



FAFEN Parliament Monitor

Senate
of Pakistan
81st Session

(April 30 - May 10, 2012)

Free and Fair Election Network
www.fafen.org

Abbreviations

ANP	Awami National Party
BNPA	Balochistan National Party (Awami)
CAN	Calling Attention Notice
IND	Independent Member
JUIF	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazlur Rehman)
MMAP	Mutihida Majlis-e-Amal Party
MQM	Muttahida Quami Movement
MRP	Machine Readable Passports
NEPRA	National Electric Power Regulatory Authority
NP	National Party
PMDC	Pakistan Medical and Dental Council
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PMLN	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PMLF	Pakistan Muslim League (Functional)
PO	Point of Order
PPPP	Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians
PPPS	Pakistan People's Party (Sherpao)
PW	Parliament Watch
QoP	Question of Privilege



This report is based on direct observation of the Senate proceedings conducted by CPDI-Pakistan, a member organization of FAFEN.

Executive Summary

The 81st session of the Senate convened to discuss the President's address to the joint session of the parliament left more than half (54%) of the Agenda items listed on the Orders of the Day unaddressed due to protests and walkouts by the opposition and coalition partners.

In all nine sittings, the PMLN Senators staged walkouts over the Supreme Court verdict in the contempt case against the Prime Minister. On three occasions JUIF protested over the issue provincial autonomy, drone attacks and reopening of NATO supplies.

The allies of the government in the Upper House also staged walkouts. MQM and ANP walked out over the issue of provincial autonomy while the PML protested power outages and absence of ministers. During the eighth sitting, the PML even threatened to quit the coalition if the energy crisis was not solved.

These protests and walkouts disrupted the proceedings and consumed 34% (478 minutes) of the session time.

Since the Senate Secretariat does not make the attendance record public, FAFEN conducts a headcount of Senators at the beginning and end of each sitting and documents the actual time spent on the floor of the House by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition.

Though the session was called to debate the President's address to the joint session of the parliament, Senators' attendance remained low. On average, only 10 Senators were present at the outset and 23 at the end of each sitting. Only 202 minutes of the total session time of 1,390 were spent on the debate.

The Leader of the House attended all the seven sittings for 35% (493 minutes) of the session time. The Chairman chaired the proceedings for 73% of the session time; the Deputy Chairman 17%; and the remaining 3% of time was presided over by Members of Panel of Chairpersons. A total of 102 minutes (7%) were consumed by breaks.

The Parliamentary Leaders of PML and NP did not attend the session while those of ANP attended nine, JUIF and PMLF six each, and BNPA leader one sitting.

Although the Quorum was visibly lacking at various stages of the session, it was pointed out once by an ANP Senator during the seventh sitting. The Chair rung the bells for five minutes, but due to persistent lack of Quorum the proceedings remained suspended for 52 minutes.

The session from April 30 to May 11 met for 23 hours and 10 minutes. On average, the House met for two hours and 34 minutes per sitting. Each sitting started, on average, 41 minutes late.

The Upper House passed the Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill 2012. Four Private Members' Bills - the Pakistan Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill 2012, the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill 2012, the Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill 2012 and the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2012 - were introduced and sent to the respective Standing Committees.

Parliament Watch

An essential component of democracy is publicly accessible information about the political decision-making processes, such as parliamentary deliberations among elected representatives. Citizens must have information about whether, and how their representatives are performing in the Assembly in order to hold those elected leaders accountable.

The Parliament Watch (PW), an initiative of the Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN), aims to collect and publish information about the job performance of Members of the National Assembly (MNAs), Provincial Assemblies (MPAs) and Senate by observation of these directly elected representatives' actions. FAFEN intends to foster informed engagement between constituents and elected representatives in Pakistan by providing objective and statistically-sound information on parliamentary processes and decisions.

The methodology of the PW is to deploy trained observers to the National Assembly in order to monitor their performance using a detailed, standardized checklist and reporting forms covering all types of parliamentary business. The information gathered is measured against the neutral and objective framework of the rules of parliamentary procedure.

FAFEN's PW focuses on directly-observed parliamentary procedure in addition to parliamentary output. In other words, FAFEN's criteria for assessing parliamentary effectiveness are primarily process-oriented and secondarily results-oriented.

