REPORT ON THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

"ISSUE RAISED BY SENATOR KALSOOM PARVEEN TO FORMULATE A DETAILED REPORT ON ALL ASPECTS BY THE MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROLE OF METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE"

Report No. 3

PRESENTED BY
SENATOR MIR MUHAMMAD YOUSAF BADINI
CHAIRMAN

SENATE SECRETARIAT

Subject:-

REPORT ON THE ISSUE RAISED BY SENATOR KALSOOM PARVEEN TO FORMULATE A DETAILED REPORT ON ALL ASPECTS BY THE MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE ROLE OF METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

- I, Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change have honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, the report on the issue raised during the sitting of the Senate held on 14th June, 2016. During discussion the issue of Climate Change particularly with reference to the role of Pakistan Meteorology Department was raised. The matter was referred by the House to the Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change for consideration and report.
- 2. The agenda before the Committee was as under "discussion on the issue raised by Senator Kalsoom Parveen to formulate a detailed report on all aspects by the Ministry of Climate Change particularly with reference to the role of Meteorological Office and its coordination with the Ministry of Climate Change and NDMA in forecasting weather calamities".
- 3. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

i.	Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini	Chairman
ii.	Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar ul Haq	Member
iii.	Senator Ms. Sitara Ayaz	Member
iv.	Senator Ms. Nighat Mirza	Member
V.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
vi.	Senator Mst. Gul Bashra	Member
vii.	Senator Pervaiz Rasheed	Member
viii.	Senator Kamran Michael	Member
ix.	Senator Saleem Zia	Member
X.	Senator Ahmed Hassan	Member
xi.	Senator Ms. Samina Abid	Member
xii.	Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Member
xiii.	Minister for Climate Change	Ex-Officio Member

4. Accordingly, the issue was discussed in the meetings of the Standing Committee on Climate Change held on 27th June, 2016 and 23rd August, 2016. The following Members attended the meetings.



ì. Senator Ms. Sitara Ayaz Member ii. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq Member Senator Mst. Gul Bashra Member Senator Ahmed Hassan iv. Member Senator Ms. Samina Abid Member V. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed Member vi. Senator Saleem Zia Member vii. Senator Pervaiz Rasheed viii. Member Senator Sherry Rehman ix. Mover Senator Kalsoom Parveen Mover X.

- 5. The Committee thoroughly discussed the subject matter and to have an in-depth analysis/discussion on the issue, the Ministry of Climate Change, Civil Aviation Division, Pakistan Meteorology Department and NDMA were summoned in the meetings. During discussion the D.G Pakistan Meteorology Department, Dr. Ghulam Rasool briefed that the reason for the underperforming of Pakistan Meteorology Department is its outdated equipment not its affiliation. He informed that PMD didn't have sufficient resources to come up with the speedy climate change with its archaic technology equipments. At the moment PMD had 22 Radars out of which 7 are not working properly. He further apprised that the main catchment areas of the rivers are in India and PMD is still relying on the Radar installed at Sialkot in 1978 whereas its life span was only 10 years consequently it is not possible to predict the weather forecast on basis of 20-30 years old equipment.
- 6. During discussion it was also revealed that the most important aspect of any Meteorology Department is its early warning system, and if due to lack of latest technology/equipments, the masses are directly exposed to natural calamities. In this connection, it was updated that for revamping Pakistan Meteorology Department by providing latest equipment, a summary amounting to Rs. 19 Billion over the period of 3 years is submitted before Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- 7. During discussion the representatives of Civil Aviation Division, shared their reservations on the shifting of Pakistan Meteorology Department administrative control to Ministry of Climate Change. It was intimated that Meteorology offices are working at airports and airbases across the country and their basic working is to provide weather forecast 24/7 to all the flights coming in/out. Therefore, he pleaded that the PMD shouldn't be given to Ministry of Climate Change.



- 8. Nevertheless, the Committee discussing the issue at length was of the view that owing to the ever changing global environment and the Pakistan's 3rd ranking in the list of most vulnerable climate change countries, Meteorology Department plays a pivotal role while its chain of command and communication/coordination with other institutions is not satisfactory. The Meteorology Department, directly relates with the Ministry of Climate Change, so the Committee recommended that it would be more appropriate that it should be brought under the control of Ministry of Climate Change rather than Aviation Division/ Cabinet Secretariat.
- 9. The Committee strongly recommended that the summary moved before the Prime Minister for revamping Pakistan Meteorology Department, for Rs. 19 billion over the period of 3 years should be approved, enabling Pakistan Meteorology Department to work efficiently with the latest sophisticated equipment.

(Malik Arshad Iqbal) Secretary Committee (Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini) Chairman Committee