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**SENATE OF PAKISTAN**  
**HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION**

**REPORT NO. 01 / 2017**



**REPORT OF THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO  
EXAMINE THE DILAPIDATED CONDITION OF BACHA  
KHAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PESHAWAR.**

**PRESENTED BY:**

**SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ  
(CONVENER)**

## SENATE SECRETARIAT

### REPORT OF THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE DILAPIDATED CONDITION OF BACHA KHAN AIRPORT, PESHAWAR.

I, Senator Mohsin Aziz, have the honor to present this report on behalf of the Special Committee to Examine the Dilapidated Condition of Bacha Khan Airport, Peshawar.

2. The Senate in its sitting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 unanimously passed a Motion under rule 204 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 to constitute a Special Committee to examine the existing conditions and the need for expansion and renovation of the Bacha Khan Airport, Peshawar. The Special Committee in its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 unanimously elected me as its Convener. The Special Committee was tasked to examine the existing conditions of the said airport and also the expansion and renovation work going thereon and to present a report thereof to the House.

3. The composition of the Committee was as under:-

1.	Senator Mohsin Aziz	Convener
2.	Senator Lt. Gen. (R) Salahuddin Tirmizi	Member
3.	Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi	Member
4.	Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
5.	Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
6.	Senator Syed Shibli Faraz	Member
7.	Senator Atta-ur-Rehman	Member
8.	Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati	Member
9.	Senator Ahmad Hassan	Member
10.	Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood	Member
11.	Senator Samina Abid	Member
12.	Senator Khanzada Khan	Member
13.	Senator Brig. (R) John Kenneth Williams	Member
14.	Senator Haji Saifullah Khan Bangash	Member
15.	Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak	Member
16.	Senator Farhatullah Babar	Member
17.	Senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour	Member
18.	Senator Rubina Khalid	Member
19.	Senator Shahi Syed	Member
20.	Senator Baz Muhammad Khan	Member
21.	Senator Sitara Ayaz	Member
22.	Senator Zahida Khan	Member
23.	Senator Sirajul Haq	Member

4. The Committee took up the matter during its meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2017. The Committee also visited the Bacha Khan Airport Peshawar on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. All the stakeholders i.e. Ministry of Defence (MoD), representatives of Pakistan Air Force, DG, ML&C, FBR, FIA, NESPAK and C & W, KPK were invited by the Committee to provide their input.



5. The Committee was briefed about the existing conditions of Bacha Khan Airport, Peshawar by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The Committee was informed that the airport is the fourth largest international airport in the country and other than the domestic flights, eleven international airlines operate 8714 flights on the airport to cater to 1.4 million passengers per year on the average. The Committee was apprised that the airport is facing space constraints as the same is situated in a congested area and high security zone.
6. The Committee was also briefed about the ongoing expansion and renovation work in the Airport. The ASF camp in the Airport is being shifted to alternate site provided by PAF which will allow the expansion of existing car parking area and will result in an increase in its capacity from the existing 350 to 900. New domestic departure and arrival blocks are being constructed, whereas the International departure and arrival lounges are being expanded and upgraded which will increase the seating capacity from the existing 350 to 935. Two Passenger boarding bridges are also being constructed for the comfort of passengers. The Terminal Building is also being remodeled and renovated. The number of immigration, departure and arrival counters will be increased. The completion of the project will enable the airport to meet the needs of the passengers for next 15 to 20 years calculated as per global scale of increase in the passenger load of the airports. The Committee was informed that all these works are being carried out within the precincts of the airport as there are no vacant spaces adjacent to it for its expansion. Furthermore, there is also no space for making second runway in the airport.
8. The Committee resented the slow pace of work on the ongoing project for expansion and renovation and directed to complete the work by November-December, 2017. The Committee also observed that the passengers face great difficulties at the airport as it takes around 2 hours from Airline counters to the lounge for them. Besides, the atmosphere in departure and arrival lounges was not comfortable. Therefore, the Committee directed that the number of those counters be increased and additional Air Conditioners be installed in departure and arrival lounges to facilitate the passengers till the completion of the project.
9. The Committee showed its serious reservations on the planning for ongoing expansion and renovation work in the airport. The Committee noted that access to the airport is difficult as it is situated in a high security zone. A number of roads in the area like Bahadur Yar Jang and Khyber road (from Aman Chowk upto the airport) have been closed for the general public. There is only one access road to the airport which consists of only two lanes on each side and remains highly congested as there are a number of security check posts on it. Besides, due to insufficient parking area in the airport, this

