

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD ON DECEMBER 28, 2023

01. A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on December 28, 2023 at 12:00 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 Choudhry Jahangir Rashid.

04. The following members attended the meeting:

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| • Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik | President |
| • 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- |
| • Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan | -do- |
| • Mr. Jawad Hussain | -do- |
| • Mr. Matloob Ahmed Qureshi | -do- |
| • Mian Fiaz Ahmed | -do- |
| • Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz | -do- |
| • Mr. Naeem Yousaf | -do- |
| • Mr. Peeter John | -do- |
| • Mr. Toheed Nasir | -do- |

05. Leave of Absence

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| • Mr. Afzaal Bhatti | -do- |
| • Ms. Lubna Tubsim | -do- |
| • Mian Imran Akbar | -do- |
| • Mr. Saleem Akhtar Bhutta | -do- |
| • Mr. Saqib Ashfaq | -do- |
| • Mr. Shoaib Imtiaz | -do- |
| • Mr. Zain Ul Abideen | -do- |

06. Special Invitees

- Sheikh Zahid Hameed, Chairman Departmental Committee on Cantonment

- Rana Nadeem Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on District Affairs.

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

- Wife of Late Khawaja Zaka Ud Din, Former SCCI President
- Mr. Khalid Farooq father of Mr. Usman Farooq M/s. Philips & Jones
- Mian Farooq Ahmed M/s. Imperial Pipe Co.
- Wife of G.M Tariq (Late) M/s. ADA Intl.
- Syed Aftab Hussain M/s. Leatherware (Pvt) Ltd.
- Sh. Aslan Raghiv Brother of Sh. Irfan Raghav M/s. Hayeesons Corp.

08. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on November 30, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

09. Point discussed.	Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of November 2023.
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Discussion:

Mr. Awais Ahmed inquired about the procedure of return back of loans given to staff members. He also asked about the job for which the staff members were paid overtime every month.

Mr. President replied that during the discussion in the last meeting, he had informed that no request for loan in excess of the gratuity entitlement would be entertained in future.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that if a staff member left the job, then how the loan would be recovered.

The President replied that loan in excess of the gratuity entitlement was not issued. Secondly, if a staff member left the job, his loan would be reimbursed from his gratuity. Moreover, the loan was deducted from salary, every month.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that it was not clarified in the accounts, therefore he asked about it.

Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne replied that the detail of loan return was mentioned on page No. 4 Point No. 5.1. He said that an amount of PKR 217,000/- was deducted from the salaries of staff every month.

Mr. Awais Ahmed inquired about overtime. Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh replied that overtime was approved only for 1-15 scale staff as per the HR policy. He said that staff in membership and other departments had to work at late hours to complete the work on various tasks for which they were given overtime.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that an amount of Rs. 2lacs approx., as overtime, was paid every month. He said that 75% of the solar system was not producing

electricity due to which WAPDA bill had to be paid every month which was mentioned in the accounts. He said that the solar system had produced 100% electricity only in the first two months.

The President replied that due to fog Solar System was not producing electricity. Secondly, 50% of the Solar Plates had been removed to change their direction for maximum sunlight with proper designing.

Mr. Awais Ahmed said that he was discussing about the bills for the months of October & November 2023. He added that the bill for the month of October 2022 was lower than the bill for the month of October 2023, although the solar system was not installed in 2022.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir replied that consolidated bill for two months was paid in October 2022.

Mr. Awais Ahmed inquired about the details of Bank Islamic SCCI Reserve Fund as mentioned on Page No. 4 Point No. 7.2 which was explained by Mr. Amir Rashid Wyne. Mr. Awais Ahmed suggested that the detail should be mentioned in a note for the information of members.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that interbank funds were also adjusted for getting maximum profit. He further said that as mentioned by Mr. Amer Rashid Wye, the total amount should be checked to find out whether it was expense or profit from interbank adjustment like PKR 30(M) were added.

