

**THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON AUGUST 03, 2026**

**01.** A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on August 03, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at the Sialkot Chamber.

**02.** Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, 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 Arshad Jamil Chaudhary.

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

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| • Syed Ahtesham Mazhar      | President      |
| • Mr. Salman Sheikh         | Vice President |
| • Mr. Ikram Ul Haq          | -Member-       |
| • Mr. Omer Khalid           | -do-           |
| • Mr. Aamer Mahmood         | -do-           |
| • Mr. Adnan Safdar          | -do-           |
| • Mr. Arshad Jamil Chaudhry | -do-           |
| • Mr. Bilal Ahmed Khan      | -do-           |
| • Mr. Haseeb Tahir          | -do-           |
| • Mr. Jawad Khalid          | -do-           |
| • Mr. Khurram Javaid Sethi  | -do-           |
| • Mr. Mehtab Maqsood        | -do-           |
| • Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Asad   | -do-           |
| • Mr. Muhammad Abid         | -do-           |
| • Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam  | -do-           |
| • Sheikh Atique-ur-Rehman   | -do-           |
| • Mr. Sohail Masood         | -do-           |

**05. Leave of Absence**

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| • Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad | Senior Vice President |
| • Mr. Waseem Shahbaz Lodhi  | -Member-              |
| • Ms. Kinza Ijaz            | -do-                  |

**06. Members who could not attend the meeting.**

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| • Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik | -do- |
| • Mr. Hassan Akbar        | -do- |
| • Ms. Syeda Ayesha Wadood | -do- |

**07. Special Invitees**

- Malik Naseer Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on Accounts.
- Mr. Tariq Hussain, Chairman Departmental Committee Dry Port
- Mr. Khalid Latif, Chairman Departmental Committee Cultural
- Mr. Raza Ullah Shah, Chairman Departmental Committee Research Management for Sustainable Development
- Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman Departmental Committee on Fair & Exhibition.
- Mr. Zohair Babar, Chairman Departmental Committee on Surgical.

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

- Mother of Mr. Zaeem Raza of M/s. Rebel Fight Gears
- Haji M. Ismail the Elder Brother of Mr. M. Ibrahim M/s. Glorious Surgical
- Syed Liaquat Ali Shah Director of M/s. Pakistan Cargo Service (Pvt) Ltd.
- Wife of Mr. M. Aslam Khan M/s. Qayyum & Elahi Sons.

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| <b>09. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on June 30, 2026 and an Emergent Executive Committee Meeting held on July 11, 2026. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                                          |

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| <b>10. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of June 2026 and Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Accounts & Finance held on July 25, 2026. |
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**Discussion.**

Mr. Malik Naseer Ahmed informed the House that the Accounts Committee had thoroughly scrutinized the accounts, and the minutes of the Committee meeting were attached. He stated that an amount of Rs. 1.563 million was receivable from the Export Development Fund (EDF) against the approved IMAC project, while Rs. 2.383 million was receivable from CSDO on account of the Child Labour Pro-rata Contribution payable by its members.

He said that it had become a practice for CSDO and IMAC to get temporary financial support from the Chamber to meet salary and operational expenses, with the amount being reimbursed once funding was received.

Malik Naseer Ahmed stated that a clear policy should be formulated in this regard, as the EDF funding mechanism might be discontinued by the Government in the future. In such a scenario, continued financial assistance from the Chamber without a defined policy could create financial and administrative issues. He further suggested that a financial assistance limit should also be prescribed, as no maximum had been fixed so far and funds were being released against every request received. This practice should be regulated through an approved policy to ensure transparency and financial discipline.

The President clarified that, to the best of his knowledge, he had signed a cheque for Rs. 1 million during his tenure, in this regard. He further stated that he was not aware of any other financial assistance extended by the Chamber beyond this.

Malik Naseer Ahmed explained that certain expenses, such as electricity bills and other utility charges, appeared higher because provisions had been made at the close of the financial year in accordance with audit requirements.

Mr. Muhammad Iqbal Asad inquired if the Government was to discontinue the Export Development Fund (EDF) funding mechanism in the future, then how would the amounts already disbursed to IMAC and CSDO be recovered.

The President responded that both IMAC and CSDO are social wings of the Chamber. He stated that if the Government did not release the approved EDF funds, the Chamber would ultimately have to bear the financial burden. However, as informed by the Secretariat, an amount of Rs. 10 million had already been approved under the EDF and was expected to be released shortly, enabling the recovery of the amount advanced by the Chamber.

The Secretariat clarified that the funds provided to CSDO were also sourced from the Pro-Rata contributions collected from members, whereas the funds released to IMAC had been advanced by the Chamber on behalf of the Export Development Fund (EDF) to be reimbursed.

The President further explained that CSDO represented the Chamber's member exporters engaged in the export of soccer balls. He noted that compliance with international social standards was mandatory, and buyers, including those associated

with FIFA, required exporters to be certified through the relevant social compliance mechanism. The Pro-Rata contribution collected from member exporters was based on the volume of soccer balls exported. He added that all participating exporters were Chamber members.

Malik Naseer Ahmed stated that the Small Chamber had submitted a case regarding reimbursement of expenses incurred on renovation work. He said that the Committee was of the view that the process should be initiated through a formal request to the Executive Committee, as it was the prerogative of the Executive Committee to consider and decide such requests in accordance with the approved procedure.

He further stated that the Accounts Committee had the mandate to examine the bills, supporting vouchers and relevant documents submitted in support of the reimbursement claim. He added that the details of the matter had been mentioned under Point No. 4 of the minutes of the meeting.

The President inquired about the status of the matter.

The Secretariat informed the House that the bills pertaining to reimbursement of renovation expenses had been received from the Small Chamber and placed before the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee had subsequently referred the matter to the Accounts Committee for examination of the bills and supporting vouchers and for submission of its recommendations, in this respect.

