

PRESS RELEASE

PTA URGES TO FBR & MOC FOR RESOLUTION OF CORE ISSUES

Karachi: 29th Aug'2024 : The Chairman, Pakistan Tanners Association, Mr. Muhammad Mehr Ali has reiterated to invite immediate attention to the core issues for adequate resolution with immediate effect to save this vital Tanning/Leather Sector of Pakistan for further declining, which is already dropped alarmingly for the **last 6 months export figures** for overall leather sector is (-) **3.12%** as compared to corresponding period, while the declining trend is observed for the last **2 years continuously**.

The Chairman, PTA, Mr. Mehr Ali alongwith some senior members of PTA have invited attention of Honourable Federal Commerce Minister with his Team during LEPC Meeting held on **28.08.2024** virtually to the following issues of **Leather Sector of Pakistan** and it was assured to resolve the core issues on priority basis for providing level playing field to this value added Industry of the country :-

01.	Removal of irrational condition of Health Quarantine Certificate at the time of Export of finished leather duly valued and Import of basic raw materials for the Industry.
02.	Removal of Irrational 2% ACD on import of Cow & Buffalo raw hides & skins against H.S. Code # 4104.1100 & 4107.9200 , which is not included in 5th Schedule while rest of allied sheep & goat wet blue leather is exempted for the import already in 5 th Schedule. It is purely anomaly for rectification as admitted during LEPC meeting.
03.	Finalising the Duty Drawback rates for finished leather which is still pending @ IOCO despite lapse of long time.
04.	Release of pending Rebate claims, Sales Tax Refund & income tax claims SPECIALY to entertain Deferred Sales Tax claims which are pending since long for releasing to the Leather Industry. An approximate pending with government is around Rs.2.17 Billion to the Industry.
05.	To Restore Concessional Tariff of Electricity & Gas to export oriented industries including Leather Sector of Pakistan which was eligible earlier before March'23 , which is much exorbitant side in Pakistan as compared to neighbor competitors, which are rendering our member exporters UNABLE to compete in Int'l market for securing export orders for finished leather with allied commodities.

The Chairman, PTA, Mr. M. Mehr Ali has shown deep apprehension for further declining of exports for Leather Sector of Pakistan **IF No steps** for amelioration with resolution of above core issues **are taken by the Government/MOC/FBR** with **immediate effect/ without further delay**.

While concluding, Mr. M. Mehr Ali, Chairman, PTA articulated with **strong "Appeal"** to consider for removal of **unnecessary obstacles** to enable this vital Industry to play its due effective role for strengthening the country's exports with the increase of exports of **finished leather**.
