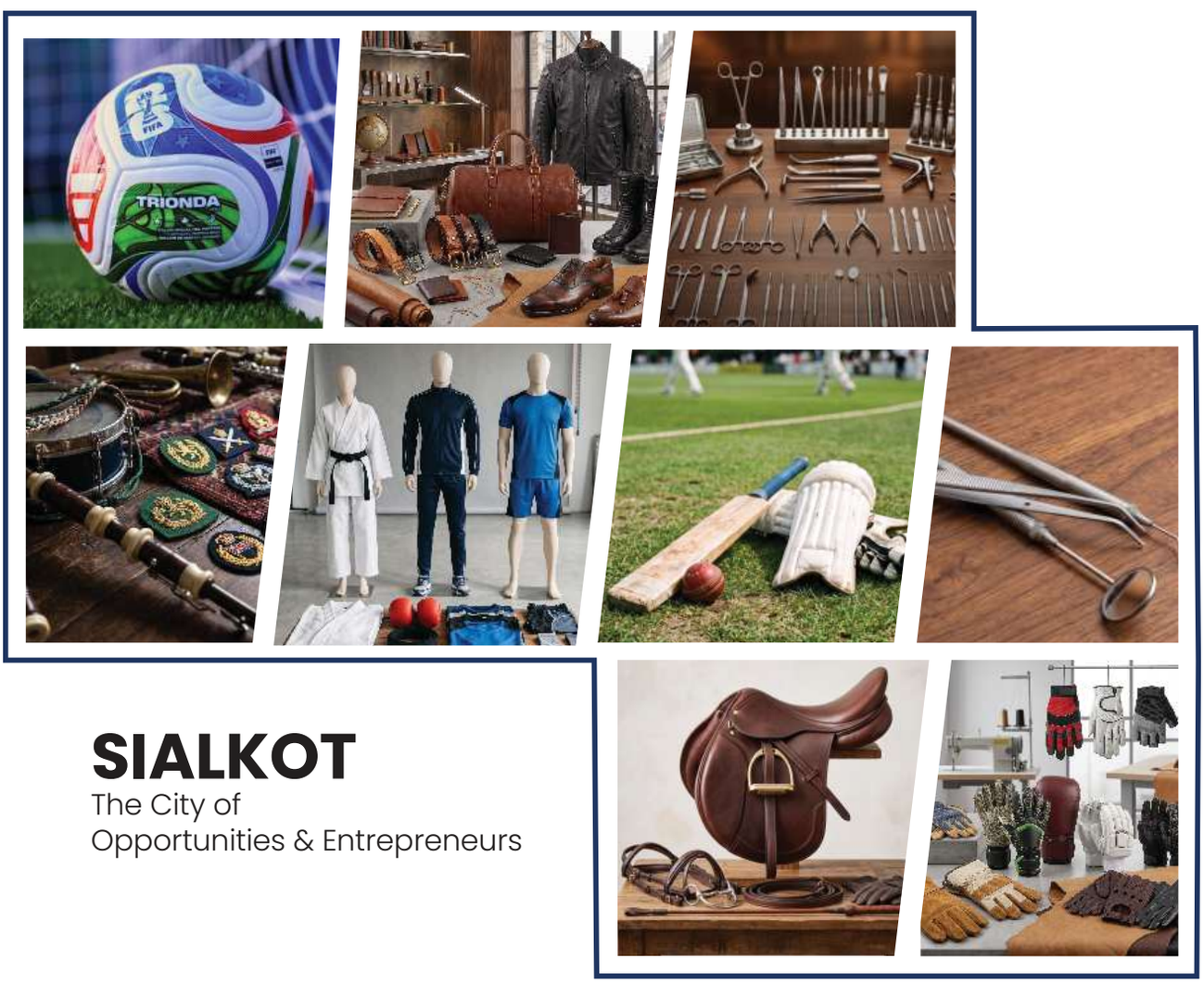
THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

44 YEARS of Excellence

# ANNUAL REPORT | 2025-26

THE GUARDIAN OF **EXPORTS**




## SIALKOT

The City of
Opportunities & Entrepreneurs

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**“In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful”**

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SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
SCCI
ایوان صنعت و تجارت سیالکوٹ

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

## OUR PURPOSE

We at Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry are committed to fulfill our member's requirements and strengthen our position as a quality managed organization.

## OUR AMBITION

Our pledge is to provide best quality services through a member-driven, service oriented and dynamic management team. To meet this obligation, the chamber will continue updating the employee's skill by training, acquisition of new technology and regular re-evaluation of its services. The Chamber will continue to be the Advocacy & Lobbying body for its members getting relief and benefit by resolving issues relating to trade & industry.

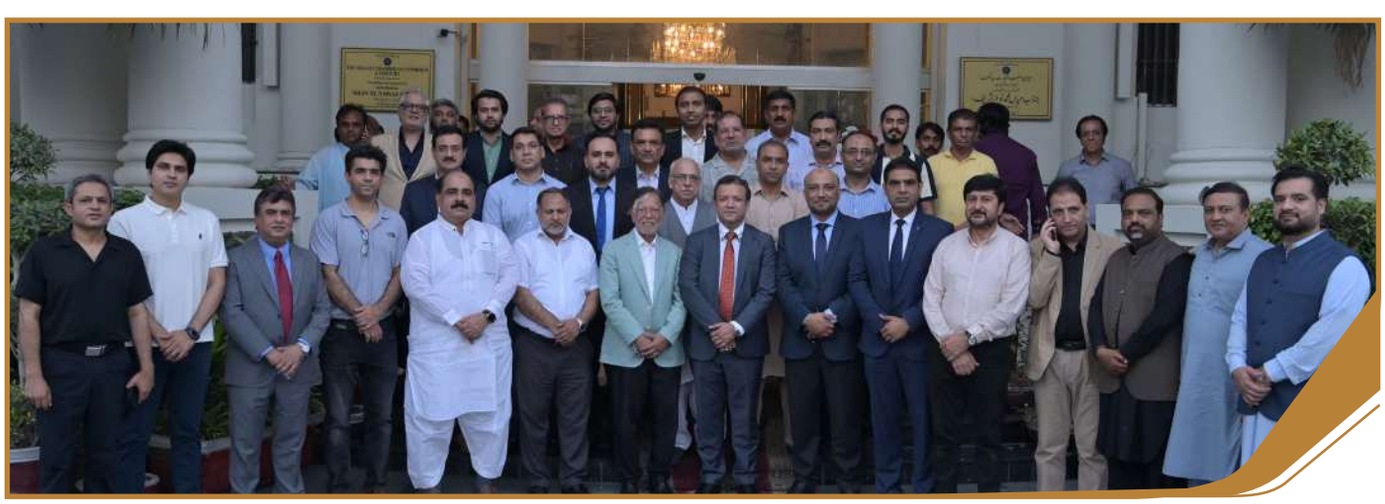
# *Annual* GENERAL MEETING 2025











# *Annual* GENERAL MEETING 2025







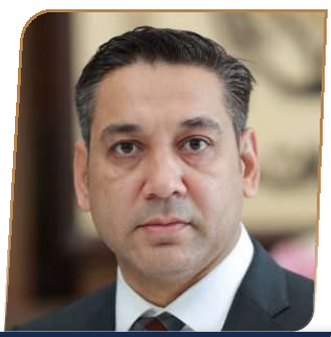




# MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **2024-26**



Syed Ahtesham Mazhar



Muhammad Murad Arshad



Salman Sheikh



Ikram Ul Haq



Waseem Shahbaz Lodhi



Omer Khalid



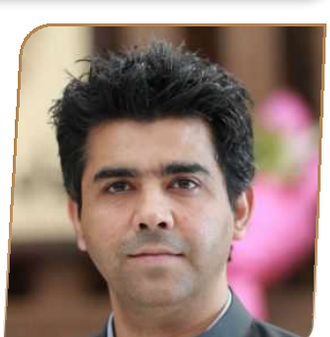
Abdul Ghafoor Malik



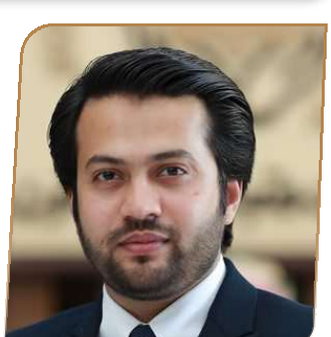
Adnan Safdar



Arshad Jamil Chaudhry



Ch. Bilal Ahmed Khan



Hassan Akbar

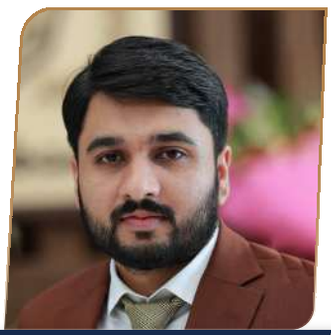


Jawad Khalid

# MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **2024-26**



Khurram Javaid Sethi



Mehtab Maqsood



Sheikh Atique-Ur-Rahman



Aamer Mahmood



Haseeb Tahir



Mohammad Iqbal Asad



Muhammad Abid



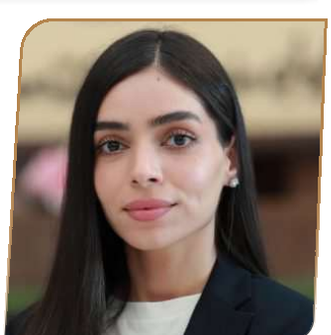
Sh. Muhammad Shahid Inam



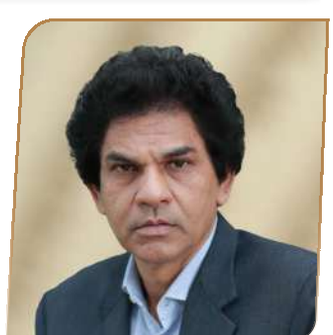
Sohail Masood



Syeda Ayesha Wadood



Ms. Kinza Ijaz



Tariq Mahmood Malik



**SYED AHTESHAM MAZHAR**

*President*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."*

*-Pericles-*

## Dear Members,

It is with profound honour that I present before you the Annual Report of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry for the year 2025-26. For more than four decades, this august Chamber has been the collective voice of a city that never waited for fortune to find it, and to have led it, even for a single term, is a privilege I shall carry for the rest of my life.

When I assumed office, I did so fully aware of the confidence reposed in me, extended not to a person but to a purpose, by a leadership that has consistently placed the institution above the individual. Sialkot is not merely a manufacturing city; it is the architect of its own destiny. Fuelled by the courage of its business community, it built its own foundations at moments when waiting for the State would have meant waiting forever. To lead the Chamber of such a city is not an ornament to be worn for twelve months. It is a debt to be repaid within them.

The year now closing tested that inheritance as few years have. Our exporters were still absorbing a fundamental change in tax regime when the external environment turned against them. Tariff arrangements in the US, our most important market, shifted more than once. Conflict in the Middle East disrupted the sea lanes our consignments depend on, and freight, insurance and transit times rose together, as did fuel and energy costs at home. For an industry where margins are measured in fractions and reputations are built on delivery dates, this was a year that pressed on both at once.

I recount this not to darken the record, but because what follows cannot be measured honestly without it. Anyone can hold ground on level terrain. What Sialkot did this year, it did on a slope. And Sialkot held.

This city has been written off before. It was told an inland city could never compete on logistics, and it built a dry port. It was told it could not have an airport, and it built one. It was told it could not have an airline, and it built that too. Sialkot does not argue with its circumstances; it outworks them. It has withstood the toughest of storms and, through sheer perseverance, sustained its exports not merely as a matter of commercial priority, but of national interest.

For its part, your Chamber did not sit still. I said at the outset that I would treat this office as a full-time obligation, and I have tried to honour that. The year has been one of near-constant movement to Islamabad, to Lahore, to ministries and committee rooms, often for a single meeting, often at short notice, often to make the same argument again to an official newly posted. I say this not by way of complaint, but because our members deserve to know that the results in this report were not conferred upon us. They were pursued, and pursued relentlessly.

Throughout, the concerns of our members remained the single priority. The solution to the Final Tax Regime conundrum, reform of the Export Facilitation Scheme, the cost of freight and port handling, access to finance for

SMEs, and the completion of the industrial projects on which this district's future depends each was advocated for at every forum available to us.

We also recognized that to break through the noise, our methods of persuasion had to evolve. This year, we modernized our approach to lobbying and advocacy, developing and deploying high-quality video presentations for our strategic projects. By allowing policymakers to visually experience Sialkot's potential rather than just reading about it, we garnered vital support that traditional paperwork could no longer secure. On many of these fronts we succeeded, and those outcomes are recorded in the pages that follow. On others, the work continues, carried forward in the reasonable expectation that persistence will achieve what a single year cannot. Advocacy is seldom settled within one tenure.

Yet, securing our external environment is only half the task; the other is fortifying our internal strength. Throughout the year, our focus remained resolutely on the capacity building of new entrepreneurs, alongside enhancing the skill sets of our existing industrial base. Recognizing that the factories of tomorrow cannot run on the blueprints of yesterday, we placed a renewed emphasis on promoting robust industry-academia linkages. We worked to move beyond ceremonial agreements, developing practical, working relationships with educational institutions to ensure that the research in our universities directly serves the realities on our factory floors.

The Chamber also continued to grow. During the year under review, 7,656 new members joined our ranks, bringing active membership to 24,795, more than six hundred every month. Pause on that figure, for it tells us something no export statistic can. In a year of shocks and rising costs, more than seven and a half thousand businesses chose to organise, and to stand within an institution rather than outside it. That is a vote of confidence in collective action.

It is also a reminder that this Chamber belongs to no one who occupies its Presidency. We as the Presidents serve a year or two; the institution serves generations. Almost everything of consequence it has achieved was begun by one office bearer and completed by another. The truest measure of a President is not what he completes, but what he leaves in a fit state to be completed.

The pages that follow set out this year's work in detail. I present them not as the achievement of one office bearer, but as the collective product of an institution, a leadership, a secretariat and a membership base that refused, through a difficult year, to lower its expectations of itself.

By the grace of the Almighty, Sialkot has once again done what Sialkot does. It has stood its ground, and it has grown against the odds.

Allow me to share with you the story of Sialkot over this closing year.

## 1. EXPORTER FACILITATION COMMITTEES: A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME OF SCCI'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS POST FTR WITHDRAWAL

The restoration of the Final Tax Regime (FTR) remained one of the foremost priorities of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry during the year. Despite sustained advocacy efforts and repeated assurances from the Federal Government, the regime could not be reinstated through the Finance Act, 2026. Nevertheless, the Chamber continued to actively engage with policymakers at the highest level to secure practical relief measures for exporters and address the concerns arising from the transition to the Normal Tax Regime.

During a series of engagements with the Federal Government, particularly the meetings held with the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan, **Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif**, on June 1 and June 30, 2026, the Chamber highlighted the operational challenges, compliance concerns, and uncertainties being faced by exporters under the revised taxation framework. The Prime Minister assured the business community that the Government would introduce measures to ensure greater transparency, consultation, and facilitation for exporters while safeguarding the country's export competitiveness.

Pursuant to these directions, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) established dedicated **Exporter Facilitation Committees** across Pakistan through Notification No. 1(500)SA-M(IR-Ops)/2026-27/80332-R. These committees have been mandated to serve as facilitation, mediation, and dispute resolution forums, providing exporters with an institutional platform to raise concerns, resolve procedural difficulties, and engage constructively with tax authorities. Importantly, the framework introduces a consultative review mechanism under which cases involving proposed audits and enforcement actions against exporters may be placed before the relevant committee for consideration, thereby promoting transparency, consistency, and fairness in tax administration.

The Chamber views this initiative as a positive development and a direct outcome of the concerns repeatedly raised by the export community. We are particularly grateful to the Honorable Prime Minister, **Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif**, for his constructive engagement and for ensuring that exporters' concerns received due attention at the highest level. We also acknowledge the valuable support of **Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Federal Minister for Defence**, who has consistently advocated the interests of Sialkot's business community, and **Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani, Minister of State for Finance**, for his efforts in advancing a mechanism that promotes dialogue, facilitation, and transparency within the taxation system.

I assure our members that Sialkot Chamber remains committed to pursuing the restoration of a simplified and

export-friendly taxation regime. The establishment of Exporter Facilitation Committees represents a meaningful step towards improving exporters' interaction with tax authorities and reducing unnecessary compliance challenges. We shall continue our engagement with the Government and relevant stakeholders to pursue further reforms that strengthen export competitiveness, enhance ease of doing business, and support the long-term growth of Pakistan's export sector.

## 2. FEDERAL BUDGET 2026-27: ENCOURAGING MEASURES FOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND EXPORTS

The Federal Budget 2026-27 introduced several positive measures to stimulate economic activity, encourage investment, and provide targeted relief to taxpayers and businesses. While the Chamber continued to advocate for broader structural reforms to enhance export competitiveness, several budgetary measures introduced during the year are expected to contribute positively towards improving the business environment and reducing the cost of doing business.

The **abolition of tax on deemed income from immovable property through the withdrawal of Section 7E and the rationalization of Super Tax**, including its complete abolition for taxpayers **earning up to Rs. 500 million, are expected to improve investor confidence and support economic activity.**

The budget also introduced measures to facilitate trade and exports. The reduction of Customs Duty, Additional Customs Duty, and Regulatory Duty on a large number of tariff lines is expected to lower the cost of imported raw materials, particularly benefiting small and medium-sized exporters operating outside the **Export Facilitation Scheme. Furthermore, the extension of the concessionary tax rate of 0.25% for exports of Information Technology and IT-enabled services until Tax Year 2029 reflects the Government's commitment to supporting the growth of Pakistan's emerging digital economy.**

Another welcome development was the reduction in advance tax rates on the sale and purchase of immovable property, which is expected to encourage documentation and facilitate legitimate transactions within the real estate sector. **Equally significant was the decision to cap the markup rate under the Export Finance Scheme at 4.5%, ensuring the continued availability of subsidized financing for exporters and strengthening their ability to compete in international markets.**

## 3. RESTORATION OF FREE SALE CERTIFICATE FACILITY FOR SURGICAL EXPORTERS

The uninterrupted issuance of Free Sale Certificates (FSCs) is of critical importance to Sialkot's surgical instruments sector, as these certificates are indispensable for meeting international regulatory requirements and ensuring timely access to export markets. During the year, the suspension of FSC issuance in Sialkot created serious concerns for exporters, resulting in delays in shipments and operational difficulties for a sector that plays a vital role in Pakistan's export economy.

Recognizing the urgency of the matter, I immediately took up the issue with the relevant authorities and pursued its resolution through sustained engagement and representation. The Chamber remained actively involved in highlighting the adverse impact of the suspension on exporters and in emphasizing the need for the immediate restoration of the facility to safeguard export commitments and maintain the confidence of international buyers.

I am pleased to share that these efforts resulted in the restoration of the FSC issuance facility through the District Health Office, Sialkot, thereby reinstating the previous mechanism for processing applications. The resumption of this service has provided significant relief to the surgical instruments industry by ensuring continuity of exports and facilitating compliance with international market requirements.

On behalf of the business community, I express my heartiest gratitude to **Ms. Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Honorable Chief Minister of Punjab**, for the promptness with which she attended to the matter. I am also indebted to Mr. Faisal Ikram, Member Provincial Assembly (MPA), Punjab, whose active engagement helped move the matter forward with the relevant authorities. A further word of thanks is owed to **Mr. Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Chief Secretary, Punjab**, and **Ms. Saba Asghar Ali, Former Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot**, for their cooperation and timely intervention in facilitating the restoration of this critical service. Their collective efforts played an important role in safeguarding the export interests of Sialkot's surgical instruments sector.

## 4. EXEMPTION FROM SINDH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CESS: A LONG-AWAITED RELIEF FOR EXPORTERS

One of the most significant policy achievements during the year was the exemption of the export sector from the **Sindh Infrastructure Development Cess (SIDC)**, bringing to fruition a longstanding demand that the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry had consistently pursued for more than a decade. The passage of the **Sindh Development and Maintenance of Infrastructure Cess (Amendment) Act** by the Sindh Assembly marked

a major step towards reducing the cost of doing business and enhancing the competitiveness of Pakistan's export sector.

For many years, Sialkot Chamber remained actively engaged with policymakers, legislators, and relevant stakeholders, advocating for the removal of this additional financial burden on exporters. Through sustained representations, technical input, and data-driven advocacy, the Chamber consistently highlighted the adverse impact of the levy on export-oriented industries, particularly those operating under temporary import schemes for value addition and re-export.

The amended legislation fully exempted temporary imports made under the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) from the levy, reducing the applicable rate from 1.85% to zero. In addition, the SIDC rate on general imports was reduced from 1.85% to 0.80%, representing a reduction of more than fifty percent. These measures provided meaningful relief to exporters by lowering input costs, easing liquidity pressures, and improving the overall competitiveness of Pakistani products in international markets.

This important reform was the outcome of sustained engagement between the business community and the Government. The Chamber expressed its sincere gratitude to **H.E. Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan**, **Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan**, **Mr. Syed Murad Ali Shah, Honorable Chief Minister of Sindh**, **Mr. Jam Kamal Khan, Federal Minister for Commerce**, and **Mr. Mukesh Kumar Chawla, Provincial Minister for Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control, Government of Sindh**, for their support in facilitating this long-awaited relief for the export sector.

I would also like to appreciate **Mr. Khawar Anwar Khawaja, Former President, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry**, and **Mr. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat, Chairman, Customs, Sales Tax & PRA Committee, SCCI**, whose persistent efforts, technical contributions, and continuous follow-up over the years played a pivotal role in advancing the matter at various policy forums. The successful resolution of this issue reinforced the importance of sustained advocacy and contributed towards improving the overall business environment for exporters.

## 5. ABOLITION OF EXPORT DEVELOPMENT SURCHARGE: A LANDMARK RELIEF FOR EXPORTERS

Another significant achievement during the year was the abolition of the **Export Development Surcharge (EDS)**, announced by **Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan**, during a high-level meeting with representatives of the business community held at the Prime Minister's House, Islamabad, on **November 24, 2025**. The decision marked a major policy intervention aimed at reducing the financial burden on exporters and strengthening Pakistan's export competitiveness.

The withdrawal of the surcharge provided immediate cost relief to exporters and reflected the Government's commitment to creating a more facilitative environment for export-led growth. Equally encouraging was the Prime Minister's direction to restructure the **Export Development Fund (EDF)** into an exporter-centric institution by converting it into an independent Section 42 organization, ensuring transparent governance and the utilization of funds exclusively for export development initiatives. It was further announced that a comprehensive audit of EDF expenditures incurred over previous years would be undertaken to assess their alignment with the objectives of export promotion.

## 6. INTEREST-FREE FINANCING FOR SMES

Access to affordable finance has long remained one of the most pressing challenges confronting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Recognising the pivotal role of SMEs in Pakistan's industrial and export landscape, I consistently emphasized the need for collateral-free and concessionary financing mechanisms that enable businesses to expand their productive capacity, modernise manufacturing facilities, and enhance their competitiveness in international markets.

During the year, the Government of Punjab launched the **Asaan Karobar Finance Scheme**, an interest-free financing initiative for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), under which eligible businesses were offered loans of up to **PKR 50 million** at **zero percent markup**. The scheme was aimed at supporting business expansion, infrastructure development, and the acquisition of modern machinery and equipment, thereby strengthening the manufacturing base of the province.

The scheme held particular significance for Sialkot's export-oriented industries, where access to affordable capital remains essential for technological upgradation and capacity enhancement. Its positive impact was already evident in the **Sialkot Tannery Zone**, where nearly twenty industrial units secured financing of approximately **PKR 1 billion** for the expansion of their manufacturing facilities.

I am thankful to **Ms. Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Honorable Chief Minister of Punjab**, for introducing this progressive initiative to strengthen the SME sector. Such policy interventions are expected to improve access to finance, promote industrial investment, accelerate technological modernization, and further enhance the competitiveness of Pakistan's export-oriented manufacturing industry.

## 7. FURTHER SIMPLIFICATION OF CHINESE BUSINESS VISA REQUIREMENTS

Facilitating international business travel has remained one of the key priorities of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry, particularly in view of the growing trade and investment ties between Pakistan and China. Building upon the Chinese Visa Guarantee Letter Scheme introduced in previous years, I remained actively engaged with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to further simplify the visa application process for our business community.

During the year, the Embassy of the People's Republic of China announced another important facilitation by abolishing the requirement of **Apostille** for the **Police Character/Clearance Certificate** required for Chinese Business Visa applications. This followed the earlier relaxation regarding the Apostille requirement for personal bank statements, further streamlining the visa application process for Pakistani businessmen and exporters travelling to China.

The removal of these procedural requirements significantly reduced documentation, saved valuable time, and made business travel more convenient for exporters seeking to strengthen commercial partnerships and explore new opportunities in the Chinese market. These facilitative measures are expected to further enhance trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

I wish to express my heartiest gratitude to **H.E. Mr. Jiang Zaidong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan**, and the **Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad** for their continued support in facilitating the Pakistani business community. Such initiatives further reinforce the longstanding economic partnership between Pakistan and China while enabling exporters to engage more effectively with one of Pakistan's most important trading partners.

## 8. WITHDRAWAL OF AD-HOC AIR CARGO CHARGES

Reducing the cost of logistics has remained one of the Chamber's key advocacy priorities, as escalating freight charges continue to undermine the competitiveness of Pakistan's export sector. During the year, I took up the issue of the **Rs. 50 per kilogram Ad-hoc Air Cargo Charge** imposed by **Gerry's Dnata Pakistan**, which had placed an additional financial burden on exporters, particularly those relying on air freight for time-sensitive consignments.

In close coordination with the **Air Cargo Agents Association of Pakistan (ACAAP)**, the matter was vigorously pursued with the relevant authorities and stakeholders. The Chamber consistently maintained that the continuation of this temporary surcharge was unjustified and adversely affected the competitiveness of Pakistani exports at a time when exporters were already facing rising logistics costs and increasing airline fuel surcharges.

I am pleased to report that, as a result of these sustained efforts, **Gerry's Dnata Pakistan** withdrew the **Rs. 50 per kilogram Ad-hoc Air Cargo Charge** with effect from **April 1, 2026**. The withdrawal provided welcome relief to the export sector by reducing logistics costs and easing the financial burden on exporters dependent upon air cargo services.

I place on record my appreciation for the constructive engagement of **Gerry's Dnata Pakistan** and the support extended by the **Air Cargo Agents Association of Pakistan (ACAAP)** in facilitating the resolution of this issue. The Chamber will continue to advocate for measures that improve trade facilitation, reduce the cost of doing business, and strengthen the global competitiveness of Pakistan's exports.

## 9. REDUCTION IN PAKISTAN POST INTERNATIONAL MAILING RATES

Last year, Sialkot Chamber highlighted the extraordinary increase in the tariffs of **Foreign Letter Mail (FGN)**, **Express Mail Service (EMS)**, and **Air Parcel** services, which had placed a disproportionate financial burden on Sialkot's SME-based exporters. Following the Chamber's persistent advocacy, **Pakistan Post** constituted a special committee to review the matter and assured the business community that the revised tariff structure would be reconsidered.

This year, I am pleased to report that, through sustained follow-up and continued engagement with the **Ministry of Communications** and **Pakistan Post**, the Chamber ensured the successful culmination of these efforts during the year. Effective **March 16, 2026**, **Pakistan Post** substantially reduced the rates of **EMS**, **Foreign Letter Mail (FGN)**, and **Air Parcel** services, providing significant relief to exporters who regularly utilize these services for dispatching samples, documents, and small consignments to international buyers.

The reduction in postal tariffs has lowered logistics costs, particularly for small and medium-sized exporters, while enhancing the competitiveness of Pakistan Post as a cost-effective logistics partner for international trade.

I would like to thank the management of **Pakistan Post** for the receptive hearing given to the Chamber's representations. Equal credit belongs to **Mr. Ahmed Imtiaz Khan, Chairman, Post Office & Telecommunications Committee, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry**, whose continuous follow-up and close coordination with the relevant authorities were central to securing this long-awaited relief for the business community.

## 10. REVIVAL OF SIALKOT EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE

The early colonization and operationalization of the **Sialkot Export Processing Zone (SEPZ)** remained one of my foremost priorities during the year. Building upon the Chamber's longstanding advocacy for reforms in the Zone, I continued to pursue the matter vigorously with the **Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC)** and the **Government of Punjab**, emphasizing the need to revive industrial activity and remove longstanding impediments faced by allottees.

I am pleased to report that the **Board of Directors of the Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC)**, in its **132nd Board Meeting held on September 30, 2025**, approved a comprehensive relief package for the allottees of **Small Industries Estate-II & III (Export Processing Zone), Sambrial, Sialkot**. The package included the restoration of cancelled plots, waiver of non-construction, restoration, and penalty charges, and the provision of a grace period until **June 30, 2028,** for the completion of industrial units. These measures were complemented by a refundable security deposit mechanism to ensure timely development while facilitating genuine investors.

The approval of this relief package addressed one of the Chamber's longstanding demands and removed significant barriers that had delayed the development of the Zone for several years.

I take this opportunity to thank **Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, Provincial Minister for Industries, Commerce & Investment, Government of the Punjab**, for his continued support and constructive engagement with the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry. His facilitative approach towards addressing the concerns of the business community and promoting industrial development has been greatly valued, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in advancing initiatives that strengthen Punjab's industrial and export sectors.