Four out of 12 Resolutions appearing on the Agenda were adopted by the House. Two were adopted to condemn the burning of Quran by an American pastor, and the other to condemn the bomb blast near Amjal Khattak's mausoleum. Amid opposition's protest over the contempt case, the government and its allies adopted a Resolution to repose confidence in the Prime Minister.

However, Resolutions on cases of missing persons, power losses and recovery of outstanding government loans granted for the construction of houses for 2005 earthquake victims, water filtration plants to eliminate waterborne diseases, and provincial autonomy were not taken up.

Senators continued to use Points of Order to deliver long speeches. Twenty Points of Order consumed 11% of the total session time – 149 of the total 1,390 minutes. None of the Points of Order attracted the Chair's formal ruling. Unless the Chair gives a formal ruling on a Point of Order, it does not lead to any output.

Around 40% of 96 Starred questions (requiring oral replies) appearing on the Agenda were taken up. An additional 64 Supplementary questions were also asked. More than half the questions asked were directed to Ministry of Water and Power (12), followed by Cabinet Secretariat (11), Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Resources (9), Communications and Interior (7 each) and Railways (6).

Two out of five Calling Attention Notices appearing on the Orders of the Day were taken up by the House. The notices were moved by 11 Senators – seven belonging to ANP, three to PPPP and one to PMLN. The notices taken up were about “the steps taken by the Government for implementation of Clause 3 of Article 172 of the Constitution” and the steps taken to address the “breakdown of electricity generations and distributions in Karachi by KESC” and its policy of “mass retrenchment”.

1. Session Time and Senators' Participation

This section deals with the session duration, details of Senators' attendance, their participation and maintenance of Quorum – at least 1/4th (26) of the total membership. The participation of Senators is recorded when they take part in the proceedings or submit Agenda items. It also reviews the presence of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and Parliamentary Leaders.

1.1 Session Time

The 81st session comprising nine sittings started on April 30th and *prorogued sine die* on May 11th. The session lasted 23 hours and 10 minutes, meeting on average for two hours and 34 minutes per sitting.

On average, each sitting started 41 minutes late.

Date	Sitting No.	Late Starts	Total Time	
			Hours	Minutes
Monday, April 30	1st	63	2	31
Wednesday, May 2	2nd	45	2	35
Thursday, May 3	3rd	32	2	38
Friday, May 4	4th	40	1	43
Monday, May 7	5th	38	3	37
Tuesday, May 8	6th	40	2	22
Wednesday, May 9	7th	38	2	17
Thursday, May 10	8th	36	3	22
Friday, May 11	9th	35	2	5
Total		Average 41 Minutes	23 Hours and 10 Minutes	

1.2 Senators' Attendance

The Senate does not make public the attendance records of legislators. FAFEN conducts a headcount at the start and end of each sitting. Senators' attendance reflects upon their interest and presence in the parliamentary proceedings.

The attendance in the Upper House (total membership of 104) remained low as, on average, only 10 Senators were present at the beginning and 23 at the end of each sitting.

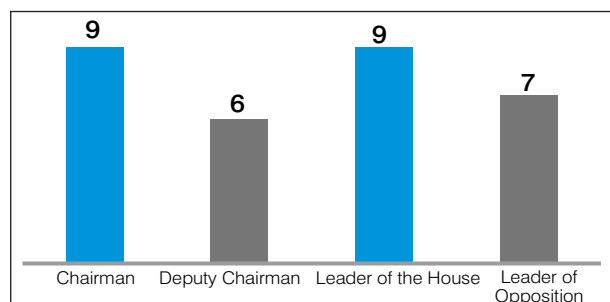
Sitting	Members at the Outset	Members at the End
1st	10	52
2nd	24	18
3rd	8	16
4th	9	25
5th	9	24
6th	6	18
7th	6	11
8th	8	18
9th	9	22
Average	10	23

1.3 Key Members' Attendance

Attendance in sittings is crucial for Senators, especially those holding important positions (Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and the Parliamentary Leaders) to perform their legislative and representative roles.

Chairman's presence is vital as he is the custodian of the House and has to ensure that the conduct of business is aligned with the Rules and Procedure of the House. The Chairman Senate remained present in all sittings chairing 72% of the session time; the Deputy Chairman chaired 17% of the time while the remaining 3% was presided over by Members of Panel of Chairpersons.

