

SENATE OF PAKISTAN
House of the Federation



**REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
STATES AND FRONTIER REGIONS (SAFRON) ON THE
MATTER REFERRED BY THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN
SENATE ON "POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
RAISED BY SENATOR HIDAYATULLAH REGARDING
ARISING PROBLEMS IN THE MERGED DISTRICT
AFTER MERGER INTO KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA IN
THE SITTING OF SENATE HELD ON 23rd JUNE, 2021.**

PRESENTED BY

**SENATOR HILAL-UR-REHMAN
CHAIRMAN**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

1, Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), on behalf of Committee has the honor to submit, this report on the matter referred by the Honorable Chairman Senate on 23rd June, 2021 on "point of public importance raised by Senator Hidayatullah regarding arising problems in the merged district after merger into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the sitting of Senate".

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

1)	Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman	Chairman
2)	Senator Shammim Afridi	Member
3)	Senator Gurdeep Singh	Member
4)	Senator Hidayatullah Khan	Member
5)	Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi	Member
6)	Senator Sania Nishtar	Member
7)	Senator Hidayat Ullah	Member
8)	Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
9)	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
10)	Senator Dost Muhammad Khan	Member

3. In the meeting on 7th July, 2021 the point regarding lack of administration in Ex-FATA came under discussion saying that one is unable to see that even after merger of three years there is no systematic and planned administration in that area, there is no security, it was proposed to establish a special Committee to look into the current affairs of people who came in anxiety after merger and need of establishment of a separate Secretariat for Merged Districts.

4. In the meeting on 9th August, 2021 the matter pertaining to compensations and commitments announced by the Federal Government and allocations of 3 percent of the divisible pool NFC to finance the special development of merged districts was deferred due to lack of information at the Ministry's end. The Committee showed displeasure on the absence of the representatives of the Finance Ministry and said that discussion on the subject would be futile without their input.

5. The Committee was informed that a ten-year development plan was formulated after thorough consultations. Under this ten-year plan, a three-year AIP program has been devised to fund development projects in merged areas. Accelerated Implementation Program (AIP) which is a three year program under the tribal decade strategy has entered into its third year of implementation. Under this program so far, 219 schemes have been approved falling over 24 sectors. In ADP of Merged Areas total 828 schemes have been approved falling over 28 sectors. Till date an amount of Rs. 57 billion was released which has been utilized. Similarly, under ADP of Merged Areas an amount of Rs. 56.7 billion was released in three years which has been utilized. Members of the Committee remained unconvinced by the figures and directed that the Finance Ministry must be present in the next meeting and a breakup of expenditure verified by the Accountant General Khyber Pakhtunkhwa must be submitted to the Committee.



6. In the meeting on 14th September, 2021 the Additional Secretary Finance briefed the committee regarding matter pertaining to commitments and announcement of the Federal Government and allocations of 3 percent of the divisible pool NFC for erstwhile FATA. The Additional Secretary told the Committee that 129.7 billion rupees were allocated as development budget of the year 2020-21 for merged areas and 30.6 billion had been released. The committee inquired Finance Division about all developmental plans. The Additional Secretary Finance told that a sub-committee on NFC has been formulated and the task of developmental plan has been assigned to it. The Chairman Committee addressed the Finance Division that it had just allured FATA in terms of budget and distributed nothing. Senator Dost Muhammad Khan also showed displeasure and said that actual figures are not according to presentation. It was decided after consultation that there should be a separate account for erstwhile FATA and representatives of State Bank of Pakistan and National Bank of Pakistan should brief the committee in next meeting regarding separate account for the fund of Merged Districts.

7. The Committee was briefed comprehensively about the funds allocated for AIP and ADP for merged areas. It was briefed that 61.35 Billion and 117.8 billion were allocated from year 2019-20 to 2020-21 by AIP and ADP respectively. Out of which 117.08 billion had been spent. Senator Dost Muhammad Khan said that no developmental work has been done in South Waziristan and its condition is even worse than the ruins of Harappa. The Chairman Committee asked the concerned persons to present details of all developmental projects and tenders regarding AIP and ADP. The Members of the Committee objected regarding the problems of roads and water in merged areas. It was told by the concerned member that damaged buildings are being used. The recruitments in BHU are in process.

