

**THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON NOVEMBER 28, 2025**

**01.** A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry was held on November 28, 2025 at 03:00 p.m. at Sheikh Muhammad Shafi Hall of the Sialkot Chamber.

**02.** Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, 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.

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

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| • Syed Ahtesham Mazhar     | President      |
| • Mr. Salman Sheikh        | Vice President |
| • Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik  | -Member-       |
| • Mr. Aamer Mahmood        | -do-           |
| • Mr. Adnan Safdar         | -do-           |
| • Mr. Bilal Ahmed Khan     | -do-           |
| • Mr. Khurram Javaid Sethi | -do-           |
| • Ms. Kinza Ijaz           | -do-           |
| • Mr. Muhammad Abid        | -do-           |
| • Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam | -do-           |
| • Sheikh Atique-ur-Rehman  | -do-           |
| • Mr. Sohail Masood        | -do-           |
| • Ms. Syeda Ayesha Wadood  | -do-           |

**05. Leave of Absence**

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| • Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad | Senior Vice President |
| • Mr. Ikram Ul Haq          | -Member-              |
| • Mr. Waseem Shahbaz Lodhi  | -do-                  |
| • Mr. Omer Khalid           | -do-                  |
| • Mr. Arshad Jamil Chaudhry | -do-                  |
| • Mr. Haseeb Tahir          | -do-                  |
| • Mr. Hassan Akbar          | -do-                  |
| • Mr. Jawad Khalid          | -do-                  |

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

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| • Mr. Mehtab Maqsood      | -do- |
| • Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Asad | -do- |

**07. Special Invitees**

- Mian Muhammad Khalil, Chairman Departmental Committee on Event.
- Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan, Chairman Departmental Committee on Post Office
- Mian Muhammad Anwar, Chairman Departmental Committee on Wapda/Sui Gas
- Mr. Lahshan Khilji, Chairman Departmental Committee on SME
- Malik Naseer Ahmed, Chairman Departmental Committee on Accounts

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

- Mother of Mr. Bilal Dar, M/s. Treue Sports
- Mr. M. Iqbal CEO of M/s. Lucky Seven Ind.

- Mother of Mr. Khuram Azim Khan, Former SVP
- Mother of Mr. Waseem Shahbaz Lohdi, Former SVP
- Dr. Rabia Wadood Mother of Dr. Syeda Ayesha Wadood
- Mr. Waqar Ahmed Cousin of Mr. Saleem Bhutta

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| <b>09. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Executive Committee held on October 28, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                           |

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| <b>10. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Approval of Statement of Accounts for the month of October 2025. |
| <p>Malik Naseer Ahmed, Chairman of the Committee said that would have had read the Accounts Statement. He stated that the report contained nothing unusual or objectionable. In fact, certain expenditure heads had shown a decrease during the period under review. On the income side, there was an increase of five lakh rupees.</p> <p>He invited the members to share their queries or concerns, if any.</p> <p>Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam requested that a debit/credit card facility be made available at the SCCI-Med Pharmacy to facilitate payment of bills. The President responded positively, stating that he would recommend this proposal to the Board of SCCI-Med Pharmacy.</p> <p>He invited Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr to brief the House. Mr. Azhar informed that the following contributions had been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rs. 50,000/- granted to the Sports Athletics Murray College, Sialkot</li> <li>• Rs. 25,000/- given to Sundas Foundation</li> <li>• Rs. 200,000/- provided to the Al-Khidmat Foundation</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Azhar informed the house that a request had been received from the Aisar Foundation for a donation of Rs. 1 million. The President stated that he had been invited to a meeting by the Aisar Foundation, during which it was mentioned that Mr. Ikram Ul Haq, Former President, had announced that the business community would contribute Rs. 1 million as a donation.</p> <p>The President further explained that SCCI had funds collected for the “Sailab Mutasreen” and with the approval of the House, a portion of these funds could be allocated for this donation. He sought the House's approval to release the said amount.</p> <p>Mr. Sohail Masood expressed his support for the proposal, noting that the Aisar Foundation was working efficiently, and recommended that the donation be approved.</p> <p>The President stated that the Punjab Institute of Cardiology, located in Wazirabad, had visited the Chamber through the reference of Sh. Khalid and Mian Muhammad Khalil. The Medical Superintendent (MS) and senior doctors accompanied the delegation. They informed that previously, patients had to wait extended periods for getting medical service six months, four months, or three months for stent insertion etc. Similarly, the waiting time for echo tests used to be two to three months. However, these delays had now been significantly reduced, and procedures were being conducted on daily basis. In many cases, appointments were scheduled within just one or two days.</p> <p>The President mentioned that the Chairman of Medical Committee Sheikh Amir Mehmood was also present during the meeting. The delegation requested support</p> |                                                                  |

from the Chamber, explaining that the hospital's machinery required regular maintenance, and some parts frequently got damaged and needed replacement. They provided a detailed list of the required parts, with the total estimated cost being approximately Rs. 10 million.

The President proposed that in order to support the hospital, funds be collected from the business community. Additionally, an amount of Rs. 1 million could be contributed from the Chamber's own resources, specifically from the fund collected for flood victims. These contributions could be utilized to procure the necessary parts for the hospital's machinery.

The President informed the house that a Committee would be constituted under the supervision of Mr. Aamer Mahmood, who would proceed with the purchase of the required machinery parts as requested by the Hospital. He explained that a portion of the funding would be provided by the Sialkot Chamber, while the remaining amount would be sought from member firms through donations.

Malik Naseer Ahmed stated that Sialkot International Airport had already created a fund, and therefore, it could also be approached for support.