## 11. FACILITATION OF EXPORT CARGO MOVEMENT

The efficient movement of export consignments remains critical to maintaining the reliability and competitiveness of Sialkot's export sector. Recognizing the operational challenges arising from unnecessary stoppages of export cargo vehicles, I actively pursued the matter with the **District Police, Sialkot**, to develop a facilitative mechanism that would ensure the smooth and timely transportation of export shipments while maintaining compliance with traffic regulations.

During the year, the **Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **District Police, Sialkot,** to facilitate the secure, uninterrupted, and efficient movement of vehicles carrying export cargo. Under this arrangement, eligible and fully compliant export cargo vehicles are issued a specially authenticated **Export Cargo Identification Plate**, enabling them to benefit from streamlined movement and minimizing unnecessary stoppages during transit.

The initiative represents an important step towards improving trade facilitation and logistics efficiency by reducing avoidable delays in the transportation of export consignments, while ensuring that all vehicles continue to comply with applicable traffic laws and regulatory requirements.

I am grateful to **Mr. Faisal Shahzad, PSP, Former District Police Officer (DPO), Sialkot**, for his positive engagement and support in implementing this business-friendly initiative. I must also mention **Mr. Tariq Hussain, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Shipping, Dry Port, Airport, Railway & Transportation, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry**, whose persistent coordination with the concerned authorities contributed significantly to the successful execution of this important facilitation measure.

## 12. EXPORT FACILITATION SCHEME (EFS): FROM ADVOCACY TO REFORM

Building upon the extensive advocacy undertaken during the previous year, I remained actively engaged throughout the year with the Federal Government, the Ministry of Finance, the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), and Customs Authorities to secure further improvements in the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS).

During a series of high-level meetings with **H.E. Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan**, **Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani, Minister of State for Finance**, **Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister**, and senior Customs officials, I consistently highlighted the operational and regulatory challenges faced by exporters, particularly SMEs. Our representations focused on extending the utilization period, introducing replenishment facilities, streamlining reconciliation procedures, restoring EFS limits, rationalizing guarantee requirements, and removing implementation bottlenecks to create a more facilitative and business-friendly framework.

These sustained efforts resulted in a series of significant reforms during the year. Through **SRO 211(I)/2026**, exporters were permitted to import duty-free input goods based on actual utilization in exported products, **introducing a practical replenishment mechanism that improved liquidity management and ensured continuity of production**. Subsequently, **SRO 528(I)/2026 issued on March 19, 2026** incorporated several additional facilitative measures, including enhancement of the utilization period from nine months to eighteen months,

together with a further extension facility of up to six months, introduction of a structured replenishment mechanism, establishment of an appellate forum before the Chief Collector, implementation of a six-monthly reconciliation system, and improvements in system-based controls to simplify compliance and operational procedures under the Scheme.

Implementation of these reforms remained equally important. Following my continued representations, particularly during meetings with the Honorable Prime Minister and senior Government functionaries, **Customs authorities initiated corrective measures for the implementation of SRO 528(I)/2026, resulting in the commencement of pending reconciliations and restoration of EFS limits for exporters who had already fulfilled their export obligations.** These measures provided immediate operational relief to exporters facing constraints in utilizing their available limits and substantially improved confidence in the functioning of the Scheme.

I acknowledge with gratitude the leadership and support of **H.E. Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan**, whose directions and assurances carried these reforms forward. My thanks extend to **Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani, Minister of State for Finance**, **Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister**, **Mr. Rashid Mahmood Langrial, Chairman, Federal Board of Revenue**, **Mr. Ashhad Jawwad, Member Customs (Policy**), **Syed Shakeel Shah, Member (Customs Operations), Federal Board of Revenue**, **Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Rafiq, Chief Collector (Exports)**, and **Ms. Beelam Ramzan, Collector of Customs, Sialkot**, for their constructive engagement and continued cooperation in addressing the concerns of the export sector.

While certain structural improvements, including further enhancement of the utilization period and rationalization of guarantee requirements, remain under consideration, the progress achieved during the year demonstrated the positive outcomes of sustained dialogue and evidence-based advocacy. We remain committed to pursuing the remaining reforms to ensure that the Export Facilitation Scheme continues to evolve into a truly facilitative framework that strengthens SMEs, promotes exports, and enhances Pakistan's competitiveness in international markets.

## 13. MATERIAL TESTING LABORATORY: EXPANDING THE VISION

Building upon the landmark progress achieved during the previous year, the establishment of the Material Testing Laboratories continued to advance towards implementation. The proposed Trust Fund Agreement (TFA) between the Government of Punjab and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), a key prerequisite for the commencement of full-scale implementation, awaited approval of the Provincial Cabinet. Upon its approval and execution, the project is expected to enter the implementation phase, paving the way for the establishment of internationally accredited testing facilities in Sialkot.

During the year, the scope of this flagship initiative witnessed a significant expansion. As the scope of the Material Testing Laboratory was limited to the surgical instruments industry, this year, the project was further extended to include Sialkot's two other major export sectors, namely leather and sports goods.

I am pleased to share that the Government of Punjab has approved an allocation of **PKR 600 million** for the establishment of the **Leather Testing Laboratory**, while **PKR 2 billion** was approved for the **Sports Goods Testing Laboratory**. Both projects were incorporated into the Annual Development Programme (ADP), reflecting the Government's commitment to strengthening indigenous testing infrastructure, reducing reliance on overseas laboratories, and enhancing the global competitiveness of Pakistan's exports.

These state-of-the-art facilities will substantially enhance local testing and certification capabilities, facilitate compliance with evolving international standards, reduce certification costs, and improve market access for exporters. I remain confident that the continued collaboration between the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the Government of Punjab, UNIDO, and other stakeholders will ensure the timely implementation of this transformative initiative.

My sincere thanks are due to **Ms. Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Honorable Chief Minister of Punjab**, for her vision and sustained backing of Punjab's export-oriented industries. I am obliged also to **Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, Honorable Minister for Industries, Commerce & Investment, Punjab**, and **Mr. Muhammad Omar Masud, Secretary, Industries, Commerce & Investment Department, Government of Punjab**, whose conviction and institutional backing have been decisive in advancing this strategically important project.

## 14. EXPLOSIVE DETECTION SYSTEM (EDS): ENHANCING EXPORT SECURITY AND EFFICIENCY

I was delighted to witness another significant milestone in strengthening Sialkot's export infrastructure with the inauguration of Pakistan's first-ever **Explosive Detection System (EDS)** at the Cargo Terminal of Sialkot International Airport. The installation of this state-of-the-art facility marks a major advancement in cargo security, operational efficiency, and compliance with international aviation and export standards.

With the capability to scan up to **1,800 consignments per hour**, the EDS will substantially enhance cargo handling capacity, expedite the clearance and movement of export shipments, and reinforce confidence among international buyers by ensuring that export consignments from Pakistan meet the highest global security requirements. The project represents a strategic investment in modernizing export logistics and further strengthens Sialkot International Airport's position as one of Pakistan's premier export gateways.

I sincerely commend **Mr. Omer Saeed, Chairman, Export Development Fund (EDF)**, for extending financial support towards this important initiative, which will significantly contribute to improving trade facilitation, enhancing exporters' competitiveness, and promoting Pakistan's export-led economic growth.

## 15. LCL CONSOLIDATION FACILITY OPERATIONALIZED AT SIALKOT DRYPORT

One of the most significant trade facilitation achievements during the year was the successful operationalization of the **Less-than-Container Load (LCL) Consolidation Facility** at the Sialkot Dryport, following sustained advocacy and persistent engagement by the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry with Pakistan Customs. For nearly five years, LCL consolidation had remained restricted to Karachi, where a handful of consolidators operated in a monopolistic environment, leading to exorbitant wharfage charges per cubic metre, among the highest in the region, with the additional cost ultimately being passed on to exporters.

Recognizing the adverse impact of this arrangement on the competitiveness of Sialkot's export sector, I consistently pursued the matter with the Federal Board of Revenue and Pakistan Customs. A comprehensive regional benchmarking study was presented demonstrating that LCL consolidation charges in Pakistan were **70 to 80 percent higher** than those prevailing in comparable Asian economies. The study was presented to **Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah, Member (Customs Operations), Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)**, along with detailed proposals advocating the establishment of an LCL consolidation facility at Sialkot Dryport.

I am pleased to report that Pakistan Customs accepted the Chamber's recommendations and authorized the implementation of the facility, which is now fully operational at Sialkot Dryport. This landmark reform will substantially reduce logistics costs for exporters, with **wharfage charges declining from 13,000 to 21,000 per cubic metre to nearly PKR 3,000 per cubic metre**, while also eliminating unnecessary dependence on Karachi for cargo consolidation. Besides generating significant cost savings, the facility has improved operational efficiency, reduced transit time, and further strengthened Sialkot's position as one of Pakistan's leading export hubs.

I owe particular thanks to **Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah, Member (Customs Operations), Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)**, for his prompt consideration of the Chamber's proposals and his support in implementing this long-awaited facilitation measure. I also wish to recognize the contributions of **Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Rafiq, Chief Collector (Exports), Pakistan Customs**, and **Ms. Beelam Ramzan, Collector of Customs, Sialkot**, whose close coordination and forward-leaning approach were key to the smooth implementation and operationalization of the LCL Consolidation Facility at Sialkot Dryport.

I must single out **Mr. Tariq Hussain, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Shipping, Dry Port, Airport, Railway & Transportation**, whose technical analysis, meticulous groundwork, and persistent follow-up proved decisive in securing this important achievement for the export community.

## 16. SIALKOT TANNERY ZONE ACHIEVES A MAJOR MILESTONE WITH INAUGURATION OF PAKISTAN'S FIRST COMMON EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT

The Sialkot Tannery Zone achieved a historic milestone during the year with the inauguration of Pakistan's first fully integrated Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), together with the Water Treatment Plant and the 21 MW Grid Station. These landmark facilities marked the successful completion of the core infrastructure required for the operationalization of the Sialkot Tannery Zone and represented a transformative step towards environmentally sustainable industrial development.

Designed to comply with both the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) and internationally recognized environmental benchmarks, the CETP is expected to enable Pakistan's leather industry to meet increasingly stringent global sustainability requirements, facilitate compliance with internationally recognized certifications, including the Leather Working Group (LWG) standards, and enhance the export competitiveness of the sector.

The year also witnessed encouraging progress in the relocation of leather industries to the new zone, with approximately **60% of the shifting process completed**. Furthermore, work on the **Engineered Scientific Landfill Site** commenced, while the **Chrome Recovery Plant** also progressed towards completion, bringing the Zone closer to establishing a comprehensive and environmentally compliant waste management system.

The inauguration of these facilities reaffirmed the vision behind the establishment of the Sialkot Tannery Zone: relocating the city's leather industry to a modern industrial estate equipped with world-class environmental

infrastructure. Together with the segregated drainage network, dedicated utilities, and modern power infrastructure, these developments have laid a solid foundation for sustainable industrial growth and long-term environmental stewardship.

I gratefully acknowledge the invaluable support of **Mr. Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Federal Minister for Defence**, whose continued patronage brought this project to fruition. Warm thanks are also due to **Mr. Muhammad Mansha Ullah Butt, Provincial Minister for Labour & Human Resource, Government of the Punjab**; **Mr. Faisal Ikram, Member, Provincial Assembly, Punjab**; **Mr. Omer Saeed, Chairman, Export Development Fund (EDF)**; **Mr. Sarfaraz Ahmed, Chairman, Sialkot Tannery Association (Guarantee) Limited (STAGL)**; **Mr. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat, Chief Executive Officer, Sialkot Tannery Zone**; and the **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)** for their dedication and collaborative efforts in advancing this transformative initiative.

## 17. EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE (EPZ) MODULE OPERATIONALIZED AFTER YEARS OF ADVOCACY

One of the longstanding demands of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry reached a successful conclusion during the year with the operationalization of the **Export Processing Zone (EPZ) Module** in the first week of August 2026. After remaining pending for several years despite the earlier notification of **SRO 30(I)/2024**, the module finally became functional, enabling exporters operating under the Export Processing Zone to process customs formalities through a dedicated digital platform with greater efficiency, transparency, and ease.

The operationalization of the EPZ Module represents a significant milestone in trade facilitation and is expected to streamline customs procedures, reduce processing delays, and improve the overall ease of doing business for exporters operating from the Sialkot Export Processing Zone.

I am pleased that this long-pending issue was successfully resolved through sustained engagement with the Federal Board of Revenue and Pakistan Customs.

## 18. RESOLUTION OF FOOD DEPARTMENT INSPECTION ISSUES

Exporters had been facing repeated inspections by Food Department officials at the Punjab-Sindh border, where both bonded and non-bonded export cargo containers were being opened during transit. These interventions were causing avoidable delays, disrupting logistics schedules, and affecting the timely movement of export consignments.

For an export-oriented city like Sialkot, where timely delivery is critical to meeting international buyers' schedules, such disruptions added unnecessary costs and operational uncertainty to an already time-sensitive supply chain. The Chamber therefore considered it important to seek a mechanism that would maintain necessary regulatory oversight without subjecting compliant export cargo to avoidable interruptions.

Due to strenuous lobbying and coordination with the authorities at **the Food Department, Punjab**, the issue was resolved, facilitating smoother and uninterrupted movement of export cargo across the border. My appreciation goes to Mr. Tariq Hussain, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Shipping, Dry Port, Airport, Railway & Transportation, for his active role in this regard.

## 19. SIALKOT CHAMBER TRADE DIRECTORY 2026 – TAKING "MADE IN SIALKOT" TO GLOBAL MARKETS

The Chamber launched the **Sialkot Chamber Trade Directory 2026**, a comprehensive, member-based trade directory designed to enhance the national and international visibility of **"Made in Sialkot."** The initiative provides member businesses with a dedicated platform to showcase their products and services and create new opportunities for trade, investment, and business partnerships.

To extend its reach beyond Pakistan, the Directory is being disseminated through **Pakistani High Commissions and Embassies abroad**, as well as key trade-related institutions and organizations across the country. This will provide Sialkot businesses with greater exposure to international buyers, potential business partners, and domestic stakeholders, further strengthening the Chamber's role in promoting the city's diverse industrial and export base.

## 20. ONLINE DIRECTORY OF REPUTABLE LOGISTICS SERVICE PROVIDERS

To further facilitate the business community, particularly new and emerging exporters, the Sialkot Chamber updated and published a comprehensive online directory of reputable logistics service providers on its official website. The directory included verified members of the **Air Cargo Agents Association of Pakistan (ACAAP)**, the **Pakistan International Freight Forwarders Association (PIFFA)**, **IATA-accredited** and **Non-IATA** cargo agents, licensed customs clearing agents, and other reputable logistics companies.

This initiative was undertaken to enable exporters to identify credible and professional service providers, promote transparency within the logistics sector, and safeguard businesses from unauthorized operators and fraudulent "bucket shops." By improving access to reliable

logistics information, the Chamber further strengthened its commitment to facilitating secure, efficient, and hassle-free export operations for its members.

## 21. EXIM BANK – PROJECT MOVES INTO IMPLEMENTATION

The **EXIM Bank initiative is now moving into full-scale implementation**, translating SCCI's institutional partnership with Pakistan's official Export Credit Agency into practical support for exporters. The collaboration is focused on improving access to **export financing, trade credit insurance, and risk-mitigation solutions**, particularly for SMEs.

As a key step in this collaboration, SCCI organized an awareness session on **Export Credit Insurance (ECI)** to familiarize members with protection against foreign-buyer payment risks. A dedicated **EXIM Bank Help Desk at SCCI** is also being established to provide direct guidance on financing facilities, credit insurance, and other export-support solutions.

SCCI **commends Mr. Shahbaz H. Syed, President & CEO, EXIM Bank**, for his valuable support and cooperation in advancing this initiative, and **Mr. Akmal Javed, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Banking & Finance**, for his dedicated efforts in translating the collaboration into practical facilitation for SCCI members.

## 22. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND CHAMBER AUTOMATION

The Chamber made significant progress in digital transformation during the year by modernizing its online services, strengthening automation, and enhancing member facilitation through technology-driven initiatives.

The Chamber's official website (**www.scci.com.pk**) underwent a comprehensive redesign with a unified visual identity, while more than fourteen institutional service pages, including Forms Download, Members' Directory, Visa Facilitation, Trade Dispute, Fair & Exhibition, SCCI Projects, and other member services, were modernized. The Fair & Exhibition page was converted into a dynamic platform, the Trade Dispute portal was expanded to facilitate international buyers, and the Members' Directory was redesigned to provide an improved search and profile experience.

A **Live Meeting Application** was developed to conduct Executive Committee meetings in a completely paperless environment by digitally managing agendas, working papers, minutes, and supporting documents. The Chamber also introduced a **Bulk Email Verification System** to improve the accuracy and deliverability of official communications to members.

To further expand digital services, the Chamber launched the **SCCI Job Portal**, an **Internship Module** connecting academia with industry, and the **SCCI E-Library** containing over **60,000 educational and professional development videos**. Membership records were fully digitized, transforming the Chamber's paper-based filing system into a centralized searchable database. A dedicated **Video Conferencing Facility** was also established to facilitate virtual meetings with government institutions, foreign missions, international buyers, and trade organizations.

Additionally, legacy databases were migrated and modernized, the **Certificate of Origin** platform was upgraded with enhanced security and user-friendly features, and several editions of the Chamber's *Communicator* magazine and a series of institutional video documentaries were produced to strengthen member engagement and outreach.

I record my admiration for the leadership of **Mr. Salman Sheikh, Vice President, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Chairman, Departmental Committee on Information Technology**, whose vision and guidance drove these initiatives forward. My thanks go equally to **Mr. Omer Khalid, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Cyber Crime & Chamber Automation**, for his technical expertise, innovative approach, and unwavering commitment to implementing the Chamber's automation and digitalization agenda, which significantly enhanced institutional efficiency and member services.

## 23. AIRSIAL – EXPANDING CAPACITY, CONNECTIVITY AND GLOBAL REACH

AirSial entered a new phase of expansion during the year, marked by significant fleet growth and the addition of new domestic and international destinations. The airline inducted **four Airbus A320 aircraft** during the reporting period and finalized agreements for a **19-aircraft fleet by 2028**.

The airline currently has **11 aircraft fully inducted**, with the **12th aircraft scheduled for delivery in August 2026**. Of the **remaining seven aircraft planned through 2028, four will be brand-new Airbus A320neo aircraft**, representing a major strategic investment in next-generation, fuel-efficient aviation technology. The remaining aircraft will be inducted in phases to support the airline's expanding network and capacity requirements.

The expanded fleet has enabled AirSial to add **Peshawar, Quetta, Sukkur and Skardu** to its domestic network, while international connectivity has been enhanced through new services to **Dammam and Madinah**. Services from **Islamabad and Lahore to Abu Dhabi** are scheduled to commence in December 2026.

This expansion reflects AirSial's strategy of combining greater capacity with network diversification, covering

key business, tourism and international destinations. The planned introduction of A320neo aircraft will further enhance operational efficiency and passenger capacity, positioning AirSial for sustained growth and a stronger presence in regional aviation.

## 24. SPORTS INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (SIDC: EMPOWERING THE SPORTS GOODS SECTOR

The **Sports Industries Development Centre (SIDC), Sialkot,** remained instrumental in advancing the technological capabilities of Pakistan's sports goods industry by providing manufacturing, testing, technical advisory, and skill development services to local SMEs. To date, the Centre has facilitated the production of approximately **12.988 million sports balls and related components**, contributing an estimated **US$ 93 million** to Pakistan's exports while reducing import dependence through indigenous manufacturing.

During the year under review, the Centre continued to support the industry through the production of bladders, thermo balls, basketballs, and other specialized sporting goods components that form the backbone of Sialkot's globally renowned sports goods sector.

SIDC further strengthened its role as a catalyst for industrial development by providing technical support and facilitation to more than **250 SMEs**, while also assisting over **15 companies** in establishing their own manufacturing units through technology transfer, reverse engineering, and linkages with machinery suppliers. The Centre continued to expand local manufacturing capabilities by developing specialized dies and production solutions for industry use, thereby reducing reliance on imported technologies.

Human resource development remained a key area of achievement. SIDC directly trained approximately **800 workers** and indirectly facilitated the training of over **2,000 individuals**, many of whom are now contributing to various segments of the sports goods industry.

## 25. PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (PDC): MOVING TOWARDS OPERATIONALIZATION

The **Product Development Centre (PDC) for Composites-Based Sports Goods** achieved significant implementation progress during the year, with overall physical and financial progress reaching approximately **85%**. Civil works, procurement of furniture, fixtures, IT equipment, and installation of local machinery were completed, while procurement of imported machinery was also finalized.

The principal challenge remained the installation, commissioning, and transfer of technical know-how for the imported machinery. **I remained actively engaged in resolving this impasse by facilitating continuous dialogue between the contractor and the project management, ultimately helping secure the engagement of Chinese technical experts to complete the remaining scope of work.** Following these efforts, the contractor **mobilized its technical team, initiated the delivery of pending equipment, and commenced preparatory activities ahead of the arrival of the Chinese engineers.**

Once operational, the Centre will significantly enhance Pakistan's capabilities in the manufacturing of composite-based sports goods, provide advanced product development and testing facilities, and strengthen Sialkot's position in high-value international sports goods markets. I remain confident that the successful completion of this strategic project will open new avenues for value addition, technological advancement, and export diversification for the sports goods industry.

## 26. KHUD KIFALAT ROZGAR TRUST (KKRT) CONTINUED TO EMPOWER ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS

The **Khud Kifalat Rozgar Trust (KKRT)** continued its mission of promoting financial inclusion and self-employment by providing interest-free loans to deserving entrepreneurs, enabling them to establish sustainable businesses and improve their livelihoods with dignity.

During the year, the Trust disbursed **PKR 5.845 million**, increasing its cumulative disbursements to **PKR 112.729 million** and extending financial assistance to **1,764 beneficiary families**. These achievements reflect the Trust's continued commitment to empowering individuals through interest-free financing and fostering inclusive economic growth.

KKRT remains a remarkable example of community-driven social responsibility, and I am confident that its continued expansion will create greater opportunities for entrepreneurship and economic self-reliance in the years ahead.

## 27. SIALKOT MEDICAL CITY MOVED TOWARDS PROJECT EXECUTION

The **Sialkot Medical City Limited (SMCL)** entered a decisive phase during the year, with a series of strategic, financial, and institutional developments laying a strong foundation for the establishment of a world-class tertiary healthcare facility in Sialkot.

Following a comprehensive strategic review, the Board resolved to proceed with the project independently, temporarily setting aside the proposed foreign direct investment-based joint venture in view of prevailing geopolitical uncertainties. In collaboration with **Langdon Wilson International (USA)**, the projected capital

expenditure for the initial **250-bed phase** was also reassessed and updated to **PKR 10 to 12 billion** in line with current market conditions.

A major milestone was achieved on **19 February 2026**, when the title of **2,175 marlas of land** at **18-KM Daska Road** was formally registered in the name of **Sialkot Medical City Limited**, further strengthening the project's legal and institutional foundation. To broaden participation and mobilize additional investment, the Board also approved increasing the Company's capacity to **500 Directors** and **1,000 Shareholders**.

The project gained further momentum with the signing of an agreement on **31 July 2026** with **Langdon Wilson International (USA)** for the preparation of a state-of-the-art architectural master plan. Building upon these developments, the Company arranged a ground-breaking ceremony in **August 2026**, marking the transition of this landmark project from planning towards execution.

I commend the leadership of **Mr. Khawaja Masood Akhtar, SI & HI, Chairman, Sialkot Medical City Limited**, for giving this important initiative renewed direction. I also acknowledge the efforts of the **Board of Directors** and the **Executive Committee**, whose collective commitment has brought the project significantly closer to realization.

## 28. EXPANDING THE GLOBAL FOOTPRINT OF "MADE IN SIALKOT"

Promoting exports and opening new international markets for Sialkot's SMEs remained a key priority during the year. As part of this strategy, the Chamber developed an extensive programme of overseas trade delegations for **2026–27**, aimed at connecting local manufacturers directly with international buyers and potential business partners.

With the support of the **Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)**, official delegations are being arranged to **Canada, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, Thailand, Brazil, Argentina, Tanzania, and Senegal**. In parallel, the Chamber has planned **self-financed delegations to Nepal, South Africa, South Korea, Kazakhstan, and Malaysia**, targeting emerging and promising markets.

These missions are intended to provide Sialkot's business community with direct access to foreign buyers, new trade partnerships, and opportunities for market diversification, further expanding the global reach of **"Made in Sialkot."**

I particularly appreciate **Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions/ Delegations**, for his active efforts in developing and coordinating this programme of international trade missions.

## 29. RESEARCH MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Recognizing the need to connect Sialkot's industrial expertise with academic and research capabilities, I initiated the **Research Management for Sustainable Development (RMSD) Committee** to establish structured linkages between industry, academia, research institutions, and government bodies.

Through the Committee, SCCI brought together the export industry, universities in Sialkot, the **National Productivity Organization (NPO),** and **Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR)** through formal institutional linkages and MoUs. The initiative aims to identify industry-specific challenges and match them with available academic, scientific, laboratory, and technical expertise.

The platform will facilitate direct collaboration between researchers and industries to develop practical solutions in **productivity, technology adoption, testing, standards, compliance, and sustainable manufacturing**, moving industry-academia cooperation beyond conventional engagements towards applied, industry-driven problem-solving.

I sincerely appreciate **Dr. Syed Raza Ullah Shah, Chairman, RMSD Committee**, for his leadership and dedicated efforts in bringing industry, academia, and research institutions together and translating this vision into a structured platform for practical, industry-driven collaboration.

## 30. VISA FACILITATION TO MEMBERS

Facilitating international business mobility remained an important part of our member services. During the year, the Chamber issued **3,085 Visa Recommendation Letters**, enabling members to pursue business opportunities and participate in international exhibitions. Under our dedicated China visa facilitation mechanism, **225 Chinese Visa Guarantee Letters** were also issued, easing business travel to China and supporting our members' international market outreach.

## 31. CHILD AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (CSDO)

The Child and Social Development Organization (CSDO) further strengthened its role as one of the flagship social initiatives of the Sialkot Chamber by **providing free education to more than 1,200 children through its seven schools** located in remote areas of Sialkot District, reinforcing the Chamber's longstanding commitment to eliminating child labour and promoting educational opportunities for underprivileged children.

During the year, the Child Labour Elimination Programme (CLEP) achieved another important milestone with the Export Development Fund (EDF) releasing the **outstanding PKR 3.5 million for FY 2024-25**. Although the Chamber had sought **PKR 75.23 million for a three-year extension of the programme (2025-26 to 2027-28)**, EDF approved a one-year non-financial extension for FY 2025-26, utilizing the unspent balance from the previous project period. Accordingly, a request to release **PKR 15.62 million** for the extended period was submitted, and the approval process had reached an advanced stage by the close of the year. Simultaneously, the Chamber pursued approval of the proposed three-year financial extension to ensure the long-term sustainability of this internationally recognized initiative.

I am also pleased to report that CLEP member companies contributed **PKR 4.67 million during the year,** reaffirming the industry's collective commitment to ethical manufacturing and the eradication of child labour.

## 32. SCCI MED PHARMACY – FROM COMMUNITY INITIATIVE TO REGISTERED CHARITABLE INSTITUTION

The SCCI Med Pharmacy has grown into a substantial community welfare initiative since its launch last year. To date, **126,736 customers** have benefited from medicine discounts amounting to **PKR 22.236 million**. During the current year alone, **104,654 customers** availed discounts worth **PKR 18.372 million**, demonstrating the scale at which this member-supported initiative has reached the wider community.

A major milestone was achieved on **July 30, 2026**, when **SCCI Med Pharmacy was officially registered as a charitable organization with the Punjab Charity Commission**. This formal recognition has provided an institutional and legal framework for the pharmacy's community welfare role and marks an important step in consolidating the initiative for the future.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge **Mian Muhammad Khalil, Chairman, SCCI Med Pharmacy**, for his leadership and oversight, and note in particular the special efforts of **Mr. Imran Ali Rana, Legal Advisor, SCCI Med Pharmacy**, in securing the Charity Certificate and facilitating the registration process.

## 33. CSR ACTIVITIES

SCCI's commitment to social responsibility is made possible through the collective contribution of its entire membership, with every member playing a part through the annual renewal fee. During the year, this collective contribution enabled the Chamber to allocate **PKR 6.68 million** to various charitable causes and provide **scholarships worth PKR 3.88 million to 776 deserving students** across Sialkot. These initiatives reflect the strength of a business community that translates its collective resources into meaningful support for education and community welfare.

## 34. AL SUFFA FREE TUITION PROGRAM

The **Al Suffa Free Tuition Program** recorded another strong year, with **more than 2,500 students** enrolled across its network. The overwhelming majority of students demonstrated outstanding academic results, reflecting the effectiveness of the programme in supporting students from underprivileged backgrounds and improving their educational outcomes.

During the year, **PKR 16.388 million** was spent on the programme, reflecting SCCI's sustained investment in providing quality supplementary education and creating greater opportunities for deserving students. I sincerely appreciate **Dr. Khurram Anwar Khawaja, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Education**, for his dedicated leadership and personal commitment to the Al Suffa Free Tuition Program, both in its **vision and implementation**, which has been instrumental in expanding its reach and impact.

## 35. STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

During the year, SCCI entered into a range of strategic partnerships and agreements aimed at expanding member services, strengthening institutional linkages, and creating new opportunities in trade, healthcare, education, technology, and business facilitation.

**Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation:** MoU to promote bilateral trade, business linkages, market information exchange, joint ventures, investment, and participation in exhibitions between Pakistan and Russia, with a focus on Sialkot's key industries.