The recently-elected Leader of the House attended all sittings of his first parliamentary session while his counterpart, the Leader of the Opposition, attended seven sittings for 35% of the session time.



The attendance of the Parliamentary Leaders is vital and reflects on a party's participation during a session.

The Parliamentary Leaders of PML and NP did not attend the session while those of ANP attended nine, JUIF and PMLF six each, and BNPA leader one sitting.

2.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

This section reviews legislators' efforts to represent the interests of their constituents through Calling Attention Notices (CANs) and to monitor government's performance during Question Hour. It also includes various Motions and Matters of Public Importance on the Orders of the Day.

2.1 Questions and Responses

Question Hour is the most important instrument of business in the Senate. It provides legislators an opportunity for executive oversight. The first hour of every sitting (except Private Members' Day) is assigned for asking and answering questions. It gives Senators, especially those in the Opposition, an opportunity to question Government on various issues, such as a Ministry's follow-up on a certain Resolution or implementation of a particular piece of legislation. Answers to questions may be demanded in written or oral form, referred to as Unstarred or Starred questions, respectively.

A total of 96 Starred questions -13 per sitting-were raised during the session. More than one-third (38) Starred questions were taken up. An additional 64 Supplementary questions were also asked.

Sittings No.	Starred Questions on the Agenda	Starred Questions actually taken up by the House	Supplementary Questions
1st	Private Members' Day		
2nd	15	12	19
3rd	12	8	12
4th	8	5	7
5th	Private Members' Day		
6th	13	2	4
7th	20	3	5
8th	14	4	8
9th	14	4	9
Total	96	38	64

More than half of the questions (52%) were asked of six Ministries, namely Ministry of Water and Power (12), followed by Cabinet Secretariat (11), Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Resources (9), Communications and Interior (7 each) and Railways (6).

Ministry Concerned	Starred	Fully Answered	No Response	Total
Cabinet Secretariat	11	9	2	11
Capital Administration and Development	3	3	-	3
Climate Change	1	1	-	1
Commerce	4	4	-	4
Communications	1	1	-	1
Defence	7	7	-	7
Finance & Revenue	5	5	-	5
Foreign Affairs	2	2	-	2
Housing and Works	3	2	1	3
Human Resources	1	1	-	1
Human Rights	1	1	-	1
Industries	1	1	-	1
Information and Broadcasting	4	4	-	4
Information Technology	1	1	-	1
Inter-Provincial Coordination	4	4	-	4
Interior	7	3	4	7
Law and Justice	1	-	1	1
Petroleum and Natural Resources	9	9	-	9

Ministry Concerned	Starred	Fully Answered	No Response	Total
Ports & Shipping	2	2	-	2
Postal Services	1	1	-	1
Privatization	2	2	-	2
Production	3	3	-	3
Railways	6	4	2	6
Religious Affairs	1	1	-	1
States & Frontier Regions	2	1	1	2
Textile Industries	1	1	-	1
Water and Power	12	12	-	12
Total	96	85	11	96

The Male Senators fared better than their female counterparts in Government oversight as they asked 58% of the total questions as against 39% asked by the female Senators. No female lawmaker representing ANP, JUIF and MQM submitted questions. Eighty four percent of the questions raised by female Legislators were by PMLN Senators. However, the male Members of the same party submitted the least questions on the Agenda.

Gender	ANP	BNPA	IND	JUIF	MQM	PMLN	PPPP	Total
Female	-	2	-	-	-	31	4	37
Male	8	-	6	21	16	3	5	59
Total	8	2	6	21	16	34	9	96

A party-wise analysis shows that 34 questions - more than one-third of the total - were asked by PMLN legislators, followed by JUIF (21), MQM (16), and PPPP (9), ANP (8) and Independents (6) while two questions were asked by BNPA Senators.

Party	Starred	Fully Answered	No Response	Total
ANP	8	7	1	8
BNPA	2	2	-	2
IND	6	5	1	6
JUIF	21	17	4	21
MQM	16	14	2	16
PMLN	34	33	1	34
PPPP	9	7	2	9
Total	96	85	11	96

2.2 Calling Attention Notices

This section highlights the efforts of Members in raising matters of public interest through Calling Attention Notices. According to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business a Member may call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date provided that no more than one notice per Member shall be allowed per sitting.