Mr. Wahab Jahangir added that all kinds of details could not be mentioned in the accounts. He said that accounts statement was circulated to all EC Members with agenda and if there was any question regarding it, he (Mr. Awais) could ask from Accounts Department before the meeting, and in case he was not satisfied with explanation of the Accounts Department he might ask in the Executive Committee Meeting.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that no body should not get annoyed about the questions asked in the meetings rather relevant person should reply properly to satisfy the members. He said that it was also informative for other EC Members as well, if it was replied in the meeting. He added that questions were asked for the betterment and nothing was personal. He said that the members had complete trust on the Office Bearers. Mr. Adnan Yousaf expressed his concern about generation of electricity according to the installed capacity of the Solar System. He said that it was a big project on which an amount of- around Rs. 2(0M) was spent but within six months it was needed to change its direction which was waste of time. He said that it should have been designed properly before installation. He said that he would not have tolerated if such had happened in his company. He said that it was needed to take all necessary measures for proper working of Solar System so that it produced maximum electricity according to installed capacity.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir explained that there was an issue of the shadow of SBCC building on Chamber's building which was also noticed at the time of installation of Solar System. The Solar Companies made the calculation to produce units per year. He said that the company that had installed the solar system had informed that since the direction of the sun would change in winter, the shadow of the building would fall on the solar panels which were installed in the 2nd phase, therefore, they mentioned the calculation for the entire year to make the overbill bill zero. He added that the solar system was producing electricity according to its capacity in summer whereas its generation was affected in winter due to low sunlight and direction. Mr. Wahub said that he held a meeting with the President and decided to re-install the plates on proper place. After that the company was invited and instructed to re-install the plates without paying any cost which they agreed, although the company had informed us about all the issues before installation. The company completed the assignment within three weeks. The company reported that 22 solar plates had been adjusted properly while 16 plates were in the position where there would be shadow at noon but he requested the company to remove those 16 plates and reimburse their cost to this Chamber, which the company agreed. Mr. Wahub Jahangir said that now the productivity of the Solar System had been reduced from Chamber's original requirement of 92 kilowatts.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that the responsibility of the maintenance of the solar system should be given to the company that installed the solar system.

Mr. Wahab Jahangir replied that Solar System cleaning work was done by Mr. Saleem, Electrician which was reported to him by Mr. Azhar Dar.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf reiterated that this responsibility should be given to the company for at least 6 months, as they could manage it better.

Mr. Wahab Jahangir replied that it would be considered.

Participants	The President, Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Mr. Adnan Yousaf and Mr. Amer Rashid Wyne.
Approval	Approved.

10. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Sialkot District Affairs held on December 07, 2023.
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Discussion:

Mr. Nadeem Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on Sialkot District Affairs thanked the President for appointing him the Chairman of the Committee. He said that he was trying his best to resolve the issues of members related to the Committee. Mr. Nadeem Ahmed said that Mr. Muhammad Afzal Malik, CO Municipal Corporation, Mr. Ulfat Shehzad, Chief Officer District Council and Mr. Ali Khan, City Manager PICIP were invited in the meeting. The issues were discussed in detail, which were mentioned in the minutes and required approval from the house.

Mian Fiaz Ahmed requested the Chairman to brief about the minutes of

meeting.

Mr. Nadeem Ahmed replied that detailed discussion was held on the important issues detail was mentioned in the minutes.

Mr. Mohammad Shahbaz Saim appreciated Mr. Nadeem Ahmed for his performance as Chairman of the Committee. He that he had asked various questions regarding different taxes like motor, nala tax etc., in the Committee meeting but they were not noted in the minutes. He asked if there was any specific reason for not noting it? He said that he had also discussed the encroachment issue.

Mr. Nadeem Ahmed replied that he had already told that TOR of Committee was limited to address the issues of the Chamber's members only but not the general public. He further said that if Mr. Shahbaz had any specific issue of any member related to the Committee, he should report to this Chamber so that it could be addressed for resolution. Secondly, as concerned to the encroachment, he held a meeting with Deputy Commissioner today at 12:30p.m.

