

**MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
COMMITTEE FOR REORGANIZING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HELD ON 01-10-2019**

The 7th meeting of the Implementation Committee was held on 01-10-2019 at 10:00 am in Institutional Reforms Cell (IRC), the P.M. Office. It was chaired by Dr. Ishrat Husain, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Institutional Reforms and Austerity. The list of the participants is annexed. The agenda of the meeting was as under:

- (i) Objections by M/o Science & Technology and Information & Broadcasting
- (ii) Objections by Ministries / Divisions on Annex-3
- (iii) Exit strategy vis-à-vis Garment Cities in pursuance of the directions in 5th Meeting of IC.
- (iv) Objections by National History and Literary Heritage Division

Agenda Item No. (i)M/o Science & Technology and Information & Broadcasting

Objections by M/o Science & Technology

2. The Chair welcomed the Federal Minister for Science & Technology and invited him to share his views regarding the transferring of some of the entities from M/o Science & Technology to other Federal Ministries / Divisions. The Minister first of all conveyed his gratitude to the Committee for providing him the opportunity to share his views on the subject. To begin with, he stated that out of fourteen (14) organizations of the M/o Science & Technology (perhaps reference to Annex-8 of the Report), almost nine organizations from different forums have been proposed for transfer to other Federal Ministries / Divisions¹. He suggested that the Ministry as a whole should be restructured instead of focusing the organizations one by one. On this, the Chair commented that the Committee has already recommended that a National Commission on Science & Technology needs to be established for

¹To the knowledge of this forum, Council for Works & Housing Research (CWHR), Pakistan Council of Renewable Energy Technology (PCRET) and Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) has been recommended for transfer to M/o Housing & Works, Power Division and Water Resource Division respectively. And PHA for its placement under M/o Commerce.

promotion of Science & Technology. He further made it clear that there is no two opinions that the country can progress and pace with the international community only when it excels in the field of Science & Technology. But as for the present performance of the Ministry is concerned that is hardly satisfactory. The Chair recalled that in the past, Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) under the supervision of Mr. Salim-u-Zaman Siddiqui, the then Chairman made such a marvelous performance that its counterpart organizations were left for behind it. The Committee made it categorically clear that the real progress is possible only through triangular approach i.e. policy, institute and leadership. Resuming his talk, the Minister further stated that he has a business plan for his Ministry which he would like to present before the Committee. The Chair professed his convictions on the decisions. Nevertheless, he referred the matter to members of the Committee for deliberation.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

3. The Chair welcomed the Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and invited her to share the reservations regarding the earlier decisions of the Implementation Committee for transferring PEMRA to Cabinet Division and IRS to Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She first of all thanked the Members of the Committee for providing the opportunity to share her views. She stated that PEMRA was set up in 2000 to regulate the private channels and not the state broadcast, therefore, there arises no question of conflict of business interests between the private channels and that of the state broadcast. She further said that there is no denying the fact that private channels apart from community service do business and also some of them are prone to disseminating negative news. So such trends need to be controlled by the regulator. She also viewed that PEMRA does not work in isolation rather it has other stakeholders and the supportive organizations like Press Information Department (PID). Therefore, she is of the view that if PEMRA is given to Cabinet Division then the supportive entity of it may also be transferred to the Cabinet Division. She concluded that her request is that before finalizing the decision, all the stakeholders / aspects of the case may be taken into account. The

Committee agreed, however, it was made conspicuously clear that regulator has always to be independent and should not be under the control of the Ministry / Division whose business it has to regulate and there should be a categorical partitioning among policy, operation and regulation.

4. Regarding the transfer of Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) from Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its timeline merger with Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), she said that the research perspective of both the institutes differs from one another and they fulfill the needs of different public sectors. She was of the view that the separate existence of both the institutes is not duplication. To substantiate the proposition, she quoted the example of foreign mission where diplomatic wing and press wing concurrently work. The former is backed by the officers of the M/o Foreign Affairs while the latter is supported by the M/o Information & Broadcasting and is facilitated by the respective research work. She again showed her consent with the decision of the Committee, however, requested that before finally inking the decision all the aspects may be given due consideration.

