



**SENATE OF PAKISTAN**

Report No.8 of 2020

**REPORT OF THE**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES,**  
**REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION**

**Point of Public Importance regarding “Public health care at risk because of mushroom growth of unauthorized private clinics and hospitals in Islamabad” moved by Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi on 13th January, 2020**

**PRESENTED BY**  
**SENATOR KHUSHBAKHT SHUJAT**  
**Chairperson SSC on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination**

## SENATE SECRETARIAT

### REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGULATIONS AND COORDINATION

I, Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination have the honor to present the report, on behalf of the Committee on Point of Public Importance regarding **“Public health care at risk because of mushroom growth of unauthorized private clinics and hospitals in Islamabad”** moved by Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.

2. The matter was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination for consideration and report to the House.

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

1. Senator Khushbakht Shujat	Chairperson
2. Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member
3. Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi	Member
4. Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
5. Senator Dr. Asad Ashraf	Member
6. Senator Dr. Ashok Kumar	Member
7. Senator Sikandar Mandhro	Member
8. Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
9. Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
10. Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
11. Senator Sana Jamali	Member
12. Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Member
13. Senator Syed Muhammad Ali Shah Jamot	Member
14. Minister for National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination	Ex-Officio
Member	

4. The Standing Committee considered the issue in its meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. The Committee disposed of the matter and decided to submit the report to the House. The meeting was attended by the following members, namely:-

1. Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member
2. Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi	Member
3. Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
4. Senator Dr. Asad Ashraf	Member

5. Senator Dr.Ashok Kumar	Member
6. Senator Dr. Sikandar Mandhro	Member/Mover
7. Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
8. Senator Liaqat Khan Tarakai	Member
9. Senator Prof. Dr.Mehr Taj Roghani	Member/Mover
10. Senator Sana Jamali	Member
11. Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen	Member/Mover
12. Minister for National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination	Ex-Officio Member
13. Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi	Mover

### SUMMARY

The Mover, Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi briefed the Committee that a very comprehensive and detailed Act of Parliament for establishment of the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority was passed in May, 2018, subsequently published in the Gazette of Pakistan. He showed grave concern on performance of the Ministry that they could not implement the said Act. Their negligence has exposed the whole population of Islamabad to health hazardous clinics and labs. The Committee inquired that what actions have been taken in this regard.

The Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) was established on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018 to regulate the healthcare sector and also for quality healthcare services in Islamabad. It is an initiative to promote healthcare safety with a mandate to provide regulation and supervision in all forms and manifestations to the healthcare sector, both private and public.


For this purpose, the Federal Government notified a Federal Board consisting of nine members. A budget committee consisting of three members was also formed on June 15, 2020. Against a budget demand of Rs.507 million, the budget committee approved Rs.444 million for the year 2020-21. This was later reduced to Rs.115 million and HR was also reduced from 94 employees to 60 employees by the Ministry of NHR&C. The budget is quite insufficient to cope with the growing expenses of the Authority. The Authority needs more human and financial resources to meet the challenges.

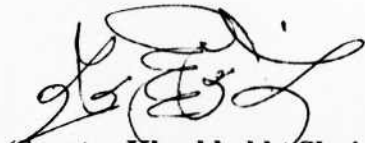
Scarcity of resources has been hindering the way of implementation. The Committee deplored that such an important authority is facing budgetary constraints and other problems. It is nothing but red-tapism; It is intolerable negligence on the part of the Ministry for not implementing the Act in letter and spirit, the Committee observed.

Also, the Committee showed concern on the prevalent situation. It was observed that such a mushroom growth of sub-standard labs and clinics in the Islamabad Capital Territory has been causing damage to health of the residents of Islamabad.

#### RECOMMENDATION

- (a) The Committee recommended that sufficient budget and human resources should be provided to the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority so that health safety is ensured as envisaged in the Act.
- (b) The Committee recommended that all those responsible causing delay in implementation of the Act of Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority be brought to book and strict punitive action be taken against the responsible. The Standing Committee disposed of the matter and allowed to present the report in the Senate House.

  
(Javaid Iqbal)  
Secretary Committee

  
(Senator Khushbakht Shujat)  
Chairperson Committee