Mr. Mohammad Shehbaz said that he had discussed the issue of his factory which was situated at Adalat Garda Road and being Executive Committee member, he knew the working practice of the Committee. His question was relevant to the Committee, therefore, it should not be ignored. He added that he had received a call from the Union Council regarding the motor tax which was collected by UC from industries, therefore concerned authorities should be contacted to explain about it. He said that the Chamber was the best forum to address the issues of the members.

The President requested Mr. Nadeem Ahmed to ask the DC about the tax which was pointed out by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim.

Mr. Nadeem Ahmed suggested that if any member had an issue relating to the Committee it should be sent in writing, so that it could be resolved in a better way.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that sewerage work on Kashmir Road near Mag Town had been started from the last two months but it had not been completed yet. He said it was the main point to turn towards the Daska Road, but the traffic remained blocked at that area due to sewerage work. He requested Mr. Nadeem Ahmed to discuss the matter in the meeting with DC which was scheduled today.

Participants	The President, Mian Fiaz Ahmed, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim, Mr. Nadeem Ahmed and Mr. Adnan Yousaf,
Approval	Approved.

11.	Point	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee
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discussed. on TMA & Excise held on December 12, 2023

Discussion:

The Secretary General said that Mr. Qaiser Ikram Dodhy could not attend the meeting due to his health issues.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz expressed his concern about the working domain of the Departmental Committee on District Affairs. He said that CO Municipal Corporation was invited in the District Affairs Committee Meeting which was related to TMA Committee. He said that if the District Affairs Committee would handle all the matters of TMA Committee, then the TMA Committee had no role, so it should be abolished. He said that the main role of District Committee was to coordinate for the President. He requested the President to inform about the domain of the District Affairs Committee because issues relating to other Committees were also discussed in the District Affairs Committee Meeting.

The President replied that both TMA and District Affairs Committees had their own role. He said that the meeting regarding the issue of encroachment with DC was related to Mr. Qaiser Ikram Dodhy but due to unavailability of Mr. Qaiser Ikram due to his health, he requested Mr. Nadeem Ahmed to attend the meeting.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz said that Mr. Nadeem Ahmed had invited CO Municipal Corporation in his Committee.

The President replied that he would look into it.

Mr. Shehbaz Saim said that he was not invited in the District Affairs Committee. He came as per his routine in the Chamber and noted that EDO Excise and CO Municipal Corporation were invited in the meeting which was not related to District Affairs Committee and was not its prerogative. He said that working domain of the Committees should be defined so that the matters could be discussed with the concerned.

Mr. Amir Majeed Sheikh said that according to his information it was in the notice of Mr. Qaiser Ikram Dodhy about inviting of CO Municipal Corporation.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that he was requesting to set the working domain of the Committees. He further said that according to him, District Affairs Committee was formed for the coordination of President with DC but not to invite District Government Officers for meetings to address different issues.

The President replied that District Affairs Committee was not for the coordination with DC but had some other responsibilities. The President said that he would share the responsibilities with members.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan shared that it was an introductory meeting. The members asked the questions relating to the encroachments and recommended that the awareness campaign should be launched on social media, as well.

Participants	The President, Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and The Secretary General
Approval	Approved.

12. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Garrison HQ/ Cantonment Board Affairs held on December 20, 2023.
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Discussion:

