GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN CUSTOMS APPELLATE TRIBUNAL BENCH-I, 3RD FLOOR JAMIL CHAMBER, SADDAR KARACHI.

Before: Mr. Abdul Jabbar Quershi, Member Judicial-I, Karachi
Mr. Aabdul Basit Chaudhary, Member Technical-I, Karachi

Customs Appeal No. K-06 to 199 & 215 to 218 of 2023

M/s Imperial Cap Factory, Kundun Bazar, Juna Market, Karachi & Others......Appellants

Versus

The Director,
 Directorate General of Customs Valuation,
 Customs House,
 Karachi.

2. The Chief Collector,
Customs Appraisement (South),
Customs House,
Karachi.....

...Respondents

Mr. Aqeel Ahmed Khan & M. Bilal, Advocates present for the Appellants Mr. Naeem Butt, V.O for the Respondent.

Date of hearing:

12-01-2023.

Date of Order:

12-01-2023.

ORDER

Abdul Jabbar Qureshi, Member Judicial-I, Karachi: By this common order, we decide the injunction applications filed by the Appellants under Order XXXIX Rule 1 & 2 of CPC for interim relief of suspension of impugned orders during the pendency of their customs appeals filed u/s 194A(1)(f) of the Customs Act, 1969 against common Order-in-Revision bearing No.01/2023 dated 04-01-2023 and Valuation Ruling bearing No.1713/2022 dated 16-12-2022.

2. Briefly the facts of the case are that the Appellants are Importers of second hand clothing and used shoes, toys and kitchenware (hereinafter referred to as "the goods") classifiable under PCT headings 6309.0000, 9503.0090 and 7323.9900 respectively. The Director, Directorate General of Valuation, Karachi on recommendation of FTO given in complaint No.0017/OM/2022 dated 12-04-2022 initiated proceedings u/s

25A(1) of the Customs Act, 1969 for revision of Valuation Ruling No.986/2016 dated 06-12-2016 and pre-determination of customs values of the goods afresh. The Appellant made their submissions in the proceedings initiated u/s 25A(1) of the Act, 1969 which were culminated into the Valuation Ruling bearing No.1713/2022 dated 16-12-2022, wherein, the customs values of the goods were pre-determined by resorting final method (fall back) prescribed u/s 25(9) of the Customs Act, 1969 subject to Rule 121 of the Customs Rules, 2001. The Appellants being aggrieved with the Valuation Ruling and the values determined therein filed review petitions u/s 25D of the Customs Act, 1969 before the Director General, Directorate General of Valuation, Karachi which were rejected through common Order-in-Revision No.01/2023 dated 04-01-2023 against which instant appeals have been filed by the Appellants u/s 194A(1)(f) of the Customs Act, 1969, whereas, through injunction applications the Appellants seeks interim relief of suspension of operation of impugned orders during the pendency of their appeals.

On urgent applications of the Appellants the injunction applications a/w appeals 3. have been fixed to pass appropriate order(s) after providing opportunity of being heard to the parties. The Counsel of the Appellants while reiterating the grounds of injunction applications argued that the impugned orders passed u/s 25A and 25D of the Customs Act, 1969 are prima facie illegal, arbitrary and against the dictum laid down and guidance given by the Honorable High Court of Sindh, Karachi in its judgments cited in 2014 PTD 176 Goodwill Traders and 2018 PTD 1746 Sadia Jabbar. The Counsel also argued that the impugned orders have been passed in illegal manner in absence of any tangible evidence and market inquiry report(s) which could establish multistep exercise of determination and proper application of mind of the concerned officers of Customs. The Counsel further contended that no finding of facts has been given while passing impugned orders in violation of provision of Section 24A of the General Clauses Act, 1897. The Counsel contended that the Respondent No.2 and its subordinate officers are giving effect to the impugned orders while making assessments of the goods of the Appellants during pendency of their appeals before this first independent judicial forum which is causing irreparable loss and injury on account of illegal demand of additional duty/taxes and un-necessary per day charges of demurrage and detention occurred on

delay in customs clearance of consignments of goods. The Counsel also contended that the Appellants have also been deprived from relief of provisional release of their consignments during pendency of their appeals through third *proviso* inserted in Section 81(1) of the Customs Act, 1969 by the Finance Act, 2022. The Counsel finally contended that the Appellants have *prima facie* case and balance of convenience lies in their favor for grant of interim relief/temporary injunction sought through instant applications, and in support he relied upon judgments of Honorable High Court of Sindh, Karachi cited in 2019 MLD 1849 *Pfizer Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd* and 2002 PTD 679 *Pak-Saudi Fertilizers Limited etc* as well as judgment of Honorable Lahore High Court cited in 2003 PTD 1746. On the other hand, the representatives of the Respondents supported the impugned orders and opposed the injunction applications, but could not controvert the grounds and contentions of the Counsel of the Appellants.

