

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017**

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A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2017, in Committee Room No. 3, Parliament House Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate of Pakistan.

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

- i. Live telecasting of proceedings of the House.
- ii. Legislative and other measures for dealing with the cases of contempt of Committees.
- iii. Any other item with permission of the chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

1	<b>Hon. Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
2	Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Dy. Chairman Senate	Member
3	Senator Raja M. Zafar ul Haq, Leader of the House	Member
4	Senator Saleem Zia, Chief Whip, PML-N	Member
5	Senator Taj Haider, PPPP	Member
6	Senator Col. (R) Tahir Hussain Mashhadi (MQM)	Member
7	Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati (PTI)	Member
8	Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi, NP <i>(In place of Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo)</i>	
9	Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar (PKMAP)	Member
10	Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah , PML-F	Member
11	Senator Hidayat ullah , FATA	Member
12	Mr. Aftab Ahmed Sheikh, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs	Member
13	Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, MoS for Information and Broadcasting	

4. Meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Chairman welcomed the Members.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. I: LIVE TELECASTING OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.**

5. Secretary, Senate briefed the Committee regarding the steps taken so far by the Senate Secretariat for live telecasting of proceedings. He informed that the Question Hour

of the Senate Session is being telecasted live on PTV National while in case of National Assembly, the complete Session is being telecasted live.

6. Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting informed that the Ministry had carried out an extensive research as to international practices in this regards, as a result of which it has transpired that most Parliaments have their independent Parliamentary Channels. Keeping in view the international practices, it has been decided by the Ministry that an exclusive channel for telecasting parliamentary proceeding will be launched with the name of PTV Parliament. Till such time, proceedings of the both Houses of Parliament will be telecasted live on the PTV National. In case of any clash between the Session timing of both Houses, proceedings of Senate and National Assembly will be telecasted live on alternate basis, wherein, proceedings of one House will go live whereas recording of other House's Proceedings will be telecasted. The Minister assured that PTV Parliament will be launched within a period of one month.

7. All Members appreciated the proposed launch of exclusive Parliamentary Channel and it was decided that from this day onwards i.e. form 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2017, proceedings of Senate will be telecasted live on the PTV National till such time that a separate Parliamentary Channel is launched by the Government.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. II: LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER MEASURES FOR DEALING WITH THE CASES OF CONTEMPT OF COMMITTEES.**

8. Secretary Senate briefed the Committee that in line with the decision of the Council of Chairman a Special Committee was constituted under the convenership of Senator Aitzaz Ahsah, Leader of the Opposition to examine the issue of non-implementation of the decisions of the House in terms of rule 196 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012. The Committee has presented its report in the House, wherein, it has been proposed that a fresh legislation is required to provide for sentence or sanction against officials, Ministers or any other personal who prevent or refuse the implementation of binding decisions under rule 196 read with rue 265A of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012. The Chairman Senate had directed the Government to bring forth legislation within a period of two months.

9. The Chairman Senate stated that if the Government fails to bring about legislation within a period of two months then the Senate will adopt its own procedure to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee. Members were of the view that in the light of report, the Chairman may examine that whether a fresh legislation will be required or amendment in the Senate Rules would serve the purpose.

10. Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar ul Haq, Leader of the House, was of the opinion that the issue of non-implementation of recommendations of the Committee which have been adopted by the House shall be taken up with the Prime Minister to address the same in the Cabinet Meetings. He further proposed that there should be joint approach of both Houses in this regard as we need to take steps as an institution.

11. Senator Col. (R) Tahir Hussain Mashhadi opined that in terms of Article 66(3), Constitution, 1973, there should be legislation on the subject.

12. Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati was of the opinion that there should be legislation as well as amendment in the Senate Rules.

13. Senator Taj Haider stated that law will provide a punishment which will be awarded by the Courts, whereas, amendments in Rules will give power to the Parliament to deal itself with the cases of contempt. Moreover, Treasury and Opposition Benches, cooperation is more important than any legislation.

14. In terms of the deliberations, the Committee directed the Senate Secretariat to prepare draft legislation as well as amendments in the Senate Rules to deal with the cases of contempt of Committees, as in case of failure of the Government to bring forward legislation, the same will be taken up by the Senate.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. III: ANY OTHER ITEM WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.**

15. Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi raised certain issues as to provision of medical assistance to the Members in cases of emergency and proposed that the law in this regards needs to be amended. Secretary Senate informed that these issues can be addressed by formulation of Rules under the Members of Parliament (Salaries & Allowance) Act, 1974. An exercise was carried out to finalize to draft said rules and the Senate

Secretariat had also given its input, however, same are still pending with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

16. The Committee directed the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to expedite the formulation of Rules under the Members of Parliament (Salaries & Allowance) Act, 1974.

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



**(Amjed Pervez)**  
Secretary Senate



**(Mian Raza Rabbani)**  
Chairman Senate of Pakistan