Two out of five Calling Attention Notices appearing on the Orders of the Day were taken up, both CANs being jointly moved by PPPP and ANP Senators.

The CANs about hike in railway fares and increase in electricity prices by NEPRA moved by PMLN Members were not taken up.

Sr. No.	Gender	Subject	Ministry Concerned	Status
1	Single Female	Increase in the Railways fares	Railways	Not Taken Up
2	Single Female	Increase in the prices of electricity by NEPRA under the head "Fuel Price Adjustment"	Water and Power	Not Taken Up
3	Jointly Male and Female	The steps taken by the Government for implementation of Clause 3 of Article 172 of the Constitution.	Petroleum and Natural Resources	Taken Up
4	Single Female	Insufficient arrangements made by the Government to issue Machine Readable Passports (MRP) to the Pakistanis working and living in Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Interior	Not Taken Up

Sr. No.	Gender	Subject	Ministry Concerned	Status
5	Jointly Male and Female	The steps taken by the Government in respect of the breakdown of electricity generations and distributions in Karachi by KESC and also its policy of mass retrenchment	Petroleum and Natural Resources	Taken Up

3.0 Parliamentary Output

This section deals with Legislation and Resolutions debated and decided during the legislative session.

3.1 Legislation

Considering Legislation on matters of national significance through careful debate and discussion is arguably the Upper House's chief and most important function. Legislation comes in the form of Government Bills, Private-Member Bills and Ordinances. This section relates to procedures regarding legislative deliberation, and examines the stages followed in the drafting and consideration of Bills. This report focuses on the quantitative aspects of the Senate's performance in this session.

3.1.1 Bills

During the 81st session, the House passed the Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill 2012.

The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) Ordinance of 1962 was found inadequate to satisfactorily handle the numerous private medical colleges established in recent years. The passage of this Bill will empower PMDC to have a quality check on both Government-run and private medical and dental educational institutions in the country.

The other Bill - the Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2012 - seeking to root out terrorism from the society was withdrawn by the prime mover.

Sr. No.	Bills on the Orders of the Day	Bills Debated	Status of Bills		
			Bills Introduced	Bills Passed	Rejected/Withdrawn
1	The Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2010	--	--	--	✓
2	The Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill, 2012	Debated	--	✓	--

3.1.2 Private Members' Bills

Four Private Members' Bills - the Pakistan Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill 2012, the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill 2012, the Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill 2012 and the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2012 – were introduced and sent to the respective Standing Committees for further deliberations.

3.1.3 Ordinances

Under article 87 of the Constitution, the President has the power to enforce laws in the country by promulgating Ordinances, as long as both the National Assembly and the Senate are not in session. These Ordinances are valid for 120 days, during which the Government is bound to lay them before the parliament in the form of Bills to seek their approval in the next session.

During the session, the Drug Regulatory Agency of Pakistan Ordinance 2012 was placed before the House. Before the passage of the 18th amendment, which has devolved many federal subjects to the provinces, drugs control were regulated by the Federal Ministry for Health. Since the subject of health was transferred to the federating units along with the powers to regulate drugs, it raised uncertainties about the effectiveness of drugs control at the provincial level. Due to lack of resources and poor management, the new system performed inefficiently leading to the deaths of about 150 cardiac patients who were given spurious drug in Punjab. In compliance with the Supreme Court orders and to provide assurance to the outraged public, the President issued an Ordinance on February 16th, 2012 promulgating the establishment of a national drug regulator.

3.2 Resolutions

Through Resolutions, the House expresses its opinion, makes recommendations, or conveys a message on a definite and important issue. The House can also commend, urge, or request action on a situation under consideration by the Government. Resolutions may be moved by Ministers or Private Members.

Four out of 12 Resolutions were adopted by the House. The burning of Holy Quran in America, condolences on the death of a former Senator, bomb blast near Ajmal Khattak's mausoleum and reposing confidence in the Prime Minister were the Resolution adopted.

