SENATE OF PAKISTAN DAILY JOURNAL

(269th Session)

Date and day	31 st October, 2017 (Tuesday)
Commenced at	03:00 p.m.
Adjourned at	07:15 p.m.
Presided by	Deputy Chairman during the question hour and the Chairman Senate during the rest of proceedings
Attendance	66
Total working hours	4 hours and 15 minutes

• Recitation from the Holy Quran.

QUESTION HOUR

Question Nos. 153, 202, 204, 70, 71, 82, 87, 88, 92, 102, 103, 56, 60 and 64¹ were asked and replied in the House. Replies to Question Nos. 7, 215, 133, 39, 72, 73 and 98 were treated as laid on the Table of the House due tom absence of the Members concerned. Questions Nos. 23, 78, 53, 55, 59, 63, 79, 165, 167, 174, 103, 104, 105, 110, 111 and 121 were deferred. Question No. 90 was referred to the concerned Standing Committee. Remaining printed questions and their replies were treated as laid on the Table of the House.

LEAVE APPLICATIONS

• The leave applications were read by Chairman.

¹ The opposition staged walkout as protest against unsatisfactory reply by the Minister.

CONSIDERATION OF ADMISSIBILITY OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Admissibility of the following Adjournment Motions will be determined:-

1. Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh moved Adj. Motion No. 6-269/2017-M, to discuss the non- profitability of FTAs with China, non-utilization of concessions granted by China under the first phase of these agreements, need to review / revise the existing FTA agreements which are not promoting value added exports and the serious concerns regarding the promotion of local industry of Pakistan.

The Chairman held the Motion in order for two hour discussion.

Since first adjournment motion on the orders of the Day was held in order, therefore, under the rules the remaining adjournment motions on the orders of the day were carried forward for next day.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES

- 1. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini, Chairman, Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, presented report of the Committee on the question of breach of privilege of the House due to provision of incorrect information in reply to starred question No. 8, asked by Senator Farhatullah Babar on 22nd August, 2017, regarding malpractices and irregularities in Aero Medical Department of Civil Aviation Authority.
- 2. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini, Chairman, Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, presented report of the Committee on the question of breach of privilege of the Senate by the Ministry of Finance and National Bank of Pakistan by not acting upon the Ruling of the Chairman Senate of dated 4th November, 2016, regarding taking action against the persons /officials of the Ministry of Finance and the National Bank of Pakistan who had drafted and approved the misleading answer to starred question No. 4, set down for answering on 6th September, 2016, for placing the same before the Parliament.
- **3.** Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini on behalf of Senator Abdul Rehman Malik, Chairman, Standing Committee on Interior, presented report of the Committee on the Bill to prohibit the practice of Witchcraft [The Prevention of Witchcraft Bill, 2017] introduced by Senator Chaudhary Tanvir Khan, on 21st August, 2017.
- **4.** Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini on behalf of Senator Abdul Rehman Malik, Chairman, Standing Committee on Interior, presented report of the Committee on the Bill further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 [The Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2017] introduced by Senator Chaudhary Tanvir Khan, on 21st August, 2017.

5. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini on behalf of Senator Abdul Rehman Malik, Chairman, Standing Committee on Interior, presented report of the Committee on the Bill further to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 [The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill, 2017] introduced by Senator Sehar Kamran, on 21st August, 2017.

MOTION (Under Rule 204)

Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-Ul-Haq, Leader of the House, moved under rule 204 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, that this House may authorize the Chairman Senate to appoint a Special Committee to examine the overall working of Sports Federations in the country under the Convener ship of Senator Dr. Ashok Kumar and comprising of Senators Mushahid Ullah Khan, Agha Shahzaib Durrani, Sajjad Hussain Turi, Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Syed Shibli Faraz, Ilyas Ahmad Bilour and Khushbakht Shujat. The Chairman Senate be authorized to make changes in the composition of the Committee as and when deemed necessary. The report of the Committee shall be presented not later than two months from the date of notification of the Committee.

The Motion was put to the House which was adopted unanimously.

DIRECTIONS OF THE CHAIRMAN

• The Chairman directed the Minister of State for Interior to gather the relevant information and apprise the House on tomorrow about the massive cutting of trees in Islamabad.