**Export-Import Bank of Pakistan (EXIM Bank):** MoU to facilitate export financing, risk mitigation, capacity building, and market development, including an EXIM Bank help desk at SCCI.

**Pink Ribbon Pakistan:** Partnership to support breast cancer awareness, fundraising, diagnosis, and treatment initiatives through institutional and public outreach by SCCI.

**Dr. Abdul Sattar's Lab:** Healthcare facilitation for SCCI members, employees, and dependents through discounted laboratory, imaging, and diagnostic services.

**Pakistan Industrial Technical Assistance Centre (PITAC):** Partnership providing SCCI members, particularly SMEs, access to technical assistance, customized training, R&D,

product development, localization, and technical services at preferential rates.

**District Police, Sialkot:** MoU to facilitate secure and uninterrupted movement of compliant export cargo vehicles through a special authenticated identification system, while ensuring full compliance with traffic laws.

**Syed Medical Complex, Sialkot:** Healthcare facilitation agreement offering SCCI members, employees, and their families substantial discounts on consultations, diagnostics, surgeries, and other medical services.

**Argentina Chamber of Commerce for Asia and the Pacific:** MoU to promote Pakistan-Argentina trade and direct business linkages through market information exchange, exhibitions, trade missions, and market research.

**Hum Mashal-E-Rah Foundation (HMR):** Partnership to support vocational training, rehabilitation, internships, and employment opportunities for persons with special needs through SCCI's member network.

**Islam Group, Sialkot:** Healthcare partnership with Islam Central Hospital and New Life Hospital providing SCCI members, employees, and families discounted medical, diagnostic, OPD, and IPD services.

**Mövenpick Hotel Centaurus, Islamabad:** Corporate agreement providing SCCI officials and guests preferential room rates and associated hospitality benefits.

**National Productivity Organization (NPO), Biltehqeeq and Partner Universities:** Three-year collaboration to promote industry-driven research, technology transfer, workforce development, and productivity improvements in Sialkot's priority industrial sectors.

**Pakistan Single Window (PSW):** Three-year MoU enabling automated, paperless issuance of Electronic Certificates of Origin through integration with the PSW system.

**Punjab College Sialkot:** Education partnership providing tuition concessions to children of SCCI employees and registered member organizations across various programmes.

**Shifa International Hospitals Ltd.:** Healthcare agreement providing SCCI members and dependents discounted medical, surgical, diagnostic, OPD, and specialized treatment services.

**Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust:** Agreement providing SCCI members, employees, and dependents preferential rates on pathology, radiology, cancer treatment, and other medical services.

**Radio Pakistan FM 101:** MoU establishing collaboration between SCCI and Radio Pakistan FM 101.

**Roots International Schools & MIUC:** Educational collaboration between SCCI and Roots International Schools & MIUC.

**Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute (PKLI):** Healthcare collaboration with PKLI for the benefit of the SCCI community.

**Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR), Biltehqeeq and Partner Universities:** Collaborative platform to strengthen industry-academia linkages, scientific research, technology development, and industrial applications.

**Hameed Latif Hospital:** Healthcare facilitation agreement for SCCI members and their families.

**Al-Shifa Eye Trust:** Partnership to facilitate eye-care services for the SCCI community.

**University of Management and Sciences:** Educational and institutional collaboration between SCCI and the University of Management and Sciences.

As my tenure draws to its close, I find myself reflecting less on what was achieved than on how much of it belonged to other people. A President's name appears on a report such as this one. The work behind it carries no name at all.

The world our exporters sell into is changing faster than at any point in my working life. Markets that once asked only for quality now demand proof of it: traceable supply chains, verified labour practices, measured carbon, documented compliance at every stage. Tariffs shift with politics, and sea lanes close without notice.

I do not regard any of this as a threat to Sialkot. I regard it as our opening, because the requirements now being imposed are precisely the ones this district has spent three decades learning to meet, and meeting them was never easy for anyone else. The task before our industry is to stop treating compliance as a cost imposed from outside and begin treating it as the advantage it has quietly become to certify, to document, to widen the markets we sell into, and to climb further up the value chain than volume alone will ever carry us. And I do not doubt that together, we will strive for a future where Sialkot is recognized not just for the volume it produces, but for the unquestionable standard of excellence it commands on the global stage. In this pursuit, you have my absolute assurance that your Chamber will stand as your most steadfast partner, equipping you, advocating for you, and clearing the path forward.

My first and deepest gratitude is to Almighty Allah, whose blessings sustained this Chamber and its office bearers through a demanding year, and without whose grace no effort of ours would have borne fruit.

I am profoundly grateful to Mr. Riaz ud Din Sheikh (SI), Group Leader, and to the Ittehad Founders Group, for reposing in me the confidence to lead this institution. To be entrusted with the Presidency of the Sialkot Chamber is among the highest honours this district can confer upon a businessman, and I have tried each day to be worthy of it.

To my Senior Vice President, Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad, and my Vice President, Mr. Salman Sheikh, who carried this year with me. Not beside me; with me. Whatever this office achieved, it achieved as three men working as one unit.

I thank the members of my Executive Committee and the Chairpersons of our Departmental and Project Committees. Their's is a voluntary service, unpaid and largely unseen: technical submissions drafted late at night, follow-up calls made for the tenth time, meetings attended in cities far from home. This Chamber runs on that labour, and it is why our representations carry weight when they reach the highest echelons of Government.

My thanks also to the trade bodies of Sialkot, whose willingness to stand with us on shared causes gave our advocacy a strength no single organisation could command. When this district speaks with one voice, it is heard.

I record my appreciation for the officers of Government who worked alongside this Chamber through the year. Ms. Saba Asghar Ali, Former Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot, and Mr. Faisal Shahzad, Former District Police Officer, Sialkot, for extending unstinting cooperation over the greater part of my tenure, and I wish them well in the next chapter of their service.

I welcome in equal measure Mr. Awais Mushtaq, Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot; Capt. (R) Dost Muhammad, District Police Officer, Sialkot; and Mr. Khurram Shahzad Haider Warraich, Regional Police Officer, Gujranwala, whose engagement since assuming charge has been prompt and constructive.

I am also grateful to Ms. Beelam Ramzan, Collector of Customs, Sialkot; Mr. Hassan Zulfiqar, Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue; Mr. Waqas Kashif Bajwa, Chief Manager, State Bank of Pakistan BSC, Sialkot; and Mr. Khalid Rasool, Director General, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, for treating the concerns of our exporters as matters deserving of a hearing rather than obstacles to be managed.

To Mr. Tariq Mahmood Malik, Secretary General, and to the officers and staff of the Secretariat: you are the continuity of this institution. Presidents come and go; you remain, carrying the memory, the files and the standards from one tenure to the next. I also thank the print and electronic media of Sialkot for their responsible coverage that carried our case beyond this city.

And to my family, my thanks are the hardest to put into words. This year was borrowed from you. Evenings that belonged to you were spent on the motorway; the business that should have had my attention had someone else's; occasions I had promised to attend, I missed. You never once asked me to choose, and never once let me feel the cost of it. Whatever I gave this Chamber, you gave first.

And most importantly, to the young men and women stepping into entrepreneurship and choosing business as your career, I say this directly. Your market is more competitive and more volatile than ever before, but you enter it with advantages unique to your generation: digital fluency, a global perspective, and the formidable, hard-earned reputation of Sialkot standing behind you. Compete on innovation, compliance, design, and delivery, not on price alone, which is the shortest road to the bottom. Claim your space. Do the unglamorous work.

And to the exporters who built this city, who have withstood the test of time, who kept faith with buyers through external challenges, currency collapses, and energy shortages, who established Sialkot's name in markets they had never visited, the progress of this city owes a great deal to your hard work and perseverance.

Looking ahead, I hold no doubt about this city. Sialkot's advantages are precisely the ones that cannot be copied: skill inherited rather than taught, and a settled habit of building whatever it is refused.

For the Chamber itself, my hope is simpler. That it remains evidence-based in its arguments and courteous in its conduct. That it stays as close to its smallest members as to its largest. And that each President who follows leaves it stronger than he found it, which is finally the only obligation this office carries.

To you, our members: you are the reason this institution exists. Every representation made this year was made in your name, and every success recorded in these pages is yours before it is anyone else's. To have served as your President has been the privilege of my working life.

May Allah Almighty bless this Chamber, this city, and Pakistan, and may He grant those who come after us the strength to carry this work further than we were able to.

**Syed Ahtesham Mazhar**
President

# FORMER PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



A.D Bhutta
1982-1983/1986



M. Anwar Khawaja
1984-1985



Nadeem Iqbal Sh.
1987



Mian M. Shafi
1988



M. Yunus Ratara
1989



Kh. Zaka-ud-Din
1990-1991



M. Anwer Qureshi
1991-1992



Sh. Altan Azmat
1992-1993



Ghazanfar Ali Shabbir
1993-1994



Syed Mukhtar Bokhari
1994-1995



M. Akhtar Qaisar
1995-1996



M. Hanif Khan
1996-1997

# FORMER PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Dr. M. Aslam Darr**
**1997-1998**



**Mian M. Riaz**
**1998-1999**



**Khawar A. Khawaja**
**1999-2000**



**Mian Naeem Javed**
**2000-2001**



**Daud Ahmad Chattha**
**2001-2002**



**Baber Iqbal**
**2002-2003**



**Sh. Tahir M. Kapur**
**2003-2004**



**Qaisar S. Shabbir**
**2004-2005**



**Dr. Nouman Idris Butt**
**2005-2006**

# FORMER PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Sh. Abdul Waheed Sandal**
**2006-2007**



**Dr. Khurram A. Khawaja**
**2007-2008**



**Hassan Ali Bhatti**
**2008-2009**



**Muhammad Ishaq Butt**
**2009-2010**



**Ghulam Mustafa Ch.**
**2010-2011**



**Naeem Anwar Qureshi**
**2011-2012**



**Sheikh Abdul Majeed**
**2012-2013**



**Dr. Sarfraz Bashir**
**2013-2014**



**Fazal Jilani**
**2014-2015**

# FORMER PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Maj. (R) Mansoor Ahmed**
**2015-2016**



**Majid Raza Bhutta**
**2016-2017**



**Zahid Latif Malik**
**2017-2018**



**Kh. Masud Akhtar (SI) (HI)**
**2018-2019**



**Muhammad Ashraf Malik**
**2019-2020**



**Qaisar Iqbal Baryar**
**2020-2021**



**Mian Imran Akbar**
**2021-2022**



**Abdul Ghafoor Malik**
**2022-2024**



**Ikram Ul Haq**
**2024-2025**



## MUHAMMAD MURAD ARSHAD

*Senior Vice President*

# SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A thriving industry is the clearest evidence a country can offer of sound economic policy, an enabling business environment, and institutions working in concert toward a single objective — the growth of national exports. Within that framework, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry has established itself as the foremost representative body of one of Pakistan's most dynamic and diversified export sectors. This Chamber is far more than an administrative office. It is an active guardian of its members' interests, carrying the case for Sialkot's industrial strength before Government, foreign missions and international trade bodies, and securing for this city the standing its work has long deserved.

To have served as Senior Vice President for the 2025–2026 term has been a genuine honour. My purpose throughout the year was to improve the services our members rely on day to day, build durable working relationships with the diplomatic community, safeguard commercial relationships, and place Sialkot's manufacturing capability directly before buyers in foreign markets. Strong relations with foreign governments are indispensable to trade expansion, and I therefore made it an early priority to establish a direct line between the Foreign Missions and Embassies in Islamabad and the SCCI Secretariat. Queries from embassies, and the member difficulties that arose alongside them, had previously moved slowly through indirect channels. Direct communication changed that. Member queries were processed more quickly, administrative bottlenecks were cleared, and regular occasions arose to discuss trade expansion with foreign diplomats face to face. That engagement gave Sialkot's concerns a hearing they had not consistently received, and opened constructive avenues for mutual economic cooperation. Alongside diplomatic outreach, maintaining international buyer trust requires a strong mechanism for resolving commercial conflicts.

Throughout my tenure, I personally prioritized handling local and international trade dispute cases with complete transparency, impartiality, and efficiency. By evaluating claims on pure merit and facilitating fair mediation between local exporters and overseas buyers, we successfully settled numerous complex trade disputes. This commitment to justice not only protected the commercial interests of our local firms but also safeguarded the integrity and global reputation of Sialkot's export industry. An exporter who cannot travel without delay cannot close business or sustain a client relationship. I therefore turned attention to our Visa Recommendation Letter procedures. We revised and simplified the document verification process, and issued clear guidance to members on preparing complete and accurate applications.

By raising the standard and authenticity of what passes through this Chamber, we strengthened the credibility of an SCCI recommendation in the eyes of foreign embassies — and with it, the approval prospects of our business community. To carry our industries onto the international stage, I initiated the SCCI Directory, compiled in an accessible Yellow Pages format and containing categorized contacts and particulars of local exporting firms. The Directory was dispatched systematically to foreign embassies in Pakistan, to Pakistan's diplomatic missions abroad, and to foreign chambers of commerce and international trade associations. That same network carried our official SCCI Profiles and the flagship Made in Sialkot Journal. Together these publications placed Sialkot's leading manufacturers directly before global buyers, presented our craftsmanship on its own terms, and opened routes into markets our members had not previously reached.

I record my gratitude first to Almighty Allah, by whose grace the work of this year was accomplished. I am indebted to our Group Leaders for the confidence they placed in me and for the privilege of serving this business community. My thanks go to our President, Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, and to our Vice President, Mr. Salman Sheikh, for their guidance, trust and unfailing cooperation throughout the term. I am equally grateful to the members of the Executive Committee, the Chairpersons of our Departmental Committees, and the officers and staff of the SCCI Secretariat, whose steady work behind every initiative made these results possible.

**Muhammad Murad Arshad**
Senior Vice President

# FORMER SENIOR VICE PRESIDENTS

## THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Mian M. Riaz**
**1991-1992**



**Ehsan A. Karim**
**1992-1993**



**Ejaz Ul Haq Mirza**
**1993-1994**



**Ijaz Ahmad Dar**
**1994-1995**



**M. Hanif Khan**
**1995-1996**



**Ch. Ghulam Mustafa**
**1996-1998**



**Khawaja Zafar Hashmat**
**1998-1999**



**Maqbool Ahmad Janjua**
**1999-2000**



**M. Zubair Agha**
**2000-2001**



**Naveed Iqbal Sheikh**
**2001-2002**



**M. Sadiq Goraya**
**2002-2003**



**Zahid Latif Malik**
**2003-2004**



**Ahsan Naeem**
**2004-2005**



**Faisal Mahmood**
**2005-2006**



**Dr. Sarfraz Bashir**
**2006-2007/2009-2010**



**Zia Ullah Mirza**
**2007-2008**

# FORMER SENIOR VICE PRESIDENTS

## THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Adnan Sarwar Kapur**
**2010-2011**



**Zafar Iqbal Geoffery**
**2011-2012**



**Ikram-ul-Haq**
**2012-2013**



**Mian Muhammad Anwar**
**2013-2014**



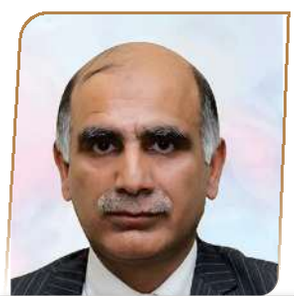
**Mir Alamgir Mayer**
**2014-2015**



**Muhammad Sarfraz Butt**
**2015-2016**



**Adnan Arshad Sethi**
**2016-2017**



**Abdul Waheed**
**2017-2018**



**Waqas Akram Awan**
**2018-2019**



**Khurram Azim Khan**
**2019-2020**



**Khuram Aslam**
**2020-2021**



**Sheikh Zohaib Refique Sethi**
**2021-2022**



**Wahub Jahangir**
**2022-2024**



**Waseem Shahbaz Lodhi**
**2024-2025**



## SALMAN SHEIKH

*Vice President*

# VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Serving as Vice President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry has been an exceptional honour, a profound privilege and, above all, an opportunity to serve an institution that represents the aspirations, resilience and entrepreneurial spirit of Sialkot's remarkable business community. SCCI has never been an institution content with standing still. Over successive terms it has continued to evolve into a modern, dynamic and forward-looking organisation, guided by a clear and enduring purpose: to facilitate its members, strengthen the industrial ecosystem, enhance institutional efficiency, and elevate the voice and stature of Sialkot's business community at the national and international levels.

Digital Transformation of the Website: This is not a cosmetic change to the SCCI website, but a change in how SCCI functions. The aim was to shift from an information-only site to a digital ecosystem where members can engage with services faster and more transparently, while also sharing resources and institutional updates. New IT-enabled tools now allow members to submit documents, monitor requests and receive circulars electronically, reducing the need for a physical visit to the Secretariat. This is best understood as a rethinking of underlying processes, not merely a technology layer added on top.

Global Connectivity through Digital Meeting Infrastructure: Recognising that distance should no longer limit knowledge or collaboration, state-of-the-art cameras and Zoom-integrated conferencing infrastructure have been installed in Shafi Hall, closing distances through digital connectivity and enabling high-quality virtual meetings and seminars with participants across Pakistan and abroad, without the cost of physical travel.

This has opened a new dimension of engagement, allowing international experts, diplomats and industry specialists to join SCCI activities remotely. The South Africa presentation, delivered virtually and later shared on our YouTube platform, is a strong example: a meeting no longer ends when the meeting ends, since knowledge, once captured, can be accessed repeatedly by the wider industrial community.

Knowledge Empowerment via the SCCI E-Library: Our vision extends beyond administrative convenience to knowledge empowerment. The SCCI E-Library has been developed as a major resource for our young entrepreneurs, students, researchers and emerging exporters.

**65,000+**

Lectures accessible to members and researchers

This investment matters because SCCI's entrepreneurial base is growing fast, with approximately 900 new entrepreneurs registering with the Chamber every month. That growth is encouraging, but it also raises our responsibility: every new entrepreneur needs more than a registration certificate. They need knowledge, guidance, market intelligence, and an ecosystem that helps them grow. The E-Library is one important step toward building that ecosystem.

**Connecting Industry with Talent:** The SCCI Job Portal addresses another growing need: access to skilled human resources. Sialkot's industries are globally recognised for manufacturing and exports, but sustainable growth also depends on connecting businesses with capable local talent. The portal gives member companies a structured recruitment platform while creating employment opportunities for the people of Sialkot. Together with the E-Library, it reflects a simple principle: every digital initiative should answer a real need of our business community.

**Mobile App and Digital Payments:** SCCI also launched a dedicated mobile application to bring core services directly to members' devices, along with online payment capabilities for Chamber fees and charges. The stated aim is to cut down on physical queues and time-consuming visits, moving toward a faster, more transparent, member-friendly service model. Together, the app, payments, website, E-Library, Job Portal and Zoom infrastructure form one unified ecosystem rather than a set of separate, disconnected projects.

**Physical Infrastructure Improvements:** Alongside digital progress, the Chamber's premises have been renovated and modernised to reflect its stature. The Main Auditorium, one of SCCI's principal venues for hosting Federal and Provincial Ministers, ambassadors and international delegations, has been fully refurbished and now better reflects the institution's dignity and professionalism.

**A Broader Institutional Shift:** Taken together, these projects amount to more than the sum of their parts: they represent a fundamental shift from a Chamber centred on transactions to one centred on knowledge, connectivity, opportunity and innovation. This shift feels especially critical given Sialkot's young, entrepreneurial and globally connected business community, which demands equally forward-thinking institutional systems.

**A Relay Race, Not a Finish Line:** Institutional progress, I have come to believe, is a relay race rather than a solo sprint: no single person carries it alone or finishes it single-handedly. My goal was never to build something that concludes with my term, but to lay foundations that future leadership can build upon, expand and carry further.

**Gratitude and Closing Reflections:** My closing gratitude goes first to Allah Almighty, then to the Chamber's Group Leaders, President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, Senior Vice President Muhammad Murad Arshad, the Executive Committee, departmental chairpersons, Secretariat staff, and the wider Sialkot business community. These achievements belong to collective effort, not individual leadership.

My closing note is an optimistic one. My tenure's legacy, as I see it, is not a list of completed projects but the beginning of a changed institutional mindset, one where the Chamber positions itself as a platform for knowledge, collaboration and opportunity rather than merely a service provider. The transformation has begun; the collective responsibility now is to sustain this momentum for SCCI's future growth.

**Salman Sheikh**
Vice President

# FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**M. Amjad Khawaja**
**1982-1985**



**M. Aslam Darr**
**1985-1986**



**M. Ayoub Khan**
**1986-1990**



**Daud Ahmad Chattha**
**1990-1992**



**Khawar A. Khawaja**
**1992-1993**



**Ch. Nazir Hussain**
**1993-1994**



**Waheed Akhtar**
**1994-1995**



**M. Ashraf Khokhar**
**1995-1996**



**Khawaja Masud Akhtar**
**1997-1998**

# FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**M. Yahya Bhatti**
**1998-1999**



**Sh. Muhammad Yaqub**
**1999-2000**



**Arshad Javed Sandal**
**2000-2001**



**Raja M. Ather Dar**
**2001-2002**



**M. Ashraf Malik**
**2002-2003**



**Maj. (R) Mansoor Ahmed**
**2003-2004**



**Shafiq-ur-Rehman**
**2004-2005**



**Sheikh Ejaz Ahmed Soni**
**2005-2006**



**Ch. Raza Munir**
**2006-2007**

# FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Fazal Jilani**
**2007-2008**



**Mir Farooq Meyer**
**2008-2009**



**Pervaiz Ahmed Khan**
**2009-2010**



**Qaisar Baig**
**2010-2011**



**Rahat Chand**
**2011-2012**



**M. Kashif Almas**
**2012-2013**



**Khawar Hussain Spall**
**2013-2014**



**Malik Naseer Ahmed**
**2014-2015**



**Syed Ahtesham Mazher**
**2015-2016**

# FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS

THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



**Mian Imran Akbar**
**2016-2017**



**Abid A. Khawaja**
**2017-2018**



**Amer Hamid Bhatti**
**2018-2019**



**Ch. M. Jalil Aslam**
**2019-2020**



**Ansar Aziz Puri**
**2020-2021**



**Qasim Malik**
**2021-2022**



**Amer Majeed Sheikh**
**2022-2024**



**Omer Khalid**
**2024-2025**

Visit of

# MR. AHMED SHUJA

## Chief Commissioner, Inland Revenue, RTO Sialkot



Mr. Ahmed Shuja, Chief Commissioner, Inland Revenue, Regional Tax Office (RTO), visited the Sialkot Chamber to meet with the business community. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President, SCCI, welcomed the Chief Commissioner and emphasized the importance of strengthening coordination and communication between the business community and the tax administration. Mr. Ahmed Shuja acknowledged the significant contribution of Sialkot's exporters to the national economy and their strong global reputation, assuring the participants that exporters would continue to receive priority attention and facilitation from the RTO.

The participants raised various concerns regarding increasing compliance requirements, difficulties in documenting small and home-based informal vendors, frequent notices, unresolved cases, pending audits, delayed refunds, and issues relating to various tax provisions, including Sections 45A and 236. It was highlighted that exporters cannot be expected to enforce tax registration or banking requirements on micro-vendors, and that Sialkot's unique industrial and export structure should be considered when implementing documentation requirements. In response, the Chief Commissioner acknowledged these challenges and assured the participants that, while legal compliance remained necessary, the RTO would adopt a practical and facilitative approach within the limits of the law and avoid unnecessary or repetitive notices.

The Chief Commissioner also briefed the participants on the tax collection challenges faced by RTO Sialkot, particularly due to additional tax measures introduced during FY 2024, including the 1% additional tax and 1% minimum tax. He noted that fluctuations in tax yields and increasing refund outflows, including a significant increase in FASTER refunds, had affected the achievement of revenue targets. At the same time, he assured the exporters that there was no proposal to impose punitive measures on export earnings and reaffirmed the department's recognition of Sialkot's distinctive position as a major export hub. He further committed to expediting the processing of complete and compliant refund claims and to improving the resolution of long-pending audit and tax matters.

The meeting concluded with agreement on several practical action points, including the resumption of structured monthly meetings between RTO Sialkot and SCCI, fast-tracking of pending refunds and audit cases where documentation is complete, issuance of written clarification regarding acceptable documentation for informal vendors, reduction in the burden of unnecessary notices, and the nomination of a dedicated focal person by the RTO for continuous coordination with the Chamber. The meeting ended on a positive and collaborative note, with the business community assuring full cooperation and the Inland Revenue Department reaffirming its commitment to providing maximum facilitation to exporters within the framework of applicable laws.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. SHUICHI AKAMATSU

## Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan



On October 25, 2025, His Excellency Mr. Shuichi Akamatsu, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, paid an official visit to the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). Delivering the welcome address, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar underscored the enduring friendship between Pakistan and Japan, expressing appreciation for Japan's consistent contributions through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) toward industrial development, technical training, and policy framework support. He highlighted the robust economic potential linking the two nations, noting that bilateral trade reached USD 1.57 billion during the 2024–2025 financial year, while emphasizing that vast opportunities remain untapped in sectors such as engineering goods, sportswear, surgical instruments, and value-added textiles. Furthermore, he reviewed ongoing bilateral initiatives, including past and prospective trade delegations to Japan, and urged the Ambassador to facilitate stronger business-to-business linkages via the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), streamline business visa procedures, and revitalize technical cooperation programs.

Responding to these remarks, Ambassador Akamatsu thanked the Chamber leadership for the warm reception, praising Sialkot's dynamic industrial foundation and entrepreneurial resilience. He shared perspectives from the recent official visit of the Chief Minister of Punjab to Japan, noting that the engagement had unlocked fresh avenues for bilateral collaboration. While addressing concerns raised by SCCI members regarding visa processing bottlenecks and the limited participation of Japanese corporations in domestic trade expositions, the Ambassador assured the assembly that these matters would be reviewed closely within the Embassy. He reaffirmed Japan's dedication to expanding cooperation across trade, human resource development, and cultural exchanges, conveying strong optimism that his visit to Sialkot would further consolidate bilateral ties.

The proceedings featured active interventions from senior members of Sialkot Chamber and representatives of the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sialkot. Dr. Mariam Nouman drew attention to the rising footprint of women entrepreneurs, formally inviting the Ambassador to attend the upcoming "We Exhibit 2026" and encouraging the Japanese Embassy to foster delegation exchanges targeted at Sialkot. Additional recommendations put forward by former presidents and executive committee members focused on the issuance of multi-entry business visas, dispatch of sector-specific Japanese delegations, joint venture promotion, establishment of direct flight connectivity, and expanded women-centric exchange initiatives. The Ambassador welcomed these proposals, reiterating Japan's keen interest in supporting measures that advance women's empowerment, industrial innovation, and strategic commercial partnerships.

As the session drew to a close, Chamber executives underscored the practical necessity of designating a dedicated focal person at the Japanese Embassy to coordinate communication, expedite visa processing, and enhance trade facilitation for the local business community. Ambassador Akamatsu acknowledged the constructive nature of the recommendations and assured that they would receive careful consideration. The visit wrapped up in an atmosphere of shared goodwill, with both delegations committing to deepen economic, cultural, and institutional ties between Japan and Sialkot's industrial sector.

Visit of

# H.E. MR. SEBASTIÁN SAYÚS

## Ambassador of Argentina to Pakistan



On November 8, 2025, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) had the honour of hosting H.E. Mr. Sebastián Sayús, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic to Pakistan, accompanied by the Counsellor and Section Head of the Embassy of Argentina. The visiting delegation was received by SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, alongside the Senior Vice President and Vice President, for high-level discussions aimed at bolstering bilateral trade relations and exploring untapped commercial avenues between the two nations.

While delivering the welcome address, President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar spotlighted Sialkot's globally renowned export sectors—encompassing sports goods, surgical instruments, sportswear, leather products, and textile articles—and proposed organizing a dedicated trade delegation to Argentina to forge direct business linkages. Furthermore, Chamber leadership raised critical operational concerns regarding business visa issuance, letter of invitation verifications, and customs facilitation for exhibition samples, while underscoring the pressing necessity for expanded market access for Pakistani manufactured goods in Argentina.

In his address to the house, Ambassador Sayús commended Sialkot's industrial excellence and relentless entrepreneurial drive. He assured the Chamber of the Embassy's full cooperation in streamlining trade processes and strengthening business-to-business networks, expressing a firm commitment to championing stronger economic integration and reciprocal delegation exchanges moving forward.



Visit of

# THE ASEAN AMBASSADORS & ENVOYS

to Pakistan



On November 12, 2025, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) welcomed a high-profile delegation of ASEAN envoys during their official Economic Trip to Sialkot. The visiting delegation comprised ambassadors and high commissioners representing Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Delivering the welcome address, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar spotlighted Sialkot's remarkable economic milestones, including annual foreign exchange earnings of USD 2.63 billion, global leadership in sports goods manufacturing, and preeminent market positions in surgical instruments, leather goods, and textile sportswear. To deepen regional integration, he proposed strategic initiatives encompassing regular business-to-business (B2B) trade delegations, expedited visa processing, designated focal points within ASEAN embassies, and the revival of institutional frameworks for capacity-building programs.

During the session, the diplomatic representatives offered comprehensive overviews of ASEAN's robust economic landscape and commercial prospects for Pakistan. The Ambassador of Thailand underlined the bloc's expansive market—boasting a population exceeding 680 million and a GDP surpassing USD 4 trillion—while drawing attention to trade-facilitating mechanisms such as the ASEAN Single Window and E-Customs. He further pitched the idea of hosting an ASEAN Trade Fair in Sialkot alongside joint ventures in the surgical and sporting sectors. Meanwhile, the High Commissioner of Malaysia accentuated bilateral trade potentials, lucrative tax incentives for high-tech industries, and avenues for expanding sports goods exports. Complementing these insights, delegates from Brunei, Myanmar, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Indonesia identified profitable sectors including agriculture, rice, textiles, and halal industries, actively urging Sialkot enterprises to forge strategic partnerships and participate in regional trade expositions.