Mr. Sohail Masood suggested that the required parts should be purchased by the Chairman and delivered to the hospital.

The President confirmed that this decision had already been taken. He further added that member firms would be encouraged to directly purchase the required parts for donation instead of contributing monetary amounts.

Mr. Bilal Ahmed Khan raised the concern that the funds under discussion were specifically collected for the "Sailab Mustasreen".

The President responded that it had initially been planned to hand over the remaining amount to the Army through the Chief of Army Staff, however, due to time constraints, this could not be executed and some funds remained unutilized.

Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik stated that he had also contributed Rs. 1 million specifically for the "Sailab Mutasreen,". He said that humanitarian work had been undertaken, including provision of medicines, establishment of medical camps, and distribution of food. He added that many deserving individuals still existed and emphasized that the Chamber had fulfilled its commitment to support the flood-affected people. He recalled that the earlier decision had been to first fully rehabilitate the "Sailab Mutasreen," and thereafter, if any surplus remained, it could be donated to the Army. He clarified that this was the agreed policy, though it could be revised if deemed necessary.

Mr. Bilal Ahmed Khan emphasized again that the contributions were collected specifically for the "Sailab Mutasreen," not for any other purpose such as machinery procurement or a blood bank.

The President responded that, in his understanding, the donations were made, "'Fisabilillah'" (for the sake of Allah) and the Chamber was utilizing them for similar welfare purposes. He also informed that several applications from the "Sailab Mutasreen" seeking assistance had been received and, after due verification, were approved.

Malik Abdul Ghafoor suggested that some funds should be reserved keeping in view the upcoming month of Ramzan, during which many needy individuals sought immediate assistance; such cases should be supported on the spot.

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| <b>After detailed deliberation, the House unanimously approved:</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rs. 1,000,000 as donation to Aisar Welfare Foundation; and</b></li> <li>• <b>Rs. 1,000,000 to the Punjab Institute of Cardiology Wazirabad for the purchase of machinery parts.</b></li> </ul> |                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The President, Malik Abdul Ghafoor, Malik Naseer Ahmed, Mr. Sohail Masood, Mr. Bilal Ahmed Khan and Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Approved.                                                                                                                 |

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| <b>11. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Approval of minutes of meeting regarding “Al-Suffa Free Tuition Program” held on October 31, 2025. |
| <p><b><u>Discussion:</u></b></p> <p>The President requested Mr. Abdul Rauf to brief the House on the Al-Suffa Free Tuition Program.</p> <p>Mr. Abdul Rauf informed that the program was initiated in 2024 in Ten Government High Schools of Sialkot and Sambrial Tehsils, aimed at academically weak students of 9th and 10th grades who were unable to afford private coaching be provided free tuition. To operationalize this initiative, the Education Committee signed formal MoUs with the Department of Education (CEO), GC Women University, Government Murray College, Sialkot Welfare Council, and Al-Khidmat Foundation Sialkot. Prior to commencement of classes, classrooms were renovated, necessary repairs were carried out, toilet facilities were improved, and the overall learning environment was upgraded where required. He further shared that during the first year (2024), a total of 36 teachers—23 paid and 13 volunteers—provided free tuition to nearly 1,000 students, with expenditures exceeding PKR 8 million. As a result of these efforts, Matric examination results of the beneficiary schools showed remarkable improvement. In 2025, nine additional schools and two colleges had been included in the program. Currently, around 95 teachers and volunteers are teaching 2,285 students, with monthly operational costs amounting to approximately PKR 2.5 million.</p> <p>The President expressed appreciation for the excellent performance of the Education Committee under the supervision of Dr. Khurram Anwar Khawaja and acknowledged that he had also attended meeting of the Committee.</p> <p><b>The President, along with the Executive Committee, commended the dedicated efforts and effective working of the Committee.</b></p> |                                                                                                    |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | The President and Mr. Abdul Rauf                                                                   |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Approved.                                                                                          |

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| <b>12. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Education held on November 07, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                            |

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| <b>13. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on SME/Training/ E-Commerce held on November 03, 2025. |
| <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b></p> <p>Mr. Lahshan Khilji informed the House that a meeting of the Departmental Committee had been convened, followed by another meeting held with SMEDA. During the meeting, SMEDA was requested to extend financial support to SMEs up to Rs. 5 million. He added that SMEDA currently operated a scheme for providing production-related</p> |                                                                                                                     |

machinery up to Rs. 500,000/-, and the Committee had proposed enhancing this limit to Rs. 5 million. He further stated that SMEDA had assured to arrange a trainer who would conduct monthly seminars for SMEs. All these points had been duly recorded in the minutes of the Departmental Committee meetings.

The President asked about the official of SMEDA with whom the meeting was held.

Mr. Lahshan Khilji informed that the meeting took place with Mr. Asim, Project Director SBCC stationed in Sialkot. He also reported that a recent seminar for SMEs had been organized, which was attended by more than 400 SMEs. Additionally, he apprised the House that FedEx had offered special courier rates for the Chamber's members, and that the MoU in this regard would be signed next month.

The President appreciated the Chairman of the Committee, noting that this was the first term of Mr. Lahshan Khilji as Chairman of the SME Committee, and commended his proactive efforts. He further requested Mr. Salman Mir, Secretary of the Committee, to organize the next seminar of the SME Committee in the SBCC Auditorium, which had a seating capacity of more than 400 persons. He added that he had already discussed the matter with Mr. Raja Husnain.

