



THE
SENATE OF PAKISTAN

DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

Friday, July 4, 1975.

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SENATE DEBATES

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The Senate of Pakistan met in the Senate Chamber, (State Bank Building), Islamabad, at Ten of the clock in the morning, the Presiding Officer (Mr. Ihsanul Haq) in the Chair.

Recitation from the Holy Quran

Mr. Presiding Officer : Item No. 2—Khawaja Mohammad Safdar.

MOTION *RE* : SITUATION ARISING OUT OF SPIRALLING PRICES OF CONSUMER GOODS

Mr. Presiding Officer : The mover is not present. The motion is deferred.

Item No. 3—Khawaja Mohammad Safdar.

MOTION *RE* : SITUATION ARISING OUT OF THE ENORMOUS INCREASE IN THE EXTERNAL PUBLIC DEBT OF PAKISTAN

Mr. Presiding Officer : The motion is not moved. It is deferred.

Item No. 4—Khawaja Mohammad Safdar.

MOTION *RE* : POLICY OF MAINTAINING THE RAILWAY BOARD

Mr. Presiding Officer : The mover is not present. The motion is deferred.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar (Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs) : May I rise with your permission to make a short statement under Rule 231.

Mr. Presiding Officer : In what context ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : In respect of summoning of today's Session and the absence of the mover. I will make a very brief statement for just about 2 or 3 minutes.

جناب صدارت کنندہ آفسر : گونسی تحریک کے متعلق کہہ رہے ہیں ؟

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : I will not go into the merits of the motions, since they have been deferred. I will speak neither on the procedure, because you have already given a ruling. I will just like to explain the position of the Government in respect of the summoning of the House today.

Mr. Presiding Officer : Is it regarding all the three motions ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Presiding Officer : You should have made a statement when I called the name of Khawaja Mohammad Safdar and when he was not present. If you wanted to make a statement regarding motion No. 2, then you should have given a statement at that time.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, it is not on the merits of the motion, but on the general procedure. It is not on the ruling even.

'STATEMENT RE : ABSENCE OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr. Presiding Officer : All right.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, as you know, the Opposition had decided to boycott the Session much earlier. That was round about the beginning of February. These motions were subsequently tabled by Khawaja Mohammad Safdar, an honourable Member of the House. Notice was given in respect of Items Nos. 2 and 3 on the 9th of May and in respect of Item No. 4 on the 14th of May. It appeared that the intention of the honourable Mover was to attend the House and as such the Chair was kind enough to summon the Session, although there was no other Private Members' Business. I only regret that in compliance with the rules, the honourable Chair summoned the Senate and the whole House is in quorum, and the honourable Senators are present now. It would have been better if the honourable Mover should have been here. His motions are quite important. One relates to the hike of prices and the other is about External Public Debt of Pakistan, and the third is about the maintenance of Railway Board. I do not want to go into the merits of the motions as to what he has to say and what is to be the application of rules. I only request him to come on the next working day, as he has given the notice. He has got some obligations. It is, Sir, not a joke to give notice and put in motions, and then to be absent deliberately. The motions have been brought on the Agenda and there is no other business. We have come here and we

expected the honourable Member would be here. Since he has not come, you have been kind enough to defer them. I consider and expect that he would feel his responsibility, and present himself here, and we can then discuss these motions. That is all.

Mr. Presiding Officer : As there is no business now, the House is adjourned to meet on Monday at 6.30 p. m.

The House adjourned till half-past six of the clock in the evening on Monday, July 7, 1975.
