



FAFEN Parliament Monitor

43rd Session

Provincial Assembly of Punjab
(December 13, 2012 - January 7, 2013)

Free and Fair Election Network
www.fafen.org

List of Abbreviations

AHS	Allied Health Sciences Program
AM	Adjournment Motion
CAN	Calling Attention Notice
IND	Independent Member
MMAP	Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal Party
PHATA	Punjab Housing and Town-Planning Agency
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PMLF	Pakistan Muslim League (Functional)
PMLN	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PMLZ	Pakistan Muslim League (Zia-ul-Haq)
PO	Point of Order
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf
PW	Parliament Watch
QoP	Question of Privilege
SHO	Station House Officer



This report is based on direct observation of Punjab Assembly proceedings conducted by **PATTAN Development Organization**, a member organization of FAFEN

Executive Summary

The passage of 14 treasury-backed bills was the hallmark of the Punjab Assembly's 43rd session. However persistently low members' attendance and participation was witnessed as more than half of the agenda remained unaddressed in the largest legislature of the country.

The house passed six new and eight amendment bills. These include three bills on setting up universities for women in Faisalabad, Sialkot and Bahawalpur and another to amend an existing law on harassment of women at work places.

The session starting at from 13 December 2012 to 7 January 2013, was spread over 31 hours and six minutes. Each sitting, on average, lasted two hours and 13 minutes and started an hour and 46 minute late.

Only 49% of agenda items appearing on the list of business were taken up during the session.

As the Punjab Assembly does not make members' attendance record public, the FAFEN observer conducts a headcount at the beginning, adjournment and the time of maximum attendance in the house. On average, 19 MPAs (5% of the total membership) were present at the beginning, 32 (9%) at the time of adjournment, and a maximum 67 members (18%) at any one point of the proceedings. The quorum, visibly lacking at various stages during the session, was pointed out six times, leading to the adjournment of sittings three times.

The Chief Minister did not attend the entire session while the Leader of the Opposition attended one sitting. The Speaker chaired 75% of the proceedings, the Deputy Speaker 19% while the rest of the proceedings were chaired by a member of the Panel of Chairpersons.

Overall 124 members – 34% of the total membership – participated in the session either by submitting agenda, taking part in the debates, or by doing both. Forty-three members submitted agenda items, 53 participated in debates, and 28 members did both activities.

Seven resolutions were adopted during the session. Four of the resolutions condemned the assassination of Khyber

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 Parliamentary Watch Program (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.

The PWP employs direct observation as one of the tools to evaluate parliamentary proceedings with the following indicators:

Transparency: Government's accountability requires transparency in decision-making and policy implementation. Transparency refers to the amount and quality of information available to the public as well as timely and clear information communicated within legislative bodies themselves. Inclusive and strong decisions can only be made when all legislators are well-informed about parliamentary proceedings.

Participation: Only the active and responsible participation of all the members can make the business of parliament meaningful. The participation can be judged through various indicators like attendance of parliamentary leaders and other members and their active involvement in parliamentary discussion and activities.

Responsiveness: Parliament's responsiveness means members' collective actions on the issues of public interests which are raised and discussed on the floor of the house through legislation, resolutions or any other agenda item. Responsiveness of government to the public is measured in terms of parliamentary oversight and effective implementation of policy decisions. Parliament's executive oversight function is mainly carried out through questions and parliamentary committees.

Parliamentary Output: Parliamentary output primarily comes in the form of Legislation and Resolutions. The quantity of such output is indicative of parliament's efficiency. The quality of output is equally important. Considering legislation on matters of national significance through careful debate and discussion is arguably a parliament's chief and most important function.

Order and Institutionalization: Order and institutionalization of members are important for an efficient and productive parliament. Order may be measured, for example, by the conduct of members and the chair's effective management of parliamentary business. Institutionalization refers to members' understanding and compliance with rules of procedure for parliamentary business.

Pakhtunkhwa's Senior Minister Bashir Ahmed Bilour in a suicide attack on 22 December 2012, killing of polio workers in Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, PTI chief's statement about reserved seats for women in the parliament, and conspiracies against parliament and democracy, demanding timely elections. The house also paid tribute to former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on her fifth death anniversary, demanded fixed electricity rates for peasants, and urged the government to mandate pre-marriage thalassemia tests for both partners.