8. DIG Khyber Pakhtunkhwa updated the merger status of Levies and Khasadar Force of FATA into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police. He told that out of 29833 Levies and Khasadar 25879 have been merged in Police. He further elaborated that vacant seats are 3016 in number and 944 are un-verified. DIG told that 13174 merged police officials have been issued service cards. In response to Senator Behramand Khan Tangi's query regarding promotion of previous Khsardar and Levies DIG replied that the promotion rules for police are applicable. Members of Committee apprised DIG Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that few constables had been promoted directly to the rank of DSPs and Inspectors etc without following the due process. On this Chairman suggested to write a letter to all districts and get report regarding these promotions. The Committee Members suggested that there should be punishment for persons involved in it. Incomplete issuance of cards even after lapse of three years was condemned by Senator Hidayatullah. DIG assured Committee Members that this task will be completed very soon.

9. In the meeting on 2nd November, 2021, the matter pertaining to the particulars of approved and executed schemes via AIP and ADP in merged districts was discussed; the Committee showed displeasure regarding inconsistency in data presented by the Accountant General office KPK and figures submitted by the Department of Finance, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and greenness in financial matters was pointed by Chairman Committee. It was told that examination of facts regarding 8 districts was done and same were submitted to Committee. The results showed variations and a discrepancy of PKR 23 million

18

in 2018-19 and PKR 8 million in 2020 appeared. On this scenario, a strong demand of separate FATA account arose to save the FATA resources. Chairman Committee assessment that, as predicted, for both the Federal Government and the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa gave no importance to merged areas of FATA. KPK government is exploiting FATA resources through pilferage leading to embezzlement. He directed that completely swotted, with proper break-up of released and utilized funds as well as the tendering procedure be submitted to the Committee in the next meeting.

10. Reviewing the final report by Secretary SAFRON on the Point of Public Importance raised by Senator Hidayatullah regarding arising problems in merged FATA districts; the Committee was updated the issues and challenges faced by the government. The gravest issue is of timely release of funds for government planned projects i.e., 3 % share that is still unsatisfied to the committee as well as the matter of KPK police and levies is still inattentive, the matter of public importance had been referred from the House by the honorable chairman senate which is still pending due to the casual behavior of the concerned quarters. Committee decided to summon the concerned quarters in the next meeting.

11. In the meeting on 29th March, 2022 the Committee discussed the point of public importance raised by Senator Hidayatullah regarding the problems arising in Merged Districts after merger in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He apprised that after merger, no primary school, health facility or veterinary center etc. was set up in District Bajwar. He inquired about the outcome of Sub-committee of NFC constituted for the 3% share of Ex-FATA. The committee showed displeasure while stating the fact that after merger of FATA into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, most of the funds of last three years allocated by Federal Govt. for ADP and AIP were utilized in the settled districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that resulted into the embezzlement of Rs. 45 billion. The Committee was of the view that in this situation of mal-administration in financial management, such release of funds from Federal Govt. may be ceased. The committee recommended that a transparent system must be introduced. Government contract system should be systematized and all work plans must be accurate, tangible and actionable that needs to be surveyed on monthly basis.

12. The Committee discussed the merger status of Levies and Khasadar Force of FATA into KP Police. The Special Secretary Home Department (KPK) informed the Committee that Arms, Ammunition, Service Card and uniform has been given to every Khasadar Force employee. The police officers apprised the Committee that 21194 Khasadar and levies employees have been trained and they were provided SMG, LNG, pistols, rifles and Kalashnikov. The Committee showed satisfaction over the efforts of KP police and advised to carry on the good work for the betterment of people of erstwhile FATA. The Committee also recommended that the police officials who are wearing ranks of SHOs /DSP /SDPO while they do not fulfill the criteria must be reverted.

