







2025-05

### **WOMEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY SIALKOT COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP JANUARY 27, 2025**

#### **SALIENT FEATURES**

Size of Stamp

: 56 x 56 m.m.

Size of Print

: 56 x 56 m.m.

Number of Stamps : 3 X 3 (Set of 9 Stamps)

in a sheet

Denomination

: Rs. 50/- each

Colours

: CMYK

Printing Technology : Lithography (Offset)

**Format** 

: Square

Paper

: 100 GSM W/M Gummed Paper

Gum

: PVA

Quantity

: 0.2 Million (2 Lacs)

Design

: Supplied by the customer

Printer

: National Security Printing

Company, Karachi.



# WOMEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY SIALKOT COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP JANUARY 27, 2025

The Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot (WCCIS), established in 2021 to foster the economic empowerment of women in Sialkot, one of Pakistan's premier industrial cities. WCCIS represents approximately 550 women, including 160 direct WCCIS members and 390 associates through the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI), forming a network of Micro, SMEs, and SMEs engaged in manufacturing and export sectors.

The Women Chamber's mission is to champion the interests of women entrepreneurs and promote their role in economic growth, focusing on equitable opportunities in both local and international markets. Recognizing the need for inclusive development, WCCIS advocates for policies and initiatives that facilitate access to resources, training, and professional development for women, supporting their businesses in becoming competitive players on the global stage. Through these efforts, WCCIS envisions a future where women-led enterprises thrive as vital contributors to sustainable economic growth.

Since its inception, WCCIS has actively advanced the interests of its members through a variety of initiatives. Key advocacy efforts include promoting gender-responsive public procurement policies to enhance access to government contracts, campaigning for fiscal advantages, and supporting policies for safe and harassment-free workplaces. Moreover, WCCIS is dedicated to fostering women's health and well-being, providing regular awareness sessions on topics such as

cancer prevention and heart health. These efforts are geared towards creating a secure and inclusive environment where women can pursue professional success without compromising on safety or wellness.

The Women Chamber offers a comprehensive array of programs that support capacity building, training, and market access for women entrepreneurs. In collaboration with international organizations, WCCIS has organized skill-development workshops, including sessions on digital marketing, branding, and video editing, as well as sustainable initiatives like tree plantation and kitchen gardening workshops. These programs are designed to help members refine their skills, expand their knowledge, and build confidence to compete in diverse markets. Furthermore, to bridge the gap between business and academia, WCCIS has facilitated knowledge exchange with institutions such as the University of Sialkot (USKT) and the University of Management and Technology (UMT), strengthening industry-academia ties.

One of WCCIS's flagship accomplishments is the WE-Exhibit, Sialkot's first dedicated exhibition for women entrepreneurs, which was launched in 2023. This event quickly garnered support from prominent global organizations, including the International Trade Centre (ITC), and attracted a UK Inward Trade Mission in 2024, resulting in business deals valued at over £2 million within six months. The success of the WE-Exhibit exemplifies WCCIS's commitment to providing international exposure for its members. In 2025, WCCIS anticipates hosting an even larger delegation from the UK and extending an invitation to a U.S. business delegation. In addition to these programs, WCCIS has embarked on a multi-phase research project to analyze women's workforce participation in Sialkot, aiming to identify the

key factors influencing women's economic engagement. This research will inform future strategies and policies to support women's contributions across various industries. As part of its future plans, WCCIS is developing initiatives such as a child care center to assist businesswomen with young children, affordable transport options to facilitate safe commuting for working women, and sector-specific training centers to enhance skills relevant to Sialkot's primary industries, including textiles, sports goods, and surgical instruments.

In pursuit of our mission, WCCIS values partnerships with international organizations and stakeholders to broaden the scope and impact of its services. Our ongoing collaboration with ITC and JICA underscores our commitment to global cooperation, with plans for initiatives such as Japanese language courses, industry-specific research and development, and support for market entry through trade exhibitions. With the proposed establishment of a business incubation center, WCCIS will further provide women entrepreneurs with mentorship, resources, and skill development, fostering an ecosystem conducive to innovation and success.

The Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot is dedicated to creating pathways for women's economic inclusion, equipping them with the tools to succeed in dynamic markets. By empowering women to lead and grow successful businesses, WCCIS believes we are building not only stronger businesses but stronger communities and a more equitable economy. We welcome opportunities to collaborate with partners who share our vision for a prosperous future led by empowered women.

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS:

- International Trade Centre (ITC) International Trade Centre
- FCDO Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (UK)
- UK Govt. United Kingdom Government
- GIZ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Society for International Cooperation)
- JICA-Japan International Cooperation Agency
- USAID United States Agency for International Development
  - UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender
- Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- NAPP Fairtrade National Association for the Promotion of Fair Trade (NAPP)

In recognition of the great work being done by the Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry Sialkot, a commemorative postage stamp of Rs. 50/- denomination is being issued by Pakistan Post on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

### **TERMS OF SALE**

This Commemorative Postage Stamp will be available for sale from 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 at all important Post Offices in the country.

Overseas orders for Stamps, First Day of Issue Covers and Leaflets should be addressed to the Manager, Philatelic Bureau, Karachi GPO or Manager, National Philatelic Bureau, Islamabad GPO, accompanied by a Bank Draft or Crossed Cheque encashable in Pakistan.

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