The panelists included Dr Naveed Anshad, Director of



LUMS Energy Institute, Rabeel Warraich, Founder and CEO of Samayacar, Muhammad Adif Hanif, CEO of Al Baraka Bank (Pakistan) and Zafar Masud, President and CEO of The Bank of Punjab.

They discussed the importance of unlocking private finance for decarbonisation, addressing capacity issues at the provincial level and tapping into international climate funding.

The panelists outlined inefficiencies in accessing international climate funds and called for structured, actionable efforts to secure such financing.

Rabeel Warraich shared that it took two years to secure \$15 million from the Green Climate Fund, underscoring the need for coherent strategies to tap into global funding pools.

Zafar Masud noted that while provinces had sufficient resources, they faced serious challenges in developing and implementing policies despite decision-making being much easier at the provincial level.

He spoke about opportunities in Pakistan in terms of economic benefits, which consisted of reduced fuel import costs and better payback for consumers, local assembly and changing network development for job creation.

He also noted the EV policy 2020-25, targeting 30% penetration of EVs by 2030, and import duty reductions and tax exemptions for EVs, lower costs for consum-

ers and manufacturers, which can provide additional economic benefits.

When it comes to environmental factors, severe urban air pollution calls for the need for cleaner transport and alignment with Pakistan's Paris Agreement commitments, he added.

Masud noted challenges including resale value uncertainty, high upfront costs and depreciation, high interest rates, government support, project financing, geopolitics, policy and infrastructure.

Tasir Hussain, Founder of CAC and Chief Organiser of the Conference, emphasised the need to transition away from fossil fuels. "The use of fossil fuels has to come to an end. Groups like the Climate Action Centre have an important role to play in advocating for and facilitating this transition," he commented.

Moreover, the conference aimed to initiate a dialogue among key players in the EV ecosystem, address the challenges faced by the industry and identify opportunities for growth and collaboration. Participants also discussed the draft NEV Policy 2024 and explored the creation of an EV industry alliance to strengthen the sector. As part of a two-phase initiative, the conference will continue in Lahore in February 2025, building on the discussions initiated in Karachi.

DESIGN: MOHSIN ALAM

FOOD GROUP
Rs11.5b
was the value of meat and meat preparations exported in Nov 2024, down 6.4% compared to exports of Rs12.3 billion last year, according to the PBS. OUR CORRESPONDENT

OPEN MARKET EXCHANGE RATES

Currency	Buying	Selling
US dollar	277.95	279.45
UK pound	349.05	352.55
Euro	287.25	290.00
Japanese yen	1.85	1.91
Chinese yuan	37.99	38.39
Saudi riyal	73.75	74.30
UAE dirham	75.40	76.05
Indian rupee	3.19	3.28
Australian dollar	174.75	177.00
Canadian dollar	195.60	198.00

FOREX.COM.PK

VW reaches deal to avert mass strikes

HANOVER

Volkswagen on Friday announced sweeping changes to its German operations, including more than 35,000 future job cuts and sharp capacity reductions in a last-gasp deal between Europe's top carmaker and unions to avert mass strikes.

Union leaders hailed the agreement as a "Christmas miracle" after 70 hours of grueling negotiations, the longest in the company's 89-year history. There would be no immediate job closures or layoffs, and VW appeared to

have backed away from demanding 30% wage cuts.

The deal avoiding costly strikes may also provide relief to investors after months of negotiations. Shares rose 2.4% in extended trade after the deal. They have lost 25% this year. Volkswagen has been in talks with union representatives since September over measures it called necessary for it to compete with cheaper Chinese rivals and handle lacklustre demand in Europe and slower-than-expected adoption of electric vehicles. REUTERS

Value-added industry

Importers urge FBR to clear

Link: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2517505/experts-for-access-to-climate-financing>

BUSINESS

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Banks meet ADR limit to avoid tax

Fear govt plans to extract more money on annual average basis

By Shahid Iqbal

KARACHI: The banks have nearly achieved a 50 per cent advance-to-deposit ratio (ADR) to avoid the incremental tax imposed by the government if they fail to meet the limit by the Dec 31 deadline.

Banks could not reduce deposits on a large scale but succeeded in increasing the advances by 27pc in just four months.

The banks encountered significant difficulties as when the tax was imposed in the FY25 budget, the policy rate stood at 22pc, and the average ADR was just above 38pc.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported that banks' lending to the private sector has risen to a record high compared to the average of the last three years. The central bank data showed that banks' lending to the private sector reached Rs1.35 trillion from July 1 to Dec 6.

