



No. SO (I&C)-3(1)/2025  
Government of Gilgit-Baltistan  
Chief Minister's Secretariat

**Gilgit** dated 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2025

To

The Chief Secretary,  
Gilgit-Baltistan

Sub:

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO EXAMINE AND ACCESS THE VARIOUS OPTIONS OUTLINED BY THE COMMITTEES ON MATTERS RELATED TO BORDER TRADE ISSUE AT SOST DRY PORT**

I am directed to refer to the subject and to state a Committee comprising of the Ministers, Assembly Members, Special Assistant and Hafiz Hafeez-ur-Rehman, ex-CM under the convenorship of Minister Home & Prisons was constituted by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gilgit-Baltistan to examine and access the Options outlined by the Committee constituted by the Federal Government and to furnish recommendations on the matters related to Border Trade Issues at Sost Dry Port vide Chief Minister Secretariat, GB Notification No.SO(I&C)-3(1)/2024 dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 (**Annex-A**).

2. The Committee after an extensive session and having consultation with the GB Supreme Council on the Options in its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2025, has furnished its recommendations for settlement of the Border Trade issues at Sost Dry Port. Minutes of the meeting are attached at (**Annex-B**).

3. Accordingly, for long lasting settlement of the Border Trade issues at Sost Dry Port, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gilgit-Baltistan has desired to submit the recommendations of the Committee to the Federal Government for consideration in the larger interest of the people of Gilgit-Baltistan, please.

4. This issues with the approval of the Chief Minister, Gilgit-Baltistan.

  
(Minhaj Mehmood)  
**SECTION OFFICER (I&C)**

CC:

PS to Secretary to Chief Minister GB.





Government of Gilgit-Baltistan  
Chief Minister's Secretariat

Gilgit dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2025

**NOTIFICATION**

No. SO (I&C)-3(1)/2024. The Hon'ble Chief Minister GB has been pleased to constitute a committee comprising of the following Members from all stakeholders of Gilgit-Baltistan to examine and assess the various Options outlined by the Committees on matters related to *Border Trade Issues at Sost Dry Port:-*

1. Mr. Shams ul Haq Lone, Minister Home, GB	Convener
2. Mr. Hafeez-ur Rehman, PML(N)	Member
3. Mr. Amjad Hussain, Member GBA	Member
4. Eng Muhammad Anwar, Minister ALF, GB	Member
5. Mr. Rehmat Khaliq, Minister E&T, GB	Member
6. Mr. Ayub Waziri, Member GBA	Member
7. Wazir Muhammad Saleem, Member GBA	Member
8. Mr. Muhammad Ali Quaid, Special Assistant to CM, GB	Member
9. Secretary Finance, GB (He will assist the Committee)	Member

**TORs of the Committee:-**

1. The Committee shall examine the Option 1 preferred by the Committee constituted by the Federal Government and its benefits to the people and local Traders of Gilgit-Baltistan to regulate Trade & taxation in the region.
2. The Committee shall conduct a thorough analysis of the Option 2 determined by the Committee constituted by the Federal Government and its subsequent benefits to the region.
3. The Committee shall examine & assess the recommendations and subsequent proposals outlined by the Special Committee constituted by the GB Cabinet in its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2025 to regulate trade and taxation in the region.
4. The Committee shall furnish definite recommendations within one week period. The Minutes of the Committee constituted by the Federal Government containing Option 1 & 2 and Report containing recommendations of the Special Committee are enclosed as **Annex-A & B**.

  
(Minhaj Mehmood)  
Section Officer (I&C)

**Distribution:-**

1. Mr. Shams ul Haq Lone, Minister Home, GB (Convener).
2. Mr. Hafeez-ur Rehman, (Ex-Chief Minister GB).
3. Mr. Amjad Hussain, Member GBA.
4. Eng Muhammad Anwar, Minister ALF, GB.
5. Mr. Rehmat Khaliq, Minister E&T, GB.
6. Mr. Ayub Waziri, Member GBA.
7. Wazir Muhammad Saleem, Member GBA.
8. Mr. Muhammad Ali Quaid, Special Assistant to CM, GB.
9. The Secretary Finance, GB.

CC:

1. Secretary Services, GAD & Cabinet, GB.
2. Addl. Secretary, CM Secretariat, GB (to extend logistic support with the Committee)
3. DS (Staff) to Chief Secretary GB.



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUED TO EXAMINE  
AND ASSESS THE VARIOUS OPTIONS OUTLINED BY THE COMMITTEES ON  
MATTERS RELATED TO BORDER TRADE ISSUES AT SOST DRY PORT.**

A meeting of the Committee under the convenorship of Minister Home & Prisons GB was held on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 at 12:00 pm to examine and evaluate the various options outlined by the committees constituted by the Federal Government and Gilgit-Baltistan Cabinet as per the Chief Minister secretariat, GB notification No. SO(I&C)-3(1)/2024 dated 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2025.

