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**Pakistan
Tanners
Association**

**ANNUAL ELECTIONS OF PTA FOR
OFFICE BEARERS & CENTRAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FOR THE YEAR 2020-2021**



Anjum Zafar
Chairman
PTA (Central)

Annual elections of Pakistan Tanners Association was held on 29th September' 2020 Mr. Anjum Zafar of M/s.Eastern Leather Co. (Pvt) Ltd., Lahore has been elected unopposed as Central Chairman, Pakistan Tanners Association for the 2nd time while Mr. Abdul Salam of M/s.Jeaman Leather & Leather Clothing, Karachi elected un-opposed as Senior Vice Chairman and Mr. Muhammad Tayyab of M/s. Riaz Tanneries, Kasur elected un-opposed as Vice Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, PTA for the year 2020-21.



Abdul Salam
Sr. Vice Chairman
(PTA (Central))

The members of the Central Executive Committee of Pakistan Tanners Association (PTA) elected for the year 2020-21 are as follows :

01.	Mr. Amanullah Aftab	M/s. Hafiz Tannery, Karachi.
02.	Mr. Amjad Hafiz	M/s. Muhammad Shafi Tanneries (Pvt) Ltd., Karachi.
03.	Mr. Badre Alam	M/s. Badre Alam Traders, Lahore.
04.	Mr. Fazalur Rehman Sheikh	M/s. Rehman Brothers & Company, Kasur.
05.	Mr. Hamid Arshad Zahur	M/s. Noor Leather Garments (Pvt) Ltd., Karachi.
06.	Mr. Mansoor Iqbal	M/s. Dada Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd., Lahore.
07.	Mr. Muhammad Musaddiq	M/s. Siddiq Leather Works (Pvt) Ltd., Lahore.
08.	Mr. Muhammad Shafi	M/s. Mateen Brothers, Karachi.
09.	Mr. Naveed Ahmed	M/s. Pioneer International, Karachi.
10.	Mr. Shafique Ahmed	M/s. Shafique Leather Enterprises, Karachi.
11.	Mr. Tanveer Aslam Chawla	M/s. Chawla Tanneries, Kasur.
12.	Sh. M. Afzal Hussain	M/s. Hussain Leather Craft, Karachi.
13.	Sh. Muhammad Shafi	M/s. Pan Asia International, Lahore.



Muhammad Tayyab
Vice Chairman
PTA (Central)

Glimpses – PTA Election 2020-21



Mr. Agha Saiddain, Ex-Chairman, PTA garlanding Mr. Anjum Zafar on his election as Chairman, PTA (Central) FY 2020-21 at PTA-NZ Office, Lahore



Mr. Gulzar Firoz, Ex-Chairman, PTA garlanding Mr. Abdul Salam on his election as Sr. Vice Chairman, PTA (Central) FY 2020-21 at PTA (Central Office), Karachi



PTA members snapped with newly elected Office Bearers of PTA (Central) FY 2020-21, Mr. Anjum Zafar, Chairman, Mr. Muhammad Tayyab, Vice Chairman, PTA (Central) alongwith Sheikh Abid Hussain, Vice Chairman, PTA (NZ) and Mr. Fazalur Rehman Immediate Past Sr. Vice Chairman, PTA (Central) at Lahore



Group photo of PTA members with newly elected Sr. Vice Chairman, of PTA (Central) FY 2020-21, Mr. Abdul Salam alongwith Sh. Afzal Hussain Immediate Past Chairman, PTA (Central) and Mr. Tariq Mahmood, Chairman, PTA (SZ) at Karachi

PTA Delegation led by Mr. Anjum Zafar, Chairman, PTA met the Chief Collector of Customs, Lahore on 8th October'2020

PTA Delegation led by Chairman, PTA, Mr. Anjum Zafar alongwith some senior members met the Chief Collector of Customs, Lahore on 8th October'2020 at his office to discuss all related core issues of Sales Tax being confronted by its members situated at Punjab for the desired resolution and it was termed to be most productive with desired conclusion for the betterment of North based members regarding their Refund of Duty Drawback claims, submission of claims thru prescribed Module/Software, smooth transmission of claims through PRAL new system to their direct bank accounts & other related problems and it was assured by the Chief Collector of Customs, Lahore during the meeting to make it resolve for facilitation to the Punjab based Members for the promotion of exports.

