

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BREACH OF PRIVILEGE OF THE HOUSE BY THE SECRETARY AVIATION AND DIRECTOR PIA.

(Report No. 36 of 2017)

I, Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, have the honour to present report of the Committee on the breach of privilege of the House by the Secretary Aviation and concerned Director of PIA for holding up the proceedings of the House and for not coming forth and giving information regarding the incident of crash of PIA ATR aircraft on 7th December, 2016.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

1.	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Chairman
2.	Senator Zahida Khan	Member
3.	Senator Hilalur Rehman	Member
4.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member
5.	Senator Nighat Mirza	Member
6.	Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah	Member
7.	Senator Saleem Zia	Member
8.	Senator Saeed Ghani	Member
9.	Senator Zaheerud Din Babar Awan	Member
10.	Senator Osman Saifullah Khan	Member
11.	Senator Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasar	Member
12.	Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.	Ex-Officio Member

3. The details of the issue before the Committee were that Senators Samina Abid and Sehar Kamran gave the Calling Attention Notices on the incident of crash of PIA ATR aircraft near Havelian on 7th December, 2016, which were clubbed and set down for statements of the movers and Minister concerned on 23rd December, 2016. The Aviation Division did not brief any Minister to respond the notice in the House. The Honourable Chairman Senate referred the matter to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges for investigation and report. The committee discussed the

matter in its meeting held on 12th January 2017. The Movers of calling attention notices and the Secretary Aviation were called in the meeting.

4. Senator Samina Abid was of view that the ATR aircraft was not able to take off as it has been learned that its one engine was out of order. She said that the crash took place due to negligence on the part of PIA.

5. Senator Sehar Kamran said that it was a matter of 48 lives. It was a serious matter but there was no Minister to respond the same in the House. She said that the poor management of PIA was giving agony to the passengers as there is monopoly of PIA and the passengers have no other option.

6. The Aviation Division informed that in anticipation of the discussion on the important issue, the Joint Secretary (Admn) alongwith a team of officers of PIA and Civil Aviation Authority briefed the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs in detail on 13th December, 2016. The committee was also informed that after getting information from the Senate Secretariat about setting down of the said calling attention notices for 22nd December, 2016, the Deputy Secretary (Admn) and Section Officer (Council) went to the office of the Leader of the House in Senate and informed about the non-availability of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs for responding the notices. Simultaneously they contacted the staff officers of the Ministers for SAFRON and Law and Justice but both of them were also not available. A letter was written to the Secretary Senate requesting for deferment of the notices. The questions pertaining to the Aviation Division were also set down for answering on the same day i.e. the 23rd December, 2016. A request to defer those questions was also made due to non-availability of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs on that day which was acceded to and the questions pertaining to that Division were deferred.

7. The Secretary Aviation Division, briefing the Committee on the said incident, stated that both engines of the aircraft were in good condition. The airports in hilly areas have small runways and only ATR aircrafts can take off and land on the same.

He stated that after taking off the flight in question the pilot was in contact with the control in Chitral and then with Islamabad. The pilot made an emergency call at about 4:12 p.m. and then at about 4:14 p.m. he made a call saying mayday. The Islamabad Control guided the pilot and asked him to come from west side but he went to east side. After that the Islamabad Control lost contact with the pilot and after 10 minutes a call was received regarding crash of the aircraft. He informed that the Safety Investigation Board, which reports to the Prime Minister, was investigating into the incident. He also informed that all record of the black box has been de-codified. According to de-codification report, at the time of take off both engines of the aircraft were in good condition.

8. Sheikh Aftab Ahmad, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, who is also Minister In-charge of the Aviation Division, stated that he never remained absent from the Senate session. He informed that he was on the bed due to serious illness due to which he could not attend the session on the day for which this calling attention notice was set down. He admitted that it was his mistake as he could not ask some other Minister to respond the Calling Attention Notices in question.

9. The committee directed that the runways of airports in hilly areas may be extended so that other aircrafts may operate from those airports. The committee was satisfied over the position explained by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Secretary Aviation Division. The matter was disposed off. The committee has recommended that House may accept the explanation given by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Secretary Aviation Division.



(Muhammad Anwar)
A.S. / Secretary Committee



(Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini)
Chairman