Mr. Sohail Masood also expressed his views on the matter.

The President asked the House whether the bills submitted for reimbursement should be approved.

Mr. Sohail Masood and Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam suggested that a reasonable portion of the claimed amount should be approved.

After detailed deliberation, the House unanimously approved the bills submitted by the Small Chamber for reimbursement of the renovation expenses.

Mr. Omer Khalid suggested that, in future, a specific budget limit for renovation and other related expenses of the Small Chamber should be approved to ensure proper financial control and avoid such issues.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Muhammad Asad Iqbal, Mr. Sohail Masood, Mr. Omer Khalid, Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam and Mr. Malik Naseer Ahmed. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                                                                                                       |

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| <b>11. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Sales Tax/PRA & Customs held on June 24, 2026. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                      |

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| <b>12. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Surgical Instruments /Cutlery Sector & Allied Industries held on June 29, 2026 |
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**Discussion**

The Chairman of the Surgical Committee briefed the house on the requirement of a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), enforced by Pakistan Customs on the import of surgical instrument samples for research and development (R&D) purposes. He stated that the issue is actively being pursued with the relevant authorities by the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) and the Surgical Council, Ministry of Commerce.

Moving to the next agenda item, Mr. Babar shared the second agenda point of the meeting that was the draft Sub-Contracting Law applicable to vendors and suppliers. He clarified that, based on discussions with the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA), adoption of the law is voluntary rather than mandatory. During the session, the house proposed arranging a meeting with the relevant authorities to finalize the matter.

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| <b>Participants</b> | Mr. Zohair Babar |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.        |

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| <b>13. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting on Balloting of TDAP Sponsored Trade Delegation to United Kingdom held on July 03, 2026. |
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| <b><u>Discussion</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                          |
| <p>Mr. Qaiser Baig informed the House that a TDAP-sponsored Trade Delegation to the UK had been announced, against which 37 applications were received. He stated that the balloting was conducted on July 03, 2026, in the presence of the applicants, and 11 delegates were selected. The details of the selected delegates had been recorded in the minutes of the meeting. He further informed that the delegation was scheduled to proceed to the UK in September 2026.</p> <p>He added that a Trade Delegation to Korea had also been announced. In this regard, a Note Verbale from the Embassy of Pakistan had been received for processing the visa applications of the delegates, and the delegation was expected to proceed in August 2026.</p> <p>Mr. Qaiser Baig further apprised the House that the visa applications for the South Africa delegation had already been submitted, while the visa application process for the Malaysian delegation was expected to commence in the following week. He also informed that applications for the Kazakhstan delegation had been received and were under process.</p> <p>He stated that TDAP had approved sponsored trade delegations to the UK, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Senegal, Tanzania, and Indonesia, while a proposal for a trade delegation to Japan was still under discussion.</p> <p>Mr. Salman Sheikh asked Mr. Qaiser Baig about the benefits and facilities provided under the TDAP-sponsored trade delegation program, particularly the nature of financial support available to participating delegates.</p> <p>Mr. Qaiser Baig replied that under the sponsored delegation program, TDAP provided a 50% subsidy along with an accommodation allowance of US\$100 per day for each participating delegate.</p> <p>Mr. Sohail Masood suggested that future trade delegations should preferably be scheduled to coincide with major trade exhibitions and fairs scheduled in the respective countries. He observed that such coordination would enable the delegates to visit relevant exhibitions, explore business opportunities, establish useful contacts, and gain valuable knowledge about international markets.</p> <p>Mr. Qaiser Baig responded that efforts were already being made in this direction and that the Trade Officers in the respective countries were being requested to coordinate the delegation schedules with relevant exhibitions and trade events.</p> |                                                                          |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | The President, Mr. Salman Sheikh, Mr. Sohail Masood and Mr. Qaiser Baig. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Approved.                                                                |

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| <b>14. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Approval of minutes of meeting of on Research Management for Sustainable Development held on July 06, 2026. |
| <p><b><u>Discussion.</u></b></p> <p>Syed Raza Ullah Shah stated that an MoU signing ceremony was held between the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), National Productivity Organization (NPO), Biltehqeeq, Government College Women University Sialkot (GCWUS), University of Sialkot (USKT), Grand Asian University, and University of Management and Technology (UMT) Sialkot. He said that the purpose of the MoU was to establish an industry–academia collaboration platform focusing on industrial problem-solving, technology mapping, productivity improvement, and innovation development.</p> <p>He explained that the participating universities possessed qualified experts, laboratories, technical resources, and research capabilities that could be utilized for the development and innovation of industrial products and processes. Under the MoU, all participating institutions had committed to supporting the industry in addressing technical, productivity, sustainability, compliance, and other operational challenges.</p> <p>Syed Raza Ullah Shah urged the industrial community to avail this opportunity and make maximum use of the platform provided by the Chamber. He said that industries could communicate their problems and requirements through the Chamber, which would facilitate connecting them with the relevant university experts for appropriate solutions. He highlighted that those industries faced various challenges relating to productivity, sustainability, subsidized materials, regulatory requirements, and compliance, for which they might not have sufficient resources or specialized expertise internally.</p> <p>The President stated that the National Productivity Organization (NPO) was a federal government agency working under the Government of Pakistan with the objective of improving productivity across industries. He explained that NPO facilitated industries in enhancing their productivity by providing technical expertise, training, and access to international specialists.</p> <p>He further informed the house that NPO could facilitate and provide financial support by inviting experts from countries such as China, Turkey, and other countries for specialized training and consultancy in specific industrial fields. He added that, under the MoU signed with NPO, whenever SCCI identified a particular research area or required the expertise of an international specialist, NPO would facilitate the engagement and provide necessary funding and support for inviting the relevant expert. This collaboration would provide industries across Pakistan with opportunities to improve productivity, adopt modern technologies, and develop solutions to industry-specific challenges.</p> <p>The President asked Syed Raza Ullah Shah about his future targets and planned activities.</p> <p>Syed Raza Ullah Shah informed that they had planned to organize a series of seminars and were also engaging relevant industries to bring them on board. He stated that they were in the process of developing a database of competent experts and resources available in universities, with the objective of making their expertise accessible to the industry.</p> <p>He explained that once the system was established, the database would be made available to SCCI members so that any member facing a technical or industrial issue could easily identify and approach a suitable local expert for assistance.</p> <p>Mr. Salman Sheikh appreciated the work being undertaken in this regard. He suggested that collaboration should also be developed on certain issues that were</p> |                                                                                                             |