Though the provincial ministries provided answers to all but two of the 398 starred questions submitted by 72 legislators, only 122 (31% of the total questions) received oral replies, whereas 274 (69% of the total questions) received written responses during the session.

Members highlighted law and order related issues in the province by submitting sixteen calling attention notices. Most of these were about murders, robberies and theft. Five CANs were taken up during the session.

A total of 174 points of order consumed 11% of the session time.

Two walkouts were witnessed consuming 55 minutes of the session. An MMAP legislator walked out after he was not permitted to present a resolution on the construction of Kalabagh Dam. A PPPP legislator staged a walkout when he was not allowed to speak on a point of order.

1.0 Session Duration, Members' Attendance and Participation

This section deals with the duration the session, attendance and participation of members, and maintenance of quorum (1/4th of the total membership – 93 in the Punjab Assembly). It also reviews the presence of key members – the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Minister, Leader of the Opposition, and the parliamentary leaders and the time they spent on the floor of the house.

1.1 Session Time

Starting on December 13, 2012 and lasting until January 7, 2013, the 43rd session lasted 31 hours and six minutes. Each of the 14 sittings, on average, lasted two hours and 13 minutes and started an hour and 46 minutes late. Spanning over three hours and 45 minutes both the 9th and the 14th sittings were the longest while the 28 minutes long 4th sitting was the shortest. The house took a 75-minute break in the last sitting.

Table 1.1 :Session Time

Sitting No.	Day and Date	Total Time		Delay (minutes)
		Hours	Minutes	
1st	Thursday, December 13, 2012	2	15	170
2nd	Friday, December 14, 2012	1	40	110
3rd	Monday, December 17, 2012	2	30	90
4th	Tuesday, December 18, 2012	0	28	115
5th	Wednesday, December 19, 2012	2	5	100
6th	Thursday, December 20, 2012	1	22	73
7th	Friday, December 21, 2012	1	30	110
8th	Monday, December 24, 2012	1	37	145
9th	Thursday, December 27, 2012	3	45	60
10th	Friday, December 28, 2012	1	56	95
11th	Monday, December 31, 2012	2	9	108
12th	Thursday, 3, 2013	3	20	165
13th	Friday, January 4, 2013	2	44	52
14th	Monday, January 7, 2013	3	45	90
Total		31 hours and six minutes		Average 106 minutes

1.2 Members' Attendance

Active participation and attendance of members in the proceedings can make the business of the house meaningful. As the Punjab Assembly Secretariat does not make public the attendance records of members, FAFEN observers conduct a headcount of legislators at the beginning and the end of each sitting to gauge their attendance.

On average, 19 MPAs (5% of the total membership) were present at the beginning and 32 (9%) at the end of each sitting. A maximum of 67 members (18%) on average were present at any one point of the proceedings in each sitting. Three minority members attended each sitting on average.

According to Chapter II, article V, of the Rules Of Procedure and Conduct Of Business of the Punjab Assembly, if at any time during a sitting, the attention of the chair is drawn to the fact that less than one-fourth of the total members of the house are present, he can suspend the sitting and/or order the bells to be rung for five minutes. If lack of quorum persists after the said period, the Speaker can adjourn the assembly for 15 to 30 minutes. On finding the quorum lacking even after the expiry of this period, the chair can adjourn the sitting till the next working day or sine die.

The quorum visibly lacking at various stages of the session was pointed out six times, leading to the adjournment of sittings on three occasions.

Table 1.2 :Members' Attendance

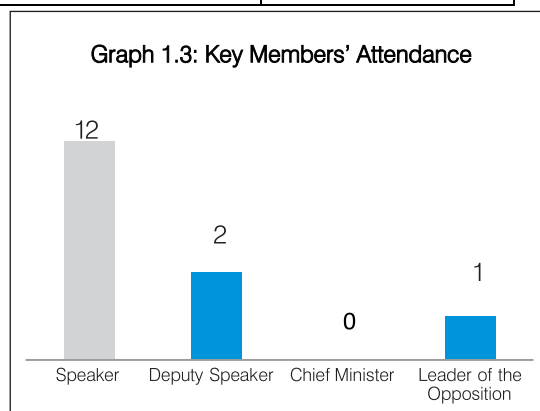
Sitting No.	Members at the outset	Members at the end	Maximum members	Minority members
1st	47	21	107	4
2nd	26	19	53	4
3rd	28	17	73	2
4th	4	51	51	2
5th	21	41	56	2
6th	5	51	51	3
7th	6	40	46	2
8th	15	32	52	1
9th	6	35	95	2
10th	5	27	37	1
11th	23	26	53	1
12th	27	5	113	3
13th	8	12	35	3
14th	38	70	113	5
Average	19	32	67	3

1.3 Key Members' Attendance

The Chief Minister did not attend the entire session, while the Leader of the Opposition attended the last sitting for 59 minutes (3% of the session time).

