

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
ON
POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING AIRING OF INCORRECT MAP
OF PAKISTAN DURING LIVE TRANSMISSION, RAISED BY SENATOR
MUSADDIQ MALIK IN THE HOUSE ON 8TH JUNE, 2020.

REPORT NO. 10 OF 2020

**PRESENTED BY:
SENATOR FAISAL JAVED
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE**

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ON THE POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REGARDING AIRING OF INCORRECT MAP OF PAKISTAN DURING LIVE TRANSMISSION, RAISED BY SENATOR MUSADDIQ MALIK IN THE HOUSE ON 8TH JUNE, 2020.

I, Senator Faisal Javed, Chairman Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting have the honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, this report on Point of Public Importance regarding airing of incorrect map of Pakistan during live transmission, raised by Senator Musaddiq Malik in the House on 8th June, 2020.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:

1. Senator Faisal Javed	Chairman
2. Senator Sajjad Hussain Turi	Member
3. Senator Anwaar ul Haq Kakar	Member
4. Senator Khushbakht Shujat	Member
5. Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah	Member
6. Senator Dr. Ghaus Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
7. Senator Kamran Michael	Member
8. Senator Pervaiz Rashid	Member
9. Senator Moula Bux Chandio	Member
10. Senator Rubina Khalid	Member
11. Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
12. Senator Muhammad Tahir Bizenjo	Member
13. Senator Atta ur Rehman	Member
14. Minister for Information and Broadcasting	Ex-Officio Member

2. The Committee took up the matter in its meetings held on:

- i. 27th July, 2020
- ii. 19th August, 2020
- iii. 2nd September, 2020
- iv. 17th September, 2020
- v. 2nd October, 2020



3. The final consideration of the matter was held in the meeting dated 21st October, 2020, attended by the following:

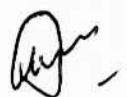
1. Senator Faisal Javed	Chairman
2. Senator Sajjad Hussain Turi	Member
3. Senator Anwaar ul Haq Kakar	Member
4. Senator Dr. Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Member
5. Senator Moula Bux Chandio	Member
6. Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
7. Senator Muhammad Tahir Bizenjo	Member
8. Senator Musaddiq Masood Malik	Mover

4. During the course of briefings, the Committee deliberated upon the matter in detail and sought views of the Mover, the Federal Secretary, Information and Broadcasting Division, and the Managing Director PTVC. The summary of the proceedings of the meetings on the subject matter is provided below.

5. The Mover of the agenda Senator Musaddiq Malik explained that a major error was repeatedly committed on the PTV wherein the region of Jammu and Kashmir was not shown as part of the territory of the country. He expressed concerns over such serious mistake being committed on a state run TV. He added that there were two inquiry reports that were prepared on the said issue and demanded that the Press Information Officer (PIO) report should be presented before the Committee. Senator Anwaar ul Haq Kakar said that those responsible for such criminal negligence should be penalized appropriately. Senator Pervaiz Rashid said that the monitoring and preview team in PTV didn't take notice of the matter until a strong protest was recorded on social media and other forums.

6. On the directions of the Committee the video footage of the relevant portion of the programme that aired the incorrect map of Pakistan was presented before the Committee.

7. The Managing Director, PTVC, briefed the Committee that the incident first occurred on 28th October, 2019 on PTV Home and was repeated for several times on both PTV News and PTV Home. He informed that an inquiry was conducted on the said matter and stern actions were taken against the delinquents including termination of services of Mr. Akram Ali, Head of Current Affairs, PTV News, Islamabad and Mr.



Tamour Younus, Resource Person & Producer Current Affairs, PTV News, Islamabad, and issuance of strict warning to Mr. Farrukh Afzal Malik, Programme Manager, PTV Home, Islamabad; Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Producer Programme, PTV Home, Islamabad; and Ms. Nadia Sajjad, Resource Person, Producer News and Current Affairs, PTV News, Islamabad. On the query of the Chairman Committee regarding the criteria for penalizing certain persons while sparing others, the MD PTV informed that penalty of removal from service was made on two counts; firstly the erroneous editorial judgement and secondly failure to perform their job as per predefined procedures; whereas he added that the warning was issued to those who did make erroneous editorial judgement, however, they followed the procedure by approaching the Preview Committee headed by the General Manager. It was also informed that a private limited service providing company working for FBR had this map on its website which was the source for downloading and putting up of the image on the programme.

8. The Secretary, Information & Broadcasting Division informed the Committee that the PIO inquiry report on the matter of airing of incorrect map of Pakistan during live transmission has been prepared and submitted to the Minister who has directed to put the report before the PTV Board before submitting to the Committee.

9. The Managing Director PTV informed the Committee that in order to ensure that such incidents do not happen in future, SOPs have been reviewed for the preview committee and editorial board for a more consolidated review process. An internal database system of images/videos is being developed in PTV to use only authentic and verified images/videos for broadcasting.

10. In view of the threadbare discussions, detailed briefings by the Ministry officials and perspective of the Mover, the Committee made following recommendations:

- i. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to submit the PIO inquiry report on the matter of airing of incorrect map of Pakistan during live transmission on PTV to the Committee;
- ii. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting will send a formal letter to FBR for taking notice of incorrect map on the website of PRAL



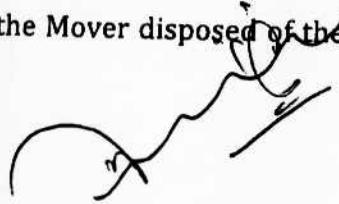
Pvt. Ltd. that was the source for downloading and putting up of the image on the programme on PTV;

iii. The Pakistan Television Corporation to ensure that preventive measures are taken so that such incidents do not happen in future.

11. The Committee with the consent of the Mover disposed of the matter for onward report to the House.



(ADNAN IBNE ASAD)
Secretary Committee



(SENATOR FAISAL JAVED)
Chairman Committee