



FAFEN Parliament Monitor

Fourth Session

Provincial Assembly of Punjab

(August 12, 2013 - September 2, 2013)

Free and Fair Election Network
www.fafen.org

List of Abbreviations

IND	Independent Member
JIP	Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan
MPA	Member Provincial Assembly
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-F	Pakistan Muslim League (Functional)
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PMLZ	Pakistan Muslim League (Zia-ul-Haq)
PPPP	Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf



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

Executive Summary

The fourth session of Punjab Assembly was marked by passage of six bills including the Local Government Bill 2013 amid protests and walkouts. The session also witnessed the passage of opposition-backed resolution against drone attacks.

Thirty-eight legislators debated the local government bill in three sittings of the session. The opposition benches opposed the passage of the bill, saying the non-party election to elect local governments is a violation of the constitution. In protest the members on the opposition benches attended the sittings wearing black armbands. After the session, the two opposition parties – PPPP and PTI – in the Punjab Assembly challenged the local bodies' law in the Lahore High Court, seeking party-based elections.

Apart from local government bill, the Punjab Assembly passed five other bills on services, defining “halal” animal, recruitment in police department, boilers and pressure vessels, and setting up a university.

Resolution to condemn drone attacks submitted by a PTI legislator was passed after the government made amendments in the original draft. The resolution declares the drone attacks against the sovereignty of Pakistan and human rights.

The 15-sitting session met for 42 hours and two minutes from August 12 to September 2, 2013, with each sitting on average meeting for two hours and 48 minutes. The session was marked by low attendance. On average, the members' presence at the outset of the proceedings was 17% (62 members) and at the end 18% (64) with a maximum of 31% (113) at any one point of the sitting. The Punjab Assembly is the largest legislature in the country with 371 members.

The Chief Minister did not attend the session as the Leader of the Opposition attended nine sittings. The Speaker chaired 93% of the total session time. The Deputy Speaker was present in three sittings and chaired 4% of the proceedings.

Legislators staged six walkouts consuming four hours and 20 minutes of the session time. In the seventh sitting, a PML-N female member walked out from the House for two minutes over the long duration of sitting.

Out of the 178 starred questions submitted by MPAs, 91 were taken up on the floor of the House. Members asked 223 supplementary questions.

Six out of 14 calling attention notices on law and order – most of them on robberies - were taken up in the session. Two of the notices were disposed of.

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.

1. 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 – 92 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

The 15-sitting session from August 12 to September 2, 2013 lasted for 42 hours and two minutes. On average, each sitting met for two hours and 48 minutes with an average delay of one hour and 31 minutes. Spanning over eight hours and 10 minutes, the seventh sitting was the longest of the session witnessing the passage of local government bill whereas the eighth sitting was the shortest meeting for one hour and nine minutes.

Table 1.1

Sr. No.	Day and Date	Sitting No.	Late Starts	Total Session Time	
				Hours	Minutes
1	Monday, August 12	1st	110	2	32
2	Tuesday, August 13	2nd	75	2	45
3	Thursday, August 15	3rd	50	2	15
4	Friday, August 16	4th	80	1	15
5	Monday, August 19	5th	102	1	23
6	Tuesday, August 20	6th	92	1	53
7	Wednesday, August 21	7th	30	8	10
8	Thursday, August 22	8th	134	1	9
9	Friday, August 23	9th	115	2	0
10	Monday, August 26	10th	122	2	26
11	Tuesday, August 27	11th	78	2	15
12	Wednesday, August 28	12th	115	2	35
13	Thursday, August 29	13th	67	5	48
14	Friday, August 30	14th	76	2	14
15	Monday, September 2	15th	120	3	22
Total			Average 91 minutes	42 hours and two 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.

Attendance remained relatively low in the House¹. On average, there were 62 (17%) legislators at the start and 64 (18%) at the end of the sitting. At any time, a maximum 113 (31%) members were present in the House. Among the eight minority members, on average, three attended each sitting. A PTI legislator pointed out quorum² during the seventh sitting. The proceedings resumed after the bells were rung for six minutes allowing members to come back to complete the quorum.

