SENATE OF PAKISTAN HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION

REPORT NO. 37 OF 2017



House of the Federation

REPORT ON THE CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE BY MR. MUHAMMAD AYUB KHAN, DEPUTY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, BY REFERRING THE MATTER RAISED BY SENATOR SARDAR MUHAMMAD AZAM KHAN MUSAKHEL ON 4TH OCTOBER, 2016 REGARDING UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS IN PSDP AND NON-RELEASING OF FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR SMALL PROVINCES, AT THE LAST MOMENT TO THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REFORMS.

PRESTENDED BY

SENATOR DR. JEHANZEB JAMALDINI CHAIRMAN

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE BY MR. MUHAMMAD AYUB KHAN, DEPUTY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

(Report No. 37/2017)

I, Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges, have the honour to present report of the Committee on the Contempt of the House by Mr. Muhammad Ayub Khan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:-

1.	Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini	Chairman
2.	Senator Zahida Khan	Member
3.	Senator Hilal-ur-Rehman	Member
4.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member
5.	Senator Nighat Mirza	Member
6.	Senator Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah	Member
7.	Senator Saleem Zia	Member
8.	Senator Saeed Ghani.	Member
9.	Senator Zaheer-ud-Din Babar Awan	Member
10.	Senator Osman Saifullah Khan	Member
11.	Senator Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasar	Member
12.	Minister for Parliamentary Affairs.	Ex-Officio Member

3. The details of the issue before the Committee were that Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel raised an issue on 4th October, 2016, regarding unequal distribution of funds in PSDP and non-releasing of funds allocated for small provinces. The Chairman directed to send the matter to the Ministry of Finance so that the Minister may respond in the House. The matter was referred to that Ministry on 5th October, 2016. The Ministry did not take any action on the communication received from the Senate Secretariat. The Senate Secretariat again sent a letter to the Ministry of Finance on 18th November, 2016 and Placed the matter on the Orders of the Day for 21st November, 2016. Mr.

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Muhammad Ayub Khan, the Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Finance, transferred the matter to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms on 21st November, 2016, (on the day the same was to be taken up in the House). The Honourable Chairman Senate held this delayed action on the part of the said Deputy Secretary as contempt of the House and referred the same to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges for investigation and report. The committee discussed the matter in its meeting held on 3rd February, 2017. The Secretary Finance and the officer concerned were called in the meeting.

- 4. Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel wanted to highlight the inequality in distribution of development funds amongst the provinces by referring various provisions in the PSDP but the committee asked him to highlight the same in the House as the matter before the committee was the contempt of the House and not the distribution of funds.
- 5. Senator Atta ur Rehman said that the matter raised by Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel was referred to the Ministry of Finance for response. The Ministry of Finance transferred the same to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms on last day inspite of the fact that the matter was referred to the Ministry of Finance more than one month earlier.
- 6. Senator Saeed Ghani stated that the matter referred to the Committee was the contempt of the House. The Ministry of Finance did not take action promptly on the matter referred to it and transferred the same to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms at eleventh hour. It was not a privilege motion moved by Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel. The matter referred to the Committee relates to transferring the matter raised by Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms very late.

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- 7. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasar said that the matter before the committee was of unequal distribution of funds between the provinces and not the breach of privilege. He proposed that the matter raised by Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel may be taken up by the Committee. Senator Saeed Ghani said that the matter raised by Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel will be taken up in the House after presentation of committee report in the House on this contempt.
- 8. The Chairman Committee stated that transferring the matter raised by Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms at the last moment was a serious lapse on the part of the Ministry of Finance. He said that the Ministry of Finance has informed that the letter received from the Senate Secretariat regarding the said matter was misplaced. It has also been informed that the letter was not diarized and no record was available in the register of the council section of the Ministry which was a sorry state of affairs. He said that there was a need to improve the working of the Ministries and Departments so that proper record of the communications received therein is maintained and appropriate action is taken on such communications.
- 9. The Acting Secretary, Ministry of Finance, admitted that there was a lapse on the part of the Ministry of Finance. He said that Mr. Ayub Khan, Deputy Secretary, against whom contempt of the House was being considered, was a competent officer. He (the D. S.) has been dealing with the business of the Parliament for the last many years and such type of lapse had never occurred earlier. He requested the Committee to accept the apology of the officer.
- 10. The Chairman Committee stated that the Committee did not intend to harm anyone. It is an effort to improve the system so that such incidents and lapses may not occur again. He said that the relevant person should take care in future. He said that many lapses of such type happen in the Government Departments but are not



noticed or surfaced. He said that all members of the Committee are respectable and are not against any individual or Government functionary. The only purpose is to bring improvement in the working of Government functionaries. He directed that the Ministry should take extra care in such matters in future.

11. The position explained by the Acting Secretary Finance and apology tendered by the Mr. Ayub Khan was accepted and the matter was disposed off. The committee has recommended that the House may accept the apology tendered by the concerned officer.

(Muhammad Anwar)
A.S. / Secretary Committee

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(Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini)
Chairman