2. The meeting started with the recitation of Holy Quran. The Convener welcomed the participants in the meeting and presented an overview of the issues related to Sost Border Trade issues and invited views of each participant. Mr. Amjad Hussain member GB Assembly briefed the forum on Options-I & II preferred by the Committee constituted by the Federal Government and proposal/recommendations by the Special Committee constituted by the Gilgit-Baltistan Cabinet. Besides the key demands submitted by the Gilgit-Baltistan Supreme Council dated 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2025 were also discussed in detail (**Annex-A**). Each member of the Committee offered valuable input and views for the solution of the issue beforehand in the larger interest of the People of Gilgit-Baltistan and local traders.

3. While examining the options and prevailing situation at Sost Dry Port, the following points were divulged, which are impeding the enforcement of trade & taxation activities in alignment with Federal Government policies and the limited economic opportunities:

- (i). The trade via the Sost Border has been carried out by local traders for decades; however, neither local traders/importers nor the people of Gilgit-Baltistan could achieve benefits.
- (ii). A comprehensive Local Trade Policy covering registration of local traders, list of tariff line (local consumable items/goods, market regulation & price regulation etc) of the GB government is critical to regulate affairs of the local traders, aiming at the people of the region getting the rightful benefits, besides local traders under a legal framework to increase the local revenues.
- (iii). List of tariff line duly recommended by GB Government from the approved tariff line of the Federal Government for all types of consumable items/goods is crucial to regulate trade & taxation in the region on imported tax-exempt items/goods on subsidized rates.





- (iv). The local traders/importers are sustaining heavy financial loss due to the stuck containers at Sost Dry Port since past few months due to closure of trade.
- (vi). The prolong sits-in at the international Border with China has halted all kinds of movements across the border creating law & order and governance issues and a negative impression at globally.
- (vii). The Federal Government has forwarded two Options, i.e (i). Collection of Taxes by FBR and transfer the same to the Government of GB (ii). No collection Option, goods subsidized instead, were referred by the Federal Government to the Government of GB/Cabinet whereas in the Govt of GB has opted 3<sup>rd</sup> Option which were neither accepted by the traders nor the Federal Government. The matter was subsequently referred to the Committee for deliberation and devise of modalities and mechanism for smooth regulation of trade through Sost Border. The committee examined Options given by the Federal Committee and Special Committee of the GB Government/Cabinet.


4. After a detailed examination, discussion and deliberation in the extensive session, the committee reached at the conclusion to define local Trade policy under legal framework duly approved by the GB Government in consultation with registered trade bodies of Gilgit-Baltistan in order to carry out long term and sustainable Trade by the local Traders and importers through the enforcement of defined regulations at all levels. Following recommendations were furnished by the Committee unanimously:


- (i). The Demands regarding no collection of taxes, Stuck Containers, Export Development & SRDP Area Development were found reasonable and consistent with the trade policies and prevailing tax exemption policy in the territorial jurisdiction of GB with slight changes as below:
  - (a). Prior permission from Government of GB shall be mandatory for import of goods/items, for consumption within the territorial limits of Gilgit-Baltistan under approved tariff line of the Government.
  - (b). Re-assessment/re-evaluation of the goods, including perishable items, in stuck containers be carried out to determine any significant depreciation in market value to extend relief as per the Amnesty announced by the Hon'able Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- (ii). The local traders/importers be exempted from the imposition of taxes (Income tax, sales tax, Federal Excise Duty and Regulatory Duty) on the locally used imported items/goods via Sost dry port, which will be supplied/sold out merely in the markets located in the territorial jurisdiction of Gilgit-Baltistan.







- (iii). All kinds of taxes, including Custom Duty and Regulatory Duty, be imposed on local Traders/Importers on transportation of the consignments booked outside territorial jurisdiction of the Gilgit-Baltistan.
- (iv). All local traders/importers be registered in the Gilgit-Baltistan Revenue Authority, Border Pass Authority, MILC Department, GB and registered Trade Bodies of GB.
- (v). A comprehensive/unified Local Trade Policy covering registration of local traders, list of tariff line (locally consumable items/goods), market regulation & price regulation etc) shall be devised by the GB Government in consultation with registered trade bodies to regulate trade within Gilgit- Baltistan with a primary focus to people and local trader for achieving optimal benefits, under a legal framework and optimize annual Revenue collections by the Government of GB.
- (vi). That **Annex-A** shall be deemed as an integral part of the report.
5. The Committee urged for a permanent and meaningful solution of the issues emerged at Sost Dry Port and emphasized to present the Recommendations above before Gilgit-Baltistan Cabinet for deliberation and decision.
6. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Convener.