Table 1.2

Sitting no.	Members at the outset	Members at the end	Maximum members	Minority members
1st	143	33	155	4
2nd	64	47	96	4
3rd	56	77	129	2
4th	21	65	70	2
5th	131	101	142	4
6th	43	88	105	5

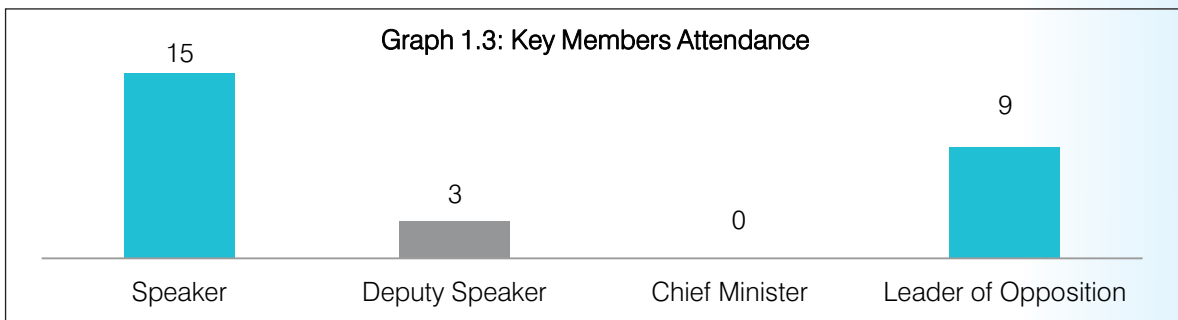
¹ During the fourth session the strength of Punjab Assembly was 365.

² 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.

Sitting No.	Members at the Outset	Members at the end	Maximum Members	Minority Members
7th	43	95	154	5
8th	81	51	120	2
9th	55	55	90	4
10th	93	79	120	2
11th	24	73	110	3
12th	44	46	104	4
13th	34	82	110	4
14th	24	49	77	2
15th	74	24	107	5
Average	62	64	113	3

1.3 Key Members' Attendance

The Chief Minister did not attend the entire session as the Leader of Opposition was present in nine sittings for 30% of the session time. The Speaker presided over 93% of the session, while the Deputy Speaker chaired 4% of the session time by attending three sittings. The remaining 3% of the time was consumed in one hour break taken in the 10th sitting of the session.



2.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

2.1 Questions and Responses

This section reviews members' efforts to represent the interests of constituents by raising calling attention notices, monitoring government performance through question hour and the number of responses given by ministries to submitted questions.

In the fourth session of Punjab Assembly, the legislators submitted 178 starred questions. Of them, 91 were taken up on the floor of the House. Additionally members asked 223 supplementary questions.