road is used for parking purpose by those coming to the airport. Therefore, there was dire need for giving top priority to the expansion of the approach road and construction of new car parking. But the CAA and the project planned failed to realize this fact. The Committee, therefore, unanimously suggested to expand the approach road to 4 lanes, atleast, on the entry side. Since the land needed for expansion of the road belongs to the Pakistan Army, therefore, the Committee made the Joint Secretary I (Army), MoD as focal person to pursue the case with GHQ and other concerned quarters for provision of land to the Provincial Government for expansion of the road. Once the land is made available, the project for expansion of the road will be executed by the Provincial Government. The Committee also asked that the Khyber and Bahadar Yar Jang roads be made operational to facilitate access to the airport. The Assistant Chief of Air Staff (ACAS) opposed the opening of Bahadar Yar Jang road from security point of view. But, the Committee was of the view that closure of road is not a solution, therefore, it directed that at least one of the two roads, preferably the Khyber road (from Aman Chowk upto the Airport), being the original access road to the Airport, should be opened in order to lessen the congestion alongside the airport. On Security concerns, the Committee suggested that security check posts on suitable points can be set up on the road.

10. The Committee was told that CAA needs the land opposite the airport for making interim car-parking before initiating work on the permanent car parking. The Committee directed the Ministry of Defence to take up the case with GHQ and other concerned departments and provide the land to the CAA for making interim car-parking. The Committee directed that the process of handing over land to the CAA be completed within 30 days of the presentation of this report. The land will be returned after the completion of car-parking inside the airport. The Committee also directed the CAA to start the process of tendering for construction of base camp for ASF and permanent car parking so that work could be started immediately after the required land is handed over to them.

11. The Committee, although appreciated the project for expansion and renovation of the Airport but was of the view that construction of a new airport would have been a far better idea. The Committee noted that this airport, being the only international airport in the whole province, is situated in a thickly populated area and there is no space for its expansion which will render it unable to fulfill the future requirements of the province. The Committee, therefore, asked for construction of a new international airport in Peshawar as well.



12. Recommendations:- After thorough discussion, the Committee made the following recommendations:

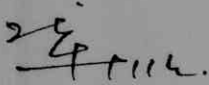
- I. The Committee directed that necessary steps be taken to complete the ongoing expansion and renovation work in the Bacha Khan Airport by November-December, 2017. Quality of work must be ensured.
- II. The Committee directed that arrangements may be made to facilitate the passengers during the execution of the project for expansion and renovation of the airport. The Committee directed to increase the number of ASF, immigration and customs counters to facilitate the passengers. The Committee also directed for installation of additional Air Conditioners in departure and arrival lounges.
- III. The Committee directed that the present approach road to the airport should be expanded from the existing two lanes to four lanes, atleast, on the entry side. The Ministry of Defence is to provide land for expansion of the said road. The Joint Secretary I (Army), MoD will be the focal person to pursue the case with GHQ and other concerned departments for provision of the said land and to finalize the process within 30 days of the presentation of this report. Once the land is made available, the Provincial Government will execute the project for expansion of the road.
- IV. The Committee directed that one of the two roads i.e. Khyber road (from Aman Chowk upto the Airport) and the Bahadar Yar Jang road should be opened for general traffic with security check posts at suitable places. The Committee directed that preference should be given to the opening of Khyber road as the same is the old access road to the Airport.
- V. The Committee also directed that the MoD should provide land opposite the Airport to CAA for making interim car parking. The Joint Secretary I (Army), MoD will pursue the case with GHQ and other concerned departments for provision of the said land and to finalize the process within 30 days of the presentation of this report. The land will be returned after the construction of new car parking inside the airport.
- VI. The Committee directed that the PAF should hand over the two acres land to CAA at the earliest for construction of base camp for ASF which has been approved by the concerned quarters.

VII. The Committee directed that the CAA should immediately make the arrangements including the tendering process for construction of base camp for ASF and construction of new car parking in the airport.

VIII. The Committee recommended that a new international airport may be planned and constructed in Peshawar as the ongoing expansion and renovation work in the airport cannot suffice to the needs of the province beyond 10-15 years.

IX. The Committee directed the CAA to expedite the ongoing process of study for selection of site for the new airport. The Committee directed that preference should be given to the Badhber side to facilitate the people of southern districts of the province as the needs of the northern side of the province may be catered for by the new Islamabad International Airport.

X. The Committee also recommends to the House to constitute a smaller Special Committee to keep a watch on the progress and implementation of the above recommendations.



(RAFIULLAH)  
Secretary Committee

Islamabad, the  
16<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.



(SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ)  
Convener Special Committee