Agenda Item No. (ii) Objections by Ministries / Divisions

M/o Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development

5. The representative of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) stated that the Ministry is not agreed with the transfer of Directorate of Workers Education (DWE) to Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). She stated that the Directorate has been imparting professional training to trade unions (Labour leaders and workers) enabling them to settle their issues amicably with the employers. She stated that the Directorate approximately gives training to 2,000 persons. She further stated that the Directorate has no regional centres; those were already devolved to provinces under 18th Constitutional Amendment. She further stated that the Ministry is bound to fulfill the international obligations for the education of workers in the essentials of trade unions including education in respect of their rights and obligations. One of the members of the

Committee also viewed that ICT might not have the capability just like the Ministry to handle the affairs of the Directorate.

M/o Industries & Production

6. The representative of the Ministry stated that Department of Explosive deals the subject of explosive as administered under Explosive Act 1884 and petroleum as administered under Petroleum Act 1934. He further stated that the subject of explosive has been devolved to provinces under 18th Constitutional Amendment while the subject of petroleum is a Federal subject. On this, the Minister for Defence / Member showed his reservation. The Chair in due recognition of the comments constituted a Sub Committee consisting of Mr. Pervez Khattak, Minister for Defence / Member and Mr. Nadeem Babar, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Petroleum / Member to explore the subject matter.

M/o Kashmir Affairs & Gilgit Baltistan

7. The reply of the Ministry was presented before the Committee wherein it was stated that NATCO has already been transferred to Gilgit Baltistan and for Directorate of Health Services (GB), it has no objection.

National History & Literary Heritage Division

8. The Secretary stated that the Division is agreed with the proposed transfer of Department of Libraries (DOL) to ICT.

Agenda Item No. (iii) Exit strategy vis-à-vis Garment Cities in pursuance of the directions in 5th Meeting of IC.

9. The agenda item was not discussed due to shortage of time.

Agenda Item No. (iv) Objections by National History and Literary Heritage Division (regarding Annex-7 & 8)

10. Regarding the previous agenda i.e. Annex-7 (proposed Executive Department) and Annex-8 (proposed Autonomous Bodies), the Secretary Incharge of the Division stated that the Division is agreed to the categorization of National Library of Pakistan, Islamabad and Department of Archaeology and Museum, Islamabad as proposed Executive Departments. However, the Division is not agreed with the categorization of Aiwan-e-Quaid Building, F-9 Park, Islamabad as proposed

Executive Department with the justification that it may not be retained as an Executive Department because the building is property of Federal Government which is presently in possession of a private Trust (Nazariya-e-Pakistan Council Trust). There is no permanent establishment / manpower and budget for this building to run as "Executive Department". It is therefore, proposed that the building continue to remain with NH&LH Division for Art and Cultural related activities.

11. He further stated that the Division is agreed with proposed Autonomous Bodies with the updation that National Book Foundation (NBF) has been transferred to Federal Education & Professional Training Division. Requisite views may be obtained from them.

Decisions

- i. The Ministry of Science & Technology will present future business plan of the Ministry of Science & Technology after two weeks.
 - ii. The Committee agreed with the proposal of the M/o OP&HRD to retain Directorate of Workers Education under its administrative control and not to transfer it to ICT.
 - iii. A Sub Committee consisting of Mr. Pervez Khattak, Defence Minister / Member of the Implementation Committee and Mr. Nadeem Babar, Advisor to the P.M. on Petroleum / Member has been constituted to examine the proposal of transferring Department of Explosive from Ministry of Industries & Production to provinces, Gilgit Baltistan and ICT and give the recommendation to the Implementation Committee.
 - iv. The proposal of the National History & Literary Heritage Division for not categorizing Aiwan-e-Quaid Building F-9 Park as Executive Department is agreed and it will continue as it is.
12. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Chair.

**List of participants of the 7th Meeting of Implementation Committee
held on (01-10-2019)**

- i. Advisor to the PM on Institutional Reforms & Austerity
- ii. Minister for Defence.
- iii. The Minister for Science & Technology, Islamabad
- iv. The Minister for State on Information & Broadcasting, Islamabad.
- v. Advisor to the PM on Establishment.
- vi. Advisor to the PM on Petroleum.
- vii. The Secretary, Establishment Division.
- viii. The Special Secretary, Cabinet Division.
- ix. The Secretary, National History & Literary Heritage.
- x. The Secretary, M/o Information & Broadcasting.
- xi. The Additional Finance Secretary (Expenditure), Finance Division
- xii. The Additional Secretary, M/o Industries & Production.
- xiii. The Senior Joint Secretary, National History & Literary Heritage Division.
- xiv. The Joint Secretary, M/o Law & Justice
- xv. The Joint Secretary, M/o Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource
Development.
- xvi. The Director, Textile Division.