An interactive Q&A segment followed, providing chamber leadership and former executives an opportunity to address critical operational bottlenecks. Discussions centered on customs harmonization, tariff frameworks, aviation connectivity, direct procurement hurdles, indirect sourcing of surgical equipment, and the necessity of building stronger brand recognition and value addition. In response, the Thai Ambassador elaborated on the progress of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement and the operational efficiency of the Single Window system, while the Malaysian High Commissioner addressed flight connectivity concerns and proposed structured frameworks for direct sourcing from local manufacturers.

As the meeting drew to a close, dignitaries exchanged commemorative shields and recorded their appreciative remarks in the SCCI Visitors' Book, marking a resolute mutual commitment to expanding commercial and institutional bridges between Sialkot and the ASEAN economies.

Visit of

# MS. BEELAM RAMZAN

## Collector of Customs Sialkot



On December 10, 2025, Collector of Customs Sialkot, Ms. Beelam Ramzan, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI). Delivering the welcome address, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar lauded the proactive stance demonstrated by the Customs administration and underscored the enduring collaborative partnership bridging the Chamber and the department. In response, Ms. Beelam Ramzan expressed gratitude for the reception, pledging her full dedication to resolving legitimate grievances of the local export and trading communities through sustained, constructive dialogue.

Throughout the interactive segment, chamber leadership brought critical operational and policy impediments to the forefront. President Mazhar, alongside Ch. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat, spotlighted the business community's extensive footprint in social, environmental, and infrastructure development—pointing specifically to the Sialkot Tannery Zone Project—while drawing attention to persistent obstacles such as delayed Duty Drawbacks and rebates, Harmonized System (HS) code classification discrepancies, and shifting Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) operational timelines. Additional interventions from Senior Vice President Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad and Mr. Tariq Hussain underscored how global market pressures, bureaucratic red tape, and systemic bottlenecks disproportionately penalize small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) exporters, making standardized clearance protocols across ports and expedited case resolution absolute necessities.

Addressing the gathering, the Collector of Customs clarified that the bulk of processing lag was tied to unverified International Bank Account Numbers (IBANs) alongside a very small volume of pending system flags. To streamline troubleshooting, she shared a dedicated direct email channel and personal assistant contact for case tracking, advocated for data-driven enforcement, and invited the Chamber to table formal written recommendations regarding HS codes and EFS procedures for escalation to higher authorities. Complementing these assurances, Deputy Collector Ms. Jaweria Shahid walked participating members through rebate liquidation workflows, verification protocols, and administrative hurdles encountered during assessments, guaranteeing priority reviews for all specific cases channeled through the Chamber.

Key takeaways from the session included the immediate dissemination of official Collectorate contact directories, urgent IBAN updates by exporters, the submission of formal proposals addressing EFS and HS code policy friction, prioritized clearance of outstanding refund files, and a joint commitment to execute targeted compliance training workshops. Reaching its culmination, the meeting dissolved in an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation, with both institutions solidifying their pledge to optimize export facilitation without compromising regulatory rigor.



Visit of

# MR. KHURRAM SHEHZAD HAIDER

## Regional Police Officer (RPO) Gujranwala



On December 11, 2025, Regional Police Officer (RPO) Gujranwala, Mr. Khurram Shehzad Haider, and District Police Officer (DPO) Sialkot, Mr. Faisal Shehzad, arrived at the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) for a high-level official engagement. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President, Sialkot Chamber, highlighted the city's historical and economic significance as a premier global manufacturing hub renowned for FIFA-approved footballs, surgical instruments, sportswear, and textiles. He noted that the city contributes approximately USD 2.5 billion annually to Pakistan's national exports through nearly 25,000 export-oriented units, emphasizing the continuous necessity for export diversification and modernization to sustain global competitiveness. Furthermore, infrastructural challenges, including delayed disbursements of funds for the proposed Technology University and deteriorating municipal road conditions, were brought to the attention of the visiting law enforcement authorities.

Addressing the gathering, DPO Faisal Shehzad briefed participating members on ongoing infrastructure and traffic management initiatives, highlighting a 17-kilometer Model Road project engineered to European standards and the introduction of red, QR-coded stickers for export cargo vehicles to ensure unhindered transit during traffic disruptions. He detailed targeted measures implemented for crime control, traffic regulation, and municipal security, alongside operational enhancements designed to streamline business activities.



Expanding on these points, RPO Khurram Shehzad Haider lauded Sialkot's pioneering corporate social responsibility achievements, specifically citing the establishment of the Sialkot International Airport, the Dry Port, and AirSial, while proposing collaborative city beautification initiatives alongside local industrial clusters. During the subsequent interactive dialogue, members raised critical concerns regarding a shortage of traffic wardens, the requirement for proactive traffic flow management, organized beggary, narcotics control, and the resolution of property disputes affecting overseas Pakistanis. In response, both the RPO and DPO assured the house of immediate, focused interventions to resolve these challenges and reinforce law enforcement backing for the local business community.

Bringing the proceedings to a successful close, the session featured a dynamic question-and-answer period, mutual expressions of appreciation, and the presentation of a commemorative souvenir to the chief guest. Participating members registered their satisfaction with the constructive dialogue and the firm commitment demonstrated by the police leadership toward safeguarding a secure, business-friendly ecosystem conducive to Sialkot's continued socio-economic advancement.

Visit of

# MR. HASSAN ZULFIQAR

## Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue Sialkot



Centering fiscal collaboration on regional tax administration, Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue RTO Sialkot, Mr. Hassan Zulfiqar, engaged with the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on December 11, 2025. Delivering the welcome address, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar emphasized the vital necessity of resuming regular monthly coordination sessions between the Chamber and Regional Tax Office (RTO) Sialkot to resolve emerging administrative bottlenecks proactively. Building on this, Income Tax Committee Chairman Mr. Imran Ali Rana detailed acute technical grievances confronting the export community, drawing particular attention to regulatory anomalies stemming from the transition out of the Final Tax Regime (FTR), rigid post-refund audit protocols, prolonged backlogs in income and sales tax refund references, the practical hurdles of digital invoicing mandates, and the urgent demand for accelerated Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms to handle minor disputes.

Expanding the dialogue, participating members articulated systemic and operational vulnerabilities intrinsic to Sialkot's unique economic fabric. They posited that because the city functions largely as a cottage and vendor-driven manufacturing hub, imposing rigid conventional digital invoicing and compliance models creates severe friction. Speakers also cautioned against abrupt policymaking and the mechanical issuance of recurring tax notices, arguing that such practices threaten to destabilize intricate export supply chains. To reinforce their arguments, participants cited supportive international compliance frameworks from South Korea, Turkey, China, and Bangladesh, underscoring the value of predictable fiscal policies and trust-based partnerships between revenue regulators and exporters.

Responding to these representations, Mr. Hassan Zulfiqar acknowledged the legitimacy of the challenges tabled and affirmed his dedication to equitable tax administration and pragmatic problem-solving. He clarified that certain structural parameters, including statutory post-refund audits and a narrow national tax base, necessitate regulatory balance and cannot be unilaterally bypassed, while explicitly assuring the house that unauthorized overreach or taxpayer harassment would face zero tolerance. He drew a clear administrative distinction between policy formulation—which rests with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and the Finance Division—and local implementation, pledging that RTO Sialkot would maximize facilitation within existing legal bounds. Furthermore, he invited the Chamber to formulate structured, empirical proposals addressing systemic anomalies for formal escalation to higher authorities.

Wrapping up the official visit, both delegations finalized several actionable outcomes, notably the formal revival of monthly liaison meetings, streamlined compliance relief for the ongoing FTR transition period, a systematic review to eliminate redundant notices, and the establishment of a dedicated contact desk to expedite pending refund references and deferred sales tax files. The high-level dialogue dissolved in an atmosphere of mutual goodwill and constructive consensus, reinforcing a shared resolve to support Sialkot's export economy while upholding robust statutory compliance.

Visit of

# MR. SHERYAR TAJ

## Secretary Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP)



Advancing export promotion frameworks and national trade strategies, the Secretary of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Mr. Sheryar Taj, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on December 30, 2025, for an interacting session with the business community of Sialkot. On the occasion, President Sialkot Chamber, Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, underscored the Chamber's proven track record of orchestrating self-financed outbound trade delegations since 2014, noting that these initiatives have successfully integrated over 200 enterprises into international markets while providing vital support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and emerging exporters.

Mr. Qaiser Baig, Chairman, Departmental Committee on Fairs & Exhibitions/Delegations, further outlined forthcoming trade missions targeted at Canada for the surgical sector, Africa, Jordan, and Nepal. In response, the TDAP Secretary conveyed the authority's intent to prioritize international business forums backed by the Export Development Fund (EDF), pointing to the recent Pakistan Business Forum in Argentina as a successful blueprint for future commercial outreach.

Expanding the scope of the meeting, Chamber representatives brought critical operational hurdles to the table, specifically highlighting the delayed approval status for participation in Expo Med Türkiye alongside persistent systemic roadblocks in securing trade event invitation letters and commercial visas for key markets such as China, Brazil, and the UAE.

Mr. Sheryar Taj assured members that TDAP was actively engaging the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and relevant diplomatic missions to fast-track visa facilitation for local exporters. He additionally spotlighted TDAP's institutional commitment to championing SMEs by promoting premier, internationally accredited exhibitions hosted domestically, allowing domestic manufacturers to engage directly with international buyers while minimizing foreign travel and visa friction.

Bringing the official visit to a constructive close, both sides aligned on a shared strategic vision to optimize trade facilitation mechanisms and bolster Pakistan's export footprint through targeted public-private collaboration.



# Visit of

## MR. JAWAD PAUL, Federal Secretary for Commerce
## MR. AAMER MOHIYUDIN, Federal Secretary for National Food Security & Research




Fostering inter-ministerial dialogue on national economic policy, a high-level federal delegation comprising Federal Secretary for Commerce Mr. Jawad Paul, Federal Secretary for National Food Security & Research Mr. Aamer Mohiyudin, and senior representatives from the Ministry of Industries and Production participating via Zoom, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 5, 2026. Welcoming the distinguished guests, SCCI Senior Vice President Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad acknowledged the government's stated intent to foster trade and investment, while candidly raising serious concerns regarding an 8.7% contraction in national exports during the July to December 2025 period. He underscored that policy frameworks enacted without prior stakeholder consultation, frequent fiscal shifts, and heavy-handed regulatory oversight were eroding exporter confidence and jeopardizing workforce stability across Sialkot's manufacturing ecosystem.

Expanding on these challenges, the Senior Vice President laid out primary demands from the local business community, advocating for the reinstatement of the Final Tax Regime (FTR), ironclad protection against tax administration overreach, the revival of Long Term Financing Facility (LTFF) and Mark-up Rate Support (DDT) schemes, the abolition of the provincial infrastructure development cess, and comprehensive structural reforms within the Sialkot Export Processing Zone. Furthermore, he emphasized the critical necessity of establishing a dedicated Sialkot Expo Centre, granting long-term extensions for the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS), and ensuring the transparent, efficient utilization of Export Development Fund (EDF) resources to bolster quality compliance and international certifications.

Amplifying the dialogue, representatives across diverse manufacturing sectors—including cutlery, sports goods, surgical instruments, tanneries, and women-led enterprises—detailed acute operational friction points. Members drew attention to prolonged port processing delays, exorbitant wharfage fees, frozen EDF allocations, the absence of local Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) attestation facilities, obstacles in corporate dividend remittances, and an erosion of trust among international buyers. Stressing that Sialkot operates as a uniquely export-dependent cluster, participants warned that protracted policy volatility and mounting overhead costs threatened to dismantle the country's external trade foundation. Echoing these warnings, several former SCCI Presidents urged federal authorities to designate Sialkot a formal model export zone and pivot toward a supportive, facilitative regulatory culture.

Responding to the grievances tabled, Federal Secretary for Commerce Mr. Jawad Paul assured members that the administration remained cognizant of sectoral challenges and dedicated to advancing commerce within the structural parameters of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) program. He confirmed that EDF allocations remained accessible, taxation and infrastructure roadblocks were under active deliberation with provincial stakeholders, and Sialkot-specific administrative issues would receive direct ministerial follow-up. Complementing these assurances, the Federal Secretary for National Food Security & Research outlined ongoing agricultural reforms alongside bilateral joint ventures with China, while the Additional Secretary for Industries and Production reported that the draft National Industrial Policy was in its final stages, assuring that SCCI's formal submissions would be integrated into the framework.

Wrapping up the high-level engagement, participants and visiting officials aligned on a shared framework for sustained institutional coordination, regular progress monitoring, and the prompt execution of practical administrative remedies. Chamber members conveyed cautious optimism that federal leadership would enact decisive measures to safeguard Sialkot's competitive export standing, nurture small and medium-sized enterprises, and secure a predictable, growth-oriented industrial climate.

Visit of

# H.E. MS. INA LEPEL

## Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany



Marking seven and a half decades of diplomatic continuity, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Pakistan, Her Excellency Ms. Ina Lepel, accompanied by Ms. Miriam Budenbender-Buchholz, was received at the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 8, 2026. Delivering the welcome address, SCCI Senior Vice President Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad paid tribute to the robust, enduring partnership linking the Chamber to the German diplomatic mission, particularly commending consistent consular support and visa facilitation for the local commercial community. He noted that the ongoing year symbolized the 75th anniversary of bilateral relations between Berlin and Islamabad, while expressing profound gratitude for Germany's steadfast backing of Pakistan's vital GSP Plus trade status. Citing State Bank of Pakistan data, he pointed out that bilateral commerce stood at approximately USD 3.06 billion during the 2025 financial year, cementing Germany as a premier export destination for Sialkot's manufacturing base. To build upon this foundation, Mr. Arshad requested the restoration of a dedicated business visa appointment window alongside extended multi-entry permits for frequent business travelers, while drawing attention to mounting compliance pressures and financial burdens stemming from Medical Device Regulation (MDR) and Leather Working Group (LWG) certifications.

Taking the floor, Ambassador Lepel expressed sincere appreciation for the hospitality extended by SCCI leadership, praising Sialkot's resilient industrial fabric and exceptional export dynamism. While acknowledging visible improvements in regional infrastructure and power supply, she candidly addressed structural hurdles that continue to temper foreign investment, citing regulatory unpredictability, transparency gaps, burdensome tax protocols, and overall ease-of-doing-business constraints. The Ambassador observed that despite bilateral trade hovering near static levels, shifting geopolitical dynamics and corporate diversification strategies were prompting renewed interest from German enterprises. Furthermore, she cautioned that the GSP Plus arrangement required rigorous adherence to international conventions on labor rights, environmental sustainability, and women's empowerment rather than being treated as a permanent entitlement. Highlighting Germany's ongoing developmental footprint through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and KfW, she outlined core priority areas encompassing the green energy transition, vocational training, skills enhancement, and private sector growth.

Building upon these remarks, participating members engaged the visiting delegation in targeted technical discussions centering on institutional linkages, advanced technology transfer, and applied engineering frameworks. Chamber representatives proposed structured cooperative models with German technical bodies to elevate local vocational training standards, modernize surgical manufacturing practices, and expand the participation of women in the industrial workforce. In response, the Ambassador and the accompanying Head of Development Cooperation welcomed these proposals, pledging institutional backing through expert advisory services and collaborative frameworks.

Bringing the official visit to a dynamic close, the exchange wrapped up with mutual expressions of goodwill, the presentation of ceremonial mementos, and a shared pledge to maintain active communication channels designed to deepen commercial, technological, and industrial ties between Sialkot and Germany.



Visit of

# H.E. MS. NATALIE A. BAKER

## Acting U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan



Deepening bilateral commercial ties between Islamabad and Washington, the Acting U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Her Excellency Natalie A. Baker, accompanied by U.S. Consul General Mr. Stetson Sanders and a senior diplomatic delegation, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 14, 2026. Receiving the guests, SCCI Senior Vice President Mr. Mohammad Murad Saeed underscored Sialkot's status as a globally acclaimed, small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) driven industrial powerhouse. He noted that total Pakistan-U.S. bilateral trade in goods and services reached USD 13.28 billion during the 2025 financial year, with Sialkot's direct exports to the United States accounting for approximately USD 380 million. Despite these robust figures, he maintained that vast commercial potential remains untapped across core manufacturing verticals such as sports goods, surgical instruments, and leather products. To unlock this growth, Mr. Saeed proposed targeted initiatives encompassing outbound trade delegations, structured B2B matchmaking, a dedicated Sialkot Pavilion at major American trade expositions, active advocacy for U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) reauthorization, expedited FDA Small Business Determination processing, and technical support for regulatory compliance.

Responding to these remarks, Ambassador Baker expressed profound admiration for Sialkot's entrepreneurial resilience and dynamic manufacturing base, noting that her site visits to local industrial facilities reinforced her view that expanding trade and investment remains a top diplomatic priority for the United States. Echoing this sentiment, U.S. Consul General Mr. Stetson Sanders stressed the importance of deeply understanding Sialkot's unique industrial ecosystem to effectively market its capabilities to American enterprises and catalyze new investment opportunities. The visiting delegation commended the local business community's high compliance standards and export expertise, signaling a strong willingness to partner on technical assistance, institutional capacity building, and bilateral trade facilitation.

Expanding the scope of the dialogue, Sialkot Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WCCI) President Dr. Mariam Nouman briefed the assembly on dedicated initiatives designed to elevate women entrepreneurs across export-oriented sectors, including sportswear, textiles, surgical instruments, leather goods, and footwear. She spotlighted WCCI's comprehensive research study conducted in partnership with the International Trade Centre alongside the signature "WE-Exhibit" trade platform, which bridges local women-led enterprises with international buyers. Dr. Nouman formally requested U.S. support for strategic partnership programs, the inclusion of Pakistani women entrepreneurs in U.S. leadership and economic initiatives, the organization of a dedicated American trade delegation to Sialkot, and the exploration of preferential trade measures to foster inclusive commerce. Concluding her address, she extended a formal invitation to Ambassador Baker to grace the upcoming WE-Exhibit 2026 as Chief Guest on February 13, 2026.

Transitioning into an interactive question-and-answer segment, participating members brought forward acute operational challenges, drawing particular attention to the exclusion of Sialkot's surgical instrument manufacturers from U.S. federal government procurement contracts due to strict "Made in USA" domestic preference laws, alongside an unresolved USD 135,000 commercial dispute involving an American buyer. In response, Ambassador Baker and Consul General Sanders advised members to submit comprehensive case documentation for direct administrative guidance and diplomatic troubleshooting.

Wrapping up the high-level engagement, participants and visiting officials reaffirmed their mutual commitment to fortifying trade linkages, expanding technical cooperation, and driving sustainable economic partnership between Sialkot and the United States.

Visit of

# DR. NAJEEB AHMED MEMON

## D.G, Trade Policy Office, Ministry of Finance



Advancing structural fiscal discourse directly with national policy architects, Director General of the Trade Policy Office at the Ministry of Finance, Dr. Najeeb Ahmed Memon, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 20, 2026, to evaluate taxation frameworks impacting regional export-oriented industries. Receiving the distinguished policymaker, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar delivered the opening address, underscoring Sialkot's foundational identity as an export-driven economic pillar responsible for significant foreign exchange earnings, mass employment generation, and advanced value-added manufacturing.

Expanding on these dynamics, President Mazhar argued that because Sialkot's industrial network operates on slender margins amid fierce global competition, it remains exceptionally vulnerable to regulatory volatility, administrative friction, and sudden fiscal alterations. He maintained that sustainable, export-led growth necessitates a predictable and facilitative taxation environment, highlighting that institutionalizing continuous consultations with regional chambers provides ministries with vital empirical insights to harmonize revenue generation with commercial viability.

Continuing the substantive dialogue, Income Tax / FTR Committee Chairman Mr. Imran Ali Rana tabled a comprehensive assessment of pressing fiscal bottlenecks. His presentation detailed the acute disruptions tied to the termination of the Final Tax Regime (FTR) and the subsequent shift to the Normal Tax Regime, technical complications plaguing the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS), heavy administrative burdens, multiple withholding tax layers, severe cash flow liquidity squeezes, and contradictory classifications of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across federal departments. Participating members amplified these concerns during the open floor session, calling for modernized technology financing, specialized workforce training grants, and long-term, manufacturing-centric policy instruments designed to lock in international competitiveness.

Responding directly to the chamber's submissions, Dr. Najeeb Ahmed Memon commended the frankness of the deliberations and recognized the distinct operational pressures confronting exporters who lack pricing autonomy in global markets. He elaborated on the foundational mandate of the newly established Tax Policy Office, reaffirming the government's steadfast commitment to fostering a tax regime anchored in simplicity, transparency, predictability, and continuous stakeholder engagement. Furthermore, he assured the house that the specific structural grievances highlighted—spanning compliance friction, withholding tax anomalies, SME threshold alignments, and long-term policy stability—are currently undergoing active review at the ministerial level.

Bringing the official visit to a constructive close, President Mazhar expressed deep appreciation for Dr. Memon's proactive outreach, conveying strong optimism that sustained institutional collaboration will translate into pragmatic, export-friendly fiscal reforms.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. LADISLAV STEINHÜBEL

## Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Pakistan & Afghanistan




Forging stronger commercial bridges between Central Europe and South Asia, the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Pakistan and Afghanistan, His Excellency Mr. Ladislav Steinhübel, accompanied by Deputy Head of Mission Ms. Michaela Chrtová and embassy officials, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 21, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar expressed deep appreciation for the diplomatic outreach, framing the visit as a vital milestone toward deepening bilateral trade and industrial cooperation. He underscored the historical ties linking Islamabad and Prague, noting that bilateral trade in goods and services reached approximately USD 88.365 million during the 2025 financial year. Furthermore, he spotlighted Sialkot's identity as Pakistan's export capital and a globally acclaimed SME manufacturing powerhouse specializing in sports goods, surgical instruments, leather products, safety gloves, and industrial goods. To expand this partnership, President Mazhar proposed structured initiatives encompassing reciprocal trade delegations, joint business conferences, student exchange programs, and the formal execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SCCI and the Czech Chamber of Commerce. He additionally drew attention to the mounting complexities of European Union regulatory standards, specifically Medical Device Regulation (MDR) compliance for surgical manufacturing, requesting diplomatic facilitation to forge direct institutional linkages with accredited European certification bodies.

Responding to these remarks, Ambassador Steinhübel thanked the Chamber leadership for the hospitable reception and delivered a comprehensive overview of the Czech Republic's robust industrial economy, emphasizing its advanced capabilities in automotive engineering, heavy machinery, medical technology, information technology, artificial intelligence, and sophisticated manufacturing. He noted that official Czech trade statistics reflect a substantially higher volume of bilateral commerce than recorded locally, urging Pakistani exporters to more aggressively market their manufacturing credentials across Central European markets. Moreover, he welcomed the Chamber's proposals regarding trade delegations, MoUs, and academic exchanges, while drawing attention to the active Joint Economic Commission established under the 2023 bilateral Agreement on Economic Cooperation, noting that the upcoming session is slated to convene in Prague.

Expanding the dialogue during the open session, SCCI office bearers and executive members expressed keen interest in launching Czech-focused sector delegations, pursuing high-tech joint ventures, acquiring advanced technology transfers, exploring AI-driven industrial collaborations, and securing active participation in Czech trade expositions. In response, Ambassador Steinhübel and Deputy Head of Mission Ms. Chrtová encouraged direct institutional engagement with industrial chambers across the Czech Republic, assuring full diplomatic backing for business matchmaking and bilateral commercial facilitation.



Visit of

# KHAWAJA MUHAMMAD ASIF (NI)

## Federal Minister for Defence



Advancing high-level public-private coordination on regional infrastructure and industrial growth, Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif (NI), accompanied by Member of the Provincial Assembly Chaudhary Faisal Ikram, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 23, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar expressed deep appreciation to the federal minister for his ongoing engagement with the local commercial community. He paid tribute to Khawaja Muhammad Asif's historical contributions to Sialkot's socio-economic development, specifically citing advancements in regional infrastructure, export facilitation, educational institutions, healthcare networks, and industrial expansion. Furthermore, the President spotlighted major developmental milestones championed by the Minister, including the comprehensive Sialkot City Package, the establishment of the pioneering Sialkot International Airport, the modernization of the Sialkot Dry Port Trust, the approval of lucrative AirSial routes, the rollout of the Sialkot Tannery Zone, major motorway and road construction projects, and key public welfare initiatives.

Transitioning to immediate strategic priorities, President Mazhar briefed the gathering on critical export and industrial projects, focusing heavily on the construction progress of the University of Applied Engineering and Emerging Technologies (UAEET) in Sambrial, while urging the prompt release of remaining federal development funds. He also advocated for the expedited approval of the proposed Sialkot Industrial Zone to alleviate urban congestion, improve environmental compliance, and accommodate future manufacturing growth. Amplifying these priorities, participating chamber members and allied institutional representatives raised pressing concerns regarding Export Processing Zone (EPZ) restructuring, support for women entrepreneurs, international compliance standards, local infrastructure deficits, and municipal encroachment challenges, actively seeking the Minister's backing for structural and policy reforms.

Responding directly to these representations, Khawaja Muhammad Asif commended SCCI and the wider business community for serving as the engine of Sialkot's economic progress, reaffirming his unwavering commitment to the city's future prosperity. He updated participating members on a sweeping portfolio of ongoing and prospective municipal projects, detailing plans for the relocation of the general bus stand, the construction of dedicated parking plazas, the decentralization of government offices, the execution of Ring Road and motorway extensions, comprehensive flood mitigation measures, upgraded healthcare facilities, historical heritage restoration, and vital urban planning reforms. Emphasizing the principles of institutional continuity, transparent utilization of Export Development Fund resources, and cooperative problem-solving between state bodies and the Chamber, the Minister assured the house of his continued backing.

Bringing the official visit to a constructive close, participating members registered their profound appreciation for the Federal Minister's steadfast support, with both leadership tiers pledging sustained collaboration to resolve outstanding infrastructural and regulatory hurdles facing Sialkot's export economy.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. ALBERT P. KHOREV

## Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Pakistan




Expanding Eurasian trade corridors and bilateral economic engagement, Russian Federation Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Albert P. Khorev met with executive leadership at the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on January 28, 2026. The visiting diplomatic delegation included Trade Representative Mr. Denis Nevzorov, Third Secretary Mr. Anton Vereshchagin, and Regional Rapport Executive Director Dr. Almas Haider Naqvi. Welcoming the guests, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar spotlighted Sialkot's robust industrial framework, emphasizing its skilled workforce, global export volume, and value-added production in surgical instruments, sports goods, and leather articles.

Continuing the dialogue, President Mazhar chronicled the enduring diplomatic rapport linking Sialkot to Moscow, pointing out that the Chamber maintains consistent communication channels with Russian trade missions. He identified persistent structural impediments holding back bilateral commerce, citing restricted banking networks, high freight costs, and the absence of direct cargo flight connectivity as major bottlenecks despite Sialkot's manufacturing strengths. To overcome these hurdles, he advocated for optimized financial settlement channels, enhanced transit infrastructure, and improved market access for core export lines. Furthermore, he drew attention to cultural exchange initiatives, noting SCCI's active collaboration with the National University of Modern Languages (NUML) to run Russian language training programs designed to foster mutual understanding and long-term commercial ties.

Taking the floor in response, Ambassador Khorev expressed gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by the Chamber and reflected on historical collaborations between Pakistan and the Russian Federation across energy and industrial spheres. He maintained that bilateral trade has demonstrated resilience despite complex geopolitical headwinds, suggesting that eliminating current logistical barriers would unlock exponential growth. The Ambassador indicated that Russian markets are witnessing rising demand across medical technology, surgical equipment, pharmaceuticals, information technology, and agriculture, noting that Sialkot manufacturers are exceptionally positioned to capture these segments. He also detailed ongoing bilateral efforts to enhance logistical connectivity, pointing to potential air cargo options via Sialkot International Airport alongside wider transportation initiatives such as the North-South Transport Corridor and the Trans-Afghan Corridor.

During the interactive floor session, participating members and visiting officials explored prospects for joint ventures spanning pharmaceuticals, medical devices, IT, agricultural technology, and chemical manufacturing. Trade Representative Mr. Denis Nevzorov invited Pakistani technology firms to participate in upcoming Russian tech platforms, including the International Technology Congress in Moscow and the Kazan Expo scheduled for May 2026. Senior chamber figures pressed for regularized trade delegations, streamlined payment settlement systems, and simplified multi-entry business visa procedures. In addressing these recommendations, Ambassador Khorev acknowledged the procedural complexities surrounding barter trade mechanisms and international sanctions, while offering his full diplomatic backing to resolve visa acquisition hurdles for regional exporters.

Concluding the official visit, participants finalized a forward-looking roadmap to institutionalize bilateral ties, anchored by Dr. Almas Haider Naqvi's proposal to institute recurring virtual conferences between trade representatives of both nations. The high-level engagement dissolved in an atmosphere of mutual consensus, punctuated by the exchange of commemorative shields to mark a definitive milestone in Pakistan-Russia commercial relations.