Table 2.1-A

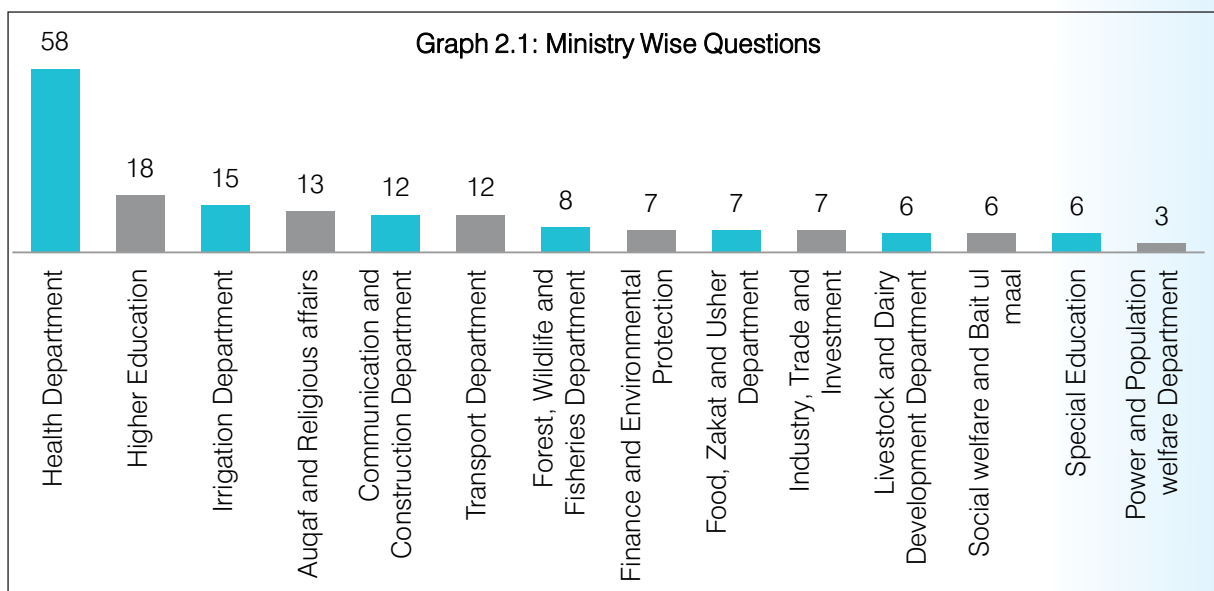
Sitting No	Starred Questions	Taken Up	Supplementary Questions
1st	13	0	0
2nd	25	0	0
3rd	12	11	21
4th	7	4	11
5th	8	8	22
6th	18	8	13
7th	7	6	11
8th	6	4	5
9th	7	6	21
10th	3	1	4
11th	6	5	19
12th	15	9	12
13th	33	13	29
14th	12	11	36
15th	6	5	19
Total	178	91	223

A total of 35 members - 28 male and seven female – submitted questions. As the party with absolute majority in the Punjab Assembly, 19 PML-N legislators submitted the most 104 questions. Seven PTI members submitted 30 questions, followed by three each members of PML and PPPP who submitted 17 and eight questions respectively. A single JIP MPA submitted 17 questions.

Table 2.1-B

Party	Members who submitted questions			No of questions submitted by Members		
	Female Members	Male Members	Total Members	Questions submitted by Male Members	Questions submitted by Female Members	Total Questions submitted
Ind	0	2	2	2	0	2
JIP	0	1	1	17	0	17
PML	0	3	3	17	0	17
PMLN	5	14	19	69	35	104
PPPP	1	2	3	6	2	8
PTI	1	6	7	29	1	30
Total	7	28	35	140	38	178

Out of the submitted questions, 58 about health issues were directed to the health department, which provided answers to all of them. A total of 18 questions were asked from the education department, followed by irrigation department (15), auqaf and religious affairs (13), transport and communications and construction departments (12 each). The forest, wildlife and fisheries department received eight questions while the departments of finance and environmental protection, food, zakat and usher, and industry, trade and investment each received seven questions.



2.2 Calling Attention Notice

This section highlights the efforts of members in raising matters of public interest through calling attention notices. In the Punjab Assembly, 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.

Out of the 14 calling attention notices tabled during the session, six were taken up and two were not considered by the House. Most of the calling attention notices were about incidents of injuries and killings during robberies.

Two calling attention notices tabled by a PTI and an Independent legislator on a robbery in Lahore and killing of a policeman in Layyah were disposed of.

