



SENATE SECRETARIAT

FIFTEENTH PARLIAMENTARY YEAR 2017-2018

REPORT NO. 8 of 2018

**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

ON

**THE NATIONAL CIVIC EDUCATION COMMISSION BILL, 2018
PRESENTED BY SENATOR SEHAR KAMARAN IN THE SENATE SITTING
HELD ON 22ND JANUARY, 2018**

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR RAHILA MAGSI

Chairperson SSC on Federal Education and Professional Training

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

I Senator Rahila Magsi, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training, have the honour to present report on the behalf of the Committee on the Bill titled "**The National Civic Education Commission Bill, 2018**" introduced by Senator Sehar Kamran on 22nd January, 2018 in the House and referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report.

2. The following is the composition of the Committee.

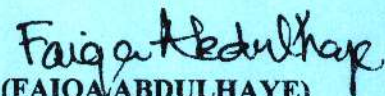
1.	Senator Ms. Rahila Magsi	Chairperson
2.	Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member.
3	Senator Malik Najmul Hassan	Member
4.	Senator Khusbakht Shujat	Member
5.	Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
6.	Senator Gul Bashra	Member
7.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
8.	Senator Sehar Kamran	Member
9.	Senator Nauman Wazir Khattak	Member
10.	Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati	Member
11.	Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training	Ex-Officio Member

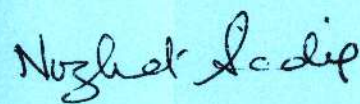
3. The Committee considered the Bill in its meeting held on 19th February, 2018 at Committee Room No.4, Parliament House, Islamabad. Meeting was attended by the following Members:-

1.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Chairperson
2.	Senator Sehar Kamran	Member
3.	Senator Gul Bashra	Member
4.	Mr. Baligh-ur-Rehman	Ex- Officio Member
	Minister for Federal Education & Professional Training	

4. After detailed discussions and examining the input from the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, the members raised no objection to the Bill. The Standing Committee unanimously recommended that the National Civic Education Commission Bill, 2018 as introduced in the House may be passed by the Senate.

5. The Bill as introduced in the Senate is placed at Annexure (A):-


(FAIQA ABDULHAYE)
Secretary Committee


(SENATOR NUZHAT SADIQ)
Acting Chairperson of the Committee

As
[~~TO BE~~ INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

A

BILL

to provide for and promote Civic Education and create awareness relating to fundamental rights and obligations of citizens

WHEREAS it is expedient to foster civic competence and responsibility amongst the citizens; educate people relating to fundamental rights and obligations of citizens; to highlight the importance of civic education in inculcating value citizenship, knowledge, skills and values and to deal with ancillary matters;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title, extent and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the National Civic Education Commission Act, 2017.

(2) It shall extend to the Islamabad Capital Territory.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions.- In this Act unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(a) "civic education" means provision of information and learning experiences to equip and empower citizens to participate in democratic processes;

(b) "Commission" means National Civic Education Commission established under section 3 of the Act;

(c) "Constitution" means the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and

(d) "Government" means the Federal Government.

3. Establishment of the Commission.- (1) As soon as after the commencement of this Act, Government shall establish a Commission to be known as the National Civic Education Commission.

(2) The Commission shall make policy guidelines for the purpose of this Act and shall take necessary steps for implementation of the provisions of this Act.

4. Composition of the Commission.- (1) The management, overall control and supervision of the affairs of the Commission shall vest in a Board of Governors consisting of the following members:

- (a) The Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, who shall be the Chairman of the Board;
- (b) Three Members of the Senate nominated by the Chairman Senate;
- (c) Three members of the National Assembly nominated by the Speaker National Assembly;
- (d) One member from each Provincial Assembly nominated by Speaker of respective Assembly;
- (e) Three civic education experts nominated by the Government;
- (f) Two representatives from media; and
- (g) The Director General of the Commission, who shall be the Secretary of the Board.

(2) The members of the Board of Governors, other than the ex-officio members, shall hold office for three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

5. Director General.- (1) The Director General shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission and shall subject to the general supervision of the Chairman of the Board of Governors, be responsible for carrying out the objects of the Commission as laid down by the Board from time to time.

(2) The Director General of the Commission shall be appointed for a term of three years.

6. Meetings of the Commission.- (1) The meetings of the Commission shall be held quarterly, and shall be presided over by the Chairperson or, in his absence, by a member nominated by the Chairperson for the purpose. One third of the total members shall constitute the quorum and no quorum shall be necessary for adjourning the meeting.

(2) All decisions of the Commission shall be taken with simple majority of the members of the Commission present in the meeting. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in case of a tie.

