

FAFEN Parliament Monitor

50th Session

National Assembly of Pakistan
(February 17 – March 14, 2013)



Free and Fair Election Network

List of Abbreviations

ANP	Awami National Party
BNPA	Balochistan National Party-Awami
CAN	Calling Attention Notice
CDA	Capital Development Authority
FATA	Federally Administrated Tribal Areas
FIA	Federal Investigation Agency
IND	Independent Member
MMA	Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal Party
MQM	Muttahida Quami Movement
NEPRA	National Electric Power Regulatory Authority
NPP	National People's Party
PEMRA	Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PMLF	Pakistan Muslim League-Functional
PMLN	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PO	Point of Order
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PPPS	Pakistan People's Party-Sherpao
PTCL	Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited
WAPDA	Water and Power Development Authority



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

Executive Summary

The 13th National Assembly, completing its historic five years tenure, achieved a legislative agenda which altered the country's governance structure by ensuring provincial autonomy and restoring the 1973 constitution, and promoted women's empowerment.

However, the last session of the assembly was marked by low interest of members as low attendance persisted throughout the session, and the lower house left 70% of the agenda appearing on the Orders of the Day unaddressed.

The 50th session witnessed the passage of bills on counter-terrorism, general elections, education and health.

Maintaining the tradition of political consensus over legislation and other national interest issues, the house unanimously passed 15 bills, including two amendments to the Anti-terrorism Act to expand the powers of law enforcement agencies to tackle financing for acts of terrorism and empowering them to detain suspects for a period of thirty days. In addition, a bill was passed to set up the National Counter Terrorism Authority.

Five private members' bills passed during the last session were related to the prohibition of corporal punishment in educational institutions, reproductive and psychological health, education, and an important amendment in elections laws allowed candidates to file nomination papers through authorized individuals rather than appearing before the returning officer in person. The condition of candidates appearing in person to file nomination papers were introduced in 2002 by the military government to bar the leaders of two main political parties – PPPP and PMLN – from taking part in elections.

The house left 191 agenda items unaddressed, including three government and two private members' bills, 17 resolutions, 17 motions under rule 259, five calling attention notices and 122 starred questions.

Legislators showed less interest in the proceedings as on average only 17% legislators were present at the outset and end of each sitting of session. Since the National Assembly Secretariat does not make public the attendance record of members, FAFEN observers conduct a headcount at the start and end of each sitting, and document the actual time spent by the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

The Prime Minister attended two sittings while his counterpart, the Leader of the Opposition, was present in four sittings. The Speaker chaired 10 sittings and the Deputy Speaker attended 11 sittings.

The ANP and PML parliamentary leaders remained absent throughout the session. The NPP party head attended nine sittings, followed by PPPS eight, MQM five, BNPA four, PMLF two and MMAP leader attended one sitting.

Overall 187 legislators did not participate during the session. These included 76 out of 127 members of the ruling party (PPPP), followed by 41 out of 92 PMLN members, 33 out of 50 PML, 10 out of 13 ANP, five out of 25 MQM, two out of eight MMAP members, and 12 Independents. The single-member parties, BNPA, NPP and PPPS, along with PMLF members did not contribute any agenda for the orders of the day or on-floor debates.

Women members appeared to be more active than their male counterparts. Forty-two (54%) out of the total 78 women legislators activity took part in the proceedings by either submitting an agenda item or taking part in the debates. As many as 112 out of 263 (43%) men took part in the session.

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 Parliament in order to hold those elected leaders accountable.

The Parliamentary Watch and Reforms Program (PWR), 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) 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 PWR 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 PWR focuses on directly-observed parliamentary procedure in addition to parliamentary output. In other words, FAFEN's criterion for assessing parliamentary effectiveness are primarily process-oriented and secondarily results-oriented.

The 50th session spanned over 19 sittings. On average, each sitting lasted two hours and 15 minutes with a delay of 57 minutes.

The assembly adopted eight out of 28 resolutions. The house condemned corporal punishment at educational institutions, the Badami Bagh incident, the hanging of Afzal Guru and the defamation of parliamentarians by media, as well as one commending the sacrifices of Benazir Bhutto. All of the taken up resolutions appeared as supplementary agenda.

Legislators spent four hours and 25 minutes of the session debating the law and order in the country through a motion under rule 259. Other motions about the performance of PIA, increasing deficit in Pakistan Railways, unemployment, load shedding and ICT related issues were not taken up. Moved by an MQM member, an adjournment motion regarding the twin bomb blasts in Karachi was taken up.

In the oversight over the executive function of the assembly, legislators posted 413 questions. Forty-one out of 163 starred questions appearing on the agenda were taken up by the house. Additionally, 78 supplementary questions were asked. Most of the questions were regarding the prevailing energy crisis and the deteriorating law and order situation.

Similarly, 12 calling attention notices were taken up about health care, safety devices in vehicles, environmental degradation due to industrial wastes, unscheduled load shedding, deteriorating law and order and increasing number of beggars in Islamabad. Six calling attention notices about railways, drug mafia, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), aerial firing on wedding ceremonies, nationwide power outage on the night between 24th and 25th of February 2013 and ammunition in Karachi were not taken up.

Twenty-eight standing committee reports were presented in the house, among them 17 were about bills presented in the house while others were about the power crisis, threats to journalists and media personnel, foreign and domestic loans, allotment of plots to federal employees and accounts of the federal government, as well as reports on the National Counter Terrorism Authority Bill, and of the National Economic Council and the Public Accounts Committee.

The last session witnessed 16 instances of protests and protests which lasted nine hours and 28 minutes. Two protests by MQM and PMLN were over the passage of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS) Islamabad Bill 2013. Walkouts were staged over bomb blasts in Quetta, law and order situation, Badami Bagh incident, increased petroleum prices and killing of laborers in Pasni. A PMLN member staged a walkout after the Speaker ignored the quorum pointed by him.

