

# **THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **HELD ON JANUARY 31, 2023**

**01.** A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on January 31, 2023 at 12:30 hours at Sheikh Muhammad Shafi Hall of the Sialkot Chamber.

**02.** Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik, 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 Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi.

**04.** The following members attended the meeting:

• Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik	President
• Mr. Wahub Jahangir	Senior Vice President
• Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh	Vice President
• Mr. Afzaal Bhatti	-Member-
• Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan	-do-
• Mr. Awais Ahmed	-do-
• Mr. Choudhry Jahangir Rashid	-do-
• Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan	-do-
• Ms. Lubna Tubsim	-do-
• Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi	-do-
• Mian Fiaz Ahmed	-do-
• Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz	-do-
• Mr. Naeem Yousaf	-do-
• Mr. Peeter John	-do-
• Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta	-do-
• Mr. Saqib Ashfaq	-do-
• Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz	-do-
• Mr. Toheed Nasir	-do-

**05. Leave of Absence**

• Mr. Adnan Yousaf	-Member-
• Mr. Jawad Hussain	-do-
• Mian Imran Akbar	-do-
• Mr. Zain Ul Abideen	-do-

**06. Special Invitees.**

- Mr. Faisal Malik, Chairman Departmental Committee on Sports Activities
- Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions/Delegations held on January 20, 2023

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

- Martyrs Civil Line Mosque Peshawar
- Sheikh Obaid Ur Rehman Ratra M/s. Sunflex Industries
- Mr. Qaiser Iqbal Director of M/s. M.F.Elahi & Co.
- Ch. M. Akram M/s. Chadhery Trading Corp.

<b>08. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on December 30, 2022 and an Emergent Meeting of Executive Committee held on January 23, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>09. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of December 2022.
<b>Discussion:</b>	
<p>Mr. Awais Ahmed inquired about Profit on investment of PKR 507235/- as mentioned on Page No. 2. He asked whether it was the profit on the amount fixed for building work or any other.</p> <p>Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne replied in confirmatory and said that it was the profit on funds transferred to conventional banks. He further said that a separate head to specify profit and expenses made on building maintenance would be mentioned in the next month's account statement for the information of members.</p> <p>Mr. Awais Ahmed asked about the amount that had been deposited in fixed accounts because the profit was low for the amount deposited.</p> <p>Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne replied that the mentioned profit was received on daily products, whereas the actual profit would be reflected in march's accounts on maturity of TDR.</p>	
<b>Participants</b>	Mr. Awais Ahmed and Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>10. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Sports Activities held on December 28, 2022.
<b>Discussion:</b>	
<p>Mr. Faisal Malik, Chairman Departmental Committee on Sports Activities said that it had been planned to organize Cricket Tournament between Sialkot Chamber of Commerce, Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce, Lahore Chamber of Commerce, Gujarat Chamber of Commerce, Jhelum Chamber of Commerce and Wazirabad Cutlery Association. The Committee had recommended that the expenses of the event like Teams Kits, Trophies, Souvenirs would be arranged through sponsorship from members while the entertainment expenses like Lunch, Tea, Ground Charges, which would approximately be Rs 300,000/- to 350,000 to be paid from Chamber's Sports Funds which required approval from the house.</p> <p>Mr. Awais Ahmed asked whether only executive members would participate as players of team or other members as well.</p> <p>Mr. Faisal Malik replied that the team would be selected from EC Members, Former Office Bearers and Committee Members.</p> <p>Mr. Shahbaz emphasized that the Executive Committee Members should be given priority to play matches as team member because main purpose to organize the event to create a link between Chambers. He also asked whether it includes ground expenses in PKR 350,000/- or only request for trophies etc.</p> <p>Mr. Faisal Malik replied that the expenses of the event like Teams Kits, Trophies, Souvenirs would be arranged through sponsorship from members while the</p>	

entertainment expenses like Lunch, Tea, Ground Charges, which would approximately PKR 300,000/- to 350,000 would be paid from Chamber's Sports Funds.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim informed that the it was the practice to request the EC Members for the funds to organize the event which was opposed by him and suggested that sponsorship should be gotten from the members in the form of player's kits etc., hence in order to set an example, he had sponsored the kits personally of the last event. Secondly, as concerned to lunch/food, it could be requested to Departmental Committee on Event Management for arrangement.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that as per the minutes of the meeting, the Departmental Committee had not requested the Executive Committee for the funds. It had been recommended for the approval of funds to organize the event from Sports Funds. The Kits, Trophies, Souvenirs would be arranged through sponsorship from members but not the EC Members. He said that Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim could sponsor Player's Kits like before, if he desired.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid asked about the previous practice for arranging the program.