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|                     | relevant to his committee's scope of work. He stated that he would discuss the relevant areas with Syed Raza Ullah Shah in order to explore opportunities for joint efforts and coordination. |
| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Mr. Salman Sheikh and Syed Raza Ullah Shah.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| <b>15. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Approval of minutes of two meetings of the Departmental Committee on Shipping/Dryport/Airport/Railway/Transportation held on July 07, 2026 and August 01, 2026. |
| <p><b><u>Discussion:</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Tariq Hussain thanked the President for his cooperation and continued support in resolving issues relating to the EFS and other matters concerning to his Committee. He said that during the past month and a half, the President had made sincere and concerted efforts to address the issues being faced by exporters under the EFS. He expressed his appreciation for the confidence and trust reposed in him by the President.</p> <p>He further stated that he had provided the required feedback to the President in connection with meetings held with the Prime Minister, Member Customs, and the concerned Minister. He appreciated the President's efforts and effective advocacy in taking up the matter at the appropriate forums, which ultimately resulted in the resolution of EFS-related issues faced by a large number of exporters.</p> <p><b><u>Mr. Tariq Hussain shared the following major achievements During 2025-26</u></b></p> <p>1.      Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) Consolidation Module Successfully Implemented</p> <p>One of the Committee's major accomplishments was the successful implementation of the Consolidation Module under the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS). This long-awaited facility had simplified export procedures and reduced operational complexities for exporters, reflecting the Chamber's persistent follow-up with the relevant authorities.</p> <p>The President further apprised the House of the efforts made, in this regard. He stated that during a meeting with the Prime Minister regarding the Federal Budget, he had raised the issue of difficulties being faced by exporters due to complicated export procedures and regulations, despite the Government's stated objective of promoting ease of doing business. He highlighted that such complications adversely affected business operations and increased the cost of production.</p> <p>The President further stated that, following his intervention, the Prime Minister constituted a committee headed by Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani to examine and resolve the issues raised by the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce &amp; Industry regarding ease of doing business. Subsequently, a meeting was held at the Foreign Office, where Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani invited the relevant representatives to discuss the matter, in detail. The meeting was attended by the Member Customs, Mr. Shakeel Shah, as well as the Chief Collector of Customs from Karachi, among other concerned officials. The President stated that all the issues faced by the exporters were presented in detail during the meeting.</p> <p>2.      Landmark Clarification on Bank Guarantees under EFS</p> <p>Through continuous dialogue with Pakistan Customs and practical groundwork undertaken by the Committee, a major clarification was obtained regarding Bank Guarantees under EFS, whereby Category-A exporters were no longer required to furnish Bank Guarantees. This development significantly reduced the financial burden on compliant exporters.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                 |

Furthermore, amendments to the relevant rules were in the final stages and were expected to be notified shortly.

### 3. Comprehensive Reforms in EFS Reconciliation

The Chamber played a leading role in bringing substantial improvements to the EFS Reconciliation System. The reconciliation process had now moved towards automation, eliminating the need for separate manual submissions.

Other significant reforms achieved include:

- Increase in utilization period from 9 months to 18 months.
- Provision of an additional 6-month extension by the Collector and a further 6-month extension by the Chief Collector.

Elimination of long-standing IOCO pendency through effective coordination with Customs authorities.

These reforms had substantially reduced compliance costs while improving ease of doing business.

### 4. Operationalization of the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Module

After remaining pending for several years, the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Module finally became operational during the first week of August 2026. This significant breakthrough will enable exporters operating under EPZ regulations to process customs formalities more efficiently and digitally. The achievement was the result of sustained advocacy by the President and the Chairman Departmental Committee.

**The President said that he would like to mention here that Mr. Bilal Azhar Kiani, Minister of State for Finance had played very positive and constructive role, in resolving the issue. He stated that the Minister had extended valuable support in addressing the concerns raised by the business community.**

The President stated that a meeting of the Committee constituted by the Finance Division regarding the issues of FTR was held two days ago. He said that some members had expressed certain apprehensions, which he conveyed directly to Mr. Bilal Azhar Kiani, Minister of State for Finance, through a message. The Minister responded promptly and positively during the meeting and assured him that he fully understood the concerns raised.

Mr. Tariq Hussain stated that the President had taken up the matter at Islamabad and made efforts for its resolution. The Secretariat provided the necessary feedback, which contributed to the progress on the issue. He said that concerns regarding the implementation of FTR were still being expressed by members of the business community, particularly regarding the level of trust in the assurances being given.

The President acknowledged that these concerns were genuine, particularly among members dealing with tax matters. He said that while the Government had assured the business community that no audit would be conducted without the approval of the relevant committee, notices for GUP audits were still being issued. He stated that clarification on the matter was required. A Finance Committee had been constituted at the district level in Sialkot, and a meeting would soon be convened with the concerned government officials to seek clarification on the policy. He further stated that the notices forwarded by Mr. Rana Imran had been shared with Mr. Bilal Azhar Kiani, Minister of State for Finance, who assured that the concerns would be addressed after further consultation.