PTA's Delegation met Chief Collector of Customs, Dr. Saifuddin at Custom House, Karachi on 15th October'2020

PTA's Delegation led by Mr. Abdul Salam, Sr. Vice Chairman, PTA accompanied by Mr.Amanullah Aftab, Mr. Hamid Zahur, Mr. Waqas Shakil and Mr. Muhammad Ali,SG/PTA met with Chief Collector of Customs, Dr. Saifuddin at his Office at Custom House, Karachi on 15th October'2020 to discuss all issues related to Customs & Rebate as highlighted/compiled by PTA on feedback received from the members for the resolution, which are as follows :

- 1) 25% of Cases/GD's processed manually for which it is replied by Chief Collector of Customs that most of the cases are being processed under green channel exports, which is around 84% through Automated Software system without human interruption which is the prime objectives of Customs/Software introduced recently and effective from 1st October'2020 for releasing the claims @ exporters bank accounts directly thru SBP with the approval and for 25% random pick up of cases needs to be scrutinized under "Risk Management System" to keep transparency & surveillance to avoid any mal-practices, but he also informed to the Delegation that very shortly One Officer AO/Rebate Office would be designated through Portal/Software to reply to the queries against cases of 25% through Computer via e.mail or prescribed column of the software for removal of query which should be made through Computer/Software exclusively without physical visit of exporters to Customs so that human interruption free services could be continued to the exporters for their facilitation for 25% pending cases as well.
- 2) Old GD's filed earlier with manual transmission to Customs. he replied that necessary fund for Rs.3.5 Billion is already available with Customs for old cases and they are trying to release the old cases amount thru portal system @ exporters bank account through SBP ALSO as well, which is taking slight time to be incorporated the old GD's in the new System of Customs for the release.
- 3) Issue to release pending rebate claims of PTA members as compiled by PTA in response to their feedback was discussed during the meeting for which he replied all the Pending Claims which are under new system/portal & old cases would be cleared on or before 20.11.2020 to clear all the pendency of claims to PTA's member exporters for their facilitation. With the conclusion of the meeting, it is realized that the Customs authorities is committed to release all the Duty Drawback claims thru automated system @ exporters bank account thru SBP with the new system effective from 01.10.2020 to eliminate the human interruption, which is of course most beneficial for PTA's member exporters as well.

PTA Delegation highly appreciated the great efforts of the Customs for the introduction of a New Automated System for releasing of claims to exporters Bank account directly.



PTA delegation discussing issues of pending rebate claims with Chief Collector of Customs, Dr.Saifuddin in his Office at Custom House, Karachi on 15th October'2020

PTA's Delegation led by Mr. Abdul Salam, Sr. Vice Chairman, PTA (Central) alongwith PTA members snapped with Dr. Saifuddin, Chief Collector of Customs at Custom House, Karachi on 15-10-2020

PTA Delegation met with the Chief Commissioner-CTO, Sales Tax, Lahore on 20.10.2020

PTA Delegation led by Mr. Anjum Zafar, Chairman, PTA (Central) alongwith senior members, Mr. Mansoor Iqbal and Mr. Naeem Akhtar met Chief Commissioner- CTO, Sales Tax, Lahore and discuss all pending / Deferred Sales Tax Claims since 2005 onward of PTA member claimants concerned and requested for early settlement.

After patient hearing the Chief Commissioner-CTO, Sales Tax assured PTA Delegation that except PRA services deferred claims will be replicated and settled within November 2020 for all PTA members concerned.



PTA Delegation comprising Mr. Anjum Zafar, Chairman, PTA (2R), Mr. Mansoor Iqbal, Mr. Naeem Akhtar, Member, PTA snapped with the Chief Commissioner Sales Tax-CTO, Lahore in her office on 20.10.2020

Chairman, PTA (Central) met the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 22.10.2020 at Prime Minister House

Chairman, PTA (Central), Mr. Anjum Zafar participated in the meeting of the exporters, inter-alia, Tanners Association chaired by Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Imran Khan on 22.10.2020 at Prime Minister House, Islamabad for discussion on proposals on how to increase exports.

