

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT NO-01

REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CABINET

ON

**CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE OF SENATOR ZAMIR HUSSAIN GHUMRO
AND SENATOR JAN MUHAMMAD ON "DECISION OF GOVERNMENT TO
APPOINT PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICERS FROM PRIVATE SECTORS IN
VIOLATION OF RELEVANT LAW" WHICH WAS TAKEN UP IN THE SENATE
SITTING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER, 2025.**

PRESENTED BY

SENATOR RANA MAHMOOD UL HASSAN

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CABINET ON "CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE OF SENATOR ZAMIR HUSSAIN GHUMRO AND SENATOR JAN MUHAMMAD ON "DECISION OF GOVERNMENT TO APPOINT PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICERS FROM PRIVATE SECTORS IN VIOLATION OF RELEVANT LAW REFERRED BY THE HOUSE TO COMMITTEE ON 14TH NOVEMBER, 2025 FOR CONSIDERATION AND REPORT.

1, Senator Rana Mahmood ul Hassan, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet have the honour to present, on behalf of Committee, this report on "Calling Attention Notice of Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro and Senator Jan Muhammad on "decision of Government to appoint Principal Accounting Officers from private sectors in violation of relevant law" which was taken up in the Senate sitting held on 14th November, 2025 and referred by the House to the Committee for consideration and report

2. The Composition of the Standing Committee is given as under:-

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| 1. Senator Rana Mahmood ul Hassan | Chairman |
| 2. Senator Farooq Hamid Naek | Member |
| 3. Senator Saleem Mandviwalla | Member |
| 4. Senator Rana Sana Ullah Khan | Member |
| 5. Senator Anusha Rahman Ahmad Khan | Member |
| 6. Senator Saadia Abbasi | Member |
| 7. Senator Amir Waliuddin Chishti | Member |
| 8. Senator Mohammad Abdul Qadir | Member |
| 9. Senator Fawzia Arshad | Member |
| 10. Senator Saifullah Sarwar Khan Nyazee | Member |
| 11. Senator Atta-Ur-Rehman | Member |
| 12. Senator Dilawar Khan | Member |
| 13. Senator Aimal Wali Khan | Member |
| 14. Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati | Member |
| 15. Minister In-Charge Cabinet Secretariat | Ex-Officio Member |

3. The Committee held its meeting on the agenda on, 9th February 2026 and 12th May, 2026. In its meeting on 12th May 2026 the meeting of Committee was attended by the following;

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Senator Saleem Mandviwalla | Chairman |
| 2. Senator Sadia Abbasi | Member |
| 3. Senator Anusha Rehman Ahmad Khan | Member (Via Zoom) |
| 4. Senator Amir Waliuddin Chishti | Member |
| 5. Senator Muhammad Abdul Qadir | Member |
| 6. Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro | Mover |
| 7. Senator Jan Muhammad | Mover |
| 8. Senator Saifullah Abro | Mover |



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4. During its meeting held on 9th February, 2026, Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro informed the Committee that advertisements had been issued by the Government for induction of Principal Accounting Officers and other senior functionaries from the private sector. He expressed concern that the constitutional and legal framework governing the civil service did not envisage such appointments.

5. The Secretary, Establishment Division, informed the Committee that the proposal had emerged from the Government's desire to attract specialized expertise in certain technical and economic sectors where gaps in skills and experience had been identified. The Committee was informed that advertisements were issued for a limited number of positions in selected Divisions; however, no appointment of a Principal Accounting Officer, Technical Adviser or Head of Organization had been made through that process. The Establishment Division further stated that any relaxation or dispensation from existing rules, if required, would be subject to approval by the competent authority in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

6. Upon the request of the Establishment Division, and in view of the evolving status of the matter, the Committee deferred further consideration of the agenda to a subsequent meeting.

7. In its meeting held on 12th May, 2026, the Committee resumed consideration of the Calling Attention Notice. Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro highlighted the constitutional and legal position governing the office of Principal Accounting Officer and emphasized that, under the Rules of Business, 1973, the Secretary of a Ministry or Division serves as the Principal Accounting Officer. He expressed concern that appointment of individuals from outside the regular Secretariat structure to perform such functions could undermine the established framework of administrative and parliamentary accountability.

8. The Secretary, Establishment Division, reiterated that although the possibility of appointing Principal Accounting Officers from the private sector had been explored and advertisements had been issued, no such appointment had been made. He further confirmed that no individual from the private sector had been designated as a Principal Accounting Officer.

9. The Committee observed that the issue involved important questions relating to administrative accountability and compliance with the constitutional and legal framework governing public administration. While taking note of the assurances provided by the Establishment Division, the Committee emphasized the need for complete clarity regarding the Government's position.

10. The Committee, therefore, directed the Establishment Division to furnish a written statement confirming:

- a. That no Principal Accounting Officer has been appointed from the private sector;
- b. That no such appointment shall be made except in accordance with the Constitution, the Rules of Business, 1973, and other applicable laws; and

- c. The current status of any appointments made from outside the regular civil service as Heads of Organizations, Technical Advisers, or other similar positions.

11. Thereafter, the agenda was disposed of. In view of the above observations and directions, the Committee approved presentation of the Report before the House. Accordingly, the same is submitted for consideration of the Senate.



(AYAZ AHMED SOOMRO)

Secretary Committee



(SENATOR RANA MAHMOOD UL HASSAN)

Chairman Committee