Table 2.2

Sr. No.	Calling Attention Notices	Party	Gender	Status
1.	Robbery of 35 lacs rupees and home appliances in Lahore	PPPP	Single Female	Taken Up
2.	Killing of an ASI by wanted criminals during a police encounter in Salanwali, district Sargodha	PML	Single Male	Taken Up
3.	Robbery of jewelry worth of 14 lac rupees, cash and valuable assets in Lahore	PMLN	Single Female	Taken Up
4.	Robbery of gold worth of twenty million rupees and 6.2 million rupees cash in Rawalpindi	PMLN	Single Female	Taken Up
5.	Killing of a jeweler and injury of his fellow in the robbery of gold worth of 30 million rupees in Lahore	PML	Single Male	Taken Up
6.	Killing of a gatekeeper on resistance during robbery Faisalabad	PTI	Single Female	Taken Up
7.	Authenticity of news published in "Express" newspaper stating Rs3 million gold robbery in jewelers' shop, Lahore	PML	Single Male	Not Taken Up
8.	Authenticity of news published in "Dunya" newspaper that states killing of PMA city President Dr. Atta ur Rehman in Jalalpur Jatan, District Gujrat	PML	Single Male	Not Taken Up
9.	Killing of a woman on resistance during robbery in Toba Tek Singh	PMLN	Single Male	Not Taken Up
10.	Robbers shot and killed a person upon resistance and injured three other men in Gujranwala	PMLN	Single Male	Not Taken Up
11.	Killing of man by police in the case of kidnapping of a young girl. The man was proven 'innocent' as the FIR registered against him was wrong	PMLN	Single Male	Not Taken Up
12.	Murder of lawyer by unknown motorcycles riders in Misri Shah, Lahore	PTI	Single Female	Not Taken Up
13.	Killing of a police official by dacoits in Lal Aisan, Layyah	Ind	Single Male	Disposed Of
14.	Robbery of jewelry worth of 13 million rupees and valuable assets in Lahore	PTI	Single Male	Disposed Of

2.3 General Discussion

A report on wheat support price was tabled in the House for discussion during the session. Twenty lawmakers-14 PMLN, four PTI and one each of JIP and PML- shared their views on the report for one hour and 51 minutes. The PML-N lawmakers discussed the report for one hour and 16 minutes, followed by PTI (19 minutes), JIP (12 minutes) and PML (four minutes).

2.4 Privilege Motion

According to the rules and procedure of the Punjab Assembly, “a member may, with the consent of the Speaker, raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a member or of the assembly or of a committee”.

A PTI legislator moved a question of privilege against police after she and others were arrested outside the Punjab Assembly during a protest against by-elections results in PP-150. The issue was sent to the special committee.

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, and resolutions during the session.

3.1 Government Bills

Six bills, including the Punjab Local Government Bill 2013, were passed during the session. Four of the passed bills sought amendments in laws. The local government bill was debated for three days by 38 legislators – 30 male and eight females. Sixteen PML-N lawmakers debated the local government, followed by PTI (15), PML and PPPP (three each) and JIP (one). All opposition parties protested four times wearing black armbands against the local government bill.

Moreover seven bills were also introduced during the session.

Table 3.1

Sitting No	Bills	Status
3rd	The Punjab Service Tribunals (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
5th	The Punjab Animals Slaughter Control (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
7th	The Punjab Local Government Bill 2013	Passed
8th	The Punjab Boilers and Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
13th	Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan Bill 2014	Passed
	The Punjab Police Order (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
3rd	The Punjab Commission on the Status of Women Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Punjab Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Employees' Cost of Living (Relief) (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Punjab Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Punjab Shops and Establishments (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Punjab Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
	The Punjab Weights and Measures (International System) Enforcement (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced

3.1.1 Passed Bills

The Punjab Service Tribunals (Amendment) Bill 2013

The bill seeks to amend the Punjab Service Tribunals Act 1974. It amends section 3 (chairman and members of the tribunals), section 3A (formation of bench), section 4 (terms and conditions for appointing chairman and members), section 11 (making rules to implement the tribunal decisions) and inserts section 6 (procedure for removing the chairman and members) and section 7 (as principal accounting officer the chairman's power to re-appropriate funds). The bill omits the sections 10 and 12 of the act and repeals the Punjab Service Tribunals (Amendment) Ordinance 2013.

The Punjab Animals Slaughter Control (Amendment) Bill 2013

According to the bill's statement, the Council of Islamic Ideology in 2012 reviewed the Punjab Animals Slaughter Control Act 1963 and recommended that word 'halal' may be added in the definition of the word 'animal'. Now the bill amends the Punjab Animals Slaughter Control Act 1963 to define “animal” as a “bull, bullock, buffalo, buffalo-bull, camel, cow, goat, ostrich, sheep or any other halal animal of any age domesticated in captivity.”

