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TMA seeks urgent announcement of Textile Policy, STPF 2025-30



KARACHI: The Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan (TMA) has expressed serious concern over the continued delay in finalizing and announcing the Textile Policy 2025–30 and Strategic Trade Policy Framework (STPF) 2025–30, noting that the previous Textile and Apparel Policy 2020–25 and Strategic Trade Policy Framework 2020–25 have completed their respective policy periods, leaving exporters awaiting a clear and comprehensive policy roadmap for the coming years.

Chairman TMA, Dr Rehan Chawla (T.I.), emphasized that the absence of a new textile and trade policy framework is creating uncertainty among exporters, investors and industrial stakeholders at a critical time when Pakistan needs to strengthen its export base, attract investment, improve productivity and enhance its competitiveness in international markets.

He stated that prolonged policy uncertainty adversely affects investment planning, capacity expansion, technological upgradation, employment generation and the ability of exporters to secure long-term orders from international buyers. In an increasingly competitive global market, exporters require predictable policies relating to taxation, energy pricing, export financing, refunds, incentives,

investment and market access to make informed business decisions and compete effectively with regional and international competitors.

Chairman TMA, Dr Rehan Chawla (T.I.) observed that continued delay in the announcement of these policies may result in the postponement or cancellation of investment projects, reduced industrial expansion, loss of export opportunities, pressure on employment, weakening of buyer confidence and diminished prospects for foreign exchange earnings. Pakistan risks losing market share to competing countries that offer more consistent, predictable and competitive policy environments to their export industries.

He stressed that the Textile Policy 2025–30 must provide a long-term, stable and competitive framework for the textile and value-added sectors, addressing high production costs, affordable and reliable energy, liquidity constraints, timely sales tax refunds, competitive export financing, rationalization of taxation, technological modernization, investment facilitation, value addition, export diversification and the development of export-oriented SMEs.

The Chairman TMA further emphasized that the Strategic Trade Policy Framework 2025–30 should complement the Textile Policy by providing practical measures to expand exports, facilitate exporters, diversify international markets, improve trade facilitation, strengthen institutional coordination and enhance Pakistan's competitiveness in global trade.

He urged the government, particularly the Ministry of Commerce, to expedite the finalization, approval and announcement of both policies in consultation with representative trade associations and export-oriented industries, with clearly defined implementation timelines, measurable objectives and effective monitoring mechanisms.

The Towel Manufacturers' Association of Pakistan believes that timely announcement and effective implementation of the Textile Policy 2025–30 and STPF 2025–30 are vital for restoring business confidence, encouraging investment, safeguarding employment, increasing foreign exchange earnings and achieving sustainable export-led economic growth. The TMA reaffirmed its commitment to constructive engagement with the government and relevant institutions to help develop policies that strengthen Pakistan's industrial base and export competitiveness.