Visit of

# 8TH PP&MC DELEGATION

## Kashmir Institute of Management (KIMS)



Seeking to study pioneering public-private development models and regional governance frameworks, a forty-member delegation from the Kashmir Institute of Management (KIMS) 8th Professional Planning & Management Course (PP&MC-8), representing diverse departments of the Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), engaged with executive leadership at the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on February 11, 2026. Led by Mr. Tariq Mahmood Butt, the visiting group comprised officials from the forest, police, local government, social welfare, industry, and finance sectors. Following individual introductions, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar delivered a comprehensive briefing on Sialkot's unique industrial landscape, highlighting specialized export verticals such as sports goods, surgical instruments, leather products, textiles, and musical instruments. He placed particular emphasis on Sialkot's world-renowned self-help development model, spotlighting milestone civic and commercial projects including the Sialkot International Airport and the Sialkot Dry Port Trust.

Continuing the academic and administrative exchange, the visiting officials viewed a series of documentary presentations detailing Sialkot's industrial evolution, the ongoing establishment of the University of Applied Engineering and Emerging Technologies (UAEET), and structural layouts for the upcoming industrial zone in Sahowala. During the subsequent interactive segment, delegates raised targeted inquiries concerning industrial zone administration, specialized cricket bat manufacturing processes, labor welfare insurance frameworks, sustainable energy solutions, strategies for empowering women entrepreneurs, and regional child labor compliance policies. SCCI President Mazhar and senior chamber representatives addressed these points comprehensively, elucidating grassroots industry practices, strict regulatory compliance standards, and potential avenues for cross-jurisdictional technical support.

Mr. Tariq Mahmood Butt lauded Sialkot's exemplary governance model, industrial ingenuity, and community-driven social initiatives. Encapsulating his impressions, he recorded appreciative remarks in the Sialkot Chamber Visitors Book and exchanged commemorative shields with the host leadership. Furthermore, the delegation indicated an intent to compile a formal report for the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, outlining recommendations to replicate Sialkot's successful socio-economic development strategies within AJK.



Visit of

# LT. GEN. (R) SYED TARIQ NADEEM GILANI, HI(M)

## Chairman COTTAGE Trust




Lieutenant General (Retd) Syed Tariq Nadeem Gilani, HI(M), Chairman of the COTTAGE Trust, visited Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on February 12, 2026. Welcoming the distinguished guest, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar paid tribute to General Gilani's distinguished military and corporate record, emphasizing his profound dedication to youth welfare and educational reform. Taking the floor, Lieutenant General Gilani outlined the core operational framework and strategic vision of the COTTAGE Trust, underscoring its commitment to providing inclusive academic instruction seamlessly integrated with professional vocational and technical training.

Expounding on the Trust's institutional scope, the briefing detailed its active network across three educational campuses located at Takhat Pari, Jawa, and Sheikh Chogani, which deliver quality schooling from playgroup through intermediate levels alongside specialized training programs in STEAM subjects, entrepreneurship, fashion design, Internet of Things (IoT) development, graphic design, and media production. Furthermore, he highlighted that the COTTAGE Institute of Technology offers market-driven courses in information technology and hospitality management, directly supporting approximately 456 students monthly through dedicated orphan care, underprivileged support, and comprehensive scholarship schemes. Looking toward future growth, the Chairman shared strategic blueprints for establishing a Hunar Foundation branch at the Jawa Campus alongside a specialized Centre of Excellence for contemporary skills development in DHA-5, Islamabad.

Responding enthusiastically to the presentation, members of the local business community stepped forward to pledge substantial financial and material backing for the Trust's humanitarian mission. Notable contributions recorded during the session included generous donations from former SCCI President Khawar Anwar Khawaja (Rs. 1,000,000), SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar (Rs. 500,000), and Senior Vice President Mohammad Murad Arshad (Rs. 200,000), alongside numerous commitments from other prominent executive members.

Members of Sialkot Chamber expressed deep admiration for the transformative impact of the Trust's initiatives. The session concluded with the traditional exchange of commemorative shields and a firm reaffirmation of ongoing institutional partnership between SCCI and the COTTAGE Trust to expand educational and technical horizons for underprivileged youth.



Visit of

# MR. MOBEEN ILAHI

## Managing Director Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC)



Mr. Mobeen Ilahi, Managing Director, Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC), visited Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on March 4, 2026. Heading the visiting delegation alongside Director of Planning Khawaja Muhammad Imran and Gujranwala Regional Director Zahid Safdar Malik, the PSIC chief was received by SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, Vice President Salman Sheikh, and senior executive members including Dr. Muhammad Aslam Dar, Mr. Asghar Ali Rana, Ch. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat, and Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Shahid Inam. Opening the session, President Mazhar underscored the paramount necessity of close institutional cooperation between PSIC and regional trade bodies to accelerate manufacturing growth and expand export volumes.

Transitioning to core operational impediments, participants turned their focus to acute systemic bottlenecks restricting export financing and SME capitalization. Chamber representatives drew attention to an underutilized Export Finance Facility valued at approximately PKR 3 billion, noting that its low uptake stems directly from stringent collateral demands enforced by commercial banks. They strongly advocated for a paradigm shift, urging financial institutions to anchor lending decisions on verifiable export performance, annual turnover, and corporate profiles rather than traditional physical collateral. In response, PSIC officials acknowledged these liquidity constraints and assured the house that financing criteria would be evaluated thoroughly within existing regulatory frameworks.

Expanding the developmental dialogue, the assembly addressed critical industrial infrastructure shortages and the pressing requirement for new, well-planned manufacturing zones. Members proposed establishing medium-sized industrial estates in strategic corridors alongside flexible, long-term land leasing models to incentivize investment. Furthermore, discussions spotlighted the logistical inefficiencies caused by fragmented plot configurations within the Sialkot Export Processing Zone, prompting recommendations for systematic plot amalgamation. To fortify the domestic manufacturing foundation, speakers emphasized the strategic urgency of localized raw material and component production to curb import dependencies, enhance value addition, and sharpen international export competitiveness.

Mapping out future pathways for industrial advancement, both delegations explored collaborative frameworks for establishing capital-intensive ventures, identifying import substitution targets, and nurturing chemical and fermentation-based industries through structured industry-academia partnerships. Proposals to roll out Common Facility Centers (CFCs) under public-private frameworks were also vetted to provide regional SMEs with shared technological resources.

Visit of

# MR. KHURRAM SHAFIQUE

## Additional Director General (R&D), TEVTA



On March 11, 2026, a delegation from the Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA), led by Additional Director General (R&D) Mr. Khurram Shafique, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) to discuss workforce safety training initiatives. SCCI Vice President Mr. Salman Sheikh welcomed the participants and opened the session.

Mr. Shafique briefed the meeting on TEVTA's newly introduced Advanced Safety Course, designed to prepare qualified Safety Officers for industrial deployments through a curriculum shaped by active industry feedback. Discussing the practical implementation, Mr. Salman Sheikh pointed out that while large manufacturing firms readily hire dedicated safety staff, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) frequently struggle with extra payroll costs. To overcome this hurdle, he proposed embedding safety training into established technical trades, such as electrical work, allowing a single worker to manage dual responsibilities efficiently. Mr. Shafique responded positively, noting that current technical staff and Diploma of Associate Engineering (DAE) holders could finish the safety modules within three months.

Adding technical depth, TEVTA's Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Advisor, Mr. Adeel Anjum, highlighted that Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) covers vital areas like risk assessment, chemical handling, and structural safety. He cautioned that safety negligence creates severe operational hazards and pointed to international laws, such as those in the UAE, which require safety personnel across organizations of all sizes. To bridge local skill gaps, he proposed structured learning paths consisting of a six-month program for matric-level students and a three-month program for DAE holders, adding that TEVTA is exploring alignment with international standards like NEBOSH and IOSH.

Concluding the discussions, the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Industrial Safety, Mr. Jawad Khalid, praised the flexible course durations based on qualification levels. He recommended that TEVTA share graduate lists with industrial employers to streamline recruitment. The session wrapped up with a request for SCCI to submit formal written recommendations to help refine these short-term professional courses.



Visit of

# MS. JAWERIA SHAHID

## Deputy Collector (EFS) Collectorate of Customs Sialkot




Deputy Collector (EFS) for the Collectorate of Customs Sialkot, Ms. Jaweria Shahid, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on April 14, 2026, to address operational hurdles under the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS). Ch. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat chaired the session, opening the discussion by outlining core export challenges and emphasizing the necessity of channeling field-level insights directly to customs authorities. Ms. Shahid welcomed the collaborative engagement, assuring members that local grievances would be formally escalated to higher institutional levels.

During the technical session, members raised serious concerns regarding the prolonged detention of import containers due to procedural delays, which trigger heavy financial penalties. Exporters proposed allowing container de-stuffing to mitigate detention costs, though Customs clarified that this measure requires a uniform national policy at the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) level. Discussions also covered HS code discrepancies in EFS Goods Declarations (GDs) and the limited representation of Sialkot exporters in broader FBR policymaking, with officials advising that documented cases be routed through the local collectorate for formal review.

Participants detailed additional systemic friction points such as unfair surcharges imposed despite valid extension periods, rejected extension requests, and rigid automated system protocols. Exporters strongly protested the mandate requiring Insurance or Bank Guarantees, arguing for the retention of Post-Dated Cheques (PDCs) and indemnity bonds given Sialkot's strong compliance track record. Customs noted that guarantee mandates stem from top-tier board policies, while advising members to submit case-specific documentation for secondary issues like indirect exporter hurdles, audit reconciliation backlogs, and zero-residue certificate approvals.

To address policy-driven roadblocks, leadership from both sides established a dedicated Joint Committee comprising Customs officials and SCCI representatives to convene monthly. The session concluded with Ch. Ahmed Zulfiqar Hayat thanking participants for their actionable inputs, while Ms. Shahid reaffirmed her full administrative cooperation in streamlining operational procedures.



Visit of

# MS. NADIA JEHANGIR SETH

## Chief Executive Officer SMEDA



Chief Executive Officer of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA), Ms. Nadia Jehangir Seth, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on April 14, 2026, for a high-level consultative session chaired by SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar. Opening the meeting, President Mazhar underscored Sialkot's vital position as a major export-driven economic hub generating substantial foreign exchange and employment, while emphasizing the necessity of robust institutional partnership to tackle core SME challenges. In response, Ms. Seth outlined SMEDA's strategic mandate, detailing ongoing policy advocacy frameworks and capacity-building programs designed to elevate international export competitiveness.

Delving into institutional support mechanisms, Ms. Seth briefed participants on SMEDA's structured initiatives aimed at nurturing new exporters through comprehensive evaluations, professional training, and performance-based incentives tied to incremental export growth. Local business leaders responded with constructive scrutiny regarding subsidy-based frameworks, warning of risks such as weak targeting and transient impacts. They strongly urged that public funds be redirected toward technological modernization, workforce skill development, infrastructure enhancements, and regulatory simplification, alongside the creation of tier-specific policies and frameworks that account for emerging digital trade models.

The dialogue turned to severe regulatory roadblocks, focusing sharply on the suspension of Free Sale Certificates by the provincial Health Department and the contentious proposal to extend Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) mandates over surgical instruments. Chamber members argued that applying pharmaceutical compliance rules to precision surgical manufacturing is impractical, creating a damaging regulatory vacuum and steep export barriers in international markets. Acknowledging the gravity of these concerns, Ms. Seth assured members that SMEDA would actively pursue their case with relevant government ministries, provided the Chamber supplies detailed, solution-oriented documentation.

Wrapping up the strategic engagement, both parties mapped out a definitive framework for future action, anchored by the Chamber's commitment to submit comprehensive policy and regulatory proposals, alongside SMEDA's pledge to facilitate inter-ministerial coordination. Furthermore, both sides agreed to finalize the committee structure for the Sialkot Business and Commerce Center (SBCC) with balanced representation and clearly defined terms of reference. The session concluded with a renewed pledge to maintain continuous dialogue and drive pragmatic solutions for regional industrial growth.



Visit of

# MR. SYED SHAKEEL SHAH

## Member (Customs Operations) FBR




Addressing critical operational bottlenecks under the Export Facilitation Scheme (EFS) and wider customs architecture, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Member for Customs Operations Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on April 18, 2026. Presiding over the high-level consultative session, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar welcomed the delegation, underscoring Sialkot's export-driven economic profile and stressing the imperative for predictable, efficient, and uniform customs procedures to preserve international competitiveness.

Translating local manufacturing realities into administrative talking points, chamber representatives and exporters detailed a comprehensive array of friction points hampering trade flow. Key concerns centered on frequent, unannounced shifts in HS codes, prolonged reconciliation backlogs, expiring EFS authorizations, and valuation anomalies distorting quota utilization. Participants also drew attention to persistent procedural delays in IOCO approvals, redundant requirements for zero-wastage items, duty impositions on courier-based sample shipments, and repetitive laboratory testing requirements. Further grievances targeted inconsistencies in Green Channel facilitation, burdensome centralized consolidation rules in Karachi, and legal complications surrounding the clearance of returned goods under Section 22 of the Customs Act, collectively urging greater automation and a reduction in arbitrary human discretion.

Responding directly to the grievances tabled, Member Customs Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah acknowledged the validity of the business community's concerns, noting that many systemic challenges are already being targeted through active institutional overhauls. He outlined major reform initiatives anchored in advanced system automation, dynamic quota management, and enhanced risk-based cargo clearance via the Risk Management System (RMS). Highlighting specific legislative updates, he pointed to the implementation of SRO 520(I)/2026, which is engineered to introduce automated reconciliation and real-time quota replenishment. Furthermore, he reaffirmed the FBR's firm commitment to decentralizing export clearance protocols, ensuring that regional facilities like the Sialkot Dry Port gain expanded operational autonomy.

Mr. Shah assured that chamber feedback will be systematically integrated into ongoing policy revisions, proposing the immediate formation of joint working groups to troubleshoot specialized bottlenecks like sample clearances and procedural backlogs. SCCI leadership reaffirmed its active support for national reform initiatives, expressing optimism that the administrative adjustments will translate into measurable trade facilitation and reinforce Sialkot's standing as a premier manufacturing hub.



MoU Signing Ceremony

# MR. SHAHBAZ HUSSAIN SYED

## President & CEO, EXIM Bank of Pakistan




Formalizing a strategic institutional alliance to expand financial inclusion and enhance trade-related services for regional manufacturers, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) hosted an official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony with the Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of Pakistan on April 20, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar welcomed the visiting delegation, which included EXIM Bank President and CEO Mr. Shahbaz Hussain Syed alongside Regional Business Manager Mr. Faiz Muhammad Salman.

President Mazhar expressed deep appreciation to EXIM Bank leadership for partnering with the Chamber to unlock new financial avenues for Sialkot's export community. He underscored that Sialkot operates as a vibrant, SME-driven industrial hub renowned globally for strict international compliance and superior quality standards. Noting that local exporters contribute substantially to national foreign exchange earnings, he maintained that targeted support from EXIM Bank will significantly fortify the capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises to penetrate international markets and elevate overall commercial competitiveness.

EXIM Bank President and CEO Mr. Shahbaz Hussain Syed detailed the institution's mandate as a government-owned body established through a 2022 Act of Parliament, designed specifically to accelerate export growth, drive diversification, and champion import substitution. He explained that the bank safeguards businesses—particularly SMEs—by providing robust credit insurance and specialized lending solutions in cooperation with international reinsurers, while actively facilitating capital-intensive manufacturing and infrastructure ventures.

During the occasion, Banking Committee Chairman Mr. Akmal Javed Khokhar tabled long-standing structural gaps within the existing Export Finance Scheme (EFS). He pointed out that cottage industries and indirect exporters have faced prolonged exclusion from formal credit channels for decades, urging administrative reforms to overhaul the penalty structure and ensure an equitable distribution of EFS liquidity between corporate entities and SMEs. Responding directly to these observations, Mr. Shahbaz Hussain endorsed the Chairman's critique, announcing that EXIM Bank data analysts will undertake a comprehensive review of the EFS framework to identify practical rectifications. He further disclosed a stark disparity in utilization rates, noting that while corporate EFS allocations run at 95 percent utilization, SME uptake languishes at just 10 percent due to rigid physical collateral demands.

The high-level engagement culminated in the formal execution of the MoU between SCCI and EXIM Bank. Both sides registered shared confidence that the agreement will pave the way for enhanced financial inclusion, deliver pragmatic solutions to persistent export hurdles, and provide a lasting stimulus to national economic development.

Visit of

# H.E. MR. MEHMET EYMEN ŞIMŞEK

## Consul General of the Republic of Türkiye in Lahore



Reinforcing the deep-rooted historical, cultural, and strategic ties uniting Pakistan and Türkiye, the Consul General of the Republic of Türkiye in Lahore, H.E. Mr. Mehmet Eymen Şimşek, accompanied by Commercial Attaché Mr. Nurettin Demir, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on April 22, 2026. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President, warmly welcomed the visiting Turkish delegation and underscored Sialkot's substantial contributions to Pakistan's export-driven economy.

Both sides explored avenues to accelerate bilateral trade and investment, anchoring their discussions around the shared strategic objective of achieving a USD 5 billion bilateral trade volume. President Mazhar raised critical operational challenges confronting local exporters, including persistent trade deficits, elevated tariff structures on key Sialkot export sectors, and logistical hurdles encountered while handling cargo shipments through Turkish airports. Responding constructively to these concerns, the Turkish Consul General pledged enhanced administrative coordination and confirmed a willingness to facilitate case-by-case visa processing for frequent business travelers and official chamber delegations.

Expanding the economic dialogue, participants deliberated on the framework for a potential Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Pakistan and Türkiye. The Turkish Commercial Attaché clarified that while an immediate FTA is not currently under active consideration, existing bilateral trade arrangements offer a robust foundation for gradual expansion and future agreements. Furthermore, both sides emphasized the necessity of expanding Turkish foreign direct investment into promising domestic sectors such as fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) and dairy, agreeing that strengthening institutional frameworks and business-to-business (B2B) linkages will be vital to correcting trade imbalances and optimizing market access.

President Sialkot Chamber expressed sincere gratitude to the Turkish representatives for their proactive engagement and reaffirmed the Chamber's dedication to deepening commercial relations with Türkiye. In response, Consul General Şimşek commended the warm hospitality extended by SCCI and assured the local business community of his continued administrative support.



Visit of

# 39TH SENIOR MANAGEMENT COURSE DELEGATION, NIPA LAHORE




A delegation of mid-career civil officers (BPS-19) participating in the 39th Senior Management Course at the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA) Lahore visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on April 22, 2026. The session featured a comprehensive administrative briefing by Syed Ahtesham Mazhar highlighting the vital role of collaborative frameworks between state institutions and the private sector in driving sustainable economic growth.

During the interactive segment, the civil administrators engaged chamber leadership on a broad spectrum of structural and operational challenges, including the orderly relocation of manufacturing units to the Sialkot Tannery Zone, domestic market constraints, regional branding hurdles, labor welfare management, and SME access to institutional finance. President Mazhar addressed these inquiries by detailing ongoing industrial migration patterns, the scaling up of export-driven production models, and the integration of digital e-commerce platforms. Furthermore, he underscored the Chamber's proactive initiatives to bring informal labor, particularly female home-based workers, into the formal economic fold, while spotlighting Sialkot's robust social welfare footprint spanning healthcare support, educational funding, and interest-free financial assistance programs.

Mr. Yasir Iqbal Butt and the visiting NIPA delegation expressed profound appreciation for the transparency, depth of insight, and hospitality extended by SCCI, noting that the firsthand exposure significantly enriched their professional comprehension of industrial management and regional economic planning. The visit wrapped up with formal expressions of gratitude, the signing of the Chamber Visitors Book, and a ceremonial exchange of mementos to mark a successful knowledge-sharing initiative between public administrators and the business community.



Visit of

# MR. HASSAN ZULFIQAR

## Chief Commissioner (Inland Revenue) RTO Sialkot



Chief Commissioner (Inland Revenue) Mr. Hassan Zulfiqar and Additional Commissioner Mr. Shah Bahar visited Sialkot Chamber on April 29, 2026. The meeting focused on harmonizing tax administration with export facilitation, ensuring that Sialkot's vital economic contributors receive proper administrative support while upholding fiscal compliance.

Opening the substantive deliberations, President Mazhar raised serious concerns regarding recent shifts toward aggressive tax recovery practices, specifically citing the abrupt attachment of business bank accounts without adequate prior notice. Chamber members stressed that such coercive tactics severely impair commercial liquidity and erode the trust-based rapport between taxpayers and revenue bodies. Responding to these grievances, Chief Commissioner Hassan Zulfiqar acknowledged that while the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) maintains ambitious revenue collection targets for May 2026, departmental policy remains anchored in voluntary compliance. He assured delegates that punitive enforcement actions against bona fide exporters would be avoided and promised a case-by-case review of procedural anomalies to ensure statutory fairness.

The conversation then shifted to the substantial backlog of pending tax refunds and the urgent requirement for systematic adjustment mechanisms against outstanding liabilities. SCCI representatives pointed out that billions in held-up sales tax and income tax refunds continue to exert severe financial pressure on local businesses. Acknowledging this liquidity bottleneck, the Chief Commissioner advised the Chamber to compile and submit a consolidated dossier of eligible cases for liability adjustments. Furthermore, technical hurdles—such as income tax refund rejections under Rule 34 and the misapplication of Section 153 withholding tax notices to manufacturer-cum-exporters—were addressed, with Mr. Zulfiqar committing to merit-based rectifications.

It was agreed that SCCI will operate as an official liaison for complex disputes involving Super Tax under Section 4C and digital invoicing notices, resolving them amicably before any enforcement action. Mr. Zulfiqar reiterated his dedication to a transparent open-door policy, inviting direct reporting of any departmental inefficiencies, while President Mazhar commended the Chief Commissioner's professional outreach in developing a predictable, business-friendly economic environment.



Visit of

# MR. KHALID MAHMOOD TIPPU

## Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) Commissioner, Gujranwala




Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) Gujranwala Division Commissioner Mr. Khalid Mahmood Tippu visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on May 8, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar chaired the meeting, which brought together business leaders, tax consultants, and PRA officials to discuss withholding taxes, tax recovery actions, freight taxation, and compliance hurdles. Opening the session, President Mazhar welcomed the commissioner and highlighted Sialkot's export-heavy economy. He explained that local exporters frequently act as withholding agents and often deal with complex paperwork and refund delays. He requested that PRA consult with the Chamber before taking strict enforcement measures, such as freezing bank accounts. In response, Commissioner Tippu praised Sialkot's strong export performance and clarified that legal recovery steps are only used as a last resort after completing all standard departmental procedures.

During the open discussion, participants raised several specific tax concerns. They pointed out that taxes on freight services were sometimes calculated on total freight costs rather than just the actual local service portion. Other key issues included delayed tax refunds, slow e-registration processes, and confusing rules for exporters acting as withholding agents. Mr. Tippu agreed to review individual cases jointly with SCCI. He also directed PRA officers to improve communication with the Chamber by sharing relevant notices early, helping resolve problems before they escalate.

Both sides agreed to handle technical and case-specific issues through regular follow-up meetings between PRA staff and SCCI representatives. Broader policy matters—such as freight taxation rules, withholding guidelines for exporters, and airport service taxes—will be sent to PRA Headquarters for official review. The commissioner reaffirmed PRA's dedication to working closely with the business community to ensure a fair, transparent, and business-friendly tax system.



Meeting with

# MR. SHAFAY HUSSAIN CHAUDHRY

## Punjab Minister for Industries and Commerce




Punjab Minister for Industries, Commerce and Investment Mr. Shafay Hussain Chaudhry chaired a meeting on May 12, 2026, to review industrial estate governance, development reforms, and infrastructure challenges in Sialkot. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar attended via Zoom, alongside senior officials from the Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC) and representatives from industrial estates including SIE-II, SIE-III, and SIE Daska. The session focused on improving estate management, boosting the ease of doing business, and fixing long-standing operational hurdles.

A major part of the discussion covered introducing a hybrid or stakeholder-led management model for SIE-II and SIE-III. Under this plan, PSIC would shift to a regulatory role while private or stakeholder entities handle daily maintenance, utilities, and management to reduce delays. Participants also reviewed the restructuring of Export Processing Zones (EPZ), plot utilization issues, and the need for a transparent exit policy for undeveloped plots.

The meeting examined future industrial expansion needs, stressing the requirement for more land and modern infrastructure for export growth. Leaders discussed pending litigation and development delays surrounding Sialkot Surgical City, emphasizing the need for a quick resolution. Furthermore, participants raised concerns about poor roads, drainage, and utilities in existing estates, proposing engineered upgrades through close coordination between PSIC and SCCI.

Minister Shafay Hussain Chaudhry praised the feedback from stakeholders and reaffirmed the Punjab government's commitment to business-friendly reforms. Both sides agreed that PSIC and SCCI will jointly create structured proposals on governance reforms, EPZ restructuring, and infrastructure planning, ensuring ongoing teamwork for Sialkot's economic growth.

Visit of

# MR. RASHID IQBAL

## CEO Pakistan Britain Business Council (PBBC)



Pakistan Britain Business Council (PBBC) Chief Executive Officer Mr. Rashid Iqbal visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on May 12, 2026, to discuss bilateral trade and investment. He was accompanied by Director of Trade and Investment Mr. Waqar Ullah and ZANS Group CEO Mr. Adeel Khan. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar chaired the meeting and welcomed the delegation, highlighting the importance of strengthening Pakistan-UK trade ties and supporting export growth.

Mr. Rashid Iqbal thanked the Chamber for its warm hospitality and praised Sialkot's active business community. He explained that the PBBC, founded in 2002, is an independent platform that helps build trade connections through investor matchmaking, business support, and direct engagement without heavy bureaucracy. He noted that the council assists in preparing business proposals and linking institutions, enabling companies to manage projects independently afterward.

Highlighting past milestones, Mr. Iqbal shared that the PBBC helped resume Pakistani Kinnow exports to the UK after previous restrictions and worked closely with organizations like the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). He also pointed out their work in connecting local companies with international events like Bett UK, establishing regional offices in Birmingham and Glasgow, and collaborating with the Scottish Government to position Pakistan as a priority trading partner. Mr. Waqar Ullah added that the PBBC will share upcoming UK exhibition details with SCCI and help organize single-country trade shows and roadshows in the UK and Scotland. President Mazhar welcomed these initiatives, emphasizing the need for structured delegation exchanges and better market access for Sialkot exporters.

Both organizations reaffirmed their commitment to boosting bilateral trade cooperation, promoting "Made in Sialkot" branding internationally, and strengthening teamwork between SCCI and the PBBC for future trade and investment activities.



Visit of

# H.E. DR. OUMER HUSSEIN OBA

## Ethiopian Ambassador




Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Pakistan, H.E. Dr. Oumer Hussein Oba, accompanied by Ms. Kalkidan Tesdesae and their delegation, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on May 12, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, Senior Vice President Muhammad Murad Arshad, and local business leaders welcomed the visiting guests.

Opening the discussions, Mr. Muhammad Murad Arshad stated that bilateral trade between Pakistan and Ethiopia had stood at USD 52.41 million in FY 2025, which remained well below its actual capacity. He stressed that the two countries needed more frequent trade delegations, joint exhibitions, and formal memorandums of understanding. He also noted that engaging through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) would help unlock new export opportunities for Sialkot's key manufacturing sectors, including surgical instruments, sports goods, leather products, and textiles.

In response, Ambassador Dr. Oumer Hussein Oba praised Sialkot's strong industrial base and its unique self-sustained business model. He described Ethiopia as an emerging investment destination in Africa, pointing out that it offered supportive economic reforms, affordable energy, and a large, trainable workforce. He highlighted that diverse investment opportunities existed across agriculture, manufacturing, information and communication technology (ICT), logistics, mining, tourism, and renewable energy. Furthermore, he explained that Ethiopia provided strategic access to a broader continental market of over 1.4 billion people through AfCFTA.

Adding to the presentation, Ms. Kalkidan Tesdesae briefed members on Ethiopia's modern industrial parks, cost-effective skilled labor, and specialized vocational training systems designed to support the textile and manufacturing industries.

Concluding the visit, SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar thanked the ambassador and his team, reaffirming the Chamber's commitment to building strong trade, investment, and industrial partnerships with Ethiopia.



Visit of

# H.E. MS. HARERIMANA FATOU

## Rwandan High Commissioner



High Commissioner of Rwanda to Pakistan, H.E. Harerimana Fatou, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on May 20, 2026, to explore and strengthen bilateral trade. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar chaired the meeting, welcoming the High Commissioner alongside Mr. Kwibuka Esdras, Head of Finance and Trade, and accompanying officials.

In his opening remarks, President Mazhar stated that bilateral trade between Pakistan and Rwanda had reached approximately USD 39.58 million in FY 2025, which remained well below its actual potential. He emphasized the need to turn this goodwill into practical economic results by signing formal Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between SCCI and Rwandan trade organizations.

High Commissioner Fatou thanked the Chamber for its warm hospitality and described Rwanda as a key gateway to the East African Community (EAC) and AfCFTA markets. She highlighted Rwanda's business-friendly policies, strict anti-corruption standards, and strong ease-of-doing-business ranking. She also invited the Sialkot business community to attend the Pakistan–Rwanda Business Forum in Kigali in September 2026 and encouraged investments in Rwanda's special economic zones, housing, and infrastructure projects.

During the briefing, Mr. Kwibuka Esdras presented Rwanda's Vision 2050 and National Strategy for Transformation. He outlined major investment opportunities in logistics, aviation, agriculture, and innovation hubs such as Kigali Innovation City and Bugesera International Airport. He also noted that Rwanda provided a fast business registration system, a duty-free investment framework, and full repatriation of capital and profits.

