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KTBA urges appointment of dedicated commissioner IR (Appeals-V) in Karachi

By our correspondent

KARACHI: The Karachi Tax Bar Association (KTBA) has sought the posting of a dedicated Commissioner Inland Revenue (Appeals-V), Karachi.

In a letter, the KTBA drew the attention of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) chairperson to the non-availability of the dedicated revenue commissioner for several months.

The association pointed out that the additional charge was initially assigned to the Commissioner IR (Appeals-VII). However, due to the inherent heavy workload of that office, appeals and stay applications pertaining to the Appeals-V jurisdiction suffered significant delays.

Compounding the problem, the additional charge of Appeals-V was recently transferred from the Commissioner IR (Appeals-VII) to the Commissioner IR (Appeals-IV) on November 21, 2025. Due to this frequent shifting of jurisdiction, many appeals were not scheduled for hearing, leading to a growing backlog.

"This administrative gap has had severe consequences for litigating appellants. Particularly, appeals that were partly heard will now require a fresh hearing before a new forum, and all pending stay applications will be reset. This practice is not only inefficient but also undermines the principles of natural justice and erodes the confidence of the taxpaying community," the body said.

On the other hand, in the absence of a dedicated Commissioner IR (Appeals-V) to hear stay applications, the department has initiated coercive recovery proceedings without having had the opportunity for a fair trial on their appeals, the KTBA added.