

PAKISTAN TANNERS ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

IRRATIONAL CONDITION OF QUARANTINE FOR RAW MATERIAL OF LEATHER INDUSTRY

Karachi: 13th June, 2018: Mr. Amanullah Aftab, Chairman, Pakistan Tanners Association informed to the print & electric media thru a press release issued today about the Irrational Condition for “Quarantine” imposed thru SRO # 1067(I)/2017 dated 20.10.2017 for the fundamental Raw Material for Leather Tanning Industry such as “Raw Hides & Skins, Wet Blue of Goat/Sheep/Lamb/Cow & Buffalo” at the import stage into Pakistan.

The Chairman, PTA, Mr. Amanullah Aftab also clarified that the real spirit of SRO # 1067 was to get all **FOOD STUFF/ITEMS Quarantined** at the import stage from world into Pakistan for the safety & health concerned for the general masses, BUT unfortunately the Raw Materials for the Leather Industry was **inadvertently included in the SRO concerned** for compliance by the Custom Authority, which has now become severe issue/problem for the Tanning Industry as getting import at large quantity being basic Raw materials for the Industry for necessary “**Value Addition**” from Raw Skins to Finished value added Leather with innovations for re-export purpose for yielding the sizeable foreign exchange for the country. He also shared with the media that the deep concern of the Industry with necessary clarification has already been conveyed to the concerned Ministry of Commerce & others in writing repeatedly for **elimination/exemption of related H.S. Codes such as 4101.2000, 4101.5010, 4101.5020, 4102.1010, 4102.2110, 4102,2120,4103,9010, 4105.1000, 4106.2100, 4106.9100, 4105.3000, 4106.2200, 4106.9200 & 4112.0000, which are basic Raw Materials for the Industry from the Irrational Condition of Quarantine** at import stage in Pakistan, **which is completely unjustified as obviously NOT FOOD ITEMS.**

The Chairman, PTA Mr. Amanullah Aftab also highlighted **important aspects** that these precious basic raw material for Tanning Industry are already covered with necessary “**Quarantine Certificate**” at **ORIGIN at the time of export to Pakistan**, as such **Duplication of Quarantine Certificate in Pakistan again is completely unjustified/unnecessary/irrational, which is ONLY causing** severe hardships for our members in clearance of containers at Ports against heavy demurrage charges for each container **BUT Opened New Era/Door of Corruption for issuance of Quarantine Certificate(s)** for each container, which is involved in Million of Pak Rupees. On the other hand the Government has recently removed the **Custom Duty** on PTA’s instance at import stage of Basic Raw Materials for the Industry for the exclusive purpose to facilitate the Leather Industry for meeting the scarcity of Raw Materials in Pakistan for necessary “**Value Addition**” for re-export the value added finished leather to the world for fetching the most precious foreign exchange for the country.

In this context, Mr. Amanullah Aftab, Chairman, PTA **STRONGLY APPEALED** to the **Ministry of Commerce & rest of allied Ministries/Govt., Departments concerned for IMMEDIATELY removal of this irrational Condition of “Quarantine”** for the import of

basic **Raw Materials** for the Industry I.e. **Raw Hides & Skins, Wet Blue of Goat/Sheep/Lamb/Cow & Buffalo**”, which is **NOT THE FOOD ITEMS** to enable PTA member exporters to executive their export activities smoothly with convenience for the supreme motive to promote the country exports, which is already in declining and needs to be addressed for acceleration to the desired extent as per aspiration of the Government.
