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**Karachi:** The Karachi Metropolitan Corporation's local taxes department has been directed to improve on its taxation recovery and cancel the permits of defaulting advertisers. The KMC administrator, Syed Hashim Raza Zaidi, issued the orders during a meeting with the taxation department's senior director, Masood Alam. The advertisers should be given a last chance to pay the dues and immediate action should be taken against them if they fail to do so, he said. The advertisement firms owe millions of rupees in arrears to the KMC on account of the billboards on display at different thoroughfares in Karachi, Zaidi said. Despite being warned from time to time, the companies have not paid the annual fees. Every citizen should pay the dues of KMC timely to complete the ongoing development projects and ensure cleanliness, improvement of infrastructure and beautification, he said. Especially the organisations and individuals involved in profitable businesses should pay their dues without delay. The KMC administrator believed the resources of KMC could be enhanced by increasing the recovery at the departments. All departments should play their role to ensure recoveries to complete projects and timely payment of salaries. The taxes director presented the balance sheet of the past three years and briefed Zaidi about the status of recovery. A recovery campaign will be immediately launched and action will be taken against the defaulters, Alam said. Zaidi, who is also the city commissioner, asked the advertisers to directly contact the taxation director in case of any genuine problem. Different teams have been formed to improve the recovery status and take action against the defaulters. The administrator has been ensured that the local taxes department will meet its targets.

Courtesy: The New