At the same time, the banks parked their liquidity worth Rs1.3tr into the non-bank financial institu-

EV transition must to combat pollution: Sherry

Says transport sector accounts for 31pc of Pakistan's total carbon emissions

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Senator Sherry Rehman, chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, noted on Saturday that the transport sector accounts for 31 per cent of Pakistan's total carbon emissions, producing 52.5 million tonnes of CO2 annually.

Speaking at the inaugural Pakistan Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference in Karachi, she stressed that adopting electric vehicles (EVs) could reduce tailpipe emissions by 40pc, as per the New Energy Vehicle Policy.

"This makes EVs an essential component in achieving climate goals under the Paris Agreement," Ms Rehman said at the event themed "Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable Future," organised by the Climate Action Centre (CAC).

On the alarming state of air pollution, she said Pakistan is the second most polluted country globally in terms of air quality, according to the World Air Quality Report.

Lebens, home to 14m people, was smogged in apocalyptic smog, with AQI readings often exceeding 1,000. This has reduced life expectancy by up to 4.5 years in major cities, while air pollution costs the country \$47 billion annually — nearly 5.8pc of GDP.

She noted that smog affects

11m children under five in Punjab, exposing them to the threatening respiratory diseases.

"Air pollution is a silent killer and has become the 8th worst in Pakistan, responsible for 128,000 deaths annually," she warned. "It is imperative that we address this crisis with urgency."

She emphasised that switching to electric vehicles, especially when integrated with renewable energy, could significantly reduce emissions and improve air quality.

"EVs do not emit pollutants, which makes them a powerful tool for improving public health outcomes in densely populated urban centres," she added. "With 40pc of air pollution emissions in Pakistan attributed to the transport sector, adopting EVs is not just beneficial — it is imperative."

Senator Rehman called for policies that incentivise both the import and local manufacturing of EVs, alongside building a sustainable ecosystem for their maintenance and use-effective use.

"The consumer has to see this as an attractive choice that reduces petrol bills while making transport easier and more efficient," she emphasised.

She acknowledged Pakistan's recent strides in this area, including the launch of its first electric bus service in Karachi and plans for 500 fully electric buses to modernise the city's public transport network.

"The Road Transport & Motor Vehicle Corporation's initiative is a crucial step forward, and partnerships like those between BYD and Mega Motor Company to set up an EV manufacturing plant in Karachi are laying the foundation for an electric mobility ecosystem in Pakistan," she noted.

By shifting from internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles to EVs, "we can unlock unparalleled opportunities for sustainable development while contributing meaningfully to the global fight against climate change," she said.

As per New Energy Vehicle Policy 2025-2030, Pakistan aims for 50pc of all new vehicle sales to be electric by 2030, 70pc by 2040, and 90pc by 2050. This phased approach is essential to ensure building the infrastructure, battery manufacturing plants, and charging networks for supporting large-scale EV adoption, Senator Rehman said.

Other speakers at the conference addressed challenges and opportunities in the EV sector.

Reforms under way to privatise PIA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will be privatised without any subsidies, as



New assessment system causes port congestion

Link: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1880272/ev-transition-must-to-combat-pollution-sherry>

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EV conference calls for phasing out fossil fuels to tackle climate crisis

By our correspondent

KARACHI: The inaugural Pakistan electric vehicle (EV) conference, themed 'Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable Future', was held in Karachi on Saturday, marking a significant milestone in promoting sustainable transportation in the country.

Organised by the Climate Action Centre (CAC), the event brought together diverse stakeholders from government, industry, academia and finance. It concluded with a strong call to phase out fossil fuel use in traffic, underscoring the urgent need for climate action.

The conference sought to spark dialogue among key players in the EV ecosystem, addressing industry challenges and identifying opportunities for growth and collaboration. A key focus was the draft New Energy Vehicle Policy 2025 and the creation of an EV industry alliance to strengthen the sector. The event, part of a two-phase initiative, will continue in

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Lahore in February 2025 to build upon the discussions initiated in Karachi.

Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman, addressing as chief guest, stressed the pivotal role of civil society in combating climate change and the need for transformational policies. "Civil society is central and pivotal in addressing climate change. Without its engagement, there is no meaningful action," she said. Rehman also talked about the importance of making EVs affordable and developing local manufacturing to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Two-panel discussions highlighted the event. The first panel, moderated by Dr Aazir Khan of the University of Lahore, focused on finance and policy. Panelists included Dr Naveed Arshad from LUMS Energy Institute, Rabeel Warraich of Sarmayacar, Muhammad Atif Hanif from

Continued on page 18

Link:

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1264185-ev-conference-calls-for-phasing-out-fossil-fuels-to-tackle-climate-crisis>

First EV conference calls for phasing out fossil fuels to tackle climate crisis

KARACHI
STAFF REPORT

The inaugural Pakistan Electric Vehicle (EV) Conference, themed "Accelerating the Transition to a Sustainable Future," took place in Karachi on Saturday. Organized by the Climate Action Centre (CAC), the event marked a significant step toward promoting sustainable transportation in Pakistan.

Bringing together stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and financial institutions, the conference concluded with a strong call to phase out fossil fuel use in traffic, emphasizing the urgent need for climate action.

The conference aimed to initiate a dialogue among key players in the EV ecosystem, address the challenges faced by the industry, and identify opportunities for growth and collaboration. Participants also discussed the draft New Energy Vehicle Policy 2025 and explored the creation of an EV industry alliance to strengthen the sector. As part of a two-phase initiative, the conference will continue in Lahore in February 2025, building on the discussions initiated in Karachi.

Senator Sherry Rehman, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, served as the chief guest. In her keynote address, she underlined the pivotal role of civil society in tackling climate change and stressed the need for transformational policies. "Civil so-

ciety is central and pivotal in addressing climate change. Without its engagement, there is no meaningful action," she said. Rehman highlighted the urgency of making EVs affordable and establishing local manufacturing capabilities to reduce Pakistan's reliance on fossil fuels.

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The panelists included Dr. Naveed Arshad, Director of LUMS Energy Institute; Rabeel Warraich, founder and CEO of Sarmayacar; Muhammad Atif Hanif, CEO of Al Baraka Bank (Pakistan); and Zafar Masud, President and CEO of The Bank of Punjab. They discussed the importance of unlocking private finance for decarbonization, addressing capacity issues at the provincial level, and tapping into international climate funding.

Masud noted that while provinces have sufficient resources, they face serious challenges in developing and implementing policies despite decision-making being much easier at the provincial level, he said.

The second panel, moderated by Bilal Hussain, Editorial and Insights Lead at Invest2Innovate, focused on industry and innovation. Panelists included Hasan Qureshi, Government Relations Manager at

inDrive; Kashif Riaz, Director of Projects at DFML, Honeri; Sadullah Ejaz, General Manager of Corporate Affairs and HR at Atlas Honda Ltd; and Sheikh Osama Nadeem, CEO of E-Turbo Motors. Discussions centered on the hurdles in scaling the EV industry, fostering innovation in manufacturing.

Several key takeaways emerged from the event. Senator Sherry Rehman stressed that affordability is crucial for meaningful progress in EV adoption. She emphasized the need for policies tailored to Pakistan's unique challenges, saying, "Smart slogans are not enough; we need realistic, accelerated policies."

The importance of establishing a local EV manufacturing base to reduce dependence on imports was also a recurring theme. Meanwhile, panelists highlighted inefficiencies in accessing international climate funds and called for structured, actionable efforts to secure such financing. Rabeel Warraich shared that it took two years to secure \$15 million from the Green Climate Fund, underscoring the need for coherent strategies to tap into global funding pools.

Yasir Husain, founder of CAC and chief organizer of the conference, emphasized the need to transition away from fossil fuels. "The use of fossil fuel has to end. Groups like the Climate Action Centre have an important role to play in advocating for and facilitating this transition," he said.

Link: https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2024/12/22/epaper_24-12-22-khi/



جلد (26) آخر 22 دسمبر 2024ء، بمطابق 19 جمادي الثاني 1446ھ (شمارو 126) قیمت 10 روپيا

پاڪستان جي مستقبل اليڪٽرڪ گاڏيا ساز لاڳاپيل آهي: شيڊي رحمان

پيڪٽرڪ گاڏيا سازي جو گڏيل دوست آهن: انهن گاڏين جي وسيلي جوڳا ٿي. خاڪو ٿي سگهي ٿو

سنڌ حڪومت اليڪٽرڪ گاڏين جي استعمال تي اڳ ٿي ڪم ڪري رهي آهي

ڪوئي ٻي آڏون نه: قاضي احمد، اليڪٽرڪ گاڏيون جي متعلق مساجد ۽ آگاهي ڏيندڙ
ماڳهه: اليڪٽرڪ گاڏيا سازي ۽ ڊيزل گاڏين جي سڃاڻپ ۽ سڃاڻپ