In the interactive session, participants discussed trade logistics, shipping routes, and operating costs. Local business leaders proposed boosting cooperation in key Sialkot sectors like sports goods, surgical instruments, and leather products. SCCI Vice President Salman Sheikh closed the discussion by proposing a structured framework featuring MoUs and regular B2B matchmaking sessions. The meeting ended with an exchange of souvenirs and a vote of thanks.



Visit of

# BRIG. WAQAR KHAN

## Station Commander Sialkot Cantt



Station Commander Sialkot Cantt Brig. Waqar Khan and Cantonment Board Chief Executive Officer Mr. Naveed Nawaz Naul visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) for a meeting chaired by SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar. The session focused on civic administration, infrastructure issues, public facilitation, and strengthening coordination between military authorities, the Cantonment Board, and the business community. President Mazhar welcomed the officials, praised the armed forces for ensuring national security, and acknowledged positive steps like the E-Tag system at Sarosh Check Post.

During the opening remarks, President Mazhar raised several civic and administrative concerns faced by chamber members residing in the Cantonment area. These included security clearance procedures for foreign visitors, building plan approvals, membership renewals for recreational facilities, and the provision of essential civic amenities. He suggested improving administrative processes through digitalization, time-bound clearances, and the decentralization of certain approvals to improve the ease of doing business.

Brig. Waqar Khan thanked the business community for contributing to Sialkot's development and assured full cooperation in resolving civic issues. He highlighted ongoing work to upgrade infrastructure, improve drainage systems, and prepare for monsoon floods. Cantonment Board CEO Mr. Naveed Nawaz Naul then shared recent service delivery reforms, including reduced building plan approval timelines, better tax compliance, road maintenance, sanitation upgrades, and the introduction of digital complaint handling through the CBCARE app.

During the open discussion, SCCI members raised specific problems related to traffic management, sewer blockages, water quality, park maintenance, and civic infrastructure. The Station Commander and CEO responded to these concerns, promising to tackle sewerage upgrades, road safety measures, and waste management through coordinated planning. The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to maintain close cooperation between SCCI, the Cantonment Board, and garrison authorities for sustainable urban development.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. TIMOTHY KANE

## Australian High Commissioner



On June 03, 2026, His Excellency Mr. Timothy Kane, Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President of SCCI, extended a warm welcome to the High Commissioner and Mr. Azhar Shah, Director of Trade and Education at the Australian High Commission. In his address, the President stated that Sialkot served as Pakistan's export capital, with annual exports exceeding USD 2.63 billion, and emphasized that immense potential existed for expanding exports of surgical instruments, sports goods, textiles, leather products, and protective apparel to the Australian market. He also proposed that bilateral cooperation be strengthened through business matchmaking, the exchange of trade delegations, regulatory collaboration, improved market access, and the facilitation of business visas.

His Excellency Mr. Timothy Kane appreciated SCCI's remarkable contribution to Pakistan's economy and praised Sialkot's globally recognized manufacturing capabilities, particularly noting its production of nearly 70% of the world's footballs. He described Australia as a high-value market that offered significant opportunities for Pakistani exporters and expressed his long-term vision of launching direct non-stop flights between Pakistan and Australia to enhance trade connectivity. The High Commissioner also highlighted the growing bilateral relationship in education, agriculture, livestock, food security, and research, while emphasizing that the 145,000-strong Pakistani diaspora in Australia played an important role in creating new business opportunities for Sialkot's exporters. Furthermore, he encouraged local manufacturers to explore investment opportunities in Australia as a gateway to regional and international markets.

During the interactive session, extensive discussions took place regarding trade promotion, investment prospects, visa facilitation, and industrial collaboration. Members of SCCI proposed that "Made in Pakistan" exhibitions be organized in Australia, visa procedures be simplified for genuine businessmen, information on Australian trade fairs be shared, and direct business-to-business engagement be promoted through regular virtual meetings. Representatives of the Australian High Commission assured their full cooperation in facilitating trade linkages, connecting Pakistani businesses with relevant Australian institutions, and sharing information on exhibitions and investment opportunities. They also advised exporters to ensure complete and relevant documentation for visa applications to minimize unnecessary delays and refusals.

Concluding the meeting, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening Pakistan-Australia economic relations through sustained engagement and institutional collaboration. They agreed that enhanced communication between SCCI, Austrade, and Australian business organizations, coupled with regular virtual B2B sessions, trade delegations, and stronger commercial partnerships, would help unlock new opportunities for exporters, reduce the existing trade imbalance, and further deepen the long-standing relationship between the two countries.

Visit of

# H.E. MS. MARY O'NEILL

## Irish Ambassador



A meeting was held on June 9, 2026, on the occasion of the visit of Her Excellency Mary O'Neill, Ambassador of Ireland to Pakistan, to the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President of SCCI, warmly welcomed the Ambassador and her delegation, highlighting the growing strength of Pakistan-Ireland relations following the establishment of Ireland's resident embassy in Islamabad. He underscored Sialkot's substantial contribution to Pakistan's exports and proposed closer collaboration through trade delegations, business forums, and a formal Memorandum of Understanding with an Irish chamber to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

In her address, Her Excellency Mary O'Neill praised Sialkot's globally recognized manufacturing excellence and noted that many iconic Irish products—including sporting goods, musical instruments, and garments—were manufactured in the city. She described Ireland as a knowledge-based economy and highlighted the country's core strengths in technology, financial services, pharmaceuticals, and medical technology. Stressing the vast potential for stronger commercial ties, she welcomed the establishment of the Pakistan-Ireland Business Council (PIBC) and expressed her interest in developing closer business linkages between Irish enterprises and Sialkot's export-oriented industries.

During the interactive session, participants focused on expanding cooperation in trade, investment, women's entrepreneurship, education, healthcare, and business connectivity. Representatives of SCCI and the Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot emphasized the need for greater collaboration, inward trade missions, and stronger institutional partnerships, while also raising concerns regarding business visa facilitation for Pakistani entrepreneurs. The Ambassador acknowledged these concerns and assured the participants that the business community's feedback would be conveyed to the relevant authorities in Ireland.

The meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment of both sides to strengthening economic cooperation, promoting direct business partnerships, and building a long-term strategic relationship between the business communities of Pakistan and Ireland.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. PIERRE JORDAAN

## Acting South African High Commissioner



His Excellency Mr. Pierre Jordaan, Acting High Commissioner of South Africa to Pakistan, accompanied by Mr. Brian Witbooi, Counsellor, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) on June 10, 2026. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President of SCCI, warmly welcomed the distinguished delegation and highlighted the significance of Pakistan's Look Africa Initiative in strengthening bilateral trade and investment.

He also presented an overview of Sialkot's dynamic export-oriented SME sector, its globally recognized manufacturing industries, and the business community's successful public-private initiatives, which included Sialkot International Airport, AirSial, and the Sialkot Dry Port Trust.

His Excellency Mr. Pierre Jordaan shared an overview of South Africa's economy, investment climate, and growing trade relations with Pakistan. He described South Africa as a strategic gateway to the African continent through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and highlighted promising opportunities in green hydrogen, automotive manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, mining, agriculture, chemicals, and agro-processing. Furthermore, he encouraged Pakistani businesses to explore these sectors and emphasized the importance of expanding commercial cooperation between the two countries.

During the interactive session, members of the Sialkot business community discussed several issues relating to business visas, the registration of medical devices, government procurement procedures, import tariffs, and market access. The delegation explained the relevant regulatory frameworks and encouraged Pakistani companies to establish partnerships with South African firms to benefit from procurement opportunities and facilitate market entry. Participants also highlighted that significant untapped potential existed for increasing direct exports from Sialkot to South Africa, particularly in sports goods, surgical instruments, leather products, and other value-added manufacturing sectors.

Concluding the meeting, both sides agreed on the importance of strengthening institutional collaboration and promoting direct business-to-business engagement. The Acting High Commissioner proposed that SCCI organize a trade delegation to South Africa to explore new commercial opportunities, while the South African High Commission assured its support in facilitating B2B meetings and business networking. The meeting concluded with the exchange of souvenirs and a reaffirmation of the mutual commitment to enhancing bilateral trade, investment, and long-term cooperation between the business communities of Pakistan and South Africa.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. TITUS M. J. ABU-BASUTU

## Ambassador of the Republic of Zimbabwe



A meeting was held on June 15, 2026, during the visit of His Excellency Titus M. J. Abu-Basutu, Ambassador of the Republic of Zimbabwe to Pakistan, accompanied by Mr. Webster T. Jiangwa, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, to the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President of SCCI, warmly welcomed the guests and highlighted the long-standing friendly relations between Pakistan and Zimbabwe. He pointed out that bilateral trade potential remained largely untapped and proposed stronger cooperation through trade delegations, business-to-business meetings, trade exhibitions, and a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Zimbabwean trade organizations. He also briefed the delegation on Sialkot's export-driven industrial base and its globally recognized manufacturing sectors.

In his address, His Excellency Titus M. J. Abu-Basutu thanked the Chamber for its hospitality and reaffirmed Zimbabwe's dedication to boosting economic, commercial, cultural, and tourism ties with Pakistan. He outlined Zimbabwe's economic landscape, highlighting investment prospects in manufacturing, agriculture, mining, tourism, and infrastructure development. Furthermore, he introduced key trade exhibitions held in Zimbabwe, emphasizing the country's strategic position in Southern Africa, strong transport connections, and investor-friendly policies, including opportunities in special economic zones (SEZs) and public-private partnership projects.

During the interactive session, members of the Sialkot business community discussed practical steps for trade expansion, touching on visa facilitation, market access, procurement, importer linkages, digital tender participation, and the export of surgical instruments, sports goods, leather products, and medical devices. The Ambassador assured participants of the Embassy's full support in facilitating business delegations, building ties with key Zimbabwean trade organizations, and connecting Sialkot exporters with relevant regulatory authorities and investment agencies.

Concluding the meeting, both sides expressed confidence that closer institutional engagement and regular trade delegations would significantly strengthen economic relations between Pakistan and Zimbabwe. The Ambassador encouraged SCCI to stay in close contact with the Embassy for upcoming initiatives, and the session ended with a shared commitment to explore new trade and investment opportunities for the mutual benefit of both countries.



Visit of

# H.E. REAR ADMIRAL FRED SENEVIRATHNE (R)

## Sri Lankan High Commissioner



High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Pakistan, H.E. Rear Admiral Fred Senevirathne (Retd.), accompanied by Deputy Head of Mission Mr. A. Christy Ruban, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) on June 16, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar warmly welcomed the guests, highlighting the long-standing friendly relations between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. He noted that bilateral trade had significant room for growth and proposed boosting cooperation through trade delegations, single-country exhibitions, B2B networking, and easier business visas. He also showcased Sialkot's export-driven economy and its major public-private projects, such as Sialkot International Airport, the Sialkot Dry Port, and AirSial.

In his address, High Commissioner Fred Senevirathne outlined Sri Lanka's economic recovery, improved investment climate, and strategic location along major shipping lanes. He pointed out investment prospects in textiles, apparel, electronics, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, tourism, IT services, and light engineering. He also highlighted the country's educated workforce, modern infrastructure, Export Processing Zones (EPZs), and attractive incentives for foreign investors, encouraging Pakistani businesses to explore these opportunities.

During the interactive session, Sialkot business leaders discussed several practical matters, including apparel partnerships, business visa procedures, tariff barriers under the Pakistan–Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (FTA), and regulatory requirements for surgical instruments and healthcare procurement. The Sri Lankan delegation promised full support in facilitating trade delegations, sharing business directories, promoting upcoming trade exhibitions, and helping businesses make better use of the bilateral FTA.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening economic ties through ongoing communication and private-sector cooperation. The High Commissioner strongly supported a proposal to organize regular virtual B2B matchmaking sessions between SCCI and Sri Lankan trade groups, promising assistance in connecting exporters with potential buyers. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks and a shared dedication to expanding long-term trade and investment.



Visit of

# CAPT. (R) DOST MUHAMMAD

## District Police Officer (DPO) Sialkot




District Police Officer (DPO) Sialkot, Capt. (Retd.) Dost Muhammad, along with PERA Force In-charge Ms. Arbab Saeed, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) on June 22, 2026. SCCI President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar chaired the meeting, warmly welcoming the police officials and highlighting the importance of close cooperation between the business community and law enforcement to maintain peace, improve traffic, and support Sialkot's export industries.

During the discussion, President Mazhar raised key concerns affecting local businesses, including traffic congestion, rising road accidents, worker verification, and overall policing needs. He proposed that financial disputes involving bounced cheques should be referred to SCCI for mediation before registering First Information Reports (FIRs). In response, DPO Capt. (Retd.) Dost Muhammad assured participants of the police department's full commitment to protecting citizens, improving public services, and working closely with the Chamber. He welcomed the suggestion to resolve suitable business disputes through SCCI mediation.

The open session focused on practical ways to enhance road safety and traffic management. Participants discussed better parking management around schools, drainage repairs ahead of the monsoon season, and stricter enforcement of traffic laws. The DPO promised to take these concerns up with relevant authorities and praised the Chamber's support for public safety, awareness campaigns, and worker verification drives.

The meeting also reviewed the progress of the Export Cargo Facilitation Project, a joint initiative by SCCI and the police designed to ensure the uninterrupted transport of export goods during emergencies or traffic disruptions. Attendees recommended involving the DSP Traffic in future committee meetings to improve inter-departmental coordination. The session concluded with a vote of thanks and a shared commitment to strengthening law and order while supporting the business community.



Visit of

# BRIG. SAAD ULLAH ABBASI

## Commandant CMH Sialkot




A meeting with Brig. Saad Ullah Abbasi, Commandant CMH Sialkot, was held at the Sialkot Chamber on July 1, 2026. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI, who warmly welcomed the Commandant and thanked him for visiting the Chamber. He appreciated the invaluable contributions of the Pakistan Armed Forces to the nation and acknowledged CMH Sialkot's commitment to serving both the community and the business sector. He also highlighted the Chamber's welfare initiatives, including tree plantation campaigns and public water filtration projects, and emphasized the growing incidence of cancer in the region. In this regard, he requested CMH Sialkot to share age-wise preventive health screening guidelines for circulation among Chamber members. He further proposed the restoration of a dedicated CMH Health Card for SCCI members to facilitate priority OPD consultations, diagnostic services, and treatment through a corporate account, suggesting that a single card should also cover registered family members.

In his address, Brig. Saad Ullah Abbasi thanked the President and members of the Chamber for their warm welcome and appreciated the business community's significant contribution to Pakistan's economic development. He explained that CMH Sialkot operates under a dual healthcare model, providing medical services to both entitled military personnel and civilian patients, while revenue generated through private practice is reinvested in hospital development and staff welfare. He highlighted the hospital's strong focus on preventive healthcare, particularly cancer screening programmes, and noted that comprehensive oncology treatment requires highly specialized facilities. Regarding the proposed CMH Health Card, he suggested establishing a dedicated Helpdesk and introducing a digital "SCCI Tag" within the hospital's reception system to ensure priority services for Chamber members. He also informed the participants that CMH already provides corporate healthcare services to several leading organizations and that implementation of a similar arrangement for SCCI members would require formal approval from GHQ. Additionally, he shared that CMH had requested greater flexibility in OPD charges to better reflect local market conditions while maintaining high standards of quality assurance and clinical care.

During the discussion, participants proposed interim priority services for SCCI members through Chamber identification cards and emphasized the need to restore the Health Card programme. Members also raised concerns regarding physiotherapy charges, medicine shortages, waiting times, doctor-patient communication, and the importance of affordable and ethical healthcare. The Commandant assured the participants that their recommendations would be carefully considered and reaffirmed CMH's commitment to strengthening collaboration with the Chamber. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Visit of

# MR. MUHAMMAD HAFEEZULLAH

## CEO / Senior G.M, Pakistan Railways



The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) hosted Mr. Muhammad Hafeezullah, CEO / Senior General Manager, Pakistan Railways, along with his senior management team on July 13, 2026, to explore opportunities for strengthening rail-based transportation for the export sector. Welcoming the delegation, President SCCI Syed Ahtesham Mazhar emphasized the strategic importance of Pakistan Railways in promoting trade, industry, and exports, describing rail transport as one of the safest, most economical, and environmentally sustainable modes of cargo movement. He highlighted Sialkot's significance as a leading export hub and expressed confidence that reliable rail cargo services between Karachi ports and Sialkot would reduce logistics costs, improve supply chain efficiency, and enhance the global competitiveness of Pakistani exporters. In response, Mr. Muhammad Hafeezullah shared Pakistan Railways' achievements in freight operations during FY 2025-26 and reaffirmed the organization's commitment to developing market-driven logistics solutions in close collaboration with the business community.

During the meeting, Pakistan Railways presented its future freight business strategy, highlighting expansion plans, container transportation services, public-private partnership opportunities, and ongoing modernization projects aimed at improving efficiency and reducing transportation costs. Members of the business community proposed several initiatives, including the introduction of dependable rail freight services for exporters, establishment of a regional logistics hub at Wazirabad to serve the industrial clusters of Sialkot, Gujrat, and Gujranwala, and improved handling of bonded and non-bonded cargo. Additional proposals included launching a passenger shuttle service between Pasrur, Sambrial, and Sialkot, fencing railway tracks in densely populated areas to enhance public safety, beautification of railway land, and the development of a sports arena on non-commercial railway property. The Pakistan Railways delegation responded positively to these suggestions and assured participants that each proposal would be examined in accordance with operational feasibility and applicable policies.

Following detailed discussions, both sides agreed to strengthen institutional collaboration for promoting rail-based transportation of import and export cargo. Pakistan Railways agreed to examine the feasibility of establishing the proposed logistics hub at Wazirabad, evaluate dedicated bonded and non-bonded container handling facilities, and consider the introduction of passenger shuttle services and railway safety improvements. It was further decided that a joint working committee comprising representatives of Pakistan Railways and the Sialkot business community would prepare practical recommendations within fifteen days, while SCCI would share cargo volume and trade data to assess the commercial viability of dedicated freight services. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the President of SCCI, who expressed optimism that the constructive dialogue would lead to practical initiatives for reducing logistics costs, improving transportation efficiency, and enhancing Pakistan's export competitiveness.

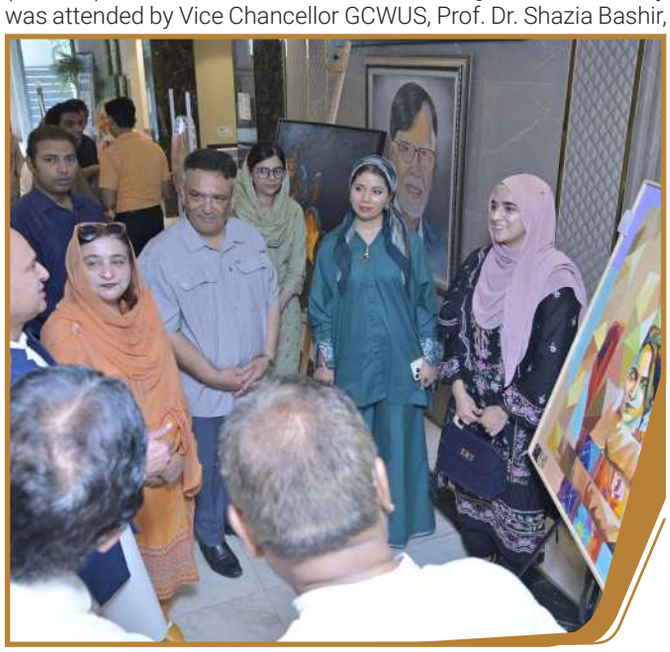
## Thesis Display 2026

# ORGANIZED BY GOVT. COLLEGE WOMEN UNIVERSITY SIALKOT

## In Collaboration with the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry



On July 08, 2026 , The President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI), Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, inaugurated the Thesis Display 2026 organized by the Department of Art & Design, Government College Women University Sialkot (GCWUS), in collaboration with SCCI. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Vice Chancellor GCWUS, Prof. Dr. Shazia Bashir, Vice President SCCI Mr. Salman Majeed Sheikh, Members of the SCCI Executive Committee, former Office Bearers, distinguished faculty members, and representatives from the local business community. The two-day exhibition, held on July 08–09, 2026, at the SCCI premises, showcased the final-year thesis projects of the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) students, featuring an impressive







collection of creative works that reflected artistic excellence, innovation, and practical design capabilities. Speaking on the occasion, President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar appreciated the remarkable talent and creativity demonstrated by the young artists, emphasizing that stronger collaboration between academia and industry is essential for fostering innovation, promoting creative entrepreneurship, and creating meaningful opportunities for emerging professionals. He reaffirmed SCCI's commitment to providing platforms that bridge educational institutions with the industrial sector, enabling students to gain greater exposure to market needs and commercial opportunities, while the exhibition remained open to visitors across both days, offering members of the business community, academia, and the general public an opportunity to witness the exceptional artistic and design work produced by the students of GC Women University Sialkot.



Visit of

# MR. AHMED ANWAR

## Deputy Director, Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA)




A meeting with the delegation of the Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) was held at the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) on July 17, 2026. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI, who warmly welcomed the distinguished RUDA delegation and expressed his sincere appreciation for their visit. He noted that such interactions play an important role in strengthening cooperation between public institutions and the business community. He then invited Mr. Ahmed Anwar, Deputy Director, RUDA, to brief the participants on the Authority's ongoing and future development initiatives.

During the presentation, the RUDA delegation explained that stakeholder consultation and continuous engagement with the business community remain central to the Authority's development strategy. A comprehensive overview was given of RUDA's master plan to transform the Ravi River corridor into a modern and environmentally sustainable city spread over approximately 14,000 acres, featuring a 46-kilometre riverfront. The delegation highlighted that the project is designed to ease the population burden on Lahore while improving connectivity with major industrial hubs, including Sialkot and Gujranwala. Participants were also informed about the flood mitigation measures under the Ravi City Project, including 46 Km of river channelization and embankments, of which around 18 Km have already been completed, as well as a 17-kilometre commercial road and several bridges aimed at enhancing regional connectivity.

The delegation further introduced RUDA's flagship Chahar Bagh Project and its newly launched farmhouse development on Kala Khatai Road. It was explained that the Chahar Bagh Project places strong emphasis on transparency, secure legal documentation, and timely possession for investors. The farmhouse project, exclusively presented to the Sialkot business community, offers modern infrastructure, wide access roads, commercial facilities, utility services, and convenient installment plans, making it an attractive investment opportunity for prospective buyers.

The meeting concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session. Mr. Touheed Akhtar, Former Mayor of Sialkot, proposed that RUDA allocate land to SCCI under a collaborative development model similar to the successful Sialkot International Airport initiative, a proposal that was appreciated by the RUDA delegation for further discussion. Mr. Khawar Anwar Khawaja, Former President SCCI, inquired about preferential pricing for Chamber members, to which the delegation responded that while public rates remain standardized, possible dealer rebates or other incentives for the Sialkot business community would be explored. In response to questions regarding land acquisition, the delegation clarified that land is acquired from private owners at fair market value without resorting to compulsory acquisition. It was also emphasized that all revenues generated from RUDA projects are reinvested in sustainable infrastructure development. At the close of the session, commemorative shields were presented to the visiting delegation, followed by an exchange of contact information to strengthen future collaboration.

Visit of

# MR. UMAR NAWAZ

## Regional Director, PSIC



A delegation from the Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC), led by Mr. Umar Nawaz, Regional Director, along with Mr. Hafiz Saleem Arshad, Deputy Director, and Mr. Israr Anjum, DDO, visited the Sialkot Chamber on July 17, 2026 to discuss the establishment of new Small Industrial Estates in Sialkot. The meeting commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran and was chaired by Mr. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI, who welcomed the delegation and emphasized the urgent need for developing new industrial estates. He pointed out that, due to the lack of planned industrial zones, several industrial clusters had emerged within the city and were facing serious infrastructure challenges, particularly in sewerage, roads, and electricity. He suggested either formally notifying these clusters as industrial zones or providing them with dedicated infrastructure.

During the discussion, Dr. Aslam Dar, Former President SCCI, proposed adopting a flexible "plug-and-play" model for the new industrial estates to accommodate diversified industries instead of sector-specific zoning. He also recommended developing multiple small industrial estates of 50–100 acres along major roads, particularly near the proposed Sialkot Ring Road, to improve accessibility, reduce urban congestion, and create employment opportunities closer to local communities. In response, Mr. Umar Nawaz appreciated these proposals, referred to similar successful models in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and stated that PSIC would examine the legal provisions of the PSIC Act, 1973 regarding their implementation in Punjab.

It was further agreed that SCCI and PSIC would jointly identify technically suitable and economically viable land, preferably along the proposed Ring Road. Mr. Umar Nawaz requested SCCI to nominate industrialists from the respective localities to assist in the land identification process, while President Syed Ahtesham Mazhar and Dr. Aslam Dar assured the delegation of the Chamber's full cooperation. SCCI agreed to formally communicate the proposed locations and nominate focal persons to facilitate the initiative. The meeting concluded with an exchange of thanks, reaffirming both organizations' commitment to promoting planned industrial development in Sialkot.



79th

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

## of Pakistan




On August 14, 2026, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) celebrated the 79th Independence Day of Pakistan with great enthusiasm and patriotism. Office Bearers, Executive Committee members, and representatives of the business community gathered at the Chamber to celebrate this important national occasion with unity and national pride.

The Independence Day ceremony began with the hoisting of the National Flag. President SCCI Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, Senior Vice President Mr. Mohammad Murad Arshad, Vice President Mr. Salman Sheikh, and members of the Chamber participated in the flag-hoisting ceremony, reflecting their commitment to the country and its progress.

79th

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

## of Pakistan

Following the flag hoisting, the Office Bearers and Executive Committee members participated in a cake-cutting ceremony. The ceremony was a symbol of celebration and also highlighted the Chamber's continued commitment to the progress, prosperity, and development of Pakistan.







## Distribution Ceremony of Worker Welfare Grants Cheques

# MR. MANSHA ALLAH BUTT

## Provincial Minister for Labour & Human Resources, & Chairman Governing Body, PESSI




The Directorate of Labour Welfare, Sialkot Region, in collaboration with the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI), organized a ceremony for the distribution of worker welfare grants on Monday, 24 August 2026, at the SCCI Auditorium. The ceremony was held to provide financial assistance to registered industrial workers and their families under the Punjab Workers Welfare Funds, Government of Punjab. Cheques amounting to Rs. 165 million were distributed under the categories of Marriage Grants, Death Grants and Talent Scholarships.

The ceremony was graced by Mr. Mansha Allah Butt, Provincial Minister for Labour & Human Resources, Punjab and Chairman Governing Body, PESSI, as Chief Guest/Guest of Honour. Other distinguished guests included Mr. Tariq Subhani, MPA and Chairman PLRA; Mr. Faisal Ikram, MPA; Mr. Danish Afzal, Secretary Labour & Human Resource Department, Punjab; Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Kharral, Commissioner PESSI; Mr. Mujtaba Arafat Khan, Secretary Punjab Workers Welfare Board; Ms. Syeda Kulsoom Haye, Director General Labour Welfare Department, along with Mr. Syed Ehtisham Mazhar, President SCCI, and Executive Members of the Chamber.

The proceedings commenced with a welcome address by the President SCCI, who thanked the Provincial Minister, senior government officials and representatives of the Labour Welfare Department for attending the ceremony. He also expressed appreciation to the Directorate of Labour Welfare and Punjab Workers Welfare Board for selecting SCCI as the venue for the important welfare initiative.

In his address, the President highlighted the vital contribution of industrial workers to Sialkot's export-oriented economy. Referring to them as "Golden Workers," he emphasized that their hard work, dedication and skills are central to the city's international reputation for quality products and its contribution to Pakistan's foreign exchange earnings. He also acknowledged the welfare initiatives of the Government of Punjab, particularly those aimed at improving the living standards of low-income communities, and stressed that



## Distribution Ceremony of Worker Welfare Grants Cheques

# MR. MANSHA ALLAH BUTT

### Provincial Minister for Labour & Human Resources, & Chairman Governing Body, PESSI




dignified housing should be an important component of worker welfare.

The President particularly called for the establishment of a second Labour Colony in Sialkot to meet the housing needs of the city's growing industrial workforce. He proposed considering 30 acres out of the 207 acres of government land earmarked for low-cost housing near existing and future industrial clusters, or alternatively 29 acres on Pasrur Road opposite SPS. He further recommended a vertical housing model to accommodate a larger number of workers while ensuring adequate provision for parks, community centres, mosques, dispensaries and other essential facilities.



He also highlighted the significant contribution of Sialkot's registered workers to social security collections and requested clear guidance from district labour authorities regarding the Punjab Labour Code (PLC) 2026, enabling industrial employers to ensure compliance with the new legislation with the facilitation of SCCI.

During the ceremony, cheques totaling Rs. 165 million were distributed among eligible registered workers and their families. The financial assistance included marriage grants, death grants for families of deceased workers and talent scholarships to support the education of workers' children. The beneficiaries appreciated the initiative, which provides meaningful assistance for important family and educational needs.

The ceremony reaffirmed the shared commitment of the Punjab Government, Labour Department, Punjab Workers Welfare Board, PESSI and SCCI towards improving the welfare and living standards of industrial workers. The President SCCI expressed hope that the event would lead to concrete progress on the proposed second Labour Colony and further strengthen worker welfare initiatives in Sialkot.

The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks and the dignified and orderly distribution of cheques among the beneficiaries.

