

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 29TH FEBRUARY, 2016**

A meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held on 29th 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 10th and 18th February, 2016.
- ii. Compliance report regarding earlier decisions of the Business Advisory Committee.
- iii. Business to be transacted during the 126th Session.
- iv. Proposal for the amendment in Rules 184 and 210 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.
- v. Events and Publications to mark the completion of Senate Parliamentary Year.
- vi. Planned changes to be introduced at the commencement of new parliamentary year
- vii. 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 Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq	Member
3)	Senator Aitzaz Ahsan	Member
4)	Senator Islamuddin Shaikh	Member
5)	Senator Saeed Ghani	Member
6)	Senator Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi	Member
7)	Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak	Member
8)	Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
9)	Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
10)	Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar	Member
11)	Senator Mir Israr Ullah Khan Zehri	Member
12)	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Member
13)	Mr. Amjed Pervez	Secretary Senate

4. Meeting started at 01:00 p.m. with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The Committee started consideration of the following agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM NO.I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING DATED 10TH AND 18TH FEBRUARY, 2016.

5. As no objection was raised by any member, therefore, the Committee confirmed the minutes of the meetings dated 10th and 18th February, 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. E-submission of notices in respect of Questions, Adjournment Motions and Calling Attention Notices.

Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that all the formalities have been completed and the Secretariat has also received first ever e-notice that is of a question by Senator Farhatullah Babar. The Members who have provided the Secretariat their authenticated e-mail addresses now can send notices for questions, Calling Attention and Adjournment Motion through e-mail.

ii. Circulation of written replies to the questionnaire sent by NACTA.

Secretary Senate apprised the Committee that the Secretariat has once again transmitted the written replies furnished by NACTA to the Members at their local as well as permanent addresses.

iii. Secretary Senate further apprised the Committee about the infrastructural changes inside the House. He stated that CDA has not made any breakthrough in this respect however; the Secretariat has taken the National College of Arts on board in this regard who will submit their proposal for major changes inside and outside the Hall without damaging the prestige of the Parliament.

Senator Saeed Ghani pointed out the sequential arrangement of mikes which causes problem in addressing the Chair.

Senator Talha Mehmood pointed out that separate chairs for the Ministers should be in place as some times the Ministers sit on the allotted chairs of the Members which causes hindrance.

The Chairman said that seats are limited in the House and in case of any such eventuality the Member can request the Minister to vacate his chair.

AGENDA ITEM NO.III: BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED DURING THE 126TH SESSION.

7. The Chairman apprised the Members about the receiving of normal business likely to be transacted during the session i.e. Private Members' Bills, Calling Attention Notices, Adjournment Motion, Questions.

The Chair particularly referred to a private Member Bill of Senator Karim Ahmed Khawaja regarding re-habilitation of un-attended orphans. The Chairman stated that the Bill in its present form do not fulfill its very objective, therefore, the Secretariat has proposed a slight amendment regarding the parentage column of the un-attended orphans i.e. the name of the President of Pakistan may be written in the parentage column.

The Members deliberated upon the idea and finally concluded that the Bill may be deferred for next Private Members Day and meanwhile the best international practice to meet with such type of situations may be seen.

The Chairman requested Senator Aitzaz Ahsan to take on board Senator Karim Ahmed Khawaja in this regard and directed the Secretariat to look into the best international practice in this respect and convene a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee before next private Members' Day to settle the issue.

The Chairman further apprised the Committee that during the Session the Ministers for Defence, Interior and Finance will give briefings to the House and the House will also debate upon the reply by the Cabinet Division in response to recommendations of the Special Committee on Devolution process that all policy and administrative boards, councils, bodies etc. constituted under various Acts of Parliament or established by an executive order, shall be reconstituted in order to ensure that equal representation is given to all the provinces.

Meeting of the Committee of the Whole on revival of students unions will also be held during the session.

AGENDA ITEM NO.IV: PROPOSAL FOR THE AMENDMENT IS RULES 184 AND 210 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE SENATE, 2012

8. Secretary Senate apprised the Committee about the objective of the proposed amendments regarding re-insertion of the words "but a Committee may not sit without the leave of the Chairman at a time when the Senate is sitting" in rule 184 which were previously inadvertently omitted while amending rule 184 and insertion of "during a session of the Senate" in rule 210.

The Committee unanimously approved the proposed amendments.

AGENDA ITEM NO.V: EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF SENATE PARLIAMENTARY YEAR.

9. Secretary Senate apprised the Committee about the launching of the following books:-

- (i) Book launching on “Fundamentals Rights of the citizens of Pakistan”.
- (ii) Launching of first annual report of the Senate of Pakistan containing the activities and business transacted by the House during the year.
- (iii) Launching of Compendium of Pakistani Laws.

The Committee appreciated the idea and the efforts of the Secretariat in this regard.

The Chairman apprised the Members that the initial idea of arranging a cultural evening has now been cancelled due to paucity of funds.

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

10. Secretary Senate and the Chairman shared some new ideas with the Committee i.e. designing of the ceiling of the House, overall layout plan of the House, color schemes, sitting arrangements, uniforms of the official performing their duties in the Hall, sitting arrangements of interns inside the Hall, color schemes for the documents to be tabled.

The Committee approved the idea and design of the ceremonial.

The Chairman shared the idea of having a procession of the Chairman at the start of every sitting, to which the Committee desired that the matter may be deferred for the time being.

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

11. The Secretary Senate stated that arrangements are being made to purchase furniture and crockery in order to cut short the cost of the food items and other ancillary expenses for holding official lunches/dinners

The Committee agreed the suggestion.

12. The Chairman shared with the Committee a constraint under the rules that the Chairman has to issue a tender in case of making a transaction worth more than Rs. 100,000/= . The Chairman stated that the Secretariat is desirous of printing 1500 copies each of the books on the Human Rights and the Annual Report of the Senate which may cost more than Rs.100,000/= but we have no time to issue tender in this regard.

The Chairman sought approval of the Committee to make this transaction without issuing the tender keeping in view the time constraints.


The Committee issued approval to make the transaction.

13. The Chairman shared the idea of construction of a monument in memory of the unsung heroes of the democracy and constitution. The Committee agreed the idea. The Chairman stated that he is in consultation with the Speaker National Assembly in this respect who has principally agreed the idea which will be finalized later.

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

1. Confirmed the minutes dated 10th and 18th February, 2016.
2. Approved the proposed amendments in rules 184 and 210 of the Rules.
3. Approved the printing of 1500 copies each of the books on the Human Rights and the Annual Report which will cost more than Rs. 100,000/=
4. The Committee approved the idea and design of the ceremonial mace.
5. The Committee approved the documentation policy at the commencement of new parliamentary year.

15. 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