

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10TH APRIL, 2017

A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 10th April, 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. Confirmation of Minutes of meetings dated 6th March, 2017.
- ii. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- iii. Business to be transacted during the 261st Session.
- iv. Initiatives to be taken in the New Parliamentary year.
- v. Consideration of proposals for amendments in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.
- vi. Consideration of course of action to be adopted for implementation of Resolution No. 305 passed by the Senate of Pakistan on 13th February, 2017 regarding enhancement of role and powers of Senate.
- vii. Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

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| 1) | Senator Mian Raza Rabbani | Chairman |
| 2) | Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq | Member |
| 3) | Senator Saleem Zia | Member |
| 4) | Senator Taj Haider | Member |
| 5) | Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati | Member |
| 6) | Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed | Member |
| 7) | Senator Dr. Ashok Kumar vice Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | |
| 8) | Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar | Member |
| 9) | Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah | Member |
| 10) | Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini | Member |
| 11) | Senator Hidayat Ullah | Member |
| 12) | Mr. Aftab Ahmed Sheikh, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs | Member |
| 13) | Mr. Amjed Pervez | Secretary Senate |

4. Meeting started at 1:00 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Chairman welcomed the Members and in the wake of Constitution day be commemorated on the same day, apprised them about the cooperation extended by the speakers of all the provincial assemblies, the provincial Chief Ministers and the Minister for Information and Broadcasting in this regard. The Members appreciated the efforts put in by the Chairman Senate and the Senate Secretariat especially with regard to publication of special supplements in all major newspapers throughout the Country and resolved that such like initiatives shall continue as parliamentary traditions.

AGENDA ITEM NO.I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS DATED 6TH MARCH, 2017.

5. As no objection was raised by any member, therefore, the Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting dated 6th March, 2017.

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

6. Secretary Senate submitted compliance report on the earlier decisions/directions of the Committee. The Committee showed satisfaction on the compliance report.

AGENDA ITEM NO.III: BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE 261ST SESSION.

7. The Committee decided to take up the routine Government, Private Members' and Senate Business during the session.

AGENDA ITEM NO.IV: INITIATIVES TO BE TAKEN IN THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY YEAR.

8. The Committee approved the following initiatives to be taken in the new Parliamentary year:-

- Provision of new updated books of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 to the Members.
- Provision of new uniforms to the Chamber Attendants.
- Publication of attendance of the Prime Minister, Ministers and Ministers of State on the Senate website.

- The scheduled session of the Senate in May, 2017, will be termed as “Pre-Budget Session”, in which debate on the following will be held:-
 - Recommendations made to the National Assembly on last Finance Bill and their acceptance/implementation.
 - Review of the existing rules/practice of referral of the Finance Bill to Standing Committee of the Finance and split referral of PSDP to the Standing Committee of Planning and Development.
 - A special Report/ compilation of data on Budget allocation, release, tax revenue collection etc.
 - Debate on the Reports laid in the House by different Standing Committees on the Budget allocation/ utilization by different Ministries and discussion efforts of Standing Committees to have impact on the next year budget.

AGENDA ITEM NO.V: CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE SENATE, 2012.

9. The Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that the existing rule 130 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, which deals with procedures to be adopted with regard to a Money Bill transmitted to the senate under Article 73, does not specifically provide referral of a Money Bill to the Standing Committee on Finance, therefore, in order to address this technically issue following amendment is proposed in the said rule:-

“In rule 130 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012,-

- (i) *after the words “laid on the Table by a Minister,” the words “which upon laying shall stand referred to the Standing Committee on Finance” be inserted.*
- (ii) In sub-rule (5), after the semicolon (;), the following proviso shall be added namely,-
Provided that the Standing Committee on Finance may refer the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) to the Standing Committee on Planning and Development for consideration and report within a period

of seven days. The recommendations, if any, on the PSDP shall be made part of final recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance to be presented before the House.”

The amendment was unanimously approved by the HBAC.

