

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND PRIVILEGES ON PRIVILEGE MOTION NO. 3(252)/2016-M.

(Report No. 35 of 2017)

I, Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, have the honour to present report of the Committee on Privilege motion No. 03(252)/2016-M.

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

1.	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Chairman
2.	Senator Zahida Khan	Member
3.	Senator Hilalur Rehman	Member
4.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member
5.	Senator Nighat Mirza	Member
6.	Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah	Member
7.	Senator Saleem Zia	Member
8.	Senator Saeed Ghani	Member
9.	Senator Zaheerud Din Babar Awan	Member
10.	Senator Osman Saifullah Khan	Member
11.	Senator Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasar	Member
12.	Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.	Ex-Officio Member

3. The details of the issue before the Committee were that Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, moved Privilege motion No. 3(252) on 27th September, 2016, on his behalf and on behalf of Senators Rozi Khan Kakar, Muhammad Ali Saif and Liaqat Khan Tarakai, regarding not attending the meetings of the Standing Committee on Communications by Chief Secretaries of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA, Senior Members of Boards of Revenue of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Secretary Ministry of Communications and DG, FWO. After hearing the mover, the Honourable Chairman Senate held the motion in order and referred the same to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges for investigation and report. The committee discussed this motion in its meetings held on 24th October 2016, 2nd December 2016, 6th January, 2017 and 12th January 2017. The

mover and all officers against whom the motion was moved were given ample opportunity to explain their position on the matter.

4. The Chairman Committee showed concerns over the overall behavior of the Government officers in connection with attending the meetings of the committees. He directed that due respect should be given to the Senate and senior officers should attend the committee meetings, when called. He said that appearing of officers before the committees is not insulting for them. They are a part of this country and they should happily appear before the committees so that the matters under consideration thereof may be disposed off timely. He was of the opinion that the officers do not take interest and ignore the Parliamentary committees.

5. Senator Daud Khan Achakzai Advocate, mover of the motion, informed that Standing Committee on Communications had been calling the officers mentioned in the privilege motion time and again but they did not attend the meetings. He stated that neither the Chief Secretary nor the Additional Chief Secretary Balochistan attended the meetings of that committee due to which the matter regarding southern route of CEPEC forwarded by the Prime Minister remained unsolved for about one year. He said that the heads of departments do not attend the meetings and depute the junior officers which is not appropriate. He also informed that the junior officers had been attending the meetings of that committee but they did not have the required information.

6. The Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa informed that there was a high level meeting due to which he could not attend the meeting of the Standing Committee on Communications. However, a senior officer was deputed for the purpose who attended the meeting on his behalf.

7. The Chief Secretary Balochistan informed that on 23rd September, 2016, the day on which the meeting of the Standing Committee on Communication was




scheduled, there was a Cabinet meeting which he was to attend. As he was busy in the Cabinet meeting, the Senior Member of Board of Revenue, a BPS 21 officer, and the Additional Chief Secretary Balochistan attend the meeting of that Committee. He referred the provision of Senate rules relating to allowing a BPS 21 officer of the Ministry to attend the meeting if the Secretary is unable to do so and proposed that similar permission may be granted in case of a Chief Secretary so that during his unavoidable engagements he may depute a BPS-21 officer to represent him and brief the committee on the matter under consideration. He informed that all the concerned senior officers were present in the meeting of that committee.

8. The Secretary Establishment Division, supported the proposal made by the Chief Secretary Balochistan and said that whenever the Chief Secretaries are called in committee meetings they happily attend the same. If due to some unavoidable circumstances, they are unable to attend the meetings, senior officers in BPS-21 may be allowed to attend the same on their behalf.

9. The Senior Member, Board of Revenue, Balochistan, informed that he attended the meeting of Standing Committee on Communications. The Senior Member, Board of Revenue, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, referred the minutes of the meeting of that committee which showed that he attended the meeting and briefed that committee on the matter under consideration. He stated that he attended the next meeting of that committee also.

10. Mr. Abid Naeem, the representative of FWO, informed that the Director General FWO was unable to attend the meeting of the said committee due to his unavoidable official engagements on that day.

11. The Secretary, Ministry of Communications, informed that the day on which the meeting of the Standing Committee on Communications was scheduled, the Prime Minister was in Kala Shah Kaku in connection with inauguration of a project




and he (the Secretary) was required to remain present there due to which he could not attend that meeting. He also informed that a senior officer of the Ministry, who was next to him, attended that meeting and explained the position to the committee. He was of the view that there may be some misunderstanding due to which they have been included in the motion, as the officer next to him attended the meeting.

12 The Additional Chief Secretary Balochistan stated that he had been attending the meetings of the Standing Committee on Communications on behalf of Chief Secretary, Balochistan. He informed that a lot of work in connection with the acquisition of land for the projects under CPEC has been completed. A meeting of all the concerned Deputy Commissioners was called and necessary instructions had been issued to them to expedite the work and complete it as early as possible.

13 Senator Osman Saifullah Khan said that there should be decency and courtesy on the part of officers concerned and they should at least inform the committee about the reasons for their absence. He proposed that in case of inability of the officer concerned, he should submit leave for absence to the Chairman Committee indicating the reasons thereof. He also proposed that in absence of senior most officer, the officer next to him should be deputed to attend the meeting and brief the committee on the matter under consideration of the committee.

14 Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman proposed that the committee should proceed under the rules against the officers who did not attend the meeting. Senator Muhammad Ali Saif was of the view that the officers do not know the sensitivity of the matter of privilege.

15 Senator Saeem Zia said that the matter should not be taken lightly. The officers have been calling by the Standing Committee on Communications and the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges but they were not willing to attend the meetings. He proposed to proceed against them as per rules.



16 The Deputy Director General, FWO, informed that the head of concerned Division of FWO had been attending the meetings of the Standing Committee on Communications on behalf of Director General. He assured that in future if the committee on communications will call, he will attend all the meetings of that committee alongwith the heads of the concerned divisions of FWO.

17 The Chairman committee commented that the system is required to be put on right track. If the officers were unable to attend the meeting, they should have made request to the committee for absence by deputing other officers for the purpose. He said that the committee never insults the officers. It can pass strictures against the officers who have been defying the orders of the committee and not attending the meetings. Showing serious concerns over the absence of Chief Secretary Balochistan, he said that the Chief Secretary has breached the privilege of the Standing Committee on Communications and again of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges. It was not the proper way to deal with the committees of the Parliament. If any stricture will be passed, the same may create problems for the Chief Secretary Balochistan before his retirement. He directed the Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee on Communications whenever called in future. The Chief Secretary assured to attend the meetings of that committee alongwith the concerned Secretaries in future.

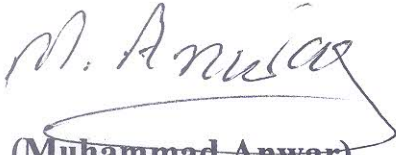
18. The Chief Secretary Balochistan informed that the Government of Balochistan has completed the survey regarding the said route. He assured that he will attend the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Communications and will brief to that committee on the latest position of the matter.

19. The Director General, FWO, explained that every time one representative of the FWO had been attending the meeting of the Standing Committee on Communications. He informed that there were four main Divisions of that



organization and assured that the head of concerned Division will attend the meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications whenever called.

20. All the officers against whom the privilege motion was moved assured to attend the committee meetings whenever called. The Mover was satisfied on the assurance given by those officers and did not press his motion. The committee disposed off the motion treating the same as not pressed.



(Muhammad Anwar)
A.S. / Secretary Committee



(Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini)
Chairman