SENATE OF PAKISTAN HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION

REPORT NO. 05 / 2018



House of the Federation

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM ON A POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING ACCIDENTAL COMPENSATION TO COAL MINE WC?KERS IN BALOCHISTAN, RAISED BY SENATOR SADAR MUHAMMAD SHAFEEQ TAREEN DURING THE SITTING OF THE SENATE HELD ON 30TH AUGUST, 2018.

PRESENTED BY:

SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM ON THE POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE RAISED BY SENATOR SARDAR MUHAMMAD SHAFEEQ TAREEN REGARDING ACCIDENTAL COMPENSION TO COAL MINE WORKERS IN BALOCHISTAN.

I, Senator Mohsin Aziz, Chairman Standing Committee on Petroleum have the honor to present on behalf of the Committee, this report on the point of public importance regarding accidental compensation to coal mine workers in Balochistan raised by Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafeeq Tareen and referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report during the sitting of the Senate held on 30th August, 2018.

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

1.	Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman	
2.	Senator Lt. Gen. (R) Salahuddin Tirmizi	Member	
3.	Senator Salem Zia	Member	
4.	Senator Shamim Afridi	Member	
5.	Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmad Muhammad Shahi	Member	
6.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member	
7.	Senator Behramand Khan Tangi	Member	
8.	Senator Qurat Ul Ain Marri	Member	
9.	Senator Kauda Babar	Member	
10.	Senator Taj Muhammad Afridi	Member	
11.	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Member	
12.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel Member		
13.	Minister for Energy	Ex-officio Member	

3. The Committee took up the issue in its meeting held on 22nd October, 2018 which was attended by the following members:

1.	Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman
1	Senator Lt. Gen (R) Salahuddin Tirmizi	Member
2.	Senator Shamim Afridi	Member
3.	Senator Behramand Khan Tangi	Member
4.	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Member
5.	Senator Qurat ul Ain Marri	Member
6.	Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmad Muhammad Shahi	Member
7.	Senator Saleem Zia	Member
8.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasar	Member
9.	Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Mover
10.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafeeq Tareen	Mover

4. Senator Sardar Shafeeq Tareen informed the Committee that in Balochistan mining is an important sector. *But* frequent accidents occur in those mines which result in injuries and loss of human lives. The mine owners give a minor amount to the affected persons/families but cases for proper compensation remain pending for years. The accidents in coal mines are neither investigated nor the responsible ones are punished. It makes the poor families of the workers to suffer endlessly. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini informed that this issue was taken up in the Senate Functional Committee on Human Rights wherein it was observed that in most of the cases the mine owners sublets the mines and thus the

interests of workers are compromised. He also informed that the number of mine inspectors in Balochistan is very small and it is very difficult for them to pay regular visits to each and every mine. He stated that the Committee gave important recommendations on the issue but it seems that the Provincial Government of Balochistan is not taking the issue seriously.

- 5. The DG, Mineral informed the Committee that after 18th Amendment the subject has been devolved to the provinces. He informed that accidents do occur. These are also investigated but the reports are not made public and thus the responsible are not getting punishment for their negligence. He informed that the compensation for accidental death of the coal mine workers in Balochistan is less than that prescribed in other provinces. He informed that they have raised the issue with the Provincial Government of Balochistan and are hopeful for a positive outcome.
- 6. The Committee observed that this is a serious issue which needs to be looked into deeply. The Committee was of the view that the accidents in coal mines are not properly investigated and action is not taken accordingly. Safety measures are not properly observed by the miners which lead to serious accidents. The Committee also noted that the victims are not properly compensated. The Committee was of the view that since the issue pertains to the Provincial Government, therefore, it cannot be discussed without the presence of the representatives of the Provincial Government of Balochistan. The Committee, therefore, decided to hold a meeting in Quetta on this issue where representatives of Provincial Government, Miners Association and the mover will be invited to discuss the issue in detail and thus disposed off the matter. The Committee also asked for a copy of the report prepared by the Functional Committee on Human Rights on the issue.

(RAFIULLAH)
Secretary Committee

Islamabad, the 23rd October, 2018.

(SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ) Chairman Committee