

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

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A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018, 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 27<sup>th</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.
- ii. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- iii. Duration and business to be transacted during the 272<sup>nd</sup> Session.
- iv. Consideration of amendments in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 and Standing Orders.
- v. Approval of events to mark the completion of Parliamentary Year and tenure of half membership of the Senate.
- vi. Visit of Senate Museum.
- vii. 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 Aitzaz Ahsan, Leader of the Opposition	Member
5	Senator Saleem Zia, Chief Whip, PML-N	Member
6	Senator Mushahid Ullah Khan, PML-N	Member
7	Senator Taj Haider, PPPP	Member
8	Senator Col. (R) Tahir Hussain Mashhadi (MQM)	Member
9	Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati (PTI)	Member
10	Senator Saeedul Hassan Mandokhail (PML)	Member
11	Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo (NP)	Member
12	Senator Mir Israr Ullah Khan Zehri, BNP-A	Member
13	Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah , PML-F	Member
14	Senator Siraj ul Haq, JI	Member
15	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini, BNP-M	Member
16	Senator Hidayat ullah , FATA	Member
17	Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk, Minister for Law and Justice	Member

4. Meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee particularly the newly appointed Minister for Law and Justice and congratulated him on holding of the office of the Minister for Law and Justice. The Chairman also specifically welcomed Senator Saeedul Hassan Mandokhail, newly elected Parliamentary Party Leader of PML.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS DATED 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER AND 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017.**

5. The Committee unanimously confirmed the minutes of the meetings of the House Business Advisory Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

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

6. The Secretary Senate submitted the Compliance report on the earlier decisions of the Committee upon which the Committee showed satisfaction.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. III: DURATION AND BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE 272<sup>ND</sup> SESSION.**

7. The Committee decided to take up the routine Government and Private Members' Business during the session. The Committee gave approval for inclusion of the Auditor General's (Functions, Powers and Terms and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Bill, 2017 on the Orders of the Day of Private Member's Day in order to meet the Constitutional deadline of the Bill.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. IV: CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE SENATE, 2012 AND STANDING ORDERS.**

8. The Committee unanimously approved the draft amendment in Rules 79 and 81 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012. The Committee also approved the proposed amendments in the Standing Orders regarding insertion of the new Chapter X and Standing Order No. 1.65.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. V: APPROVAL OF EVENTS TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF PARLIAMENTARY YEAR AND TENURE OF HALF MEMBERSHIP OF THE SENATE.**

9. The Committee approved the schedule of events including lunches, dinners, shields, publications etc. to mark the completion of Parliamentary Year and tenure of half of the Membership of the Senate.

On the desire of the Deputy Chairman, the Committee approved the inclusion of hosting of a dinner from the Deputy Chairman in the events.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. VI: VISIT OF SENATE MUSEUM.**

10. The Committee visited the Senate Museum and expressed their contentment and appreciation on such a wonderful initiative by the Chairman Senate.

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

11. Following other issues also came under discussion of the Committee:-

I. The Chairman Senate while referring to a restriction imposed by the Senate on reciprocal visits and exchange of delegations from USA due to refusal of visa to the Deputy Chairman Senate by USA, suggested that since his term will expire in March, 2018, therefore, it is up to the Committee to continue with this imposition or his successor may review the same with consultation of the Committee.

**The Committee did not make any decision on the issue.**

II. Chairman Senate apprised the Committee about writing of a letter by him to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan in the wake of his media statement that the Parliament has not played its role in judicial reforms. The Chairman informed the Committee that along with the letter he has conveyed and transmitted annexures containing all the initiatives and legislations made by the Parliament particularly the Senate towards the judicial reforms.

Chairman read out the letter for the Members and further stated that the Hon'ble Chief Justice has desired to have a one on one meeting with him which will be scheduled soon and after meeting with the CJP he will further apprise the House about the agenda of the meeting.

**The Committee expressed its satisfaction and pleasure on the dialogue between the Heads of two Constitutional Organs of the State on an issue of urgent public importance.**

III. The Committee decided to hold another meeting of the Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, during the session, to discuss the issue of leakage of information during an in-camera session.

IV. Chairman asked Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati to withdraw his Private Member Bill titled as the Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2017, which is lying with the Committee as the proposed amendment has already been incorporated through a Government Bill.

Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati agreed to withdraw his Bill but he expressed his concern over the routine practice of the Government to copy the

substance of the Private Members' Bills as and when the same is introduced by any Private Member.

**Chairman said that he will express his displeasure in the House on such practice.**

- V. Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo spoke about the insulting remarks made by two party Heads about the Parliament during a public rally in Lahore. The Members were of the view that the issue should be discussed in the House.

The Chairman while referring to earlier ruling of previous Chairmen as well as his own rulings and observation on the issue of discussion in the House about the public statements by the party heads and the Members of the other House, suggested that it would not be appropriate to discuss the same in the House as the Speaker National Assembly has already and rightly taken cognizance of the issue.


The Minister for Law and Justice was of the opinion that the issue can be discussed in both Houses as the Parliament as whole has been maligned.

**The Committee decided that the issue will be discussed in the House but nobody will be specifically named rather a general debate will be made on the issue.**

- VI. Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah pointed out the non-implementation of the recommendations of the Committees by the Government.

**The Chairman while referring to his earlier direction given to the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to draft a Bill in this regard, stated that during the current session he will ask the Minister to come up with draft Bill otherwise the Senate will take its own course of action in this regard.**

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

  
(Amjed Pervez)  
Secretary Senate

  
(Mian Raza Rabbani)  
Chairman Senate of Pakistan