## 5. Revival of Rail Cargo Connectivity

A historic milestone was achieved with the visit of the CEO, Pakistan Railways to Sialkot Chamber on July 13, 2026, followed by a productive Zoom follow-up meeting held on August 06, 2026.

The Chamber's long-standing vision of restoring and strengthening rail-based cargo transportation was now approaching realization. This initiative was expected to reduce logistics costs, improve export competitiveness and provide exporters with an additional reliable mode of transportation.

The President stated that the proposed arrangement was not merely an emergency measure but could become a permanent solution. He informed the House that senior officials from Lahore, including the Chief Executive (CO), had visited and discussed the matter in detail. A committee had been constituted comprising representatives from Gujranwala, Sialkot and Gujrat to examine the feasibility of establishing a dry port/rail freight facility at Sambrial or Wazirabad.

He further explained that the region had significant import and export activity, particularly high imports from Gujranwala and substantial exports from Sialkot.

## 6. Resolution of Food Department Inspection Issues

Following complaints received from:

- M/s Forward Sports Pvt. Ltd.
- M/s Sportus
- M/s AMK Sports

the Chairman Committee led a delegation to meet the Deputy Director, Food Department Punjab on July 25, 2026. The Chamber effectively highlighted exporters' concerns regarding unnecessary inspections and operational delays and sought practical solutions to facilitate uninterrupted exports.

## 7. Facilitation Regarding PCA (Post Clearance Audit)

The Committee remained actively engaged with Customs authorities on issues relating to Post Clearance Audit (PCA) visits, ensuring that genuine exporters receive fair treatment while minimizing unnecessary procedural difficulties.

## 8. Effective Resolution of Terminal Operators' Issues

The Committee successfully resolved various operational issues with terminal operators through continuous engagement. Dedicated communication channels, including official email addresses from shipping lines, were established to ensure prompt resolution of exporters' concerns.

As a result, only a single complaint was received during the entire year, demonstrating the effectiveness of the Chamber's interventions. Nevertheless, the Committee remained committed to further strengthening this mechanism.

## 9. Timely Resolution of Members' Complaints

Serving members remained the Chamber's foremost priority. Throughout the year, complaints relating to customs, shipping lines, terminal operators, logistics companies and transportation were addressed promptly through active coordination with the concerned departments.

#### 10. Updated Directory of Reputable Logistics Service Providers

For the facilitation of exporters, particularly new entrants, the Chamber updated and published on its website a comprehensive directory of:

- ACAAP Members
- PIFFA Members
- IATA Members
- Non-IATA Members
- Reputable logistics companies
- Licensed clearing agents

This initiative assists exporters in identifying reliable service providers while protecting them from unauthorized operators and "bucket shops."

#### 11. Extension in Export Operational Timings

The Chamber successfully pursued the extension of export operational timings, enabling exporters to complete customs and logistics formalities more efficiently and minimizing delays in cargo movement.

#### 12. Capacity Building Through EFS Awareness Workshop

A comprehensive EFS Awareness Workshop was organized to educate exporters on compliance requirements, thereby helping members avoid unnecessary penalties and fines. Additionally, a complete database of EFS users was developed to strengthen future communication and facilitate policy advocacy.

#### 13. Release of Bank Guarantees

The Committee actively coordinated with Pakistan Customs for the timely release of pending Bank Guarantees under EFS, providing financial relief to exporters.

#### 14. Continuous Customs Training Sessions

To improve awareness of changing customs procedures, three specialized training sessions were successfully conducted in collaboration with Pakistan Customs. An additional session was currently under planning to cover newly introduced reforms and regulatory changes.

#### 15. Export Cargo Plate Facilitation

The Chamber continued its liaison with the District Police regarding the issuance of Export Cargo Plates to facilitate secure and uninterrupted movement of export consignments.

#### 16. HS Code Related Issues

Persistent follow-up by the President and the Departmental Committee resulted in notable improvements regarding HS Code-related issues, reducing classification disputes and facilitating smoother customs clearance.

#### 17. Awareness on Free Sample Export Facility

Recognizing the importance of international marketing, the Committee highlighted the export opportunities available under the Free Sample provisions and initiated awareness efforts so that more exporters got benefit from this facility.

Mr. Tariq Hussain shared the cases regarding the billing of a returned container and

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| <p>requested the President to take up the matter with the concerned authorities. He explained that the container had been returned in sealed condition because the ferry on which it was scheduled to be transported was closed or otherwise unavailable, due to which it could not proceed to its destination.</p> <p>He further stated that the shipping line subsequently issued a new bill while also retaining the previous bill, resulting in an additional charge of approximately US\$5,000. He termed the matter a serious concern and requested the President to intervene and mediate with the concerned parties to resolve the issue.</p> |                                       |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | The President, and Mr. Tariq Hussain. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Approved.                             |

