

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
ON
THE POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING REMOVAL OF 38
EMPLOYEES FROM PRESS COUNCIL OF PAKISTAN RAISED BY SENATOR
MIR KABEER AHMED MUHAMMAD SHAHI IN THE SENATE ON 4TH
MARCH, 2020.

REPORT NO. 02 OF 2020

PRESENTED BY:
SENATOR FAISAL JAVED
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE

SENATE SECRETARIAT

SUBJECT: - REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ON THE POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING REMOVAL OF 38 EMPLOYEES FROM PRESS COUNCIL OF PAKISTAN RAISED BY SENATOR MIR KABEER AHMED MUHAMMAD SHAHI IN THE SENATE ON 4TH MARCH, 2020.

I, Senator Faisal Javed, Chairman Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting have the honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the Point of Public Importance regarding removal of 38 employees from Press Council of Pakistan raised by Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi in the Senate on 4th March, 2020 and referred to the Committee for consideration and report.

2. The Committee discussed the matter in its meeting on 24th July, 2020. The following attended the meeting:-

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| 1. Senator Faisal Javed | Chairman |
| 2. Senator Khushbakht Shujat | Member |
| 3. Senator Pervaiz Rashid | Member |

3. The Chairman Committee invited the mover of the agenda item Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi to express his point of view. The mover explained that 38 employees of Press Council of Pakistan were hired on contract in the previous years and were later appointed on permanent basis. He further added that after serving for many years, the said employees have been removed from service. He was of the view that all such employees may be reinstated with immediate effect on humanitarian grounds.

4. The Secretary, Information and Broadcasting Division explained that all such appointments were made in violation of the recruitment rules of the Federal Government. He informed that no advertisements, tests or interviews were conducted for such appointments. The contract employees were made regular and promoted to BS-17, BS-18 and BS-19 without any rules and FPSC recommendations. He further apprised



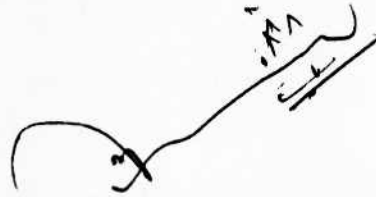
the Committee that the matter is *sub judice* in Islamabad High Court as the terminated employees approached it and its hearing is expected to be resuming soon. The terminated employees after the stay order from the High Court are being paid salaries regularly until further orders of the Court.

5. The Chairman Committee noted that the matter is under consideration of the Islamabad High Court and as per the Standing Order No. 2.10, the *sub judice* matters before a court of competent jurisdiction cannot be placed for consideration in the Senate Committees. The Chairman Committee added that although the instant case is *sub judice*, the Committee shall take up the matter of employees working in the Press Council of Pakistan along with details of their appointment and relevant issues wherein Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi shall be invited as special invitee.

6. The Point of Public Importance stood disposed of in terms of Standing Order No. 2.10 with unanimous consent of the Committee and the report is hereby presented in the House.



(ADNAN IBNE ASAD)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR FAISAL JAVED)
Chairman Committee