



Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Commerce,  
Directorate General of Trade Organizations  
(Office of Regulator of Trade Organizations)  
State Life Building No. 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Blue Area,  
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F. No. 7(17)/2020-TO

Islamabad, the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

ORDER IN ORIGINAL NO.61/2020

Passed by Mr. Riaz Ahmed, Regulator of Trade Organizations

*Mr. Syed Shujaat Ali of M/s Designer*

V/s

*Pakistan Leather Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association (PLGMEA)*

Present in the hearing.

1. Syed Shujaat Ali

Appellant/ Complainant

1. Mr. Muhammad Iqbal Awan (Secretary General)

.....Respondents

Date of Hearing: 10-09-2020

Place of Hearing: OFFICE OF REGULATOR OF TRADE ORGANIZATIONS  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF TRADE ORGANIZATIONS,  
STATE LIFE BUILDING NO.7, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, BLUE AREA,  
ISLAMABAD.

Date of issuance of Order: 14-09-2020

**RIAZ AHMAD**  
Regulator of Trade Organizations  
Directorate General of Trade Organization  
Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad

By this order the undersigned intends to dispose of a complaint filed by Syed Shujaat Ali of M/s Designer against Pakistan Leather Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PLGMEA) regarding misuse of the position of Patron/Patron-in-Chief by Mr. Fawad Ijaz. The case was fixed on 10.09.2020, which was attended by both sides.

2. The background of this case is that Mr. Shujaat Ali former Chairman of PLGMEA has objected to Mr. Fawad Ijaz using the title of Patron/Patron in chief (PIC) who is interfering and influencing the Association for personal vested interests. This practice is continuing despite DGTO letter dated 20.08.2019 in which the Association was clearly intimated that such titles are not recognized in the act or rules.

### FINDINGS

The complainant has submitted a number of documents including a business card of the Patron-in-chief which clearly shows that the title is being used by Mr. Fawad Ijaz. The PIC is using the official letter head of PLGMEA to direct the Association in various matters. The complainant has argued against such practices as former chairman and member of the Association and a perusal of submitted documents show that the PIC is attempting to revoke the complainant's membership. It is clear from evidence that the PIC is utilizing the office secretariat for his own purposes despite the fact that he has no official standing as an office bearers under the Trade Organizations Act, 2013 and Trade Organization Rules, 2013, M&AoA of PLGMEA, or any other law. Therefore as per directions given vide DGTO letter dated 20.08.2019 the PIC must be restrained from posing as an Officer Bearers of Association.

2. The complainant also contended that members from the Associate Class are not being allowed to vote for a Corporate Class seat in the upcoming elections. The matter was clarified during the hearing and the complainant was informed by the defendant that only Corporate Class members can vote for Corporate Class seat of the Executive Committee, hence this part of the complaint require no further deliberation. The complainant consented to the opinion of the defendant.

3. The complainant has also submitted evidence of financial embezzlement being conducted by PIC. However, this is the matter that should be investigated by the incumbent Executive Committee of the Association.


### ORDER

Arguments heard and record/ evidence perused. The Posts of Patron and Patron in Chief have no standing in DGTO law therefore, after the conduct of elections, the newly formed Executive Committee shall look into the matters of financial embezzlement by the Patron/Patron in Chief and submit a report accordingly to the Regulator 30 days after announcement of election result.

The Secretary General shall not be removed in connection to any investigation against the Patron/Patron in Chief or on any other grounds until the investigation is concluded. The newly formed EC shall determine how the Patron/Patron in Chief have been allowed to use the official documents/stamps etc. of the Association despite having no *locus standi*.

The Complainant shall be allowed to contest the upcoming elections and his tenure as an office bearer/member of the Association shall stay intact until the elections of 2021-2022.

Announced Dated:-14-09-2020

  
(Riaz Ahmed)  
RIAZ AHMAD  
Regulator of Trade Organizations  
Directorate General of Trade Organization  
Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad

Corrigendum on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2020  
Last para date 2020-21 instead of 2021-2022