The Speaker, Deputy Speaker and the Panel of Chairpersons preside over the assembly, in order of precedence and availability, ensuring the business of the house is conducted in accordance with the constitution and rules of the house.

The Speaker was present in all but two sittings and presided 75% of the session proceedings. The Deputy Speaker chaired two sittings – 19% of the proceedings – while the remaining 6% proceedings were chaired by a member of the Panel of Chairpersons.



The parliamentary leader of MMAP was present in six sittings, followed by the PML leader (four), PMLF (three) and PMLZ leader attended a single sitting.

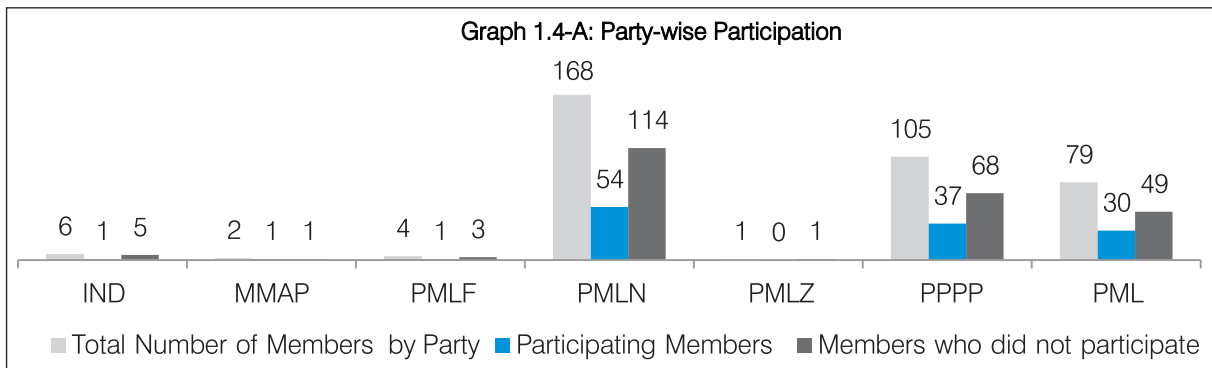
1.4 Members' Participation

Members' participation has been classified into three categories: legislators who submitted agenda in the session, those who only took part in the on-floor debates and the members who submitted both agenda items and participated in debates.

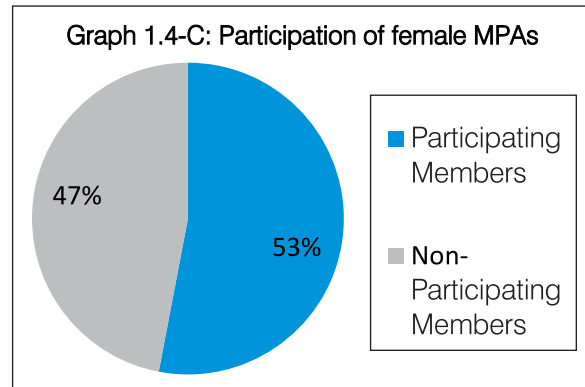
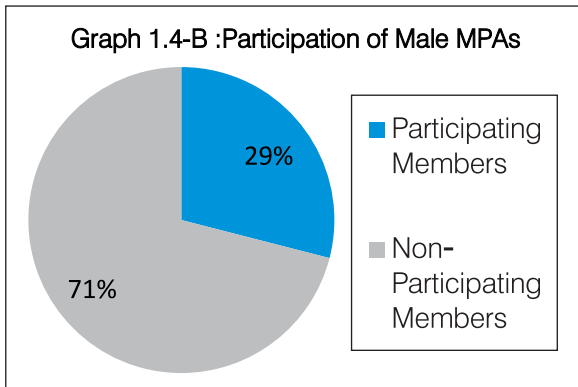
Overall 124 members – 34% of the total membership – participated in the session either by submitting agenda, taking part in debates, or by doing both. Forty-three members (12%) submitted agenda but did not participate in the house deliberations, 53 (15%) participated in debates, and 28 members (8%) submitted both agenda and participated in debates.

Nearly a third of the legislators belonging to the ruling PMLN participated in the session, followed by 35% of the opposition PPPP and 38% of PML members.

A single member each out of four PMLF and six Independent legislators participated while the lone member of PMLZ in the house did not take part during the session.



Female MPAs were observed to be more active than their male counterparts. Their participation was 53% of their total membership (75) whereas only 29% of the male members (290) participated during the session. Six of eight legislators on the minority seats participated during the session.

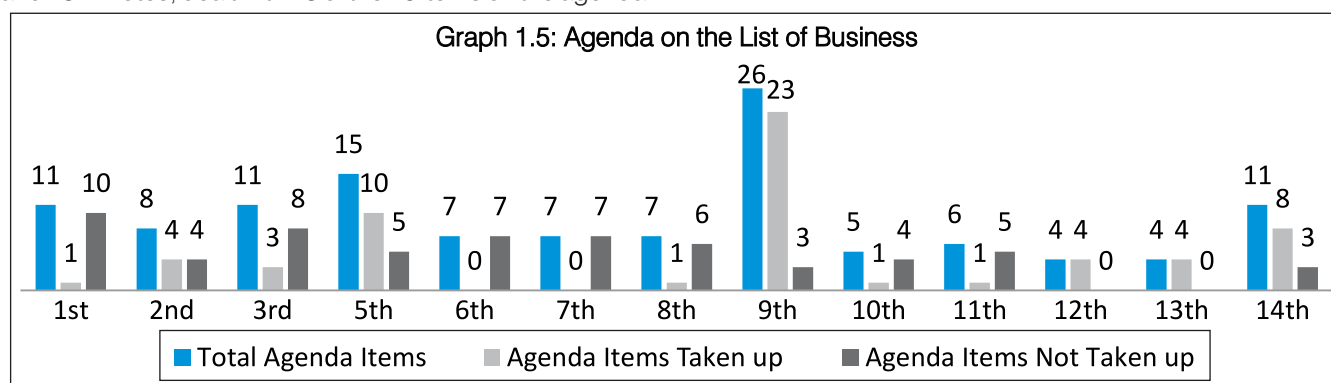


1.5 List of Business

The business of the house to be considered in a sitting is a numbered list of agenda items on the 'list of business', which are laid before the members in each sitting. The items on this list include not only the interventions to be taken by the house, such as bills, calling attention notices etc., but also the motions to introduce, consider and pass them, as the case may be.

The list of business (orders of the day) was available to the members and on the official website of the Punjab Assembly [<http://www.pap.gov.pk>] in each sitting.

More than half of the agenda items appearing on the orders of the day were not taken up during the session. Only 60 out of 122 agenda items appearing on the list of business were addressed. In the sixth and seventh sittings, none of the agenda items on list of business was taken up while one was taken up in the eighth sitting. The ninth sitting, which met for three hours and 45 minutes, dealt with 23 of the 26 items on the agenda.



2.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

This section details members' efforts to represent the interests of general public by raising calling attention notices, monitoring government performance through question hour and government ministries' responsiveness to those questions.

2.1 Questions and Responses

In the 43rd session only starred questions were asked and male legislators participated more actively than their female counterparts in the question hour. Though the provincial ministries provided answers to all but two of the 398 questions submitted by 72 legislators, only 122 (31% of the total questions) received oral replies, whereas 274 (69% of the total questions) received written responses during the session. One question was partially answered while one was not responded. The unanswered question was about the illegal allotments and land grabbers.

A legislator, seeking further clarification, may ask supplementary questions from the relevant ministry. Lawmakers asked 266 supplementary questions during the session.

Table 2.1-A: Questions

Sitting No.	Starred Questions on the agenda	Starred Questions taken up	Supplementary questions
1st	26	10	30
2nd	33	15	30
3rd	32	8	21
4th	34	2	7
5th	18	11	17
6th	34	11	20
7th	17	11	26
8th	31	0	0
9th	32	4	5
10th	32	12	24
11th	31	16	32
12th	20	0	0
13th	34	13	35
14th	24	9	19
Total	398	122	266

A total of 72 members - 48 male and 24 females - submitted questions on the orders of the day. PPPP legislators asked the most questions, 144, followed by PML, 123, and PMLN 111.

Table 2.1-B: Questions

Party	Members who raised questions			Questions raised		
	Total members	Male members	Female members	Questions raised by male members	Questions raised by female members	Total questions raised
PML	23	14	9	54	69	123
PMLN	21	12	9	62	49	111
IND	1	1	0	14	0	14
MMA	1	1	0	5	0	5
PPPP	25	19	6	96	48	144
PMLF	1	1	0	1	0	1
Total	72	48	24	232	166	398

More than half of the questions were submitted to the Ministries of Health, Higher Education, School Education, and Local Government and Community Development, and the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, and Revenues and Colonies.

Table 2.1-C: Ministry-wise Questions

Ministries	Questions submitted
Housing & Urban Development Department	60
Higher Education	34
School Education	34
Health	33
Local Government & Community Development	33
Revenue & Colonies Department	31
Irrigation	28
Forest, Fisheries & Wildlife	26
Livestock and Dairy Development	26
Agriculture	20
Youth Affairs, Sports, Archaeology and Tourism Departments	20
Services and General Administration Department	18
Transport	17
Finance	5
Excise & Taxation	4
Economic Affairs and Statistics	3
Housing and Works	2
Sindh Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority	2
Finance & Revenue	1
Fisheries	1

2.2 Calling Attention Notice

This section highlights the efforts of members in raising matters of public interest through calling attention notices. A member may, with the consent of the chair, call the attention of the Chief Minister to any matter involving the law and order situation in the province, through a calling attention notice. Of the 16 calling attention notices, five were taken up.

All the CANs raised during 43rd session were about the law and order issues – mostly about murders, robberies and theft. One of the CANs, tabled by a PMLN legislator, raised the issue of a citizen's murder in a police encounter in Lahore, and another highlighted the injury of a police constable by firing during a robbery. Three other CANs brought to the house's notice incidents of robberies in Lahore, Okara and Mianwali.

A PMLN member raised the issue of torture and killing of a 25-year old bus conductor by police personnel in Kasur through a calling attention notice but the matter was left unaddressed by the house.

Table 2.2: Calling Attention Notices

Sr. No.	Calling Attention Notice	Party	Gender	Status
1	Details of torture on family during robbery of two million rupees in Gulberg, Lahore.	PML	Female	Taken Up
2	Details about the robbery of 2.5 million rupees in Okara.	PMLN	Male	Taken Up
3	Detail about robbery of 50 million rupees in Mianwali.	MMA	Male	Taken Up
4	Details of robbery of 3.5 million rupees in advocate's house.	PPPP	Female	Not taken up
5	Illegal detention of citizen.	PPPP	Male	Not taken up
6	Details of robbery of 1.7 million rupees and torture of the robbed family.	PPPP	Female	Not taken up
7	Women were injured by firing of dacoits on resistance during a robbery of 0.8 million rupees.	Independent	Male	Not taken up
8	A police constable was injured by firing on resistance during a robbery.	PML	Male	Taken Up
9	Murder of a twelve year old child for charging money for balloons.	PMLN	Female	Not taken up
10	Details of killing of two women and a man on firing by unknown persons.	PML	Female	Not taken up
11	Robbery and gang rape in Sheikhpura.	PPPP	Female	Not taken up
12	Murder of a young grower Shafiq Ahmed after resistance and looting of 0.6 million rupees along with other house-hold items.	Independent	Male	Not taken up
13	Torture on 25 years old bus conductor by SHO and his two colleagues, Thana Phool Nagar, Kasur.	PPPP	Male	Not taken up
14	Murder of Muhammad Riaz, ASI, posted at main gate of Choung Training Center by two unknown motorcyclists, who later fled from the scene.	PPPP	Female	Not taken up
15	Murder of Superintendent Audit, Gujranwala by the dacoits during dacoity on resistance.	PML	Female	Not taken up
16	Murder of an innocent citizen in police encounter at Ghalib Market Gulberg Lahore.	PML	Male	Taken Up

2.3 General Discussion

Reports of the Development Authorities under the Punjab Development of Cities Act 1976 for year 2009-10, and the Medical and Health Institutions for the years 2006, 2007 & 2008 were laid before the house for general discussion. The first report was discussed for 10 minutes and the second for 20 minutes.

3.0 Parliamentary Output

Lawmaking is one of the most important functions of a legislature. This section evaluates the presentation, introduction, passage and subject-matter of legislation, resolutions and the parliamentary reports during the session.

Legislation comes in the form of government and private-member bills and ordinances. Only government bills were passed in the 43rd session. Resolutions regarding various national and international issues, standing committee reports on proposed legislations reviewing technical aspects and making recommendations, and other reports were presented before the house.

3.1 Government Bills

The house passed 14 bills during the 43rd session. Six of these were new pieces of legislation – three seeking to establish women universities in Faisalabad, Sialkot and Bahawalpur – while the rest were amendment bills. Nine bills were passed in the 9th sitting while the remaining five during the 14th sitting.

Furthermore six bills were also introduced and sent to the standing committees.

Table 3.1: Bills Passed

Sitting	Name of Bill	Status
Sitting 14	The Defence Housing Authority Rawalpindi Bill 2013	Passed
	The Punjab Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Social Services Board (Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Lahore Canal Heritage Park Bill 2012	Passed
Sitting 12	The Defence Housing Authority Rawalpindi Bill 2013	Introduced
	Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Engineering and Technology Multan Bill 2013	Introduced
Sitting 9	The Punjab Public Service Commission (Second Amendment) Bill 2012	Introduced
	The Punjab Boilers And Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Bill 2012	Introduced
	The Lahore Garrison University Bill 2012	Introduced
	The Punjab Local Government (Fifth Amendment) Bill 2012	Introduced
	The Punjab Government Servants Housing Foundation (Second Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Partition of Immovable Property Bill 2012	Passed
	The Women University Multan (Amendment) Bill, 2012	Passed
	The Government College Women University, Faisalabad Bill 2012	Passed
	The Government College Women University, Sialkot Bill 2012	Passed
	The Government Sadiq College Women University, Bahawalpur Bill 2012	Passed
	The Punjab Housing and Planning Agency (Amendment) bill 2012	Passed

3.1.1 Details of Passed Bills¹

The Defence Housing Authority Rawalpindi Bill 2013

This bill seeks to establish the Defence Housing Authority Rawalpindi for carrying out schemes and projects of land development for the welfare of bereaved families of martyrs, war injured, disabled and other persons of the defence forces

¹ Retrieved from the website of database of the laws passed by Punjab Assembly: <http://punjablaws.gov.pk/laws>

to boost their morale and to provide financial security in recognition of their services for the nation.

The Punjab Government Servants Housing Foundation (Second Amendment) Bill 2012

It proposes amendments in the title, preamble and various sections of the Punjab Government Servants Housing Foundation Act 2004. After the passage of this bill, the Punjab Government Servants Housing Foundation can now propose to allocate houses or plots to its members depending upon their options.

The Punjab Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill 2012

It seeks amendments in the Punjab Land Revenue Act 1967 to provide mechanism for expeditious disposal of partition cases by revenue officers, making it mandatory for them to commence proceedings for partition of land upon sanctioning of inheritance mutation and without application from any of the parties.

The Punjab Protection against the Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Bill 2012

The legislation was passed to adopt the federal law on the subject by the provincial government with amendments to enhance protection for working women.

The Punjab Partition of Immovable Property Bill 2012

This bill calls for curtailing the delays in the disposal of partition cases and suggests mechanism to alleviate the problems being faced by joint owners, especially women, due to protracted litigation.

The Women University Multan (Amendment) Bill 2012

The legislation calls for the incorporation/inclusion of any women college in the proposed women university where the classes can be started immediately. Incorporation of a college is necessary to meet the immediate needs of the female students of the Women University Multan.

The Government College Women University, Sialkot Bill 2012

There is a dire need for the establishment of a women university in Sialkot for promotion of higher education amongst the female students belonging to the Gujranwala Division.

The Government College Women University, Bahawalpur Bill 2012

The bill seeks the establishment of a woman university in Bahawalpur for promotion of higher education amongst the female students belonging to the southern districts of the province especially in the Bahawalpur Division.

The Government College Women University, Faisalabad Bill 2012

This bill provides for the establishment of the Government College Women University in Faisalabad.

The Punjab Housing and Town Planning Agency (Amendment) Bill 2012

According to the bill, the Housing and Physical Planning (H&PP), an attached department of the government, was re-organized as Punjab Housing and Town-Planning Agency (PHATA) under the Punjab Housing and Town-Planning Agency Ordinance 2002. Many employees of the government (H&PP) were transferred to the statutory autonomous body i.e. PHATA. The ordinance does not provide protection to the employees of the government serving in the PHATA and other statutory autonomous bodies. This bill aims to provide similar protection to government employees serving in PHATA as is available to its employees in the other similarly placed organizations.

The Punjab Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2012

This legislation provides for creating Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMA) at all newly created tehsils by the Board of Revenue, Punjab.

The Punjab Social Services Board (Amendment) Bill 2012

After the Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act 2010, the Governor was not left with any authority to act in his individual capacity. The Governor was then bound to act on the advice of the Chief Minister or the Cabinet. In order to clarify this position and to avoid any litigation on the subject, it was felt appropriate to replace the word "Governor" occurring in section 4 of the Punjab Social Services Board Ordinance 1970, with the words "Chief Minister". Thus this amendment bill was presented and passed by the assembly.

The Lahore Canal Heritage Park Bill 2012

The Lahore Canal Heritage Park has become a heritage for Lahore. Special measures are required to preserve, conserve and develop flora and fauna of this heritage park. A special mechanism has been proposed in this bill for the protection and development of the park.

The Punjab Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2012

This bill proposes to further amend the Punjab Public Service Commission Ordinance 1978 (II of 1978). It seeks substitutions in sections three and four and omission in section six of the ordinance.

3.2 Resolutions

The house expresses its opinion, makes recommendations, or conveys a message on important issues 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.

The house adopted seven resolutions during the session. Four of the resolutions condemned the assassination of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Senior Minister Bashir Ahmed Bilour in a suicide attack on 22 December 2012, killing of polio workers in Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, PTI chief's statement about reserved seats for women in the parliament, and conspiracies against parliament and democracy, demanding timely elections. The house also paid tribute to former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on her fifth death anniversary, demanded fixed electricity rates for peasants, and urged the government to mandate pre-marriage thalassemia tests for both partners.

Four of these resolutions were moved individually by male lawmakers while the remaining were jointly raised either by male or female members.

Table 3.2: Resolutions

Sr. No.	Resolution	Party	Gender
1	Condemnation of the conspiracy against democracy and parliament, calling upon the Election Commission of Pakistan and Federal Government to ensure the General Elections to be held on time.	PPPP	Male
2	Condemnation of the remarks of Imran Khan about the qualification and merit of women members on reserved seats. The house termed his comments as derogatory and insulting.	PMLN, PML, PPPP	Female
3	Condemnation of brutal killing of anti-polio vaccinators in Karachi and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Demanding the arrest of culprits, the house urged compensation to be paid to the victims' families. The house also called upon the federal and provincial governments to ensure proper protection and security to the people engaged in polio eradication campaign.	PMLN	Male
4	Mandatory thalassemia-free certificates for both partners to the marriage, in the marriage certificate.	PML	Male
5	To pay tribute to Benazir Bhutto on her 5th death anniversary	PMLN	Male
6	Fix flat electricity rates for peasants of Punjab	PMLN	Male
7	Condemnation of assassination of Bashir Bilour and others in a suicide attack in Peshawar. The resolution termed Bashir Ahmed Bilour's martyrdom a big national tragedy.	PMLN	Male

3.3 Standing Committee Reports

A committee examines a bill, or any other matter referred to it by the Assembly, and submits its report with any recommendations it may deem necessary. The Chairman or, in his absence, any other member of the committee or the member-in-charge presents the report.

Six standing committee reports about various bills were presented in the session. Two reports were presented by the Standing Committee on Housing, Urban Development & Public Health Engineering, and one each by the Standing Committees on Social Welfare, Women Development & Bait-ul-Maal; Livestock & Dairy Development; Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development; and Local Government and Rural Development.

Table 3.3: Standing Committee Reports

Sr. No	Name of Standing Committee Report	Name of Committee
1	The Lahore Canal Heritage Bill 2012	Housing, Urban Development and Public Health Engineering
2	The Punjab Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Bill 2012	Social Welfare, Women Development & Bait-ul-Maal
3	The Punjab Livestock Breeding Bill 2012	Livestock and Dairy Development
4	The Punjab Partition of Immovable Property Bill 2012	Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development
5	Defence Housing Authority Bill 2013	Housing, Urban Development and Public Health Engineering
6	The Punjab building control and housing schemes regulatory authorities bill 2012 (bill no 36)	Local Government and Rural Development

4.0 Order and Institutionalization

This section reviews the parliamentary instruments employed to maintain order and institutionalization in the house. These include points of order raised to highlight any breach in the rules and regulations during the session's proceedings. It also reviews the Questions of Privileges (QoP) and the instances of protests, walkouts or boycotts.

The legislators belonging to four parties – PMLN, PML, PPPP and MMA – spoke about various constituency and national issues on points of order during the session. Two walkouts were also observed.

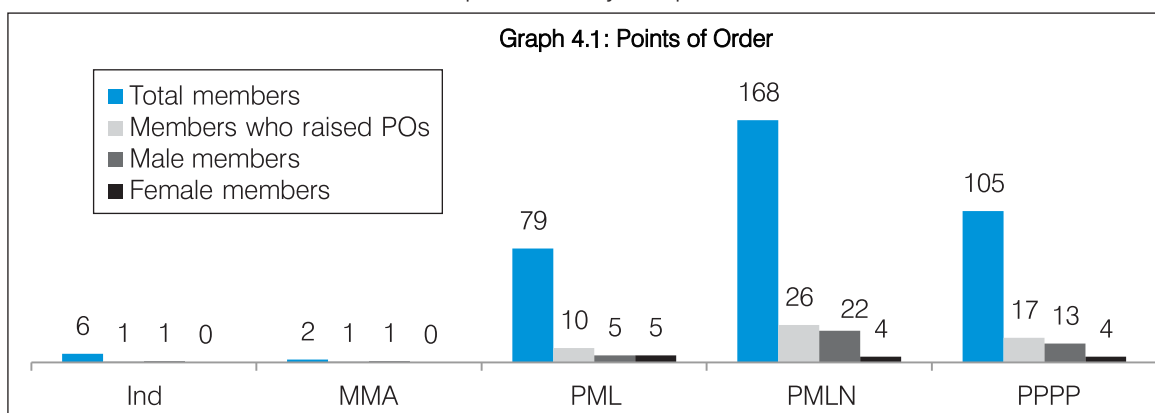
4.1 Points of Order

The business of the house was interrupted by 174 points of order – on average 12 per sitting – consuming about 11% of the total session time. None of them 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.

On 32 points of order, 13 women legislators expressed views on constituency and national issues. Similarly 42 male legislators spoke on various issues on 142 points of order.

A maximum of 96 points of order were raised by 26 PMLN MPAs, followed by 37 by 17 PPPP members and 36 by 10 PML legislators.

More than half of the points of order were related to business of the house, education, and traffic and transport. Sixty points of order were about the business of the house and parliamentary discipline.



4.2 Protests, Boycotts and Walkouts

The house witnessed two walkouts consuming 55 minutes of the session time. During the first sitting an MMA legislator walked out of the House for 10 minutes when he was not allowed to present a resolution on Kalabagh dam. A PPPP legislator staged a 45-minute walkout as the Chair did not allow him to speak on a point of order.

Glossary

Adjournment Motion

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

Amendment

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

Assembly

National assembly or a provincial assembly

Assent

Refers to the power of the Governor to assent the Bill passed by the assembly or return the same to the assembly for reconsideration.

Chairperson

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

Chair

The presiding officer at a meeting of the house or a committee.

Committee

A parliamentary committee constituted under rules of procedure, comprising of various members of parliament.

Constitution

Means the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973.

Deputy Speaker

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

Leader-of-the-Opposition

"Leader of the Opposition" means a Member who, in the opinion of the Speaker, is the leader of the majority of opposition members for a certain time period.

Legislation

The process of crafting law.

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 assembly 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.

Point of Order

Relates to the interpretation or enforcement of Parliamentary rules of business or articles of the constitution that regulate the business of the assembly. The mover of a point of order raises a question which is within the cognizance of the Speaker.

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.

Quorum

Quorum is the minimum number of members of assembly necessary to conduct the business of the assembly. Under Article 55(2) of the Constitution 1/4th of the total membership of the assembly is required for quorum.

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.

Speaker

The Speaker of the assembly, including the Deputy Speaker or any other member acting as the Chairperson on a particular sitting or number of sittings.

Starred Question

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

Sitting

A meeting of the assembly or that of a committee on a day.

Table

The table of the house.

Unstarred Question

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

We wish to extend our acknowledgment to the Punjab Assembly Website for material contributions presented in the Glossary.

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, 2011 and 2012
- Implemented a unique methodology to observe parliamentary proceedings under its Parliament Watch and Reforms 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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