10. The consideration of amendment in sub rule (2) of rule 191 of the Senate rules proposed by Senator Chaudhary Tanvir Khan regarding transmission of minutes of the meetings of Committees was deferred by the Committee till next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.VI:

CONSIDERATION OF COURSE OF ACTION TO BE ADOPTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 305 PASSED BY THE SENATE OF PAKISTAN ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2017 REGARDING ENHANCEMENT OF ROLE AND POWERS OF SENATE.

11. After detailed discussion the Committee unanimously authorized the Chairman Senate to initiate a dialogue process with the Government, Speaker National Assembly and the Parliamentary Parties Leaders in National Assembly to ensure implementation of the Resolution No. 305 passed by the Senate of Pakistan on 13th February, 2017 regarding enhancement of role and powers of Senate.

AGENDA ITEM NO.VII:

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

12. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar stated that the video recordings of all the seminars arranged by Senate should be provided to the Members. **The Chairman directed the Secretariat to make arrangements for providing the recordings to the Members.**

13. Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati drew attention of the Committee towards a letter written by the Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa to the Chairman Senate with reference to the FATA reforms. **The Chairman acknowledged the receipt of letter and directed that the same be circulated to all the Members and it will be taken up in the meeting of the Committee of the whole on FATA reforms.**

14. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar raised the issue of non-releasing of development funds to the Senators. **The Committee, on the recommendation of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, unanimously approved to invite the Minister for**

Finance, Minister for Planning and the Minister for Law in the next meeting of the Committee.

15. Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq suggested that the Minister for Law may be invited in each meeting of the Committee. **The Committee approved the suggestion and the Secretariat was directed to invite the Minister for Law and Justice in meetings of the House Business Advisory Committee in future.**


16. **Some Members of the Committee desired to erect bigger display board to give prominent directions to the C-Block. The Chairman informed that once the whole building is allocated to Senate proper designing and display will be ensured.**


17. In juxtaposition, the Committee took following decisions:-

- i. The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting dated 6th March, 2017.
- ii. The Committee approved the following initiatives to be taken in the new Parliamentary year:-
 - Provision of new updated books of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 to the Members.
 - Provision of new uniforms to the Chamber Attendants.
 - Publication of attendance of the Prime Minister, Ministers and Ministers of State on the Senate website.
 - The scheduled session of the Senate in May, 2017, will be termed as “Pre-Budget Session”, in which debate on the following will be held:-
 - Recommendations made to the National Assembly on last Finance Bill and their acceptance/implementation.
 - Review of the existing rules/practice of referral of the Finance Bill to Standing Committee on Finance and split referral of PSDP to the Standing Committee on Planning and Development.
 - A special Report/ compilation of data on Budget allocation, release, tax revenue collection etc.

- Debate on the Reports laid in the House by different Standing Committees on the Budget allocation/ utilization by different Ministries and discussion efforts of Standing Committees to have impact on the next year budget.
- iii. The Committee approved the draft amendment in rule 130 of the Senate Rules.
- iv. The Committee authorized the Chairman Senate to initiate a dialogue process with the Government, Speaker National Assembly and the Parliamentary Parties Leaders in the National Assembly to ensure implementation of the Resolution No. 305 passed by the Senate of Pakistan on 13th February, 2017 regarding enhancement of role and powers of Senate.
- v. The Committee directed the Secretariat to make arrangements for providing the recordings of seminars organized by the Senate to the Members.
- vi. The Committee directed to circulate the letter written by Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa regarding the FATA reforms to all the Members as the same will be taken up in the meeting of the Committee of the whole on FATA reforms.
- vii. The Committee, on the recommendation of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, unanimously approved to invite the Minister for Finance and Minister for Planning in the next meeting of the Committee.
- viii. The Committee decided to invite the Minister for Law and Justice in meetings of the House Business Advisory Committee in future.

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


(Amjed Pervez)
Secretary Senate


(Mian Raza Rabbani)
Chairman Senate of Pakistan