



RULING OF THE CHAIR

That on 13th January 2025, I, in the exercise of powers conferred under rule 84(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, issued Production Orders in respect of Senator Ejaz Chaudhry, who is in judicial custody and detained in Kot Lakhpat Jail, Lahore, for the 345th Session of the Senate. However, despite the issuance of these Orders, the Senator was not produced before the House during the session, thereby impeding his right to participate in parliamentary proceedings.

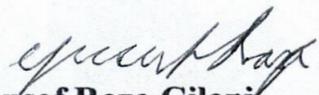
Subsequently, on 6th March 2025, I became aware through media reports that Senator Aun Abbas had been detained by the Punjab Police. Under rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, it is explicitly provided that when a case is registered against a Member, or a Member is arrested on a criminal charge, convicted, or detained under an executive order, the committing judge, magistrate, or executive authority is duty-bound to immediately intimate such fact to the Chairman Senate, indicating the reasons for the arrest, detention, or imprisonment of the Member in the appropriate form prescribed in the Second Schedule. Regrettably, no such intimation was received by my office in this instance, reflecting a clear violation of established parliamentary procedures and disregard for institutional protocol.

On 7th March 2025, in the continued exercise of my authority under rule 84(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, I issued Production Orders once again for Senator Ejaz Chaudhry and also for Senator Aun Abbas. In partial compliance with the Orders, Senator Aun Abbas has been produced before the Senate today. However, yet again, the directives concerning Senator Ejaz Chaudhry have not been fulfilled, amounting to non-compliance with the lawful Orders of the Chair.

This is not an unprecedented situation. When I was Speaker of the National Assembly, a similar situation arose where Production Orders were not implemented. At that time, in the interest of upholding parliamentary privileges, I was compelled to refer the matter to the Privileges Committee. Once again, this House is faced with a situation where the Orders of its custodian are not being implemented. As Chairman Senate my only endeavour is to uphold the supremacy of Parliamentarian, Rule of Law and Constitutional dictates.

As per rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, disobedience of the Orders of the Chairman Senate constitutes a breach of privilege. Such disregard for parliamentary authority cannot be allowed to persist unchecked, as it threatens the institutional integrity of the Senate and the broader democratic framework.

Therefore, in exercise of my powers and in accordance with established parliamentary procedure, I hereby refer the matter of non-implementation of the Production Orders concerning Senator Ejaz Chaudhry to the Privileges Committee for its consideration and report.


Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani
Chairman Senate

Announced in the House on 8th March, 2025
347th Session