Sheikh Zahid Hameed thanked the President for nominating him as Chairman of Departmental Committee on Garrison. He said that minutes were placed on the table and the members could ask question, if they had any.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz said that the Committee should make efforts to approve and establish a swimming pool for the facilitation of the residents of Cantt area like the one in Lahore Cant. He said that the swimming pools of 15 & 18 Div., were closed for public entry without any intimation. He said that the points discussed in meetings held with the Cantonment Authorities should be implemented rather than only having a photo session. He said that land was available opposite to Askari Colony-2 where the facilitation center could be setup with the approval of Cantonment Board. He further said that the same issues which had been discussed in the last five years were mentioned in the minutes. He requested the Chairman to work on his proposal.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed replied that the members should study the rules of Cantt Area before asking the question or proposing anything. He said that all the land of Cantt area was not under the control of Cantonment Board Sialkot (CBS). It was distributed among Army, 15 Div, 8 Div and CBS. The land that was proposed by Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz was in the control of Army. He said that CBS did not have a land where a facilitation center as proposed could be built but he would still request the concerned authorities. He further said that swimming pools facility was available in Services Club and 15 Div., which could be availed by fulfilling the conditions.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz said that no land was allotted in cantt area without approval of Cantonment Board, even the DG Land did not approve any project without consent from the Cantonment Board. He said that an amount of PKR 1 (M) was granted for the betterment of Kashmir Park during the tenure of Mian Iman Akbar. He wondered if any work had been done on that project and requested that members be briefed about it.

The President replied that the grant of 1 (M) was not released.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed said that if the CBS had any land, he might be informed about it.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim inquired about proposal relating to E-Tag System for vehicles.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed replied that a meeting with Station Commander was held wherein all the issues were discussed and he had confirmed that the E-Tag System would be launched soon. In the meantime, the Sticker Form was available in this Chamber which could be submitted for getting the facility of stickers for vehicles.

Mr. Ahmad Imtiaz Khan said that being the Vice Chairman of the Committee, he had noticed that the members in the meetings with Brigadier or GOC discussed to reduce the fee which were increased by the Cantonment Board from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10,000. He said that the members should consider their protocol before any making request to them.

Mr. Sheikh Zahid Hameed replied that the Committee had to consider all the members and if any fee would be increased up to 70%, then it must be requested to review.

The President said that there was no need to discuss because they would not reverse the charges.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that in the meeting with Station Commander, discussion was made about visit of foreign buyers in Cantonment Area and issuance of security passes. He said that both the issues of getting Security Pass, visit of Foreign Nationals etc., were very important, therefore it should be requested to the concerned authorities for its approval, as discussed in the meeting. Secondly, vehicles with the sticker should be allowed to pass through the barrier on Aziz Shaheed Road without showing their ID card.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed replied that there was no issue to move at Aziz Shaheed Road. One could come on Aziz Shaheed Road from Ghanta Ghar. Secondly, as concerned to the issuance of Security Pass for the visit of foreign nationals in Cantt Area, the Station Commander in the meeting held yesterday had suggested that Chamber's reference in detail should be mentioned on applications to make it easier for the agencies to give approval. He said that it took 10 working days for the approval. Sheikh Zahid Hameed further said that he had not received any complaint from the members regarding approval of security pass and if anyone had any such complaint it could be shared with him.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir shared that while discussing with the Station Commander regarding the visit of foreigners in Cantonment Area, it was brought to his notice that all foreigners did not necessarily stay in the cant residential area but the issue was not having easy access to take them for food and shopping in the commercial areas of Cantt. The Station Commander replied that two mechanisms could be set. The applications of foreigners who required access only to the commercial areas in Cantt would be approved on fast track while others would be handled as per routine practice. Mr. Wahub Jahangir requested Sheikh Zahid Hameed to pursue the suggestion by writing a letter or meeting personally.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed shared that in the meeting with Station Commander it was also informed a project to establish Guests Rooms was planned in Services Club for the stay of the foreigners.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that question of members should not be taken on personal grounds. He said that he had requested that vehicles with the sticker should be allowed to pass through the barrier on Aziz Shaheed Road without showing their ID card but Sheikh Zahid Hameed had replied to use alternate route from Ghanta Ghar. Mr. Adnan said that there were three barriers on Aziz Shaheed Road and if the sticker vehicles would be allowed without showing CNIC, then it would be easy to pass.

Chaudhary Jahangir Rasheed said that he never faced problem while passing on Aziz Shaheed Road until any special instructions were issued to MPs. Secondly, the Cantonment Board would not change the policy on the request of this Chamber. He also informed that he had requested the Station Commander for issuance of NOC to restaurants where most of the foreigners came in Cantt Area to entertain them without having security pass which he replied positively. As concerned to security clearance, the Station Commander had informed that their office processed the file within a day while further time was required by IB to give clearance. Mr. Jahangir suggested to keep margin of one week for the security clearance of file. Moreover, Major Nouman had offered to submit the security clearance case directly to him.