The Meeting was also attended by Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh, Advisor to Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue, Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar, Federal Minister for Industries & Production, Dr. Waqar Masood Khan, Special Assistant to PM.



A view of meeting of the Prime Minister, Imran Khan with prominent exporters including Leather Sector on 22.10.2020 at Prime Minister House, Islamabad

The Prime Minister apprised the exporters that promotion of industrial activities was government's priority as it would increase economic activity and create employment opportunities and government would consider their proposals. During the meeting he got briefing from Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Tax Reforms from his Special Assistant Dr. Waqar Masood Khan.

The Prime Minister said increase in taxes was critical and there was need to introduce technology in the tax system to ensure transparency in it.

He also stressed for special attention should be given for removal of unnecessary withholding taxes, and process for filing of returns should be simplified and he also underscored the need for a simplified tax system for small and medium enterprise (SMEs).

Besides above, PM took personal Interest in declining export of Leather Sector. He announced that he want to listen first for Leather Sector by over taking the meeting organiser and listened patiently for about 20/25 minutes.

Chairman, PTA get the opportunity and taken-up all PTA issues during the meeting and explained in detail

about factors caused in declining export of Leather Sector which was mostly due to discontinuation of DLTL, subsidy for setting-up of Effluent Treatment Plants in individual tanneries which is the fundamental requisition of WTO and LWG, not allowing subsidy on Airfreight and for International Lab Testing of Finished Leather.



Mr. Anjum Zafar, Chairman, PTA explaining Leather Industry's issues to Prime Minister, Mr. Imran Khan during the meeting with Exporters on 22.10.2020 held in PM House at Islamabad

PM's full team was present to note and respond at the occasion. He has instructed Mr. Hammad Azher, Federal Minister for Industries and Production to look into PTA's issues with regard to revenue in Coordination with Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, Advisor to PM on Commerce to find solution on priority. PM said that he fully support leather industry and he want to see exports rising instead of declining.

Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood and Mr. Hammad Azher then discussed separately with the Chairman, PTA just after the meeting for the follow up on issues of Leather Industry and assured their full support.

In the meeting held with PM, Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh, Advisor to PM on Finance & Revenue was also present and matter of pending Sales Tax and Duty Drawback claims was also discussed and he assured that instructions are being given to Collectorates for speedily disbursement and settling of pending claims including deferred claims to improve their liquidity issue facing since long.

PTA Delegation Meeting with Chief Commissioner Inland Revenue, Dr. Aftab Imam in his office at Karachi on 28th October'2020

In follow-up of the meeting of the Chairman, PTA held with the PM on 22nd October'2020 at Islamabad and taken-up the matter of declining exports of Leather Sector due to, inter-alia, stuck-up of Sales Tax Deferred Claims wherein Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh, Advisor to PM on Finance was also present and PM supported PTA's genuine proposal for refund of Sales Tax Claims, in this regard another meeting was also arranged by PTA with Chief Commissioner-IR, Dr. Aftab Imam on 28th October'2020 in his Office at Karachi.

PTA Delegation led by Mr. Abdul Salam, Sr. Vice Chairman, PTA accompanied by Mr. Waqas Shakil of M/s.Universal Leather, Mr. Danish Naseem of M/s.MIMA Leather, Mr. Mustafa of M/s.Muhammad Shafi Tanneries and SG-PTA discussing in detail issue of pending / Deferred Sales Tax refund claims as well as claims under Normal and FASTER claims of PTA members concerned with the Chief Commissioner-IR.

The Chief Commissioner-IR assured PTA delegation for early settlement of all pending cases subject on provision of all relevant documents for analysis he also designated Mr. Humayun Farooq, Sr.Auditor, FBR, RTO-III, Karachi, who was present in the meeting, for receiving the comprehensive files of "Deferred Cases" month-wise or year-wise either under FASTER Programme OR previously from PTA members claimant concerned to start the process for "Deferred Cases". He also advised PTA Delegation for submission of files of Deferred Cases on weekly basis so that process for releasing of Deferred Sales Tax Claims may be initiated.



