

JUNE, 1976

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THE SENATE OF PAKISTAN DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

Monday, the 21st June, 1976

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SENATE DEBATES
SENATE OF PAKISTAN

Monday, June 21, 1976

The Senate of Pakistan met in the Senate Chamber, (State Bank Building), Islamabad, at six of the clock in the evening, Mr. Deputy Chairman (Mr. Tahir Mohammad Khan) in the Chair.

(Recitation from the Holy Quran)

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Yes, now adjournment motions.

**ADJOURNMENT MOTION Re: BRIBES IN CONNECTION
WITH SALE OF ELEVEN BOEING PLANES TO
P. I. A.**

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Actually this was an adjournment motion by Senator Kamran Khan the other day and it was adjourned indefinitely because the Minister of State was not available on that day, and today I see that Senator Kamran Khan is not sitting in his seat. What can we do?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar (Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs): Sir, as a matter of fact, we opposed the adjournment motion, and requested that the honourable Minister of State would be there to make a short statement, and I consider that at this stage if the honourable Member, the mover of the adjournment motion, is not here, and if the short statement can suffice the matter will end.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: No, no, actually it was a gentleman type of promise. You said that you would allow him an opportunity to listen to the statement of the Minister of State, and if after the statement he was not satisfied, then it would be debated.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar: Admissibility will be debated. Sir, Khawaja Sahib is here.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: If Khawaja Sahib undertakes to share the burden of his colleague.....

خواجہ محمد صفیر: جناب والا! جو کچھ آپ نے ارشاد فرمایا ہے اس سے میں یہ سمجھا ہوں کہ اس روز تحریک التواء کے محرک تشریف رکھتے تھے لیکن محترم

[Khawaja Mohammad Safdar]

وزیر مملکت تشریف نہیں رکھتے تھے اور اسی بناء پر اس کو ملتوی کیا گیا تھا۔
جیسا کہ آپ نے ارشاد فرمایا کہ آج محرک بھی نہیں ہیں اور وزیر مملکت صاحب بھی نہیں
ہیں یعنی دونوں ہی نہیں ہیں۔

جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : وزیر مملکت تو تشریف رکھتے ہیں۔ آج منسٹر ہیں لیکن
مور نہیں ہیں۔

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Let the hon'ble Minister at least make the statement, and admissibility can be decided later.

خواجہ محمد صفدر : کیونکہ وہ مصروف ہیں لیکن محرک کے آنے سے پہلے ---

Mr. Deputy Chairman : After the statement we will have to discuss the admissibility of the motion.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, that we can do after the statement.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : How can we do in the absence of the mover ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Then, let it be in three stages, Sir, for if it is in two stages, and the Minister is not available, then it will go indefinitely.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : I have no objection if the House agrees to listen to the statement of the Minister today. Yes, Senator Masud Ahmad Khan.

جناب مسعود احمد خان : جناب چیئرمین ! مجھے یاد پڑتا ہے کہ کامران صاحب نے یہ assurance لاء منسٹر صاحب سے مانگی تھی کہ وزیر موصوف کب تک اس ہاؤس میں آسکیں گے اور لاء منسٹر صاحب نے کہا تھا کہ وہ Monday کو تشریف لے آئیں گے۔

جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : نہیں definite نہیں کہا تھا۔

جناب مسعود احمد خان : مجھے یاد پڑتا ہے۔

جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : آپ کہیں تو میں ریکارڈ consult کر لیتا ہوں۔

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جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : میں بھی بہر حال یہاں تھا۔

جناب مسعود احمد خان : Monday اور Tuesday کی assurance دی گئی تھی -

جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : Monday تک شاید -

جناب مسعود احمد خان : تو آئریبل ممبر کو آج موجود ہونا چاہیے تھا اگر Monday اور Tuesday کا کہا گیا تھا تو Monday کو منسٹر موصوف آسکتے ہیں -

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, I consider we should not take that stand. If the matter is still left, and we can no doubt leave the matter, let us see that if the Minister may not be available again then again, Sir, there will be indefinite postponement.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Let me have the opinion of the Minister first.

