

PRESIDENT CONFIRMED 95PC ORDERS OF FTO IN 2022

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has confirmed 95 percent orders of the Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) against the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) during 2022.

FTO Dr Asif Muhammad Jah told Business Recorder at the FTO headquarters here on Wednesday that the trend of confirmation of orders of the FTO by the president of Pakistan has been increased every year. In 2022, the FBR/ complainants have filed 461 representations against the FTO orders with the president during 2022. The total number of cases disposed of by the FTO stood at 6,106 during 2022.

The president has decided 349 representations and upheld 329 orders of the FTO, which is a big success for the taxpayers, he said. The percentage of rejection of the FBR's representations by the president is around 95 percent. Dr Jah stated that the percentage of rejections of the FBR's representations with the FTO during the last three years revealed that the 94-97 percent representations have been decided in favour of the FTO.

The FTO stated that in 2021, the president has decided 610 representations, whereas, upheld 561 orders of the FTO, reflecting 92 percent success rate. Similarly, President Alvi has dismissed/ rejected most of the representations/ appeals filed by the FBR and upheld the orders of the FTO to treat the income of low-paid employees as salary income under section 12 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 for taxation purposes.

DGCV REVISES CUSTOMS VALUES OF VARIOUS UNBRANDED DYES

KARACHI: Directorate General Customs Valuation (DGCV) has revised the Customs values of various types of unbranded dyes.

According to the details, the directorate has received representation regarding under-invoicing in the import of reactive dyes, acid dyes, direct dyes, disperse dyes and optical brightening agents and requested to determine the customs values of the said goods in line with the international market trends.

In response, meetings were convened last month, which were attended by the relevant stakeholders including Pakistan Chemicals & Dyes Merchants Association. The issues on the valuation of subject goods were deliberated upon in detail. The participants also submitted their proposals and the same were considered for the valuation of the subject goods.

The stakeholders contended that the prices of Dyes and Optical Brightening Agents vary based on branded and un-branded goods. Furthermore, some of the importers are declaring values on the lower side than the actual values in the international market. Therefore, the customs values of the subject goods needed to be determined as per the prevailing international prices. They also submitted proposals in this regard. Consequently, the directorate has retrieved 90 days' clearance data and scrutinized the same.

Later, the Directorate conducted a market survey under sub-section (7) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969 wherein various wholesale and retail markets were visited to observe the actual prices of reactive dyes, acid dyes, direct dyes, disperse dyes, and optical brightening agents of different origins. Finally, based on available information, the values of reactive dyes, acid dyes, direct dyes, disperse dyes and optical brightening agents have been determined under sub-section (7), read with section 25(9), of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969.

FBR ESTABLISHES IRS COMMON POOL FUND

ISLAMABAD: In line with the Customs Common Pool Fund, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has established the Inland Revenue Service (IRS) Common Pool Fund for the IR officials and officers.

In this connection, the FBR has issued IRS Common Pool Fund Rules, 2023 to be applicable from March 1, 2023. Under the IRS Common Pool Fund Rules, the rules shall apply to all cadre and non-cadre officers and officials of the Inland Revenue Department.

In order to regulate the collections and disbursements of the IRS Common Pool Fund, an IRS Common Pool Fund Board (IRS-CPFB) shall be constituted comprising Member Inland Revenue (Operations) as Chairman; Member Accounting and Audit, Member; Chief IR Revenue Operations, Member and Chief Management HRM-IR as Member.

The IRS-CPFB will act as the overall governing body of the IRS Common Pool Fund and shall perform the functions of overall supervision of the collections and disbursements of the IRS' Common Pool Fund; approve and issue policies.

PERFORMANCE OF REVENUE OFFICERS TO BE MONITORED: SMBR

LAHORE: Newly-appointed Senior Member of Board of Revenue Punjab Nabeel Javed has said that reforms on revenue will be started on priority basis and the performance of officers of all districts will be reviewed. A special cell will be set up in the Board of Revenue to check the performance of officers and will also make surprise visits to all districts.

These views were expressed by SMBR Punjab Nabeel Javed while presiding over a meeting in the committee room. Secretary Revenue Mehr Shafqatullah Mushtaq and other officers gave a detailed briefing to the SMBR about the department. Board members, Board of Secretaries, PDMA, officers of Kachiabadi, Punjab Land Record Authority participated in the meeting. Nabeel Javed said steps should be taken to improve service delivery regarding revenue across Punjab and the protection of citizens' rights should be ensured. He said advance steps should be taken to ensure the process of digital gardawri in a timely manner. He said the numbering system will be made fully functional and all the members should play their due role for speedy disposal of the pending cases in the revenue courts. Decisions should be made on merit in a short span of time so that citizens can maintain trust in the institution. He issued instructions to the DG Kachiabadis said that a master plan should be created across Punjab and special steps should be taken to develop the Kachiabadis. He said that corporate farming is the need of the hour and government land will be used for this purpose.

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