PTA's Delegation led by Sr. Vice Chairman, Mr. Abdul Salam snapped with Chief Commissioner-IR Sales, Tax Dr. Aftab Imam at FBR office, Karachi after meeting on 28.10.2020

Activities of PTA-Northern Zone, Lahore

Meeting with Madam Amna Hassan, Chief Commissioner Corporate Tax office, Lahore held on 20-Oct-2020

A delegation of PTA met Chief Commissioner CTO Inland Revenue Lahore and had a fruitful meeting with regard to pending mainly deferred claims of sales tax since 2005 onwards. It has been assured that except PRA services, other deferred claims will be replicated and settled within November 2020 for all PTA members.

In the meeting with Chief Commissioner CTO Lahore, PTA delegation also discussed about continuing zero-rating of electricity on sales tax and exemption of Income Tax in bills. The tax authorities in the meeting informed that Income tax exemption will applied in the system whereas, for Sales tax, exporting units need to apply before Commissioner (Enforcement-II) CTO Lahore with copies of old certificates issued valid upto 30-June-2020.

Meeting with Mr. Mohsin Rafiq, Collector of Customs, Mughalpura Dryport Lahore held on 18-Nov-2020

On 18th November 2020, Mr. Anjum Zafar Chairman PTA and member Mr. Azam Malik of LeatherTex had a meeting with Mr. Mohsin Rafiq Collector of Customs, Dry port Lahore regarding problem in clearance of goods in import under DTRE. The Collector of Customs at Lahore Dry port was very cooperative. After discussing the issues, he gave immediate instructions to resolve the matter. Next day the matter was resolved to the satisfaction of our member concerned.

Mr Anjum Zafar, Chairman PTA directed to apprise all members that Collector Mr. Mohsin Rafiq at Lahore Mughalpura Dry port is very accommodating and receptive person. During our very pleasant meeting he encouraged exporters/importers to come directly to his office in case of any issue and no need to approach department functionaries which is a very good approach.

PTA may invite him to PTA office if corona subsides and host a luncheon meeting for him and members can bring up their issues as well relating to Lahore dry port.

Activities of PTA Southern Zone, Karachi



A DELEGATION LED BY CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) MR. ABDUL SALAM & VICE CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) MR. TARIQ MAHMOOD ALONG WITH MR. AZIZ AHMED, CHAIRMAN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AND MR. KAMRAN HABIB MET NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONER KARACHI. DR. MUHAMMAD SOHAIL RAJPUT IN HIS OFFICE ON 18-SEPT-2020. DURING THE MEETING VARIOUS ISSUES PERTAINING TO SECTOR 7-A WERE DISCUSS.



MR. ABDUL SALAM, CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) RECEIVING SHEILD FROM SECRETARY ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE CHANGE & COASTAL DEVELOPMENT GOVT. OF SINDH, MR. MUHAMMAD ASLAM GHOURI, IN A SEMINAR HELD AT AVARI TOWER & HOTELS ON 24-SEPT-2020.



MR. ABDUL SALAM, CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) & MR. TARIQ MAHMOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) MET RESPECTED ADMINISTRATOR KARACHI, MR. IFTHIKHAR SHALLWANI & DEPUTY COMMISSIONER KORANGI, MR. SHAHRYAR MEMON IN A MEETING HELD IN KATI ON 26-SEPT-2020.



A DELEGATION OF PTA (S.Z) LED BY CHAIRMAN MR. ABDUL SALAM & VICE CHAIRMAN, MR. TARIQ MAHMOOD ALONG WITH MR. GULZAR FIROZ AND OTHER MEMBERS OF PTA (S.Z) HELD A MEETING WITH ADMINISTRATOR KARACHI, MR. IFTHIKHAR SHALLWANI IN HIS OFFICE ON 30-09-2020.



