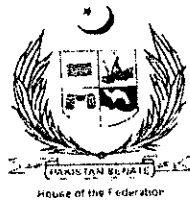
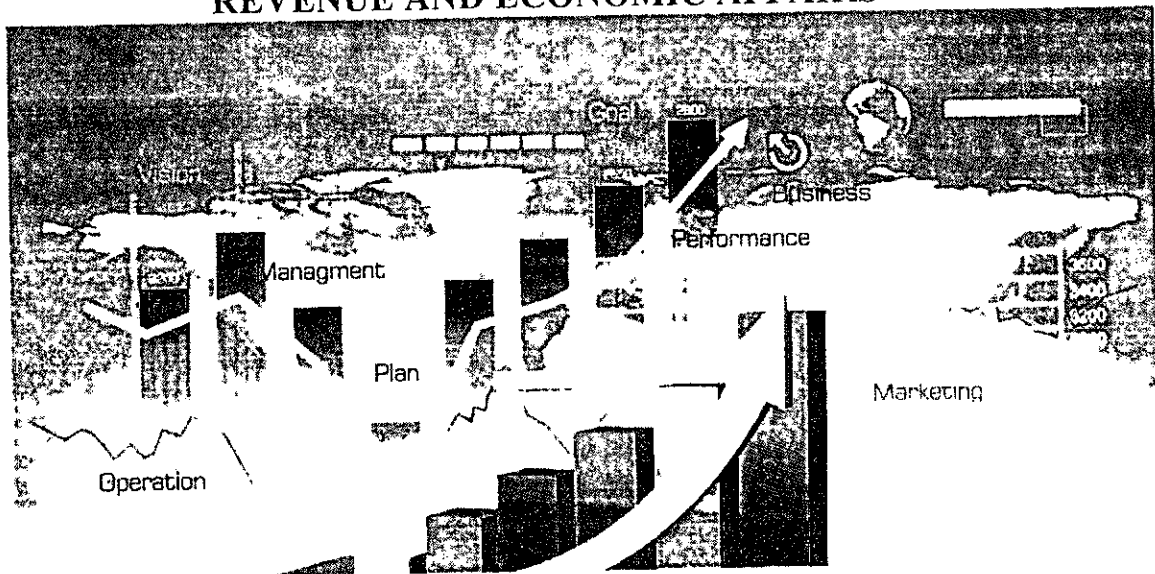


# SENATE OF PAKISTAN



## REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REVENUE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



### REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE REVENUE AND ECONOMICS AFFAIRS ON THE GOVERNMENT BILL TITLED THE "PAKISTAN SINGLE WINDOW BILL, 2021"

PRESENTED BY  
SENATOR FAROOQ H. NAEK  
CHAIRMAN

## SENATE SECRETARIAT

### REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE REVENUE AND ECONOMICS AFFAIRS ON THE GOVERNMENT BILL TITLED THE "PAKISTAN SINGLE WINDOW BILL, 2021"

I, senator Farooq H. Naek, Chairman of the Standing Committee On Finance, Revenue And Economic Affairs have the honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the Government Bill titled the "Pakistan Single Window Bill, 2021" laid in the Senate in its sitting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 and referred to the Senate Standing Committee for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:

1.	<b>Senator Farooq Hamid Naek</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
2.	Senator Zeeshan Khanzada	Member
3.	Senator Mohsin Aziz	Member
4.	Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Member
5.	Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar	Member
6.	Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
7.	Senator Musadik Masood Malik	Member
8.	Senator Mushahid Ullah Khan	Member
9.	Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member
10.	Senator Imam-ud-Din Shouqeen	Member
11.	Senator Sherry Rehman	Member
12.	Senator Muhammad Akram	Member
13.	Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood	Member
14.	Advisor to PM on Finance and Revenue,	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee took up discussion on the Bill in its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. The following members of the Committee were in attendance:

1.	<b>Senator Farooq Hamid Naek</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
2.	Senator Zeeshan Khanzada	Member
3.	Senator Mohsin Aziz	Member
4.	Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Member
5.	Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq	Member

4. Pakistan has ratified the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization which inter alia stipulates the establishment of a National Single Window for managing external trade. In this regard, the Pakistan Single Window Bill proposes establishing a system for a single point of submission and receipt of trade data and

information, enabling synchronized processing of data and information to achieve standardization and harmonization of documents required for regulatory control. The single window will also provide for integrated risk management, and will remove legal, regulatory and operational barriers to electronic transaction for external trade.

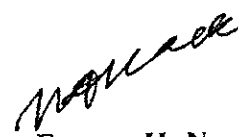
5. Thus far, 70 countries have adopted this system for efficient and smooth flow of trading goods. The Advisor, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has stated that due to official paper work, the average time of goods consignment clearance in Pakistan is highest in the South Asian region. In India, the consignment clearing time is 64 hours with a cost of USD 270 for one twenty-foot container. In Pakistan, the same process takes 113 hours with a cost of USD 406. This makes the exports of Pakistan less competitive in the international market, and traders of Pakistan end up paying Rs.500 million extra annually. To reduce the cost of doing business, the single window operation system is being proposed to efficiently process the consignment at one place and with less human interference. This is also needed to promote the investment and global value chains development in Pakistan.

6. Currently, approximately 75 regulations are operational in Pakistan, making Pakistan's borders thick. This also minimizes the benefits that should accrue given Pakistan's strategic location & investment in allied infrastructure. The Single Window system will provide a single ICT based National Trade Platform for processing cross border trade and integrate the existing controls, regulations/enforcement on platform. It will also incorporate a **port community system** for removing logistic side inefficiencies; **Integrated Risk Management** for smarter controls, compliance & facilitation; **Integrated Tariff Management System** for simplified compliance and a Business Model for sustainable operations & phased expansion.

7. Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh noted that this system would lead to double screening by government officials. The FBR has clarified that it will improve the existing system of green channel, and also facilitate others. Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh also noted that the rules for the Pakistan Single Window Bill, 2021 should be framed within 3 months after passing of the bill. The Committee has noted that this provision is already part of the bill.

8. The Committee, after a detailed briefing unanimously passed the bill and recommends that the "Pakistan Single Window Bill, 2021" as introduced in the House may be passed by the Senate. A copy of the bill as introduced in the Senate is annexed herewith.

  
(Iffat Mustafa)  
Secretary Committee

  
(Senator Farooq H. Naek)  
Chairman Committee