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RD on 100 luxury items increased, regulatory on 90 items revised: Zahid Khokhar

Karachi: Member Customs, Federal board of Revenue (FBR) has said that the government accords high priority to the Value Added Textile Export Sector having major share in both textile and national exports. Exporters are reciprocating to the nation while exporting products and earning foreign exchange which is the great service to the nation. Addressing a meeting with office bearers and the exporters at Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers & Exporters Association's (PHMA) Muhammad Zahid Khokhar said encouraging value addition and exports, regulatory duty on import of yarn and raw material is reduced. Perception to decrease regulatory duty on 570 items to control import is incorrect. Regulatory on only 90 items have been revised while on 100 luxury item have been increased and a revised notification was issued. Member Customs FBR stated that efforts were underway to further automate and upgrade the system. To facilitate the exporters, Rebate shall be paid with the export proceeds electronically. He said that the country direly needed the foreign exchange to which enhancement of exports holds utmost importance. The Government, to enhance exports, endeavours to take revolutionary steps and measures. The exporters are foreign exchange earners and their problems must be addressed on priority and all imperative decisions should be taken to facilitate them while reducing their

cost of manufacturing. He sought proposals from export oriented industries to simplify the Duty & Tax Remission for Exports (DTRE). Zahid Khokhar added that for renewal of licences of export oriented units and manufacturing bonds the process of validating licence shall also be automated whereby the audit will also be done automatically by system. Previously, the backlog of Customs Rebate was span over fifteen months which has been curtailed to ten months and even this ten months backlog will be reduced sooner.

Member Customs FBR, Muhammad Zahid Khokhar visited PHMA House on invitation of Jawed Bilwani, Central Chairman, PHMA accompanied by his team comprising of Chief Collector Customs (Enforcement South); Manzoor Hussain Memon; Collector Customs (Exports – Port Qasim), Dr. Saifuddin Junejo and Collector of Customs (Exports – Karachi), Muhammad Saqif Saeed. Earlier Jawed Bilwani welcomed the Member Customs and his team at PHMA and in his key notes highlighted the importance of exports to uplift the national economy, terming exports as the lifeline. In the Value Added Textile Exports, the knitwear holds the lion share with an aggregate exports of 2.7 billion dollars and also providing the highest employment opportunity. Provided knitwear sector to allow knitwear to import cotton and yarn under DTRE, hundreds of closed industries will

resume their operations. He was of the view that at the level of Customs, the Export Shipments should be cleared on 365 days and 24 hours basis uninterruptedly.

Jawed Bilwani demanded that the government must accord priority to exports over imports. Separate Examination Areas of Exports Consignments for Customs and ANF inspection of goods at Terminals / PICT, KICT, QICT & SAPT must be allocated. Exporters face timing problems in respect to Customs Examinations. He was of the view that the portion of shipments which has been examined should be marked as "Custom examined".

Bilwani was of the view that the export shipment should not be delayed due to any human error in the documents of said shipment and asserted upon the need to introduce some mechanism to rectify the error in the system. He also demanded to simplify the process of DTRE allowing the garment stitching units – manufacturers-cum-exporters to import yarn and raw material for manufacturing goods meant for export.

The meeting was attended by Umair Mianoor Chairman SZ (PHMA), Altaf Hussain Senior Vice Chairman (PHMA), Bashir Ghaffar, Vice Chairman (PHMA), Akhtar Yunus, Jabbar Gajiani, Aslam Karsaz, Khizer Mehboob, Fawad Usman, Aamir Butt and other leading exporters who also exchanged their views.

Customs steps up to simplify DTRE: official

RECORDER REPORT

KARACHI: Customs member Muhammad Zahid Khokhar on Friday signalled that the country is ready to do 'anything' to grow exports to scale up its foreign exchange accumulations, saying that the government's primary focus is to augment local export-oriented industries.

Replying to scores of concerns showed the value-added textile manufacturers-cum-exporters at the PHMA House, he said the government intends to reduce the financial burden from expatriates since their contributions to the foreign exchange reserves are already invaluable. He termed the exports growth 'crucial' particularly under the circumstances.

He said the value-added export sectors are the 'most' valuable for the country's economy, saying that the Customs has stepped up to simplify the DTRE through computerization process. He said the new computerised system will help to solve all existing issues faced by exporters with automatically without delays. However, new items to

the list will be added once they are pointed out to the Customs, he added.

With the system upgrade, Zahid Khokhar said the exporters will receive their rebate immediately without going through the lengthy procedures, saying that the Customs will then carry out a post-paid audit of those traders availed the facility. There should be some brave decisions to let the exports take its course into a new growth, which the government is taking to underpin the national economy.