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

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| <b>14. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of Meeting of Mr. Lahshan Khilji with Mr. Asim Malik, Project Director, SBCC held on November 18, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                  |

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| <b>15. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Sports Goods & Sports Wears, Textile, Apparel, Bags held on November 11, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                                     |

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| <b>16. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on WAPDA/Sui Gas held on November 12, 2025. |
| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b><br><br>Mian Muhammad Anwar, Chairman of the Committee, informed the House that the first meeting of the Committee during the current tenure had been convened. With regret, he noted that although the Committee comprised 14 members but only four members attended the meeting. He expressed concern that while members expressed eagerness to become part of committees, they did not participate with the same interest when formally invited for meetings.<br><br>He further stated that no significant issues related to WAPDA or Sui Gas had been referred to the Committee so far. However, he assured the House that the Committee was always available and ready to address any issue promptly and would not disappoint any member. He added that he had been serving as Chairman of the WAPDA and Sui Gas Committee for nearly 25 years, and by the Grace of Almighty, all complaints received during his tenure were resolved satisfactorily.<br><br>Mr. Anwar informed the House that members had verbally complained about severe Sui Gas load shedding. He personally contacted the General Manager of the respective regions, following which the Regional Offices took immediate action and |                                                                                                          |

implemented necessary corrective measures, purely due to his efforts.

He further apprised the House that the status of the Sialkot Sui Gas Office was upgraded to a Regional Office as a result of his efforts. He added that the Regional Office was still operating from a rented building and did not possess its own premises. In this regard, the Regional Manager had requested support of the Sialkot Chamber in approaching the concerned authorities for the allocation of a dedicated building for Sui Gas in Sialkot, similar to other departments across Punjab.

Mr. Anwar also stated that Domestic Gas Connections for new meters had now been opened, and if any member had submitted an application, they might contact him directly for facilitation.

The President appreciated Mian Muhammad Anwar for his commendable performance as Chairman of the Committee. The President further inquired about the competent authorities to be approached for the allocation of an owned building for Sui Gas. **He asked whether the matter should be taken up with Khawaja Muhammad Asif or any other relevant authority.**

**In response, Mr. Anwar requested that a letter be written to the Federal Minister for Energy, with a copy to Khawaja Muhammad Asif.**

**The President directed Mr. Azhar Iqbal Dar to note it.**

Mian Muhammad Anwar informed the House that in 2014, during a meeting with Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab, he had proposed appointment of Traffic Wardens in Sialkot and the construction of a Ring Road to effectively manage the city's traffic flow. The Chief Minister accepted the proposal and Traffic Wardens were appointed in Sialkot. He further endorsed the Ring Road project; however, despite the preparation of a feasibility report, the project could not be executed due to lack of funds and remained pending. He suggested that a Ring Road Project Committee be constituted under the supervision of a former President to pursue this important initiative.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Mian Muhammad Anwar. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                           |

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| <b>17. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Research Management for Sustainable Development held on November 14, 2025. |
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**Discussion:**

Ms. Syeda Ayesha Wadood informed the House that the Objectives for the Year 2025–26 had been finalized. To streamline the workflow, it was unanimously decided to establish two specialized working groups, as follows:

**I.** Carbon Credit and Emissions Working Group, this group would focus on industrial greenhouse gas calculations and emissions modeling. The members were: Dr. Zain Abbas, Mr. Shahzaib and Dr. Adeel Mehmood

**II.** Wastewater and Resource Recovery Working Group, this group would work on wastewater treatment, raw material recycling, and industrial waste utilization. The members were Dr. Hammad Majeed, Mr. Naveed Ahmed, Dr. Afshan Arooj and Mr. Adeel Sohail

Both working groups would coordinate closely with the SCCI R&D Secretariat and

would present their progress updates in the subsequent review meetings.

The President stated that the Committee comprised highly learned and educated individuals, and a specific task had been assigned to them particularly to explore how industrial waste generated by factories could be reused in an environmentally friendly manner or through other viable solutions. He further mentioned that the members had carried out extensive brainstorming on this matter.

The President added that he made every effort to attend all Committee meetings in order to stay informed about the direction of their work. Having entrusted this important responsibility to the Committee, he noted that the House would review the outcomes of their efforts in the upcoming meetings.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President and Syeda Ayesha Wadood. |
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| <b>Approval</b> | Approved. |
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| <b>18. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Post Office/Telecommunication held on November 18, 2025. |
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**Discussion:**

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan, Chairman Post Office Committee thanked the President and EC for reappointing him Chairman of the Committee again. He shared that the First Committee meeting was held wherein work plan and key issues were discussed. He mentioned the following:-

- Postal Rates: Last year’s significant increase impacted exporters. Pakistan Post had been engaged, and a tariff reduction of up to 30% was expected within the next few weeks.
- International Mail Delays: Export mail from Sialkot currently routed via Lahore caused 2–3 days delays. Proposal for direct dispatch via Sialkot International Airport had been acknowledged and would be implemented soon.
- Service Quality: Complaints about staff behavior and efficiency was being addressed in coordination with the Chief Postmaster; visible improvements were expected.
- Notable improvements included:
  - Abolition of the restrictive dot system.
  - Direct shipment from factories now allowed.
  - Special rates for sports goods shipments (up to 40 kg by dimension / 15 kg by chargeable weight).
- Awareness Session: Committee would organize a session in the coming months to inform members about Pakistan Post services.

Sheikh Atiq ur Rehman requested that a facility be provided for the pick-up and drop of shipments directly from the factories.

In response, Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan stated that the matter had already been discussed. He explained that the said service was provided only to those companies who had courier upto Rs. five lakh rupees. However, despite these concerns, it was requested that the Post Office extended this service to the members of SCCI.

Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam raised a query regarding the basis on which courier charges were calculated. He explained that for products such as boxing equipment, despite having specific dimensions, the charges were imposed on the basis of weight rather than volumetric dimensions. Similarly, in the case of surgical instruments, the pricing was weight-based. He further asked why, in these calculations, the multiplier used was 5,000 for courier shipments, whereas for sea–air shipments, the multiplier was

6,000, and under which authority these parameters fell.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan clarified that the multiplier of 5,000 was applied because courier consignments fell under the courier category, where this standard volumetric weight factor was internationally practiced.

Mr. Salman Sheikh expressed concern that the government had abruptly doubled the previously concessionary postal rates, which had particularly affected the Cottage Industry. He asked whether any discussions had been held with the authorities to seek relief and restore the earlier charges. He further suggested that weight slabs be divided into smaller units to facilitate small exporters, noting that global e-commerce platforms offer far lower parcel rates compared to those available in Pakistan.

Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan responded that although the first-kilogram rate for USA was PKR 17,000, the 30-kg slab effectively reduced it to PKR 11,400, which was still lower than competing courier services. He informed the House that the Chamber had intervened to prevent even higher proposed increase. He added that the Chamber had recommended introducing 250-gram and 500-gram weight slabs and was actively pursuing the restoration of certain USA-bound services that had been suspended by the department. He assured members that a revised and more flexible tariff structure was being developed in coordination with postal authorities and thanked them for their valuable feedback, reaffirming the Chamber's continued follow-up on the matter.

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| <b>Participants</b> | Mr. Salman Sheikh, Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan, Sheikh M. Shahid Inam and Sheikh Atiq-ur-Rehman |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                                                                 |

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| <b>19. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Event Management held on November 24, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                   |

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| <b>20. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Minutes of the 1st Board Meeting of SCCI Med Pharmacy at SCCI held on November 01, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                            |

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| <b>21. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Income Tax/ FTR held on November 25, 2025. |
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**Discussion:**

Mr. Sohail Masood stated that 2% deduction was made from the *ex-tax amount*. Many members believed that this deduction had been restored.

The President clarified that the 2% deduction had not been restored at the federal level. He explained that after the 18th Constitutional Amendment, several subjects were devolved to the provincial governments, and as a result, certain provincial departments had begun implementing their own procedures, in this regard.

The President further informed the House that the Chamber had earlier organized a seminar in which officials from Social Security and EOBI participated. Each department presented its own viewpoint. Specifically, regarding the Workers Welfare Fund (WWF), it was highlighted that historically, the collection of WWF was performed at the federal level. However, in recent years the responsibility shifted between different institutions. At one stage, the matter had also been taken up by the Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA). Presently, however, the responsibility had been assigned to

the Punjab Social Security Institution.

He added that when Social Security officials visited industrial units for collection, many companies either refuse payment or were unaware of the mandate because they did not clearly understood what “WWF” stood for.

Mr. Sohail Masood stated that, in addition to the existing 2%, a further five percent of profits must be spent on workers.

The President responded that the total requirement was five percent. He explained that the government had mandated that, just as employers paid bonuses, annual bonuses must also be given. Employers should first deduct from this five percent the amounts they had already spent directly on worker benefits. The government had also specified how the benefit might be distributed, different percentage allowances for higher-paid and lower-paid workers.

After accounting for direct expenditures, employers must remit 2% in cash to the Workers’ Welfare Fund (WWF). The WWF was used for purposes such as marriage assistance, death grants and construction of housing for workers. The President noted that the WWF had provided benefits to thousands of workers, individually with modest amounts.

Mr. Salman observed that most members were not fully aware of the functions, scope, and benefits of the WWF. **He therefore proposed that the Chairman of the concerned Committee (Mr. Asad Bajwa) be requested to prepare a concise, one-page informational brief for circulation among the members for their understanding.**

**The House agreed to the proposal.**

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Mr. Salman Sheikh and Mr. Sohail Masood. |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                               |

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| <b>22. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting with Mr. Ahmed Shuja, Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue, RTO Sialkot held on October 21, 2025. |
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| <b><u>Discussion:</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| <p>The President informed the House that it was a courtesy visit, similar to a farewell meeting held earlier for Mr. Ahmed Shuja. He stated that the newly appointed Chief Commissioner had assumed charge, and according to available reports, more than 300 companies in Sialkot had already been issued audit notices.</p> <p>The President said that Mr. Imran Ali Rana had informed that the new Chief Commissioner was known to be very strict and observed matters in great detail. He informed him that a meeting was held with the Chief Commissioner, during which the issue of FTR was discussed. Mr. Rana explained that SCCI had an understanding with the Regional Office that the implementation of FTR for NTR cases—such as book checking and related compliance—would not be enforced for some time. However, the Chief Commissioner responded that he could only proceed in accordance with the Government Policy and asked for documentary evidence of any such relaxation. He clearly stated that, as per the policy, audit was a core requirement and would be conducted accordingly.</p> <p>The President also mentioned that the newly appointed Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue had been formally invited to visit the Sialkot Chamber and requested all members to ensure their presence during the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Sohail Masood informed the House that Mr. Rana Imran had conveyed that the Chief Commissioner was personally visiting doctors’ clinics to verify their fee structures,</p> |  |

which showed that he was monitoring matters very closely.

