

**SENATE OF PAKISTAN
HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION**

REPORT NO.3 OF 2018



House of the Federation

**REPORT OF THE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCE**

ON

**THE ASSURANCE GIVEN BY THE MINISTER FOR FEDERAL
EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING IN THE HOUSE ON
26TH JANUARY, 2018, REGARDING MEASURES TAKEN BY THE
GOVERNMENT TO ERADICATE THE MENACE OF PLAGIARISM**

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR AGHA SHAHZAIB KHAN DURRANI

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

(Under Rule 159 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012)

I, Senator Agha Shahzaib Durrani, Chairman Functional Committee on Government Assurances, have the honour to submit, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the assurance given by the Minister for Federal Education and Technical Training in the House on 26th January, 2018, regarding measures taken by the Government to eradicate the menace of plagiarism.

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

(1) Senator Agha Shahzaib Khan Durrani	Chairman
(2) Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar ul Haq	Member
(3) Senator Aurangzeb Khan	Member
(4) Senator Sirajul Haq	Member
(5) Senator Ms. Nighat Mirza	Member
(6) Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel	Member
(7) Senator Professor Sajid Mir	Member
(8) Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
(9) Senator Ms. Rahila Magsi	Member
(10) Senator Khanzada Khan	Member
(11) Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
(12) Senator Brig. (R) John Kenneth Williams	Member
(13) Minister for Parliamentary Affairs	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee considered the above said assurance in its meeting held on 1st March, 2018, at Parliament House, Islamabad, which was attended by the following:-

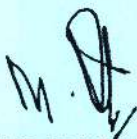
1. Senator Agha Shahzaib Durrani	Chairman
2. Senator Aurangzeb Khan	Member
3. Senator Ms. Nighat Mirza	Member
4. Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel	Member
5. Senator Khanzada Khan	Member
6. Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
7. Senator Brig. (R) John Kenneth Williams	Member

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4. The representative of the HEC informed the Committee that under the policy, plagiarism detection electronic system (Turnitin) had been provided to the universities for verification of originality of the document as well as a Quality Assurance Cell was in place in the HEC. He said that total 171 plagiarism complaints were decided by the HEC in light of the plagiarism policy while 59 were under process, however, faculty members committing the plagiarism were penalized as well. While explaining the process of verification of originality of the documents, he said that Quality Assurance Cells were also formed in the universities comprising of Researchers/Scholars/Professionals etc. in addition there was also a Plagiarism Committee of HEC to review the discriminations in the decision made by the universities regarding originality of the documents. Regarding elimination of human error, he said that different trainings were imparted in the universities and accordingly 650 people were given online training and two programs were also organized on electronic media in that regards.

5. The Committee was informed that Turnitin was being used by 120 countries and 15000 universities throughout the world had adopted it because it was the best possible way to eradicate the menace of plagiarism. Replying to the query raised by the Committee, the representative of the HEC responded that the cost for renewal of contract of Turnitin was spent USD 8 million last time. He said that almost 135 universities were given access to the software and 1000 students of each university could get access including instructor. He further said that the 100% result could not be achieved through the Turnitin, as each software had limitations.

6. The Committee observed that the software i.e. Turnitin devised to remove the plagiarism with limitations which could not be ignored. However, the Committee disposed of the matter by showing satisfaction on the steps being taken by the Government to eradicate the menace of plagiarism and fulfilled the assurance, given by the Minister for Federal Education and Technical Training in that regards. The Committee also gave approval for presentation of this report to the House.



(MUHAMMAD TAHIR KHAN)
Secretary (Committee)



(SENATOR AGHA SHAHZAIB DURRANI)
Chairman (Committee)