Visit of

# DR. HAFIZ AZIZ UR REHMAN

## Chairman, Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-PAKISTAN)




The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI), in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan), organized an awareness session on "Importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for Trade Development" on 31 August 2026 at the Chamber premises. The session was aimed at enhancing awareness among the business community regarding the protection and commercial utilization of intellectual assets, particularly Trademarks, Geographical Indications (GIs), Patents, Industrial Designs and Copyrights.

The session was attended by Dr. Hafiz Aziz ur Rehman, Chairman, IPO-Pakistan, who highlighted the importance of intellectual property protection in promoting innovation, strengthening businesses and supporting trade development. Mr. Nauman Aslam, Director General, IPO-Pakistan, also addressed the participants, while Mr. Muhammad Ismail, Director, IPO-Pakistan, delivered a detailed technical presentation covering the registration and protection of various forms of intellectual property and their relevance to export competitiveness.

Particular emphasis was placed on the Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC) at SCCI, established in collaboration with IPO-Pakistan and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Participants were briefed on the services available through TISC to support SMEs, startups, researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs in protecting, managing and deriving commercial value from their intellectual property.

An interactive question-and-answer session provided participants with an opportunity to seek practical guidance from IPO-Pakistan officials on registration, protection, enforcement and available institutional support. The discussion also highlighted the potential of Geographical Indications as a tool for promoting distinctive Sialkot products in international markets.

The session provided a valuable platform for strengthening the understanding of IPRs among Sialkot's export-oriented business community and enhanced direct engagement between businesses and the relevant federal institution. IPO-Pakistan also acknowledged Sialkot's significance as a major business and innovation hub and encouraged the local business community to make greater use of TISC and other available intellectual property support services.



Visit of

# H.E. MR. TARIK ALI KHAN

## High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan



On September 01, 2026, The High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan, H.E. Tarik Ali Khan, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) and held an interactive session with the business community on bilateral trade, investment, and diplomatic cooperation. Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI, welcomed the High Commissioner and his delegation. The President highlighted that Sialkot generates over US$2.63 billion in annual exports, covering surgical instruments, sports goods, leather garments, apparel, and personal protective equipment. Referring to Global Affairs Canada data, he noted that bilateral merchandise trade reached CAD 1.4 billion in 2025, including CAD 499.7 million in Canadian exports to Pakistan and CAD 696 million in Pakistani exports to Canada. Emphasizing Canada's efforts to diversify its international trade beyond the United States, the President stated that Sialkot offers strong direct manufacturing and supply-chain capabilities. He highlighted the significant untapped potential in surgical and medical instruments, noting that Pakistan currently exports only US$4.51 million in this sector to Canada against a Canadian import market exceeding US$4.3 billion. He requested the Trade Commissioner, Mr. Zohaib Khan, to facilitate direct B2B linkages between Sialkot manufacturers and Canadian hospitals, distributors, procurement boards, and healthcare buying groups. The President also informed the delegation about SCCI's self-financed surgical sector trade delegation to Canada, supported by TDAP and the Pakistan Consulate in Toronto. He raised concerns over lengthy visa processing times and requested a dedicated visa facilitation mechanism or focal person for Chamber-vetted business travelers. Highlighting Sialkot's private-sector infrastructure, he mentioned Sialkot International Airport, AirSial and Sialkot Dry Port, and proudly noted that Trionda, the official match ball of the FIFA World Cup 2026, was produced in Sialkot.

H.E. Tarik Ali Khan expressed appreciation for the warm reception and emphasized that trade diversification with Asia is a strategic priority for Canada. He highlighted Pakistan's large consumer market of over 250 million people and Canada's access to the wider North American market. He also noted the strong people-to-people relationship, including over 300,000 Canadians of Pakistani origin and approximately 9,000 Pakistani students studying in Canada annually. The High Commissioner announced that negotiations on the Foreign Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement (FIPPA/Bilateral Investment Treaty) are progressing, with the third round scheduled in Islamabad next month. He identified several promising areas for bilateral cooperation, including agriculture and agri-food, dairy processing, cattle genetics, meat value addition, critical minerals and mining, renewable energy, solar and hydropower, and small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs). In the apparel, footwear and uniforms sector, he encouraged Pakistani manufacturers to target Canadian athletic and lifestyle brands, footwear retailers, and procurement opportunities for military and police uniform accessories, including the Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP.

Addressing visa concerns, the High Commissioner advised genuine business applicants to submit comprehensive financial and institutional documentation and coordinate applications through the Trade Commissioner Service and SCCI reference channels. Mr. Zohaib Khan, Trade Commissioner, High Commission of Canada, encouraged Sialkot businesses to use Canada as a gateway to the broader North American market. He stated that Pakistani entrepreneurs can establish a Canadian corporate entity online from Pakistan and offered Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) support in connecting SCCI members with Canadian provincial authorities, chambers, municipal bodies, banks, and business networks. He also clarified that Pakistani entrepreneurs legally residing in the United States can apply for Canadian business visas online without returning to Pakistan.

# SEMINARS & CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES 2025-26

As part of our ongoing commitment to the professional development and capacity building of our members, SCCI has organized a series of informative seminars and sessions throughout the year. These initiatives aim to provide valuable insights, enhance knowledge, and address current issues that impact our members and the broader community. By facilitating these educational opportunities, we strive to empower our members with the latest information and tools needed to excel in their respective fields.

**This year, we successfully arranged the following seminars:**

1. Awareness Seminar on Normal Tax Regime for Exporters held on September 22, 2025
2. Awareness session on Kuwait Pakistan Expo held on October 14, 2025
3. Seminar on "Chief Minister Assan Karobar Program" held on October 22, 2025
4. Awareness Session on Improvement in Filling Goods Declaration held on October 23, 2025
5. Awareness Session on Digital Invoicing-Registration & Integration held on November 03, 2025
6. Interactive Session on Consumer Rights under the Punjab Consumer Protection Act 2005 held on November 05, 2025
7. CTI Summit 2025, at Serena Hotel, Islamabad held on November 13, 2025
8. Health Awareness Sessions held on November 13, & November 20, 2025
9. Awareness Session on Workers Welfare Fund and Minimum Wages held on November 21, 2025
10. Awareness Session on Islamic Banking held on November 24, 2025
11. Seminar on Export Awareness & Global Opportunities held on November 25, 2025
12. Seminar on "Empowering SMEs for Global Trade & E- Commerce through DHL Solutions held on December 04, 2025
13. Seminar on Cardiovascular Health held on January 03, 2026
14. Seminar on Breaking Barriers in Export for Women Entrepreneurs held on January 07, 2026
15. Seminar on Digital Presence & Brand Management held on January 09, 2026
16. Seminar on Compliance requirements under Normal Tax Regime held on January 13, 2026
17. Seminar on AI & GENAI for Business Executives held on January 26, 2026
18. Seminar on Rebuilding Beauty Exports in the Digital Era held on January 27, 2026
19. Seminar on Business to Consumer E-Commerce Export held on February 09, 2026
20. Seminar on Export Facilitation Scheme held on February 10, 2026
21. Seminar on AI for Export Sales & Marketing held on February 11, 2026
22. Seminar on Digital Export Acceleration B2B, Meta Ads & Social Media Marketing for Global Business Growth held on February 16, 2026

# SEMINARS & CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES 2025-26

23. Seminar on The Missing Link in Industry-Academia for Global Growth and Lessons from China held on February 18, 2026
24. Seminar on Hidden Beauty of Sialkot organized by the Departmental Committee on Sialkot Culture, Tourism, & Archaeology held on April 17, 2026
25. Seminar on Sustainability, Accounting System and ERP held on April 20, 2026
26. Seminar on Promoting Tax Culture and Awareness held on April 21, 2026
27. Seminar on Importance of International Certifications & Government Incentive/Grant Schemes for SMEs held on May 13, 2026
28. Seminar on Technological Advancement in Feedlot Fattening and the Potential of Sialkot's Halal Meat Export Market held on May 18, 2026
29. Interactive Session with Syed Shabbar Zaidi, on Taxation, Economic Reforms, Export Competitiveness, and Economic Outlook held on May 20, 2026
30. Seminar on ESG(Environmental, Social & Governance) Sustainability & Carbon Footprint Management held on July 01, 2026
31. Awareness session on Corporatization, Licensing and Capital Market held on July 02, 2026'
32. Awareness Session on EXIM Bank's Export Credit Insurance Facility held on July 14, 2026
33. Awareness Session on Export Facilitation Scheme held on July 20, 2026.
34. Seminar on Health & Education Summit & Expo Pakistan (HESP) held on August 01, 2026.
35. Awareness Session on Conversion of Physical Shares into Book-Entry from SECP and CDC held on August 11, 2026.
36. Health Awareness Talk on Joint and Bone Diseases held on August 12, 2026.
37. Seminar on Fatty Liver Diseases held on August 20, 2026.
38. Awareness Session on Cardiac Issues & Preventives held on August 21, 2026.
39. Awareness Seminar on EU Packaging & Packing Waste Regulation held on August 15, 2026.
40. Seminar on EU CBAM held on August 19, 2026.
41. Seminar on Regarding Annual Day of Photography held on August 19, 2026.
42. Seminar on "Importance of Intellectual Property Rights for Trade Development" held on 31st August, 2026

These events reflect our dedication to fostering a well-informed and capable membership base, contributing to both individual and collective growth.

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Anniversary of the Republic of Turkiye



Assan Karobar Scheme Session



Brigadier Waseem Sahib



Chief Manager of the State Bank of Pakistan



Delegation from the PCSUMEA



Delegation of Kuwait Pakistan Chamber




Mental Health Day Seminar



Mr. Faisal Ikram MPA Sialkot

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Mr. Khalid Rasool, DG TDAP,Sialkot


Pak-Austria Fachhochschule


Station Commander Sialkot Cantt



Wanstead & Snaresbrook Cricket Club Cricket Team


CEO Education Sialkot


Deputy Commissioner Sialkot


Dr. Tariq Bashir, MS Social Security Hospital Sialkot


Mr. Tayyab Virk Deputy Director labor

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Ms. Saira Agha, Collector of Customs Sialkot



Sialkot Tax Bar Association




Awareness Session on Islamic Banking



Chairman of PLGMEA



Chairmen of various Trade Associations



Commissioner of Gujranwala



Evercare Hospital Lahore Free Medical Camp



MS  Chaudhary Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Representatives of DHL



Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan



Ambassador of Malaysia to Pakistan




Awareness Seminar on the Punjab Workers Welfare Fund



Awareness Session by Dr. Sajjad Ali




Awareness Session on Consumer Rights

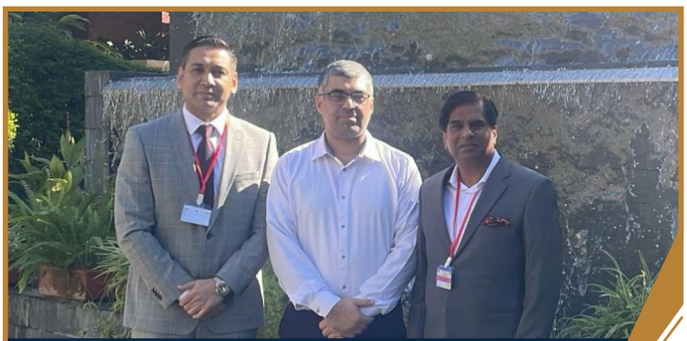


Awareness Session on FBR Digital Invoicing




Balloting Ceremony -Sialkot Tannery Zone

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Canadian High Commission



Celebrated Iqbal Day (Iqbal Manzal sialkot)



Certificate Distribution Ceremony hosted by the Al-Khidmet Foundation




Children Day -Organized by CSDO



Meeting with Honourable Minister of State for Finance & Revenue



Engr. Naveed Qureshi, Director (D&W)



Engr. Naveed Qureshi, Director (D&W)



Expo organized by MNA Travel & Tours

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



General Manager of Regional Operations SMEDA



Iqbal Day



Mr. Haroon Akhtar Khan, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Industries & Production



Muslim Hands School National Football Championship 2025



Representative from TEVTA



Representative of Emirates Airline




Trade Commissioner at the Embassy of Italy



Director General, Tax Policy Office, Ministry of Finance

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Foreign Diplomats from the Foreign Service Academy



Inauguration Ceremony of the Faizan Rehabilitation Center



Meeting with Transport Union



Awareness session on Cyber Law and Financial Fraud



Birthday-Syed Ahtesham Mazhar, President SCCI



Cake-cutting ceremony organized by the Pakistan Christian Scouts



Delegation from the Strategic Export Control System Division



District Police Officer (DPO) Sialkot

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Hunar Rozgar Mela 2025



Inauguration Ceremony of the MRI 1.5 Tesla at IDC



Meeting with General Manager, Guard Group



Meeting with General Manager, Guard Group



MOU with Police




MoU with the Pakistan Industrial Technical Assistance Centre PITAC



Mushaira




Pakistan Women Entrepreneurship Day 2025

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Provincial Minister for Industries, Commerce & Investment, Mr. Shafay Hussain



Punjab Highway Police Officials



Fairs and Exhibitions Committee Meeting



The Maskan Old Age Home



Seminar on AI& Gen AI For Business Growth



Friendly Cricket Catch between the District Police Sialkot & SCCI teams



International Edtech Summit 2K26 Sialkot Chapter




Laptop Distribution Ceremony of GC women university

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Meeting with Mr. Kashif Hussain Tanveer


Meeting with Mr. Zaheer Faisal, Director TEVTA


Meeting with team from TEVTA


Mr. Rashid Abba, Academy Link Mentor at the English Premier League club West Ham United


Preisent Meeting with Excise and Taxation Officer


President Meeting with Talha BFC


Representatives of English Willow, United Kingdom



Seminar on AI & Gen AI For Business Growth

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Seminar on Cardiovascular Health



Seminar on Rebuilding Beauty Exports in the Digital Era




University of Applied Engineering and Emerging Technologies



The Maskan Old Age Home



Meeting with Chairman of COTTAGE Trust



MOU with Radio Pakistan



Seminar on using AI for Export Sales & Marketing




Award Ceremony organized by Sialkot Artists Equity Trust

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Awareness Session on the B2C Framework




Awareness Session on the EFS



Best Exporter Award of the Year 2026




Business Gala organized by Punjab Group of Colleges,Sialkot



Check distribution Travel to Light




Conference and Dinner arranged by Hamidiye Foundation



Fundraising Event organized by the Ghurki Trust Teaching Hospital



Lunch hosted by President in honor of the SCCI staff

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Meeting with Assistant Director at PICIIP



Meeting with team from Innovators (AOP)



Meeting with Ms. Firdous Ashiq Awan



MoU with the Dr. Abdul Sattar's Lab



Memorandum of Understanding between the SCCI and RISC



President visited TNH L'école Mondiale School



President visited CSDO School System Peero Chak



President visited CSDO School System Bhoth

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



President visited the We Exhibit.


President visited CSDO School System, Ramgarha


Principal Khawaja Muhammad Safdar Medical College



President visited the We Exhibit


Additional Commissioner, Punjab Revenue Authority (Gujranwala Division)


Seminar on Industry–Academia Collaboration The Missing Link for Global Growth


Awareness Session on Islamic Ethical Business Principles


Meeting with Bank of Punjab (BOP)

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Metal Industries Development Centre,Sialkot



Ch. Parvaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology



Ch. Parvaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology



Meeting with District Emergency Officer, Rescue 1122



Meeting with Hamidiye Foundation



Meeting with Representative from Radio Pakistan FM 101



President Meeting with Mr. Mudassar, DSP-DTO



Vice Chancellor of the University of Narowal

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Visit of Mr.Siraj ul Haq to SCCI




Dinner of Sialkot Tax Bar Association



Iinaugurated the Emergency Deptt. of the Social Security Hospital Sialkot



Meeting with former Honorary Investment Counselor at the Board of Investment



Meeting with representatives from Habib Bank Limited



MoC with the Chamber of Commerce of the Russian Federation



President visited Rescue 1122 Station Katcher Road



Seminar on Hidden Beauty of Sialkot

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Mr. Maqsood Baloch, Director General, Pakistan Posts, Islamabad



4th Technology & Innovation Summit 2026



Celebrate Ireland National Day



Delegation from British High Commission



Head Transformation of Standard Chartered Bank




Meeting with CEO of the Moscow Export Center



Meeting with Ch. Shafay Hussain Provincial Minister for ICI & SD



Meeting with Director of Labour Welfare

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Meeting with District Health Officer (DHO), Sialkot



Meeting with District Police Officer (DPO)



Meeting with Lead Economics Officer, Asian Development Bank



Meeting with Leyton Lions Cricket Club



Meeting with Sardar Jamshed Khan, S.E, GEPCO



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mövenpick Hotel



Mr. Zubair Bilal, Member Inland Revenue  Operations




Oath Taking Ceremony of the Sialkot Tax Bar Association

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



President visited CSDO School System, Talwara Mughlan



President's visit to the Centre of Excellence



Roots International Schools & Colleges RiyImpics 2026



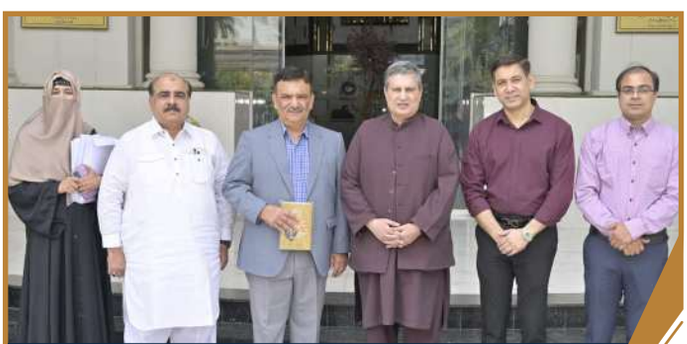
Technical Project Exhibition 2026-Organized by Govt. College of Technology Sialkot



Meeting with CEO Cantonment Board Sialkot



International Thalassaemia Day, organized by Sundas Foundation



Meeting with representatives from Fountain House



Opening Ceremony of the Sialkot Museum

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Annual Radio Day


Representative of Diya Welfare Organization


Representatives of the Hum Mashal e Rah Foundation


Seminar on the International Trade Compliance & Ethical Manufacturing Standards


Session -Focusing on Advancements in Feedlot Fattening Practices



Convocation Ceremony of GCWUS


Dinner hosted by High Commissioner of Rwanda to Pakistan


Dr. Umar Farooq Sansi, CEO Pak China Platform

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Labour Day


Meeting with 1122 Team


Meeting with Chief Executive Officer, SMEDA


Meeting with Collector of Customs, Sialkot


Meeting with Deputy Commissioner Sialkot Ms. Saba Asghar


Meeting with Incharge PERA Force Sialkot


Meeting with Rana Arshad Ali, ETO Excise & Taxation



Meeting with representatives of Zalmi Developers

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Liaison Office, Gujrat



Meeting with Incharge Pera Force Sialkot



Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue



AI Tech Summit 2026



BFA Textile Design Degree Show at the GCWUS



Briefing Session- ISMO, an entity of the Ministry of Energy



Director Labour Welfare, Sialkot



Meeting with Labour Union

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



MoU with New Life Hospital Sialkot



MoU with Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Trust Hospital



MoU with Syed Medical Complex, Sialkot



Commissioner Inland Revenue, Sialkot Zone



Delegation from Bahria University



Delegation from the All Staff Association ASA, GCWUS



Delegation from the National Highways & Motorway Police



IdeaFest '26, organized by the UMT

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Meeting with Prime Minister of Pakistam H.E. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif



Inauguration of STZ Effluent Treatment Plant & Grid Station



Meeting with SDEO PERA Sialkot



MoU with Shaukat Khanum Diagnostic Centre Laboratory



Representatives of PCKX Trading Company

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Session with SMEDA



Visit of SIDC and the Product Development Centre (PDC)



Inauguration ceremony of Explosive Detection System (EDS) installed at Sialkot Int'l Airport Ltd.



Honarary Shield of Appreciation from Zeest foundation



Sialkot International Airport Limited (SIAL)



Meeting with SECP and CDC



Awareness Seminar on Fatty Liver Disease




32nd Textile Asia International Exhibition & Conference at the Lahore

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Awareness Session on the Export Facilitation Scheme



Delegation from COMSATS University Wah Campus



Deputy Director Ravi Urban Development Authority



Farewell reception honoring outgoing DC Sialkot Miss Saba Asghar Ali




H.E. Mr. Stetson Sanders, US Consul General in Lahore

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



MOU with Different Universities



MoU with Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute and Research Centre



MoU with Punjab College Sialkot



Regional Director PSIC



Student of University of Narowal



Vice President visited USKT




Visit of New Campus of GCWUS




Visit of Little Angels Home School

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



14th Fashion & Textile Exhibition at UMT Sialkot



79th Independence Day Celebration



Awareness seminar on the European Union's PPWR



Awareness Session on Conversion of Physical Shares into Book-Entry Form



Delegation from the Rashid Latif Khan (RLK) Group



Deputy Commissioner Sialkot Mr. Awais Mushtaq



Deputy Director, Environment Protection Agency (EPA) Sialkot



Entrepreneurship Session organized by Alkhidmat Foundation Sialkot

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Final Match of the Azadi Football Cup 2026


Groundbreaking Ceremony of SMCL


Health Awareness Talk on Joint and Bone Diseases


Inauguration Ceremony of United Motorcycle & Electric Bike Flagship Store


Inauguration ceremony of HMR Bright Beginnings Sialkot


Independence Day- Pilot Higher Secondary School


Martyrs' Day Ceremony organized by the District Sialkot Police


MoU with Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR)

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



MoU with Hum Mashal-e-Rah Foundation




MoU with Shifa International Hospitals Limited



Mr. Khalid Mahmood Tippu, Commissioner, Gujranwala Division, PRA



Mr. Saeed Ahmed Bhalli, President, District Bar Association Sialkot



Representatives of the TEVTA



Seminar on eBay & Etsy Export Business



Session on World Photography Day



SialBazaar Family Carnival & Exhibition

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



State Bank of Pakistan on SME Value Chain Financing



Syed Ali Abbas Gardazi, Collector of Customs, Sialkot



Delegation from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Meeting with President of Volleyball Federation



Meeting with CO, CMH Sialkot



Meeting with Regional Director PSIC



Awareness Session on Cardiac Issues & Preventives



Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Awan, Deputy Advisor , Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat, Gujranwala.

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF
# **DIFFERENT OCCASIONS** 2025-26



Delegation from Council on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)



Delegation of the Privatization Commission, Govt. of Pakistan



Delegation of the Republic of Nauruv



IPO Roundtable Sialkot, organized by PSX, SECP, MANNABI and SCCI.



Chevening Team from the British High Commission



Meeting with representatives from Habib Bank Limited



Child & Social Development Organization's Program



Mr. Shahbaz Hussain Syed, President & CEO, Pak EXIM Bank



# MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE

SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

SCCI

ایوان صنعت و تجارت سیالکوٹ



# COMMITTEE 2024-26

The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry




# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
**JUNE 30, 2026**

PKF F.R.A.N.T.S.
Chartered Accountants
Ist Floor, PRGMEA House,
Opposite Anwaar Club,
Paris Road, Sialkot - Pakistan.

Tel: +92 52 4295194, 4295195
sialkot@pkf.com.pk
www.pkf.com.pk

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the members of THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**
**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

### Opinion

We have audited the annexed financial statements of **THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** (the Company), which comprise the statement of financial position as at **June 30, 2026** , and the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of changes in funds, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information, and we state that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of the audit.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the statement of financial position, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows together with the notes forming part thereof conform with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan and give the information required by the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017), in the manner so required and respectively give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at **June 30, 2026** and of the surplus, the changes in funds and its cash flows for the year then ended.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon

Management is responsible for other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

OTHER OFFICES: KARACHI | LAHORE | ISLAMABAD | PESHAWAR | MULTAN | KABUL

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If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Responsibilities of Management and Executive Committee for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan and the requirements of Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's


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report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the executive committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

Based on our audit, we further report that in our opinion:

a) proper books of account have been kept by the Company as required by the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017);
b) the statement of financial position, the statement of income and expenditure, the statement of changes in funds and the statement of cash flows together with the notes thereon have been drawn up in conformity with the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and are in agreement with the books of account and returns;
c) investments made, expenditure incurred and guarantees extended during the year were for the purpose of the Company's business; and
d) No Zakat was deductible at source under the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance, 1980 (XVIII of 1980).

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mr. Ali Tahir, ACA.

**PKF F.R.A.N.T.S.**
**Chartered Accountants**
**Sialkot**
**Date: September 01, 2026**

**UDIN: AR202610171yKiFLBh9Y**

OTHER OFFICES: KARACHI | LAHORE | ISLAMABAD | PESHAWAR | MULTAN | KABUL

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# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT JUNE 30, 2026

| | Note | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| **ASSETS** | | | |
| **NON CURRENT ASSETS** | | | |
| Property and equipment | 5 | **100,031,222** | 86,968,037 |
| Intangible assets | 6 | **526,521** | 574,058 |
| Long term investment in SBCC | 7 | **31,095,317** | 31,095,317 |
| Long term deposits | | **187,583** | 187,583 |
| | | **131,840,643** | 118,824,995 |
| **CURRENT ASSETS** | | | |
| General store inventory | 8 | **3,372,917** | 3,242,951 |
| Advances, deposits, prepayments and other receivables | 9 | **38,327,370** | 18,139,775 |
| Cash and bank balances | 10 | **193,151,976** | 171,991,031 |
| | | **234,852,263** | 193,373,757 |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | | **366,692,906** | 312,198,752 |
| **FUNDS AND LIABILITIES** | | | |
| **FUNDS AND RESERVES** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 11.1 | **118,056,677** | 103,699,514 |
| Restricted funds | 11.2 | **177,734,421** | 146,402,205 |
| | | **295,791,098** | 250,101,719 |
| **NON CURRENT LIABILITIES** | | | |
| Long term security payable | | **794,286** | 542,505 |
| Deferred tax liability | 12 | **6,305,635** | 3,031,108 |
| | | **7,099,921** | 3,573,613 |
| **CURRENT LIABILITIES** | | | |
| Advance fee and subscription | 13 | **36,252,207** | 39,576,339 |
| Advance rent | | **-** | 60,061 |
| Accrued and other payables | 14 | **27,549,680** | 18,887,020 |
| | | **63,801,887** | 58,523,420 |
| **CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS** | 15 | **-** | - |
| **TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES** | | **366,692,906** | 312,198,752 |

*The annexed notes from 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

**PRESIDENT**

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| | Note | 2026 | | | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total funds | Total funds |
| **INCOME** | | | | | |
| Contributions from members | 11.3 | **211,982,805** | **-** | **211,982,805** | 96,828,648 |
| Fee and subscription | 16 | **-** | **150,198,718** | **150,198,718** | 138,451,461 |
| Profit on PLS accounts | | **-** | **13,192,470** | **13,192,470** | 17,604,279 |
| Gain on Disposal | | **-** | **-** | **-** | 22,158 |
| Rental income | | **-** | **4,458,731** | **4,458,731** | 3,563,040 |
| | | **211,982,805** | **167,849,919** | **379,832,724** | 256,469,586 |
| **EXPENDITURE** | | | | | |
| Staff salaries and benefits | | **12,792,833** | **76,290,900** | **89,083,733** | 87,571,846 |
| Other utilization of restricted funds | | **167,256,563** | **-** | **167,256,563** | 74,843,233 |
| Printing and stationery | | **-** | **12,749,685** | **12,749,685** | 12,333,854 |
| Utilities | | **-** | **6,726,234** | **6,726,234** | 5,669,297 |
| Repair and maintenance | | **-** | **5,552,343** | **5,552,343** | 7,017,547 |
| Advertisement | | **-** | **1,512,080** | **1,512,080** | 3,897,278 |
| Communication | | **-** | **2,301,411** | **2,301,411** | 1,987,320 |
| Traveling and conveyance | | **-** | **403,188** | **403,188** | 1,813,477 |
| Entertainment and functions | | **-** | **15,287,922** | **15,287,922** | 12,151,903 |
| Donation | | **-** | **2,581,850** | **2,581,850** | 4,887,800 |
| Auditors' remuneration | | | | | |
| - Audit fee | 20 | **-** | **248,400** | **248,400** | 200,000 |
| - Tax consultancy | | **-** | **65,000** | **65,000** | 50,000 |
| Fee and subscription | | **-** | **2,346,499** | **2,346,499** | 2,219,688 |
| Legal and professional charges | | **-** | **513,599** | **513,599** | 1,000,440 |
| Bank charges | | **-** | **78,555** | **78,555** | 61,772 |
| SCCI shields and trophies | | **-** | **1,900,478** | **1,900,478** | 2,980,933 |
| Insurance | | **-** | **334,056** | **334,056** | 102,262 |
| Property tax | | **-** | **1,328,937** | **1,328,937** | 885,958 |
| Exhibition Expenses | | **-** | **125,700** | **125,700** | 2,036,955 |
| Miscellaneous expenses | | **-** | **1,533,599** | **1,533,599** | 1,289,961 |
| Petrol & Fuel Charges | | **-** | **4,439,690** | **4,439,690** | 2,229,932 |
| Sports and other event expenses | | **-** | **1,808,012** | **1,808,012** | - |
| Impairment loss | | **-** | **463,719** | **463,719** | - |
| Amortization | | **114,812** | **1,725** | **116,537** | 143,516 |
| Depreciation | | **486,381** | **6,215,547** | **6,701,928** | 6,592,499 |
| | | **180,650,589** | **144,809,129** | **325,459,718** | 231,967,471 |
| Surplus before tax | | **31,332,216** | **23,040,790** | **54,373,006** | 24,502,115 |
| Taxation | 17 | **-** | **(8,683,627)** | **(8,683,627)** | (7,418,429) |
| Surplus after tax | | **31,332,216** | **14,357,163** | **45,689,379** | 17,083,686 |

*The annexed notes from 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

**PRESIDENT**

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | Note | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| Surplus before taxation | | **23,040,790** | 13,384,259 |
| **Adjustment for:** | | | |
| Depreciation | 5.1 | **6,215,547** | 6,592,499 |
| Impairement loss | | **463,719** | - |
| Amortization | 6.1 | **116,537** | 143,516 |
| Loss on disposal | | **-** | (22,158) |
| Profit on PLS accounts | | **(13,192,470)** | (17,604,279) |
| **Net cash provided by operating activities** | | **16,644,123** | 2,493,837 |
| **Working capital changes:** | | | |
| Increase in general store inventory | | **(129,966)** | (298,514) |
| Increase in advances, deposits and other receivables | | **(20,187,595)** | (8,049,371) |
| (Decrease)/Increase in advance fee and subscription | | **(3,324,132)** | 3,066,272 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in advance rent | | **(60,061)** | 5,461 |
| Increase in creditors and accruals | | **8,090,356** | 5,769,081 |
| | | **(15,611,398)** | 492,929 |
| **Cash generated from operations** | | **1,032,725** | 2,986,766 |
| Taxes paid | | **(4,836,796)** | (3,896,604) |
| **Net cash used in operating activities** | | **(3,804,071)** | (909,838) |
| **CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES** | | | |
| Additions in operating fixed assets | | **(20,551,781)** | (8,108,635) |
| Additions in intangible assets | | **(69,000)** | - |
| Proceeds from disposal of operating fixed assets | | **-** | 58,000 |
| Profit on PLS accounts | | **13,192,470** | 17,604,279 |
| Long term security payable | | **251,781** | (180,000) |
| **Net cash generated from / (used in) investing activities** | | **(7,176,530)** | 9,373,644 |
| **CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES** | | | |
| Increase in funds | | **32,141,546** | 11,117,856 |
| **Net cash generated from financing activities** | | **32,141,546** | 11,117,856 |
| **Net increase in cash and cash equivalents** | | **21,160,945** | 19,581,662 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | **171,991,031** | 152,409,369 |
| **Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year** | 10 | **193,151,976** | 171,991,031 |

*The annexed notes from 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

**PRESIDENT** **SECRETARY GENERAL**

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| | Restricted Funds | Un Restricted Funds | Total Fund |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ----------Rupees---------- | | |
| **Balance as at June 30, 2024** | **135,284,349** | **97,733,684** | **233,018,033** |
| Surplus for the year ended June 30, 2025 | 11,117,856 | 5,965,830 | 17,083,686 |
| **Balance as at June 30, 2025** | **146,402,205** | **103,699,514** | **250,101,719** |
| Surplus for the year ended June 30, 2026 | 31,332,216 | 14,357,163 | 45,689,379 |
| **Balance as at June 30, 2026** | **177,734,421** | **118,056,677** | **295,791,098** |

*The annexed notes from 1 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

**PRESIDENT**

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

## 1 LEGAL STATUS AND OPERATIONS

The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and industry " the Chamber" was incorporated in Pakistan on 28th July, 1982 under the Companies Act 1913 (now Companies Act, 2017) vide Federal Government License No. 24 dated 15th, 1982. The main object of the Chamber is to promote trade, commerce and industry and conduct research and development work.

