

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD ON DECEMBER 30, 2022.

01. A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on December 30, 2022 at 11:00 hours at Sheikh Muhammad Shafi Hall of the Sialkot Chamber.

02. Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Senior Vice President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry presided over the meeting. He thanked the members for attending the meeting.

03. The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.

04. The following members attended the meeting:

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| • Mr. Wahub Jahangir | Senior Vice President |
| • Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh | Vice President |
| • Mr. Adnan Yousaf | -Member- |
| • Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan | -do- |
| • Mr. Awais Ahmed | -do- |
| • Mr. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid | -do- |
| • Mr. Jawad Hussain | -do- |
| • Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi | -do- |
| • Mian Fiaz Ahmed | -do- |
| • Mian Imran Akbar | -do- |
| • Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz | -do- |
| • Mr. Naeem Yousaf | -do- |
| • Mr. Peeter John | -do- |
| • Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta | -do- |
| • Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz | -do- |
| • Mr. Toheed Nasir | -do- |

05. Leave of Absence

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| • Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik | President |
| • Mr. Afzaal Bhatti | -Member- |
| • Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan | -do- |
| • Ms. Lubna Tubsim | -do- |
| • Mr. Saqib Ashfaq | -do- |
| • Mr. Zain Ul Abideen | -do- |

06. Special Invitees.

- Mr. Mohsan Gull, Chairman Departmental Committee on Religious Cultural Affairs.
- Mr. Nadeem Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on TMA/Excise.
- Mr. Fizan Akbar, Chairman Departmental Committee on SME/Training & Young Entrepreneurs

07. The Committee offered Fateha for departed souls and passed condolence resolution on the sad demise of the following: -

- Mr. Zia ur Rehman Ghauree, Brother in Law of Mr. M. Ejaz Ghauree
- Mr. M. Javed, Father of Mr. Taimoor Javed of M/s. Moto Sports
- Mr. M. Ayyaz Mehmood Deura, Brother of Dr. Hamayun Deura
- Sister of M. Saghir Wahla, Director of Air Sial

08. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on October 29, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

09. Point discussed.	Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of November.
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Discussion:

Mr. Awais Ahmed inquired about increase in prices of Printing & Stationery from Rs. 777,502 as compared to last month which was Rs. 230,000/- Secondly, he requested to get explanation of the advance of PKR 1,838,479 to Ms. Buraq Corporation and PKR 285,750/- to Ms. Hamza Enterprises as mentioned in Advances to suppliers' point No. 5.2 Page No. 4.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the details regarding Printing & Stationery were mentioned on Page No. 8 Point No. 20 and Advances to Supplier was mentioned on Page No. 4 Point No. 5.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir requested Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne to explain.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne gave details of above as follows:-

- An amount of PKR 377,000/- for bulletin was paid due to which the amount had increased.
- Advance payment of PKR 1,838,479 was paid to Ms. Buraq Corporation for floor Tiles on account of Renovation work of Membership Department.
- Advance payment of PKR 285,750/- was paid to Ms. Hamza Enterprises for 18 Racks for Membership Department.

Mr. Awais Ahmed asked about the status of maintaining funds in conventional banks to avail maximum monetary benefits (markup).

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that account had been opened in Askari Bank and its profit would be shown in next month's accounts statement.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf inquired about total budget of renovation work of Membership Department.

The Secretary General replied that it would be Rs. 10(M) to 15 (M).

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that 10 to 15 was a big difference, it could be Rs. 14-15 (M).

The Secretary General said that maximum would be around Rs. 15(M).

Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Awais Ahmed, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, The Secretary General and Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne.
Approval	Approved.

10. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on TMA & Excise held on December 14, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

11. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on SME/Training & Young Entrepreneurs held on December 24, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

12. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Dry Port/Airport/ Shipping/Railways/Transportation held on December 24, 2022.
<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Mian Imran Akbar said that there was an issue of Cargo Express Train.</p> <p>Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that Pasrur Road Business Community Group was especially invited in the meeting to discuss the point of the Cargo Express Train from Wazirabad to Karachi but the concerned individuals were not present in the meeting, therefore, the matter was not discussed in detail.</p> <p>Mian Imran Akbar shared that while he was President the project of the Cargo Express Train from Wazirabad to Karachi was also discussed with Khawaja Saad Rafique, Federal Minister of Railway and Khawaja Muhammad Asif. The project was not feasible for Sialkot due to various reasons including security issue, time management (to reach in time according to cut, shipment delivery at port and double rent of the Railway container as compared to currently charged of truck container etc.</p> <p>Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that main issue was the establishment of terminal to deliver shipment which was at Wazirabad and there was no custom port to custom clear the shipments.</p> <p>Mr. Adnan Yousaf inquired about the status of shifting of the Muzzafarpur Railway Crossing.</p> <p>Mian Imran Akbar replied that it had been decided that TMA/Local Government would be provided the funds of PKR 25(M) to complete the project but now he had come to know that the Government had approved overhead bridge with a budget of PRK 2.5(B) instead of shifting of the Muzaffarpur Railway Crossing. It was the worst example of using the country's resources that an issue which could be resolved with nominal funds was sanctioned huge funds for another project. He requested the President to take up the matter with the concerned authorities that there was no need of overhead bridge but issue could be resolved by fixing problem of railway crossing.</p> <p>Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that the funds for shifting of the Muzzafarpur Railway Crossing for smooth traffic had been approved by Deputy Commissioner in a meeting with him during the tenure of Mian Imran Akbar.</p> <p>Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that the ultimate solution to control the flow of traffic on Adalat Garh Road was to build an Underpass or overhead bridge instead of only shifting of the Muzzafarpur Railway Crossing because all the load of heavy traffic of Small Industrial Zone and Shahab Pura Area and City passed from this road. He said that another issue of the blockage of traffic on the road was closure of railway gate at the time of passing of trains. He said that cost of an underpass was less than overhead bridge, therefore it should be requested to the concerned authorities to approve an underpass instead of overhead bridge.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the matter was relating to TMA Committee, therefore, it would be referred to the Committee.</p>	
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, and Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim.
Approval	Approved

13. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Event Management and Liaison Committee held on December 24, 2022.
Discussion:	
<p>Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the agenda as per the notice of meeting received to members was Interaction with Committee Members and to discuss the matters related to upcoming Chamber's event. The agenda of cake cutting ceremony of Quaid-e-Azam birthday was not included whereas it had been mentioned in the minutes.</p> <p>Mr. Muhammad Mohsan Gul replied that a joint meeting of different Departmental Committee meetings was held due to same time of meetings. He said that the cake cutting ceremony of the celebration of the Birthday of Quaid-e-Azam was organized in this Chamber.</p> <p>Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim endorsed Mr. Naeem Yousaf and expressed his concern for not inviting the Executive Committee Members in the event. He said that most of the members knew about the event but the Executive Committee had not been informed. He said that last year, the EC Members were taken onboard about all activities held in this Chamber for which he was thankful to former President but this year the information was not being shared properly. Some of the members decided and organized the event. He requested that the Executive Committee should be taken onboard to share the information and invite them through Executive Committee WhatsApp Group.</p> <p>Mr. Mohsan Gull replied that all the members of the Departmental Committee were invited.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that the point was to get onboard the Executive Committee Members as well.</p> <p>Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that since the minutes had to be approved by the Executive Committee, therefore, his point was that the meeting was not held as per the notice of meeting received to members and if two or three combined meetings were held then it should have been mentioned. Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that he had no objection for organizing the event but the issue was that the Executive Committee should have been taken onboard of the birthday ceremony of Quaid-e-Azam.</p> <p>Mr. Mohsin Gul agreed and also informed that the program of the cake cutting ceremony was not pre-fixed but was done under the Committee Meeting keeping in view of the timing. He said that usually all the members including EC Members were invited, in any planned program, held in this Chamber. He ensured to take care in future.</p>	
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and Mr. Mohsan Gull.
Approval	Approved
14. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Religious & Cultural Affairs held on December 24, 2022.
Approval	Approved.
15. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Education held on December 26, 2022
Approval	Approved.

16. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Banking and Finance held on December 27, 2022
Discussion.	
<p>Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta said that issue of the exporter facing problem in getting his first payment against export proceeds, which was replied by the Chairman that the case should be reported to the Sialkot Chamber in written form for its redressal.</p> <p>Mian Imran Akbar suggested that there was need to work on it because the notices were served to the exporters regarding late payment clearance. Moreover, the hearing process had also been initiated and the exporters were being harassed.</p> <p>Mr. Naeem Yousaf shared that he had also received a notice, although, the payment was credited in his account.</p> <p>Mian Imran Akbar said that there was a need to discuss the issue with the State Bank because all the things were not in control of the Exporter regarding the payment dealings.</p> <p>Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi shared that lot of documents were demanded in foreign transactions. He said that previously only the advance payment voucher was required for clearance of advance payment but now the additional documents like Affidavit and Passport or Driving License of the sender of payment were demanded and same complete documents were demanded, for every part of payment received. He said that it took 3-4 days for approval because the concerned banks, its Regional Branches and State Bank were involved in the approval process. He suggested that the concerned Bank Branches should be authorized for the approval to save the time and in time delivery of shipment.</p> <p>Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta requested to send his point in writing which was replied by Mian Imran Akbar that it had been noted in the EC Meeting, hence, no need to send in writing.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the point had been noted and would be referred to Chairman Banking Committee to proceed further with the concerned.</p>	
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi and Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta
Approval	Approved.

