

DAWN

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NAB files reference against former Nawaz aide over PIA CEO case

Syed Irfan Raza | Published March 15, 2019

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on Thursday decided to file a reference against Sardar Mehtab Ahmed Khan Abbasi over what it described as the illegal appointment of former Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) chief executive officer.

Former Khyber Pakhtunkhwa governor Mehtab Abbasi was appointed aviation adviser to then prime minister Nawaz Sharif in 2017. After a few months Dr Musharraf Rasool Cyan was appointed CEO of

PIA. But a year later the Supreme Court declared Dr Cyan's appointment illegal after hearing a case filed by the PIA officers' association challenging his appointment. Justice Ijazul Ahsan, who headed the three-member bench of the Supreme Court that gave the verdict, said at the time, "Mehtab Abbasi was a party to the appointment."

The decisions were made in NAB's Executive Board Meeting (EBM) that was chaired by its chairman retired Justice Javed Iqbal. According to a NAB spokesman, the EBM authorised filing of corruption references against Mehtab Abbasi, Erfan Elahi, former secretary aviation division, Dr Cyan, former chairman, PIA, and Muhammad Ali Tabba. They are accused of appointing Dr Cyan in violation of rules and misusing their authority, leading to significant losses to the national exchequer.

RAMAZAN TIMINGS

Karachi

Date	Fajr	Maghrib
Thu Apr 29th, 2021	3:51 am	6:50 pm
Fri Apr 30th, 2021	3:50 am	6:50 pm
Sat May 1st, 2021	3:48 am	6:51 pm

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