

RULING OF THE CHAIR

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

During sitting of the Senate held on 31st December, 2015 (122nd session), Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi moved Adjournment Motion No. 15(122)/2015-M, for discussion on the APS incident. At the conclusion of the debate on the Adjournment Motion, if admitted, he wanted the House to express its will that a judicial inquiry be conducted into the incident. The question arose as to whether an Adjournment Motion can express the will of the House, like a Resolution.

After hearing the Member, the Chairman ruled as under:-

"If you are going to press your adjournment motion only on the question of demanding of an inquiry, then I will have to take a different point of view as you have other parliamentary instruments to utilize for the expression of the will of the House for holding a judicial inquiry, but if you want a discussion on the question of the unfortunate Peshawar incident, to that extent, I can find the motion in order because it would meet the requirements of Rule 87. So let me know if you are pressing it for a discussion to the extent of the incident, yes, I can find it in order. If it is for the holding of a judicial inquiry, then this is not the instrument that is to be used."

Upon that observation of the Chairman, Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi stated he would like to discuss the incident as a whole which has shaken this nation.

After hearing the Mover, the Chairman further ruled as under:-

"I find that the adjournment motion moved by Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi to the extent that it deals with holding a discussion on the incident of the 16th December, 2014, in which innocent children were massacred and made martyrs in the Army Public School, Peshawar to be in order. As far as the question that the House after a debate, direct the Federal and Provincial Government to hold impartial, high level judicial inquiry into the gory and tragic incident of 16th December, 2014, is concerned, the honorable Senator has other parliamentary instrument to fall back upon. This can't form the part of an adjournment motion."

MIAN RAZA RABBANI

NI

Chairman Senate

Senate Sitting dated 31st December, 2015 122nd Session – Dictated in the House.