(3) Decision of the Commission shall be recorded by the Secretary of the Commission, who shall circulate such decisions for confirmation to Chairperson and the members within fifteen days of each meeting.

7. Functions of the Commission.- The Commission shall perform following functions, namely;

- (a) to develop the understanding of the principles and objectives of the Constitution, fundamental rights as enshrined in the Constitution and inculcating respect for the rights of women and minorities in the students;
- (b) to educate and encourage the citizens to defend the Constitution at all times, against all forms of abuse and violations;
- (c) to develop courses for realizing the objectives of the Constitution;
- (d) to create awareness amongst citizens about civic responsibilities and an appreciation of their rights and obligations as citizens of Pakistan;
- (e) to take special measure for promotion of civic education in rural areas;
- (f) to organize capacity building programmes on civic education for academicians;
- (g) to achievement of true democracy arising from the existing inequalities between different strata of the population and measures necessary for redressing these inequalities;
- (h) to propagate counter narrative to violence, terrorism and extremism;
- (i) to promote cleanliness and respect for environment;
- (j) to develop the narrative of unity, faith, discipline and tolerance amongst the citizens; and
- (k) to inculcate respect for laws especially traffic laws amongst the youth.

8. Responsibility of Schools.- (1) An in-charge of a school shall ensure imparting civic education to students through lectures, tutorials and practical work.

- (2) The method of teaching civic education may include the following:
 - (a) formal instructions regarding the role of Legislature, Executive, Judiciary, Law and Democracy;
 - (b) guided discussion of current local, national, and international issues and events;
 - (c) active learning experiences where students perform community service;

- (d) co-curricular activities to foster engagement with other schools and communities;
- (e) student participation in school governance; and
- (f) student participation in simulations of democratic processes.

9. Audit.- The accounts of the Commission shall be audited annually by the Auditor General of Pakistan and the balance-sheet and statement of assets and liabilities shall be duly considered by the Board of Governors.

10. Act not in derogation of any other law.- The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for time being in force.

11. Power to make rules.- The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECT AND REASONS

The future of Pakistan and its 200 million people depends on continuity of democratic governance embedded in supremacy of the Constitution and that democratic civic education is an important instrument to provide people with intellectual context and develop necessary skills in them to actively and effectively participate in this national pursuit.

2. It is also fact that core concepts like Constitutionalism, federalism and representative parliamentary institutions are missing in the textbooks taught in the nation's classrooms.

3. Therefore this bill intends to establish National Civic Education Commission to achieve the said objectives.

SENATOR SEHAR KAMRAN
Member In-charge

SENATE SECRETARIAT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING HELD ON 19TH FEBRUARY, 2018.

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training was chaired by Senator Nuzhat Sadiq on 19th February, 2018 at 11.30 a.m. in Committee Room No.4, Parliament House, Islamabad.

2. The agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- i. Discussion on the National Civic Education Commission Bill, 2018, moved by Senator Sehar Kamran.
- ii. Discussion on the National Skills University Islamabad Bill, 2017 moved by Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training in its sitting 23rd January, 2018.
- iii. New Educational Policy, how it is different from previous ones, Ministry of Education welfare projects, prospects and constraints. Ministry's preparedness for compatibility with CPEC related project (including Chinese language).
- iv. Proposed Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) of the Ministry Federal Education and Professional Training for the financial year 2018-19.
- v. Record of HEC Scholarship beneficiaries since 2001 details of action taken against those who have not returned to the country. To follow-up/implementation status of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee in its previous meeting dated 12-12-2017.
- vi. Any other item with permission of the Chair.

3. The following Members of the Committee and Mover attended the meeting:-

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|------|----------------------|-------------|
| i. | Senator Nuzhat Sadiq | Chairperson |
| ii. | Senator Sehar Kamran | Member |
| iii. | Senator Gul Bashra | Member |
| iv. | Mr. Baligh-ur-Rehman | Minister |

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4. The meeting started with the recitation of Holy Quran under the Chairpersonship of Senator Nuzhat Sadiq. Chairperson of the committee welcomed all the participants.

Agenda Item No.1

Discussion on the National Civic Education Commission Bill, 2018, moved by Senator Sehar Kamran.

5. Senator Sehar Kamran presented the bill before committee. She suggested that a commission should be formed for increasing the awareness about the laws and constitution. This will strengthen the democracy in the country. Civic education should be the part of the curriculum. Ministry agreed on the benefits of the bill. Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training unanimously passed the bill.

Agenda Item No.2

Discussion on the National Skills University Islamabad Bill, 2017 moved by Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman, Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training in its sitting 23rd January, 2018.

6. Federal Minister presented the National Skills University Islamabad Bill, 2017. Development of skilled human resource is a prerequisite for transition of middle income economy to high income group with equitable resource distribution as an inherent output. The quality of skill development is a major limitation, affecting the competitiveness of Pakistan's export industry. Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training unanimously passed the bill.