17. Point discussed.	Approval of Report of meeting on visit of 52 nd PN Staff Course from Pakistan Navy War College Lahore held on November 26, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

18. Point discussed.	Approval of report of awareness session on Recent Trends in MDR Regulations and Up-gradation of Surgical Industry organized by NUST-ICON held on December 03, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

19. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Inland Study tour of 35 th Mid-Career Management Course from National Institute of Management Islamabad held on December 06, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

20. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Inland Study tour of 35 th Mid-Career Management Course from National Institute of Management Peshawar held on December 08, 2022
Approval	Approved.

21. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Environmental Protection/PHA held on December 09, 2022
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Discussion:

Mian Imran Akbar appreciated Choudhry Jahangir Rashid for discussion of important points in his Committee Meeting. He requested him to get onboard the members about upcoming event of plantation and also request them to participate and contribute to make it successful. He also requested Choudhry Jahangir Rashid to work on the point of matching grant scheme of World Bank to install package treatment plant within Surgical Instruments and Sports Goods factories, as discussed by Mr. Atif Raza in Committee Meeting. He said that it could be a very good program for surgical & sports industries.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf appreciated and suggested that the members relating to Surgical field should be taken on board regarding the above point of matching grant scheme.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied positively and said that the industry would be consulted about the members by completion of initial work. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid also informed that the members who were involved in tannery businesses should shift their business into Sialkot Tannery Zone (STZ) to avoid any inconvenience because the Department had planned to take very strict action including sealing of business premises. The Environment Department had been forcing the District Administrative to allow for taking action. He said that it had been planned to arrange Awareness Seminars to motivate Tanners of Sialkot to shift their tanneries to Sialkot Tannery Zone.

Mian Imran Akbar said that the DC had formed a Committee on the issue of fake allotment of the plots in Sialkot Tannery Zone. He asked any further development of the Committee in this regard.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied that in a meeting with DC, the Environment Department had requested the Deputy Commissioner and Session Judge to pass the order for taking action against Tanners including fine or sealing of the Tanneries but he had opposed and requested the Deputy Commissioner that the request of Environment Department should not be approved. He had suggested to some time to the tanneries because there was a recession in the businesses all over the world and if they took any action under current circumstances, further problems would emerge. Let the tannery zone work be completed, then it would forcefully be requested to shift the tanneries in Sialkot Tannery Zone. The Environment Department had also complained that some people had been allotted the plots for investment purposes relating to which the DC had advised them to get the details from the Management of Tannery Zone. The Chairman of STZ had agreed for the provision of information and after that he did not have any further information whether they got the information or not because it was relating to the management of STZ and Environment Department. The role of Sialkot Chamber was like a bridge which it had been performing.

Mian Fiaz Ahmed said that the tanneries could not be shifted in Sialkot Tannery Zone until the work of treatment plant was completed. Secondly, as concerned to allotment of plots for investment purposes, it was just a propaganda of some 15-20 people who did not make payment in the year 2015-2016 for the

allotment of plots.

Mian Imran Akbar said that the committee formed by the DC was a very good development for the Sialkot Chamber and Sialkot Tannery Zone, if the Committee took decision as per the facts, the case would be closed forever. He suggested that the Sialkot Chamber should request the Deputy Commissioner to direct the Committee to take decision and submit report.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid agreed and also confirmed that he would request personally to Deputy Commissioner. He also appreciated the Deputy Commissioner for his maximum co-operation and expressing his ownership for the Sialkot Tannery Zone Project. He further informed that it had been planned to invite the DG Environment.

Mian Imran Akbar said that Sialkot was fortunate to have excellent Deputy Commissioner for Sialkot who was trying his best to implement the suggestions shared with him in the meeting for the betterment of the city. The District Government had started action against the professional beggars in the city which was a real change.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf suggested that enforcement of law and implementation by force, wherever necessary was essential for bringing improvement, otherwise the people were not used to it. The project should not be politicized because it was for the betterment & survival of the city. He also appreciated Deputy Commissioner for his working for the betterment of the city.

Chaudhry Jahangir Rasheed replied that any project initiated for the city of Sialkot, whether it was approved from the platform of the Sialkot Chamber should be successful. He said that he never took any political influence and mentioned that he had included the representatives of different departments as members of the Committee. He was trying his best to make betterment relating to his Committee.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim informed that the members had to go to Lahore to appear before Special Additional Judge for the hearing of the cases relating to the Environment Department. He requested that Special Hearing Tribunal should also be established in Sialkot, which would save the time of the exporters, who were single handedly running their businesses. He said that he had already requested during the visit of Secretary Environment to Sialkot Chamber.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid endorsed Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and said that it had already been approved by the Committee to invite Director General, EPD to SCCI to discuss issues related to Environmental Protection Department. He also requested that the members should share the information about the notices issued to them from the Department, so that issue might be resolved amicably. In this regard, he shared the case of member, resolved by him by paying PKR 20,000/- instead of paying full amount of PKR 400,000/- as demanded.

Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi suggested that notices should be sent to Tanners for shifting their Tanneries in Sialkot Tannery Zone because lot of time was required for shifting from one place to other.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied that it had been planned to arrange Awareness Seminars to motivate Tanners of Sialkot to shift their tanneries to Sialkot Tannery Zone after installment of the treatment plant and other necessities installed in Sialkot Tannery Zone.

Participants	Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mian Fiaz Ahmed, Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi, Choudhry Jahangir
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	Rashid and Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim.
Approval	Approved.

22. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Post Office/Telecommunication held on December 13, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

23. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Inland Study tour of 35 th Mid-Career Management Course from National Institute of Management Lahore held on December 12, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

24. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of Mr. Abdullah Khurram Niazi, Deputy Commissioner Sialkot held on December 13, 2022.
Discussion	
<p>Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that Mr. Abdullah Khurram Niazi, Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot was working well for the betterment of the Sialkot which had also been acknowledged by Mian Imran Akbar. He requested the house to appreciate the DC.</p> <p>Mr. Wahub Jahangir suggested that appreciation letter should be sent which was agreed by the house.</p> <p>Choudhry Jahangir Rashid requested that the EC Members should also be allow to ask their questions in such meetings.</p>	
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Adnan Yousaf and Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.
Approval	Approved.

25. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Media held on December 13, 2022
Approval	Approved.

26. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Industrial Safety and Risk Management held on December 15, 2022.
Discussion:	
<p>Mr. Toheed Nasir Mirza said that the committee had recommended for the approval of PKR 2.5(M) regarding the safety measures of SCCI's building as recommended by Rescue 1122. He said that there was no need to spend such a big amount for the building for safety purpose.</p> <p>Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that as Chairman of Committee on Industrial Safety and Risk Management, he observed that the Sialkot Chamber's building was lacking safety measures, therefore, he approached the Rescue 1122 team and requested them to conduct the safety inspection of the building of Sialkot Chamber, which they conducted and prepared inspection report. The Committee meeting was called on December 15, 2022 wherein all the issues including inspection report were discussed. The said amount of PKR 2.5 (M) was needed to be spent on different sectors liked Fire hydrants system PKR 1.2m, Booster Pump PKR 565000 and Fire Alarming System PKR 508000. There was no Emergency Exit at the first floor, therefore it had been planned to install iron stairs besides the library and its cost would be around R 400,000/- approx. He said that importance of safety measures could be considered according to a survey conducted by International Labor Organization 270 million industrial accidents and 160 million dangerous incidents had already occurred which had caused around 2 million fatalities and loss of 4% GDP of the entire world. Moreover, one of the requirements of the loan financing companies to sanction</p>	

the loan was to fulfill the safety measures. He said that safety was the basic requirement of any organization. He said that if an institution could spend 1.7 million for a projector, then an amount of PKR 2.5 (M) could be spent on a building for the safety of the staff and the members. He requested for the approval of amount of PKR 2.5(M) for safety measures of the building.

Mian Imran Akbar appreciated Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim for his efforts. He said that there were mainly five export sectors in Sialkot and the Department was not well aware on how to treat each sector because they only emphasized on water/fire hydrants system. He suggested that each sector should have separate SOPs to treat according to its requirements. As concerned to the safety measures of the building, he suggested that the work should be done, stepwise because already the projects had been initiated.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid endorsed Mian Imran Akbar. He also suggested that the Safety Measures of the SCCI's Building should be implemented, at any cost, to present it as role model; otherwise, it could not be requested to members for the implementation of safety measures in their business premises. He added that the industries could be categorized for the implementation of safety measures and in this regard, it could be requested to the Department for the special offer.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim had done a good job but the problem was that the Sialkot Chamber was not a 10 storey building that required to meet such high requirements regarding safety measures. He said that it was a one-story building having emergency exits from right, back and front side of the building. He said that the cost could be reduced by revisiting the estimate. He endorsed the suggestion of Mian Imran Akbar to work stepwise.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf was of the view that the project proposed by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim was very good; therefore, it should be implemented. He said that a time period of six months could be set for the implementation. The Project cost could be checked by the Vice President.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim suggested that the project should be initiated during the construction work going presently at the Chamber. He said that the cost of Booster Pump of Rs. 565000 could be excluded to reduce the cost.

Mian Fiaz Ahmed suggested that availability of funds could be checked because number of projects had already been initiated.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid suggested that rates could be checked from other companies and it might be possible that they offer lower rates by which cost could be reduced. The work should be done in phases to start with most necessary task, during the construction, and the remaining work should be done later on.

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta suggested that it should be done with arrangement of budget.