The Secretary General requested Sheikh Zahid Hameed to share SOPs of Lahore Cantt Area.

Sheikh Zahid Hameed replied that Sialkot Cantt Area could not be compared with Lahore Cantt Area and event with Rawalpindi area because Sialkot Cantt was at the border area. He said that if any member submitted security clearance file, the application might also be shared with him on WhatsApp with details so that he could follow up properly for approval.

Mr. Wahab Jahangir said that there was a uniform security clearance policy of Foreigners in all Cantt areas of Pakistan. All the files were referred to IB for clearance.

The Secretary General informed that the matter of security clearance of the foreigners was taken up with the Army Chief but his office had replied that clearance would be issued by the relevant region through its security agencies.

Participants	The President, Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Ch. Jahangir Rasheed, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, Sheikh Zahid Hameed, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz, Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan and the Secretary General.
Approval	Approved.

13. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of Departmental Committee on Cyber Crime December 22, 2023.
Discussion:	

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim said that only three members were present in this meeting which was a question mark. He said that the Chairman Committee should increase the members of the committee more than a 100 so that awareness could be given to the industry on cyber-crime. The Chairman should organize awareness sessions instead of meetings. Moreover, the students of different Universities should be invited in seminars. He said that such small meetings should be held in mini meeting room instead of main hall.	
Participants	Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim.
Approval	Approved.

14. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of Mr. Muhammad Ayoub, CEO, GEPCO Gujranwala held on December 07, 2023.
Discussion: Chaudhry Jahangir Rasheed asked whether GEPCO Office had been requested to share the load shedding schedule so that it might be circulated to members for their information. The President instructed Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr to request the GEPCO for load shedding schedule and circulate it to members.	
Participants	The President and Chaudhry Jahangir Rasheed.
Approval	Approved.

15. Point discussed.	Approval of Report of Seminar on "ESG-Environment Social and Governance Reporting in Leather Industry held on December 08, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

16. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Human Resource held on December 12, 2023
Discussion: Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the Committee accorded approval of extension in contract of employment of Mr. Waqar Masih as Photographer and Mr. Abdul Wahab Mir as Media Coordinator for a period of 3 months i.e. until March 31, 2024, as mentioned on point No. 3 & 4. He asked why the extension was not given beyond three months. The President replied that both Mr. Waqar Masih and Mr. Abdul Wahab were appointed on contract and previously three months extension was given and now again three months extension was recommended. Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that both the jobs of photography and media coordination could be performed by one person, therefore contract of one person might be extended. He said that Mr. Abdul Wahab remained present here in all meetings, therefore he could be assigned the photography duty, as well. He further said that Mr. Waqas was not a professional photographer because the result of the pictures which he took from his camera was very poor, even the result of mobile camera was better.	

The President replied that Mr. Abdul Wahab could not perform the duty as photographer because he had himself observed this.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf replied that Mr. Waqar also had no expertise of taking the pictures.

The President said that Mr. Abdul Wahab was appointed and obliged by considering his requirement only up to this tenure.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested to change the camera for better result, as well as train Mr. Waqar.

The Secretary General informed that the cost of new camera was very high.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that the Chamber had developed its social media page and by considering it, a new camera should be purchased.

The President agreed and said that a camera costing PKR 3-4Lac could be purchased.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir informed that last year the lens of the camera was replaced.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that instead of buying a new camera, spend this money on some other work. He said that Cameraman was doing a good job according to his ability and recommended to approve his extension.

The President said that Mr. Waqas had his own professional camera costing PKR 1(M) and if the house increased his stipend, he would use that camera for taking pictures.