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| <b>16 discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Point</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Culture, Tourism & Archaeology held on July 10, 2026. |
| <p><b><u>Discussion:</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Khalid Latif, Chairman, Committee on Tourism, Culture &amp; Archaeology, highlighted the importance of introducing, documenting and promoting the historical landmarks, cultural heritage and tourist attractions of Sialkot. He apprised the meeting of the objectives behind the formation of the Committee and briefed the participants about the initiatives undertaken so far.</p> <p>Mr. Khalid Latif informed that he had discussed the matter of establishing a Sialkot Museum with the Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot. The Deputy Commissioner responded positively and assured full cooperation in this regard. He also identified a suitable location for the proposed museum at Gulshan Iqbal Park, Pasrur Road, Sialkot.</p> <p>The President, while introducing Mr. Khalid Latif, appreciated his keen interest and passion for the heritage, history and culture of Sialkot. He stated that Mr. Khalid Latif had also established a small private museum at his residence on Kashmir Road, where he had preserved a valuable collection of historical and cultural items. He encouraged the members to visit the museum and appreciated Mr. Khalid Latif's admiration for art and cultural heritage. The President requested him to briefly apprise the meeting of the progress made since assuming the chairmanship of the Committee.</p> <p>Mr. Khalid Latif informed that the matter relating to the establishment of the Sialkot Museum had progressed satisfactorily. He further stated that there was also a need to establish an Art Council in Sialkot. In this regard, the Committee was coordinating with the Gujranwala Art Council, and meetings had already been held. He added that Ms. Shamsha Gilani, Assistant Director, Punjab Council of Arts &amp; Culture, Gujranwala Division, had also visited Sialkot and attended the Committee meeting. The details of her visit and discussions were attached with these minutes.</p> <p><b>Mr. Khalid Latif further stated that a formal letter was required to be addressed to the concerned Ministry regarding the establishment and development of cultural and heritage-related facilities in Sialkot.</b></p> <p><b>The President agreed and assured that the letter would be sent.</b></p> <p>Mr. Khalid Latif further suggested that short video clips highlighting the cultural heritage, historical landmarks and tourism potential of Sialkot would be developed. These clips could be presented during seminars and other events to create awareness among SCCI members and to introduce Sialkot's rich cultural heritage to foreign buyers and visitors coming to Pakistan.</p> <p>Mr. Khalid Latif also informed the meeting that the Committee had planned to organize</p> |              |                                                                                                                       |

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| well-structured cultural program, including Poetry, Sufiana Kalam and Folk Music.                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                            |
| The President informed the meeting that Mr. Khalid Latif had already planned to organize a Poetry Program on the following Saturday, as part of the Committee's cultural activities. |                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | The President and Mr. Khalid Latif.                                                                                                        |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | Approved.                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>14. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                          | Approval of minutes of meeting of Soccer Ball Manufacturers Participating in Child Labor Elimination Program (CLEP) held on July 22, 2026. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | Approved.                                                                                                                                  |

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| <b>15. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Approval of report of seminar on ESG(Environmental, Social & Governance) Sustainability & Carbon Footprint Management held on July 01, 2026. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b><br><br>Mr. Sohail Masood informed the Committee that Mr. Furqan Hameed, Manager Training (Certification & Business Enhancement), SGS Pakistan, had been invited as a Guest Speaker for the seminar. He stated that the seminar was highly informative and successful, with a large number of members in attendance.<br><br>He highlighted that the Guest Speaker possessed more than 20 years of professional experience in the relevant field and provided valuable insights regarding certification.<br><br>He expressed the view that the Chamber should continue arranging such informative and capacity-building seminars. Mr. Sohail Masood also appreciated Mr. Raza Ullah Shah for his participation and valuable contribution to the seminar. |                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Mr. Sohail Masood.                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Approved.                                                                                                                                    |

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| <b>16. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of report on visit of Brig. Saad Ullah Abbasi, CO CMH Sialkot held on July 01, 2026. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                     |

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| <b>17 Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Approval of report of awareness session on Corporatization, Licensing and Capital Market held on July 02, 2026. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b><br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh stated that the main purpose of the visit was to mobilize entrepreneurs and create awareness among the business community regarding corporatization, licensing, and the capital market. He emphasized that Sialkot-based businesses needed to move towards more organized and corporate structures to achieve sustainable growth, enhance competitiveness, and gain greater access to national and international markets.<br><br>He highlighted that a large number of businesses in Sialkot were still operating as family-owned or privately held enterprises, while only a limited number had adopted a formal corporate structure. He noted that 1,200 new members had been registered with the Chamber during the previous month; however, only around 20 of these were registered as corporate members. He expressed concern over the low ratio of corporate registrations and stressed the need to encourage entrepreneurs to adopt corporate structures.<br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh explained that converting businesses into Private Limited or Public |                                                                                                                 |

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| Limited Companies could provide several benefits, including greater opportunities for joint ventures, international partnerships, investment, regulatory compliance, business expansion, and access to capital markets. He emphasized that corporatization would not only strengthen individual businesses but also contribute to the overall growth, transparency, and competitiveness of the Sialkot business community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Mr. Salman Sheikh                                                                                                  |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Approved                                                                                                           |
| <b>18 Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Approval of report of Roadshow by NIC Sialkot held on July 03, 2026.                                               |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b><br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh informed the meeting about the establishment of NIC Sialkot under the Ministry of Information Technology & Telecom through IGNITE – National Technology Fund. He said that NIC Sialkot would promote entrepreneurship, innovation, digitalization, and exports by supporting local startups and transforming entrepreneurial talent into globally competitive ventures.<br><br>He stated that NIC Sialkot had established its facility at Cantt Plaza, opposite Grandeos Restaurant, and would initially incubate around 25 companies. He emphasized that such an incubation center was particularly important for Sialkot due to its export-oriented economy.<br><br>He further requested members of the business community to provide experienced professionals as mentors/judges to guide and support the incubated startups. He encouraged interested members to share their details with SCCI for association with NIC Sialkot. He informed that the first session was scheduled to commence on August 8, 2026. |                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Mr. Salman Sheikh.                                                                                                 |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Approved.                                                                                                          |
| <b>19 Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Approval of minutes of meeting on issues relating to Bank & Insurance Guarantees under EFS held on July 09, 2026.  |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Approved.                                                                                                          |
| <b>20. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Approval of minutes of meeting on Operational issues under the EFS held on July 10, 2026.                          |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Approved.                                                                                                          |
| <b>21. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Approval of minutes of meeting with a delegation from Pakistan Railways Headquarters Lahore held on July 13, 2026. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Approved.                                                                                                          |
| <b>22. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Approval of Report of Awareness Session on EXIM Bank's Export Credit Insurance Facility held on July 14, 2026.     |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b><br><br>The President explained that EXIM Bank Pakistan provided insurance and guarantee facilities to support exporters against the risk of non-payment by foreign buyers. He said that in case an exporter obtained insurance coverage through EXIM Bank and the buyer failed to make payment, the Bank provided compensation according to the terms of the insurance/guarantee.<br><br>He informed that the Chamber would provide space for the counter within its premises to facilitate members.<br><br>The President further explained that EXIM Bank could also assist exporters in assessing the creditworthiness and reliability of their foreign buyers. Through its international                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                    |

