

SENATE OF PAKISTAN
DAILY JOURNAL
(270th Session)

Date and day	17 th November, 2017 (Friday)
Commenced at	10:10 a.m.
Adjourned at	01:15 p.m.
Presided by	Chairman Senate
Attendance	58
Total working hours	3 hours and 5 minutes

- Recitation from the Holy Quran.

PANEL OF PRESIDING OFFICERS FOR 270TH SESSION

1. Senator Ahmed Hassan.
2. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq.
3. Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi.

FATEHA

The House offered Fateha for the departed souls in the various incidents during the intervening period of senate sessions.

MOTION
[Under Rule 263]

Senator Taj Haider moved under rule 263 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 for dispensing with the requirement of rule 41 of the said rules, regarding question hour, for the current session of the Senate.

The Motion was put to the House and adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF ADMISSIBILITY OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Admissibility of the following Adjournment Motions will be determined:-

- (i) Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh moved Adj. Motion No.1-270/2017-M, to discuss the recent political instability in the country which does not emerge from coalition spats but the trigger is usually a clash of institutions between the elected regimes and military or judiciary.

The Chairman held the Motion out of order as debate on the similar issue is already being held in the Senate for last session.

- (ii) Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi on his behalf and on behalf of Senators Karim Ahmed Khawaja, Saeedul Hassan Mandokhail, Shahi Syed and Mir Israrullah Khan Zehri moved Adj. Motion No. 5-270/2017-M, to discuss the listing of Pakistan at No. 7 of the top ten most affected countries by Climate Change.

The Chairman held the Motion out of order and suggested to move a Motion under rule 218 to discuss this issue.

- (iii) Senator Mohsin Aziz was to moved Adj. Motion No. 6-270/2017-M, to discuss the ability of Pakistan to repay the interest and principal payment of huge loans in the financial year 2018-19 with the present balance of trade and account deficit.

The motion was dropped due to the absence of the member.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice, moved under rule 263 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012, that the requirement of rule 120 of the said Rules, be dispensed with in order to take into consideration the Bill further to amend the Elections Act, 2017 [The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly.

The Motion was put to the House and was adopted by the House.

Thereafter, Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice, moved that the Bill further to amend the Elections Act, 2017 [The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2017], as passed by the National Assembly, be taken into consideration.

Following members spoke on the issue:-

1. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice.
2. Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri.

3. Senator Sirajul Haq.
4. Senator Aitzaz Ahsan- Leader of the opposition.

Thereafter, the Motion was put to the House which was adopted unanimously and the House started clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

After clause by clause consideration of the Bill, Mr. Zahid Hamid, Minister for Law and Justice, moved that the Bill further to amend the Elections Act, 2017 [The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2017] be passed.

The Motion was put to the House and the Bill was passed unanimously.

After the passage of the Bill, Leader of the House also expressed his views on the Bill and appreciated the Chairman, the Leaders of the Parliamentary Parties and the Members on the passing of the Bill.

DISCUSSION ON THE STATE INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE SCHEME OF TRICHOTOMY OF POWER

Further debate on the State institutions and their role in the scheme of trichotomy of power
Following Members spoke on the issue:-

1. Senator Sehar Kamran.
2. Senator Lt. General (R) Abdul Qayyum.

Further discussion was commenced.

DISCUSSION ON THE ADMITTED ADJOURNMENT MOTION

The House started discussion on the admitted adjournment motion moved by Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati on 27th October, 2017, regarding various financial challenges i.e., increase in external debts, decrease in remittances and increase in oil price due to which financial and fiscal indicators are showing alarming fiscal situation of the country.

Following Members spoke on the issue:-

1. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar.
2. Senator Lt. General (R) Abdul Qayyum.
3. Senator Taj Haider.

Mr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, on behalf of the Minister for Finance wound up the discussion thus the discussion was over.

**ISSUANCE/WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE TO
THE SECRETARY FINANCE**

Due to absence of any senior officer of the Ministry in the Officials' Gallery during the debate on the admitted adjournment motion, the Chairman with the consent of the House issued notice of breach of Privilege to the Secretary Finance and directed him to appear in the House on Monday and answer through the Minister-in-Charge.

However, later on the Chairman withdrew the notice as a Senior Officer of the Ministry was found present in the gallery but his attendance was not marked due to clerical error.

RULLING BY THE CHAIRMAN SENATE

The Chairman announced his detailed ruling on the constitution of NFC Commission and announcement of NFC Award and directed the Secretariat to send the copies of the Ruling to the President of Pakistan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Minister for Law and Justice, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, all the Chief Ministers and the Speakers of the Provincial Assemblies for necessary action thereon.

POINTS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[Zero Hour]

1. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz pointed out the vacant post of Member IRSA from Sindh for last two years which is not being nominated by the Federal Government despite writing of letter by the Chief Minister of Sindh to the Federal Government. He further stated that WAPDA has sought proposals from all the provinces for nomination for the said seat whereas the same is reserved for Sindh only which is violation of the law.

Opposition staged walkout of the proceedings as protest against the action of WAPDA.

2. Senator Kalsoom Parveen pointed out the worst law and order situation in Balochistan.
Senator Sardar Muhammad Azam Khan Musakhel also spoke on the same issue.
3. Senator Sehar Kamran pointed out the proposed selling of assets of PIA in other countries in order to pay its liabilities.
4. Senator Farhatullah Babar pointed out the existence of internment centers in the country in the line of Guantanamo Bay and demanded a ruling from the Chair to nominate a delegation of the Senate to visit such centers.

He further spoke about the appointment of ex-cadre officer as head of the Military Land and Cantonment Services Department due to which the regular cadre officers of the said Service Group never gets an opportunity to head the Department.

The Chairman referred the matter regarding the Military Land and Cantonment Services Department to the Standing Committee concerned i.e. Cabinet Secretariat for consideration and report.

5. Senator Dr. Jahanzeb Jamaldini pointed out the low salaries of police officials in Balochistan and lack of other equipment and facilities. He also condemned the incident of killing of 15 people in Turbat.
6. Senator Saud Majeed pointed out the display of anti-Pakistan “Free Balochistan” banners and slogans on the taxis and Buses in London.

Senator Abdul Qayyum also spoke on this issue.

The Chairman referred the matter to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs for consideration and report.

At 1:15 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the proceedings of the House to meet again on Monday, the 20th November, 2017 at 03:00 p.m.