جلد (26) اگارو 24 دسمبر 2024ء، بمطابق 21 جمادی الثانی 1446ھ (شمارو 128) قیمت 10 روپيا

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آفاق پتی

[illegible]

پاکستان ۾
آخياري ڪري ورتي
هي وڪڙ ۾ آهي
پنجاب حڪومت
آپريشنس لاءِ
تجهيز ۾ آهن. ان
تحت موڪلون ڪرڻ
۽ رهڻ جو سلسلو
آپريشن گڏائڻ ۾
شهر مان گذرڻ
تي پابندي
ڳاڙهي وئي،
اسٽيٽن ۾
آپريشنس لاءِ
ڪشي وئي
پاڪستان ڏاکڻين
جي بيماري،
ترڪي زڪار
۽ ڪشمير جا
سرخين تيار
گهڻا وڏي ساءِ
ماتهن تي ساه
ڪشي ۾
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جلد: 13 | شمارہ: 185 | تاریخ: 19 جنوری 2024ء | قیمت: 15 روپے

ماحولیاتی بحران سے نمٹنے کیلئے ”فوسل فیول کا خاتمہ“ کا مطالبہ

پہلی الیکٹرک وہیکل کانفرنس کا انعقاد سینئر شیری رحمن بطور مہمان خصوصی شریک ہوئیں

ایونٹ پاکستان کے پائیدار ٹرانسپورٹیشن کے سفر میں ایک سنگ میل ثابت ہوا، رپورٹ

تبادلہ خیال اور اس کی خامیوں کو دور کرنا، EV انڈسٹری کے اتحاد یا ایسوسی ایشن کے قیام کی راہوں کا جائزہ لینا ہے یہ دو مراحل پر مشتمل کانفرنس فروری 2025 میں لاہور میں جاری رہے گی جو کراچی میں شروع ہونے والی گفتگو کو آگے بڑھائے گی، نمایاں شرکاء اور پینل ڈسکشنز اس ایونٹ میں چیئر پرسن اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹی برائے ماحولیاتی تبدیلی، سینئر شیری رحمن بطور مہمان خصوصی شریک ہوئیں، اپنے خطاب میں انہوں نے ماحولیاتی اقدامات میں سول سوسائٹی کی شمولیت کی اہمیت اور انقلابی پالیسیوں کی ضرورت پر زور دیا شیری رحمن نے کہا کہ ماحولیاتی تبدیلی سے نمٹنے میں سول سوسائٹی کا کردار مرکزی اور فیصلہ کن ہے اس کی شمولیت کے بغیر کوئی معنی خیز عمل ممکن نہیں، انہوں نے EVs کو سستا بنانے اور مقامی مینوفیکچرنگ کی اہمیت پر بھی روشنی ڈالی۔

کانفرنس

کراچی (رپورٹ / ایم جے کے) پاکستان الیکٹرک وہیکل (EV) کانفرنس، جس کا موضوع پائیدار مستقبل کی طرف تیزی سے منتقلی تھا، کراچی میں کلائمٹ ایکشن سینٹر (CAC) کے زیر اہتمام منعقد کی گئی یہ اہم ایونٹ پاکستان کے پائیدار ٹرانسپورٹیشن کے سفر میں ایک سنگ میل ثابت ہوا، جس میں حکومت، صنعت، تعلیمی اداروں، اور مالیاتی اداروں کے نمائندے شریک ہوئے، کانفرنس کا اختتام ٹریفک میں فوسل فیول کے استعمال کو ختم کرنے کے پرزور مطالبے کے ساتھ ہوا، جو فوری ماحولیاتی اقدامات کی ضرورت کو اجاگر کرتا ہے، کانفرنس کا مقصد EV ایکوسسٹم کے اہم شراکت داروں کے درمیان تعمیری مکالمے کو فروغ دینا، چیلنجز اور مواقع کی نشاندہی کرنا اور مشترکہ ترقی کے مواقع تلاش کرنا تھا، EV شراکت داروں کے درمیان مکالمے کا آغاز، انڈسٹری کے مسائل کو اجاگر کرنا، نیوانرجی وہیکل پالیسی 2025 کے مسودے پر



