

APSA asks govt to resolve transport strike issue

N
OUR STAFF REPORTER
KARACHI

All Pakistan Shipping Association (APSA) has sent SOS to government to resolve the issue of ongoing strike by the goods transporters otherwise the vessels calling Karachi ports would be diverted by the shipping lines to other destinations.

In a statement the APSA has intimated the government to immediately resolve this issue and clear the ports congestion otherwise the shipping lines have threatened the stakeholders to divert their vessels calling Karachi ports to other destinations in the region. The APSA while showing great concern over the situation warned the government to seriously take up the issue as the country is facing irreparable loss of internal and external trade. Goods transporters strike has entered into 7th day and shipping industry is incurring big losses due to vessels calling Pakistani ports, paying heavy port and other dues as there is no loading/discharging due to this strike besides creating heavy congestion in container terminals, as no outflow, is taking place.

All the shipping companies, shipping agents, cargo handling firms and all concerned along with APSA, appealed to the authorities concerned for early resolving this issue in order to avoid disrepute abroad.

APSA concerned over goods transporters strike

KARACHI: All Pakistan Shipping Association has shown great concern over the goods transporters strike, which has entered sixth day.

Shipping industry is incurring big losses due to vessels calling Pakistani ports, paying heavy port and other dues, but no loading/discharging due to this strike.

Also there is heavy congestion in container terminals, as no out flow, is taking place.

We, All Pakistan Shipping Association, appeal to the concerned authorities, for early resolving this issue.—PR

Shipping lines threaten to divert vessels from Karachi

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and external trade.

It said that the goods transporters strike, which has entered into seventh day the spokesman of the association, claimed that shipping industry is incurring big losses due to vessels calling Pakistani ports, paying heavy port and other dues and surcharges as there is no loading/discharging due to this strike

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The Frontier Post Dated 14-11-2013

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Regional Times Dated 14-11-2013

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PM urged to act as transporters continue strike

By Shah Nawaz Akhter

KARACHI: Textile exporters have urged Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to take notice of the goods' transporters strike, which has halted port and transportation and caused millions of dollar losses per day.

In separate letters to the prime minister, Pakistan Bedwear Exporters Association and Landhi Association of Trade and Industry informed him that the strike has entered its eighth consecutive day.

The goods' transporters have asked for a reduction in the income tax rate and protection for their vehicles.

Both the trade bodies informed the prime minister that the country has been suffering from huge financial losses as import and export activities have been halted and transportation of all kinds of goods within the country have also been suspended.

The protest has been causing losses of millions of dollars per day, which will cause a major loss to foreign revenue, put pressure on the rupee and increase unemployment.

The trade bodies requested the prime minister to take immediate notice of the issue in order to save the country from a disaster. Meanwhile, in a statement issued by the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI), the association asked the gov-

ernment to consider the transporters' genuine demands to save the economy from losses amounting to billions of dollars. The association also asked the transporters to end their strike for greater national interest.

S. M. Muneer, patron-in-chief of KATI, said that the government should resolve transporters' issues on an urgent basis as there are hundreds of containers stuck at ports, while foreign buyers have been cancelling their orders. He appealed to the prime minister and the finance minister to consider the genuine demands of transporters in order to revive economic activities.

Meanwhile, All Karachi Industrial Alliance President Mian Zahid Hussain offered the services of the business community to resolve the issues between the government and goods' transporters so that export activities could be revived. "The government should intervene and develop an effective strategy to compel the transporters to call off their strike," he said.

Hussain said that if the strike continues then there would be storage shortages for containers at the terminals and ports. "Goods that have to be exported to Europe and other countries for Christmas and New Year have been withheld due to the strike."

In a press statement, the Federation of

Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) urged the Federal Board Revenue (FBR) Chairman to hold negotiations with the representatives of goods' transporters to resolve their issues.

The statement added that the strike has caused \$36 million losses per day to the foreign exchange, besides causing a colossal loss to industrial production.

Shaheen Ilyas Sarwana, acting president of the FPCCI, said the strike and authorities' apathy in this regard have been causing irreparable loss to the economy.

He added that the strike has been affecting manufacturing activities as the industrial units have not been receiving raw materials and fuel to keep their activities in operation.

FPCCI's acting chief said that in case the strike continues, the industrial manufacturing capacity would be hampered due to non-availability of basic raw materials, resulting in cancellation of export orders. Further, life saving drugs and hospital equipments have also been stuck due to the strike.