Mian Imran Akbar suggested that matter should be referred to Vice President.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that it was a very important project but everybody knew about the budget constraints. He said that safety of building was ultimately the safety of the people. Mr. Wahub Jahangir suggested forming a Committee under the supervision of Vice President to thrash out the quotations and other issues for further implementation.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh suggested that the matter should be referred to

Departmental Committee on Building which was unanimously agreed by the house.	
Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim, Mian Fiaz Ahmed, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, Choudhry Jahangir Rashid, Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta and Mr. Toheed Nasir Mirza.
Approval	Approved.

27. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of H.E. Mr. Jakob Linulf, Ambassador of Denmark to Pakistan held on December 14, 2022
Approval	Approved.

28. .Point discussed.	Approval of Report of Meeting of Director TDAP, Sialkot, with Chairmen of Departmental Committees on Surgical and Fair and Exhibitions/Delegations held on December 14, 2022.
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Discussion:

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim requested that the Committee of Fairs & Exhibitions should be extended by including more members so that the members might be aware about the activities done by the Committee. He also requested to include his name as a member in the Committee because the members asked them about the exhibitions but they did not have any updated information.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the President had instructed the Chairman not to include more than fifteen members in the Committee which was followed by the Chairman.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid endorsed the view point of Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and further said that Executive Committee Members as well as all members should be onboard about future delegations/exhibitions. He said that other than leather sector members participated in APLS delegation held last year. He expressed that such practice should not be repeated. He added that it should be requested to the President for the approval to include the name of Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim as member of Fairs & Exhibitions Committee.

Mr. Peeter John said that 2-3 delegations were cancelled during the last year on completion of all formalities after 6 months which created a bad impact of this Chamber. He said that the exhibitions should not be cancelled. Chamber should remain careful in future, in this regard. He said that only one delegation was sent during the last year. The US delegation was sent from this Chamber in the year of 1985 which had been a long time. However, it was clarified that delegation to USA was sent in 2015.

He said that United States was a potential market for the exporters of Sialkot; therefore, he suggested that a US delegation should be planned.

Mian Imran Akbar clarified to Choudhry Jahangir Rashid that the Sialkot Chamber or its Departmental Committee had not played any role in the selection of the participants in APLS delegation. The organizers of the exhibition managed all affairs including selection etc. The Sialkot Chamber just received the applications from the Members. Secondly, as concerned to the delegation to USA, he informed that it had been coordinated with TDAP to organize an Exhibition "Made in Sialkot" which they agreed and also proposed that foreign customers should also be invited but the Chamber did not agree due to some reasons. The Chamber suggested to the TDAP that instead of inviting the foreign buyers here in Pakistan, the TDAP should make a specific section for 25-30 companies of different sectors in existing exhibitions scheduled to be planned in

foreign countries under their umbrella with the name of Made In Sialkot. The USA was included in it. Mian Imran said that he had no further information in this regard.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that TDAP circulated the information of the Exhibitions organized under their umbrella directly but in few cases the TDAP requested this Chamber for circulation which was circulated by this Chamber on behalf of TDAP. The role of the Sialkot Chamber was of a facilitator. All the process including receipt of the applications and selection of exhibitors was done by TDAP. Secondly, as concerned to the USA exhibition, it was proposed during the last tenure and the Committee was working on it. Recently, in a zoom meeting with Pakistani Commercial Section in USA, he was requested for sanctioning of a pavilion for Pakistan Business Community with the name of Made in Sialkot in existing trade fair, hence, in this way the cost of stands and the responsibility of the Ambassador to invite the customers would be reduced.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that the delegations were the best source to get the foreign exchange, therefore, he suggested that self-financed delegation comprising of exporters should be sent to foreign countries at least, during every three months.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir agreed and further shared that he always emphasized for the arrangement of single country exhibition for the promotion of Made in Sialkot Products in the meetings with Ambassadors, Commercial Counselors or any other concerned authorities. He requested them for the approval to arrange the exhibitions in their Embassies/Chambers by inviting Sialkot Industries related customers. He said that the President Chamber had also same preference to provide as much benefit as possible to members through this committee. The Committee was also working on it.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the Annual Fee of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) was 6,700/- USD per year on Surgical Instruments was mandatory to Export the Instruments to USA, which was badly affecting Surgical Industry. He asked Mr. Ikram Ul Haq whether it had been discussed to formulate strategy to get support from the government for the export industry.

Mr. Ikram Ul Haq replied that it had been decided in the meeting with Mr. Khalid Rasool, Director TDAP Sialkot that a letter would be sent to Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan and TDAP Sialkot to highlight the issues related to MDR and providing subsidy on FDA Annual Fee. Mr. Khalid Rasool, Director TDAP would endorse the letter. Mr. Ikram Ul Haq informed that the letter had been sent.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf requested Mr. Ikram Ul Haq to keep regular follow up regarding FDA.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that a single country exhibition was a good point but Sialkot Chamber Delegation should also be sent because it was cost effective than the Exhibitions.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that during the last week an Email regarding Kuwait Delegation was circulated to members by extending the date by the Departmental Committee. He asked about the reason to circulate the Email, whether it had been circulated to facilitate some members or any other reason. He further asked whether the date could be extended again for the members who desired to apply.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the date was not extended to favour anybody. He informed that number of members had requested to join the

delegation. Moreover, the Ambassador of Pakistan in Kuwait had advised to include maximum delegates, therefore, an Email with extended date was circulated. At present, it was not possible to include any further members due to time limitation of visa processing etc.

