



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
COLLECTORATE OF CUSTOMS APPRAISEMENT (EAST)
CUSTOM HOUSE, KARACHI.



C-176/KAPE/DC/PCT/2021

Dated: 15.04.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 29/2026

Subject: **DETERMINATION OF CLASSIFICATION OF HDMI/ DATA CABLES**

01. The subject matter was referred by the Model Customs Collectorate (Appraisalment & Facilitation), Faisalabad for determination of the appropriate classification of imported goods described as "HDMI Cables / Data Cables" under the Pakistan Customs Tariff, in light of audit observations raised by the Directorate General Audit (Inland Revenue & Customs), Lahore.
02. Meetings of the Classification Committee were convened wherein detailed submissions and arguments of the departmental representatives were heard and examined.
03. The Collectorate submitted that HDMI/Data cables were imported in various consignments and assessed under PCT subheading 8544.4210. It was contended that the goods are insulated electric conductors fitted with connectors at both ends and are used for transmission of data signals between computers and peripheral devices. It was further argued that, being fitted with connectors and used in connection with computer systems, the goods fall within the specific description of "Computer leads," and therefore classification under 8544.4210 is appropriate in preference to any residual category. Samples of the goods were also forwarded for examination.
04. The Directorate General Audit, on the other hand, submitted that HDMI/Data cables are not exclusively designed for computers and are widely used with televisions, projectors, gaming consoles, multimedia devices, and other electronic equipment. It was therefore proposed that the goods are more appropriately classifiable under PCT subheading 8544.4990.
05. The Classification Committee examined the samples and observed that the goods are insulated electric conductors fitted with standardized HDMI connectors at both ends, conforming to internationally recognized multimedia interface specifications. These specifications ensure compatibility across a wide range of electronic devices. The Committee noted that subheading 8544.42 specifically covers electric conductors fitted with connectors, for a voltage not exceeding 1,000 volts. The relevant national tariff lines are reproduced below for ease of reference:

- 8544.4210 – Computer leads

Webmaster

Chief (TPS)

Muhammad Abu Bakar Siddique
Chief (TPS)

FBR E-Doc No. 48567-R
Received in Member (TPS) Office on 15-5-2026

- 8544.4221 – Vehicle wiring sets
- 8544.4290 – Other (within cables fitted with connectors)
- 8544.4990 – Other (residual category)



Picture of both end of the Cable

[Handwritten signature]

06. The Committee observed that the term “Computer leads” constitutes a specific and restrictive category. In commercial and technical parlance, such leads are designed for and principally used in connection with computer systems and their dedicated peripherals. Their identity is closely linked to computer hardware architecture, and mere capability of use with a computer does not suffice to bring a product within this description.

07. In contrast, HDMI cables are standardized multimedia interface cables designed for universal application. They are commonly used with televisions, monitors, projectors, gaming consoles, streaming devices, and computers alike. Their commercial identity is that of general-purpose multimedia transmission cables rather than computer-specific leads.

08. The Committee further observed that since the goods are insulated electric conductors fitted with connectors and operate within a voltage not exceeding 1,000 volts, they squarely fall within subheading 8544.42. Consequently, recourse to the residual category under subheading 8544.49 is not warranted.

09. Applying General Rule for Interpretation (GRI) 1, the goods are classifiable under Heading 85.44 as insulated electric conductors. By application of GRI 6, the classification dispute is confined to subheadings 8544.4210 and 8544.4290. As the goods do not meet the specific description of “Computer leads,” classification under 8544.4210 is excluded.

10. The Classification Committee holds that, by application of GRI 1 and GRI 6, HDMI/Data cables are appropriately classifiable under PCT Subheading 8544.4290.

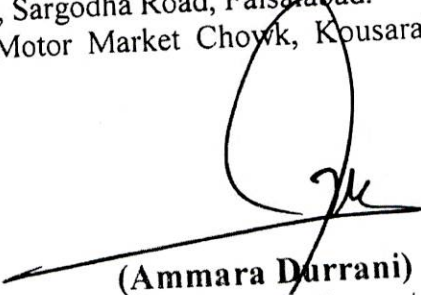
11. This determination is specific to the goods examined. The ruling shall be rendered void if it is subsequently established that it was obtained on the basis of incorrect, false, misleading, or incomplete information.

12. This Public Notice is issued in terms of Chapter-II (Classification) of CGO 12/2002 dated 15.06.2002. Any appeal against this determination shall lie with the Board.

Sd/-
(Ammara Durrani)
Additional Collector/
Secretary to the Classification Committee

Copy for information to:

1. Member (Customs-Policy), Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad.
2. Member (Customs-Operation), Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad.
3. Member (Customs-Legal & Accounting), Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad.
4. Member (FATE), Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad.
5. The Chief Collector of Custom (Appraisalment), South, Custom House, Karachi.
6. The Chief Collector of Custom (Enforcement), South, Custom House, Karachi.
7. The Chief Collector of Custom (Exports), Custom House, Karachi.
8. The Chief Collector of Custom (Appraisalment), Central, Custom House, Lahore.
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10. The Chief Collector of Custom (North), South, Custom House, Islamabad.
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12. The Chief Collector of Custom (Baluchistan), Custom House, Quetta.
13. The Collector, CoC, Appraisalment, Custom House, Faisalabad.
14. The Director, (Reforms and Automation (R&A), Custom House, Karachi.
15. All Collectorates / Directorates
16. The Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Karachi.
17. The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Karachi.
18. The Karachi Custom Agents Association, Karachi.
19. M/s. Babar and Sons, Shop No. 73, Bilal Gunj Market, Sargodha Road, Faisalabad.
20. M/s. Asghar Traders, Shop No. 46, Bilal Gunj Market, Sargodha Road, Faisalabad.
21. M/s. Ahmad Raza Traders, New Madina Electric Motor Market Chowk, Kousarabad, Jhang Road, Faisalabad
22. Notice Board.


(Ammara Durrani)
Additional Collector/
Secretary to the Classification Committee