The Secretary General replied that the funds were provided for the lunch/entertainments of Sports Events organized by the Committee. He said that Sports Funds had been created for such purposes, therefore the funds could be issued.

After detailed discussion, the house unanimously approved PKR 300,000/- from Sports Funds for the arrangement of lunch of the above-mentioned event.

<b>Participants</b>	Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim, Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Mr. Faisal Malik and The Secretary General.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>11. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions/Delegations held on January 20, 2023.
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**Discussion:**

Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibition/Delegations thanked the President and the house for nominating him Chairman of the Committee. He shared that first delegation to Kuwait had been approved by the Committee which was processed accordingly. The Visa applications of all delegates had been approved by the Embassy, except two that were pending with the Embassy.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir asked the names & reason of delegates who's applications were pending.

Mr. Qaiser Baig replied that the visa applications of Mr. Ayub and Mr. Nasir Saleem Mirza were pending. The Embassy had not shared the reason.

Mr. Qaiser Baig shared the plan of visit of the delegation as follow:-

- Mr. Wahub Jahangir would lead the delegation.
- February 06, 2023, Arrival of Delegation in Kuwait
- February 07, 2023, Setting up Stalls at Kuwait Chamber of Commerce
- February 08-09, 2023, Exhibition Days
- February 10, 2023, return of the Delegation.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that according to his information, the delegates had booked different flights for same destination. He suggested that all delegates should go on same flight.

Mr. Qaiser Baig replied that it was planned to send the delegates on same flight but could not be made possible because some of the delegates relating to surgical business had to attend "Arab Health", hence, the plan was changed.

Mr. Matloob Ahmad Qureshi suggested that it should be made sure that the Commercial Section arrange B2B meetings during the visit of delegation.

The President replied that he had discussed personally with the Ambassador 2-3 times, in this regard, who replied positively. The Ambassador and Mr. Qaiser Baig had done a lot of work on it. The President said that he hoped that it would be a successful delegation.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir shared that the delegation comprised of 30 members from which 28 members had gotten their visas. He said that Mr. Qaiser Baig, being Chairman of the Committee had managed all things regarding delegation including visas of delegates well in time. He had developed a communication channel with all concerned like Embassy, Pakistani Community in Kuwait, SCCI Staff etc. He added that delegation was also sent to Kuwait in the year 2017 which had remained very successful especially delegates related to Surgical business had gotten the business. He hoped that the current delegation would also be very productive.

<b>Participants</b>	The President, Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi and Mr. Qaiser Baig
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>12. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Martial Arts/ MMA /Fitness held on December 28, 2022.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>13. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Musical Instruments held on December 31, 2022.
<b>Discussion:</b>	
Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz said that it was the first introductory meeting of the Committee wherein the matters related to Musical Industry were discussed.	
<b>Participants</b>	Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>14. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of Report of Seminar on "Finance Schemes by State Bank of Pakistan" held on January 03, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>15. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Project Committee on Sialkot Industrial Zone held on January 04, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>16. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Leather Industry+ Leather Working Group (LWG) held on January 10, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>17. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of Report of a Session on "Islamic Principles of Tijarat" held on January 12, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>18. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Project of Sialkot Gymkhana Club held on January 13, 2023.
<b><u>Discussion.</u></b>	
The Members requested the President to brief on the project.	
The President said that it was an introductory session of the Project wherein Mr. Muhammad Umer Mir and Dr. Khurram Anwar Khawaja shared about the details of the project and facilities to be provided in the Gymkhana. Adhoc Committee had been constituted by the Deputy Commissioner. The Committee would look into the matters relating to execution of the project. He said that at present there was an interim government and if the sitting DC would not be transferred, then the work would be done quickly, otherwise it would take time.	
<b>Participants</b>	The President.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>19. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Human Resource held on January 13, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>20. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of report of awareness session by Pakistan's Heart Foundation held on January 14, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>21. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of report of a Session on "Leadership & Behavioral Change" by Mr. Qasim Ali Shah held on January 16, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>22. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of with a delegation from United Kingdom held on January 19, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>23. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Post Office/Telecommunication held on January 19, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.
<b>24. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of meeting with The Ambassador of The United States of America to Pakistan held on January 24, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

<b>25. Point discussed.</b>	Approval of minutes of Meeting of Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on January 26, 2023.
<b>Approval</b>	Approved.

**Any Other Point:**

**26.** Mr. Saqib Ashfaq invited attention to the cleanliness of the meeting hall. He said that although the construction work was going on in the building but still cleanliness should be taken care especially during the meetings with delegates.

