

PRESS RELEASE

Preservation of Hides and Skins on Eid-ul-Azha 2016

KARACHI-6th September'2016: **Chairman, Pakistan Tanners Association, Mr. Gulzar Firoz** and Chairman, Hides & Skins Improvement Standing Committee of PTA expressed their concern over preservation and fear to loss more than Rs.4.0 billion to the country in the shape of wasted putrefied hides and skins.

Mr. Agha Saiddain further stated that PTA has signed an MOU between University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences (UVAS) and European Union's Pakistan Leather Competitive Improvement Program (PLCIP) for "Hides & Skins Preservation during Eid-ul-Azha 2016".

He informed that under above agreement, PTA arranged a number of seminars in Lahore & Karachi with collaboration of UVAS & PLCIP. The main objective for holding the sessions was to raise awareness amongst hides and skins collectors on "**How to preserve precious stock of hides and skins collected on Eid-ul-Azha**" which is entering in hotter season". During the Seminars the experts and researchers from University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences presented on generic and scientific methods for preserving the stocks to be collected during upcoming 3-days religious festival of Eid-ul-Azha.

He stated that lack of awareness along with improper management of raw stock on last Eid cost more than 4.0 billion rupees to the country in the shape of wasted or putrefied hides and skins.

Participants attended the session termed it very helpful in which valuable information has been shared with them. During Question/Answer session, participants suggested PTA to write to government to notify the eligible institutions/organization for collection of hides and skins during Eid days well-in-time so that the respective institution/organization could made appropriate and timely arrangements for the hides/skin collections in order to preserve precious raw materials.

He appeal the Government to release notification urgently allowing charity organizations/institutions to collect hides and skins during Eid-ul-Azha 2016 which would greatly help respective institutions/organizations to set in place their arrangements for the collection of hides and skins and he also requested the Government for providing logistic and support to facilitate the notified organization/institution in preserving precious raw materials. In this way, government could contribute in saving precious raw material.

Chairman, PTA, Mr. Gulzar Firoz also demanded the government to ensure uninterrupted supply of power and gas to the continuous processing tanning Industry at Karachi, Lahore, Kasur, Sialkot and other cities of the country which is imperative for the smooth processing of hides & skins of sacrificial animals to be collected on Eid-ul-Azha.