

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2015  
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A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 in Committee Room No. 4, Parliament House, Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Senator Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate of Pakistan.

2. The agenda of the meeting was as under:-
- i. Consideration of draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.
  - ii. Constitutional scheme regarding the two Houses of Parliament, their Secretariats, expenditures, etc.
  - iii. Any other item with permission of the chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

1)	Senator Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate	Chairman
2)	Senator Raja M. Zafar-ul-Haq	Member
3)	Senator Iqbal Zafar Jhagra	Member
4)	Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi	Member
5)	Senator Ilyas Ahmed Bilour	Member
6)	Senator Nauman Wazir	Member
7)	Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Member
8)	Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar	Member
9)	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Member
10)	Senator Hidayat Ullah	Member
11)	Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, MOS for Parliamentary Affairs	Ex-officio Member
12)	Mr. Amjed Pervez	Secretary Senate

4. Meeting started at 03:00 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran by Secretary Senate. The meeting started consideration of the agenda items.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. i: CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE SENATE, 2012.**

5. The Chairman apprised the Committee that draft amendments pertain to presiding over the first meeting and subsequent meetings of the Senate for election of Chairman by the outgoing Chairman, announcements by the Secretary Senate in the House, omission of service of summons, legal notices etc. through the Chairman, ratification of nominations to various Policy and Administrative Boards, Councils, etc. by the committee concerned, periodic review of budgetary allocation and its utilization by the standing committees concerned and dedication of amendment in the name of the Mover.

6. Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi apprised the Chair that an amendment with regard to "consultation" as provided in rule 198 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, was also approved by the previous Committee on Rules of procedure and privileges, under his Chairmanship, which may also be taken up. While acceding to hon'ble Member's request, the Chairman directed the Senate Secretariat to place the said amendment before the Committee in its next meeting.

7. Thereafter, the Committee, clause by clause, considered the draft amendments and unanimously, approved all of them.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. ii: CONSTITUTIONAL SCHEME REGARDING THE TWO HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, THEIR SECRETARIATS, EXPENDITURES, ETC.**

8. The Committee was of unanimous opinion that in terms of the existing constitutional scheme, no House can ask, examine or inquire into the accounts or expenditures of the other House. PAC being a Standing Committee of the National Assembly in terms of rules 202 to 205 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in National Assembly, 2007, is therefore not the competent forum to discuss the accounts of the Senate Secretariat.

9. The Committee further endorsed that in view of the amended Article 171 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973, both Houses of the Parliament can examine, review and make recommendations on the report of Auditor General of Pakistan containing audit paras. Therefore, either independent Standing Committees on Public Accounts of both Houses can separately examine the reports of Auditor General or a Parliamentary Committee on Public

Accounts can be constituted for the said purpose. All members supported the option of constituting a Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts instead of duplicity of work by two separate Committees. Sheikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, endorsed the Members' view point and stated that any step for the betterment of Parliamentary functions is always welcome.

10. The Committee decided that the matter shall be taken up with the National Assembly.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. iii: ANY OTHER ITEM WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.**

11. The Secretary Senate apprised that Committee that four Bills, namely, The Seeds (Amendment) Bill, 2015, The Legal Practitioners and Bar Councils (Amendment) Bill, 2015, The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Bill, 2015 and The Credit Bureau Bill, 2015, as passed by the National Assembly and transmitted to the Senate are due to complete the Constitutional period of 90 days on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2015. Therefore, said legislative business will have to be taken up in the House during the ensuing session, which is a Budget Session, or another Session before the proposed date of next session i.e. 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2015, will have to be summoned in order to fulfill the constitutional obligation.

12. The Committee decided that the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs shall initiate a summary for summoning the 117<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate from 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

13. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair at 04:00 p.m.



**(Amjed Pervez Malik)**  
Secretary Senate



**(Mian Raza Rabbani)**  
Chairman Senate of Pakistan