Our correspondent in Karachi adds: The All Pakistan Shipping Association (APSA) has approached the government to resolve the issue of the ongoing strike by goods' transporters, said a statement.

The APSA has asked the government to immediately resolve the issue and clear con-

gestion at ports. Otherwise, the shipping lines will divert their vessels to other destinations in the region from Karachi's ports.

All the shipping companies, shipping agents and cargo handling firms and other stakeholders also appealed to the authorities concerned to resolve the issue on an urgent basis in order to avoid disrepute abroad.

Our correspondent in Lahore adds: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has sought government intervention to end the goods' transporters strike, said a statement.

LCCI President Engineer Sohail Lashari, Senior Vice President Mian Tariq Misbah and Vice President Kashif Anwar spoke about the prevailing scenario.

They said that the business community cannot afford an indefinite strike by goods' transporters, which has so far caused a loss of about Rs15 billion.

They said that the bonded transporters' strike, along with the Muharram holidays, will further delay inland supplies and export consignments, besides resulting in severe congestion at ports. They added that the containers, loaded with agricultural commodities, will also cause shortages of these commodities in the local markets and encourage black marketers.

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Exporters...

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care at all for boosting exports and enhancing foreign exchange for the country.

Fed up with all this, the PHMA Committee for Shifting of Export-oriented Industries led by M Jawed Bilwani, chairman of the Pakistan Apparel Forum, on the exporters demand, has speeded up its assignment and efforts and is corresponding and negotiating with those countries who have been offering under their investment policy and who have much better business and export-friendly policies and are offering most attractive incentives to their foreign investors, as well as permanent citizenship.

"Our member exporters also most disappointed and burdened with one adverse factor after another are revving up and making all plans to shift their businesses to such countries where they can work and expand their businesses with peace of mind and with honour."

گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال جاری تجارتی مہلے کی روپوشی کا نقصان

بحری جہاز اضافی چار جز دے رہے ہیں، شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن، سبزیاں، پھل خراب ہو رہے ہیں، برآمد کنندگان

حکومت ہڑتال ختم کرانے کے اقدام کرے، لاہور چیمبر، ملکی معیشت کو نقصان پہنچ رہا ہے، ایس ایم منیر، میاں زاہد

مختلف حکام اور حکومت سے مداخلت کی اپیل کی ہے اور مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ مسئلہ کو جلد از جلد حل کیا جائے، دوسری جانب گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال سے کروڑوں روپے مالیت کے ایک سو سے زائد چھلوں اور سبز یوں کے کنٹینرز کی برآمد نہیں ہو سکے ہیں۔ ٹروٹ اینڈ ونچسٹیل ایکسپورٹرز ایسوسی ایشن کے ترجمان عبدالواحد چھلوں اور سبز یوں کے برآمد کنندگان شدید مشکلات سے دوچار ہیں اور بروقت چھلوں اور سبز یوں کی پھر آمدات نہ ہونے کے باعث بددی آرزو زمنسوخ ہونے کا خدشہ ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال کو سات روز ہو چکے ہیں اس ہڑتال سے ملکی معیشت کو 30 ارب روپے سے زائد کے نقصان کا خدشہ ہے۔ گورنگی ایسوسی ایشن آف ٹریڈ اینڈ انڈسٹری کے سرپرست اعلیٰ ایس ایم منیر نے حکومت سے مطالبہ کیا کہ جنگی بنیادوں پر ملکی معیشت کو پہنچنے والے اربوں ڈالر کے نقصان سے بچانے کے لیے گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کے جائز مطالبات کو فوری طور پر حل کریں۔ کراچی انڈسٹریل لائسنس کے صدر میاں زاہد حسین نے کہا کہ ملکی تاجر برادری گلڈنر انسپورٹرز اور حکومت کے مابین مذاکرات کو حل کرانے کے لیے اپنا کردار پیش کرنے کے لیے تیار ہیں، کائی کے صدر سید فرخ مظہر نے کہا کہ چھلوں اور سبز یوں کے برآمدی ریفریجریٹر کنٹینرز میں موجود پھل اور سبزیاں خراب ہونے کا اندیشہ پیدا ہو چکا ہے۔ لاہور چیمبر آف کامرس اینڈ انڈسٹری کے صدر سکیل لاشاری نے حکومت پر زور دیا ہے کہ وہ مذاکرات کے ذریعے گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال ختم کروائے کیونکہ اس کی وجہ سے ایکسپورٹ کنٹینرٹس اور اشیا کی ترسیل میں سخت مشکلات پیش آ رہی ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ موجودہ حالات میں کاروباری برادری گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی غیر معیہ ہڑتال کی ہر قسم کی نہیں ہو سکتی۔

گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال کو آٹھ روز کراچی (سٹاف رپورٹر)

کراچی (سٹاف رپورٹر) گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال کو آٹھ روز مکمل ہو گئے، تجارتی سامان کی ترسیل رکنے سے قومی خزانے کو یونیٹی میں اربوں روپے کا نقصان ہو چکا ہے جبکہ پورٹ پر کارگو سے بھرے کنٹینرز کے انبار لگ گئے ہیں، بحری جہازوں کا شیڈول متاثر ہونے لگا ہے جبکہ پورٹ پر کھڑے جہازوں کو اضافی ادا نیکیاں کرنا پڑ رہی ہیں، گلڈنر انسپورٹرز نے مطالبات پر ڈٹے ہوئے ہیں اور ان کا کہنا ہے کہ مطالبات کی منظوری تک ہڑتال جاری رہے گی۔ انسپورٹرز آف گلڈنر ایسوسی ایشن کے صدر حاجی انور خان نیاز کی کہتے ہیں کہ مطالبات پر تحریری نوٹیفیکیشن جاری نہ کیا گیا تو دھرے دیں گے اور روڈ بھی بلاک کریں گے، ہڑتال کی وجہ سے بندرگاہوں پر تمام سرگرمیاں معطل رہیں، چھلوں، سبز یوں، ٹیکسٹائل مصنوعات، لیور اور ضروریات زندگی کے درآمدی اور برآمدی سامان کی بندرگاہوں سے ترسیل کا مکمل رکا رہا، دریں اثنا آل پاکستان شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن نے گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال پر کھری تشویش کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ انسپورٹرز کے گزشتہ چھ روز سے بندہ نہ کی وجہ سے کاروباری سرگرمیاں معطل ہو کر رہ گئی ہیں، بدحوہ جاری ایک بیان میں ایسوسی ایشن کا کہنا تھا کہ اس ہڑتال کی وجہ سے شپنگ انڈسٹری کو بڑے پیمانے پر نقصانات کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے کیونکہ کارگو لیے بحری جہاز پورٹ پر پہنچ رہے ہیں اور پورٹ کے چار جز سب مختلف مدت میں بڑی ادا نیکیاں بھی کر رہے ہیں لیکن ہڑتال کی وجہ سے ان جہازوں سے کارگو کی لوڈنگ اور ان لوڈنگ کا کام نہیں ہو رہا ہے۔ ایسوسی ایشن کا کہنا ہے کہ پورٹ سے کنٹینرز کی ترسیل نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے کنٹینر فیس پر کارگو کے انبار جمع ہو گئے ہیں۔ ایسوسی ایشن نے

انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال: جہازوں کو دوسری بندرگاہوں کی طرف موڑ دیئے، ایسا

مسئلہ فوری حل کر کے بندرگاہ کو خالی کرایا جائے ورنہ تجارت کو ناقابل تلافی نقصان ہوگا

نقصان اٹھانا پڑ رہا ہے دوسری جانب درآمدی درآمد کنندگان کو پورٹ پر پڑے مال کا بھاری ذمہ داری کی شکل میں بھی نقصان ہو رہا ہے۔ کراچی چیمبر آف کامرس کی مداخلت پر انسپورٹرز نے اپنے مطالبات 17 سے کم کر کے 5 کر دیئے ہیں مگر ساتھ ہی یہ واضح کر دیا ہے کہ ان کی منظوری تک ہڑتال جاری رہے گی۔ دوسری جانب صنعت کار اور تاجروں کا کہنا ہے کہ مال برآمدگاروں کے نہ چلنے سے تجارتی سرگرمیاں معطل ہو کر رہ گئی ہیں، مذہبی برآمدی آؤڈز وقت پر پورے ہو رہے ہیں اور مذہبی ٹیکسٹ یوں کو مال تیار کرنے کے لیے عام مال مل رہا ہے، اس کے علاوہ شپنگ لائن کو لاکھوں ڈالر کے جرمانے ادا کرنے پڑیں گے۔