Following Members also spoke on the issue:-

- 1. Senator Mushahid Ullah Khan, Minister for Climate Change.
- 2. Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati.
- 3. Senator Taj Haider.
- The Chairman directed the Minister for Law and Justice to assist him on the interpretation of Article 161(1) and 172(3) of the Constitution tomorrow or day after tomorrow.

<u>DISCUSSION ON THE VISIT OF THE US SECRETARY OF STATE FOR</u> <u>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</u>

The House started debate on the recent visit of the US Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to South Asia in the wake of new US policy.

Before the commencement of debate, the Minister for Foreign Affairs apologized from the House about the absence of the concerned officers of the Ministry in the official gallery to take notes due to which the debate could not be started yesterday. He assured that officers will remain present in the gallery and will take notes and he will wind up the debate as per directions of the Chair.

In pursuance of the statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Chairman directed the Secretariat to withdraw the notices of breach of privilege of the House issued against the absentee officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 30th October, 2017.

Following Members spoke:-

- 1. Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah.
- 2. Senator Sehar Kamran.
- 3. Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati.
- 4. Senator Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi.
- **5.** Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Sheikh.
- **6.** Senator Nasreen Jalil.
- 7. Senator Taj Haider.

[At 5:30 p.m. proceedings were suspended for Magrib prayer and resumed at 5:40 p.m.]

- 8. Senator Dr. Jahanzeb Jamaldini.
- 9. Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi.
- 10. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar.
- 11. Senator Farhatullah Babar.
- 12. Senator Saud Majeed.
- 13. Senator Saleem Zia.

The discussion was over and the Chairman directed that the Minister for Foreign Affairs shall wind up the debate on 1st November, 2017.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRESENCE

The Chairman acknowledged the presence of renowned journalist Mr. Saleem Safi along with a group of Youth Jirga Members who were present in the galleries to witness the proceedings of the House.

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE

Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi drew attention of the Minister for Interior towards the spending of Rupees 15 million by the Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI) on the purchase of sub-standard horticulture machinery and equipment in violation of PPRA Rules.

Mr. Talal Chaudhary, Minister of State for Interior made statement on the subject matter of the Calling Attention Notice which was disposed of.

EXPLNATION BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman explained that he as Chairman Senate has no right to comment on the policy of any political party and his statement made yesterday in response to point raised by Senator Sassui Palijo may not be misconstrued.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman announced in the House that the Chinese Government has gifted some equipment to the Senate of Pakistan which is being disposed of as under:-

- The laptops are being given to all Chairpersons of Committees.
- The tablets are being to only those Members, whose term is not going to expire in March, 2018.

MOTION (Under Rule 157 (2)

Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, moved that the Senate may discuss the Annual Report for the year 2016-2017 of the Central Board of Directors of the State Bank of Pakistan on the state of the Economy, laid on the Table of the House on 24th October, 2017.

The Motion was put to the House and adopted. Thereafter, the House started discussion on the report.

Following Members spoke:-

1. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari.

Further discussion on the Motion was commenced.

POINTS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[Zero Hour]

- 1. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz condemned the statement of the Minister of State for Interior regarding the granting of nationality to illegal migrants in Pakistan.
- 2. Senator Nasreen Jalil congratulated the Government of Pakistan on re-electing as Member of the United Nations Human Rights Council.
- **3.** Senator Saud Majeed spoke about the drying up of Sutlej valley which is not being recharged.

The Chairman directed to send the verbatim to the concerned Minister for ministerial response.

4. Senator Dr. Jahanzeb Jamaldini pointed out the missing of three women along-with their three children belonging to the District Awaran who were present in Quetta in connection with medical treatment. The Member stated that he and other members have already giving a Calling Attention Notice on this issue.

The Chairman directed to fix the CAN of the Members for tomorrow.

5. Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood pointed out the long standing under construction Khan Pur Dam road. He further spoke about the lengthy procedure of visa processing on blue passport by the Canadian, Australian and US Embassies.

At 7:15 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the proceedings of the House to meet again on Wednesday, the 1st November, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.