Mr. Aziz Ahmed (Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs) : The point raised by the hon'ble Member in this august House in my absence the other day is very important point, and whether he is here or not, I do not think that we should just abandon it on a technical ground, that is to say that he is not here. I think, it is necessary for the people of the country and even abroad to know what the Government has to say on the subject and I would, with the permission of the House, like to make a short statement.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : I do not know, you have said "with the permission of the House". If it would have been my permission, I could have given it without any hesitation, but you said "the permission of the House" and so I have to ask what the opinion of the House is. Do you think that we can listen to the statement of the Minister of State ?

Voices : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Yes, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Aziz Ahmed : Sir, I have a very brief statement to make. The Government has taken a very serious view of the news item that appeared and is the subject-matter of this motion, and we are going to have this matter thoroughly investigated. The FIA, the Federal Intelligence Investigating Agency will be taking up this investigation very shortly, and will go into it thoroughly in conjunction with internal and external investigating and intelligence agencies. We are determined to get to the bottom of it.

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : Sir, what is the subject-matter as I was absent last time,

Mr. Deputy Chairman : In fact the subject-matter was discussed a day earlier. The mover had actually moved this motion, I want to read once again for the House.

“The revelation regarding the payment of a huge amount in foreign exchange as bribes in connection with the sale of 11 Boeing Planes to Pakistan International Airlines and his brother are allegedly involved. The report has been published in Pakistan Times and has sent a wave of shock and resentment throughout the country.”

This was the motion. Now, the Minister of State has told the House that the Government has taken the cognizance, and they are thoroughly investigating the matter.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, inquiry has been ordered. Let him make it clear. If it is cleared then it is sufficient,

Mr. Deputy Chairman : I think, he has made it clear.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : But the mover is not here. I am sure that the mover would have withdrawn it, but he is not here, therefore, we defer further discussion on admissibility.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir, when the mover is here we can debate the admissibility.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : The motion is further deferred to some other day when the mover is present in the House.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Inquiry has been ordered.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : I think, the Members will be very much satisfied after this assurance of the Minister of State.

Yes, now another thing No. 3, Senator Nargis Zaman Khan Kiani.

Miss. Asifa Farooqi : Mr. Chairman, Sir...

Mr. Deputy Chairman : But I want to know whether another person can move on behalf of the Committee ?

Voices : Committee has authorised her.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Committee has authorised, yes, that is good.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT *Re* : THE LAND REFORMS
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1976

Miss. Asifa Farooqi : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have the honour to present the report of the Standing Committee on the Bill further to amend the Land Reforms Regulation, 1972 [The Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1976].

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Khawaja Sahib, do you want to say anything before I present the report ?

خواجہ محمد صفدر : میں یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کمیٹی نے کوئی ایسا ریزولوشن پاس کیا تھا جس میں محترمہ سینیٹر صاحبہ کو یہ اختیار دیا گیا ہے -

جناب ڈپٹی چیئرمین : ہمارے رولز یہ کہتے ہیں کہ :

“The President of the Committee or any other person authorised by the Committee....

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : Authorised by the Committee.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : I have been told by Senator Asifa Farooqi that she has been authorised by the Committee to present the report. So, the report is presented. Next is legislation.

THE LAND REFORMS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1976

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Naturally the Minister is not available, and tomorrow we may be having some other business, then there will be no question of suspension of rules.

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : Very good.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Well, if the rules are not suspended everybody is happy in the House. The question is whether anybody is going to move this No. 3 ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Not moved, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Not moved. I have received a communication of the Federal Minister of Agriculture addressed to the Secretary that because of sickness he will not be available in the House, so if the Law Minister thinks he will himself move it when he comes here.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Let him come, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Then, there is nothing more on the Orders of the Day. Let us meet tomorrow in the evening, I think.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : In the evening, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Chairman : The Senate stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 5-30 p. m.

(Then the Senate adjourned to meet at half-past five of the clock in the evening on Tuesday, June 22, 1976).