AN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN PTA (S.Z) OFFICE. CHAIRMAN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MR. AZIZ AHMED BRIEFED THE MEMBERS ABOUT THE INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS BEEN CARRIED OUT IN SECTOR 7-A. MEETING WAS HELD ON 03-OCTOBER-2020.



CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) MR. ABDUL SALAM, ALONG WITH PRESIDENT ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY MR. GULZAR FIROZ, SHOWED ADMINISTRATOR KARACHI MR. IFTIKHAR SHALLWANI, PTA (S.Z) ENVIRONMENT TREATMENT PLANT ON 29-OCTOBER-2020.



CHAIRMAN PTA (S.Z) MR. ABDUL SALAM, ALONG WITH MR. GULZAR FIROZ AND OTHER MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION PRESENTING PTA (S.Z) SHEILD TO MR. IFTIKHAR SHALLWANI, ADMINISTRATOR KARACHI UPON HIS VISIT TO PTA (S.Z) OFFICE ON 29-OCTOBER-2020.

ARTICLE

Conversion of Toxic Leather Solid Waste into Environmental Friendly Value Added Products

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Introduction:

Tanning is a treatment of raw hides and skins with tanning chemicals to convert them against to bacterial attack, i.e, to prepare a stable fiber structure which is called leather. Chrome tanning has confirmed to be the most effective method for quality leather and is being carried out in tanneries worldwide. These conventional tanning processes are being carried out in the India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and other countries. These are used for the production of various types of leathers such as upper leather, garment leather and additional light leathers. But conventional leather steps special beam house and tanning processes are very pollution creating. Therefore, the tanneries from all over the world are coming under pressure from environmental regulation to comply with the pollution and discharge standards. The current activity in the area of leather processing is being shifted towards the recovery system and effluent treatment techniques to make leather processing environmental friendly.

Generation of Leather Solid Wastes:

Leather is prepared from collagen protein which is approximately 29% of the total mass of a freshly flayed hide (Sharpshouse, 1995) It has been studied that about 75% of the purchased raw material is detached in the tanneries as a pollution, generating the solid or liquid wastes. It is usually identified that about 200 kg final leather goods are formed from 1 ton of wet salted hides. (Taylor et al., 1998). Consequently, about 20% of the basic raw salted material is transformed into final

product and remaining 80% goes into solid wastes. The tanneries are commonly associated with high contaminated environment due to the bad odor, toxic chemicals, natural wastes and high water utilization caused during conventional manufacturing processes. Non-tanned waste is gone in waste water at the same time as fats, soluble protein and solid floating pollutant (Alexander et al, 1991). In various places, huge quantities of solid leather wastes are disposed off into open areas (Brown, 1996). The ecological impacts from tanneries result from liquid, solid and gaseous waste streams. The data from FAO shows that approximately 8.5 million tons of solid waste is generated for the duration of the production of 11 million tons of raw hide processed in the world (FAO, 2004). In the pre-tanning processes such as un-hairing and liming, hairs and H₂S gas are as solid and air pollutant respectively. The effluent generated high COD, BOD, Chlorides, Sulphates, etc. The trimmings from pre-tanning stages are generated when a smooth shape is given to the skin. The trimmings waste are approximately 0.024/kg of skin. The skin fleshings are also generated at the fleshing step when the lower layer of skin is scrapped off through sharp knife or machines (Kumar, 2009). These are proteinaceous in nature comprising cutaneous muscle layers and sub cutaneous adhering tissues, which are undesirable for leather manufacturing, therefore, eliminated. The fleshing contains 50-60% protein and 3-5% collagen (Kumar et al., 2008). Solid waste creates a major problem for tanneries in terms of both their diversity and capacity. The traditional way for handling of these chrome tanned solid wastes in most of the countries is land filling,

