



House of the Federation

SENATE OF PAKISTAN

REPORT NO. 27

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

ON

*Point of Public Importance regarding "Murder of Professor
Ajmal Sawand in Kandhkot, Sindh" raised by Senator
Saifullah Abro in the Senate Sitting held on 7th April, 2023"*

Presented by:

**SENATOR WALID IQBAL
CHAIRMAN**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject: REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

I, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Human Rights, have the honour to present this report on a Point of Public Importance regarding "Murder of Professor Ajmal Sawand in Kandhkot, Sindh" raised by Senator Saifullah Abro in the Senate Sitting held on 7th April, 2023. The matter, upon introduction, was referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Standing Committee is as follows:-

1.	Senator Walid Iqbal	Chairman
2.	Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
3.	Senator Dr. Mohammad Humayun Mohamand	Member
4.	Senator Seemee Ezdi	Member
5.	Senator Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari	Member
6.	Senator Quratul Ain Marri	Member
7.	Senator Kamran Michael	Member
8.	Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Member
9.	Senator Abida Muhammad Azeem	Member
10.	Senator Muhammad Tahir Bizinjo	Member
11.	Senator Irfanul Haq Siddiqui	Member
12.	Senator Falak Naz	Member
13.	Senator Syed Waqar Mehdi	Member
14.	Minister for Human Rights	Ex-officio Member

3. The Committee considered the matter in its meetings held on 7th June and 21st June, 2023, respectively, under the Chairmanship of Senator Walid Iqbal. Final consideration of the Bill was held in the meeting held on 21st June, 2023, which was attended by the following Honorable Senators:-

1.	Senator Walid Iqbal	Chairman
2.	Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
3.	Senator Dr. Mohammad Humayun Mohamand	Member

4. The Committee had invited and heard all stakeholders including, Senator Saifuallah Abro, Mover of the agenda item, Ministry of Human Rights and Sindh Police.

5. In the meeting dated 7th June, 2023, the SSP, Kashmor (Mr. Irfan Sammo) at District Kandhkot briefed the Committee about the progress being made by Sindh Police in apprehending the culprits involved in the murder of Professor Ajmal Sawand. Documentary evidence was also shared with the Committee and it was informed that various operations have been conducted in the Katcha area of Sindh. A total number of seventy dacoits have been killed during various operations and dozens have been injured or apprehended by the Sindh Police in the last four months. The SSP, Kashmor further informed the Committee that the culprits involved in murder of Professor Ajmal Sawand belonged to the Sundrani tribe residing in the Katcha areas of Sindh. The Murder was a result of an old enmity between the Sundrani and Sawand tribes on account of an honor killing. The delay in getting hold of the culprits is due to their connections with the dacoits of the Katcha area that spreads across the borders of Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan. He further stated that it was difficult to conduct raids/operations against the miscreants because of the difficult terrain, issues of visibility, lack of proper access in to the Katcha area. The Committee was also informed that the miscreants were well equipped with high grade military weapons and the same were used against the police parties approaching them to conduct operations.

6. The Committee showed its serious concerns over the delay in arrests of offenders nominated by the family of Professor Ajmal Sawand in the FIRs. Senator Abro also highlighted various incidents that involved serious violations of human rights and murders that took place in Sindh that included gruesome murders of Fahmeeda Sial, Nazim Jokhio and Daiya Bheel. The Committee stressed upon the SSP Kashmor to put in extra efforts to bring the culprits to justice. The SSP Kashmor assured the Committee that the culprits would soon be arrested or surrender to the police in a short period of time.

7. In the meeting dated 21st July, 2023, the Committee further deliberated on the matter. Mr. Irfan Ali Samo, SSP Kashmore, apprised the Committee that Dr. Ajmal Sawand's murder was in consequence of old enmity between Sawand and Sundrani tribes. He further informed the Committee that, since the matter was last taken up by the Committee on 7th June 2023, when SSP Kashmore had assured the Committee that the culprits would be apprehended very soon, the Sindh Police had made two further raids on the hideout of the culprits in Katcha forest area to arrest the accused Aijaz Ali Sundrani and his nine accomplices, but to no avail, because the Police, even though using armored personnel carriers, was equipped with ordinary weapons, while the culprits attacked the Police with rocket launchers, mortars and other

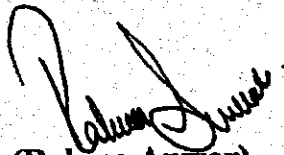
sophisticated weaponry. In addition, since the last time the matter was taken up, yet another member of the Sundrani tribe was killed by the Sawand tribe.

8. The Committee thereupon expressed its concern upon the writ of the State not being enforceable in the territory concerned, and unanimously recommended that,-

- (i) The Sindh Government should equip the Sindh Police with the latest weaponry;
- (ii) All resources of the State, including Pakistan Rangers and the Armed Forces, should be availed to overcome and arrest the miscreants; and
- (iii) Attempts should be made to get the Sawand-Sundrani feud to be amicably resolved so that the blood-letting should come to an end.
- (iv) The Interior and Defence Ministries be also called upon to take necessary action in this regard. ,

9. The Committee directed the Sindh Police to submit a progress report on the matter alongwith the actions taken in the light of recommendations made by the Committee, within one month and disposed off the matter accordingly.

10. Accordingly, the instant point of public importance stands disposed off.



(Rabeea Anwar)
Joint Secretary/

Secretary Committee on Human Rights



(SENATOR WALID IQBAL)
Chairman Standing Committee on Human Rights