Sr. No	Party	Subject	Status
1		To condemn the burning of Quran by an American pastor	Adopted
2	PPPP	To express condolence on the death of former Senator, Abdul Ghaffar Jatoi	Adopted
3	PPPP	To repose confidence in the Prime Minister	Adopted
4	ANP	To condemn the bomb blast near ANP leader Amjal Khattak's mausoleum.	Adopted
5	PPPP	To urge the Government to sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances	Not Adopted
6	ANP	To urge the Government to take effective steps to de-weaponize the city of Karachi	Not Adopted
	PPPP	To establish a Legal Aid Desks in Pakistan Embassies/Missions abroad to provide legal aid to the Pakistanis in foreign jails particularly in countries where a large number of Pakistanis are imprisoned	Not Adopted
7	JUIF	To recommend the Government to write off outstanding loans granted by the same for the construction of houses for the affectees of 8th October, 2005, earthquake	Not Adopted
8	ANP	To recommend that the Government may abolish cess/tax on the transportation of essential commodities to the Federally Administered Tribal Agencies	Not Adopted
9	ANP		
10	PMLN	To recommend that the Government may take immediate steps to control power losses and ensure recovery of outstanding dues	Not Adopted
11	MQM	To recommend that stipends be granted to all the unemployed educated persons in the country	Not Adopted
12	JUIF	To recommend that water filtration plants may be installed in each city and village of the country to save the people from water-borne diseases	Not Adopted

4.0 Order and Institutionalization

This section deals with issues raised through Points of Order and the time consumed by them. It also reviews the Questions of Privileges, the instances of protests, walkouts or boycotts during the session.

4.1 Points of Order

A Point of Order is raised to address an apparent breach in the rules of parliamentary procedure while an Assembly's business is underway, and usually requests the Chairman's or Chair's ruling on the issue.

Twenty Points of Orders consumed almost 149 minutes (10%) of the total session time. However, none of the Points of Order raised attracted the formal ruling of the Chair. Unless the Chair gives a formal ruling on a Point of Order it does not lead to any output.

Sitting No.	Points of Order	Time Consumed
1st	3	40
2nd	11	61
3rd	0	0
4th	0	0
5th	0	0
6th	0	0
7th	0	0
8th	3	40
9th	3	8
Total	20 Points of Order	149 minutes

4.2 Protests, Boycotts and Walkouts

In all nine sittings, the PMLN Senators staged walkouts over the Supreme Court verdict in the contempt case against the Prime Minister. On three occasions JUIF protested over the issue of provincial autonomy, drone attacks and reopening of NATO supplies.

The allies of the government in the Upper House also staged walkouts. MQM and ANP walked out over the issue

of provincial autonomy while the PML protested power outages and ministerial absence. During the eighth sitting the PML even threatened to quit the coalition if the energy crisis was not solved.

These protests and walkouts disrupted the proceedings and consumed 34% (478 minutes) of the session time.

Sitting No.	Party	Reason	Time
1st	PMLN	Over the Supreme Court verdict in the contempt case against the Prime Minister	34
2nd	Senator of FATA JUIF	Against the drone attacks	10
	PMLN	Over the Supreme Court verdict in the contempt case against the Prime Minister	145
3rd	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	2
4th	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	5
5th	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	5
	JUIF	Against the talks for reopening the NATO supply	5
5th	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	109
7th	JUIF	Provinces are not being given due rights as provided by the 18th Amendment of the Constitution	5
	MQM ANP	Against an answer provided by the Federal Minister Capital Administration and Development regarding the provincial autonomy after the passage of the 18th amendment	5
	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	105
8th	PMLN	Over the Supreme Court verdict in the contempt case against the Prime Minister	
	PML	Power outages in the country and ministerial absence in the House	11
9th	PMLN	Demanding resignation of Prime Minister after his conviction by the apex court in the contempt case	30
	PML	Power outages in the country	7
Total Time			7 hours and 58 minutes

GLOSSARY

Adjournment Motion

A motion to adjourn the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of recent and urgent public importance.

Amendments

A motion to amend an earlier motion before that earlier motion is put to the Assembly for its decision.

Assent

Refers to the power of the President to assent the bill passed by the House or return the same to the House for reconsideration.

Chairperson

In relation to a sitting, any person who is presiding at that sitting.

Calling Attention Notice

A Senator who wishes to raise a matter of sufficient public importance can call attention of the Minister to such matter by giving notice in writing. The Chairman would select one of them but not more than two notices in a week for a statement by the Minister.

Chair

The Presiding Officer at a meeting of the House or a Committee.

Chamber

The place where the Senate meets to transact its business.

Deputy Chairman

When the office of Chairman is vacant or Chairman is absent or is unable to perform his functions due to any cause the Deputy Chairman acts as the Chairman of the House.