thrown out from the tanneries or incineration. Hence, the management of environmental pollution is a complex issue for tanneries (Kumaragru et al., 1998, Cabeza et al., 1998). In earlier studies, the researchers have ended their efforts on the reutilization of leather solid wastes. Earlier than 1970, the reports were focused on the uses without pre-treatment e.g. on the manufacturing of insulators, fibrous sheets, building materials and shoe soles, etc. The hydrolyzation of chromium containing leather solid wastes to re-cycle the protein in different products, e.g. food, agriculture, pharmaceutical, etc. have been extensively studied. Thus, it is feasible to recycle these wastes as a starting resource materials in different industries (Colak, 2005). Despite, these solid wastes carry a high potential of reutilization in many industries but disposition and storage of these contaminated materials is continued many countries at different locations which is environmentally undesirable in many places according to the government regulations of solid waste management (Aravindhana et al., 2004). Therefore, the reutilization of leather wastes is a good alternative which should be encouraged to develop the cleaner leather technology. The recovery of waste material through environmental friendly method needs much attention to reduce the risk of environmental pollution.

Toxicology of leather solid wastes:

The pre-tanning wastes causes various air pollutants such as hydrogen sulphide and carbon dioxide gases with ammonia vapours which cause serious skin, respiratory and eye problems. The raw trimmings are disposed off into open areas which generates a large amount of methane and carbon dioxide gases.

As Chromium tanning process is adopted in about 90% of tanneries in the world and generated residues are not discarded properly due to high cost (Covington, 2003). Hence, the wet blue leather

is one of the major wastes containing chromium residue. The waste water produced from the processing of 1x10³ kg of raw hides contained about 240 kg Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), 150 kg suspended solids, 100 kg of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), 170 kg common salt, 80 kg sulfate, 5 kg chromate and 10 kg sulfide (Duan, 2000). Moreover, challenges still exist for all tanneries due to the economic restrictions and limitation of strategies (Thanikaivelan et al., 2005). Studies have shown that Cr VI has high ability to penetrate into human cells and cause the pathogenic effects such as skin ulcers, allergic reactions, perforations of the respiratory surface area, etc. therefore, it is extremely carcinogenic (Kolomaznik et al., 2008).

Significance and Potential of Leather Wastes:

Raw trimmings contain a huge amount of fibrous protein approximately 93% of collagen. This high amount of collagen is a very cheap source for various value added products such as cosmetics, tissue engineering, feeds etc. The skin fleshings proteins have been found very effective for glue preparation, suitable gelatin preparation dog chew and toys preparation. So, the products from leather wastes through recycling may come in the market in the form of binders from trimming wastes, fertilizers from sludge, fatliquors from fats for leather processing at fatliquoring stage, detergents from proteins and fats, production of bioenergy, poultry and animals feeds. Therefore, environmental friendly products from leather solid wastes have get urgent investigations in this field. Latest technologies can be used for the conversion of these solid wastes into recycled products. The production of such value added products can save a huge amount to be spend on the transportation and disposition of wastes. The application of prepared industrial products will be an economical alternate of the costly and conventional products.

Suggested very Potential Products:

Binders:

The binders have been developed successfully by utilizing hydrolyzed protein from chrome tanned leather wastes and applied on different substrates in different countries.

Detergents and Surfactants:

The detergents have been formulated according to demand using tannery fats as valuable source and used in the soap industry. The liquid and solid surfactants have been developed from leather solid wastes in our labs (nawaz etal, 2012).

Fertilizers:

The leather solid wastes contain a high amount of nutrient such as nitrogen which is essential for plants growth. Therefore, liquid and solid fertilizer products have been introduced by utilizing this cheap source of leather solid wastes as soil conditioner (Lima etal., 2010).

Bio-Methane:

Methane from leather solid wastes has been produced by anaerobic co-digestion. It has been found an alternate source of energy in the form of bio-gas. The skin-fleshings and waste-water treatment plant sludge have been found more suitable (Zupancic and Jamec, 2010).

Bio-diesel:

The extracted fats have been utilized for the production of bio-diesel by trans-esterification reaction. Therefore, the tanneries fats have been found as sustainable source of energy (Ozgunay etal., 2007)

Fatliquors:

The recovered fat from skin fleshings have been used after modification as fatliquor in the fatliquoring of heavy and light leathers. These are suitable alternative of commercial fatliquor (Nasr, 2017).

Conclusion:

In this paper, the leather wastes and their possible utilizations have been discussed. The un-tanned waste and chrome tanned wastes have great potential for value added products. These products such as adhesives, surfactants, fertilizers and biomethanation are current trends of recycling. Moreover, the industrial solutions for the commercialization of such type of wastes are still needed.