  
(Engr. Muhammad Anwar)  
Minister Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries

  
(Muhammad Ali Quaid)  
SA CM on Industries and Disaster Management

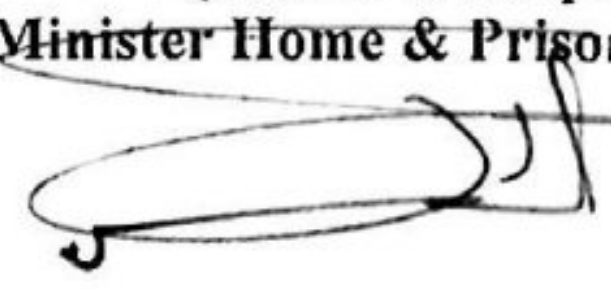
*The Govt of imported item for GB will be determined in conseq/tation with the Federal Govt.*  
(Hafiz Hafeez ur Rehman)  
Ex. Chief Minister, GB

  
(Amjad Hussain Azar)  
Member GBA

  
(Rehmat Khaliq)  
Minister Excise & Taxation, Z&U

  
(Muhammad Ayub Waziri)  
Member GBA

  
(Wazir Muhammad Saleem)  
Member Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly

  
(Shams ul Haq Lone)  
Minister Home & Prisons/ Convener





# **GILGIT BALTISTAN SUPREME COUNCIL**

**Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025**

The Supreme Council of Gilgit-Baltistan is hereby submit the following proposal and demands to Federal Committee for resolving the issues of SRDP. This document outlines a series of recommendations aimed to resolving the outstanding issues at SRDP and establishing a more sustainable and efficient trade environment.

## **KEY DEMANDS:**

### **A. Tax Exemptions**

1. All Goods being imported exclusively for the consumption of Gilgit Baltistan shall be treated as Tax-free. A special Consolidated S.R.O. should be introduced to grant tax exemption for GB (excluding I-Form).
2. Since Sales tax, Income tax, federal excise duty formally not extended / adopted in GB, all such taxes should be exempted to the extent of items / goods (container/consignment) booked for Local use within the territories of GB.
3. Regulatory Duty (RD) must be exempted regarding the situation of GB, as there are no manufacturing units in GB.
4. For GB Local use or purpose prior permission from GB government (Commerce Department) in consultation with all Chambers of Commerce & Industry of GB shall be mandatory to import items/goods as per Pakistan's Import policy.
5. A separate station/port should be established for local imports by GB traders. This Station must be jointly regulated by Pakistan Customs and GB Government Mutually.
6. Only Permanent residents of GB (verified local traders) shall be eligible to benefit from the special SRO mentioned in Point 1.
7. The trader must produce proof of purchase (invoices) and submission of Declaration of goods must be mandatory
8. Local transporters/truck owners having valid documentation shall be allowed to transport (import and export) goods.
9. SRDP shall be declared as hard area port, therefore grant special benefits, amenities, viewer to the importers working through SRDP.

### **B. Stuck Containers:**

1. Number of containers remains stuck at the SRDP, including perishable items or goods whose market value has significantly depreciated. This has caused irreparable financial losses to the importers. In line with the legal provisions allowing for relief in such circumstances, and in light of the amnesty announced by the Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan, special relief measures must be granted to mitigate losses, as per past practice.
2. SRO 499/2009 imposed on certain containers should be withdrawn, and these containers should be allowed for re-assessment and re-valuation.
3. All Demurrage charges should be waived off.
4. Tribunal and adjudication powers should be delegated to the Collector GB to expedite cases of stuck containers.

### **C. Export Development.**

1. Establish an export facilitation window at SRDP to boost the exports.
2. Export relevant authorities should establish their offices at Sost.

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***Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam Khomer Gilgit Ph:05811920674***



# GILGIT BALTISTAN SUPREME COUNCIL

## D. SRDP Area Development:

1. A defined share of the FBR/Customs revenues from Imports into the rest of Pakistan should be allocated for the development of Border Trade Communities (sub-division Gojal of District Hunza). Such funds must be used for providing clean drinking water, power, restrooms, waiting areas for travellers/ visitors/ traders, health facilities, and other basic infrastructure.
2. Special amenities/facilities should be provided to Sost Bazaar traders

1. Mr. Molana Sharaf Ud Din s/o Shaheen Khan

2. Mr. Kamran Ghazi S/o Sher Ghazi

3. Mr. Kousar Hussain S/o Lal Baig

4. Mr. Ashfaq Ahmad S/o Ghulam Ahmad

5. Mr. Muhammad Ismail S/o Muhammad Abdullah

6. Mr. Ibad Ullah S/o Abdullah

7. Mr. Gul Sher Khan S/o Jalal Ud Din

8. Mr. Abbas Ali S/o Muhammad Shah

9. Mr. Saleem Ud Din Adv S/o Atiq Ur Rehman

X 1. Mr, Hafeez Ur Rehman, Ex CM GB

✓ 2. Mr, Amjad Azhar Advocate, President PPP GB

3. Mr, Aurangzeb Khan Advocate

legal advisor GB Supreme  
Council.

**Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam Khomer Gilgit Ph:05811920674**