

SESSION JOURNAL

276th session

SITTING HOURS AND ATTENDANCE	
Session summoned on	9 th April, 2018
Session prorogued on	13 th April, 2018
Number of working days	5
Number of actual sittings	5
Maximum attendance	89
Minimum attendance	60
Average attendance	77
Total hours of sittings	15 hours and 10 minutes
Maximum hours of sitting	4 Hours & 50 minutes
Minimum hours of sitting	1 Hour & 45 minutes

PANEL OF PRESIDING OFFICERS FOR 273rd SESSION

1. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed
2. Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati
3. Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri

QUESTION HOURS

During the session, four question hours were held on 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th April, 2018.

INTRODUCTION OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

Following Private Members' Bills were introduced and referred to the Standing Committees concerned:-

1. The Bill further to amend the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012 [The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2018].

MOTIONS [Under Rule 218]

Following Motions under rule 218 were discussed during the session:-

1. To discuss the situation arising out of poor signals from Telecom towers of cellular phone service providers installed through the funds from USF in Districts Musa Khel, Sherani, Qilla Saifullah, Muslim Bagh, Harnai and Lora Lai in Balochistan.

With the sense of the House the Chairman referred the subject matter of the motion to the Standing Committee concerned for consideration and report.

2. To discuss the taxes levied on petroleum products in the country.
3. To discuss the Pakistan's deteriorating healthcare system.
4. To discuss the recent devaluation of Pakistani Rupee by 5% in addition to the sharp devaluation in December, 2017 which will have very negative impact on the economy making imports more expensive.

RESOLUTIONS

Following resolutions were passed during the session:-

1. This House recommends that the provision of development funds to Parliamentarians should be stopped immediately as the same is against the spirit of good governance and democratic norms.
2. This House recommends that the Government should take necessary steps to allocate funds in the PSDP for opening of new Passport Offices in all provinces of the country and ensure recruitment of required staff for the same.

3. This House recommends that the Government should reduce the prices of life saving drugs in the country.
4. This House recommends that the Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package be implemented in letter and spirit.

UNANIMOUS RESOLUTIONS

Following unanimous resolutions were passed during the session:-

1. Resolution condemning the atrocities being committed by Indian Forces in Indian Occupied Kashmir.
2. Resolution condemning the incident of bombing on a Madrissah in Kundooz, Afghanistan.

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES

On the Motion moved by the Leader of the House, the House constituted the following Committees:-

1. House Committee;
2. Finance Committees of the Senate;
3. Senate Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Affairs and Revenue;
4. Senate Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Reforms; and
5. Senate Standing Committee on Law and Justice.

LAYING OF ORDINANCE

Following Ordinance was laid during the session:-

1. The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (Ordinance No. II of 2018), as required by clause (2) of Article 89 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Since the Ordinance was first laid before the Senate, therefore, the same being treated as Bill introduced in the Senate was referred to Standing Committee concerned for consideration and report.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Following Government Bills were referred to the Standing Committees concerned for consideration and report:-

1. The Bill further to amend the Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act, 1996 [The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly.
2. The Bill to provide for criminal justice system for juveniles [The Juvenile Justice System Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly.
3. The Bill to provide for the protection and care of children in the Islamabad Capital Territory [The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Protection Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly.
4. The Bill further to amend the Federal Employees Benevolent Fund and Group Insurance Act, 1969 [The Federal Employees Benevolent Fund and Group Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly.
5. The Bill to provide for establishment of the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority [The Islamabad Healthcare Regulation Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly.
6. The Bill to provide for restructuring of health services academy as a degree awarding institute [The Health Services Academy (Restructuring) Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly.
7. The Bill further to amend the Gas Infrastructure Development Cess Act, 2015 [The Gas Infrastructure Development Cess (Amendment) Bill, 2018].
8. The Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 [The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2018].
9. The Bill further to amend the Specific Relief Act, 1877 [The Specific Relief (Amendment) Bill, 2018].
10. The Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and the Limitation Act, 1908 [The Limitation Relating to Civil Revisions Bill, 2018].

11. The Bill to amend the Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reforms Act, 2013 [The Federal Ombudsman Institutional Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 2018].
12. The Bill further to amend the Federal Judicial Academy Act, 1997 [The Federal Judicial Academy (Amendment) Bill, 2018].

LAYING OF COPIES OF THE MONEY BILLS

Following Money Bills were laid during the session:-

1. The Foreign Assets (Declaration and Repatriation) Ordinance, 2018 (Ordinance No. III of 2018), under Article 73 of the Constitution.
2. The Voluntary Declaration of Domestic Assets Ordinance, 2018 (Ordinance No. IV of 2018), under Article 73 of the Constitution.
3. The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (Ordinance No. V of 2018), under Article 73 of the Constitution.
4. The Protection of Economic Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 2018, under Article 73 of the Constitution.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition presented the report of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill to extent the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the Peshawar High Court to the Federally Administered Tribal Areas [The Supreme Court and High Court (Extension of Jurisdiction to Federally Administered Tribal Areas) Bill, 2018].