We have heard the arguments of both sides and perused the record and examined 4. the impugned orders. The grounds of appeals and arguments of the Counsel of the Appellants merit consideration, whereas, when the impugned Valuation Ruling is examined, it appears that the customs values of the goods have not been pre-determined in accordance with the provision of subsection (9) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969 as interpreted by the Honorable High Court of Sindh, Karachi in its judgment cited in 2014 PTD 176 as relied upon by the Counsel being covered case. The impugned order passed u/s 25D of the Customs Act, 1969 does not discloses finding of facts to be recorded by the Director General, Directorate General of Valuation, Karachi while deciding the review petitions of the Appellants. This Tribunal is the first independent judicial forum and final fact-finding body outside the Departmental hierarchy before which the orders impugned in the pending appeals of the Appellants are under scrutiny and adjudication. It appears that after insertion of third proviso in Section 81(1) of the Customs Act, 1969 by the Finance Act, 2022 the relief of provisional release of consignments of the goods is not available to the Appellants during pendency of their appeals impugning the Valuation Ruling. We observed that the Appellants have prima facie case and balance of convenience also lies in their favor, whereas, the Respondent Department are giving effect to the orders impugned in pending appeals while assessing the goods to create demands of additional duty/taxes

on which unnecessary per day charges of demurrage and detention are also been occurred which is causing financial loss and injury to the Appellants whose pending appeals are yet to be heard and decided by this first independent judicial forum having power to grant final relief which also have all such powers as may be reasonably incidental or ancillary to its main jurisdiction. Hence, in all fairness, equity and justice and to enable this forum to exercise its appellate jurisdiction expressly conferred more effectively and in accordance with what indisputably are requirement of justice the Appellants entitled for interim relief/temporary injunction as per principles enunciated and dictum laid down by the Superior Courts cited Supra.

- 5. After admitting these appeals arising out from the common impugned Order-in-Revision and Valuation Ruling to be fixed for hearing on 24-01-2023 and keeping in view of the above observations and following the judgments cited *Supra*, till such time, the appeals are finally decided the operation of impugned orders remain suspended to the extent of Appellants with directions to the Respondent Department to assess the goods of the Appellants on transaction values u/s 25(1) of the Act, 1969 or on the previous Valuation Ruling 986/2016 dated 06-12-2016 as the case may.
- 6. The injunction applications of the Appellants seeking same interim relief/temporary injunction are being allowed and disposed of in the above terms by this common order passed in all these cases --mentioned in (Schedule-A) involving common controversies and facts.

(ABDUL BASIT CHAUDHARY)

Member Technical-I Karachi

(ABDUL JABBAR QURESHI) Member Judicial-I

Karachi

This order consist of (10) pages and each page bears my initials and office seal.

SCHEDULE-A

| 1 | K- | 6 | /2023 | M/s Imperial Cap Factory |
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| 3 | K- | 8 | /2023 | M/s AKM Traders |
| 4 | K- | 9 | /2023 | M/s S.M Traders |