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7. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq suggested that Ministry of Federal Education and Higher Education Commission should coordinate with International Skill Universities abroad and take their assistance in making and implementation their progress regarding Skill University.

8. Minister replied that we are in contact with Russia and Belarus to take guidance from their skill university.

9. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq stressed on the need to increase the educational budget, so that education is accessible to everybody in the country so that the nation can prosper all the committee member fully endorsed her.

Agenda Item No.3

New Educational Policy, how it is different from previous ones, Ministry of Education welfare projects, prospects and constraints. Ministry's preparedness for compatibility with CPEC related project (including Chinese language).

10. Minister of Federal Education informed the committee that Ministry is making a new Education Policy but it is not prepared yet. After getting feedback from Provinces soon it would be presented before the committee.

11. The Minister for Federal Education, Mr. Balighur Rahman informed that after 18th amendment, education is devolved subject. He further stated that the National Council for Curriculum development has been formed and the curriculum for primary education has been prepared which will be distributed among the students in the next academic year.

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12. The Minister informed that the federal government and the provincial governments are working to enhance the educational standards in the country. NAVTTC is providing technical and vocational education which can be beneficial for CPEC projects. Many Pakistanis will get training from Chinese companies and have also found jobs in those companies. Member of Committee emphasized that only NAVTTC is not enough. Ministry of Education in their welfare projects should start Chinese language and skill development courses.

13. Senator Gul Bashra said that the only reason for the backwardness of Baluchistan is low literacy rate. Ministry of Federal Education should assist Government of Baluchistan in providing free education, uniform, books even stipend should be given to the poor students as is being done in Punjab Province.

14. Minister agreed to assist Government of Baluchistan in educational projects.

Agenda Item No.4

Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) of the Ministry Federal Education and Professional Training for the financial year 2018-19.

15. PSDP of Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and Higher Education Commission was presented to the Committee. After discussion the committee endorsed the PSDP and ensured that the committee will support Ministry in all future development projects. However, the committee gave the following direction.



- i. Federal Education Budget should be increased by 4% of the GDP of Financial year 2018-19 and it should be raised 5% in financial year 2019-20 of the GDP (as per international development standards).
- ii. Keeping in view that 20.46 million children are out of school in our country, all the welfare projects (like Basic Education community school and NCHD programs) of the Ministry of Education should continue.
- iii. Higher Education Commission should ensure before funding of any project of research the topic theme should be internal issues/problems of the country. Solution oriented research should be done.
- iv. HEC should build a proper permanent link between education and industry.

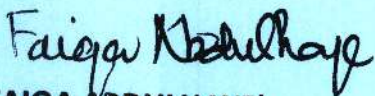
16. All the members of the committee thanked Senator Nuzhat Sadiq for presiding the meeting.

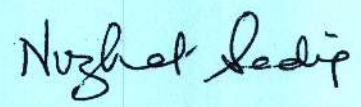
Recommendations:

- i. Federal Education Budget should be increased 4% of the GDP of Financial year 2018-19 and it should be enhanced upto 5% to financial year in the 2019-20 of the GDP
- ii. Ministry of Federal Education will present new Educational Policy to the committee by the 3rd week of March, 2018. Ministry of Federal Education alongwith Parliamentarian will work on new Educational Policy and their collective wisdom will be used for the benefit of our Youth.
- iii. Conceptual study should be a focus in the new Education Policy instead of theoretical learning. In order to cope with the challenges of the world scenario, our 80% students study from government school, it is necessary that in government school. English should be taught as a subject from class 1 and science or general science should be taught in English from primary levels.



- iv. Keeping in view that 20.46 million children are out of school, all the welfare projects (like Basic Education community school and NCHD programs) of the Ministry of Education should continue.
 - v. School and Secondary education should be modernized and standardized, in all registered Madrassa's. English, Science, social study and Pakistan Study should be introduced as a compulsory subject alongwith religious education, to broaden their horizon. Ministry has to ensure timely implementation.
 - vi. Ministry of Federal Education will give their full assistance/guidance to the Government of Baluchistan with their educational programs and projects.
 - vii. HEC will arrange conferences with all relevant stakeholders to identify the needs for emerging markets for different trades/skills in the domestic and international markets.
 - viii. Research Wing of HEC will collect information about best practices of skills universities around the globe and make our skill university compatible with these institutions.
 - ix. HEC will provide proper plan where HEC will built linkages in academia and industry.
17. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Chairperson.


(FAIQA ABDULHAYE)
Secretary Committee


(SENATOR NUZHAT SADIQ)
Acting Chairperson of the Committee