

## **MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

The second meeting of the Implementation Committee for Reorganizing the Federal Government was held on 06.08.2019 at the Prime Minister's Office. The list of participants is attached. The agenda of the meeting was to hear the reservations of each Division on the proposed configurations of Organizational Entities (OEs) falling under their jurisdiction. The Convener i.e. Advisor to the Prime Minister on Institutional Reforms and Austerity opened the meeting giving Secretary Establishment Division the opportunity to apprise the participants on the developments so far made on this matter. The Secretary stated that Tables 7, 8 and 9 of the report on Reorganization of the Federal Government, containing information on the configuration of OEs into Executive Departments, Autonomous Bodies and Grant-in-Aid Bodies were circulated by the Establishment Division among all Federal Ministries / Divisions. Responses were received from nine Ministries / Divisions, out of which representatives from eight were present at the meeting to register their opinions before the Committee. Moreover the Ministries/ Divisions were also sensitized that in case of failure to respond, it would be deemed that the division concerned had no objections to the proposed configurations.

### **Finance Division**

2. The Division has agreed to all the recommended configurations of OEs that fall under its jurisdiction as detailed in the Report on Reorganizing the Federal Government.

### **Ministry of Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan**

3. The Ministry agreed with the recommended configuration of all Executive Departments under its control but expressed reservations on the proposed Autonomous Bodies. It was argued that the Gilgit Baltistan Council was established under a Presidential Order to act as an independent legislative body over 53 Federal Subjects for GB. The Council functions on the basis of its own Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business similar to the Parliament of Pakistan. Since it acts as a legislative body, it was argued that it cannot be declared as an autonomous body.

4. Similarly, the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Council is also an independent legislative body that was established under the AJ&K Constitution. It is in effect an organ of the Azad State of Jammu and Kashmir which is part of the Federation of Pakistan. It was hence, argued that the AJ&K Council cannot be declared as an Autonomous Body of the Federal Government under the Ministry of Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan. It was further stated that the Ministry acts only to coordinate between the government and these entities in accordance to Rules of Business.

5. The Convener clarified that there will be no change to the legal status of either councils or any other government entity that is re-configured and this exercise has been undertaken to create greater ease of classification.

### **Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform**

6. The Ministry did not register any objection on the proposed configurations but only aimed to offer updates on the entities included in the report as being under their jurisdiction. The Ministry accepted the proposal of placing Pakistan Bureau of Statistics as an

Autonomous Body under its jurisdiction. With regard to the National Endowment Scholarships for Talent (NEST), it was stated that NEST has already been transferred to the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and may hereon be considered under that Ministry. Similarly, the National Logistics Cell (NLC) is to be transferred to the Ministry of Communications. Hence, any opinions of the proposed configuration of the NLC ought to be solicited from the Ministry of Communications.

7. The members along with the Convener, appreciated the initiative shown by the Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform with regard to the transfer of NEST and NLC to the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and the Ministry of Communications, respectively, stating that the entities concerned are better aligned with the functions of their new line ministries. The concerned ministries of FE & PT and Communication will be asked for objections, if any.

### **Aviation Division**

8. The Division communicated their objection to the classification of the Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited as an Autonomous Body. It argued that since the PIA functions as a public limited company under the Companies Act and Securities Exchange Commission of Pakistan Rules, classifying it as an Autonomous Body would not be accurate.

9. The Convener clarified that the legal status of the PIACL would not change due to its classification as an Autonomous Body and also stated that companies functioning under the Companies Act are already classified as Autonomous Bodies.

### **Ministry of Defence**

10. The Ministry registered its reservation over the classification of the Pakistan Armed Services Board (PASB) as an Autonomous Body. It was argued that this is a small organization that looks after the welfare of ex-servicemen and the families of martyred servicemen which is the responsibility of the state. Additionally, the PASB fully falls within the parameters used for the classification of entities as Executive Departments and hence should be made as such. It was further argued that another reason for not classifying it as an autonomous body lies in the fact that it relies entirely on the government for its budget and is a non-revenue generating entity.

### **Textile Division**

11. With regards to the classification of the Karachi Garment City Company (KGCC), Lahore Garment City Company (LGCC), Faisalabad Garment City Company (FGCC) and the Pakistan Textile City Limited (PTCL) as autonomous bodies, the Division did not make any objections. However, it was argued that this change in classification will have legal ramifications and hence a response from the Law Division may be solicited before any step is taken on this matter.

12. In response, the Convener stated that these entities can be made into autonomous bodies without the aforementioned considerations since the legal status of these entities will remain unchanged.

## **Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication**

13. The Ministry had not sent any representative to the meeting to discuss their agenda on the Telephone Industry of Pakistan and the Special Communications Organization and hence, deliberations on the points sent by the Ministry of IT and Telecom were deferred to the next meeting.

## **Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety Division**

14. The Secretary Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety Division stated that they are agreed with the proposed Executive Department. She briefed the Committee about the following three organizations of the Division:-

- i. Trust for Voluntary Organizations (TVO)
- ii. Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)
- iii. Poverty Alleviation Coordination Council (PACC)

## **Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training**

15. The Ministry outlined seven entities for their agenda for the meeting.

- i. It was stated that the Inter Board Committee of Chairman (IBCC) has not yet been transferred to the Ministry.
- ii. The Ministry did not agree to the classification of the Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO (PNCU) as an Executive Department and stated that it will continue to work under the Ministry as a Subordinate office.
- iii. The National Talent Pool which was earlier proposed to function as an Executive Department is now being wound up.
- iv. The National Council for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (NCRDP) and the National Council for Social Welfare (NCSW) have been proposed to be transferred to the Ministry of Human Rights. The summary has been approved by the Cabinet.
- v. The National Institute of Science and Technical Education (NISTE) which was earlier proposed to become an autonomous body has already been abolished.
- vi. The National College of Arts which currently works as a Grant-in-Aid institution has been proposed to be made into a Federal Institution/ University. The case is currently under consideration. If it is approved, the NCA will then be made into a University and shall fall under the HEC.

## **Decisions**

- (1). The classification of both GB Council and AJ&K Council to be deferred for future consideration.
- (2). Pakistan Bureau of Statistics to be placed under Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform as an Autonomous Body.
- (3). It was decided that the PIACL will be classified as an Autonomous Body.
- (4) It was agreed that in consideration of the opinion of the Ministry of Defence, the Pakistan Armed Services Board will be re-classified as an Executive Department.
- (5). KGCC, LGCC, FGCC and PTCL will be classified as ABs and to be further considered for liquidation / winding up.
- (6). Discussion on the agenda of the Ministry of IT and Telecommunication was deferred to the next meeting of the Implementation Committee in which a detailed presentation will be made on SCO as well. The Convenor also requested the Ministry of Defence to contact GHQ to send a representative for discussion on the Special Communications Organisation in the next meeting, since the details offered by the Ministry of IT and Telecom states that the SCO is under the control of GHQ.
- (7). In the presence of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division, their remains no justification for the Poverty Alleviation Coordination Council (PACC).
- (8). TVO be merged with the PPAF since their functions overlap. This merged entity is to be classified as an Autonomous Body.
- (9). The Committee took into consideration the updates provided by the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and endorsed the steps taken by the Ministry with regards to winding up NTP and NISTE. Moreover, as NCRDP and NCSW have been transferred by the Cabinet to the Ministry of Human Rights and their views should be sought. The case of NCA for conversion to a university is under review. It was also decided that the PNCU will be categorized as an Executive Department.

## **General Decisions**

I. At the end of the meeting it was agreed that the presentation on the functions and powers of Autonomous Bodies and Executive Departments is to be kept as an agenda for the next meeting of the Committee.

II. Discussion also took place on the need for the creation of a proper Human Resource Management (HRM) Division as an upgrade to the existing Establishment Division. Work on this matter is currently under way. It was decided that MS Wing of the Establishment Division ought to be transformed into a think-tank or alternately an independent think-tank having highly qualified human resource. This think-tank ought to cater to the organizational changes within the government, align the needs of different government departments and ensure the minimization of duplication of functions. It is to be ensured that synergy exist between universities, training institutes and policy makers.

III. The Establishment Division was also directed to contact Ministries, which had not yet sent their responses on the matter of classification as a last chance.

16. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the chair.

## **List of participants**

- i. Advisor to the PM on Institutional Reforms & Austerity
- ii. Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, National History & Literary Heritage
- iii. Special Assistant to the PM on Petroleum
- iv. Secretary, Establishment Division
- v. Special Secretary, Cabinet Division
- vi. Secretary, M/o Planning, Development & Reform
- vii. Secretary, Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety Division
- viii. Secretary, Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan
- ix. Additional Secretary (Expenditure), Finance Division
- x. Additional Secretary, M/o Defence
- xi. Additional Draftsman, M/o Law & Justice
- xii. Senior Joint Secretary, Aviation Division
- xiii. Senior Joint Secretary, Textile Division
- xiv. Joint Secretary, M/o Law & Justice
- xv. Joint Secretary, Aviation Division
- xvi. Chief, M/o Planning, Development & Reform
- xvii. Deputy Secretary, Textile Division