| 5 | K- | 10 | /2023 | M/s Zain Impex |
|-------------|-----------------|-----|--------|-------------------------------|
| 6 | K- | 11 | /2023 | M/s Hayat & Sons |
| 7 | K- | 12 | /2023 | M/s T.S Traders |
| 8 | K- | 13 | /2023 | M/s Noorani Enterprises |
| | K- | 200 | /2023 | M/s Haji Ghousuddin & Company |
| 10 | K- | 15 | /2023 | M/s A.K Trading |
| 11 | K- | 16 | /2023 | M/s Spin Gul Traders |
| 12 | K- | 17 | /2023 | M/s Ahram Recycling & Cothing |
| 13 | K- | 18 | /2023 | M/s Y.S.I Chundrigar Traders |
| 14 | K- | 19 | /2023 | M/s Aman International |
| 15 | K- | 20 | /2023 | M/s Fortune Traders |
| 16 | K- | 21 | /2023 | M/s Ajwatex Enterprises |
| 17 | K- | 22 | /2023 | M/s Areesha Enterprises |
| 18 | K- | 23 | /2023 | M/s Thepda Impex |
| 19 | K- | 24 | /2023 | M/s Business International |
| 20 | K- | 25 | /2023 | M/s Khan Trading Company |
| 21 | K- | 26 | /2023 | M/s Glamour International |
| 22 | K- | 27 | /2023 | M/s Rags Studio |
| 23 | K- | 28 | /2023 | M/s Bilal Brothers |
| 24 | K- | 29 | /2023 | M/s Gul Trading Company |
| 25 | K- | 30 | /2023 | M/s Al-Sadat Enterprises |
| 26 | K- | 31 | /2023 | M/s Fahad International |
| 27 | K- | 32 | /2023 | M/s ASFACO |
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| 29 | K- | 34 | /2023 | M/s JS & Company |
| 30 | K- | 35 | /2023 | M/s MZK Enterprises |
| 31 | K- | 36 | /2023 | M/s R.A International |
| 32 | K- | 37 | /2023 | M/s AA Impex |
| 33 | K- | 38 | /2023 | M/s Global Enterprises |
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| 43 | K- | 48 | /2023 | M/s Swift Traders |
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| | K- | | /2023 | M/s M. Aslam Usman |
| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Seelani Enterprises |
| | K- | _ | /2023 | M/s Turshi Enterprises |
| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Habib & Sons |
| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Naimat Enterprises |
| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Jazebah & Company |
| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Hermain Dawood Enteprises |
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| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Wali Impex |
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| | K- | 379 852 | /2023 | M/s Pontus International |
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| | K- | | /2023 | M/s Muzamil Enterprises |
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| 65 | K- | 70 | /2023 | M/s Matsui Traders |
| 66 | K- | 71 | /2023 | M/s Z.K Enterprises |
| 67 | K- | 72 | /2023 | M/s A.T.C Global |
| 68 | K- | 73 | /2023 | M/s Rasheed & Sons |
| 69 | K- | 74 | /2023 | M/s Soneji Enterprises |
| 70 | K- | 75 | /2023 | M/s M.G & Company |
| 71 | K- | 76 | /2023 | M/s Muzamil Textiles |
| 72 | K- | 77 | /2023 | M/s I.H.R International |
| 73 | K- | 78 | /2023 | M/s Al-Tawakal Trading |
| 74 | K- | 79 | /2023 | M/s Ammar International |
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| 76 | K- | 81 | /2023 | M/s Umer Co |
| 77 | K- | 82 | /2023 | M/s Ramzan Brothers |
| 78 | K- | 83 | /2023 | M/s H & H Trading Company |
| 79 | K- | 84 | /2023 | M/s Nadir Traders |
| 80 | K- | 85 | /2023 | |
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| 81 | K- | 00 | /2023 | M/s Rehmat & Sons |
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| 82 | K- | 07 | /2023 | M/s Global Link |
| 83 | | 00 | /2023 | M/s A.S Enteprises |
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| 87 | | 7.1 | /2023 | M/s J.B International |
| 88 | | - | . 2023 | M/s Shezy Worldwide Enterprises |
| 89 | | ,, | /2023 | M/s Safina Impex |
| 90 | | | /2023 | M/s Sabzwari Traders |
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| 93 | | | /2023 | M/s Tooba Impex |
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| 95 | | | /2023 | M/s S.H. International M/s JWK Traders |
| 96 | | | /2023 | M/s Hamid Associates |
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| 116 | K- | 121 | /2023 | M/s Burhan Traders |
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| | | | 127 | /2023 | M/s Amina Enterprises |
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| | 128 | K- | 133 | /2023 | M/s S.M Enterprises |
| | 129 | K- | 134 | /2023 | M/s Ahmed & Brothers |
| | 130 | K- | 135 | /2023 | M/s Naba International |
| | 131 | K- | 136 | /2023 | M/s Baber & Co |
| | 132 | K- | 137 | /2023 | M/s Rani Enterprises |
| | 133 | K- | 138 | /2023 | M/s Arsalan Trading Co |
| | 134 | K- | 139 | /2023 | M/s H.R International |
| | 135 | K- | 140 | /2023 | M/s Al-Qudrat Trading Company |
| | 136 | K- | 141 | /2023 | M/s A.K Traders |
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| | 142 | | | | M/s Pakistan SHCMA |
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| 158 | 17. | 102 | 12023 | M/s R.H International |
| 159 | -1 | 105 | . 2023 | M/s Asad International Sales Corporation |
| 160 | - 11 | 104 | 12023 | M/s Al-Haq Rice Traders |
| 161 | 12 | 105 | 12023 | M/s S.M.K Traders |
| | K- | 100 | .2025 | M/s Ismail Haji Tormuhammad & Co |
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| 180 | K- | 185 | /2023 | M/s Khan & Sons |
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| 182 | K- | 187 | /2023 | M/s M.Q Traders |
| 183 | K- | 188 | /2023 | M/s Ahmed Brothers |
| 184 | K- | 189 | /2023 | M/s S.S International |
| 185 | K- | 190 | /2023 | M/s Hamza Shoes House |
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| 187 | K- | 192 | /2023 | M/s Naseem Traders |
| 188 | K- | 193 | /2023 | M/s Fortune Group |
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| 192 | K- | 197 | /2023 | M/s G. Tex International |
| 193 | K- | 198 | /2023 | M/s Arafat Corporation |
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195 K- 215 /2023 M/s Prince Enterprise
196 K- 216 /2023 M/s Saif International
197 K- 217 /2023 M/s Muhammad Ali & Co
198 K- 218 /2023 M/s MAAS International

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CLATONIS APPELLATE TRIBUNAL 05-01-23

BENCH-I, KARAGHI

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