Mr. Tariq Mahmood Malik added that he had received information that the Chief Commissioner had a soft corner for exporters.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President, Mr. Sohail Masood and Mr. Tariq Mahmood Malik |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                                    |

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| <b>23. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of an Awareness Session on Improvement in Filing Goods Declaration held on October 23, 2025. |
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**Discussion**

The President informed the House that an awareness session was conducted by FBR regarding the correct filing of Goods Declarations (GD). It was highlighted that members were not filing GDs according to the specific items being exported. For example, different types of gloves, leather gloves, split leather gloves, and artificial leather gloves, each carry different HS Codes. However, members were submitting them under a single HS Code with a combined value, which resulted in incorrect rebate calculations. A similar issue was observed in the filing relating to surgical goods. The Department had issued challans in such cases, treating them as mis-declarations.

The President further stated that the Seminar was organized at his personal request during a Zoom meeting with the Department. Unfortunately, member participation was very low, indicating a lack of interest. He urged the members to actively participate in such awareness seminars to avoid future complications.

Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam added that the correct HS Code for sports goods was 95069990, but banks and shippers often enter incorrect codes, causing difficulties for exporters. He suggested that members should re-verify the HS Codes at the time of filing the GD.

The President endorsed the viewpoint of Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam.

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President and Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                                  |

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| <b>24 Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of an Awareness Session on Digital Invoicing-Registration & Integration held on November 03, 2025. |
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**Discussion**

The President informed the House that the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) had conducted a seminar at the Chamber, which was chaired by the Senior Vice President. The purpose of the seminar was to provide awareness regarding the implementation of the digital invoicing system.

He further stated that the FBR officials emphasized to exporters that it had now become mandatory to generate digital invoices, particularly for members engaged in local sales. These digitally generated invoices would be linked with PRAL, and the system-generated invoices would be required to ensure full compliance. It was highlighted that failure to issue digital invoices for local sales would result in strict penalties, including substantial fines. Owing to the significance of the matter, the Chief Commissioner himself attended the seminar and personally briefed the participants.

The President added that export invoices were not required to be generated through PRAL; however, for any local sale, PRAL-generated invoices were mandatory.

He also mentioned that previously several issues had arisen regarding sales tax

discrepancies, particularly where small quantities sold locally were left unrecorded. To ensure complete traceability and to prevent such irregularities, FBR had now made digital invoicing compulsory for all local sales.

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

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| <b>25. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of an Interactive Session on Consumer Rights under the Punjab Consumer Protection Act 2005 held on November 05, 2025. |
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| <b><u>Discussion</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                |
| <p>The President informed the house that Mr. Imran Qureshi, who earlier served as Deputy Commissioner Sialkot, had conducted an informative awareness session on consumer rights. He further explained that previously, separate consumer courts were established to deal with consumer-related matters. However, under the revised mechanism, consumers could now lodge complaints directly with the Office of the Deputy Commissioner. In cases where a consumer purchased an item, such as a fan or a refrigerator and a fault arose that was not resolved by the seller within a specified time period, a complaint might be filed with the DC's office.</p> <p>In case the issue would remain unresolved at that level, the case would then be referred to the Civil Courts, specifically to the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge. This new system had replaced the previous practice of handling such matters through separate consumer courts.</p> |                |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The President. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Approved.      |

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| <b>26. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting on visit of the Ambassadors of the ASEAN Nations to Pakistan i.e., Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Philippines, Myanmar, Brunei Daru Islam held on November 12, 2025. |
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| <b><u>Discussion</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                     |
| <p>The President stated that Ambassadors from five out of seven countries, along with two Commercial Counselors, attended the event. A general information session was held in which each Ambassador briefed the participants about their respective countries and available business opportunities. The session was well attended by a large number of participants.</p> <p>Mr. Salman Sheikh informed the House that all Ambassadors emphasized the importance of focusing on branding, highlighting that the market potential was very large rather than to become only the supplier or manufacturer of any big company.</p> |                                     |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The President and Mr. Salman Sheikh |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Approved.                           |

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| <b>27. Point discussed.</b> | Report on CTI Summit 2025, at Serena Hotel, Islamabad held on November 13, 2025. |
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| <b><u>Discussion</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| <p>Mian Muhammad Khalil informed the House that a lawyer from the District Bar had visited him and requested the Chamber to arrange a seminar on cybercrime, with the objective of creating awareness among the business community about current cyber threats and ways to safeguard against them.</p> <p>The President agreed to hold the said seminar.</p> |  |

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| <b>Participants</b> | The President and Mr. Salman Sheikh |
| <b>Approval</b>     | Approved.                           |

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| <b>28. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Approval of Report of Health Awareness Sessions held on November 13, & November 20, 2025. |
| <b><u>Discussion</u></b><br><br>Mr. Aamer Mahmood informed the House that Dr. Sajjad, a renowned neurologist from Sialkot, delivered an informative session on stroke management. This session followed an important PIC session conducted earlier by a senior doctor from Lahore. He expressed serious concern over the low attendance of members at such valuable and informative sessions. He cited that out of 22 Executive Committee members, if all had attended along with participation from other members, it could create a very positive impression on the invited guest speakers and reflected the importance the Chamber placed on such programs. He regretted that valuable knowledge, which was often not easily available even through paid sessions, was sometimes not fully valued by the members. He further shared that the availability of the life-saving injection TPA was also discussed during the session. It was noted that this injection is generally unavailable locally and even at the Civil Hospital. The doctors were requested to guide the Chamber on an appropriate supply channel, similar to the initiative taken for the Chamber Pharmacy, and they assured the House that they would provide the required information in this regard.<br><br>Mr. Sohail Masood inquired about the cost of a life-saving injection.<br><br>Mr. Aamer Mahmood informed the House that the total cost was approximately PKR 300,000, which included the application charges, while the injection itself cost around PKR 250,000.<br><br>The President asked about the purpose of the injection.<br><br>Mr. Aamer Mahmood clarified that the injection was used for the treatment of Paralysis attacks.<br><br>Mr. Sohail Masood suggested that arrangements for this injection should be made available at the SCCI Medical Pharmacy.<br><br><b>The President further requested Mr. Aamer Mahmood and Mian Muhammad Khalil to invite the owners of Afzal Heart Center and formally appreciate them on behalf of the Chamber for their valuable services and commendable work.</b><br><br><b>Mr. Aamer Mahmood replied that the matter had been duly noted.</b><br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh emphasized that industries perform and grow with the active contribution of their labor force, and without workers, industries were nothing. He highlighted an alarming situation, stating that according to Shaukat Khanum Hospital, Sialkot had the highest percentage of cancer patients. At the national level, he noted that the main contributing factors were water contamination and medical issues. He expressed concern that workers tend to be careless about their health.<br><br>He proposed that the Chamber should join hands with the government to create awareness among workers. He suggested launching a proactive awareness campaign to support the workers.<br><br>Mr. Aamer Mahmood replied that this matter had already been discussed in the Committee's meeting. |                                                                                           |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | The President, Mr. Salman Sheikh, Mr. Aamer Mahmood and Mr. Sohail                        |