Mr. Umair Nisar explained that a shutter count was dropped on taking a picture, so the life of his camera would lessen, as he would utilize it. Mr. Waqar was requesting to compensate him for using his own camera in this Chamber because his asset become devalue as per its usage.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf suggested that the camera could be used in important events to check the difference of picture results.

The President replied that the professional photographer was hired to get the pictures for special events.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim endorsed the suggestion of Mr. Adnan Yousaf.

The President replied that proposal of Mr. Naeem Yousaf should also be considered.

After thorough discussion and with the consent of Mr. Waqar Masih, the house increased the salary of Mr. Waqar from PKR 32,000/- to PKR 40,000/- with the condition that he would use his own camera instead of camera of this Chamber.	
Participants	The President, Mr. Wahub Jahangir, Mr. Naeem Yousaf, Mr. Adnan Yousaf, Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim, the Secretary General and Mr. Umair Nisar.
Approval	Approved.

17. Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of Mr. Ehsan Bhutta, Secretary Industries Punjab held on December 13, 2023
Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan acknowledged the efforts of the President for establishment of Business Facilitation Center for promoting ease of doing business. He requested to setup the counters of FBR and Customs (PSW) for SMEs.	
The President replied that the Business Facilitation Center was at Provisional level but eventually with the passage of time counters of federal government like FBR and Customs would be linked. He said that the proposal would be sent.	
Participants	The President and Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan.
Approval	Approved.

18 Point discussed.	Approval of report On Meeting of Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Vice President with Mr. Asad Bajwa, Chairman Departmental Committee on Labor Laws, and Mr. Afzaal Bhatti, Chairman Departmental Committee on Gloves Industry held on December 13, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

19 Point discussed.	Approval of Report of a Refresher and Follow up Session on the PSW system held on December 14, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

20 Point discussed.	Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on December 26, 2023.
Approval	Approved.

Any Other Point:

21. Mr. Jamshed Murtaza Badar said that as per the Trade Organizations Rules 2013 Sub Rule 2 & 23 it was required to furnish Plan of Activities to Directorate General Trade Organizations. He said that it consisted of operational activities enlisted in the form of working. He briefed different heads to EC Members and said that it was 3 years plan of activities which would also be used for the renewal of license of this Chamber.

Mr. Jamshed Murtaza Badar sought approval for Plan of Activates from the house for onward submission to DGTO for Renewal of License of this Chamber which was approved by the Executive Committee.

22. The President said he had been authorized to spend upto Rs. 200,000/- and in case the amount exceeded, it required approval from the Executive Committee. He requested the house to enhance the limit from 200,000/- to 500,000.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that it should be PKR 1(M).

The house unanimously approved and authorized the President to expense of Rs. 1M).

23. The President said that an amount of PKR 263905/- was deficit in the construction work of Mosque. He said that the desired members could donate to meet the deficit balance.

The President, Mr. Wahab Jahangir, Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Mr. Naeem Yousaf and Mr. Jawad Hussain announced PKR 100,000/- each respectively.

24. The President said that Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot had planned to organize WE-Exhibit exhibition in March 2024, as organized last year. He said that last year number of Members of this Chamber contributed in the shape of cash. The President said that this time Women Chamber had requested to sponsor the stalls for only those members who could not afford instead of funds. There were two types of stalls, Gold and Silver. The cost of gold stall was PKR 50,000 while the silver stall was PKR 35,000/-.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan also explained about it. She requested to sponsor stalls to those who could not afford.

The Secretary General asked as how it would be known that the members could not afford.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan replied that the Women Chamber would share the list.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf suggested that list of stalls should be shared with the information that how many of them were to be sponsored.

The President said that the members should make sponsorship of stall and Women Chamber would give the stalls to the deserving.

Mr. Awais Ahmed asked if there was no request for the sponsored stall.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan replied that it had been planned to prioritize the newcomers to encourage & support especially those who could not afford.

Mr. Toheed Nasir suggested that sponsorship could also be requested from major brands in Pakistan like Pepsi, Coca Cola etc. After that the house would be ready to support.

Mrs. Gulzaib Waqas Awan replied that the Women Chamber was working on it.

