

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENTARY YEAR 2018-2019

REPORT NO.03 OF 2019

**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION,
BROADCASTING, NATIONAL HISTORY AND LITERARY HERITAGE**

ON

**“THE BUDGETARY / PSDP ALLOCATIONS BY INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING DIVISION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20”**

PRESENTED BY:
SENATOR FAISAL JAVED
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION, BROADCASTING, NATIONAL HISTORY AND LITERARY HERITAGE ON "THE BUDGETARY / PSDP ALLOCATIONS BY INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING DIVISION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20"

I, Senator Faisal Javed, Chairman Standing Committee on Information, Broadcasting, National History and Literary Heritage, have the honor to submit, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the budgetary / PSDP allocations by Information and Broadcasting Division for the Financial Year (FY) 2019-20, in terms of proviso to Rule 166(4) and Rule 166(7) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012.

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

1.	Senator Faisal Javed	Chairman
2.	Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar	Member
3.	Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member
4.	Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
5.	Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
6.	Senator Khushbakht Shujat	Member
7.	Senator Mushtaq Ahmed	Member
8.	Senator Moula Bux Chandio	Member
9.	Senator Rubina Khalid	Member
10.	Senator Sajjad Hussain Turi	Member
11.	Senator Muhammad Tahir Bizenjo	Member
12.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member
13.	Senator Kamran Michael	Member
14.	Minister for Information & Broadcasting,	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee reviewed/scrutinized budgetary and PSDP allocations and proposals for FY 2019-20 in its meeting held on 25th February, 2019, which was attended by the following:-

1. Senator Faisal Javed	Chairman
2. Senator Rubina Khalid	Member
3. Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
4. Senator Khushbakht Shujat	Member
5. Mr. Fawad Ahmed Chaudhry Minister for Information and Broadcasting	Ex-Officio Member

4. The Committee was briefed on budgetary and PSDP proposals for FY 2019-20 of organizations under Information & Broadcasting Division. Total proposed PSDP allocation amounts to Rs.3591.19 million, out of which Rs.2710.239 million is foreign aid. For PTVC, one ongoing and one new project has been proposed with a total allocation of Rs.3100.309 million, for Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC), three projects worth Rs.201.464 are proposed, PNCA's proposed allocation is Rs.117.6 million, PEMRA Rs.85.175 million and for Lok Virsa Rs.86.46 million. PTVC projects include modernization of camera and production equipment from Standard Definition to High Definition (HD), and digitalization of terrestrial network. The Committee appreciated these projects because infrastructure and technological upgradation in PTV had been long due and these projects will significantly improve quality of PTV transmission.

5. PBC's projects include establishment of 100 KW Medium Wave (MW) transmitter in Gwadar, rehabilitation of MW services from Muzaffarabad and replacement of MW transmitter at Mirpur, which is a strategic requirement. The Minister informed that establishment of a mega MW transmitter at Fort Monroe, with estimated cost of Rs.2.5 billion, is also in the pipeline, Cabinet has approved it in principle. The Transmitter will be sufficient for Pakistan Radio's transmission not only in the entire country but also cover areas of Afghanistan and India. The Committee directed to provide more information and progress update on this proposals in due course.

6. PNCA's projects include Open Air Theatre at Islamabad and upgradation of film projection, light and sound systems at PNCA auditorium. The projects/upgradation are needed for promotion of Pakistani culture, cater for entertainment requirements and bring in DCP technology for screening of movies during national and international festivals arranged at PNCA. The upgradation is also aimed at increasing PNCA's revenues to make it self-sufficient. The Committee termed PNCA's upgradation projects as valid and need of hour.

7. PEMRA's project comprises upgradation of monitoring system upto 250 channels so as to detect violation of electronic media Code of Conduct 2015 with minimum labor. The Minister expressed the view that there should be one national monitoring cell, modern and highly equipped, to save public money and duplicity of work in multiple monitoring platforms. The Committee also endorsed this project in view of its objectives.

8. Two projects of Lok Virsa include uplift of its premises into a professional, gender-friendly safe space and modification of open air auditorium to seat 1500 audiences and roof top theatre to seat 500 audiences. It was informed that some areas of Lok Virsa are dark where women hesitate to go and there are hardly any women's toilets. The Committee expressed concern on this situation and inquired as to why attention was already not paid to these areas. Senator Syed Sabir Shah suggested that there should be a detailed briefing on Lok Virsa in next meeting as many cottage industries and artisans are being supported by Lok Virsa. The Committee endorsed Lok Virsa's PSDP projects and decided to take a detailed briefing on its functions.


(Haris Rehman)
D.S / Secretary Committee


(Senator Faisal Javed)
Chairman Committee

Islamabad,
The 4th March, 2019