

THE FEDERAL TAX OMBUDSMAN ISLAMABAD

C.NOS. 17452, 17651, 17704/ISB/IT/2026 & 17564/SGD/IT/2026

Dated: 03.10.2026 and others HQ* Islamabad

Mr. Muhammad Nazir

Block No.146, Flat No. 4, G-11/4,
Islamabad
(C.No.17452/ISB/IT/2026)

...Complainant

V e r s u s

The Secretary,

Revenue Division,
Islamabad.

...Respondent

Dealing Officer

: Mr. Shaukat Mahmood, Advisor

Authorized Representative

: Complainant (online)

Departmental Representative

: Mr. Inayat Ullah Khattak, AD (Audit) RTO, Islamabad

Date of hearing

: 20.10.2026

FINDINGS/RECOMMENDATIONS

This complaint has been filed under Section 10(1) of the Federal Tax Ombudsman Ordinance, 2000 regarding unjustified delay in processing and release of income tax refund amounting to Rs. 241,408/- for Tax Year 2025 by Regional Tax Office, Islamabad, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

2. Main facts of the case are that the Complainant e-filed an online refund application under Section 170 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 on 09.01.2026 for Tax Year 2025, claiming a refund amounting to Rs. 241,408/- arising on account of excess tax deductions and teacher rebate eligibility.

Despite the lapse of the statutory time period mandating disposal within the prescribed timeframe of sixty days, the Department failed to process and dispose of the refund application under Section 170(4) of the Ordinance within time. Hence, filing the instant complaint.

3. The complaint was sent for comments to the Secretary, Revenue Division, Islamabad in terms of Section 10(4) of the FTO Ordinance read with Section 9(1) of Federal Ombudsmen Institutional Reforms Act, 2013. In response thereto, the Additional Commissioner (Hqrs), RTO Islamabad

forwarded parawise comments of the Additional Commissioner-IR (Refund Zone) vide letter dated 14.10.2026, wherein it was contended that:

"the refund claim for Tax Year 2025 is presently under process, and upon examination of the application, a notice dated 14.10.2026 has been issued requiring complete record and compliance on or before 23.10.2026, after which the refund will be issued strictly in accordance with law."

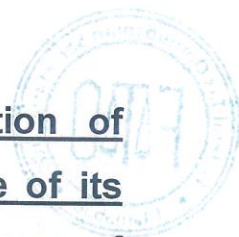
4. Case was fixed for hearing on 20.10.2026. The Complainant and the Departmental Representative attended the hearing and reiterated their respective positions.

5. During hearing and review of the case record, it was observed that the refund application for Tax Year 2025 was duly e-filed along with supporting salary slips and tax certificates, but no final refund order had been issued by the Department till date. Issuing a belated notice under Section 170(4) on 14.10.2026 long after the expiry of the statutory 60-day period does not absolve the Department of its default and inaction. Nevertheless, the Department was required to dispose of the refund application within sixty days under the law but failed to do so.

FINDINGS:

6. In the light of Para-5 supra, this delay is **manifestation of Departmental neglect, inattention and ineptitude in discharge of its duties and the same is tantamount to maladministration in terms of Section 2(3)(ii) of the FTO Ordinance, 2000.**

7. The issues involved in complaints as detailed in Annexure-A are identical, i.e. deductions of income tax u/s 236K/C and other sections of ITO Ordinance, 2001 alleging delay in processing of refund applications beyond statutory time period of 60 days, as discussed in this complaint. All these cases/complaints also fall within the jurisdiction of CIR-Refund Zone, RTO, Islamabad. In the complaints by Teachers / Associate Professors / Professors / Researchers regarding excess deduction of income tax u/s 149



of the ITO, 2001 during the months of May and June 2025 on account of recovery of rebate allowed to the teachers in the past, the refund claims be processed under the law.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

8. FBR to direct:

- (i) the CIR (Refund Zone), RTO, Islamabad to process the refund claim for Tax Year 2025 in accordance with law, after providing adequate opportunity of being heard; and
- (ii) report compliance within 30 days.

9. In view of above, findings/recommendations supra shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to all the complaints as given in **Annexure-A**.

10. Annexure A (page-3) forms the integral part of this order.

Dated: 23 OCT 2026

Annexure-A

(M. Zafar ul Haq Hijazi)
Federal Tax Ombudsman

Sr#	Complaint No	Complainant Name
1.	17651/ISB/IT/2026	Ali Imran
2.	17704/ISB/IT/2026	Sabiha Sultana
3.	17564/SGD/IT/2026	Asif Mehmood