Such facilitating steps, he said, will immediately affect the revenue collection targets for the FBR but are badly required to increase the exporters' financial holdings with a needed confidence from the government. He said the FBR will issue refunds without delays to the exporters, which is hoped to help increase revenue even for the tax collector. He assured that the government will give a 'special treatment' to exporters, what they deserve.

Earlier, PHMA central chair-

man Muhammad Javed Bilwani and other members of the association raised scores of different issues, which exporters are facing at the export stage with the Customs. Bilwani requested to the Customs to provide a separate inspection yard for export consignments completely isolated from the area where imports are examined. He said that the government should step up a plan to help set up the stitching units for textile export that will reduce the country economic troubles.

He said the government should also permit import of polyester, cotton and yarn under the DTRE, which will help establish new export-oriented stitching and knitting units with reducing the manufacturing cost for such industries. This move is hoped to help rejuvenate the spinning sector as well, he said, adding that the government's policy to introduce a different power and gas tariff regime for export oriented sectors is 'laudable' that will also help improving local industry to stand up firm and increase exports.

FBR mulls DTRE scheme for makers of knitwear, garments

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) is mulling to allow manufacturers of knitwear garments to import raw materials under the Duty and Tax Remission on Export (DTRE) scheme.

FBR Member Customs Muhammad Zahid Khokhar during a meeting with manufacturers and exporters of value-added textile goods at PHMA House on Friday, said he was convinced that by adopting the Bangladesh model, the textile industry exports could be enhanced in a short period and with little investment.

It was mentioned that Pakistan started its textile industry from spinning sector which still requires huge investments. However, Bangladesh with its meagre resources started from sewing machines which required low investments but straight away produced value-added textile goods.

Mr Khokhar took the message positively and assured that a scheme would be launched for allowing knitwear garment manufacturing units to install sewing machines and produce value-added garments on imported raw materials such as cotton, yarn and fabric.

He agreed that under the given circumstances, installing sewing machines was the most suitable solution since it did not require much investment and would generate large-scale employment and produce value-added textile goods.

On the occasion, Mr Khokhar said the government has in principle also agreed to make payments of Customs rebate automatically on realisation of export proceeds and an announcement in this regard would be made soon.

He also assured to resolve the Less Container Load (LCL) issue which was often held back by Customs but it is part of the same consignment having Full Load Containers (FCL). Referring to the space in examination hall and requirement of having importers' representatives at the time of examination, Mr Khokhar said that this practice was done away to avoid direct interaction with Customs staff.

Textile industry has been struggling due to a high cost of doing business. Pakistan's textile exports in the last three years dropped 9.22 per cent to \$12.4 billion. In contrast, Bangladesh's textile exports have increased 14.5pc to \$30.3bn since 2013-14.

The corresponding increase in the textile exports of Vietnam was 26.1pc to \$25.3bn.

حکومت برآمدات بڑھانے کیلئے ہر اقدام پر تیار ہے، ممبر کسٹمز

2 ماہ میں ری بیٹ نظام خود کار ہو جائے گا، ایکسپورٹرز کو کسٹمز ہاؤس آنا نہیں پڑے گا

پی ایچ ایم اے میں خطاب، ایل سی ایل کارگو کو فوری کلیئرنس کی یقین دہانی

کراچی (اسٹاف رپورٹر) ممبر کسٹمز ایف بی آر زاہد کھوکھر نے کہا ہے کہ ملک کیلئے برآمدات بڑھا کر زر مبادلہ کا حصول وقت کی اہم ضرورت ہے جبکہ وفاقی حکومت ملکی برآمدات بڑھانے کیلئے ہر قسم کے اقدامات بروئے کار لانے کیلئے تیار ہے۔ یہ بات انہوں نے جمعہ کو پاکستان ہوزری مینوفیکچررز ایسوسی (باقی صفحہ 5۔ نمبر 9)

ممبر کسٹمز



ایشن میں ویلیو ایڈڈ ٹیکسٹائل سیکٹر کے برآمد کنندگان سے خطاب کے دوران کہی۔ زاہد کھوکھر نے کہا کہ برآمد کنندگان کی سہولت کیلئے اگلے 2 ماہ میں انہیں کسٹمز ہاؤس آئے بغیر کسٹمز ری بیٹ خود کار نظام کے تحت جاری کر دیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے برآمدی کنسائنمنٹس سے متعلقہ ایل سی ایل کارگو کو فوری طور پر کلیئرنس کی یقین دہانی بھی کرائی۔