Mr. Matloob Ahmad Qureshi shared his experience as a delegate. He said that the Commercial Section had not organized B2B meetings with customers related to their business sector. He requested Mr. Wahub Jahangir that it should be made sure that the Commercial Section arrange B2B meetings during the visit of delegation.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied efforts were being made to arrange exhibition in the Kuwait Embassy for said delegates.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim suggested that the Chairman of the Committee should attend the meeting.

Participants	Mr. Wahub Janangir, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim, Mr. Ikram Ul Haq, Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi, Choudhry Jahangir Rashid and Mr. Peeter John.
Approval	Approved.

29. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Human Resource held on December 14, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

30. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Cyber Crime held on December 15, 2022.
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Discussion:

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that he had found a National Security Policy of Government and desired to upload on SCCI's website for the information of members. He requested for the approval.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir agreed and requested to send it to Chamber for uploading on Chamber's Website.

Mian Imran Akbar appreciated Mr. Naeem Yousaf for organizing a successful seminar relating to his Committee.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh also appreciated Mr. Naeem Yousaf for conducting very informative Seminar regarding the issues of Cyber Crime. He said that the speakers shared the latest information about Laws of Cyber Crime which perhaps nobody was aware about it. He hoped that Mr. Naeem Yousaf would conduct similar kind of Seminars in future, as well.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that Guest of the Seminar were very pleased about maximum attendance in the Seminar and their full attention. The question - answer session was also very impressive. Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that none of the members of the Executive Committee attended the Seminar, although he had reminded 2-3 times in Executive Committee Group. He said that the Chairman of the Media should be present for the coverage on media. He requested that the Executive Committee Members should attend such informative programs.

Mian Imran Akbar suggested that such programs should have a zoom link so that if any members could not come to the Chamber, he/she could participate in the meeting while sitting in their offices. He also suggested that the video recording of the event should be uploaded on Chamber's Social Media.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf replied that he had planned for zoom link. The Seminar was shown by live coverage on Chamber's face book page and the program could still be viewed there.

The house appreciated Mr. Naeem Yousaf for organizing very informative Seminar.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that Mr. Naeem Yousaf should coordinate with him for the coverage of program on media.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that due to some personal engagements the Members could not attend the meeting. He said that sometimes even the Office Bearers did not attend the meetings and nobody complained about it.

Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mian Imran Akbar, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and Mr. Awais Ahmed,
Approval	Approved.

31. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on Visit of Mr. Oussama Abdel Rahman Kaissi, CEO, ICIEC and Mr. Irfan Bukhari, President & CEO EXIM Bank of Pakistan held on December 15, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

32. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of H.E. Ms. Irena Gancheva, Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to Pakistan held on December 19, 2022
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Discussion:

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid suggested that the Chamber should establish better relations with such Ambassadors or Embassies who had a positive response and pursue with them regularly so that the members could be facilitated as much as possible.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that the President had regular contact with the Ambassadors and was trying his best to approve and arrange Single Country Exhibition in Bulgaria. He added that the President had also proposed the Ambassador for the arrangement of Exhibition in Bulgaria during the lunch with her at this Chamber.

Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi inquired whether the profile of the prominent businessmen with the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Pakistan had been shared or not, as requested by the Ambassador.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that the President was personally looking into these issues.

Participants	Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi and Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.
Approval	Approved.

33. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of Mr. Muhammad Nayyer Shafiq, Collector, Model Customs Collectorate Sialkot held on December 22, 2022
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Discussion:

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta expressed his concern for not inviting the Executive Committee Members in 2nd meeting with the Collector held in this Chamber.

The Secretary General replied that the second meeting was one agenda point to determine the modalities of EPZ, wherein only those members having industry in SEPZ were invited.

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta said that apart from this, the Executive Committee was not informed about many issues.	
Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that Executive Committee members should be invited and taken on board whether the matter related to them or not.	
Participants	Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and The Secretary General.
Approval	Approved.

