

Surgical mask

A **surgical mask**, also known as a **procedure mask**, **medical mask** or simply as a **face mask**, is intended to be worn by health professionals during procedures in surgery and nursing.^{[1][2]} It is designed to prevent infections in patients and treating personnel by catching bacteria shed in liquid droplets and aerosols from the wearer's mouth and nose.^{[3][4][5]} They are not designed to protect the wearer from inhaling airborne bacteria or viruses whose particles are smaller, and they are less effective than respirators, such as N95 or FFP masks, which provide better protection due to their material, shape and tight seal.^[6]



A surgical mask

Surgical masks vary by quality and levels of protection. Despite their name, not all surgical masks are appropriate to be used during surgeries. Surgical masks may be labeled as surgical, isolation, dental, or medical procedure masks.^[7] Chinese health officials distinguish between medical (non-surgical) and surgical masks.^[8]

Surgical masks are made of a nonwoven fabric created using a melt blowing process. They came into use in the 1960s and largely replaced cloth facemasks in developed countries. The use of surgical masks during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has been a subject of debate,^[9] as shortages of surgical masks is a central issue.^{[10][11]}

Surgical masks are popularly worn by the general public all year round in East Asian countries like China, Japan and South Korea to reduce the chance of spreading airborne diseases to others, and to prevent the breathing in of airborne dust particles created by air pollution.^[12] Additionally, surgical masks have become a fashion statement, particularly in contemporary East Asian culture bolstered by its popularity in Japanese and Korean pop culture which have a big impact on East Asian youth culture.^{[13][14]}

Contents

Function

Physical form

Usage

Health care workers

General public

Physical properties and quality

URGENT

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
(REVENUE DIVISION)
FEDERAL BOARD OF REVENUE**

C.No. 5(20)EP/2013-NCOVID-19

Islamabad, the 23rd April, 2020.


The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment-South),
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-South),
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment-Central),
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-Central),
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (North),
Custom House, Islamabad.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Balochistan),
Custom House, Quetta.

SUBJECT: **EXPORT OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED COTTON MASKS**

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above.

2. Ban on Personal Protective Equipment was imposed vide SRO 239(I)/2020 dated 24th March, 2020 and circulated vide Board's letter of even number dated 26th March, 2020 for compliance (**Annex-A**).
3. Now Ministry of National Health Services has clarified that the said ban is on the items specifically mentioned in the SRO and not on Cotton Masks. Ministry of Health's clarification is enclosed (**Annex-B**) for information and compliance.

Encls: **as above**


(Mehreen Naseem)
Secretary (Export Policy)

Copy to:

- (1) Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination, 3rd Floor, Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad with reference to DO No. 1/1/2020-Secy dated 21.04.2020.
- (2) Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
- (3) The CEO, Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP), Islamabad.
- (4) Special Assistant to Prime Minister/Minister of State, M/o NHR&C.
- (5) Secretary to Prime Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad.
- (6) Joint Secretary to Minister of Planning, Reforms and Special Initiatives.
- (7) Col Saeed, Coordinating Officer to NCOC, Islamabad.
- (8) PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

Annex 'B'

URGENT
SECRET



Government of Pakistan
Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination
(3rd Floor, Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat)
Islamabad

SECRETARY

Do. No.1/1/2020-Secy

Islamabad, April 21, 2020

Subject: **EXPORT OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED COTTON MASKS**

My Dear *Madam*,

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

I pray that you are well. National Command and Operations Committee (NCOC) has deliberated upon the issue of purported ban imposed on export of cotton masks in its meeting held on the 16th April followed by 20th April 2020.

2. It is clarified that Federal Government has imposed ban on the exports of N-95 and the Surgical masks only, and in no manner the list contains the inclusion of cotton masks (Annex-I).

3. Based on the above, it is requested that directions in this regard may be issued to all concerned for abiding by the said SRO bearing the sanctioned items listed in it, while allowing the export of the cotton masks to avoid any difficulties faced by exporters of the permissible products.

4. The urgency of the matter deserves the highest priority and your kind cooperation will be highly appreciated.

With profound regards,

(Dr. Tanveer Ahmed Qureshi)

Ms. Nausheen Javaid Amjad,
Chairman,
Federal Board of Revenue
Islamabad.

Copy to:-

1. Special Assistant to Prime Minister/Minister of State, M/o NHR&C.
2. Secretary to Prime Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad.
3. Joint Secretary to Minister of Planning, Reforms and Special Initiatives
4. Col Saeed, Coordinating Officer to NCOC, Islamabad.
5. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

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23/4

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

Islamabad, the 24th March, 2020.

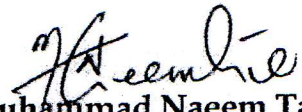
ORDER

S.R.O. 239(I)/2020. — In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1950 (XXXIX of 1950), the Federal Government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the Export Policy Order, 2016, namely: -

In the aforesaid Order, in Schedule-I, in column (1), after Sr. No. 23 and entries related thereto in columns (2), (3) and (4), the following new Sr. No. and the corresponding entries related thereto shall be added, namely: —

S. No.	HS codes	Description	Exception
"24	Respective heading	Tyvek Suits	This ban shall lapse on the completion of the process of assessment of the baseline requirements of the country and stockpiling to be notified by the Government".
		Disposable Gowns	
		Disposable Gloves	
		Face Shields	
		Surgical Masks	
		N 95 Masks	
		Biohazard Bags	
		Goggles	
		Shoe Cover	
		Hand Sanitizers	

[F. No. 3 (3)/2013-SO (TP)]


(Muhammad Naeem Tariq)
Deputy Director (M&I)

Annex A 158-
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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
(REVENUE DIVISION)
FEDERAL BOARD OF REVENUE

C.No. 5(20)EP/2013-Pt.

Islamabad, the 26th March, 2020

- The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment-South) ✓
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-South), ✓
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-Central), ✓
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment-Central), ✓
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (North), ✓
Custom House, Islamabad.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Balochistan), ✓
Custom House, Quetta.
The Director (Reforms & Automation), ✓
Directorate General of Reforms and Automation,
Custom House, Karachi

SUBJECT: IMPOSITION OF BAN ON EXPORT OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

I am directed to enclose a copy of Ministry of Commerce's O.M No.3(3)/2013-SO (TP) dated 24th March, 2020 alongwith copy of SRO 239(I)/2020 dated 24th March, 2020 on the above noted subject, for information and implementation.

Encl: as above

oh *26/3/20*
(Mehreen Naseem)
Secretary (Export Policy)
Ph: 051-9205694

*e-mailed
Mr. Banaras to all
field permission*

[Signature]

MOST IMMEDIATE
BY FAX / SPL MSG



No. 3(3)/2013-SO (TP)
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE



Tel: 051-9204269
Fax: 051-9205241

Islamabad, the 24th March, 2020.

25 MAR 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - **IMPOSITION OF BAN ON EXPORT OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject cited above and to enclose herewith a copy of the SRO No. 239 (I)/2020 dated 24th March, 2020 for information and compliance.

Encl: As above.

26 MAR 2020

Chief (Exports)

M. Naeem Tariq
(M. Naeem Tariq)
Deputy Director (M&I)

SCEP ✓
The Chairman,
Federal Board of Revenue,
Islamabad.

The Governor,
State Bank of Pakistan
Karachi.

The Secretary,
Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation & Coordination,
Islamabad.

The CEO,
Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP),
Islamabad

Copy to:-

- Director General to the Adviser on Commerce's office, Islamabad.
- Staff Officer to the Secretary Commerce, M/o Commerce, Islamabad.
- The Manager (IT), Ministry of Commerce, with the request to upload the same on the official website of the Ministry of Commerce.

Supper.
(EP)
30-03-2020

FBR DOX DJ No. 62782-R
Received in Chairman's Sectt.
on 25-MAR-2020

30

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE**

Islamabad, the 24th March, 2020.


ORDER

S.R.O. 239(I)/2020. — In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1950 (XXXIX of 1950), the Federal Government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the Export Policy Order, 2016, namely: -

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		Biohazard Bags	
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		Shoe Cover	
		Hand Sanitizers	

[F. No. 3 (3)/2013-SO (TP)]


(Muhammad Naeem Tariq)
Deputy Director (M&I)

URGENT

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
(REVENUE DIVISION)
FEDERAL BOARD OF REVENUE

C.No. 5(20)EP/2013-NCOVD-19

Islamabad, the 6th May, 2020.

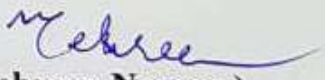
The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment-South),
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-South),
Custom House, Karachi.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisalment & Facilitation -Central),
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Enforcement-Central),
Custom House, Lahore.
The Chief Collector of Customs (North),
Custom House, Islamabad.
The Chief Collector of Customs (Balochistan),
Custom House, Quetta.

SUBJECT: EXPORT OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED COTTON MASKS

I am directed to refer to Board's letter of even number dated 23.04.2020 on the subject cited above.

2. Ban on Personal Protective Equipment was imposed vide SRO 239(I)/2020 dated 24th March, 2020 and circulated vide Board's letter of even number dated 26th March, 2020 for compliance (**Annex-A**). Now Ministry of National Health Services has clarified that the said ban is on the listed items and not on the non-listed items. Ministry of Health's clarification is enclosed (**Annex-B**) for information and strict compliance.

Encls: **as above**


(Mehreen Naseem)
Secretary (Export Policy)

Copy to:

- (1) Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination, 3rd Floor, Kohsar Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad with reference to DO No. 1/1/2020-Secy dated 02.05.2020.
- (2) Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiative, Islamabad.
- (3) Advisor on Finance and Revenue, Islamabad.
- (4) Special Assistant to Prime Minister/Minister of State, M/o NHR&C.
- (5) Secretary to Prime Minister of Pakistan, Islamabad.
- (6) Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.
- (7) SA to Chairperson, Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad.