

FAFEN Parliament Monitor

Senate  
of Pakistan  
86th Session

(8 October to  
18 October 2012)

Free and Fair Election Network

[www.fafen.org](http://www.fafen.org)

## Abbreviations

ANP	Awami National Party
BNPA	Balochistan National Party (Awami)
CAN	Calling Attention Notice
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
IND	Independent Member
FAFEN	Free and Fair Election Network
JUI	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam
JUIF	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazl)
KESC	Karachi Electric Supply Company
MQM	Muttahidda Qaumi Movement
NAB	National Accountability Bureau
NP	National Party
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PMLF	Pakistan Muslim League (Functional)
PMLN	Pakistan Muslim League(Nawaz)
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PO	Point of Order
POL	Petroleum and Oil Products
PTA	Pakistan Telecommunication Authority



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

## Executive Summary

Low attendance of senators, lackluster debates on the issues of national significance such as the deteriorating law and order, devastation caused by floods in Balochistan and increase in the prices of petroleum products marked the 86th session, which took up only 37% of the listed agenda items.

The house did not take up nine resolutions, six motions under rule 218, and 120 questions appearing on the agenda. However, the upper house passed the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan which seeks to set up a regulatory body to bring harmony in inter-provincial trade and commerce of drugs and therapeutic goods. Two other treasury-backed bills were introduced and sent to standing committees.

As observed in the previous sessions, the agenda for the private members' days was set ambitiously making it impossible to take up all items during a single sitting. Around 55% (of the total 51 items) of the agenda was contributed by private members, of which only two items were taken up and discussed on the floor of the house. In comparison, only six government's agenda items were left unaddressed.

The session lasted 11 days from 8-18 October meeting for 22 hours and 52 minutes. Each sitting, on average, met for two hours and 32 minutes witnessing an average delay of 43 minutes.

Since the Senate Secretariat does not make public the senators attendance record, FAFEN observers conduct a headcount at the start and end of each sitting and documents the actual time spent on the floor by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition. Low attendance of senators continued during the session, as on average only eight senators were observed at the outset and 20 at the adjournment of each sitting. The quorum visibly lacking at various stages of the session was not pointed out by any of the legislators.

The Leader of the House attended eight sittings for 1,142 minutes (83% of the total time), while the Leader of the Opposition was there during the entire session for 1,294 minutes (94% of the session time). The Chairman chaired the proceedings for 65% of the session time and the remaining time was presided over by the Deputy Chairman.

The parliamentary leaders of the PML and BNPA remained absent during the entire session while the ANP party head attended eight sittings, JUIF four and the MQM leader was present during two sittings. Among single member parties, PMLF senator attended seven and that of NP member was present in five sittings.

The upper house briefly debated law and order on a motion under rule 218 with a particular reference to target killings and sectarian violence in Balochistan, Karachi and Gilgit-Baltistan. Seven senators (7% of the total membership - 104) – three MQM, two ANP and one each of NP and PPP – spoke on the motion for 57 minutes (4% of the session time).

Similarly the house took up an adjournment motion on the devastation caused by floods in Balochistan. A total of 17 senators – 13 male and four female – spoke on the motion for 132 minutes (10% of the session time). The price hike in petroleum products was taken up through a calling attention notice jointly moved by MQM and PMLN. Likewise, the issue of slow investigation of Bhoja Airlines crash, publication of advertisement for the post of CEO of Drug Regulatory Authority, and the imposition of tax by PTA on overseas telephone calls were also brought to the house.

The attack on the national peace award winner, Malala Yousafzai, was condemned by the upper house by adopting a resolution. Similarly, another resolution was adopted by the house to express condolences on the demise of a former senator Muhammad Ali Khan. The resolutions on de-weaponization of Karachi and the airing of the blasphemous film 'Innocence of Muslims' were discussed but not passed by the house.

Twenty-six senators (six women and 20 men) submitted 175 questions – 171 starred (requiring oral replies) and four unstarred (requiring written replies). Only 51 starred questions (30%) received oral replies by the respective

### Parliament Watch Project

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 Project (PWP), 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 PWP 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 PWP 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.

ministries. Additionally 86 supplementary questions were asked. Seventy percent of the starred questions were left unaddressed due to either ministerial or the prime mover's absence. The main opposition party - PMLN – asked 67 questions. JUIF and MQM asked 26 questions each, PPPP 21, ANP 20, BNPA 14, while a single question was submitted by Independents.

None of the fifty-seven points of order raised during the session attracted the chair's formal ruling. Unless the chair gives a formal ruling on a point of order, it does not lead to any assembly output.

ANP and PMLN senators jointly walked out of the house to protest against ministerial absence. In another instance ANP and PPPP senators staged a walkout to oppose the sacking of Karachi Electric Supply Company's employees. MQM members staged two walkouts to oppose the increased tariff of overseas phone calls and a PPPP parliamentarian protested on not being granted permission to speak about judiciary.

## 1. Session Duration

This section deals with the duration the Senate met during the session, the attendance of senators and maintenance of quorum (at least 1/4th of the total membership). This section also reviews the presence of the key members - the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Prime Minister, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition, and the parliamentary leaders – and the actual time they spend on the floor of the house.

### 1.1 Session Time

The session from 8-18 October 2012 spread over nine sittings lasted 22 hours and 52 minutes. Each sitting, on average, lasted two hours and 32 minutes and began 43 minutes late. Two breaks of 30 and 42 minutes were observed during the eighth and ninth sitting, respectively.

Table 1.1: Session Time

Sitting No.	Day and date	Total session time		Delay
		Hours	Minutes	
1st	Monday, October 8	1	37	73
2nd	Tuesday, October 9	2	48	60
3rd	Wednesday, October 10	3	30	38
4th	Thursday, October 11	2	21	41
5th	Friday, October 12	1	48	30
6th	Monday, October 15	1	3	41
7th	Tuesday, October 16	2	30	45
8th	Wednesday, October 17	3	25	35
9th	Thursday, October 18	3	50	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>22 hours and 52 minutes</b>		<b>Average Delay 43 minutes</b>

### 1.2 Senators' Attendance

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

During the 86th session, on average, eight senators were present at the start and 20 at the adjournment of each sitting. The quorum was visibly lacking at various stages of the session. However, it was not pointed out by any of the legislators.

Four minority members represent Non-Muslims in the senate after the 18th amendment –two of these were present in each sitting on average.

Table 1.2: Senators' Attendance

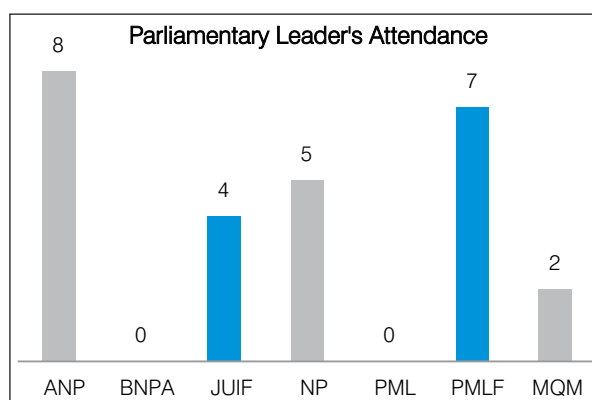
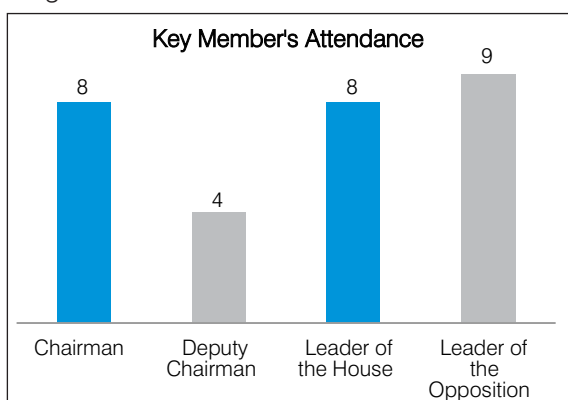
Sitting No.	Members at the outset	Members at the end	Minority members present
1st	14	26	2
2nd	16	40	2
3rd	11	16	3
4th	3	18	2
5th	8	15	2
6th	4	21	2
7th	7	13	2
8th	4	17	2
9th	6	18	2
<b>Average</b>	<b>8 members</b>	<b>20 members</b>	<b>2</b>

### 1.3 Key Members' Attendance

Attendance of senators is vital, especially of those holding important positions (Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and parliamentary leaders) to perform their legislative and representative roles effectively.

The Leader of the House attended eight sittings for 1,142 minutes (83% of the total time), while the Leader of the Opposition was there during the entire session for 1,294 (94%) minutes of the session time. The Chairman chaired the proceedings for 65% of the session time and the remaining time was presided over by the Deputy Chairman.

A parliamentary leader's presence in the house is vital for the representation of party and participation of colleagues in the proceedings. The parliamentary leaders of the PML and BNPA remained absent during the entire session while the ANP party head attended eight sittings, JUIF four and the MQM leader was present during two sittings. Among single member parties, PMLF leader attended seven and NP head was present in five sittings.



## 2. Orders of the Day

The orders of the day were made available for each sitting to senators as well as posted on the official website of the Senate of Pakistan [www.senate.gov.pk]. However, approximately 63% of items on the Orders of the Day were not taken up during the course of the session due to lack of time or because the relevant ministers or other government representatives were not present to respond.

As observed in the previous sessions, the agenda for the private members' days was set ambitiously making it impossible to take up all items during a single sitting. Around 55% (of the total 51 items) of the agenda was contributed by private members', of which only two items was taken up and discussed on the floor of the house. While, in comparison, only six government's agenda items were left unaddressed.

**Table 2.0: Orders of the day**

Sitting no.	Total agenda items	Agenda items taken up	Agenda items not taken up	Supplementary agenda
1st	14	2	12	1
2nd	4	3	1	0
3rd	2	1	1	1
4th	4	3	1	0
5th	3	3	0	0
6th	14	0	14	0
7th	1	0	1	1
8th	6	4	2	0
9th	3	3	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>

### 3.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

This section is concerned with senators' efforts to represent the interests of the general public calling attention notices (CANs) and to monitor government accountability, through questions submitted during the parliamentary question hour, and government ministers' responsiveness to those questions. FAFEN observers monitored the question hour, but did not observe the functioning of parliamentary committees, which are another important mechanism of the legislatures' oversight of the government.

#### 3.1 Question Hour

Question hour is most important item of business in an assembly's sitting that provides senators an opportunity for the executive oversight. It gives senators, especially those in the opposition, the opportunity to question

government or other members on various topics, 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 un-starred or starred questions, respectively.

This section contains salient information on session-wise question hour proceedings, such as the number of questions and supplementary questions asked, the presence/absence of ministers/senators from whom replies were sought, the chair's impartiality in directing the question hour, the nature of questions asked, etc. In other words, the section is concerned with the utilization of question hour by the Senate as a means of parliamentary oversight of government. The focus in this report, however, is on the quantitative aspects of question hour, while future reports will present qualitative analysis.

Fifty-one out of 171 starred questions appearing on the agenda were taken up and responded to by the relevant ministries. Most of the questions were directed to the Cabinet Secretariat, the Ministries for Water and Power, Finance & Revenue, Petroleum and Natural Resources. Four unstarred questions appeared on the agenda during the session.

Overall, the total 175 questions were asked by a quarter of the total membership.

**Table 3.1: Starred Questions**

Sitting	Starred questions on the agenda	Starred questions actually taken up	Supplementary questions	Unstarred questions
1st	Private Member's Day			
2nd	43	9	15	1
3rd	36	10	19	1
4th	30	5	9	0
5th	18	7	7	0
6th	Private Member's Day			
7th	11	6	9	0
8th	17	5	8	1
9th	16	9	19	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>4</b>

The highest number of questions during question hour were directed to the cabinet secretariat (33) followed by the ministry of water and power (29), ministry of finance and revenue (21) and the ministry petroleum and natural Resources (12). Seven ministries received only one question each.

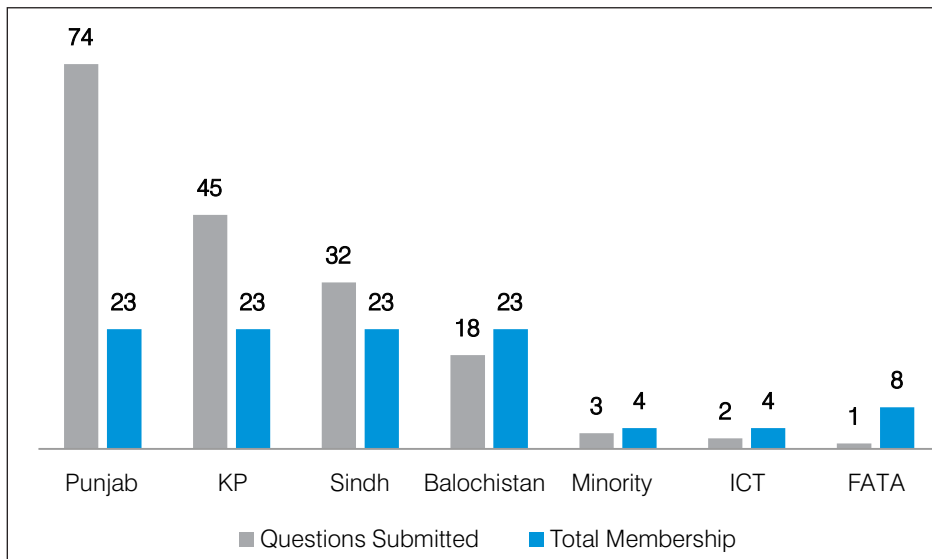
**Table 3.1A: Ministry-wise questions**

Sr. No.	Ministry concerned	Total questions
1.	Cabinet Secretariat	33
2.	Water and Power	29
3.	Finance & Revenue	21
4.	Petroleum and Natural Resources	12
5.	Information and Broadcasting	8
6.	Railways	8
7.	Communications	7
8.	Defence	6
9.	Interior	6
10.	Commerce	5
11.	Human Resources	5
12.	Law and Justice	5
13.	Economic Affairs and Statistics	4
14.	Housing and Works	4
15.	Inter Provincial Coordination	3
16.	Capital Administration and Development	2
17.	Climate Change	2
18.	Education and Trainings	2
19.	National Heritage and Integration	2

Sr. No.	Ministry concerned	Total questions
20.	Production	2
21.	Religious Affairs	2
22.	Defence Production	1
23.	Industries	1
24.	Information Technology	1
25.	National Food Security and Research	1
26.	National Regulations and Services	1
27.	Overseas Pakistanis	1
28.	Textile Industries	1
<b>Grand total</b>		<b>175</b>

The highest number of questions – 74 – was submitted by senators from Punjab, followed by KP 45, Sindh 32, Balochistan 18, ICT two and FATA legislators asked only one question. Three questions were submitted by minority members

The main opposition party, PMLN senators, raised 67 questions. JUIF and MQM senators asked 26 questions each, PPPP 21, ANP 20 and BNPA parliamentarians submitted 14 questions.



Female senators submitted 45% questions as compared to their male counterparts who asked 55% questions during the session.

Party	Questions asked by female senators	Female membership	Questions asked by men senators	Male membership	Total questions asked	Total Membership
ANP	-	-	20	5	20	5
BNPA	14	1	-	-	14	1
IND	-	-	1	1	1	1
JUIF	-	-	26	4	26	4
MQM	1	1	25	1	26	2
PMLN	53	2	14	4	67	6
PPPP	11	2	10	5	21	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>26</b>

### 3.2 Calling Attention Notices

This section highlights the efforts of senators in raising matters of public interest – law and order issues in particular - through calling attention notices. Under rule 64 (chapter XI) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, a senator 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 shall be allowed a senator per sitting.

Seven senators – five male and two female - raised calling attention notices during the session. They drew the



house's attention towards the price hike of CNG and petroleum products, publication of advertisement for the post of CEO of Drug Regulatory Authority, slow investigation of Bhoja Airlines crash, and the imposition of tax by PTA on overseas telephone calls.

**Table 3.2: Calling Attention Notices**

Sitting No.	Calling Attention Notices	Ministry
5th	Tax imposed on incoming overseas telephone calls by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)	Cabinet Secretariat
4th	Slowing down the investigation of Bhoja Airlines crash in April 2012	Defence
3rd	Publication of advertisement for the post of CEO of the Drug Regulatory Authority	National Regulations and Services
2nd	Increase in the prices of POL and CNG as reported in the press	Petroleum and Natural Resources

### 3.3 Motions under Rule 218

Under rule 218 of the senate's regulatory framework a minister or member may move a motion for the reconsideration of a policy, situation, statement or any other urgent matter. Motions regarding justice, communications, Pakistan Railways, energy reservoirs and foreign policy were not taken up.

However, the upper house briefly debated law and order on a motion under rule 218 with a particular reference to target killings and sectarian violence in Balochistan, Karachi and Gilgit-Baltistan. Seven senators (7% of the total membership - 104) – three MQM, two ANP and one each of NP and PPP – spoke on the motion for 57 minutes (4% of the session time).

**Table 3.3: Motion under Rule 218**

Sitting No.	Motion under Rule 218	Status
1st	The house may discuss the law and order situation in the country with particular reference to target killings and sectarian violence in Balochistan, Karachi and Gilgit-Baltistan	Debated by the House
2nd	This house may discuss the existing public transport system in the country.	Not Taken Up
3rd	This house may discuss the affairs of Pakistan Railways with particular reference to its present financial position and the condition of its locomotives and other infrastructure	Not Taken Up
4th	This house may discuss the situation arising out of supply of contaminated and polluted drinking water in the country	Not Taken Up
5th	This house may discuss the foreign policy of the government with particular reference to Saudi Arabia	Not Taken Up
6th	This house may discuss the overall performance of OGDCL with particular reference to the discovery of petroleum and gas reservoirs in the country	Not Taken Up
7th	The house may discuss the law and order situation in the country with particular reference to target killings and sectarian violence in Balochistan, Karachi and Gilgit-Baltistan	Debated by the House
8th	The house may discuss the steps being taken by the government to provide speedy and inexpensive justice in the country	Not Taken Up

### 3.4 Adjournment Motion

An adjournment motion is a parliamentary instrument the senators utilize in order to bring a matter of urgent public importance by suspending the business of the house being transacted. Senators from the government coalition and the opposition jointly raised issues regarding natural calamities, to be debated in the house.

Out of three adjournment motions raised during the session, the house debated the motion on devastation caused by floods in Balochistan. A total of 17 senators – 13 male and four female – spoke on the motion for 132 minutes (10% of the session time).

## 4.0 Parliamentary Output

This section is concerned with the legislation, resolutions and the standing committees' reports which appear on the Orders of the Day.

Legislation comes in the form of government bills or private-member bills.

### 4.1 Government Bills

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill, 2012 was passed during the session while the remaining two - the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan Bill, 2012 and the Airports Security Force (Amendment) Bill, 2012 – were sent to the respective standing committees.

The Standing Committee on National Regulations and Services had presented its report about the Drug Regulatory Authority bill on October 8, however, it was passed by the house on October 17.



Table 4.1: Government Bills

Sr. No.	Sitting No.	Government bills	Date of Introduction	Status of the Bill	Date when bill passed	Date of Presentation of Standing Committee Report
1	8th	The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill, 2012	Monday, April 30, 2012	Passed	Wednesday, October 17, 2012	Monday, October 8, 2012
2	5th	The Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan Bill 2012	Friday, October 12, 2012	Introduced and Sent to Standing Committee	-	-
3	4th	The Airports Security Force (Amendment) Bill 2012	Thursday, October 11, 2012	Introduced and Sent to Standing Committee	-	-

#### Details of Passed Bills

##### *The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill, 2012*

The bill – first appeared on the agenda on 30 April 2012 - was brought twice on the floor for passage during this session. It seeks the establishment of a regulatory body to bring harmony in inter-provincial trade and commerce of drugs and therapeutic goods, and to regulate, manufacture, import, export, storage, distribution, and sale of therapeutic goods, medical devices and drugs research. The Drug Regulatory Authority (DRA) would advise the federal government on the issues relating to the obligations and commitments with international organizations related to therapeutic goods like drugs and medicine. The legislation also lays down the procedure for the appointment of the chief executive of the authority. Moreover, the authority will also develop ethical criteria for drug promotion, marketing, and advertising.

#### 4.2 Resolutions

The house expresses its opinion, makes recommendations, or conveys a message on a definite and important issue through resolutions. The house can also commend, urge, or request action upon a situation under consideration by the government. Resolutions may be moved by ministers or private members.

In Senate, a minister or a private member may move a resolution after giving notice (three days in the case of a minister and seven for a private member). However, the Chairman may provide permission to move a resolution pertaining to a matter of urgent public importance at a shorter notice.

The attack on the national peace award winner, Malala Yousafzai, was condemned by the upper house by adopting a resolution. Similarly, another resolution was adopted by the house to express condolences on the demise of a former senator Muhammad Ali Khan. The resolutions on de-weaponization of Karachi and the airing of the blasphemous film 'Innocence of Muslims' were discussed but not passed by the house.

Table 4.2: Resolutions

Sr. No.	Resolutions	Status
1	This house expresses its profound grief and shock on the sad demise of the former senator Mr. Muhammad Ali Khan.	Adopted
2	This house recommends that the government may take effective steps to deweaponize the city of Karachi in view of prevailing law and order situation in the city	Debated
3	This house recommends that the government may establish shelter houses for senior citizens	Not Taken Up
4	This house recommends that the government may take immediate steps to carry out performance based financial audit of power distribution companies in the country	Not Taken Up
5	This house recommends that uniform curriculum may be introduced in all schools and colleges in the country	Not Taken Up
6	This house recommends that the government may take effective steps for provision of free education in the areas under the Federal Government	Not Taken Up
7	The house unanimously condemns the terrorist attack on the young national peace award winner Malala Yousafzai.	Adopted
8	This house recommends that stipends be granted to all the unemployed educated persons in the country	Not Taken Up
9	The house recommends that water filtration plants may be installed in each city and village of the country to save the people from water borne diseases	Not Taken Up
10	This house urges the government to take effective steps for provision of free education in the areas under the Federal Government	Not Taken Up
11	Amount of outstanding loans granted by the Government for the construction of houses to the affectees of 8th October 2005 earthquake be written off	Not Taken Up
12	This house recommends that uniform curriculum may be introduced in all the schools and colleges in the country	Not Taken Up
13	This house condemns in strongest terms, the airing of blasphemous movie which seems to be a vilification campaign being maliciously touted by some western elements and lobbies of different countries to malign Islam, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace be Upon Him) and the Holy Quran	Debated

### 4.3 Standing Committee Reports

After a standing committee report is tabled, the chairman stipulates a date for consideration of the report. The minister concerned presents the report and may make a supporting statement describing its salient features. The house may pass a resolution to express an opinion, make an observation or recommendations on the report.

Six standing committee reports were presented in this session. Three of these were presented by the standing committee for finance and revenue & planning and development, and one each by the standing committees on defence production, rules of procedure and privileges, and national regulations and services.

**Table 4.3: Standing Committee Reports**

Sr. No.	Name of Standing Committee Report	Standing Committee
1	The "Report 2" of the Committee for the period August-September, 2012	Defence Production
2	The Annual report of Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) for the Financial Year ended on 30th June, 2011	Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development
3	The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan Annual Report 2011, as required under sub-section (6) of section 25 of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan Act, 1997 (Act No. XLII of 1997)	Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development
4	The delay in presentation of report of the Committee on the Privilege Motion moved by Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri regarding irresponsible attitude of SSGPL Officials, be condoned till today	Rules of Procedure & Privileges
5	The report on Biannual Monitoring on the Implementation of National Finance Commission (NFC) Award for the period July-December 2011	Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development
6	The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Bill 2012	National Regulations and Services

## 5.0 Order and Institutionalization

This section deals with the parliamentary instruments employed to maintain order and institutionalization of the house, such as issues raised through points of order and the time consumed by them. It also reviews the questions of privileges and the instances of protests, walkouts or boycotts during the session.

### 5.1 Points of Order

A point of order is raised to address an apparent breach in the rules of parliamentary procedure while the senate's business is underway, and usually requests the chair's ruling on the issue.

As many as 57 POs - on average, six per sitting - were raised, of which 16% (nine POs) were raised by female legislators while 84% (49 POs) by their male counterparts.

PPPP legislators raised the highest number of POs (16) followed by the ANP 12, PMLN eight, MQM seven, NP five, BNPA three, JUIF two and PML legislator raised one point of order

The highest number of POs (20) were raised to condemn the attack on Mala Yousafzai, followed by the National Accountability Bureau's raid at Jahangir Badar's residence for investigation on the Tauqeer Sadiq Case (12 POs), Balochistan floods issue (eight POs), business of the house (seven POs), two each regarding law and order (Quetta) and rules and procedures of the house while a single PO each was raised about the police department, journalists, senators privileges etc.

Issue of PO	ANP		BNPA		IND		JUIF		MQM		NP		PML		PMLN		PPPP		Total	
	Female	Male	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Arms licenses	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
Business of the House	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	6
Criticism of Senators	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
Floods (Balochistan)	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	6
Journalists (Threats)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
Law and Order (Quetta)	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malala Yousafzai Attack (condemnation)	1	6	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	3	4	16
Naib Qasid's death (National Assembly)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1
Perks and Privileges of Members	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	1
Police	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	1
Rules and procedures of the senate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	0	2
Senators privileges (obscene SMS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	0
Tauqeer Sadiq Case (NAB's raid at Jahangir Badar's residence)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	4	0	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>49</b>

## 5.2 Privilege Motions

A member may, with the consent of the Chairperson, raise a privilege motion on a violation of the privileges of either a member, a standing committee or of the Senate. In the 86th session members raised two questions of privileges regarding the breach of personal and committee privileges.

A JUIF senator moved a personal privilege motion to point out the misconduct of the Deputy Chief of Protocol while a BNPA senator sponsored a committee privilege motion to bring in notice the refusal of Mr Nasir Khan, Deputy Director I.B housing society, to appear before the standing committee on cabinet secretariat and capital administration & development. Both these motions were taken up and sent to the standing committee on rules and procedures and privileges.

## 5.3 Protests, Boycotts and Walkouts

ANP and PMLN senators jointly walked out of the house to protest against ministerial absence. In another instance ANP and PPPP senators staged a walkout to protest against the sacking of Karachi Electric Supply Company's employees. MQM members staged two walkouts to oppose the increased tariff of overseas phone calls and a PPPP parliamentarian protested on not being granted permission to speak about judiciary.

**Table 5.3: Protests, Boycotts and Walkouts**

Sitting No.	Party	Reason for the walkout/protest	Total time (minutes)
9th	ANP, PPPP	The sacked employees of KESC	5
7th	PMLN, ANP	Ministerial absence in the House	15
	MQM	Increased tariff on international calls	10
5th	MQM	Tax imposed on incoming overseas telephone calls by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)	5
4th	PPPP	On not getting permission to speak about the judiciary	15
<b>Total</b>			<b>50 minutes</b>

# 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.

**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.

## FAFEN Secretariat

224-Margalla Road, F-10/3, Islamabad

(P) 051-22 11 026

(F) 051-22 11 047

(E) [secretariat@fafen.org](mailto:secretariat@fafen.org)



[www.fafen.org](http://www.fafen.org)