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| network, the Bank could provide buyer ratings and, against a nominal fee.                                                                                                                    |                                      |
| He stated that the proposed meeting with EXIM Bank was aimed at discussing the establishment of its counter at SCCI and creating awareness among Chamber members about its export insurance. |                                      |
| Mr. Salman Sheikh suggested that one pager about it should be circulated to members for their information.                                                                                   |                                      |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | The President and Mr. Salman Sheikh. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                              | Approved.                            |

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| <b>23</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Point discussed.</b> | Approval of report of meeting with a delegation from PSIC held on July 17, 2026. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                         |                                                                                  |
| The President stated that the DG Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC), along with its Director, had approached the Chamber to identify suitable sites of approximately 100–150 acres at different entry points of Sialkot, including Pasrur Road, Aimanabad Road, and Daska Road, for the establishment of small industrial estates.                                      |                         |                                                                                  |
| He informed that the Chamber had nominated members for the proposed sites, including Mr. Mian Imran Akbar for Aimanabad Road and Mr. Hafiz Junaid Sandal for Pasrur Road. He further stated that representatives of the Chamber, including Dr. Aslam Dar, Mr. Khawaja Masood, and himself, had participated in discussions with PSIC regarding the proposed industrial estates. |                         |                                                                                  |
| The President added that a formal letter containing the nominations of the members would be sent to PSIC for further necessary action.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                         |                                                                                  |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The President.          |                                                                                  |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Approved.               |                                                                                  |

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| <b>24</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Point discussed.</b> | Approval of report of meeting with a delegation from Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) held on July 17, 2026. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                         |                                                                                                                     |
| The President informed the participants that a delegation from the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) had visited the Chamber and briefed the development plans along the banks of the Ravi River. He stated that the project was initiated during the tenure of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, with the objective of developing thousands of acres of land surrounding the Ravi River into a new city.                                                                                                                                                                               |                         |                                                                                                                     |
| He explained that the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA), similar to the Lahore Development Authority (LDA), was a government authority established by the Government of Punjab for the development of the Ravi Riverfront area. The delegation briefed the Chamber about various development and housing schemes, including Chahar Bagh, and informed that plots were also being offered to interested individuals. The President noted that the project covered a large area along the Ravi River and was being undertaken as a major development initiative of the Punjab Government. |                         |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The President.          |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Approved.               |                                                                                                                     |

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| <b>25</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of Awareness Session on Export Facilitation Scheme held on July 20, 2026. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                         |                                                                                              |
| The President stated that an awareness session on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) was organized at the Chamber. Mr. Mohsin Rafique, Chief Collector Customs, and Madam Ismat Tahira, Collector IOC, along with other senior customs officials come to this |                         |                                                                                              |

Chamber. He said that following the meeting with the Prime Minister, progress on several collectorate-related issues had accelerated, with frequent meetings held to address the concerns of the business community.

He appreciated the cooperation of the Customs officials and noted that there had been a better understanding and coordination between the Chamber and the Customs authorities. He also mentioned that officials who had previously been in contact with the Chamber had been transferred.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.      |

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| <b>26 discussed.</b> | <b>Point</b> | Approval of Minutes of Meeting of Departmental Committee on Medical/Hospital held on July 27, 2026 |
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| <b>Discussion:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |
| <p>Mr. Aamer Mahmood Sheikh, Chairman of the Committee, shared the progress regarding MOUs signed with local and inter-city hospitals for providing healthcare facilities and discounts to SCCI members. He informed that agreements include :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evercare Hospital and Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital, offering up to 15% discounts on hospital-owned laboratory services,</li><li>• MOU with Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute &amp; Research Centre (PKLI), which provided prioritized access to filter clinics and financial assistance to deserving patients referred by SCCI.</li><li>• Among local hospitals, agreements had been established with New Life Hospital, Islam Medical offering an 18% discount, and Syed Medical Complex offering a 40% discount.</li><li>• Negotiations were at an advanced stage with Shifa International Hospital, offering an average discount of 15%–50%, as well as Horizon Hospital, Doctors Hospital, Hameed Latif Hospital, and Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital. Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital would also organize an on-site eye screening camp for SCCI members.</li></ul> <p>He thanked Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI, and Mr. Riaz Ud Din Sheikh, Business Community Leader, for leading the Health Walk held on June 14, 2026, on the proposal of the Departmental Committee on Medical/Hospital. He also shared that it had been planned to organize a Health Marathon in the coming months during the pleasant weather at a mutually agreed venue. He requested the members for their maximum participation.</p> <p>Mr. Aamer further informed that Prof. Ahmed Saeed of the Pakistan Society for Rehabilitation would organize a seminar on Arthritis Care on August 12 2026. Secondly, a session was scheduled to be held on 8th August at ERT, which would also be attended by Prof. Hameed Latif and Dr. Anwar-ul-Haq. Members requiring a medical check-up were informed that the facility would be available at the venue.</p> <p>The President appreciated the efforts of Mr. Aamer Mahmood Sheikh and said that he was doing an excellent job in developing strong relationships with leading hospitals and senior medical professionals. He particularly appreciated his efforts in bringing senior doctors from renowned institutions such as PKLI and Punjab Institute of Cardiology, as well as senior medical professionals from Islamabad. He noted that despite not being a doctor himself, Mr. Aamer had developed remarkable professional relations with the healthcare sector.</p> <p>Mr. Salman Sheikh also appreciated the efforts of Mr. Aamer Mahmood Sheikh.</p> <p>Mr. Omer Khalid also appreciated the efforts of Mr. Aamer Mahmood Sheikh but raised a concern regarding the discount facility at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital. He stated that although SCCI had signed an MOU with Shaukat Khanum for</p> |  |  |

laboratory services, the agreed discount was reportedly not being provided. He shared that he had personally visited the laboratory for his father's tests, but no discount was given. The laboratory staff contacted the relevant officials and the head office regarding the matter, and he was informed that there was no general discount available under the MOU with SCCI. He further clarified that the 20% discount was applicable only to tests booked after 11:00 p.m., as the laboratory operates 24 hours. He requested that the matter be taken up with the concerned.