انفرا اسٹرکچر خراب تو کیا ہوا، ای وی پھر بھی استعمال کی جاسکتی، شیریں رحمن
پاکستان دنیا کا دوسرا آلودہ ترین ملک، الیکٹرک گاڑیوں کا استعمال زندگی کیلئے ضروری ہو گیا
ماحولیاتی آلودگی کو قابو کرنے کیلئے مل کر کام کرنا ہوگا، الیکٹرک وہیکل کانفرنس سے خطاب
 کراچی (رپورٹ: محمد حمزہ گیلانی) سینیٹر شیریں رحمن کی عجیب منطق، انفرا اسٹرکچر خراب ہے تو کیا ہوا
 الیکٹرک گاڑیاں پھر بھی استعمال کی جاسکتی ہیں، کراچی میں پاکستان الیکٹرک وہیکل کانفرنس سے خطاب
 میں سینیٹر شیریں رحمن نے کہا کہ پاکستان دنیا کا دوسرا آلودہ ترین ملک ہے، ای وی کا استعمال اب صحت اور
 زندگی کیلئے ضروری ہو گیا ہے، ماحولیاتی آلودگی کو کنٹرول کرنے کیلئے ہم سب نے مل کر کام کرنا ہوگا۔ شیریں
 رحمن کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ ماحولیاتی آلودگی میں گاڑیوں سے پیدا ہونے والی آلودگی کا حصہ تقریباً 48 فیصد
 ہے، پاکستان میں الیکٹرک وہیکل گاڑیاں انقلاب برپا کر سکتی ہیں۔ کانفرنس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے
 انہوں نے کہا کہ الیکٹرک وہیکل گاڑیوں کی تعداد بڑھانے کیلئے ٹریف اور ٹیکسز میں کمی کرنا ہوگی،
 پرائیویٹ سیکٹر سے مشاورت کر کے الیکٹرک وہیکل سیکٹر میں آسانیاں پیدا کرنا ہوں گی۔ سینیٹر شیریں رحمن
 نے میڈیا سے گفتگو میں پہلے تسلیم کیا کہ صرف کراچی کا نہیں ملک کے تمام بڑے شہروں کا انفرا اسٹرکچر
 خراب ہے، پھر انوکھی منطق پیش کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ انفرا اسٹرکچر خراب ہونے کے باوجود بھی الیکٹرک
 گاڑیاں استعمال کرنے میں کوئی قباحت نہیں۔ شیریں رحمن نے صحافیوں کو سوالوں کے جواب دیتے ہوئے
 مزید کہا کہ الیکٹرک وہیکلز کو امپورٹ کرنے کی شروعات سندھ حکومت نے کر دی ہے، عنقریب مزید
 500 بسیں آ جائیں گی۔

Websites:

- <https://www.brecorder.com/news/40338897/sherry-rehman-urges-stakeholders-to-ignite-ev-buyers-to-overcome-climate-change-impacts>
- <https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2024/12/21/inaugural-pakistan-ev-conference-calls-for-unified-action-on-policy-and-financing/>
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Program Agenda

Time	Agenda	Duration
09:30 AM	Guest Registrations & Networking	30 mins
10:00 AM	Opening • Hussain Rizvi & Kinza Naseem (Team Green Energy- CAC)	05 mins
10:05 AM	Keynote Speech - Dr. Aazir Khan (University of Lahore)	15 mins
10:20 AM	Chief guest - Sherry Rehman (Chairperson standing committee on Climate Change)	10 mins
10:30 AM	Panel 1- Finance and Policy Moderator: Dr. Aazir Khan (University of Lahore) Panelists: • Policy ○ Dr Naveed Arshad- Director LUMS Energy Institute • Industry ○ Rabeel Warraich- CEO & Founder- Sarmayacar • Finance ○ Muhammad Atif Hanif- CEO- Al Baraka Bank ○ Zafar Masud- President Bank of Punjab	60 mins
11:30 AM	Guest of Honor Remarks- Financial Ecosystem for EV Industry in Pakistan Speaker: Zafar Masud- President- Bank of Punjab	10 mins

11:40 AM	Panel 2- <i>Industry and Innovation</i> Moderator: Bilal Hussain- Editorial & Research Lead- Invest2innovate Panelists: ● Kashif Riaz- Director- Dewan Farooque Motors Limited ● Sadullah Ejaz- GM Corporate Affairs- Atlas Honda ● Osama Sheikh- CEO- ETurbo ● Hasan Qureshi - Government Relations Manager- InDrive	60 mins
12:40 PM	Talk Speaker- Yasir Husain (Director CAC)	15 mins
12:55 PM	Closing and Networking ● Thank You Note by CAC	05 mins
01:00 PM	Lunch	-