SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR

ON

POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE RAISED BY SENATOR AZAM NAZIR TARAR ON 27TH DECEMBER, 2021 REGARDING THE INCIDENT OF KILLING OF MS. WAJIHA SWATI, A PAKISTANI ORIGIN US CITIZEN.

[REFERRED BY THE HON'BLE CHAIRMAN SENATE ON 27TH DECEMBER, 2021]

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ CHAIRMAN SSC'ON INTERIOR

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SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject:

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR ON INCIDENT OF KILLING OF MS. WAJIHA SWATI A PAKISTANI ORIGIN US CITIZEN.

I, Senator Mohsin Aziz, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Interior, have the honor to present report of the Committee on the Point of Public Importance raised by Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on 27th December, 2021 regarding the incident of killing of Ms. Wajiha Swati, a Pakistani origin US Citizen. The matter was referred to the Committee by the Hon'ble Chairman Senate on 27th December, 2021 for consideration and report.

The composition of the Committee is as under: -

Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman
Senator Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani	Member
Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar	Member
Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri	Member
Senator Moula Bux Chandio	Member
Senator Saifullah Abro	Member
Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman	Member
Senator Shahadat Awan	Member
Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
Senator Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari	Member
Senator Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti	Member
Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
Minister for Interior	Ex-Officio Member

- 3. The Committee took up the matter in its meetings held on 28th December, 2021 and 7th January, 2022.
- 4. On 28th December, 2021, the meeting was attended by the following Members:

Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman
Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri	Member
Senator Saifullah Abro	Member
Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman	Member
Senator Shahadat Awan	Member
Senator Muhammad Talha Mehmood	Member
Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar	Member/Mover

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5. The Mover submitted the case before the Committee and stated that the victim was an overseas Pakistani whose children are residing in United States of America. The victim reached Pakistan in the mid of October, 2021 to settle a dispute with her ex-husband but she went on missing and finally revealed as murdered. He informed the Committee that since her children could not pursue the case of her missing so the State should pursue the case and ensure administration of justice in this case. After hearing the Mover, the Ministry of Interior was directed to coordinate with all the concerned departments and submit a detailed report to the Committee in its next meeting to be held on 7th January, 2022.

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6. On 7th January, 2022, the matter was once again taken up by the Committee. The meeting was attended by the following:

Senator Mohsin Aziz	Chairman
Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri	Member
Senator Saifullah Abro	Member
Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
Senator Faisal Saleem Rehman	Member
Senator Shahadat Awan	Member
Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
Senator Dilawar Khan	Member

The Mover was not present in the meeting, however, Ms. Shabnum advocate was present on behalf of the Mover who once again briefed the Committee about the whole facts of the case and stated that the victim arrived at Islamabad International Airport with her nephew on 16th October, 2021 at 6:30 a.m. and went to the House of her ex-husband Mr. Rizwan Bangash situated at DHA Phase-I where she was probably murdered between 2 to 5 p.m. The body of the victim was wrapped in a carpet and after putting in the boot of the car was transported to Lakki Marwat where she was buried by her ex-husband with the help of his servant and his father and after burying her dead body a concrete floor was laid on it to hide the crime. The Investigating Officer enquired from the ex-husband about the missing of the victim but he very professionally dodged the police. The petitioner expressed her concerns over the role of concerned SHO who was continuously propagating that ex-husband of the deceased had no role in the case.

7. CPO Rawalpindi informed the Committee that there was a property dispute between the victim and her ex-husband who was arrested by the police but he remained very confident even in police custody and did not disclose anything. However, later he confessed the crime when his father was produced before him in custody after being brought from Hangu. CPO

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Rawalpindi informed the Committee that the case has been solved within 6 days after he took over the charge as CPO Rawalpindi.

8. The Committee members expressed their condolences to the family of the deceased and showed satisfaction on the resolution of the case. The Committee gave following recommendations in this case:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. The Committee was of unanimous opinion that the killing of Ms. Wajiha Swati is a State failure.
- ii. The Committee directed CPO Rawalpindi to probe into the conduct of SHO concerned on account of his declaring of the accused as innocent.
- iii. The Committee directed CPO Rawalpindi to extend full cooperation to all the departments for speedy trial of the case so that the culprits can be convicted according to the law. Committee also directed CPO Rawalpindi to ensure protection of witnesses in this case and ensure their safe production before the court of law during the trial.
- iv. The Committee directed that in future Police should not waste crucial time in the determination of territorial jurisdiction and Police should act promptly to resolve such cases.
- v. The Committee directed that there should not be any lapse on prosecution of this case.

In view of the above recommendation, the Committee disposed of the matter.

(MUHAMMAD/AZAM) Secretary Committee

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(SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ)
Chairman Committee