Mr. Aamer Mahmood replied that, according to his information, the agreed discount facility had been implemented. He stated that he could share the letter issued in this regard.

The President, however, requested Mr. Aamer Mahmood to re-verify the matter and confirm the actual implementation of the discount facility.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Mr. Salman Sheikh, Mr. Omer Khalid and Mr. Aamer Mahmood Sheikh. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                                                       |

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| <b>27 discussed.</b> | <b>Point</b> | Approval of Report on the IPO Roundtable Conference held on July 29, 2026. |
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**Discussion:**

The President said that it was high-level conference which was arranged by Mian Muhaamad Riaz Sahib, former President. He said that the conference was attended by the Chief Executive of the Pakistan Stock Exchange from Karachi and representatives of various stock brokerage companies.

He said that the participants highlighted the importance of listing companies on the Stock Exchange, explaining that companies which were listed, tend to survive for generations and could continue operating for 100–200 years, even when ownership changes. He emphasized that Sialkot companies should also consider listing their businesses on the Stock Exchange to benefit from this model.

He said that the conference participants also encouraged Sialkot businessmen to consider investing in the Stock Exchange and not to be hesitant about the process. He further shared that Mian Riaz Sahib had also established a business school, where their children were studying. The institution was offering professional program including ICMA.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.      |

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| <b>28 discussed.</b> | <b>Point</b> | Approval of Report on visit to Food Department Punjab, Lahore held on July 25, 2026. |
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| <b>Approval</b> | Approved. |
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| <b>28 discussed.</b> | <b>Point</b> | Approval of Minutes of Meeting on Constitution of Export Facilitation Committees held on July 28, 2026. |
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| <b>Approval</b> | Approved. |
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| <b>30 discussed.</b> | <b>Point</b> | Approval of Minutes of Meeting of Departmental Committee on Industry Academia Linkages held on July 27, 2026, Minutes of Meeting of Departmental Committee on Information Technology Held on July 28, 2026 and minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on June 24, 2026. |
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**Discussion:**

Mr. Salman Sheikh highlighted the importance of strengthening industry-academia linkages and developing specialized courses in collaboration with universities to address the requirements of the local industry. He explained that SCCI was working on courses

related to Quality Control, Quality Assurance, ISO standards, and practical implementation of international standards, so that qualified professionals could help industries improve their systems and meet international certification requirements.

He further informed the house that SCCI had initiated collaboration with various universities through MoUs and planned to extend these linkages to leading universities, including LUMS and universities in Islamabad, with the objective of developing industry-specific courses, research, laboratories, and technical expertise. He proposed establishing a small consortium of business and academic stakeholders through which industries could identify their practical problems and universities could undertake research and develop solutions. He emphasized that investment from the business community would be essential for developing sustainable research and laboratory facilities.

Mr. Salman Sheikh also stressed the need for diversification of Sialkot's industrial base. He observed that Sialkot was mainly recognized for sports goods and surgical instruments and emphasized the need to introduce new products and explore emerging industries to ensure sustainable economic growth and create opportunities for the growing youth population.

He further emphasized the importance of long-term planning for the next four years, stating that SCCI must continuously identify new initiatives, diversify its services, and undertake mega projects to remain competitive.

He also highlighted the improvements made in SCCI's IT facilities and website. He presented the Website that had been upgraded with new features. He informed the house that books and online video lectures had been made available through the SCCI website for the benefit of members.

He suggested that the SCCI website should be reviewed and updated, after least every six months, with new features and information.

He also pointed out the issue relating to online payments for members.

Mr. Salman Sheikh stated that the website was currently operational on Windows and emphasized the need to ensure its compatibility with iOS, Android, and other operating systems. He stressed that the website should be developed using a responsive design approach to ensure consistent functionality and user experience across different devices, including iPhones, Android phones, tablets, and computers.

He further explained that the SCCI team did not have access to Apple/iOS devices for proper testing. He requested the House to approve the requirement so that the development team could proceed accordingly.

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| Participants | Mr. Salman Sheikh. |
| Approval     | Approved.          |

**Any Other Point**

**31.** Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam presented a proposal for organizing a local-level exhibition by the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). He suggested that the exhibition would provide a platform for showcasing a wide range of industries and facilitate direct interaction among manufacturers, suppliers and buyers. He proposed that the exhibition could be organized at G-2 Marquee, Sialkot, under a suitable name such as "SCCI International Expo" or "Sialkot Chamber Global Expo." He further informed that he had prepared preliminary details regarding the proposed exhibition, including estimated cost.

The President stated that he had already requested Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam to undertake further working on the idea. He said that the proposed exhibition could be organized on similar lines to the exhibition arranged by the Surgical Association; however, while the Surgical Association's exhibition was specific to surgical products, the proposed SCCI exhibition would cover all major industrial sectors of Sialkot. He said that the exhibition could also provide an opportunity for manufacturers and suppliers from other industrial cities, including Faisalabad and Lahore who supplied the goods in Sialkot, to participate.

The President said that the exhibition could bring manufacturers and suppliers directly together, thereby reducing the involvement of intermediaries and enabling businesses to obtain better access to raw materials and identify new suppliers. He also mentioned that an Expo agency had previously organized Textile Asia exhibitions at Lahore Expo and in Sialkot.

Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam informed the House that during visit to Lahore, they were asked why the Sialkot Chamber did not organize such an exhibition. He added that Chambers of Commerce in Faisalabad and Lahore had also organized exhibitions. He said that, as discussed by the Vice President about new entrepreneurs, such an exhibition could be particularly beneficial for them by providing the access to vendors, suppliers, and other business contacts.

The President said that the proposal was initially an idea and sought the views of the House regarding whether such an exhibition should be organized. He asked Mr. Omer Khalid for his opinion. Mr. Omer inquired about the estimated budget.

The President explained that the expenses of the exhibition would be met through participation fees charged to exhibitors and that SCCI would not bear any financial liability for the event.

Mr. Omer Khalid was of the opinion that the matter related to the Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions, hence the proposal should first be referred to the Committee for detailed consideration and recommendations.

Mr. Sohail Masood endorsed the viewpoint of Mr. Omer Khalid and observed that such an exhibition could not be organized single-handedly. He suggested that a Committee should be constituted under the supervision of the President to oversee and organize the exhibition.

Mr. Adnan Safdar sought clarification regarding the purpose of the proposed exhibition, particularly whether it would focus on the sale of local products or primarily serve export-oriented purposes.

Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam explained that the exhibition would address the difficulties faced by both new and established entrepreneurs in identifying reliable vendors and suppliers. He said that the proposed exhibition could provide useful business linkages and opportunities for both new and existing members.

Mr. Jawad Khalid suggested that, before finalizing the exhibition, the organizers should obtain prior consent and commitments from prospective exhibitors to ensure that the anticipated expenses would be covered. He emphasized that the number of exhibitors and their financial commitments should be assessed in advance so that the financial viability of the exhibition could be established before proceeding further.

Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam clarified that the financial planning would be completed well in advance and that no funds would be requested from SCCI. He repeated that the exhibition would be organized, on a self-financing basis, with the expenses to be met through exhibitor participation fee.

Mr. Bilal Khan emphasized that the exhibition should be organized in a proper and professional manner. He suggested that it could also be considered to organize at the Lahore Expo Centre with the assistance of a professional exhibition management team.

The President further explained that one of the key objectives of the proposed exhibition would be to bring suppliers of industrial inputs and raw materials directly to Sialkot. He stated that many Sialkot manufacturers source materials from outside the city, such as cloth and lining material from Karachi, Lahore, Gujranwala and other cities. He suggested that such suppliers should be invited to participate and exhibit their products so that Sialkot-based manufacturers could directly interact with them.

The President observed that the proposed event should not merely be viewed as a conventional product exhibition but should also serve as a business-to-business sourcing and supplier exhibition. He mentioned that in view of the ongoing Elections of the Chamber it was not feasible to organize it in the next two months.

**33.** Mr. Salman Sheikh sought approval of the House for writing off certain fixed assets, as the same was required from an audit point of view. He explained that some electronic items, including batteries, air conditioners, and other equipment, had completed their useful life and had already been replaced with new items. The obsolete items were lying in the store but were still reflected in the accounts. Therefore, approval of the House was required to write off these assets and remove them from the books of accounts.

He informed the House that, as per the list presented, the total value of the fixed assets proposed for write-off amounted to Rs. 415,720, while the value of R&D fixed assets amounted to Rs. 270,000.

The House sought details of the assets proposed for write-off from the Secretariat, which were provided in detail by Mr. Aamer Rashid Wyne. The President stated that the write-off of obsolete assets was a routine practice carried out every year.

Mr. Sohail Masood suggested that items such as the sound system and other equipment that were still usable should not be written off. In response, Malik Naseer Ahmed clarified that the items included in the proposed write-off list were those which were no longer usable.

**After detailed discussion and consideration, the house unanimously approved the list of assets proposed for write-off.**

**34.** Mr. Abdul Rauf sought approval from the House for the printing of the Annual Report, comprising 6,500 copies in Black & White and 500 copies in Color. He informed the House that the estimated cost of printing would be more than **Rs. 1 (M)**, therefore, approval of the House was required.

The President stated that, as the tenure of the present Executive Committee was nearing completion, the Annual Report was required to be prepared and printed as was done in the previous years. He further explained that, this year, the report would be printed in a comparatively smaller format, with a reduced number of color copies, while the major portion would be printed in Black & White.

**After discussion, the House unanimously approved the proposal for printing 6,500 copies of the Annual Report in Black & White and 500 copies in Colour with estimated cost of over Rs. 1(M).**

**35.** The President informed the House that an amount of Rs. 1 million had been issued to Mr. Sohail Khawar Mir, Chairman, Pakistan Volleyball Association, in support of the team

participating in the championship. He further shared that the team representing Pakistan had performed well and achieved victory, which was a matter of pride for the country.

**The house approved of Rs. 1(M) issued to Pakistan Volleyball Association.**

36. The President also briefed the House regarding the Sialkot Chamber's Business Directory/Yellow Pages. He stated that the directory had been developed by categorizing members into different sectors, including Leather, Sports, Surgical, Gloves, and other major industries and services sectors. He further explained that members who had contributed towards advertisements would be given special color pages in the directory. The revenue generated through advertisements had been utilized to cover the cost of preparing the entire directory.

37. The President sought approval from the House for an amount of Rs. 0.8 million for organizing an All akistan Mushaira under the committee of Mr. Khalid.,

**The House unanimously approved an amount of Rs. 0.8 million for organizing the All-Pakistan Mushaira.**

38. Mr. Salman Sheikh informed the House that a Job and Internship Portal had also been added to the SCCI website. He explained that the portal would facilitate both employers and job seekers. Members could post their job and internship requirements on the portal, while students and other candidates could upload their CVs and apply for available opportunities.

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

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