The President replied that construction work was underway in the basement which caused spreading of dust. Almost all the work had been completed and hopefully the dust would be cleaned. He added that during the visit of the American Diplomats, the concerned staff worked efficiently to clean the hall, which he personally noticed while looking after the arrangements for the meeting.

Mr. Saqib Ashfaq said that tables were very dusty during the visit of UK delegation.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that tile cutting work was going on during that day. He further informed that the entrance from the main lobby had been blocked with wooden sheets but still fine dust comes through the air. He said that it would be cleared within a week, after completion of work.

Mr. Saqib Ashfaq said that he came to know that the Deputy Commissioner of District Sialkot had been transferred. He requested the President to share the information about the road work of Murad Pur.

The President replied that he had no confirm information about transfer of DC, anyhow, he would discuss with the DC and request him to complete the projects which had already been initiated.

**27.** Ms. Lubna Tubsim said that exchange rates were shared regularly from this Chamber through Emails, Social Media and WhatsApp groups. It was an unnecessary promotion which should be controlled. She said that the exchange rates could be uploaded daily basis on Chamber's website only by forming an index/directory for the information of the members, if it was very necessary. Secondly, she requested for the help of female prisoners in District Jail Sialkot during Ramzan by giving them a Ramzan Packge. She said that she had a list which could be shared by her to make packages.

The Secretary General replied that the exchange rates were shared regularly due to the reason that it fluctuates rapidly which was a need of the members for their receipt of their foreign payments at best rate. It was the information for members to get the right rates which was adjusted by the State Bank of Pakistan. This was not a promotion of exchange rates but firsthand information for the members.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that mainly the exchange rates were displayed on Instagram and Twitter pages of this Chamber due to which other activities of this Chamber lose their prominence. He suggested that timing to upload the exchange rates could be reduced. In this way, other uploaded events would be highlighted.

Mian Muhammad Fiaz suggested that it should be uploaded once a day.

Mr. Umair Nisar said that the Chamber had purchased software from M/s. Tresmark of exchange rates and paying its annual fee. The main purpose to purchase the software was to provide the latest information about exchange rates to members.

The President endorsed the view point of Mr. Naeem Yousaf and said that the main point was that the other important events, of the Chamber, uploaded on social media got ignored or unnoticed.

The Secretary General instructed Mr. Umair Nisar to manage it.

**28.** Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that he had proposed for installation of fire safety system in the SCCI's building in its last Executive Committee Meeting but it was suggested to form a Committee to thrash out the quotations and other issues for further implementation. He asked the status of formation of Committee and names of its members. He said that the Executive Committee was a supreme body who could make final decision. If any case was discussed in EC Meeting then it should not be referred any committee. Mr. Shahbaz said that he did not desire to do work under his supervision but the main purpose was to ensure the safety measures of the building. He discussed about the recently occurred fire incident in the Parliament building and measures taken by the concerned authorities about fire safety and its compliances. He expressed that even the First Aid Box was not available in this Chamber. He said that if an institution could spend a huge amount for the purchase of Projector and Building Repair & Maintenance, then it should also spend on its safety to set an example.

The President replied that earlier, he had received the request to install a fire fighting system with cost of PKR 4-5 lakh, which was approved by him, but after that proposal of PKR 2.5(M) was put up in the EC Meeting. He informed that Soft Firefighting System was the latest technology which was cheaper. This system was being installed in houses and commercial buildings in DHA. The President suggested that Soft Fire Fighting System might be installed in this Chamber that would cost Rs 4-5 Lakh approx.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim explained that it was not feasible to install firefighting system in PKR 4-5 Lakh. The cost shared by him was PKR 2.2 (M) which comprised of different parts liked fire hydrants system PKR 1.2m, Booster Pump PKR 565000, and Fire Alarming System PKR 508000. He requested that the work should be started instead of again damaging the building, later on, to install this system as presently construction work was going on.

The President replied that there would be no need to damage the building to install the Firefighting system. He assured that the experts would be invited for getting their opinion in this regard.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that he had prepared number of proposals. The work could be done, step by step, like Main Hall, Emergency Stairs for exit etc.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh shared the details of Fire Extinguisher Cylinders installed in SCCI's Building with following details:-

- Electric Room (DCP) , SCCI Lobby (CO2), Outside SCCI Security Room (CO2), SCCI Membership Store (DCP), Membership Department (DCP), Outside Server Room (Co2), R&D Department (DCP), Women Chamber's Stairs Area (DCP)
- Emergency Alarm installed in Outside Main Senior Room, SCCI Lobby, Outside Library, Account Office, WRC, R&D Department and CSDO.

The Smoke detector would be installed according to latest system, as shared by the President.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz again requested that safety measure work of the building should be done according to Government Rules.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan suggested that the Fire Safety Work proposed by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim should be done. He suggested that it should be done in parts and the work which had not been done should be made mandatory.

