



THE
SENATE OF PAKISTAN
DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

Monday, August 2, 1976

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SENATE DEBATES

SENATE OF PAKISTAN

Monday, August 2, 1976

The Senate of Pakistan met in the Senate Chamber, (State Bank Building), Islamabad, at ten of the clock in the morning, Mr. Chairman (Mr. Habibullah Khan) in the Chair.

(Recitation from the Holy Quran)

PANEL OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

Mr. Chairman : Gentlemen, in pursuance of sub-rule (1) of rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, I nominate the following Members in order of precedence to form the Panel of Presiding Officers for the August 1976 Session of the Senate of Pakistan :—

1. Mr. Kamal Azfar.
2. Mr. Ahmad Waheed Akhtar.
3. Mr. M. Zahurul Haq.

STATEMENT PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE

[Assurance given by Ch. Mumtaz Ahmad, Minister of State for Food, in respect of supplementary to starred question No. 82, put by Senator Afzal Khan Khoso on 8th April, 1976 regarding surplus of broken rice.]

Minister of State for Food while giving replies to supplementaries to starred Senate question No. 82 gave the following assurance to the Senate on 8th April, 1976.

“Sir, if the Government felt that there was any surplus broken rice in the country then the question of its procurement and export will be definitely considered.”

As a matter of policy, the Rice Export Corporation of Pakistan are required to procure broken rice at fixed rates for export. A quantity of 7,870 tons of broken rice was accordingly procured by the Corporation for export from 1975-76 crop. The assurance given by the Minister of State for Food therefore, stands implemented.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Chairman : Now, there is a leave application by Mr. Ghulam Ahmed Bilore from Central Jail Hyderabad. It reads :

[Mr. Chairman]

“Dear Sir,

I hope you would have been duly informed about my arrest which took place in the mid April by the concerned authorities. It was shortly before the last session so I could not attend the last session. Since then I am languishing in Central Jail Hyderabad and again I am unable to attend this session of the Senate also. It is evident that I would not be able to do so until I am behind the bars. I hope you will take notice of it.”

So, it is in the form of a leave application. What is the opinion of the House? Should the leave be granted?

(The leave was granted)

Mr. Chairman : All right. Leave is granted.

**DEFERMENT OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS NOS. 1, 3, 4, 6
AND 7 CONCERNING MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND NO. 5 CONCERNING MINISTRY OF FUEL,
POWER AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. Chairman : Now, there is a letter from the Assistant Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It reads :

“As the Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs is away from the Headquarters and is with the Prime Minister at Quetta, the adjournment motions Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 may please be referred till he arrives in Islamabad.”

There is another letter also. This is from the Ministry of Fuel, Power and Natural Resources. It reads :

“Kindly refer to my telephonic conversation of today about adjournment motion No. 5 regarding Tarbela.

Since the Minister for Fuel, Power and Natural Resources is away on tour and would be back on 7th, I shall be grateful if the discussion on the adjournment is deferred till the return of the Minister for Fuel, Power and Natural Resources.”

This is from his Additional Secretary, Mr. Khalilur Rehman. So, these two Ministers are not available and adjournment motions Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 will have to be deferred. Have you any objection?

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : No objection, Sir.

Mr. Chairman : Any objection from your side, Mr. Akhtar?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar (Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs) : No, Sir.

Mr. Chairman : All right. Because the Ministers concerned are unavoidably absent, therefore, adjournment motions Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 stand adjourned to some other date. Now, we are only left with adjournment motion No. 2. This is in the name of Khawaja Mohammad Safdar.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE : FAILURE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
TO ABOLISH TOLL TAX ON VEHICLES CARRYING GOODS AND
MERCHANDISE FROM PUNJAB TO SIND

3

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE : FAILURE OF FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT TO ABOLISH TOLL TAX ON VEHICLES
CARRYING GOODS AND MERCHANDISE FROM
PUNJAB TO SIND

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : Sir, I beg leave of the House to move a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Senate to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and of recent occurrence, namely, the failure of the Federal Government to issue orders to Sind Provincial Government to abolish Toll Tax imposed on vehicles carrying goods and merchandise from the Punjab to Sind, while a similar Toll Tax on vehicles entering Sind from Baluchistan has been abolished by the Sind Government on the orders of the Prime Minister (Pakistan Times 31st July, 1976). This news has perturbed the public in the Punjab.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : It is opposed, Sir, and we will be requesting for time. It may be taken up tomorrow.

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : Day after tomorrow or whenever you like.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, preferably day after tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman : Do you want this adjournment motion to be taken up day after tomorrow ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Chairman : Why ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, we will be inquiring into the orders made by the Prime Minister. Although, I think, the matter probably has lost its urgency, but I would like to see the orders of the worthy Prime Minister, and thereafter I can make a statement in the House. I have just now received the copy of the adjournment motion.

Mr. Chairman : The Prime Minister's orders are there in the paper.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir, the Prime Minister has made the order, and I heard it on the T. V. The contents are yet to be sought.

Mr. Chairman : Did you hear it or see it on the T. V. or read in the paper ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : T. V. as well as the paper.

