Dear Sirs/Madams,

Refinance Facility for Modernization of SMEs- Expansion in the Scope

Please refer to SMEFD Circular No. 07 dated May 06, 2010 regarding Refinance Facility for Modernization of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and subsequent instructions issued from time to time on the subject.

2. It has been observed that emissions from conventional brick kilns, most of which are located in or around urban and sub-urban settlements, are a major source of air pollution and smog. The emission of carbon and other particulate matter can be significantly cut down by adoption of the new zigzag technology. It would also allow cost saving by cutting down on fuel consumption.

3. In this respect, it is clarified that refinance for purchase of plant and machinery for upgradation of existing conventional brick kilns and establishment of zigzag technology based brick kilns, being SMEs, is available under the above mentioned Circular. As a further facilitation in line with SBP's efforts to promote environmental considerations under green banking, refinance under the Scheme shall also be available for carrying out civil works up-to 20% of total project cost for conversion of conventional brick kiln and up-to 50% of total project cost for establishment of a new zigzag technology based brick kiln.

4. Other terms and conditions of the Scheme shall remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully,

(Ghulam Muhammad)
Director