Geographical location of the company is as under:

The registered office of SCCI is situated at Paris road, Sialkot.

## 2 BASIS OF PREPARATION

### 2.1 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan. The approved accounting and reporting standards applicable in Pakistan comprise of:

-International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) as notified under the Companies Act, 2017;

-Accounting Standard for Not for Profit Organizations (Accounting Standard for NPOs) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan as notified under the Companies Act, 2017; and

-provisions of and directives issued under the Companies Act, 2017.

Where provisions of and directives issued under the Companies Act, 2017 differ from the IFRS for SMEs or the Accounting Standard for NPOs, the provisions of and directives issued under the Companies Act, 2017 have been followed.

### 2.2 Functional and presentation currency

These financial statements are presented in Pakistan Rupee (Rs. / Rupees) which is the Company's functional currency. Amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest of Rs. / Rupees, unless otherwise stated.

## 3 BASIS OF MEASUREMENT

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for certain items as disclosed in the relevant accounting policies below.

### 3.1 Key judgment and estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. In addition, it requires management to exercise judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. The areas involving a high degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are documented in the following accounting policies and notes, and relate primarily to:

-Useful lives, residual values and depreciation method of property, plant and equipment – Note 4.2 & 5

-Useful lives, residual values and amortization method of intangible assets – Note 4.3 & 6

-Provision for impairment of inventories - Note 4.4 & 8

-Impairment loss of non-financial assets other than inventories – Note 4.10 & 5

-Current income tax expense, provision for current tax and recognition of deferred tax asset (for carried forward tax losses) - Note 4.8, 14.1 & 17

The revisions to accounting estimates (if any) are recognized in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

## 4 MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The significant accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

### 4.1 Property and equipment

#### 4.1.1 Operating fixed assets

**Initial recognition**

All items of property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost.

**Subsequent Measurement**

Items of property and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment loss (if any).

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

**4.1 Property and equipment (Continued)**

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on reducing balance method over the estimated useful lives of the assets at rates specified in note 5.1.

Depreciation on additions is charged from the day of acquisition and on disposals up to the day the asset is in use. Maintenance and normal repairs are charged to income as and when incurred. Major renewals and improvements are capitalized.

Gain / loss on disposal of operating fixed assets is taken to the income and expenditure account. Gains or losses on disposal or retirement of operating fixed assets are determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount of assets and are included in the income and expenditure account.

The company assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that operating fixed assets may be impaired. If such indication exists the carrying amount of such assets are reviewed to assess whether they are recorded in excess of their recoverable amount. Where carrying values exceed the respective recoverable amount, assets are written down to their recoverable amounts and the resulting impairment loss is taken to income and expenditure account.

**4.2 Intangibles and amortization**

Intangible assets, which are assets without physical substance, are recognized at cost, which comprise purchase price, non-refundable purchase taxes and other directly attributable expenditures relating to their implementation and customization. After initial recognition, an intangible asset is carried at cost less accumulated amortization and impairment losses , if any. Intangible assets are amortized from the day, when these assets are available for use, using the reducing balance method, whereby the cost of the intangible asset is amortized over its estimated useful life over which economic benefits are expected to flow to the Company. The useful life and amortization method are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each reporting date.

**4.3 General Store Inventory**

General store inventory is valued at lower of cost determined on first in first out basis and net realizable value.

**4.4 Advances and receivables**

Advances and receivables are not derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after the end of reporting period, in which case, these are classified as non current assets.

**4.5 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the balance sheet at cost. For the purpose of cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and balances with banks in current and savings accounts and TDRs.

**4.6 Accrued and other liabilities**

Accrued and other liabilities are carried at their cost, which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the company.

**4.7 Income Tax**

Income tax comprises of current tax and deferred tax.
Income tax expense is recognized in the statement of profit and loss except to the extent that it relates to items recognized in other comprehensive income or directly in equity (if any), in which case the tax amounts are recognized directly in other comprehensive income or equity.

**Current tax**
Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year; calculated using rates enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period. The calculation of current tax takes into account tax credit and tax rebates, if any, and is inclusive of any adjustment to income tax payable or recoverable in respect of previous years.

**Deferred tax**
A deferred tax liability is recognized for all temporary differences that are expected to increase taxable profit in the future. Deferred tax assets are recognized for all temporary differences that are expected to reduce taxable profit in the future, and the carry forward of unused tax losses.
The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realization or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities using the tax rates enacted at the balance sheet date.

**4.8 Staff Gratuity**

The Chamber operates a fully funded gratuity scheme covering all of its employees. The gratuity liability is determined on the basis of employees' last drawn basic salary. With effect from the last year, admissible ad-hoc allowances have been merged into the definition of basic salary for the purpose of gratuity calculation.

A separate gratuity fund has been established, managed by trustees, to ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet the gratuity obligations as they fall due. Annual transfers are made to the fund equivalent to the provision for gratuity for the year, after adjusting for any profits earned on the investments of the gratuity fund during the same period.

**4.9 Impairment of non-financial assets**

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Any impairment loss is recognized in the income statement.

**4.10 Fund Accounting**

**Unrestricted / general fund**

Revenue from admission, subscription and other receipts collected from members are recognized on accrual basis. Return on deposits is accrued on a time proportion basis by reference to the principle outstanding and the applicable rate of return.

**Restricted fund**

The organization follows the restricted fund method for recognition of its funds, as prescribed by ICAP in Accounting Standards for Non for Profit Organizations (NPOs). Under this method grants and contributions from members are recognized as revenue of the fund when received, irrespective of the expenses incurred.

**4.11 Financial Instruments**

Financial assets and liabilities are recognized and measured under Section 11 of IFRS for SMEs. All financial assets & liabilities are recorded at amortized cost in the financial statements.

**4.12 Figures**

Figures have been rounded off to the nearest rupee.

**4.13 Reclassification**

Corresponding figures have been reclassified and rearranged whereever necessary to reflect more appropriate presentations of events and transactions for the purpose of comparison:

| 2025 | Reported | Adjustment | Restated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Chamber Assets** | | | |
| Office Equipment | **7,326,233** | **240,000** | **7,086,233** |
| Accumulated Depreciation | **2,593,507** | **4,000** | **2,589,507** |
| **R & D Assets** | | | |
| Office Equipment | **5,100,701** | **240,000** | **5,340,701** |
| Accumulated Depreciation | **1,809,850** | **4,000** | **1,813,850** |

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| | | Note | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **5** | **PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT** | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| | Operating fixed assets | 5.1 | **100,031,222** | 86,968,037 |

**5.1 Operating fixed assets**

| Particulars | Cost | | | | Depreciation rate | Accumulated depreciation | | | | | Net book value as at June 30, 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | As at July 01, 2025 | Additions / Transfer | Deletions / Transfer | As at June 30, 2026 | | As at July 01, 2025 | Charge for the period | Adjustment for the year | As at June 30, 2026 | Imapairment Adjustment for the year | |
| | ----------Rupees---------- | | | | % | ----------Rupees---------- | | | | | |
| **Chamber assets** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building | 66,401,607 | 8,101,494 | - | 74,503,101 | 5% | 17,549,336 | 2,477,017 | - | 20,026,353 | - | 54,476,748 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 11,709,976 | 4,364,468 | - | 16,074,444 | 10% | 4,438,783 | 806,884 | - | 5,245,667 | 72,036 | 10,756,741 |
| Office equipment | 7,086,233 | 5,211,738 | - | 12,297,971 | 10% | 2,589,507 | 680,257 | - | 3,269,764 | 170,869 | 8,857,338 |
| Air conditioner | 5,399,431 | - | - | 5,399,431 | 10% | 1,967,626 | 355,023 | - | 2,322,649 | 108,915 | 2,967,867 |
| Fans | 374,775 | - | - | 374,775 | 10% | 172,472 | 22,102 | - | 194,574 | 15,693 | 164,508 |
| Electric installation | 24,394,847 | 1,386,056 | - | 25,780,903 | 10% | 6,769,050 | 1,771,532 | - | 8,540,582 | 54,365 | 17,185,956 |
| Telephone installation | 150,900 | 27,430 | - | 178,330 | 10% | 77,337 | 7,356 | - | 84,693 | 6,107 | 87,530 |
| Other assets | 451,701 | 182,200 | - | 633,901 | 10% | 248,784 | 22,264 | - | 271,048 | 26,723 | 336,130 |
| Vehicles | 365,300 | - | - | 365,300 | 20% | 129,167 | 56,179 | - | 185,346 | - | 179,954 |
| Gas/Electric Appliances | 275,845 | 25,000 | - | 300,845 | 10% | 126,246 | 16,933 | - | 143,179 | 9,011 | 148,655 |
| | **116,610,615** | **19,298,386** | **-** | **135,909,001** | | **34,068,308** | **6,215,547** | **-** | **40,283,855** | **463,719** | **95,161,427** |
| **Chamber - R & D Assets** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building | 1,476,766 | - | - | 1,476,766 | 5% | 1,167,216 | 15,478 | - | 1,182,694 | - | 294,072 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 433,656 | - | - | 433,656 | 10% | 241,274 | 19,238 | - | 260,512 | - | 173,144 |
| Office equipment | 5,340,701 | 1,253,395 | - | 6,594,096 | 10% | 1,813,850 | 406,117 | - | 2,219,967 | 268,784 | 4,105,345 |
| Air conditioners | 611,260 | - | - | 611,260 | 10% | 316,900 | 29,436 | - | 346,336 | 54,165 | 210,759 |
| Electric installation | 68,850 | - | - | 68,850 | 10% | 24,791 | 4,406 | - | 29,197 | - | 39,653 |
| Library - Books | 156,871 | - | - | 156,871 | 20% | 98,343 | 11,706 | - | 110,049 | - | 46,822 |
| | **8,088,104** | **1,253,395** | **-** | **9,341,499** | | **3,662,374** | **486,381** | **-** | **4,148,755** | **322,949** | **4,869,795** |
| **Total June 30, 2026** | **124,698,719** | **20,551,781** | **-** | **145,250,500** | | **37,730,682** | **6,701,928** | **-** | **44,432,610** | **786,668** | **100,031,222** |
| **Total June 30,2025** | **116,672,484** | **8,108,635** | **(82,400)** | **124,698,719** | **-** | **31,184,741** | **6,592,499** | **(46,558)** | **37,730,682** | **86,968,037** | **86,968,037** |

| | | Note | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| **6** | **Intangible assets** | | | |
| | Balance as on July 01, 2025 | | **1,761,200** | 1,761,200 |
| | Addition / (Deletion) | | **69,000** | - |
| | | | **1,830,200** | 1,761,200 |
| | Accumulated amortization | 6.1 | **(1,303,679)** | (1,187,142) |
| | Balance as on June 30, 2026 | | **526,521** | 574,058 |
| **6.1** | **Accumulated amortization** | | | |
| | Balance as on July 01, 2025 | | **1,187,142** | 1,043,626 |
| | For the year | | **116,537** | 143,516 |
| | Balance as on June 30, 2026 | | **1,303,679** | 1,187,142 |

**6.2** Intangible assets comprise of documentary films on Sialkot industry amortized at 20% using reducing balance method.

**6.3** Intangible assets comprise of SCCI domain amortized over 20 years using straight line method.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **7** | **LONG TERM INVESTMENT IN SBCC** | 7.1 | **31,095,317** | 31,095,317 |

**7.1** The Chamber invested Rs 31.095 million (earlier shown as "Capital Work in progress") in Mega project of "Sialkot Business and Commerce Center" adjacent to the Chamber building. The Chamber entered in to agreement with Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority to join hands and complete the project. This project is being managed by Management Committee comprising of 9 members. The Management Committee has been constituted vide Management Agreement dated 05-06-2020 signed between SMEDA & SCCI. The Chairman of the Management Committee shall be from amongst the members nominated by SCCI.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **8** | **INVENTORY** | | |
| | Stock Stationery - General | **634,481** | 808,844 |
| | Stock Stationery - Printed | **2,503,622** | 1,988,325 |
| | Stock Scci Gift/Presentation | **234,814** | 445,782 |
| | | **3,372,917** | 3,242,951 |
| **9** | **ADVANCES, DEPOSITS, PREPAYMENTS /OTHER RECEIVABLES** | | |
| | **Advances:** | | |
| | **Considered good -unsecured** | | |
| | - to suppliers | **1,268,375** | 243,375 |
| | - to employees | **13,258,880** | 14,712,825 |
| | | **14,527,255** | 14,956,200 |
| | Advance against expenses | **210,000** | 1,000,000 |
| | Prepaid expenses | **1,340,732** | 1,296,482 |
| | Receivables from pro rata/Others | **2,615,188** | - |
| | Receivable from IMAC | **4,000,000** | - |
| | Receivable from EDF for IMAC | **15,634,195** | 887,093 |
| | | **38,327,370** | 18,139,775 |
| **10** | **CASH AND BANK BALANCES** | | |
| | **Cash in hand** | | |
| | Postage | **247,790** | 10,820 |
| | Petty cash | **165,000** | 165,000 |
| | | **412,790** | 175,820 |
| | **Cash at bank** | | |
| | **Current accounts** | | |
| | Faysal Bank Limited | **302,447** | 302,447 |
| | National Bank of Pakistan - child labor | **221,583** | 221,583 |
| | United Bank Limited | **181,032** | 181,032 |
| | | **705,062** | 705,062 |
| | **Saving accounts** | | |
| | Faysal Bank Limited - research and development | **6,242,279** | 5,337,023 |
| | Faysal Bank Limited - child labor fund | **232,453** | 1,921,269 |
| | MCB Bank Limited | **38,708,630** | 15,476,949 |
| | Askari Bank Limited - emergency fund | **19,981,348** | 11,907,942 |
| | Askari Bank Limited - regular funds | **4,616,212** | 11,504,680 |
| | Bank Islami Limited | **17,097,465** | 19,807,614 |
| | Alfalah Bank Limited - child labor fund | **24,335** | 17,573 |
| | TDR Bank Deposit | **105,000,000** | 105,000,000 |
| | Faysal Bank Limited | **131,402** | 137,099 |
| | | **192,034,124** | 171,110,149 |
| | | **193,151,976** | **171,991,031** |

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| | | Note | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| **11** | **FUNDS AND RESERVES** | | | |
| | Unrestricted funds (represents general fund) | 11.1 | **118,056,677** | 103,699,514 |
| | Restricted funds (represents specific fund) | 11.2 | **177,734,421** | 146,402,205 |
| | | | **295,791,098** | 250,101,719 |
| **11.1** | **Unrestricted funds (represents general fund)** | | | |
| | Balance as at July 01, 2025 | | **103,699,514** | 97,733,684 |
| | Surplus for the year | | **14,357,163** | 5,965,830 |
| | Balance as on June 30, 2026 | | **118,056,677** | 103,699,514 |
| **11.2** | **Restricted funds (represents specific fund)** | | | |
| | Balance as at July 01, 2025 | | **146,402,205** | 135,284,349 |
| | Surplus for the year | | **31,332,216** | 11,117,856 |
| | Balance as on June 30, 2026 | 11.3 | **177,734,421** | 146,402,205 |

**11.3**

| Fund Name | Note | Balance as at July 01, 2025 | Inflows | Outflows | Balance as at Jun 30, 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | From receipts/ Transfer | Due to utilization /refund/Transfer | |
| | | ----------( Rupees )---------- | | | |
| Capital fund | | 41,632,531 | 1,000,000 | - | 42,632,531 |
| R&D fund | 11.3.1 | 24,545,263 | 15,219,394 | (13,720,938) | 26,043,719 |
| Child labour fund | 11.3.2 | - | 6,323,650 | (2,316,421) | 4,007,229 |
| SBCC | 11.3.3 | 23,749,309 | - | - | 23,749,309 |
| Delegation funds | 11.3.4 | 1,914,000 | 670,000 | (1,974,000) | 610,000 |
| Welfare Fund | 11.3.5 | 590,425 | 10,000 | (578,746) | 21,679 |
| Education fund | 11.3.6 | 6,936,208 | 2,584,541 | (3,880,980) | 5,639,769 |
| Emergency fund | 11.3.7 | 35,411,153 | 29,232,061 | (21,051,855) | 43,591,359 |
| Surplus of various funds | 11.3.8 | 2,584,496 | 2,085,048 | (1,434,812) | 3,234,732 |
| Education fund for free tuition centre | 11.3.9 | 585,493 | 16,840,000 | (16,387,994) | 1,037,499 |
| SCCI Masjid Renovation Fund | 11.3.10 | 236,095 | - | - | 236,095 |
| Sialkot Club | 11.3.11 | 334,000 | - | - | 334,000 |
| Fatima jannah park renovation funds | 11.3.12 | - | 88,002,000 | (65,000,000) | 23,002,000 |
| SCCI Dairy 2026 | 11.3.13 | 3,305,000 | 3,284,500 | (4,905,000) | 1,684,500 |
| SCCI made in Skt Catalog | 11.3.14 | 2,270,000 | 50,000 | (2,320,000) | - |
| SCCI Medical Store | 11.3.15 | 2,188,232 | 44,681,611 | (46,869,843) | - |
| SCCI YELLOW PAGES DIARY | 11.3.16 | - | 820,000 | - | 820,000 |
| EPZ - development fund | 11.3.17 | - | 1,000,000 | - | 1,000,000 |
| SCCI Language Course Fee | 11.3.18 | 120,000 | 180,000 | (210,000) | 90,000 |
| Total | | **146,402,205** | **211,982,805** | **(180,650,589)** | **177,734,421** |

**11.3.1** To fund operations of Research and Development Cell established under letter # 13(s)/87 T.O dated 29-08-1987 of Ministry of commerce Govt. of Pakistan.

**11.3.2** To receive funds under "Child Labor Elimination Program in Soccer Ball Industry". IMAC and CSDO projects are also funded from this fund.

**11.3.3** To contribute in construction of Sialkot Business and Commerce Center.

**11.3.4** This fund is maintained to plan visit of business delegation of SCCI members to abroad to participate in International Fair & Exhibitions.

**11.3.5** This fund is created for welfare of the society.

**11.3.6** To promote education in society and help children of staff of SCCI and other needy person in seeking education through stipend issued on monthly, quarterly or annual basis.

**11.3.7** To contribute and take part in rescue activities in natural disasters and calamities.

**11.3.8** Surplus and remaining unused balance of different funds are transferred to this fund and ultimately disbursed to the needy.

**11.3.9** To provide free tuition classes through Alsuffa coaching center.

**11.3.10** This fund is maintained for renovation chamber masjid.

**11 FUNDS AND RESERVES ( Continued )**

11.3.11 The project is initiated for construction of swimming pool dated 27-03-2010, however due to non-continuance of project the payment is transferred to SCCI.

11.3.12 This fund is maintained for the renovation and development of Fatima Jinnah Park.

11.3.13 This fund is created to provide members with updated business information, industry contacts, and Chamber activities.

11.3.14 To develop and circulate the "Made in Sialkot" Catalogue to comprehensively showcase local industries and products at national and international forums.

11.3.15 To establish the SCCI Med Pharmacy to provide affordable and quality medicines for members, employees, and their families.

11.3.16 This fund is created to compile and publish the Chamber's Yellow Pages Directory, incorporating details of members and foreign missions/embassies

11.3.17 The Chamber coordinated the collection of legal fees from EPZ plot owners to contest the decision of the Industries Department, Government of Punjab, regarding cancellation of plots for non-construction of factories.

11.3.18 To organize six professional language training courses at SCCI, with fee collection structured to support program sustainability

**12 DEFERRED TAX LIABILITY/(ASSET)**

The deferred tax liability represents the tax effect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit.

As at June 30, 2026, the deferred tax liability comprises the following:

| 2026 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Particulars** | **Temporary Difference** Rs. | **Tax Rate** | **DTL/(DTA)** **Rs.** |
| Property & Equipment | 21,743,570 | 29% | **6,305,635** |
| Gratuity Provision - | | 29% | **-** |
| **Net Deferred Tax Liability** | | | **6,305,635** |

| 2025 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Particulars** | **Temporary Difference** Rs. | **Tax Rate** | **DTL/(DTA)** **Rs.** |
| Property & Equipment | 18,306,443 | 29% | **5,308,868** |
| Gratuity Provision | (7,854,344) | 29% | **(2,277,760)** |
| **Net Deferred Tax Liability** | | | **3,031,108** |

| | **Note** | **2026** | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **----------Rupees----------** | |
| **13 ADVANCE FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION** | | | |
| Admission fee | | **233,100** | 104,664 |
| Annual subscription | | **7,433,045** | 12,008,807 |
| Certificate fee | | **12,369,750** | 11,596,500 |
| Identity card | | **3,030,270** | 3,507,672 |
| Application processing charges | | **1,377,976** | 1,282,555 |
| Publication charges | | **9,325,463** | 8,744,588 |
| Sports and culture | | **2,482,603** | 2,331,553 |
| | | **36,252,207** | 39,576,339 |
| **14 ACCRUED AND OTHER PAYABLES** | | | |
| Accrued expenses | | **1,558,164** | 1,712,766 |
| Income tax payable | 14.1 | **1,203,904** | 631,600 |
| Payable to CSDO | | **8,642,653** | 4,841,596 |
| Payable to IMAC | | **15,554,221** | 3,640,196 |
| Gratuity Payable | | **-** | 7,854,344 |
| Other payables | | **590,738** | 206,518 |
| | | **27,549,680** | 18,887,020 |

# THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

| | | 2026 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | ----------Rupees---------- | |
| **14.1** | **Income tax (refundable) / payable** | | |
| | Balance as at July 01, 2025 | **631,600** | 140,883 |
| | Paid during the year | **(4,836,796)** | (3,896,604) |
| | | **(4,205,196)** | (3,755,721) |
| | Provision for taxation- current year | **5,424,227** | 5,212,515 |
| | -prior year | **(15,127)** | (825,194) |
| | Balance as at June 30, 2026 | **1,203,904** | 631,600 |
| **15** | **CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS** | | |
| | There are no contingencies and commitments at the year end.( 2025:nill) | **-** | **-** |
| **16** | **FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION** | | |
| | Admission fee | **859,814** | 962,737 |
| | Annual subscription and membership certificate | **64,321,467** | 55,305,925 |
| | Membership application processing fee | **5,831,529** | 6,242,813 |
| | Publication charges | **20,265,375** | 19,862,513 |
| | Sports and cultural contribution | **8,454,484** | 4,913,209 |
| | Identity card fee | **7,574,342** | 6,420,254 |
| | Visa certificate fee | **19,410,500** | 20,178,900 |
| | Attestation fee | **2,413,387** | 2,508,810 |
| | Sale of C.O.O. pads | **195,770** | 174,410 |
| | Advertisement in circular | **231,600** | 216,200 |
| | Change of constitution | **1,106,650** | 1,085,030 |
| | Firm name reservation fee | **19,268,800** | 20,335,580 |
| | Other income | **265,000** | 245,080 |
| | | **150,198,718** | 138,451,461 |
| **17** | **TAXATION** | | |
| | Taxation for the year | **5,424,227** | 5,212,515 |
| | Prior year | **(15,127)** | (825,194) |
| | Deferred tax | **3,274,527** | 3,031,108 |
| | | **8,683,627** | 7,418,429 |
| **17.1** | **Reconciliation of tax expense & accounting surplus** | | |
| | Accounting surplus before taxation | **23,040,790** | 13,384,259 |
| | Applicable tax rate | **29%** | 29% |
| | Tax on accounting profit | **6,681,829** | 3,881,435 |
| | Effect of accelerated depreciation | **(1,151,902)** | (759,036) |
| | Effect of non adjustable advance against rent | **23,034** | 15,733 |
| | Effect of inadmissible expenses | **-** | 2,277,760 |
| | Effect of gain on disposal | **-** | 6,426 |
| | Effect of Property Insurance | **(263,213)** | (209,803) |
| | Effect of impairment | **134,479** | - |
| | | **5,424,227** | 5,212,515 |

| **18** | **FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS** | **At amortized Cost** | | **Total** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **2026** | 2025 | **2026** | **2025** |
| | **Financial Assets** | | | | |
| | Long Term Deposits | **187,583** | 187,583 | **187,583** | 187,583 |
| | Advances and prepayments | **36,986,638** | 16,843,293 | **36,986,638** | 16,843,293 |
| | Cash and bank balances | **193,151,976** | 171,991,031 | **193,151,976** | 171,991,031 |
| | | **230,326,197** | 189,021,907 | **230,326,197** | 189,021,907 |
| | **Total Current** | | | **230,138,614** | 188,834,324 |
| | **Total non-current** | | | **187,583** | 187,583 |

**18 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)**

| | At amortized Cost | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2026** | 2025 | **2026** | **2025** |
| **Financial Liabilities** | | | | |
| Long Term Security payable | **794,286** | 542,505 | **794,286** | 542,505 |
| Advance fee and subscription | **36,252,207** | 39,576,339 | **36,252,207** | 39,576,339 |
| Advance rent | **-** | 60,061 | **-** | 60,061 |
| Accrued and other payables | **27,549,680** | 18,887,020 | **27,549,680** | 18,887,020 |
| | **64,596,173** | 59,065,925 | **64,596,173** | 59,065,925 |
| **Total Current** | | | **63,801,887** | 58,523,420 |
| **Total non-current** | | | **794,286** | 542,505 |

**19** The aggregate amount charged in the financial statements for remuneration including all benefits to Key Executives of the Company is as follows:

| | **2026** | 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| | **----------Rupees----------** | |
| Managerial Remuneration - Secretary General | **5,002,356** | 4,697,989 |
| Number of key executive | **1** | **1** |

**20 AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Audit fee | **230,000** | 190,476 |
| Sales Tax @ 8% | **18,400** | 9,524 |
| | **248,400** | 200,000 |

**21 NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Average number of employees during the period | **48** | 43 |
| Number of employees at period end | **47** | 46 |

**22 DATE OF AUTHORIZATION**

These financial statements were authorized for issue on 31st August, 2026 by the executive body of the Chamber.

**23 RECLASSIFICATION**

Figures of the comparative period have been rearranged and regrouped, wherever deemed necessary, to facilitate comparison and to present statements according to industry common practices. There are no major reclassifications in these financial statements.

**PRESIDENT** **SECRETARY GENERAL**




**THE SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**
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