

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2016**

A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 10th February, 2016 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. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting dated 11th January, 2016.
- ii. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- iii. Business to be transacted during the 124th Session.
- iv. Proposals to mark the completion of Senate Parliamentary Year in befitting manner.
- v. Report of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges on the matter of codification of privileges.
- vi. Any other item with permission of the Chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

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| 1) | Senator Mian Raza Rabbani, Chairman Senate | Chairman |
| 2) | Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Dy. Chairman Senate | Member |
| 3) | Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq | Member |
| 4) | Senator Aitzaz Ahsan | Member |
| 5) | Senator Saleem Zia | Member |
| 6) | Senator Saeed Ghani | Member |
| 7) | Senator Iqbal Zafar Jhagra | Member |
| 8) | Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi | Member |
| 9) | Senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour | Member |
| 10) | Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak | Member |
| 11) | Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood | Member |
| 12) | Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed | Member |
| 13) | Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | Member |
| 14) | Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar | Member |
| 15) | Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini | Member |
| 16) | Senator Hidayat Ullah | Member |
| 17) | Mr. Aftab Ahmed Sheikh,
Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs | Ex-officio Member |
| 18) | Mr. Amjed Pervez | Secretary Senate |

4. Meeting started at 01:55 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran by Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Dy. Chairman Senate. The Committee started consideration of the following agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM NO.I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING DATED 11TH JANUARY, 2016.

5. As no objection was raised by any member, therefore, the Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting dated 11th January, 2016.

AGENDA ITEM NO.II: COMPLIANCE REPORT REGARDING EARLIER DECISIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

6. Secretary Senate briefed the Committee about the compliance report on the following earlier decisions of the Committee.

- i. **The Committee decided to introduce the draft bills proposed by the Committee of the Whole for speedy and inexpensive justice during the current session for passage. The Chairman directed the Secretariat to obtain signatures of all the Parliamentary party leaders as well as of the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition on the notices for introduction of the draft Bills.**

Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that the Bills have been transmitted to the National Assembly Secretariat after their passage by the Senate on 18th January, 2016.

- ii. **The Chairman directed to circulate the draft rules of the Committee of Ethics and the Code of Conduct of the Members to all the Members of the House for the purpose of having discussion in the House.**

Secretary Senate apprised the Members that the draft rules have been circulated to the Members of the House and debate was held on 14th January, 2016.

- iii. **Issue pertaining to e-submission of notices in respect of legislative and non-legislative business has been raised time and again by the members in the meetings of the HBAC.**

Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that Internal Mechanism/ SOPs for receiving E-Notices in respect of Questions, Calling Attention Notices and

Adjournment Motions, has been approved and prescribed E-Mail address of Senate Secretariat has been operationalized. However, authenticated E-Mail addresses have not been received from all Members so far.

The Committee approved the SOPs and the Chairman directed the Secretariat to provide the proformas and SOPs to the parliamentary party leaders and also circulate the same in the House.

- iv. **Letter to the Speaker National Assembly regarding the Public Accounts Committee.**

Secretary Senate apprised the Members about the background of the issue. The Chairman also gave his point of view over the issue.

AGENDA ITEM NO.III: BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE 124TH SESSION.

7. Since, the Session was a requisitioned session with particular points referred in the requisition by the Members; therefore, the Members raised the question about the mode of conducting business/proceedings during the session.

The Committee concluded with consensus that the matter will be raised at the very outset of the House proceedings which will subsequently be settled by the Chairman through his ruling on the issue.

The routine business will be taken up accordingly.

AGENDA ITEM NO.IV: PROPOSALS TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF SENATE PARLIAMENTARY YEAR IN BEFITTING MANNER.

8. Chairman Senate apprised the Members of the Committee that some of the proposed activities have been dropped due to financial constraints.

AGENDA ITEM NO.V: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND PRIVILEGES ON THE MATTER OF CODIFICATION OF PRIVILEGES.

9. Senator Dr. Jahanzeb Jamaldini, Chairman Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, apprised the Members about the contents of the report and stated that the Committee has unanimously reached the conclusion that it is more appropriate to leave the matter of privileges and action to be taken in cases of breach of privileges to the Chairman and the House and the Chairman Senate and the House should decide that which action cause

breach of privilege and what and how the action should be taken in such cases. The Committee adopted the recommendations of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges.

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

10. Following items were taken with the permission of the Chairman:-

- i. Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi, pointed out Article 66(3) of the Constitution regarding privileges of the Members and stated that clause (3) of Article 66 obligates the Parliament to make laws regarding privileges.

The Chairman desired Senator Aitzaz Ahsan to draft a law in this respect which will further be examined by the Committee.

Senator Aitzaz Ahsan acceded to the task.

- ii. Senator Ilyas Ahmed Bilour pointed out the policy of the Government not to issue blue passport to the spouses of the parliamentarians which causes great hardship during any family visit abroad.

The Chairman observed that the relevant Act needs to be amended for this purpose.

The Chairman desired the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs to initiate the process of such amendment in the relevant law.

11. In juxta position, the Committee decided as under:-

- i. The Committee approved the SOPs for E-notices and the Secretariat was directed to provide the proformas and SOPs to the parliamentary party leaders and also circulate the same in the House.
- ii. The Committee concluded with consensus that since the rules are silent regarding mode of conducting business during requisitioned session, therefore, the matter will be settled by the Chairman through his ruling on the issue.
- iii. The Committee adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges that it is more appropriate to leave the matter of privileges and action to be taken in cases of breach of privileges to the Chairman and the House and the Chairman Senate and the House should decide that which action cause breach of privilege and what and how the action should be taken in such cases.

- iv. The Chairman desired Senator Aitzaz Ahsan to draft a law in terms of clause (3) of Article 66 of the Constitution.
- v. The Chairman tasked the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs to initiate the process of introducing amendments in the relevant law concerning issuance of official passports to the spouses of the Members.

12. The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair at 02:30 p.m.



(Amjed Pervez Malik)
Secretary Senate



(Mian Raza Rabbani)
Chairman Senate of Pakistan