Mr. Chairman : This has been coming on Radio, on T.V. and appearing in the papers that the Prime Minister has directed the Provincial Ministers. Probably he is referring to one point and that is that the toll tax has been abolished between Sind and Baluchistan, but it has not been abolished in Punjab in the case of goods being carried from Punjab to Sind.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : We will be looking into the matter, and then we can see whether it is a provincial matter or a Federal matter. Therefore, I request Sir, that it may be deferred till day after tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman : Have you no objection ?

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : No, Sir.

Mr. Chairman : If you have no objection, this adjournment motion is also deferred. It will be taken up day after tomorrow.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir.

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY *RE* : ADOPTION
OF THE PAKISTAN SHIPPING CORPORATION BILL, 1976

Mr. Chairman : There is a message from the National Assembly Secretariat to the Senate Secretariat, which reads :—

“Sir, in pursuance of Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, I have the honour to inform the Senate Secretariat that the National Assembly passed the Pakistan Shipping Corporation Bill, 1976 on the 8th July, 1976. Copy of the Bill is transmitted herewith. Kindly acknowledge receipt.”

There was only one message. Now, we take up the papers which are to be laid on the Table of the House. Malik Mohammad Akhtar.

THE SUPPRESSION OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES (SPECIAL
COURTS) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1976

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, I beg to lay before the Senate the Suppression of Terrorist Activities (Special Courts) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1976 (XXVIII of 1976), as required by clause (2) of Article 89 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Mr. Chairman : This has been laid on the Table of the House. Item No. 3.

THE 23rd ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAKISTAN
INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1975

Shahzada Saeed-ur-Rashid Abbasi (Minister of State for Tourism) : Sir, I, on behalf of Mir Afzal Khan, beg to lay before the Senate a copy of the 23rd Annual Report and Accounts of the Pakistan Insurance Corporation for the year ending 31st December, 1975, as required under sub-section (2) of section 37 of the Pakistan Insurance Corporation Act, 1952 (XXXVIII of 1952).

Mr. Chairman : The papers have been laid on the Table of the House. Now, we take up legislative business.

THE WEST PAKISTAN PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1976

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, it was pointed by the learned Members that since the Bill has been circulated today, it may be deferred till tomorrow,

and they can look into the Bill, because in case of sending it to the Standing Committee we may not have the members. The roads are broken, and air linkage is interrupted. Today I myself came from Lahore to Islamabad. The plane went back, and I had to catch another plane. Then, N.W.F.P. road is stated to have been broken at one or two places. We can wait till tomorrow, and tomorrow we can debate it.

Mr. Chairman : By tomorrow the roads will be repaired.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : No, Sir. The Members will have sufficient time to look into the Bill.

Mr. Chairman : The present Members ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir. The sitting Members.

Khawaja Mohammad Safdar : If it is sent to the Committee, it will take only two days.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : But where are the Members ? It may be taken up tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman : Don't brush me aside so lightly. I have also to agree. When you are referring it to the Standing Committee why are you worried about the absence of the Members ?

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : I have to convince my worthy colleagues that it should not be referred to the Standing Committee.

Mr. Chairman : Then, come out with a stronger argument.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Sir, I can only make a request through you that it may be deferred. If you agree, Sir, the rest of the Members may also approve that it may be taken up tomorrow.

خواجہ محمد صفدر : جناب چیئرمین ! میری بھی ایک مشکل ہے جو میں آپ کے سامنے اور آپکے توسط سے اس معزز ایوان کے سامنے پیش کرنا چاہتا ہوں کل مجھے اسپیشل ٹریبونل کے سامنے بحیثیت ملزم پیش ہونا ہے۔ کل صبح مجھے وہاں پیش ہونا ہے۔

جناب چیئرمین : کس کے سامنے ؟

خواجہ محمد صفدر : اسپیشل ٹریبونل کے سامنے بحیثیت ملزم پیش ہونا ہے۔ ڈیفنس آف پاکستان رولز کے رول نمبر ۹ کے تحت ایک مقدمہ چل رہا ہے۔ مجھے کل وہاں پیش ہونا ہے۔ کل میں یہاں نہیں ہوں گا۔ میں درخواست لکھنے والا ہوں اور ابھی آپکی خدمت میں پیش کرتا ہوں۔ میری مشکل یہ ہے کہ میں یہاں کل نہیں ہوں گا۔

ملک محمد اختر : کل لے لیں -

خواجہ محمد صفدر : یہ کیسے ہو سکتا ہے ؟

جناب چیئرمین : آج وہ تیار نہیں کل آپ یہاں نہیں تو پرسوں سمجھی -

خواجہ محمد صفدر : صحیح ہے -

Mr. Chairman : I think, that would be preferable. Then, there is no other business to transact. We are meeting tomorrow.

Malik Mohammad Akhtar : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Chairman : Then, this legislative business set for today is also deferred until day after tomorrow. As there is no business, the House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

[The House then adjourned to meet again at ten of the clock in the morning on Tuesday, August 3, 1976.]