The Punjab Local Government Bill 2013

The bill introduces the local bodies system in the province, paving way for holding elections to elect the local governments. Holding the local government elections “through secret ballot on the basis of adult franchise”, the

term of local governments will be four years. The bill aims to devolve the political, administrative and financial responsibilities to the elected representatives at local level for delivery of municipal services.

The Punjab Boilers and Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Bill 2013

The bill amends the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Ordinance 2002 to be adapted by the provincial assembly after the passage of the 18th amendment. It mainly seeks to exclude the subject of nuclear energy generation boilers from the ordinance as the subject has been covered under the Federal Legislative List.

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan Bill 2013

The bill aims to establish an agriculture university in southern Punjab.

The Punjab Police Order (amendment) Bill 2013

The bill allows government to recruit sub-inspectors across the province through the Punjab Public Service Commission and setting up a separate investigation branch in each district to work independently of police stations. The bill aims to encourage the recruitment and promotion of educated youths and to improve the quality of criminal investigations.

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.

Out of the 12 resolutions on the agenda, ten were adopted during the session. Of the adopted resolutions, legislators of PML-N tabled seven, PTI (two) and PPPP (one). Eight male and three female lawmakers tabled the resolutions individually.

Tabled by a PTI legislator in the sixth sitting, a resolution to condemn drone attacks was initially put off. It was adopted unanimously in the eighth sitting after its text was amended to endorse the Prime Minister's stand on drone attacks and supported the diplomatic efforts of the federal government. After change in the original text, the resolution was presented in the House by the law minister.

The other adopted resolutions were about the local body's elections in cantonments, curbing beggary, anti-hepatitis vaccination for children under five, giving status of tehsil to Baseerpur city, federal government asked to impose a tax amnesty scheme to attract investment and create jobs, situation in Egypt, Indian aggression along the Line of Control (LoC) and condemning suicide attack at Police Lines in Quetta, and paying tribute to martyrs. A supplementary resolution condemning attack on Express media office was adopted unanimously.

A resolution to rename the Kacheri road to Leitner road was rejected.

Table 3.2

Sr. no.	Resolutions	Party	Status
1	The House condemns the incident of terrorism in Police Lines Quetta, Balochistan and declares the martyrdom of the police officials a national tragedy.	PML-N	Adopted
2	The House strongly condemns the Indian aggression along the Line of Control. The federal government should take up this matter on various international forums to ensure India abides by international laws.	PML-N	Adopted
3	The House strongly condemns the military coup in Egypt and use of force leading to killing of protesters.	JIP	Adopted
4	The House strongly condemns the attack Express News in Karachi and demands from the Sindh government to assure security of journalists and their offices and arrest the accused persons to ensure the security of media organizations and their employees.	PTI	Adopted
5	The House demands from federal government to implement the tax amnesty scheme to attract investment and create opportunities of employment for public	PML-N	Adopted
6	In the opinion of House the city of Baseerpur should be upgraded to tehsil level. The reasons behind the demand are the increase in the number of population of the city and daily Issues of public.	PML-N	Adopted
7	The House declares the continuous American drone attacks against the sovereignty, basic human rights and security of Pakistan and strongly condemns them. Drone attacks are carried out on the basis of vague information and assumptions. This House is of the opinion that such attacks violate the international laws and calls upon the federal government to make the American government realize that these attacks are not acceptable. The chapter of drone attacks should be closed and the bilateral relations between Pakistan and the US should be basis of equality. This session further endorses the principled stand of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on drone attacks and supports the diplomatic efforts of the federal government in this connection. In the opinion of this session, the federal government, besides drone attacks, should also make immediate efforts to develop a national consensus on terrorism.	PML-N	Adopted