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PRESS CLIPPING

BUSINESS RECORDER KARACHI THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER 2020

New DLTl scheme

PTA chairman urges govt to include dyed/finished leather

RECORDER REPORT
KARACHI: Chairman, Pakistan Tanners Association (PTA), Anjum Zafar has urged Prime Minister Imran Khan and Advisor to PM on Commerce & Textile Abdul Razzak

Dawood for early inclusion of dyed/finished leather in the new DLTl scheme with retrospective from July 2018 to enable/equip finished leather exporters/PTA's members to compete Internationally and

contribute to earn additional foreign exchange for the country.

He shared with media the severe condition of declining trend for finished leather industry in Pakistan, which is concluded for the export figure of Aug-Sept'2020 in sharp negative (-) 40%, as compared to the corresponding period. He also shared one of the main reason for the continuous declining trend of Finished Leather as discontinuation of "Finished Leather" for the DLTl Scheme, from July'2018 which was previously being given and since then the declining trend of the export of finished leather has been broaden gradually year to year and reached now at (-) 40%, which is very alarming for the industry and exports.

Anjum Zafar also clarified that the Finished Leather is much value added product of Leather Sector of Pakistan and is second best after Italian Leathers where the value addition is around 200% which is highest in comparison with rest of commodities/products of the leather Industry and our finished leathers are sold to worlds major brands for shoes, bags, belts and leather products etc, but unfortunately still deprived to avail the DLTl incentive for this vital product of the industry and rest of commodities are availing the DLTl scheme, which is ultimately leading to the cause of inability/in-competitive of our member exporters in International market. In this context, many meet-

ings we're held with MoC and matter was explained that dyed fabric which is much less value added product in textile is given DLTl but regrettably the most highly value added product "Finished Leather" is discontinued and not included in the new DLTl scheme for the year 2018-21.

He also informed to the media that the "Finished Leather" was included from the beginning of the scheme for the year 2017-18 for some specific period effective from Feb'2017 to June 2018, but suddenly the finished leather was unilaterally excluded for inclusion in the new DLTl scheme effective from July 2018 till date.

It is also shared that most of tanneries have already closed down their operation in Pakistan and rest are at verge of closure, if the unrest situation / discriminatory attitude with the finished leather industry is continued.

Anjum Zafar also shared the ground reality/facts that the overall leather Sector exports for the period of Aug/Sept'2020 as compared to corresponding period is in negative (-) 4%. However comparing with the potential of this industry, the over all leather sector was exporting 1.25 billion USD at peak in year (2014-15) which has continued to drop to overall about 750 million USD only for the year (2019-2020) which is dropped of about 40% in total leather sector, which is very alarming for our country's much needed exports and also for this industry.

EXPORT OF LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS FROM PAKISTAN

DURING JULY-OCT 2020 VIS-À-VIS JULY-OCT 2019

VALUE = (U.S. Dollars in Thousand)

COMMODITIES	UNIT	JULY-OCT 2019		JULY-OCT 2020		% CHANGE	
		QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE
LEATHER	'000' SQM AUP/Sq.M	6,035	70,759 11.72	3,205	43,606 13.61	-46.89%	-38.37% 16.04%
LEATHER APPAREL & CLOTHING	'000' DOZ AUP/Pcs	375	99,941 22.21	398	100,304 21.00	6.13%	0.36% -5.44%
LEATHER GLOVES	'000' DOZ AUP/Pair	1,946	77,572 3.32	1,863	85,104 3.81	-4.27%	9.71% 14.60%
LEATHER FOOTWEAR	'000' Pairs AUP/Pair	2,071	38,540 18.61	2,557	36,769 14.38	23.47%	-4.60% -22.73%
OTHER LEATHER MANUFACTURES	'000' KGS AUP/Kg	405	3,825 9.44		5,450		42.48%
TOTAL :			290,637		271,233		-6.68%

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

NOTE : Export figures for the months from July-Oct'2020 are Provisional.



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