Mr. Afzaal Ahmed suggested that it should be referred back to the Departmental Committee with the instructions to prioritize the work by preparing budget and put up again in EC Meeting for approval.

Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that the Executive Committee, in its last meeting, had referred the matter to Departmental Committee on Building and the Committee was working on it. The President and SVP were also available. Hopefully, the meeting of Building Committee would be convened and would finalize the things which would be put up in next EC Meeting for final approval.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim requested the President to nominate him to attend the meeting held in DC Office related to his Committee.

The President replied that the issue would be considered after the meeting to send nomination, if required.

**29.** Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that an application for loan of PKR 4.5 (M) of Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne had been received.

The President requested Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne to explain the request.

Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne said that he had 6 marla plot, on which he had planned to construct his house. In this regard he required an amount PKR 6.5 (M) for which as now he had a saving of PKR 2(M) while PKR 4.5(M) were short. He required an amount of PKR 4.5 (M) to complete the work, therefore, requested the house to approve the amount as loan. He would return PKR 50,000/- per month from his salary.

The President recommended that PKR 2.5(M) might be approved now, which was agreed by the house.

The house unanimously approved PKR 2.5(M) of Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne as loan with the return of PKR 50,000/- per month from salary.

**30.** Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh said that an application for reimbursement of medical bill of Rs. 26,700/- of the treatment of Mr. Irfan Munir, Cook had been received.

The house unanimously approved to reimburse medical bill of Rs. 26700/- to Mr. Ammar Ahmed Khan as per HR Policy.

**31.** Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh requested for the approval to sign an agreement of Trade & Business Cooperation between The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. He said that as per the agreement the parties would cooperate with each other in endeavor to establish and develop direct and effective business relation between the respective members and to facilitate arranging, business to business meetings, and local hospitality on reciprocal basis. There would be no financial liability of this Chamber.

The house unanimously approved to sign agreement as requested by Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh.

**32.** Choudhry Jahangir Rashid said political discussions should be controlled in the programs, organized in this Chamber giving example of meeting with Mr. Qasim Ali Shah, Guest Speaker in this Chamber. All the Guests invited in this Chamber were respectable but in case the political discussion was started, the Office Bearers/Chair

should interfere to stop it, instead that any other member attending the meeting to interfere.

A delegation of International Business & Professional Corporation from UK had visited this Chamber who provided opportunity at global level for business sector and professionals of Pakistan. He suggested that the Chamber should keep regular follow up regarding their services, so that members could be benefited.

He had started to organize Awareness Seminars on Environment at School & College Level to educate students instead of factories. He required approval from the house for the issuance of Chamber's shield to present to the Guest of Honor of the programs. He said that WWF had been taken on board. The Session Judge, President District Bar and DPO had also requested to organize the programs which had also been considered.

The President said that a delegation came to him that conducted similar awareness seminars and told that they would request their students to get the membership of the Chamber in any case. He suggested to Choudhry Jahangir Rashid that it would be better for the Chamber if he included it in his program which was agreed by Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan requested Choudhry Jahangir Rashid that female Executive Committee Members should also be accompanied in the seminars.

Choudhry Jahangir Rashid agreed and further said that all EC Members and the Committee Members would also be requested to join them.

The President said that it should be ensured to highlight/promote the name of Sialkot Chamber.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that the flex mentioning SCCI name & Mono should be printed and displayed in the seminars. This would highlight the name of Sialkot Chamber, as suggested by the President. It should also be highlighted on social media.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid replied that the flexes & standees mentioning the mono of SCCI had been displayed. The mono of SCCI was displayed prominently.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan asked about charges of the program and instructor of the Program.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid replied that it would not be charged because it was the program initiated by this Chamber. The liability of the institutions was to gather the students in their auditorium to organize the event. The instructor would be from WWF.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan requested to organize the program in her institution which was agreed by Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim appreciated the efforts of Chaudhary Jahangir to organize the Seminar but opposed his request for the issuance of Chamber's shield to present at some other forum. He said that the Chamber's shield should be presented in this premises but not at any other place. He suggested that Mr. Jahangir should organize the seminar in this Chamber, as many as, he desired and present the shield here.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid replied that the students could not be managed in this Chamber, therefore, it had been planned to organize the program at location of educational institutions.

Miss Lubna Tubsim endorsed the view point of Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and said that the institutions should present their own shields instead of Chamber's shield. She said that a mega event could be organized, in this Chamber, where shields. of this Chamber, could be presented to the guests, who participated in programs organized outside the Chamber.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rashid agreed with the suggestion of the Members.

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

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