Sr. no.	Resolution	Party	Status
8	The House shares its opinion to make hepatitis prevention vaccination compulsory for every child at the age of five.	PTI	Adopted
9	The House requests the federal government to conduct the upcoming local bodies' elections in all cantonment areas of the country.	PPPP	Adopted
10	The House calls for efforts to curb the evil of beggary by sending these individuals to Beggars Home so that they can get training and education to become effective citizens in the society.	PMLN	Adopted
11	The House addresses its opinion to change the name of the Kacheri Road located from District Court, Lahore to Nila Gumbad Mausoleum - as LEITNER road.	PMLN	Not Taken Up
12	The House declares the continuous American drone attacks against the sovereignty, basic human rights and security of Pakistan and strongly condemns them. Drone attacks are carried out on the basis of vague information and assumptions. This House is of the opinion that such attacks violate the international laws and calls upon the federal government to make the American government realize that these attacks are not acceptable. The chapter of drone attacks should be closed and the bilateral relations between Pakistan and the US should be basis of equality. This session further endorses the principled stand of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on drone attacks and supports the diplomatic efforts of the federal government in this connection. In the opinion of this session, the federal government, besides drone attacks, should also make immediate efforts to develop a national consensus on terrorism.	PTI	Not Taken Up

3.3 Standing Committee Reports

A Standing 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.

In the session, four Standing Committee reports were laid before the House. Three of them were on the Punjab Boilers and Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Bill 2013, the Punjab Local Government Bill 2013, and the Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan Bill 2013. One report on the Punjab pension fund for the year 2010 was debated in the House.

Table 3.3: Standing Committee Reports

Sr. no.	Subject of Reports	Name of Committee
1	Punjab Boilers and Pressure Vessels (Amendment) Bill 2013	Committee Number 1
2	Punjab local government Bill 2013	Committee Number 2
3	The Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan Bill 2013	Committee Number 1
4	The Punjab Pension Fund for the Year 2010	Debated in the House

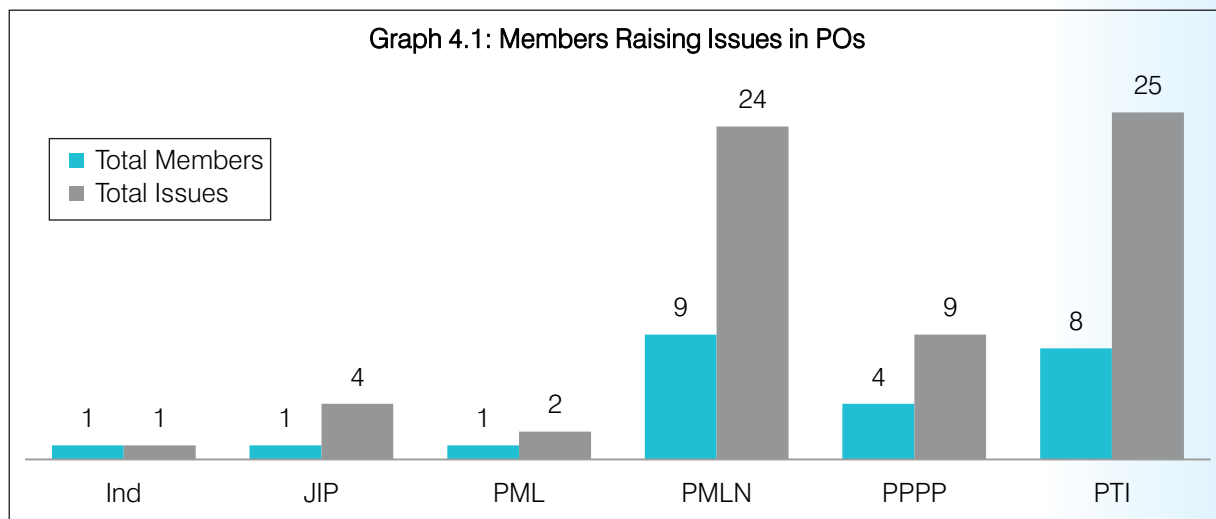
4.0 Order and Institutionalization

This section reviews the points of order, questions of privileges and the instances of protests, walkouts or boycotts.

4.1 Points of Order

During the assembly proceedings, the business of the House was interrupted by 63 point of orders consuming one hour and nine minutes of the session time.

A total of 24 lawmakers raised 65 issues through point of order. Four female and 20 male legislators spoke on various issues on points of order. The nine members of the ruling PML-N spoke on points of order, followed by eight PTI, four PPPP, one member each of PML and JIP and an independent MPA.