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|          | Masood.   |
| Approval | Approved. |

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| 29. Point discussed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Minutes of the meeting of Departmental Committee on Medical/Hospital held on November 25, 2025. |
| <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Mr. Aamer Mahmood thanked the President for giving him the opportunity. He highlighted that low attendance in Committee meetings remains a major concern. He said that only six to seven members attended the meeting, out of which merely two to three were executive committee members. He expressed the view that if the entire Executive Committee were part of such committees, participation would improve, as greater involvement generally leads to better performance. He noted that this was a collective issue affecting everyone.</p> <p>He then summarized the conclusions as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Evercare Hospital Collaboration</b><br/>           After the awareness session conducted by Dr. Sajjad, the Evercare Hospital team visited along with their senior doctors. They examined approximately 82 patients, around 15% of whom were Chamber members.<br/>           An MOU had been signed with the Chamber under which Chamber members, their families, and staff are entitled to benefits. Evercare proposed a minimum 20% discount, as other hospitals, including National Doctors Hospital were also prepared to offer a similar discount and are ready to form MOUs.         </li> <li> <b>Regular Medical Camps &amp; Awareness Sessions</b><br/>           The President requested Evercare to arrange medical camps every two to three months at the Chamber, with teams coming from Lahore comprising different doctors each time.<br/>           It was also suggested that Oncology services be prioritized initially, as mentioned earlier by the Vice President. Additionally, it was recommended that awareness sessions be conducted prior to medical camps to ensure maximum participation and benefit for members.         </li> <li> <b>Wazirabad Cardiology Team</b><br/>           The cardiology team from Wazirabad informed the Chamber that their medical equipment was worth approximately PKR 10 million. The Chamber conveyed its willingness to support and recommend deserving patients, and the team assured their cooperation in facilitating patients, Insha Allah.         </li> <li> <b>Khawaja Safdar Medical College &amp; Allied Hospital</b><br/>           The Chamber's committee visited Khawaja Safdar Medical College, where the key issue discussed was facilitating members and staff who could not afford private treatment.<br/>           A focal person had now been designated at the Chamber to coordinate with the hospital. In case of any issue faced by a member or staff, immediate coordination and resolution would be ensured.         </li> <li> <b>Appreciation of Afzaal Heart Center</b><br/>           As mentioned earlier by the President and Mian Sahib, it had been planned to hold a program to appreciate Afzaal Heart Center on their commendable work.         </li> <li> <b>Engagement with Health Authorities</b><br/>           The committee was actively engaged with the Ministry of Health, including the Secretary Health and the Director General, regarding issues related to the Civil/District Hospitals.<br/>           He emphasized that patients suffering from heart conditions should not always be referred to Lahore or Wazirabad; instead, advanced facilities such as angiography should be available locally.         </li> </ol> |                                                                                                 |

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| <p>The Principal assured cooperation and stated that discussions would continue, with plans to involve the Provincial Health Minister and formally invite the Chamber to further deliberate on bringing an angiography machine through government support.</p> <p>7. <b>Hospital Waste Management</b><br/>The issue of hospital waste, which was scattered on roads and poses serious health risks, was also raised.</p> <p>8. <b>Children's Hospital Coordination</b><br/>Coordination was also established with Children's Hospital Lahore, where there was a heavy patient load. The hospital preferred three to four patients referred to them and agreed to send their team to Sialkot for further discussions at the Chamber.</p> <p>9. <b>Upcoming MOUs with Private Hospitals</b><br/>The Chamber Committee was also working and in the process of signing MOUs with National Hospital, Hameed Latif Hospital, and Doctors Hospital, all of whom have agreed to offer approximately 25% discount to Chamber members and their families.</p> |                    |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Mr. Aamer Mahmood. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Approved.          |

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| <b>30. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Information Technology held on November 14, 2025. |
| <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p>Mr. Salman Sheikh stated that the committee had held a meeting and set its primary goals. Firstly, it was decided to develop a state-of-the-art website for the Chamber. He explained that the website would serve as an informational platform and that the Chamber could not act as a buyer or provide support to any external party. He informed that a section titled "Latest Updates" had been created to post general news. Any requests from external parties would be included as general news to maintain neutrality. He mentioned that the updates would remain visible on the website without dominating it, and the updates page would be fully developed within the Chamber's control. He concluded that further points and improvements would be discussed in the next meeting.</p> |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Mr. Salman Sheikh.                                                                                                |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Approved.                                                                                                         |

