

**SENATE OF PAKISTAN
DAILY JOURNAL
(259th Session)**

Date and Day	17 th February, 2017 (Friday)
Commenced at	10:30 a.m.
Adjourned at	02:50 p.m.
Presided by	Senator Nehal Hashmi, Presiding Officer during the question hour Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate during the rest of proceedings
Attendance	50
Total working hours	4 hours and 20 minutes

OFFERING OF FATEHA AND SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS

The House offered Fateha for the departed souls in the incident of suicide attack at Sehwan Sharif. The proceedings of the House were suspended for five minutes in order to pay tribute to the sacrifice of lives of innocent citizens in the unfortunate incidents of terrorism.

QUESTION HOUR

7 questions were replied in the House. Reply to 1 question was treated as laid on the Tables due to absence of the concerned Member. 3 questions were deferred. The remaining printed questions and their replies were treated as laid on the table of the House.

LEAVE APPLICATIONS

- The leave applications were read by the Chairman.

The leave of Senator Ilyas Ahmed Bilour was read in the House for the sitting of the Senate on 17th February, 2017 but later on the Member requested the withdraw his leave application as he was present in the House.

CONSIDERATION OF ADMISSIBILITY OF ADJOURNMENT MOTION

The admissibility of the following adjournment motions was determined in the House:

1. Adj. Motion No. 1 (4-259/2017-M), notice given of by Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh to discuss the decision of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) to extend the imposition of ten paisa per unit surcharge for another one and half year for Neelum Jhelum Hydropower Project.

The Member advanced his arguments on the admissibility of the adjournment motion.

After hearing the Member, the Chairman held the motion out of order and advised the Member to move a Calling Attention Notice to discuss the issue.

2. **Adj. Motion No. 2 (13 & 18-259/2017-M)**, notices given of by Senators Mohammad Azam Khan Swati and Sassui Paliyo to discuss the arbitrary decision of Trump administration regarding the imposition of travel ban to the USA for the citizens of seven Muslim countries.

The Members advanced their arguments on the admissibility of the adjournment motion.

After hearing the Members, the Chairman held the motion out of order vide his detailed ruling announced in the House.

3. **Adj. Motion No. 3 (16-259/2017-M)**, notice given of by Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi to discuss the consumption of contaminated water throughout the country causing number of diseases.

The Member advanced his arguments on the admissibility of the adjournment motion.

After hearing the Member, the Chairman held the motion out of order with the suggestion to move a resolution suggesting the measures to resolve the issue.

OBSERVATION OF THE CHAIRMAN ON ABSENCE OF THE MINISTERS IN THE HOUSE

The Chairman took serious notice of absence of the concerned Ministers in the House and observed that if the Government is not serious in the parliamentary business then there is no purpose to summon the sessions.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman announced in the House that the Members belonging to PKMAP have opted to sit in the House as independent Opposition Members. Their seats cannot be shifted to the Opposition side due to seating issues but the matter will be resolved.

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

Following Calling Attention Notices were moved in the House: -

1. Senators Saleem Mandviwalla on his behalf and on behalf of Senators Shahi Syed, Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini And Muhammad Yousaf drew attention of the Minister In-charge of the Aviation Division towards the transfer of employees of Pakistan International Airline Corporation (PIAC) to its subsidiary company, Pakistan Airways Limited (PAL).

Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs made statement.

The Calling Attention Notice was disposed of.

2. Senator Syed Shibli Faraz to draw attention of the Minister for Communications towards the non-completion of long standing project of Takht Bhai Fly Over in the Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs made statement.

The Calling Attention Notice was disposed of.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - PRESENTATION OF:

1. Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, Chairman, Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat, presented report of the Committee on the subject matter of Point of Public Importance raised by Senator Farhatullah Babar on 20th December, 2016, regarding fate of Area Study Centre, Islamabad.

2. Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, Chairman, Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat, presented report of the Committee on the Bill to amend the Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University Islamabad Act, 2013 [The Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University Islamabad (Amendment) Bill, 2016], introduced by Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel on 21st November, 2016.

3. Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood, Chairman, Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat, presented report of the Committee on the subject matter of starred question No. 103 asked by Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi on 23rd December, 2016, regarding allocation and utilization of funds for construction of the Chirah Dam in Islamabad.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - PRESENTATION OF:
[Under Rule 166(4)]

1. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, Chairperson, Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, presented report of the Committee on the mid-year review of budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in terms of sub-rule (4) of rule 166 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.

The Chairman appreciated the work of the Committee.

REPORTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES - PRESENTATION OF:

1. Senator Sitara Ayaz on behalf of Senator Nisar Muhammad, Convener, Special Committee on Marginalized Segments of Society, presented report of the Committee on the matter regarding the violation of fundamental rights of transgender community in the country raised by Senator Maulana Hafiz Hamadullah on 22nd November, 2016.

At this stage, the Chairman directed the Standing Committee on Law and Justice to submit its report on the bill on the instant subject within three weeks.

2. Senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour, Convener of the Special Committee on the implementation of the Gas Infrastructure Development Cess Bill, 2015, presented a report of the Special Committee in terms of rule 196 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, read with Standing Order No. 1.48.

MOTION
[Under Rule 194(1)]

1. Senator Mohsin Aziz on behalf of Senator Saleem Mandviwala, Chairman, Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization moved under sub-rule (1) of rule 194 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, that the period for presentation of report of the Committee on the Bill further to amend the Protection of Economic Reforms Act, 1992 [The Protection of Economic Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 2016] introduced by Senator Saleem Mandviwala, on 3rd October, 2016, may be extended for a period of sixty working days with effect from 25th February, 2017.

The Motion was adopted and the extension was granted.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRESENCE

The House acknowledged the presence of a group of 21 short term internees who worked in the Senate Secretariat and the Committee. The Chair acknowledged their work and contributions and wished them best of luck in their future endeavors.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

1. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization moved that the Bill to reform and re-enact the law relating to companies and for matters connected therewith [The Companies Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly, be taken into consideration.

The Chairman referred the Bill to the Standing Committee concerned for consideration and report.

2. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister for Defence, moved that the Bill further to amend the Pakistan Air Force Act, 1953 [The Pakistan Air Force (Amendment) Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly, be taken into consideration.

The Chairman referred the Bill to the Standing Committee concerned for consideration and report.

3. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Senator Kamran Michael, Minister for Human Rights, moved that the Bill to provide for constitution of a National Commission on the Rights of the child and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto [The National Commission on the Rights of the Child Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly, be taken into consideration.

The Chairman referred the Bill to the Standing Committee concerned for consideration and report.

4. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Senator Kamran Michael, Minister for Human Rights, moved that the Bill to provide for solemnization of marriages by Hindu families and for matters ancillary and incidental thereto [The Hindu Marriage Bill, 2016], as reported by the Standing Committee, be taken into consideration at once.

The Motion was put to the House and adopted.

The House started clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Senator Farhatullah Babar moved an amendment under rule 105 of the Rules that Schedule "A" be made part of the Bill.

The Amendment was put to the House and adopted and the Schedule A was made part of the Bill.

5. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice on behalf of Senator Kamran Michael, Minister for Human Rights, moved that the Bill to provide for solemnization of marriages by Hindu families and for matters ancillary and incidental thereto [The Hindu Marriage Bill, 2016] be passed.

The Motion was put to the House and the Bill was passed unanimously.

MINISTERIAL RESPONSE

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-Ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Interior made in-camera statement regarding the recent wave of terrorist incidents throughout the country.

- The House was adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 20th February, 2017 at 03:00 p.m.

Islamabad, the

17th February, 2017