Election

The process of choosing a representative by vote.

Leader of the Opposition

"Leader of the Opposition" means a Senator who, in the opinion of the Chairman, is the leader of the majority of Opposition Senators for a certain time period.

Legislation

The process of crafting law.

Legislative Process

The processes by which bills are approved by Assembly.

'List of Business'

The 'List of Business' includes the business scheduled for an Assembly sitting.

Member

A member of the Assembly and for purposes of moving or opposing a Bill, an amendment, a motion or a resolution, includes a Minister.

Member-in-Charge

In the case of Government Bill, a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary acting on behalf of the Government and in the case of a private member's Bill, the member who has introduced it or any other member authorized by him in writing to assume charge of the Bill in his absence.

Minister

May refer to the Prime Minister, a Federal Minister or a Minister of State, or a Parliamentary Secretary in respect of any function delegated or entrusted to him by a Minister.

[We wish to extend our acknowledgment to the Senate Website for material contributions presented in the Glossary.](#)

Motion

A proposal made by a member or a Minister relating to any matter, which may be discussed by the House and includes an amendment.

Mover

The mover of a Bill, a resolution, a motion or an amendment of a Bill, a resolution or a motion and in the case of a Government Bill, a resolution, a motion or an amendment, a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary acting on behalf of the Government.

Opposition

The party or parties who do not belong to the governing party.

Orders of the Day

"Orders of the Day" means the list of business to be brought before the House on any day.

Point of Order

A member can raise a point of order relating to the interpretation or enforcement of the rules or such Articles of the Constitution as regulate the business of the Senate, and are in the cognizance of the Chairman. A point of order can also be raised in relation to the business before the Senate at the moment.

Private Member

A member who is not a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary.

Private Member's Bill

A proposed law introduced by a Private member.

Proceedings

The actions taken by the House or by a committee, the most important parts of the proceedings are the decisions that are taken.

Quorum

Quorum is the minimum number of members of Senate necessary to conduct the business of the Assembly. (One-fourth of the House)

Question Hour

A time fixed under the rules for asking and answering questions.

Resolution

A motion for the purpose of discussing and expressing an opinion on a matter of general public interest.

Starred Question

A question that requires an oral answer in addition to a written reply.

Senate

The Upper House of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) known by that name.

Table

The Table of the House.

Unstarred Question

"Unstarred Question" means a question for a written answer.

About FAFEN

Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN), established in 2006, is a coalition of 42 leading civil society organizations, working to strengthen all forms of democratic accountabilities in Pakistan. Governed by Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), FAFEN's key achievements are:

- Observed the public display of Pakistan's draft electoral rolls and conducted the country's first statistically-valid voters' list audit in 2007
- Deployed more than 18,829 trained, neutral Election Day observers nationwide to watch the February 18, 2008 polls and 264 long-term observers to monitor the pre-election process
- Fielded long-term observers nationwide and published 19 pre-election reports
- For the February 18, 2008, General Elections, FAFEN conducted 260 simultaneous Parallel Vote Tabulations (PVTs)- the largest effort in the world
- Conducted its first survey, Constituents Aspirations Survey, in December 2008 with a sample size of 3,124 respondents to get the description of the state of public opinion and also to get a deeper understanding of the values, attitudes and beliefs of people living in the constituencies
- Conducted mapping of organizations working for human rights within Pakistan
- Observed general elections at Gilgit-Baltistan in 2009 and by-elections in various constituencies of the Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2010
- Implemented a unique methodology to observe parliamentary proceedings under its Parliamentary Watch Project
- Monitors public institutions across Pakistan and issues monthly reports on the state and performance of educational, health and other local level institutions. In addition, monthly reports on prices, crimes, incidence of disease, caseload in lower courts and political and electoral violence are issued

FAFEN continues to implement robust programs in-between elections related to monitoring parliamentary affairs, connecting constituents to their elected representatives, monitoring the performance of public and elected institutions and advocating electoral and democratic reforms. FAFEN is also monitoring political and electoral violence, peace activities and promoting active citizenry through ongoing civic education activities across the country. FAFEN is currently implementing Supporting Transparency, Accountability and Electoral Processes in Pakistan in 200 National Assembly constituencies in 119 districts across Pakistan.

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