

SENATE OF PAKISTAN

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES



**REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES
ON
STARRED QUESTION NO. 316 ASKED BY SENATOR MIAN
MUHAMMAD ATEEQ SHAIKH IN THE SENATE SESSION HELD ON
4TH FEBRUARY, 2020, REGARDING "ALLOCATION MADE FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
(SDGS) DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS"**

**PRESENTED BY
SENATOR AGHA SHAHZAIB DURRANI
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

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I, Senator Agha Shahzaib Durrani, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (PD&SI), have the honour to present, on behalf of the committee, this report on Starred Question No. 316 asked by Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh in the Senate Session held on 4th February, 2020, regarding "allocation made for implementation of sustainable development goals (SDGS) during the last three years".

2. The Honourable Chairman Senate referred the matter to Standing Committee on PD&SI with the direction to report back to the House.

3. The composition of the Committee is as under:

1.	Agha Shahzaib Durrani	Chairperson
2.	Dr. Asad Ashraf	Member
3.	Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
4.	Gianchand	Member
5.	Hidayat Ullah	Member
6.	Kauda Babar	Member
7.	Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi	Member
8.	Muhammad Talha Mahmood	Member
9.	Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar	Member
10.	Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
11.	Shaheen Khalid Butt	Member
12.	Syed Shibli Faraz	Member
13.	Minister of PD&SI	Ex-Officio Member

4. The Committee discussed the matter in its meetings held on 5th March, 2020, 23rd July, 2020, 10th September, 2020, and 30th September, 2020, after which the matter was disposed.

5. In its meeting held on 5th March, 2020, the matter was deferred by the Committee as the Mover, Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh, could not attend the meeting.



6. In its meeting held on **23rd July, 2020**, the Committee inquired into the SDGs monitoring and implementation structure in Pakistan. Due to a lack of coherent information on the subject, the mover, Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh, and Senator Hidayat Ullah staged a token walkout in protest of a poor management system of the SDGs funds. From thereon, the committee instructed a briefing on a detailed district-wise physical and financial progress of SDGs projects against these allocations over the last three years, to be sourced by the M/o PD&SI from the respective departments / divisions to whom the allocations were made. For this next meeting, the Chairperson Committee also instructed to invite the other stakeholders which included Cabinet Division and Finance Division, to jointly clarify the history, work and details of the SDGs management structure in Pakistan, particularly in the last three years, with a special focus on how the SDGs finances are approved and released.

7. During the briefing and discussions in the meeting held on **10th September, 2020**, the Mover, Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh, could not attend the meeting. However, the Committee members pointed out further discrepancies, and Chairman Committee expressed his displeasure over the lack of coherence of data between the various Ministries/Departments/Divisions concerned. The Committee deferred the agenda to an upcoming meeting, recommending that the M/o PD&SI shall provide additional details of the Steering Committee on the SDGs and on how all the related allocations are handled.

6. In the meeting held on **30th September, 2020**, the Committee scrutinised the latest data presented by the Ministries/Departments concerned. Senator Hidayat Ullah pointed out some incorrect facts and figures in the data, and questioned the reliability of the rest of the data as well. The Chairman Committee pointed out the little to almost no SDGs funding data relating to Sindh. The Chairman Committee also questioned the mechanism of disbursement of the SDGs funds to the provinces as there was no clarity on how their eventual utilisation can be traced.

7. In this concluding meeting on the matter, the Committee recommended that:

- i. release mechanisms of funds must be reviewed and criteria should be defined for approval of projects and distribution of funds;
- ii. a representation of Senators in the Steering Committee must also be ensured;
- iii. certificates of completion may be issued/sought to keep clear and traceable records of any and all allocations relating to the SDGs in the future;
- iv. pictorial evidence must be an essential part of project completion, along with geolocation of projects to avoid duplication;
- v. quarterly reports of progress must be compiled by the Planning Departments at both Provincial and Federal levels, along with checks and balances;
- vi. Deputy commissioner being the forwarding authority should be the focal person carrying monitoring and presenting quarterly report about progress; and

- vii. if these actions fail, then no further releases must be made to the project until compliance to the recommended SOPs is achieved.
8. The Committee then disposed the agenda item.



(WIJDAN KHALIQ)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR AGHA SHAHZAIB DURRANI)
Chairman Committee

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