13. In the meeting on 16th January, 2023 the Committee discussed the non-implementation of commitments made by Federal Government during 25th Constitutional Amendment for mainstreaming of merged districts of erstwhile FATA. The Committee was apprised that Federal Government made commitment of 1 trillion rupees for development of erstwhile FATA in 10 years with Rs.100 billion per

136

annum but Federal Government has only released Rs. 85.5 billion in last four years and currently there is deficit of Rs.314.5 billion.

14. Moreover, as to current status regarding rehabilitation of TDPs and payment of compensation of damages in merged districts. The Committee was informed that Federal Government has released Rs. 112 billion against the promised Rs. 95 billion. However, the Finance Division recommended the Relief Department to conduct audit of funds allocated so far but the concerned failed to do so in the last two years and due to non-compliance of recommendation Finance Division has stopped the allocation of fund. The Committee was annoyed on such attitude of the departments and again demanded the forensic audit of the released funds. Meanwhile Senator Sania Nishtar added the discussion by pertinent questions to the departments i.e., which finance system is being used, SAP is being utilized was the answer but the crew of AG KPK office can tell exactly the figures of SAP. The report which the department is displaying now is not useful enough as SAP system is not linked with AIP and ADP. Committee is in need of the real time report. Senator Hidayatullah asserted that we have the videos of the so-called running schemes; all are deficient, incomplete and defective. Senator Sania Nishtar supplemented that the Committee had been stressing on E-tendering, GIS, pre post picturing and uploading of the images for the proper balance sheet of the SAP. On the pointation of non-availability of senior relevant and expert officer from the P&D Department the Chairman Committee directed to write the Chief Secretary KPK as to why the officers concerned did not appear before the Committee meeting. For the further demands of funds, the Committee advised the DG (P&D) to move a summary as a demand from where the generation of Funds shall be discussed. However, the Committee recommended that two Senator from erstwhile FATA may be included in the steering Committee constituted by Ministry of Planning, development and special initiatives to identify development needs and recommend the development schemes of merged district of KPK.

15. On the emphasis of GIS system, the DG P & D actively briefed the Committee with the remarks that on the recommendation of the subcommittee regarding the e tendering the KPK Government has started with the Geo tagging of ongoing projects which was appreciated by the Committee and it was suggested that a sub-Committee should be formed for the physical verification of the developmental schemes going on. Accordingly, the Committee made the following sub-Committee.

- i.Senator Sania Nishtar
- ii.Senator Shamim Afridi
- iii.Senator Hidayatullah

Convener
Member
Member

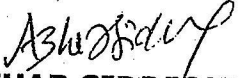
16. While giving the closing remarks on discussion on the referred point of public importance raised by Senator Hidayatullah proclaimed sorrowfully that none of the commitments had yet been fulfilled relating to the rights of erstwhile FATA had been bestowed, no party whether from the ruling Party or from the opposition benches has raised voice on allocation of 3% of divisible pool NFC to finance the special development of erstwhile FATA. This agenda point has been under debate for the last two years, the KPK government could not satisfy the Committee. It is evident that not step have been



taken for allocation of 3% NFC for erstwhile FATA areas, Less allocation in PSDP for merged district and non release of allocated amount, no on ground development has been made, bogus and non local recruitment was made in the merged districts, the inquiries of corruption are settled by giving the gratification to the conducting officer, funds of the areas of erstwhile FATA are expended somewhere else, no transparency and accountability are being assured, and the slogan was raised that save the FATA by developing them in order to save the nation to develop the nation.

17. The Committee unanimously recommended that all the Commitments and announcement made by the Federal Government during 25th Constitutional Amendment with the people of erstwhile FATA should be fulfilled in the letter and spirit.

18. The agenda item was closed /disposed of with the adaptation of recommendation of Senator Sania Nishtar i.e., on E-tendering, GIS, pre post picturing and uploading of the images further to attach these with the citizen Committee in order to save the public money by ensuring the transparency and accountability in all the public projects further to be commenced, continued and accomplished.


(AZHAR SIDDIQUE)
Secretary Committee


(SENATOR HILAL UR REHMAN)
Chairman S/Committee SAFRON

18