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

1. Lt. Gen. (R) Abdul Qadir Baloch Minister for States and Frontier Regions on behalf of Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk, Minister for Law and Justice moved that the Bill to extent the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the Peshawar High Court to the Federally Administered Tribal Areas [The Supreme Court and High Court (Extension of Jurisdiction to Federally Administered Tribal Areas) Bill, 2018] as reported by the

Committee of the Whole, be taken into consideration at once. **The Motion was adopted, and the House started second reading of the Bill.** After second reading, the Supreme Court and High Court (Extension of Jurisdiction to Federally Administered Tribal Areas) Bill, 2018] as reported by the Committee of the Whole, was passed.

REPORT TO BE LAID BEFORE THE SENATE

Following reports were laid during the session:-

1. The Annual Report of the National Economic Council for the Financial Year 2016-17, as required under clause (5) of Article 156 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
2. Second Quarterly Report for the year 2017-2018 of the Central Board of Directors of the State Bank of Pakistan on the state of Pakistan's Economy, as required under Section 9A(2) of the State Bank of Pakistan Act, 1956.

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

Following Calling Attention Notices were moved during the session:-

1. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition drew attention of the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs towards the decline in foreign reserves of the country at the rate of 200-250 million USD per week. **Rana Muhammad Afzal Khan, Minister of State for Finance and Economic Affairs made statement on the Calling Attention Notice.**
2. Senator Samina Saeed drew attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs towards the appointment of an inexperienced person as Ambassador to USA despite the fact that there are allegations against him which are under investigation. **Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister for Foreign Affairs made statement on the Calling Attention Notice and the CAN was disposed of.**
3. Senator Hidayat Ullah drew attention of the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training towards the low salaries of teachers working in Basic Education Community Schools and non-regularization of their services. **Mr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training made statement on the Calling Attention Notice and the CAN was disposed of.**

4. Senator Sassui Palijo on her behalf and on behalf of Senator Mian Raza Rabbani drew the attention of the Minister-in-Charge of the Cabinet Secretariat towards the U.O.No.4-2/2016-Min-I, dated, 19th January, 2018 of the Cabinet Division bearing subject “Transfer back of institutions/functions”. **Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs on behalf of Minister-in-Charge of Cabinet made statement on the Calling Attention Notice. Thus the CAN was disposed off.**
5. Senator Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah drew the attention of the Minister for Water Resources towards the acute shortage of water in the Province of Sindh due to non-implementation of Water Accord, 1991, due to which the Khareef Crops have not yet been cultivated. **Chairman with the consultation with Leader of the House and Leader of the Opposition constituted a Special committee on the issue. TORs and Convener of the committee will be determined later. The point of Public Importance raised by Senator Saussi Palijo on 10th April 2018, was also referred to the Special Committee. The CAN was then disposed off.**

AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE RULES

[Under Rule 278]

On a Motion moved by Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-Ul-Haq, Leader of the House and Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition, following amendment was made in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, to move that,-

In the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, in rule 158, in sub-rule (1), in the proviso after the words “Standing Committee” occurring at the end, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

“, or that more than one Standing Committee be constituted for a Ministry having more than one Division where Divisions are headed by separate Ministers.”.

POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

1. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar raised the issue of discriminating behavior against the Pashtoons. He further stated that Government is violating their rights of expression and protest by declaring them anti-Pakistan moment.

2. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition, pointed that the Government is planning to announce the Budget on 27th of April, 2018, therefore a briefing on at least PSDP, be arranged by the Ministry for the Members. **Chairman directed Leader of the House to coordinate with Ministry of Finance and inform the House.**
3. Senator Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi raised the issue of delay in the verification of certificates and documents by PMDC. He further pointed out the unavailability of internet service in District of Qallat and Mach of Balochistan.
Minister for Parliamentary Affairs replied that he will inform the House with current status after confirming it with the concerned Ministry.
4. Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel requested the Members of the Senate not to raise question on the subject matters devolved to the province after 18th amendment. He also pointed out the contradiction in the statement of the Health Minister about the number of TB Centers in the country. The Member also expressed his concerns over the horse trading in current Senate elections and especially in Balochistan. He further pointed out the disparity in pay scales of junior and senior clerks working in the federal and provincial governments. In this regard he also quoted the directions of former Chairman Senate to resolve the matter during the remaining tenure of incumbent government.
5. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar pointed out that despite the unanimously passed resolution by the Senate of Pakistan regarding all the outstanding loans against farmers of Balochistan be waived off, the farmers were being arrested there. He also pointed out that Senate of Pakistan has passed unanimous Resolution and had recommended to make three different slabs for tariff of natural gas in Balochistan for domestic consumers, but no action has been taken in this regard.
Chairman directed the Secretariat to get Ministerial response on the said matter. He further stated that the salaries of NCHD Schools teachers be raised to at least sixteen thousand rupees.
6. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini pointed out the urgent need of establishment of office of PWD in Gwadar. He further urged that the office of PWD in Khuzdar may

not be shifted to Gwadar. **Chairman directed the Secretariat to get Ministerial response on the said matter.**