Almost half (31) of the point of orders were about the business of the House. In various other points of order, members spoke on issues about the local government bill, natural calamities, parliamentary affairs, compensation for victims, and technical education etc. Lawmakers also used the points of order to criticize the government and colleagues.

Table 4.1: Issue wise POs

Issues	Number of Issues
Business of the House	31
By-elections 2013	1
Compensation for Victims	2
Criticism of Colleague	3
Criticism of Government	3
Health	1
ICT Related Issues	2
Law and Order	1
Local Government Bill	5
Ministerial Absence	1
Natural Calamities (Flooding's)	4
Parliamentary Affairs	3
Praise of Chief Minister	1
Perks and Privileges of Parliamentarian	1
Punjab Related Affairs	1
Social Issues	1
Technical Education	2
Water Issues	1
Women Rights	1
Grand Total	65

4.2 Protests, Boycotts and Walkouts

The session witnessed five protests and six walkouts. All opposition parties protested four times wearing black armbands against the introduction and passage of the Local Government Bill. In the tenth sitting, a PTI member protested by wearing black armband against the alleged poll rigging in PP-150 by-elections.

The five walkouts staged by opposition parties consuming four hours and 20 minutes were over the Speaker siding with the government stance on the resolution against drone attacks, law minister misinterpreting rules and procedures of the assembly, interest based economic system, members not allowed to speak on an amendment in a bill and the House not taking up a supplementary resolution on petroleum price hike.

In the seventh sitting, a PML-N member walked out for two minutes over the long duration of sitting.

Table 4.2: Walkouts and Protests

Party	Reason	Time (Mins)	Walkout/Protests
PMLN	Over the long duration of the sitting	2	Walkout
All Opposition	The opposition maintained that the Speaker was siding with the government stance over the resolution on condemning the drone attacks.	20	Walkout
All Opposition	The opposition said the law minister was misinterpreting the rules of the assembly.	210	Walkout
All Opposition	Against interest based system	5	Walkout
All Opposition	They were not allowed to speak on an amendment in a bill	3	Walkout
All Opposition	After the Speaker refused to take up a supplementary resolution on increase in petroleum prices.	20	Walkout
All Opposition	Attended the proceedings wearing black armbands to protest against the Local Government Bill 2013	490	Protest
All Opposition	Attended the sitting wearing black armbands in protest against the Punjab Local Government Bill 2013	0	Protest
All Opposition	Attended the proceedings wearing black armbands to protest against the Local Government Bill 2013	0	Protest
All Opposition	Against the passage of the Local Government Bill 2013	48	Protest
PTI	Against alleged rigging in by-elections	0	Protest

Disclaimer: The data cited in this report is based on direct observation of the Punjab Assembly's proceedings during the 4th session. Every care has been taken to maintain accuracy. To intimate any errors and omissions, please contact House 145, St 37, F-10/1, Islamabad - 051-8466232

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.

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 include:

- Observed the public display of Pakistan's 2007 draft electoral rolls and conducted the country's first statistically-valid voters' list audit
- Deployed 18,829 trained, neutral Election Day observers nationwide to monitor the February 18, 2008, General Elections
- Fielded 264 long-term observers nationwide and published 19 pre-election reports
- Conducted 260 simultaneous Parallel Vote Tabulations (PVTs)- the largest PVT effort in the world
- Conducted a Constituent Aspirations Survey in December 2008 with 3,124 respondents regarding attitudes and beliefs of people living in the constituencies
- Observed Gilgit-Baltistan 2009 General Elections and 2010-2012 By-Elections in various constituencies of the Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Implements a unique methodology to observe and report on legislative proceedings and performance under a Parliament Watch Project
- Monitors public institutions across Pakistan and issues monthly reports on the state and performance of educational, health and other local institutions as well as reports on prices, crimes, incidence of disease, caseload in lower courts, and political and electoral violence

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 and promoting active citizenship through ongoing civic education activities across the country. FAFEN is currently implementing Supporting Transparency, Accountability and Electoral Processes (STAEP) in 200 National Assembly constituencies in 119 districts across Pakistan.



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