34. Point discussed.	Approval of report of Seminar on Cyber Crimes and Cyber Threats organized by Chairman, Departmental Committee on Cyber Crime held on December 22, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

35. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Women Entrepreneurs held on December 24, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

36. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Surgical Instruments, Health, Personal Care and Allied Industries held on December 28, 2022.
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Discussion:

Mr. Ikram Ul Haq, Chairman of, the Departmental Committee on Surgical Instruments, Health, Personal Care & Allied Industries thanked the Chair for allowing him to speak and while briefing the house he said that the Meeting of the Departmental Committee was a follow-up of the meeting held with The Director TDAP, Sialkot and Executive Director General, Ministry of Commerce who was appointed to deal with the Medical Device Regulation (MDR) compliance for Surgical Instruments Industry. He mentioned that the road map about MDR was thoroughly briefed to seek support that was required from the Government of Pakistan to get the Surgical Instruments Industry compliant with MDR.

He added that after the Zoom meeting held with both Government Departments a hand note was prepared to guide the Government about the route to start and follow up with MDR certifications, which was also shared with them as follows:-

- Provision of Accredited Certifying Body's Franchise/Help Desk (EU origin)
- Provision of a Consultant related to MDR (EU Origin) who would help in the preparation and implementation process of MDR Compliance in the Surgical Instrument Industry. Secondly, the same consultant would also train local Consultants (minimum 10), so that the rest of the industry would be guided accordingly to get complaints with Medical Device Regulation (MDR).
- Establishment of Accredited Testing Facility of EU Origin, Franchise/Help Desk.

He also mentioned that the Hand Notes pertaining to the requirements of MDR were also discussed within the Departmental Committee and the session was also recorded for reference and guidance of those who could not attend. He also added that the extension of the MDR standards update was expected at end of January 2023 in Geneva, after the approval of the concerned authorities.

He also mentioned that under the Departmental Committee on Surgical Instruments, Health, Personal Care & Allied Industries a series of sessions (8

sessions for a full day) on MDR, on weekly basis, would be organized for the interested members who would deposit PKR 50,000/- in the Chamber (as a token of interest).

Mr. Wahub Jahangir suggested taking up the matter of cost-sharing from Export Development Fund (EDF), (as a contribution to support the exporters) since the fee to comply with MDR was very high.

Mr. Ikram Ul Haq said that he would discuss the issue with President SCCI about cost sharing financial support from EDF, as getting subsidies for single exporters repeatedly would not be possible.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, inquired about the Fee of PKR 50,000/- to be charged from the interested members to attend full-day sessions and suggested converting the session to two times a month.

Mr. Ikram Ul Haq, replied that the session would be a thoroughly detailed roadmap to getting MDR certification and the next session would be an advanced version of the previous session.

Participants	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh and Mr. Ikram Ul Haq.
Approval	Approved.

37. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of Meeting of Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on December 28, 2022.
Approval	Approved.

Any Other Point:

38. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid said that the Federal Minister in a press conference had stated for time restriction on hotels and restaurants. The Lahore and Islamabad Chambers were on board with their Restaurant Associations and had gotten the relief from the Government about time restriction. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid requested for the support to Sialkot Restaurant form Sialkot Chamber being a credible institution, in case they required such support, although they were not the members of this Chamber nor had registered this Association.

Mr. Wahib Jahangir asked whether all restaurants of other Districts were members of the Chambers.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid replied that most of them were not their members because they had registered their own Restaurant Associations due to more than 100 registered business relating to their field, whereas the Sialkot Association did not have 100 registered businesses of Restaurant. He said that after the requirement of registered number would be completed, the Sialkot Restaurant Association would be registered and also get membership of this Chamber. He again requested for the support from Sialkot Chamber.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it would be decided after the coordination with Lahore and Islamabad that how they had provided support, in this regard.

39. Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh shared that Barcode system had been initiated on Chamber's Membership Certificate to ensure its authenticity & Online verification. He said that the membership certificate could be verified online through Chamber's website. He said that Mr. Fraz, IT Incharge did his best efforts to complete the task.

The house appreciated launching of Barcode Verification System on Membership Certificate.

40. Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh requested for the approval of PKR 863,000/- for new documentary of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce. He said that existing version of the documentary was developed 2-3 years ago. There was a need to make changes by adding latest updates; therefore, it had been planned to develop a new documentary. He said that documentary would be of 14 minutes.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that the time limit of the documentary should not exceed 10 minutes which was endorsed by the members.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir agreed to it and said that it's time limit would be maximum 10 minutes.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that quotations should be acquired from some other companies to compare the cost.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid said that the cost was very high, therefore, quotations from other companies should be gotten. He said that there was necessary to add only "Al Rehla" Ball in the documentary. Hence, cost for editing the existing documentary to include the Al Rehla Ball should be acquired.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir asked about the cost for the development of existing documentary.

Mr. Umair Nisar replied that Rs. 600, 000/- were paid.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir informed that option of editing in documentary had also been discussed but the experts replied that an issue of voice over would be created.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that many projects like construction work, purchase of screen etc. were started at the same time and now a proposal for the approval of the budget of documentary had been received. He added that the house had no issue to approve it but the available budget should be checked before proceeding further. He suggested that decision should be made, keeping in view of current situation and the suggestions of the members. There was no problem, if the said approval was delayed.