After thorough discussion the following members decided to sponsor the Stalls:

S.#	Name	# of Gold Stalls (Rs. 50,000/ each)	# of Silver Stalls (Rs.35,000/ each)
1	The President	3	3
2	Mr. Wahub Jahangir	1	2
3	Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh	1	1
4	Mr. Toheed Nasir	1	1
5	Mr. Adnan Yousaf	1	3
6	Mian Fiaz Ahmed	--	1
7	Mr. Matloob Ahmed	--	1
8	Mr. Peeter John	1	1

Note: Mr. Adnan Yousaf said that his company would exhibit on Golden stall and whatever the income would be generated, it would be donate to Women Chamber.

Mr. Jawad Hussain suggested that requirement of stalls should be checked.

25. The President said that this Chamber would be getting a stall in the Engineering and Healthcare Show to be held from January 18-20, 2024, at Expo Centre Lahore, wherein the Minister of Commerce, Government of Pakistan, would be visiting the stalls of Chamber, including dignitaries from multiple countries. The President sought approval of funds from the house, to build a customized stall at the event and additional space (2 stalls) to be bought from TDAP.

The house unanimously approved provision of funds for the acquisition of two additional stalls and to build customized SCCI stall.

26. The President said that the Chamber charged PKR 3000/- as delegates application processing fee and PKR 10,000/- on selection of member company in the delegations. He suggested that fee should be increased from Rs. 3000 to 5000 and Rs. 10,000 to 20,000/- respectively. He said that other Chambers charged very high fee which was endorsed by the members.

A detailed discussion was held and the house unanimously approved Application Processing Fee of Rs. 10,000/- and selection fee Rs. 30,000/-.

27. Mr. Naeem Yousaf requested the President to share the estimate for the work of Auditorium, so that he might forward to SIAL for further working.

The President said that working was going on it and would be shared as it was received.

28. Mr. Peeter John asked whether the Executive Committee Members could join Brazil delegation or not.

The Secretary General replied that decision, in this regard was made in the last Executive Committee according to which if any delegate would drop from the delegation for any reason, then the Executive Committee Members would be accommodated.

Mr. Peeter John said that name of Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan was included, as EC Member in UK delegation.

The Secretary General replied that Mr. Amer Majeed Sheikh, Vice President had offered to drop his name and to include Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz's, so with the approval of the Committee the name of Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz was added in UK Delegation.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan also endorsed the Secretary General.

29. The President suggested to increase new membership and renewal fees of both Corporate and Associate classes He requested the Secretariat to brief the house.

The Secretariat proposed to increase fee as mentioned below:-

Corporate Members: New Membership PKR 700/- Renewal: PKR 500
Associate Class: New Membership PKR 550/- Renewal: PKR 400

The Secretariat further informed that the FPCCI had also increased the fee of Membership Certificate Book from PKR 10,000/- to PKR 15,000/- that were issued to members on renewal & new membership registration.

The matter was discussed in detail and all members recommended to increase the fees except Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim. Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim suggested that the fee of Associate Class should remain the same.

After thorough discussion the house unanimously approved following fee increase with effect from January 01st, 2024.

Corporate Members: New Membership	PKR 10,000/-
Renewal:	PKR 8,200/-
Associate Class: New Membership	PKR 5,000/-
Renewal:	PKR 4,300/-
Visa Recommendation Letter:	PKR 5,000/-
E-Business Invitation Letter:	PKR 5,000/-
Company Letter:	PKR 3,000/-
Change of Constitution:	PKR 2,000/-

The President also shared that Membership Processing Fee would be converted into Chamber Maintenance Fund.

30. The President recommended to change the Chairmanship of Sheikh Zohaib Rafique Sethi, Chairman Departmental Committee on Media with Mr. Awais Ahmed. He said that if the house approved, he would convince Sheikh Zohaib Rafique Sethi. The President said that it would be a single member Committee.

The house unanimously approved the recommendation of the President and nominated Mr. Awais Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on Media.

