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Syed Irfan Haider Shah - Lahore

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Imran Ahmed Khan - Karachi

**TREASURER**

S. Wasimuddin Hashmi - Karachi



03-04-2024

Mr. Azam Nazeer Tarar  
Federal Minister of Law & Justice,  
Islamabad.

**APPOINTMENT OF JUDICIAL AND ACCOUNTANT MEMBERS AT  
APPELLATE TRIBUNAL INLAND REVENUE (ATIR)**

Respected Sir

We take this opportunity to write to you on behalf of Pakistan Tax Bar Association (PTBA) having footprint in 32 cities across the country and diversified membership of 12,500 members comprising of Lawyers, Tax Practitioners and Chartered Accountants. This year a new Executive Committee has taken over the charge of the affairs of PTBA with a commitment to enhance the professional competence within the members and to collaborate with the Government to broaden the tax base and enhance the tax revenue up to the true potential of Pakistan's economy.

We, at PTBA are fully aware of the importance of ATIR which is the last fact finding legal forum. Taxpayers and business enterprises heavily rely on this forum in order to invoke appellate remedy available under the tax laws in case of any grievance from order passed by the tax authorities.

We would like to bring to your kind consideration that large number of members from ATIR will not be available for their judicial work, due to completion of their contracts on June 04, 2024 and no appointment of new members has yet initiated. Considering the importance of the appellate forum, it is a matter of serious concern, and we are afraid that non availability of judicial members in ATIR will delay the dispensation of justice which slow down the economic cycle due to the fact that the tax revenue will not make its way to the treasury.

Keeping in view of the above scenario, we are of the view that if any process for appointment of judicial/accountant member will be initiated in the ATIR, following points have to be considered to make the ATIR effective forum for the redressal of the taxpayer grievances as per the provision of tax laws:

- Judicial/accountant members should be appointed in accordance with the procedure and no contractual appointment of judicial members should be undertaken.
- Accountant member may also appoint from accountant fraternity as per the provision of section 130 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

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- If the accountant member will be deputed by FBR, those members should remain for at least 3 years and during that period, they should not be called back.
- Any officer who has less than 3 years job experience, should not be deputed as accountant member of the ATIR.
- All judicial members after their appointment will have to serve at least 3 month's training program at the respective judicial academies.
- A committee should be constituted for the recommendation of judicial/accountant members which would comprise of the Law Minister, the Chairman of the relevant tribunal and President of Pakistan Tax Bar Association.
- Another committee should also be constituted for the endorsement of the recommended accountant members from FBR which would comprise of the Law Minister, the Chairman Federal Board of Revenue or any relevant person designated as such, the Chairman of the relevant tribunal and President of Pakistan Tax Bar Association.

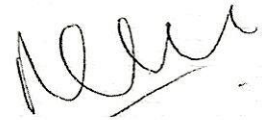
In view of the above, we hope that immediate action will be taken by your good office to lay the ground work for the aforesaid appointments, so that as and when time come the initial work would already have been done and the government may proceed with the implementation of this very important task.

Yours Faithfully,



Anwar Kashif Mumtaz

President



Mohammad Rehan Siddiqui

General Secretary

CC: Honorable Chief Justice of Pakistan

CC: Registrar Supreme Court of Pakistan