

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2016  
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A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 in Committee Room No. 4, Parliament House, Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Acting Chairman Senate of Pakistan.

2. The agenda of the meeting was as under:-

- i. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- ii. Business to be transacted during the 127<sup>th</sup> Session.
- iii. Proposal for the amendments in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 regarding electronic voting and introduction of *Standing Orders*.
- iv. Planned changes to be introduced at the commencement of new parliamentary year
- v. Review / amendments in the Senate (Finance Committee) Rules, 1973 and Senate Secretariat (Recruitment) Rules, 1973, in line with the constitutional scheme.
- vi. Any other item with permission of the Chair.

3. Following Members attended the meeting:-

1)	Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri	Acting Chairman
2)	Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq	Member
3)	Senator Aitzaz Ahsan	Member
4)	Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi	Member
5)	Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
6)	Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Member
7)	Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi	
8)	Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar	Member
9)	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Member
10)	Senator Hidayat Ullah	Member
11)	Mr. Aftab Ahmed Sheikh, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs	Ex-officio Member
12)	Mr. Amjed Pervez	Secretary Senate

4. Meeting started at 03:15 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Committee started consideration of the following agenda items.

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

5. Secretary Senate briefed the Committee about the compliance report on the earlier decisions of the Committee upon which the Committee showed satisfaction.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.II: BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE 127<sup>TH</sup> SESSION.**

6. Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that the following business is likely to be taken up during the session:-

- Calling Attention Notices.
- Adjournment Motions.
  - Six adjournment motion on the issue of PANAMA Leaks.
  - Five adjournment motions on the situation arising out of the arrest of a spy of RAW by the Intelligence Agencies of Pakistan.
  - Three adjournment motions on the loss of lives and properties in recent flood and land sliding in Gilgit Baltistan and KPK.
  - Two adjournment motions on the sit-in at D-Chowk by an unlawful mob.
  - Two adjournment motions on the tragic incident of bomb blast at Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park Lahore.
- Three Privilege Motions
- Question Hour, Motions under rule 218, Resolutions:
- Introduction of Private Members' Bills
- Government Bills passed by the National Assembly and transmitted to the Senate.
- Meeting of the Committee of the Whole on the FATA likely to be held during the session.

The Committee unanimously agreed that discussion on the issue of PANAMA Leaks will be made by way of a Motion under rule 218. The Committee agreed that the discussion will commence from 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2016. For other matters especially on the arrest of spy of RAW by intelligence agencies, the matter will be taken up under the different tools as submitted by the Members.

While discussing the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs requested the Committee that since the PMDC Ordinance

will lapse on 25<sup>th</sup> of April, 2016, therefore, there is an urgency of passing of this Bill which has already been passed by the National Assembly.

Senator Aitzaz Ahsan suggested that keeping in view the time constraints the Opposition may not oppose this Bill in the Committee however, there are some amendments which are required to be incorporated in this Bill so if the Government gives assurance that those amendment will be allowed in future then the Opposition may support the Government in passage of this Bill as passed by the National Assembly. Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq stated that he will take up the matter with the concerned Minister and hopefully Government will not oppose the subsequent amendments of the Opposition. It is decided that the Bill will be referred to the Committee and the limited time will be given to the Committee to submit report.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.III: PROPOSAL FOR THE AMENDMENTS IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE SENATE, 2012 REGARDING ELECTRONIC VOTING AND INTRODUCTION OF *STANDING ORDERS*.**

7. The Committee approved the proposed amendment in rule 89 regarding incorporation of automatic voting facility, however, the Committee suggested that the mock exercise in the House may be made before incorporation the real time voting.

8. The Committee also approved the idea of Standing Orders to govern the day to day business of the Secretariat. The Committee also directed the Secretariat to prepare headnotes of all the Rulings of the Chairman.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.IV: PLANNED CHANGES TO BE INTRODUCED AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF NEW PARLIAMENTARY YEAR.**

9. Secretary Senate apprised the Committee about the planned changes to be introduced on the commencement of new Parliamentary year which included the documentation policy (the Orders of the Day, Bills and reports of the Committee on Bills will be printed on coloured papers) and a ceremonial Mace containing all elements of the Senate emblem i.e. the symbols of the Federating Units besides different infrastructure changes in the Hall and Galleries as well as change of colour of uniform. It is said that before introduction of the ceremonial Mace it may be shown to the Members of the Committee in a special meeting.

**The Committee expressed full support for the new initiatives including establishment of a constitutional history gallery.**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.V: REVIEW / AMENDMENTS IN THE SENATE (FINANCE COMMITTEE) RULES, 1973 AND SENATE SECRETARIAT (RECRUITMENT) RULES, 1973, IN LINE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL SCHEME.**

10. The Committee reviewed the two sets of Rules and approved the amendments required in the two to bring them in line with the scheme of constitutional independence and autonomy and trichotomy of powers. The Committee approved that the title of the Senate Secretariat (Recruitment) Rules, 1973 be changed as Senate Secretariat (Recruitment and Condition of Service) Rules and the same along with the Senate Finance Committee Rules may be placed in the House for approval during current Session.

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


11. Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi inquired from the Secretary about the validity of the reports published by the PILDAT about the Parliament. Secretary Senate informed the Committee that at the end of every Parliamentary year PILDAT and other reporting agencies seek information/facts & figures from the Secretariat, however, this year the Secretariat did not provide any information to them since the Senate of Pakistan has launched its annual report which contain all sort of information.

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

1. Discussion on the PANAMA Leaks issue will be made by way of a Motion under rule 218.
2. The Committee decided that the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016 will be referred to the concerned Committee as per tradition but the concerned Committee will be asked to report back to the House within the limited time keeping in view the time constraints in this case.
3. The Committee approved the amendment in rule 89 regarding automatic voting system.
4. The Committee approved the idea of Standing Orders with the direction to prepare headnotes of the rulings of the Chairman as well.
5. The Committee approved some amendments in the Senate (Finance Committee) Rules, 1973 and Senate Secretariat (Recruitment) Rules, 1973 and decided that both the rules be placed in House for approval.

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

  
(Amjed Pervez Malik)  
Secretary Senate

  
(Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri)  
Acting Chairman Senate of Pakistan