31. Mian Fiaz Ahmed inquired about the status of Sahowala Industrial Estate.

The President replied that he had discussed about the said project with Mr. Mohsan Naqvi, Chief Minister Punjab but his office replied that the work/funds on all projects had been stopped. As soon as the Elected Government assumed charge, the work on all the projects would start.

32. The President shared that the matter of DLTL was taken up with Ministry of Commerce on request of the Members of this Chamber. The Commerce Ministry had moved a summary to release DLTL worth Rs.37.306 (B) in which the exporters of Sialkot also had a substantial share.

33. The President informed the house that from the last almost one year, the Embassy of People's Republic of China had withdrawn the authority from SCCI to issue Visa Guarantee letter from this Chamber. He shared that due to continuous follow-up of this Chamber, on December 14, 2023 a meeting had been called by the Visa Consul on the said subject. He added that, during the meeting, the Visa Consul restored the facility of issuing Visa Guarantee Letters of the Sialkot Chamber to its members after proper verification and scrutiny. Moreover, he shared that the Embassy of People's Republic of China also gave the facility of one-year Multiple Entry Visa to the Executive Committee Members of this Chamber, as the list had already been sent to the Embassy on the designated Email address. Furthermore, he shared that those members of this Chamber who had visited China three or more times after 2016, could apply for one-year Multiple Entry Visa.

The President said that he did not see the Social Media business group pages and the EC Members who actively participate in it, they should share appreciatory comments given by the members on Social Media pages about working of this Chamber. He said that it was the appreciation of all EC Members not his alone because they were working as a team.

The President also shared that an amount of PKR 720(M) of Sialkot Leather Tannery Zone had been approved in EDF Board Meeting. The President said that he was thankful to Mr. Ijaz Akhtar Khokher to support him for the approval.

Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim appreciated the President for the approval of Guarantee Letter for China. He said that it was a big achievement which could not

be done by the Ministry. He said that Gujarat and Gujranwala had been banned by the Chinese Embassy.

Mr. Adnan Yousaf appreciated the President to arrange the successful Program in Sialkot, regarding the election of FPCCI by inviting different Trade Bodies. He suggested that monthly exchange visit of the EC Members should be arranged to ally Trade Bodies of the Group in Pakistan. He said that the main businesses of Gujranwala, Gujarat and Wazirabad etc., was manufacturing and trading, hence it would be helpful for getting the information of local suppliers for the industry of Sialkot.

The President replied that Lahore, Gujranwala, Jhelum and Rawalpindi Chambers had already invited this Chamber, hence the visit could be arranged as planned by the members, which was also endorsed by Mr. Amer Majeed Shiekh.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir endorsed Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz Saim and also shared that the Chinese Embassy had implemented the Guarantee Letter which was informed by one of our members who had applied their Visas for China.

Mr. Naeem Yousaf said that it was good achievement but the major responsibility rested on the Chamber, so that it should scrutinize the documents strictly while issuing the Guarantee Letter. He said that in case of any mistake it would disturb the goodwill of this Chamber and might be possible the China Embassy would stop the facility.

The President agreed on the viewpoints of Mr. Naeem Yousaf and also informed that the Chinese Embassy had taken specimen signatures of the signatories who would sign the letters. Moreover, as their tenure would complete, the specimen signature of new Office Bearers would be sent who would sign the letter.

Mr. Wahub Jahangir informed that the Guarantee Letter would be signed by three Officials including sitting President/SVP/VP, Secretary General and Focal Person.

The Secretary General informed that a list the Executive Committee Members had also been sent.

The President said that the list of Executive Committee members had been shared separately and their visa cases would be treated especially which would be processed in a week's time. He further informed that the list of all 19 thousand members had been sent for the record of the Embassy and the revised, updated list would be sent, on monthly basis. The Guarantee Letters would be issued to Chief Executives, Directors, Partners and Proprietors by fulfilling all requirement. The Manager cases of only those companies who had a big volume of turnover or their managers had already visited during the last 3 years would be entertained.

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

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