



Nepal Rastra bank

Press news

A three day conference (20-22 April 2012) on Economics and Finance organized by Nepal Rastra Bank concluded today. In the closing session, Governor Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada distributed certificates and token of love to the guest Speaker and the national and international Paper presenters. Addressing the closing session Governor Khatiwada emphasized on the objectives of the conference. The objectives were to discuss the issues on inclusive growth, financial architecture and regulation of the financial system. He stated that "to ensure sustainable economic growth, improved access to finance to reduce income inequality so that low income households, that still constitute a majority, have chances to escape from poverty".



Presenting summary of the conference Executive Director Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha said the conference became successful to foster constructive discussion on the various dimensions of the role of financial sector development on economic growth and poverty. He added that during the sessions of conference, there were three common thoughts which are the reaffirmation of the importance of the financial sector for economic growth, the level of economic development and maturity of the financial system which determine the type of policy for steering financial development and the importance of having appropriate levels of regulation. He believed that the conference has provided the insight to the participants regarding the issues related to financial sector and poverty alleviation.

The conference has brought together economists and financial sector experts from 16 countries, more than 100 participants and included 21 sessions on a range of subjects related to macroeconomic management and the financial sector.

Before this, Honorable Minister of Finance Mr. Barsha Man Pun inaugurated the conference. Delivering the opening remark, he stressed the need for judicious planning and proper economic management for attaining equity, fairness and justice alongside poverty reduction. Honorable Minister Mr. Pun emphasized on the distribution of wealth among haves and have nots which are generated by the economic growth process. Eliminating the gap between the poor and rich would help to reduce the social conflicts.

Earlier, welcoming the participants to the conference, Governor Dr. Khatiwada said that the conference will help policymakers to find their way to promote a financial system that would sustain growth, while being both efficient and resilient.

He reiterated that access to financial services enables the poor to build assets, raise incomes and reduce vulnerability to economic stresses. He added that the strategies of the Nepal Rastra Bank have been to consolidate the institutional expansion along with ensuring better access to financial services.

The Governor stressed that the growth of the real sector was vital for the continuous expansion of the financial sector. He urged that banks and financial institutions have to prioritize productive use of credit to promote the real sector.

Mr. Faisal Ahmed, resident representative of the International Monetary Fund in Cambodia, made a presentation entitled "The Role of Financial Sector Development in Economic Growth and Poverty Alleviation: Policy Challenges Facing the Low income Countries" as a guest speaker at the inaugural program. Mr. Ahmed said that macroeconomic volatility affects the poor the most because they have lower coping abilities. He also urged that a policy balance between development and stability is essential. He continued that for balancing the policies at national and international level, regular policy dialogues and discussions are to be taken among countries with similar economies.

Deputy Governor Mr. Gopal Prasad Kaphle delivered a vote of thanks. He emphasized the importance of access to financial services for the poor and real sector growth.

22 April 2012

Office of the Governor