He further raised the alarming increase in road accidents on Quetta-Karachi, Quetta-Jacobabad and Quetta-Taftan roads due to lack of illuminators and back lights of vehicles, resulting in loss of precious human lives. **Chairman referred the matter to Standing Committee concerned.**

7. Senator Sassui Palijo raised the alarming situation of water scarcity in the province of Sindh and irresponsible behavior of IRSA in this regard. Chairman referred the matter to Standing Committee concerned.
8. Senator Mushtaq Ahmed pointed out the need for passing the Bill regarding FATA reforms. Chairman remarked that the meeting of Committee of the Whole will soon be convened on the said matter.
9. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition raised the issue of increase in incidents of abduction, rape and killing of children in the country and the need of concrete steps to be taken by the House in this regard. Chairman remarked that after consulting the Leader of the House a Special Committee will be constituted.
10. Senator Sitara Ayaz while pointing out the intolerance and lack of acceptance of criticism in politicians stated that the society is facing serious threats at the hands of extremist and intolerant elements and when it crosses the limits of decency, the society becomes victim and that there would be no respect for individuals and institutions.
11. Senator Sana Jamali emphasized on promoting tourism in Balochistan especially the Ziarat Residency. She further pointed out that the Government must take steps to preserve Juniper Forest in Balochistan. **Minister for Climate Change remarked that after 18th amendment the subject matter has been devolved to Provinces.**
12. Senator Shibli Faraz pointed out that the problems being faced by Public Sector Universities and their employees relating to their pension funds regularly, therefore

Ministry along with other stakeholders must build a framework to resolve the issue.
Chairman directed the Secretariat to get Ministerial response on the said matter.

13. Senator Abdul Rehman Malik expressed its reservations on the huge number of petitions received by Election Commission of Pakistan relating to the delimitation of the constituencies that it will affect the timely conduct of general elections in the country. **Chairman reserved his Ruling on the said issue.** The Member further stated that the Minister of Interior must engage the Pashtoon Movement protestors and briefly inform the house about the matter.

14. Senator Kalsoom Perveen raised the issues and problems being faced by the parents in Islamabad while getting admissions in schools. She also stated that the Education Minister as per his commitment must regularize the contractual teachers. **Chairman directed the Secretariat to get Ministerial response in this regard.**

15. Senator Muhammad Asad Ali Khan Junejo pointed out the unjustifiable behavior of Electricity providing Companies in Sindh especially HESCO, where on the 10% line losses, the whole area faces the precautions of load shedding. **Chairman directed the Secretariat to get Ministerial response in this regard.**

The Member also questioned the criteria followed by the Islamabad Traffic Police for determining speed limits on different roads of Islamabad.

16. Senator Naseebullah Bazai pointed out the lack and unavailability of basic necessities of life in the province of Balochistan and non-serious behavior of government towards the development projects in Balochistan.

17. Senator Faisal Javed pointed out that rather than protecting corrupt and culprit our legislation must focus on curbing it, unfortunately our legislation is more of person specific than Pakistan oriented.

18. Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani raised the issue of heavy tax imposed by the Government on Tobacco Farmers.

CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS

On 10th April, 2018, speeches were made in the House on the event of celebration of Constitution Day.

Chairman Senate in his concluding speech observed that the tradition of celebrating constitution day was started by the Senate of Pakistan. He recommended that the Provincial Governments should also celebrate the Constitution day at district level to highlight the importance and awareness of the Constitution.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Following adjournment motions were held in order during the session:-

1. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition, moved to discuss the decision of the Civil Aviation Authority to operationalize new Islamabad International Airport with effect from 20th April, 2018 despite the fact that the project is under investigation of NAB for alleged corruption of billions of rupees. **Chairman held the motion in order and admitted it for discussion in the next sitting.**

The Motion was discussed in the House on 13th April, 2018.

2. Senator Sikandar Mandhro on his behalf and on behalf of Senators Sherry Reehman Leader of the Opposition, Syed Muhammad Ali Shah Jamot, Gianchand, Rukhsana Zuberi, Anwar Lal Dean and Imamuddin Shouqee moved to discuss the reports that Pakistan will run out of forests within next fifty years if deforestation continues at the current rate. **The Chairman held the motion in order.**