

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

Dated: 3rd March, 2015


A meeting of the Standing Committees on Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization of the National Assembly was held today, the 3rd March, 2015 in Committee Room # 2, Parliament House, Islamabad, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Omar Ayub Khan, MNA, regarding to discuss the imposition of 27 % GST on petroleum products and regulatory duty on various items including furnace oil by government without prior approval of the Parliament, to discuss Public Sector Development Sector Program (PSDP) furnished by Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization for recommendations of the Committee thereon, and to discuss the planned merger of NBP, Jhang Region with Faisalabad Zone.

2. The Committee Members were apprised by the Chairman, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on the levy of 27 % GST against POL, products. He said that under article 7 of the Constitution, 'state' is defined to include, besides Parliament, any local or other authorities in Pakistan as are by law empowered to impose any tax or cess. This Article suggests that the tax can be imposed pursuant to the powers conferred by Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) by an authority other than the Parliament.
3. The Chairman, FBR stated that government has exercised its authority to increase GST on POL products under above mentioned article. He further added that subject 10 % increase leverage has also been provided to the common public by not increasing the price of POL products in the on going month.
4. The Committee was further explained by the Chairman, FBR that regulatory duty on steel products i.e billets bar and wire rods has been imposed @ 15 %. It was also informed the Committee by the Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Revenue that India has increased the prices of POL products in the country atleast 4 times after major decreased in the world POL prices.
5. The Committee was informed by Chairman FBR that in order to recover some part of the anticipated revenue loss, the Federal Government in exercise of powers under section 18 (3) of the customs Act, 1969 and 3(2) of the Sales Tax Act 1990 took such kind of actions, Levy of RD @ 5% on Cold Rolled Coils (CRC), Galvanized Platted (GP), Levy of RD @ Rs. 200/set on Mobile Phone, Levy of RD @ 5 % Furnace Oil, Levy of RD @ 5% on Metal Scrap and enhancement of RD by 5% on luxury items.

6. The Committee considered Public Sector Development Programs presented by the Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics & Privatization as required in terms of Rule 201 (1), Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007. The Committee discussed the projects one by one and shown its satisfaction on the projects i.e Automation of Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) phase-II, Institutional Strengthening of Finance Division and Capacity Building MIS development and Institutional Strengthening of Pakistan Mint Lahore, however the Committee has showed its dissatisfaction on the project of Public Sector Enterprises Reforms Project. The Committee considered PSDP of Statistics division and decided to visit the statistics office on 10th of this month.

7. The Committee discussed the planned merger of District Jhang NBP region with Faisalabad Zone and directed the Senior Vice President of NBP to resolve the issue with the consultation of Members of the Parliament belonging to District Jhang.

8. Meeting was attended by Mr. Saeed Ahmed Khan Manais, Mr. Qaiser Ahmad Sheikh, Mr. Daniyal Aziz, Mr. Muhammad Pervaiz Malik, Sheikh Fayyaz-ud-Din, Ms. Leila Khan, Dr. Nafisa Shah, Sardar Muhammad Jaffar Khan Leghari, Mr. Najaf Abbas Khan Sial, and Sheikh Muhammad Akram, MNAs and besides senior officers from Ministry of Finance and Revenue and National Bank of Pakistan (NBP).


(AMIR OMER MALIK)
Secretary Committee
03/03/15

Director (Media)