

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2016  
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A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in Committee Room No.4, Parliament House Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Senator Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate of Pakistan.

2. The agenda of the meeting was as under:-

- i. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.
- ii. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- iii. Business to be transacted during the Budget Session (249<sup>th</sup> session).
- iv. Discussion on urgent important matter.
- v. Any other item with permission of the Chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

1)	Senator Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate	Chairman
2)	Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haider	Member
3)	Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq	Member
4)	Senator Aitzaz Ahsan	Member
5)	Senator Saeed Ghani	Member
6)	Senator Saleem Zia, Chief Whip, PML (N)	Member
7)	Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
8)	Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar	Member
9)	Senator Hidayat Ullah	Member
10)	Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed	Member
11)	Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi	Member
12)	Shaikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs	
13)	Mr. Amjed Pervez	Secretary Senate

4. Meeting started at 6:40 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Committee started consideration of the following agenda items.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING DATED 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2016.**

5. As no objection was raised by any Member, therefore, the Committee confirmed the minutes of the meetings dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.II: COMPLIANCE REPORT REGARDING EARLIER DECISIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

6. Secretary Senate briefed the Committee about the compliance report on the following earlier decisions of the Committee.

- i. **Decision of the Committee not to hold session of the Senate on every Wednesday falling during the sessions and declaring the same as Committee Day for holding committee meetings.**

Secretary Senate informed the Members that Committee day was observed on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2016. Five Standing Committees and three other Committees meetings were scheduled and held on that day.

- ii. **Approval of the substantive amendments in the rules including the authorization to the Secretary to rectify the typographical/ grammatical/ patent errors in the text of the rules.**

Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that the amendments were passed by the House on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

- iii. **Approval of “The Un-attended Orphans (Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2013”, with amendments.**

Secretary Senate informed the Committee that the report of the Committee was presented in the House on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 and the Bill was considered and passed by the House on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

- iv. **Decision of the Committee to bring a resolution in the House suggesting the Government to celebrate 15<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan every year as Day of Orphans and abandoned children.**

Secretary Senate reported that the Resolution was moved by Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq, Leader of the House on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 which was unanimously passed by the House.

- v. **The decision of the Committee to depute the existing available interns with the Parliamentary party leaders and also to circulate a suggestion paper to the Members sensitizing them that how to utilize the services of the interns positively.**

The Secretary informed the Committee that the interns have been deputed as per instruction of the Committee.

**Agenda Item No.iii: BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE BUDGET SESSION (249<sup>TH</sup> SESSION).**

7. The Committee extensively discussed the agenda item and concluded that only the Legislative Business, Adjournment Motions and Calling Attention Notices shall be taken up during the Budget Session.

8. The Committee also took the following further decisions regarding the holding of proceedings during the Budget Session:-

- i. While discussing the proposal of the Ministry of Parliament Affairs regarding the prorogation of 249<sup>th</sup> session on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and summoning of Budget Session on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016, the Committee unanimously decided that it would be inappropriate to summon and prorogue the session on the same day, therefore, the 249<sup>th</sup> session shall continue.

**The Chair directed the Secretariat to convey the decision to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.**

- ii. The Committee decided that the time limit for speeches during the Budget Session on the Finance Bill, 2016 shall be as under:-

- Parliamentary Party Leaders shall speak for up to 25 minutes.
- Other Members shall speak for up to 15 minutes.

- iii. The Committee decided that during the Holy month of Ramadan, the timings of the session shall be from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the interval of Zohar prayer.



**Agenda Item No.iv: DISCUSSION ON AN URGENT IMPORTANT MATTER.**

9. The discussion on the agenda item was held in-camera. The Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition, Deputy Chairman and Parliamentary Party Leaders belonging to Opposition and Government Benches were of the view that an important constitutional matter has been prolonged and delayed for over 10 months and Chairman / Senate had all the right to decide and act either way but in view of the national circumstances and conditions a decisive action in the constitutional matter may be withheld till 2 weeks after full resumption of functions by the Prime Minister / Leader of the House in the National Assembly.

**Agenda Item No.v: ANY OTHER ITEM WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.**

10. The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs shared the proposed tentative schedule of the National Assembly Sessions during its 4<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Year (1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2017) and requested that parliamentary calendar of Senate Sessions for the Parliamentary Year 2016-17 may be compared with the tentative schedule of National Assembly in order to bring harmony in the Sessions of Senate and National Assembly.

11. The Committee decided that since the Parliamentary calendar of Senate session have been prepared earlier in time, in consultation with the Chairman Senate and keeping in view the international and national commitments, and the same is in implementation stages, therefore, it will not be feasible to amend the same. Furthermore, the Government is in the process of preparing the schedule of the National Assembly Sessions, therefore, if required, it will be more appropriate if the said schedule is prepared, keeping in view the Senate Parliamentary calendar.


12. In juxta position, the Committee decided as under:-

1. The minutes of the meeting dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 were confirmed.
2. The current session will not be prorogued on 2<sup>nd</sup> June rather the same will continue. **The Chair directed the Secretariat to convey the decision to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.**
3. Time limit for speeches during the Budget Session on the Finance Bill, 2016 shall be for Parliamentary Party Leaders up to 25 minutes and for other Members up to 15 minutes.

4. Timings of the session during the Holy Month of Ramadan shall be from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the interval of Zohar prayer.
5. During the Budget Session only the Legislative Business, Adjournment Motions and Calling Attention Notices shall be taken up.
6. The Government may, if required, prepare the schedule of the National Assembly Sessions keeping in view the Senate Parliamentary calendar.
7. In view of the national circumstances and conditions a decisive action in the constitutional matter may be withheld till 2 weeks after full resumption of functions by the Prime Minister / Leader of the House in the National Assembly.

13. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.

  
(Amjed Pervez Malik)  
Secretary Senate

  
(Mian Raza Rabbani)  
Chairman Senate of Pakistan