

The federal government has appointed Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah as the Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) for a period of four years with effect from September 21, 2021. Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah is a BS-21 officer who got premature retirement from the Pakistan Customs Service (PCS). Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah has received Sitara-Imtiaz and Hilal-e-Imtiaz awards. He also runs an NGO named Customs Healthcare Center, which has now been turned into a full-fledged hospital. He is known for his philanthropic work and has rendered laudable services following the 2005 earthquake.

### **Brief Profile of Hon'ble Federal Tax Ombudsman Pakistan**

#### **Professional**

Born in 1962 in Sargodha, Pakistan, Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah, has Bachelor's Degree in Medicine & Surgery from King Edward Medical College. After qualifying CSS examination, he started his Career as Assistant Collector Customs in 1992 and rose to the post of Chief Collector (Customs) North, FBR. Dr. Asif has attended various, professional and leadership courses/trainings in the country and abroad. He brings



with him vast experience in all facets of Tax Administration, including Tax Operations, Tax Policy, Enforcement and Adjudication of tax related cases.

#### **Philanthropic Achievements**

Besides being a busy government officer working within bounds of law, Dr. Asif has been daily taking out time to examine and treat poor and non-affording patients for the last 30 years. He has established hospitals, mobile clinics, 43 dispensaries, community welfare centers and schools throughout Pakistan. Working beyond borders, he also managed to supply relief goods to the Rohingya Muslims living in Bangladesh and Syrian refugees living in Turkey and Syria. On 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 he dispatched a huge caravan of relief goods consisting of 20 containers as humanitarian aid for the brotherly people of Afghanistan. He started Thar Green Campaign in line with Clean Green Pakistan Campaign envisaged by Prime Minister of Pakistan in which 150 green farms have been established over an area of 1000 acres in Thar, where wheat, vegetables and fodder for the cattle are being cultivated. He also started Income Generation Scheme for women of Thar.

Customs Health Society, under his command has so far dug 1100 drinking water wells and installed 1000 hand pumps in Sindh and Baluchistan in order to provide clean drinking water to the drought-hit population of Thar and Balochistan. Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah is a well-known Urdu writer and has authored 26 books which are widely read and appreciated in Pakistan and abroad. His book Dwa, Ghizaa ur Shifa is a house hold guide and more than 50,000 copies have been published so far. It has been rated as the best seller by National Book Foundation for last five years. Dr. Asif has been conferred Hilal-e-Imtiaz by President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021 and Sitara-e-Imtiaz on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2016 for rendering valuable Social Services for the humanity in distress in Pakistan and abroad.

### **Role as Federal Tax Ombudsman Pakistan**

Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan administered oath of Federal Tax Ombudsman to Dr. Asif Mahmood Jah on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 and same day he assumed the charge of FTO.

Federal Tax Ombudsman has vital role in providing justice to taxpayers on complaints of maladministration by hierarchy of tax authorities. In this behalf FTO has wide power of investigation including inspection. Cognizance of maladministration can also be taken on own motion notice or by reference by the Federal Government, Courts or Legislative Bodies. Complete autonomy administrative as well as financial is provided to the FTO. His tenure is also ensured and protected under law and he has been conferred upon the power to exercise jurisdiction for contempt as the Supreme Court has to punish any person for contempt. Federal Tax Ombudsman provides expeditious and in-expensive justice to taxpayers and persons who have genuine grievances against the Federal Tax Authorities.