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta said that the safety work of the building was more important than the documentary.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that a new documentary should be developed. He suggested that a welcome message of the Chamber's President should be added after National Anthem and the Sialkot Chamber should also be highlighted. The message of the personalities like Khawaja Masood Akhtar who had been awarded Pride of Performance should also be added.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid suggested that a demo version of the documentary should be presented in the house before approval.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that 50% advance payment was needed to be paid for a demo version which was agreed by Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.

Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta again said that the safety work of the building which had been recommended by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim was more important than documentary.

The Secretary General replied that the matter of the safety work had been referred to Vice President.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz opposed the approval of new documentary with the comments that cost of documentary was very high. He said that building safety work would be done under the supervision of the Vice President but it had been referred to Building Committee. He objected that why proposal of safety work of the building had been referred to Building Committee. He requested that it should be reviewed to deal it separately. He said that cost would reduce, in case the Emergency Iron Stairs and Booster Pump were not installed. He requested to focus on his proposal because the building work was going on and it would be appropriate at this time to execute Building Safety Work and pend the proposal of new documentary for some time. It could be done in the next month.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that the house had unanimously agreed about the safety of the building & people and it would be considered. He added that the matter related to the building of the Chamber, therefore it had been referred to Vice President who was also the Chairman of the Building Committee and also dealt the finance matter of this Chamber. The building safety work was a priority and would be considered accordingly. The house agreed that the building safety work should be done thorough the Building Committee.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir suggested that the proposal of development of new documentary should be referred to Committee to authorize it to manage and complete it in the minimum cost, as of proposal of building safety measures.

The house unanimously approved the suggestion of Mr. Wahub Jahangir.

41. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid inquired about the Projector which was approved in last EC Meeting.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that it would be installed during the next week.

42. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid asked about the Executive Chairs.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that number of sample Chairs were ordered to different vendors like Interwood, Boss etc., who provided the samples but were not approved due to their high cost, quality, durability and design. After that Ms. Mecano were contacted who had supplied the existing Chairs of the Auditorium. A sample chair was received from them which was liked by the President and some Executive Committee Members, therefore, the order was placed to them. The vendor had requested a time period of 45 days to deliver the order and hopefully would get before next Executive Committee Meeting.

43. Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that an application for reimbursement of medical bill of Rs. 55135/- of Mr. Saleem Electrician had been received. As per the Human Resource Policy he was entitled and the bill be approved.

The house unanimously approved to reimburse medical bill of Rs. 55135/- to Mr. Saleem Electrician as per HR Policy.

44. Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that an application for reimbursement of medical bill of Rs. 59,826/- of the treatment of son of Mr. Ammar Ahmed Khan, R&D Officer had been received.

The house unanimously approved to reimburse medical bill of Rs. 59826/- to Mr. Ammar Ahmed Khan as per HR Policy.

45. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid said that the Committee had planned to launch environmental friendly shopping bags (Eco Bags) with the name of Sialkot Chamber, to replace polythene bags. It required approval from the house to proceed further.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir requested Mr. Jahangir Rashid to share its modalities, then it would be further considered for approved.

Chaudhry Jahangir Rasheed said that last year the Chamber was quite active on social media in terms of activities done. Mr. Zohaib Rafique Sehti, the former Senior Vice President played the main role to upload video messages regularly. He requested Mr. Wahub Jahangir to be socially active and continue it as Senior Vice President, so that the members could be aware about the activities done by this Chamber.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied positively and said that it would be discussed with his Office Bearers and would upload video message on weekly or monthly basis, as decided.

46. Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim complained that the Executive Members were not invited in the meetings and if they would not invite them, then how would they could share the posts on social media. He also mentioned that recently a delegation of UK had visited this Chamber but no Executive Committee Members was invited. He suggested that the Executive Committee Members should be invited to make the pictures more presentable instead of standing alone in the photo session. On the other hand, lack of participation of Executive Members in the meetings was complained. He said that Executive Committee Members should be invited all programs because it was the tradition of this Chamber and it could provide an opportunity to them to learn. He said that due to this factor no activity was shown on social media.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that he agreed that the Office Bearers and the Executive Committee Members should be on same page and in case there was any issue, it would be resolved. Secondly, as concerned to the visit of UK Delegation in this Chamber, he explained that it was not a delegation. It was personal visit of the guests of Mr. Waqas Akram Awan who desired to visit this Chamber. Mr. Waqas Akram Awan requested him, therefore, the visit and lunch was arranged in this Chamber. He added that the President Chamber was also not present. It was not an official visit. He said that all the official visits/events arranged by this Chamber were first circulated to Executive Committee Members because they were most respectable to all.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes approved by the President, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry.