

FEDERAL TAX OMBUDSMAN SECRETARIAT

Regional Office, Lahore

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FTO/ROL/2-33/16

Dated: 04.02.2022

Subject: **AWARENESS SEMINAR/SESSION ABOUT ROLE & FUNCTION OF FEDERAL TAX OMBUDSMAN WITH BUSINESS COMMUNITY'S REPRESENTATIVES AND LAW TAX PRACTITIONERS OF THE REGION AT GOVERNOR HOUSE LAHORE UNDER THE PRESENCE OF HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN, HON'BLE GOVERNOR, PUNJAB AND HON'BLE FEDERAL TAX OMBUDSMAN.**

Federal Tax Ombudsman Secretariat, Regional Office, Lahore organised a public Awareness Campaign Session/Event with the representatives of different walk of life, Business Community, Tax & law practitioners of the region. The said event was organized at Governor House Lahore, Punjab, where in Hon'ble President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, Hon'ble Governor Punjab, Ch Muhammad Sarwar and Hon'ble Federal Tax Ombudsman, Dr. Arif Mehmood Jah (HI & SI) graced the event as Chief Guests.

2. After recitation of the Holy Quran by Hafiz Fazal-ur-Rehman and Naat Sharif by Dr. Fiaz Ahmad Ranjah, Mr. Almas Ali Jovindah, Advisor (Legal) FTO Secretariat Regional Office, Lahore, briefed the audience about the purpose of the said gathering and gave a welcome note. Then a six minutes video was also presented before the audience, which was especially made to give them awareness about role and function of the office of the Federal Tax Ombudsman and apprised about the of achievements/goals which have been accomplished by this office due course of time.

3. Hon'ble Federal Tax Ombudsman, Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah (HI & SI), then briefed the audience about the role of FTO in providing justice to taxpayers on complaints of maladministrations by hierarchy of tax authorities. In this behalf FTO has made power of investigation including inspection cognizance of maladministration can also be taken on Own Motion notice by reference by the Federal Government, the Courts and the Legislative Bodies. He also apprised the audience that Federal Tax Ombudsman provides expeditious and in expensive justice to taxpayers and persons who have grievances against the Federal Tax Authorities. He assured the audience that he believes in prompt redressal of complaints of Tax Payers. He informed the audience that how the office of the Federal Tax Ombudsman in pursuance of Own Motion (OM) investigation initiated while exercising powers conferred under section 9(1) of the Federal Tax Ombudsman Ordinance, 2000 (FTO Ordinance) to investigate in processing and sanctioning of bogus Sales Tax refund and then has ordered for initiation of disciplinary and criminal proceedings against the senior officers of Inland Revenue Services of FBR. He then quoted some examples of complaints recently received to him & how he resolved the issues within no time with informal way by using his authorities under section 33 of the FTO Ordinance, 2000. He thanked the President for his support & Special participation in the event as Chief Guest.

4. At the end of the event Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan addressed the audience and shared his views about the role & existance of the office of the Federal Tax Ombudsman. He also briefed the audience regarding his role and official working regarding discharge of his official assignments being head of the State & Constitutional head of the institute. He also admired the efforts of Federal Tax Ombudsman regarding redressal of the complaints of the aggrieved tax payers.

5. A certificate of appointment as Probona Advisor to the Federal Tax Ombudsman was also awarded to Mr. Rehman Aziz Chann by the Hon'ble Federal Tax Ombudsman during the event.

6. A large number of representatives of Trade/Business Community, Tax & Law practitioners and from general public from different walk of life attended the event. List of participants is attached as Annex "A"

7. Event was ended by vote of thanks, a group photo and refreshment for participants.

(Abdur Rehman Dogar)
Advisor (Incharge)

Encls: As above.

To:

1. The Secretary, FTO Secretariat HQ, Islamabad.
2. The Senior Advisor (Media & Research), FTO, Secretariat, HQ, Islamabad.
3. The Registrar, FTO Secretariat HQ, Islamabad.
4. The Advisor (Legal) FTO Secretariat HQ, Islamabad.
5. The Secretary to Hon'ble Federal Tax Ombudsman, Islamabad.
6. The Assistant Advisor (Media), FTO Secretariat HQ, Islamabad.
7. The Assistant Advisor (Media Coordinator), FTO Secretariat HQ, Islamabad.