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| <b>31. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Industrial Safety, Risk Management & Rescue 1122 held on November 14, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                                   |

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| <b>32. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Young Entrepreneurs held on November 19, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                      |

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| <b>33. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of zoom meeting with Mr. Haroon Sharif, Chairman, Pakistan Regional Economic Forum, held on November 19, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                          |

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| <b>34. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Machinery, Chemicals & Related Sectors held on November 19, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                                         |

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| <b>35. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of an Awareness Session on Workers Welfare Fund and Minimum Wages held on November 21, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                                       |

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| <b>36. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of an Awareness Session on Islamic Banking held on November 24, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                |

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| <b>37. Point discussed.</b> | Approval of Report of a Seminar on Export Awareness & Global Opportunities held on November 25, 2025. |
| <b>Approval</b>             | Approved.                                                                                             |

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| <b>38. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Approval of minutes of meeting of the Departmental Committee on Industry, Academia Linkages held on November 27, 2025. |
| <b>Discussion:</b><br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh informed the House that the first meeting focused on creating industry-academia linkages. He stated that the meeting was thoughtful and included a productive brainstorming session. Following key points were discussed:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies to improve collaboration between industry and academic institutions.</li> <li>• Engagement with local universities, noting challenges such as limited expertise, insufficient funding, and availability issues in the government sector.</li> <li>• Plans to involve the private sector to support and strengthen initiatives.</li> </ul> He added that the President and Dr. Khurram Anwar Khawaja were also present and suggested approaching LUMS due to their state-of-the-art lab facilities.<br><br>Mr. Salman Sheikh concluded that the meeting had established a strong foundational framework and indicated that future meetings would focus on expanding and implementing the discussed initiatives. |                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Mr. Salman Sheikh.                                                                                                     |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Approved.                                                                                                              |

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| <b>39. Point discussed.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Approval of minutes of meetings of the Departmental Committee on Membership/Bye-Laws held on November 26, 2025. |
| <b>Discussion:</b><br><br>Mr. Sohail Masood informed the House that 836 applications for new memberships were received during the month. These applications were checked by the Committee and recommended for approval.<br><br>He further stated that the Chamber had appointed two staff members to digitize membership data. In the first phase, they scanned files of members whose renewals were overdue by 10 years or more. During this month, 3,000 files were scanned and their data digitized.<br><br>Mr. Sohail Masood added that these physical files now needed to be discarded, and |                                                                                                                 |

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| a paper crusher was required, with an estimated cost of approximately Rs. 200,000/-.                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |
| Mr. Azhar Darr informed the House that the Chamber already had a paper crusher, purchased at Rs. 25,000/-, capable of crushing 1–25 sheets at a time. However, the Membership Department had requested a larger crusher.          |                                                     |
| The President suggested using the existing crusher, while some members advocated for a bigger one. After thorough discussion, the President recommended that he would review the requirement, which was agreed upon by the House. |                                                     |
| The House also approved to discard the files that had been scanned. These were the files of members whose renewals had been overdue for 10 years or more.                                                                         |                                                     |
| <b>Participants</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               | The President, Mr. Sohail Masood and Mr. Azhar Dar. |
| <b>Approval</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Approved.                                           |

**Any Other Point**

**40.** Mr. Salman Sheikh informed the house that the microphones installed around the table were not functioning properly. Despite repeated repairs, they continued to break down, and repairs required travel to Lahore, which was costly and often ineffective. He noted that the microphones were old and that a quotation had been obtained for a replacement system. He further explained that the current camera setup, similar to Zoom meetings with the MD screen, was fixed and limited, making it difficult to manage participants effectively. He emphasized the need for system modernization. The former President had also monitored the setup and recommended an upgrade.

Mr. Sheikh highlighted that modern video management had become significantly easier. The proposed system would include multiple cameras with automatic focus and sound control integrated with the microphones. Three cameras would cover the hall comprehensively, one at the front and one each on the left and right. When a participant pressed a button, the camera would automatically focus on that person. The system would be centrally controlled and designed to meet long-term needs for the next five to ten years.

He stated that the total estimated cost for the upgraded microphones and camera system was approximately PKR 4 million. Initially, only the replacement of microphones had been considered at an estimated cost of PKR 3.5 million; however, the complete integrated audio-visual system required additional investment. He further informed the House that the SMD had already been installed at a cost of PKR 3 million, and if its cost were also added, the overall expenditure would increase significantly.

The Secretary General informed that SMD was installed at around Rs. 2.5(M) at that time, but now its cost would have increased.

The President stated that the issue of microphones had already been discussed in several meetings held last year. The House was informed that Mr. Fraz had achieved significant cost savings by opting for repairs, which was highly appreciated. The President then requested Mr. Fraz to further explain the matter.

Mr. Fraz replied that the microphones which had been repaired were functioning properly; however, the remaining microphones were deteriorating one by one.

The President inquired about the number of microphones included in the proposed system.

Mr. Salman Sheikh responded that the system comprised 25 microphones, including two master sets, while the remaining units were standard microphones. He added that the second master set was simple and easy to operate.

Ms. Kinza Fatima stated that most meetings were now being held via Zoom and explained that, under the proposed system, the camera would automatically focus on the member who would speak.

Members then discussed in detail the specifications of the microphone system. Some members suggested that priority should be given to purchasing the system from local vendors, as procuring it from other cities such as Lahore or Islamabad could create difficulties in tracing vendors in case of repairs or technical faults.

The Secretary General further suggested that a Service Agreement should be signed to avoid any inconvenience in the future.

**After thorough discussion, the House unanimously approved the installation of the new microphone system as proposed by Mr. Salman Sheikh, at a total cost of Rs. 4 million.**

**41.** Mian Muhammad Khalil thanked the President for attending the meetings of the Departmental Committee and for guiding the Chairman on how to perform effectively. Referring to the earlier discussion regarding the availability of the life-saving injection TPA, he suggested that four to five injections should be purchased and kept as reserve stock at the SCCI Med Pharmacy. He further proposed that the matter be discussed with Dr. Sajjad so that, in case the injection would not be available in the Government Hospital, it might be temporarily provided from the SCCI Med Pharmacy, to save lives, and returned once the hospital received its supply from the Government.

The President stated that Mr. Aamer Mahmood should be requested to take up the matter with the concerned authorities.

Mian Muhammad Khalil appreciated the Vice President's proposal for upgrading SCCI's website, stating that it was among the best websites of any Chamber in Pakistan and carried a high rating on Google. He encouraged that further improvements be made to enhance it further.

Mian Muhammad Khalil referred to discussion regarding providing support to the students and trainees at the training Centre. He suggested that an Incubation Centre be established where an instructor could guide interns in groups of ten or more, in order to provide structured mentoring and practical guidance to new entrants.

The President informed that he had taken Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Malik, former President to the roof of the President's Office and that there was a plan to include this space in SCCI's Library. He added that the Vice President had prepared the complete drawings for the project and that the adjacent space would also be included.

Mian Muhammad Khalil appreciated the initiative and stated that the work could be carried out step by step.

**42.** Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr informed the House that certain medical bills of the SCCI staff required approval. He stated that EC had already authorized the Office Bearers to approve and reimburse medical bills of SCCI staff; however, upon the recommendation of the Accounts Committee, it had been decided that all such medical bills would be placed before the Executive Committee for final approval.

Mr. Azhar Darr added that Executive Committee meetings were usually held at the end of each month, which resulted in delays in reimbursement and caused hardship to staff members, particularly in urgent cases. He, therefore, requested the House that the Executive Committee had already authorized the Office Bearers to approve and reimburse medical bills of the SCCI staff whenever required, hence this practice should be continued.

The House unanimously approved the request and authorized the Office Bearers to approve and reimburse medical bills of SCCI staff.

Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr presented the following medical bills of staff members for reimbursement, which were **approved by the House**:

- **Mr. Abdul Rauf**, Heart Patient – Medical tests amounting to **Rs. 32,802/-**
- **Mr. Farooq Ahmed**, Security Camera Operator – C-section of his wife amounting to **Rs. 99,475/-**
- **Mr. Ammar Ahmed Khan**, R&D Officer – Medical bills of his children amounting to **Rs. 25,772/-**
- **Mr. Shahzad**, Office Boy – Special medical assistance for heart treatment of his father amounting to **Rs. 127,275/-**

**43.** Mr. Azhar Iqbal Darr further shared that Mr. Saif Ali, Dispatch Rider, had requested a loan of Rs. 800,000/- from his gratuity, to be repaid at the rate of Rs. 10,000/- per month through deductions from his salary. He informed the House that Mr. Saif Ali had been serving the Chamber for the last 36 years and that his total gratuity amounted to approximately Rs. 1,200,000/-.

**The House unanimously approved the loan of Rs. 800,000/- to Mr. Saif Ali, with repayment of Rs. 10,000/- per month through salary deductions.**

**44.** The President proposed that the Executive Committee might undertake a study tour to Al-Akhuwat University, Kasur. He further informed the house that an invitation had also been received from the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI).

Mr. Sohail Masood suggested that a visit to the Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce & Industry (GCCCI) should also be arranged. In response, the President stated that a visit to the Business Center Gujranwala (GBCC) could likewise be planned.

After detailed discussion, the house agreed to arrange study visits to **Al-Akhuwat University, Kasur, Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Business Center Gujranwala.**

**45.** The President informed the House that the Chamber diaries were prepared last year and this year it was currently under review by the Senior Vice President (SVP). He explained that the members' directory of the previous year included only paid members and had been circulated to various Embassies. It limited promotional visibility to only those members who had contributed financially which was not fair according to his point of view.

He stated that this year, he had proposed publishing a comprehensive "Yellow Pages" style directory containing the complete data of all members of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry, free of cost. Members wishing to advertise would be charged according to the approved advertisement tariff, which included options for full-page, half-page, quarter-page, and single-page advertisements.

The President apprised the House that the Yellow Pages directory would be circulated to all Embassies in Pakistan, while the Chamber diaries would be distributed to both foreign Embassies in Pakistan and Pakistani missions operating abroad. Approximately 1,000 copies of each publication were planned to be printed.

**He added that Mr. Abdul Rauf had designed three different title pages, from which one (Yellow Title) was approved by the house.**

Mr. Sohail Masood expressed concern that printing the entire Sialkot industries' data might result in a bulky book and significantly increase postage costs, noting that postage had been an issue in the previous year.

In response, the President clarified that although the directory would resemble the Yellow Pages, a smaller font size would be used to keep it compact. He added that even if the donation had not been made from such funds last time, there were sufficient funds available, and, God willing, the necessary funds would be available this time as well. He also noted that the courier expenses would be covered from these funds.

**46.** Mr. Sohail Masood discussed the SCCI Bulletin, noting that it was previously printed and circulated to members on a quarterly basis but had since been discontinued. He suggested that the publication should be restarted.

The President replied that he had already instructed Mr. Abdul Rauf, Deputy Secretary Publication, to initiate work on the bulletin and proposed publishing it on a monthly basis, subject to the House's approval.

The House agreed to the proposal to print and publish the SCCI Bulletin monthly.

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