

## SENATE OF PAKISTAN

## DAILY JOURNAL

(277<sup>th</sup> Session)

Date and day	08 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 (Tuesday)
Commenced at	03:00 p.m.
Prorogued at	06:20 p.m.
Presided by	Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani
Attendance	65
Total working hours	3 Hours and 20 Minutes

- Recitation from the Holy Quran.

**LEAVE APPLICATIONS**

Leave applications were read by the Chairman.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chair acknowledged the presence of following:

1. Former Senator Mr. Safdar Abbasi.
2. A Group of 30 students along with 3 faculty staff from Leeds School Kohat.

**POINT OF ORDER**

1. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition raised concerns over the size of the Cabinet which is in violation of Article 92 of the Constitution of 1973.

**Chairman directed that the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs may be asked to respond in this regard in next sitting.**

2. Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati raised the matter of increase in Gas Tariff.

**Chairman guided him to use other parliamentary tool to raise the matter.**

3. Senator Mian Raza Rabbani drew attention of the House towards the decision of the Supreme Court, suspending the membership of Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar. The Members expressed their concerns over such an order by the Supreme Court and stated that they are looking forward for the detailed judgment to see the reasoning of the

Supreme Court aboutt suspension of the Membership of a Member Parliament. Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar ul Haq, Leader of the House endorsed the point raised by Senator Raza Rabbani.

**Chairman remarked to wait for detail judgment to make any further opinion.**

### **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Senator Sitara Ayaz on her behalf and on behalf of Senator Sassui Palijo moved that the Bill further to amend the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 [The Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018], as passed by the National Assembly, be taken into consideration. **The Bill upon consideration stood referred to the Functional Committee on Human Rights.**

### **CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE**

Senator Aurangzeb Khan on his behalf and on behalf of Senators Hillal Ur Rehman, Sajjad Hussain Turi, Haji Momin Khan Afridi and Hidayat Ullah drew the attention of the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination towards the non-compliance of the indigenous scholarship program for students of Balochistan and FATA by various Medical Colleges and non-action of Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) in this regard, resulting into wastage of academic year of needy and deserving students.

Following members also spoke on the CAN:

1. Senator Sajjad Hussain Turi.
2. Senator Hillal Ur Rehman.

Ms. Saira Afzal Tarar, Federal Minister for National Health Services Regulation and Coordination, made statement in the regard. Thus, the CAN was disposed of.

### **MOTION**

Further consideration of the following motion moved by Mr. Miftah Ismail, Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2018:

**“That the Senate may make recommendations to the National Assembly on the Finance Bill, 2018, containing the Annual Budget Statement, under Article 73 of the Constitution.”.**

Following Members spoke:

1. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar
2. Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani

3. Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq
4. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini
5. Senator Muhammad Akram
6. Senator Saadia Abbasi
7. Senator Tahir Bizenjo

Further discussion was commenced.

### POINT OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

1. Senator Mian Raza Rabbani recommended that as the current National Assembly will dissolve on 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2018 and the next session of the Senate as per provisional parliamentary calendar is on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, therefore, he was of the opinion that in order to keep any eye on the functioning of the caretaker setup and electoral process the Senate should remain in session during the interim period.

He further pointed out the absence of Minister in the House to respond the issue of Dr. Shakil Afridi.

**Chairman remarked that the Minister had submitted report on the matter related to Dr. Shakeel Afridi which is very sensitive and confidential so the same can be perused in his Chamber.**

Senator Mian Raza Rabbani stated that it is prerogative of the Parliament to have every information but if there is some sensitivity the Government can request for in-camera proceedings but no information can be withheld from the Parliament.

The Member was of further opinion that in case of any untoward incident relating to Dr. Shakil Afridi the Secretary Interior and Secretary Foreign Affairs will be treated as collaborators.

2. Senator Mushtaq Ahmed endorsed the views of Senator Mian Raza Rabbani and stated that the House must be taken into confidence on the matters related to Rao Anwar and Dr. Shakeel Afridi.
3. Senator Abdul Rehman Malik demanded that report on the attack on Federal Minister for Interior Ahsan Iqbal should be presented in the House. He further stated that Chief Election Commissioner should be requested to brief the House about the plans to curtail rigging in the upcoming general election.

4. Senator Mir Kabeer Ahmed Muhammad Shahi pointed out the need of separate offices of PWD for each district of Balochistan rather than shifting it among different districts. He also raised the issue of discriminatory behavior in the distribution of electricity to Balochistan.
5. Senator Behramand stated that the government should clarify the assassination attempt on Federal Interior Minister and the whereabouts of Shakeel Afridi be made known to the House.
6. Senator Dr. Jehanzeb Jamaldini endorsed the views of Senator Raza Rabbani. He further raised the issue of shortage of Water in Balochistan and defects in the water distribution mechanism of IRSA.

**Chairman directed to send the relevant part of the verbatim to the concerned Ministry for reply.**

7. Senator Sherry Rehman, Leader of the Opposition condemned the low attendance of the treasury benches particularly of Ministers.

**Chairman remarked that Leader of the House will ensure attendance of the Ministers in the next sitting.**

Rana Muhammad Afzal, Minister of State for Finance commented that the Government is more than willing to respond, if provided equal opportunity and in a dignified way.

- **At 06:20 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the proceedings of the House to meet again on Wednesday, the 09<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018 at 03:00 p.m.**

**Islamabad,**  
**The 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.**