کراچی (سٹاف رپورٹر) آل پاکستان شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن (ایسا) نے حکومت کو خبردار کیا ہے کہ گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کے مسائل فوری طور پر حل کر کے ایک ہفتے سے جاری ہڑتال ختم کرانے ورنہ شپنگ کمپنیز کراچی آنے والے تمام جہازوں کو کسی دوسری بندرگاہ کی طرف موڑ دیں گی۔ ایک بیان میں ایسا نے کہا کہ سٹیٹ فوری طور پر حل کر کے بندرگاہ کو خالی کرایا جائے ورنہ کراچی آنے والے جہازوں کی دوسری بندرگاہوں کی طرف منتقلی سے ملک کی داخلی اور خارجی تجارت کو ناقابل حلان نقصان ہوگا۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ 8 روز سے گلڈنر انسپورٹرز نے ہڑتال کر رکھی ہے جس سے ملک کی جانب تجارتی و کاروباری سرگرمیاں غلط ہیں، قومی خزانے کو اربوں کا

گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال ختم کرانے

شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن کا حکومت کو انتباہ

کراچی (کامرس رپورٹر) آل پاکستان شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن (ایسا) نے حکومت کو خبردار کیا ہے کہ گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کے مسائل فوری طور پر حل کر کے ایک ہفتے سے جاری ہڑتال ختم کرانے ورنہ شپنگ کمپنیز کراچی آنے والے تمام جہازوں کو کسی دوسری بندرگاہ کی طرف موڑ دیں گی۔

شپنگ کمپنیوں کا ہڑتال ختم کرانے کا مطالبہ

کراچی (پریس رپورٹر) گلڈنر انسپورٹرز کی ہڑتال میں شپنگ کمپنیوں کو بھی بھاری نقصان کا سامنا کرنا پڑا۔ آل پاکستان شپنگ ایسوسی ایشن نے حکومت سے مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ ہڑتال فوری طور پر ختم کر لی جائے۔ ایسوسی ایشن کے جاری کردہ بیان کے مطابق ہڑتال کے سبب پاکستانی بندرگاہ آنے والے جہازوں سے لوڈنگ ان لوڈنگ نہیں ہو سکی اور جہازوں کے

Goods transporters call off strike

By Parvaiz Ishfaq Rana

KARACHI, Nov 17: Goods transporters called off their 11-day strike on Sunday after Finance Minister Ishaq Dar accepted their demands and assured them that compensation would be paid for vehicles torched on Dec 27, 2007 in the wake of the assassination of PPP leader Benazir Bhutto.

The transporters decided to call off the strike at a meeting with the minister in Governor House which lasted for over two hours. Federal Minister for Ports and Shipping Senator Kamran Michael and Sindh Information Minister Sharjeel Memon were also present.

United Goods Transporters Alliance chairman Ghulam Yasin Khan, who led a 20-member delegation at the meeting, told Dawn that all issues had been sorted out in an amicable way and Mr Dar had directed the provincial and federal departments to issue relevant notifications and SROs by Monday. One of the SROs would be about reduction in the rate of

advance income tax to Rs2 from Rs3 per kg to be paid by the transporters.

He said that Mr Dar accepted in principle their demand for compensation and assured them that the government would look into their claims against 966 torched vehicles amounting to around Rs240.75 million at the earliest.

The meeting was also attended by the chief secretary and home secretary of Sindh, commissioner of Karachi, IG Traffic Ghulam Qadir Thebo, DIG Motorway Waliullah Dal, National Highway Authority (NHA) secretary Rashid Memon and DIG Javed Alam Odho.

The finance minister directed the chief secretary and the commissioner to look into the issues related to the weighing bridges and police in Sindh.

The goods carriers had been demanding that the operation of weighing bridges throughout the country should be taken back from corrupt contractors and handed over

to Motorway Police.

The minister asked other provinces to follow Sindh in implementation of the decisions made in the meeting.

Mr Khan urged the Sindh government to take effective measures to control heavy tariff on roads of Karachi because thousands of trailers loaded with export cargo, parked on the National and Super highways over the past 12 days, would now start moving to the port.

Similarly, he said, a large number of trailers and trucks had started moving to the port from the congested Hawkesbay and Mauripur roads and it would be comparatively easy for the administration to handle the situation on Sunday, it being a holiday.

APP adds: Mr Dar told journalists that the talks were held in a cordial way and decisions were made about all genuine demands of the transporters.

The minister for ports and shipping said the grievances of the transporters would be addressed.