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REPORT NO. 15/2022-23

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR

ON

THE SUBJECT MATTER OF STARRED QUESTION NO.45
REGARDING THE SHIFTING OF DEPARTMENT OF
LIBRARIES TO SECTOR H-9 ISLAMABAD
ASKED BY SENATOR FIDA MUHAMMAD KHAN

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ
CHAIRMAN SSC ON INTERIOR

SENATE SECRETARIAT

SUBJECT: REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR ON THE SUBJECT MATTER OF STARRED QUESTION NO.45 REGARDING THE SHIFTING OF DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES TO SECTOR H-9 ISLAMABAD

I, Senator Mohsin Aziz, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Interior, have the honor to present report of the Committee on the subject matter of Starred Question No.45 regarding the shifting of Department of Libraries to Sector H-9 Islamabad. The question was asked by Senator Fida Muhammad Khan in the Senate sitting held on 29th December, 2021 which was referred to the SSC on Interior for consideration and report.

2. 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 Faisal Subzwari	Member
Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
Senator Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti	Member
Senator Dilawar Khan	Member
Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
<u>Minister for Interior</u>	<u>Ex-Officio Member</u>

3. The Committee considered the issue in its meetings held on 28th April, 2022, 18th May, 2022 and finally on 26th August, 2022

4. The Committee was informed that the Department of Libraries was established in the National Library of Pakistan which was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Mr. Moeen Qureshi on 24th August, 1993. Since then the Department of Libraries was housed in the National Library Building however, the role of National Library was International and the Department of Libraries was local, therefore, the administration bifurcated them. Consequent upon bifurcation from National Library of Pakistan in November, 2016, the Department of Libraries continued as an attached department of defunct CA & DD and National Library of Pakistan placed under the administrative control of NH&LH Division. However, the Department of Libraries continued to be housed in the National Library Building in Room Nos. G-12, G-13; G-27, G-29, G-30 and G-35 which were formally allotted by the bifurcation Committee of CA&DD to this department. Later on, in September, 2018, the Department of Libraries was transferred under the administrative control of NH&LH Division, due to de-function of CA&DD. Hence, both the departments i.e. Department of Libraries and National Library of Pakistan were functioning under the administrative control of NH&LH Division. In August, 2019, the Secretary, NH&LH Division passed orders for shifting of Department of Libraries to Islamabad Public Library Building in Sector H-9, Islamabad. The Department of Libraries obeyed the orders and vacated the above mentioned rooms in the National Library building and shifted to Islamabad Public Library Building Sector H-9, Islamabad.

5. The Committee observed that it is the prerogative of the Government to take administrative Decisions which cannot be questioned unless any irregularity is found in passing of such orders.



6. The Mover was of the view that due to shifting of the Department, the seniority of some of the officers/officials was disturbed which has damaged their career growth. The Mover also questioned about vacancy of the post of Director General, Department of Libraries since 2016. Director, Department of Libraries informed that currently the department is under administrative control of ICT Administration and Chief Commissioner ICT is looking after the affairs of the department.

7. The Committee was informed that due to shifting of Department of Libraries from National Library Building to Islamabad Public Library Building H-9, the seniority of the employees has not been disturbed or changed.

8. As far as the issue of vacant post of Director General is concerned, it was informed that there is only a single candidate in seniority for promotion quota as Director General who is eligible for promotion and case of promotion of Director (R.S) for promotion of Director General (BPS-20) has been forwarded many times but the same is not finalized by Selection Board. It was further informed that since the post of D.G is of promotion quota, therefore, the same cannot be considered through direct appointment, hence the same is lying vacant since, 2016.

9. Secretary Ministry of Interior assured that the case will once again be forwarded to the Central Selection Board for promotion of the suitable officer.

10. In the meeting of the Committee held on 26th August, 2022, the Chief Commissioner ICT/Chairman CDA appeared before the Committee and once again reiterated that due to shifting of department of libraries from National Library Building to Islamabad Public Library Building H-9 Islamabad, the seniority of the employees has neither been disturbed nor been changed. As far as the posting of Director General is concerned, Chairman CDA apprised the Committee that an officer has now been promoted to BPS-20 who will be posted as Director General, Department of Libraries within a week.

11. The Mover expressed satisfaction over the statement of the Chairman CDA and agreed that the agenda item may be disposed of. The Committee disposed of the agenda item with the following recommendations:

- i. It shall be ensured that the seniority of any employee may not suffer due to shifting of the department.
- ii. The post of Director General, Department of Libraries shall be filled by a suitable candidate within a week as committed by Chairman CDA and copy of the posting order may also be shared with the Committee.

12. The Committee also gave approval of presentation of report of the Committee to the House. Hence, this report is presented to the House.


(MUHAMMAD AZAM)
Secretary Committee


(SENATOR MOHSIN AZIZ)
Chairman Committee