FAFEN hopes this report will be a valuable contribution to creating both a more informed citizenry and an increasingly responsible parliament. On the basis of its ongoing observation FAFEN recommends:

1. National Assembly sittings should be open to citizen observers who apply for accreditation through a standardized process. FAFEN takes this opportunity to reiterate its request for permanent accreditation to observe all assembly's proceedings. FAFEN had to acquire ad-hoc measures to observe this session as well.
2. The National Assembly should consider keeping a public record of parliamentary business similar to that presented in this FAFEN report so that constituents can be informed over time about the performance of their elected representatives.
3. Complete information (and relevant documents) about all assembly's business should be available to all members, especially regarding the progress of legislation, calling attention notices (CANs), and other key policy decision-making processes. Such information should also be available to the public on the assembly's websites and/or at the assembly's Secretariat.
4. Transcripts of all substantive discussion in the assembly on policy matters – especially debate on legislation – should be available on the assembly's website immediately after it takes place. Most of the times, vital pieces of legislation are passed without the necessary three readings of the bill. During the course of the session, a total of 15 bills were passed. The information regarding the voting and the readings is still not updated on the assembly's website.
5. The Secretariat should keep records of actual time spent by members in the assembly chamber and especially whether there is a quorum. This information should be publicly available. FAFEN has made repeated attempts to get the attendance document of the members. Low members' attendance was observed during the session, with on average only 17% members present at the beginning and end of sittings.
6. No vote should be allowed, especially on legislation, without a quorum. The issue of lack of quorum has persisted

for a long time. It seems that the opposition and the treasury benches have reached an unwritten understanding over not pointing out quorum. Quorum was lacking on four occasions during the present session and ignored during one sitting.

7. Efforts should be made to understand and address why 55% of the members did not participate actively in the 50th session.
8. All ministers (or a designated representative of each ministry and the cabinet) must be required to be present during question hour at each relevant sitting. All questions must be responded to within a stipulated time frame. Transcripts of all questions – including the ones that the secretariat finds inadmissible – and responses should be made available to members and to the public.
9. The chair should be responsible for ensuring that business planned in the orders of the day is accomplished during each sitting or at least during a full session, particularly with regard to consideration of legislation, resolutions, and CANS.
10. Additional orientation and training of members is needed regarding their fundamental responsibilities, especially to their constituents as well as basic parliamentary procedures, particularly those that are commonly misused, such as points of order. A total of 208 points of order were raised, which consumed 38% of total time. None of the points of order raised attracted formal ruling of the chair.
11. The secretariat should develop publicly accessible mechanism to track government assurances given to the assembly and progress made against each assurance.
12. A full-day sitting should be allotted to issues related to constituencies at least once in a session as the existing half an hour of each sitting allowed for this purpose by the Rules of Procedures and Conduct of Business is inadequate, compelling the members to raise constituency issues on points of order.

The following table presents a comparative analysis of the status and number of agenda items appearing on the orders of the day, during both sessions.

Table: Comparison of the 49th and the 50th sessions on the basis of the orders of the day

Sr. No	Agenda Items	49th Session	50th Session
1	Starred Questions taken Up	42	41
2	Starred Questions not taken Up	174	123
3	Unstarred questions	335	254
4	Calling attention notices taken up	10	12
5	Calling attention notices not taken up	6	6
6	Legislative business taken up	17	28
7	Legislative business not taken up	9	6
8	Standing committee reports presented	10	25
9	Standing committee reports not presented	3	3
10	Motion under rule 259 taken up	2	3
11	Motion under rule 259 not taken up	17	19
12	Resolutions taken up	1	8
13	Resolutions not taken up	14	20
14	Matter of public importance taken up	0	0
15	Matter of public importance not taken up	0	0
16	Amendment to the rules and procedure taken up	0	0
17	Amendment to the rules and procedure not taken up	1	0
18	Points of order	122	207

1.0 Session Duration and Members' Participation

This section of the report deals with the duration the National Assembly met for during the session; the attendance of members, their participation and maintenance of quorum – at least 1/4th (86) of the total membership. The participation of a member is recorded when he or she takes part in the proceedings of the house, or submits an agenda item. It also reviews the presence of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and parliamentary leaders.

All sittings of 50th session remained behind the time and lack of quorum was pointed out in several sittings. Members' participation was observed by their submission of agenda and on the floor discussions.

Overall, 187 legislators did not participate during the session. These included 76 out of 127 members of the ruling party (PPPP), followed by 41 out of 92 PMLN members, 33 out of 50 PML, 10 out of 13 ANP, five out of 25 MQM, two out of eight MMAP and 12 Independents. The single-member parties, BNPA, NPP and PPPS, along with PMLF members did not contribute any agenda for the orders of the day or on-floor debates.

Women members appeared to be more active than their male counterparts. Forty-two (54%) out of the total 78 women legislators activity took part in the proceedings by either submitting an agenda item or taking part in the on-floor debates. As many as 112 out of 263 (43%) men took part in the session.

1.1 Session Time

The 50th session starting on Feb 17, 2013 and prorogued sine die on March 14, 2013, comprised 19 sittings. On average, each sitting lasted for two hours and 15 minutes with an average late start of 57 minutes.

The last sitting (19th) was the longest which met for six hours and 10 minutes while the shortest (11th) sitting lasted only for 10 minutes.

Table 1.1: Session Time

Sr. No.	Day and Date	Sitting	Late starts	Sitting time	
				Hours	Minutes
1	Monday, February 18, 2013	1st	100	1	52
2	Tuesday, February 19, 2013	2nd	42	2	30
3	Wednesday, February 20, 2013	3rd	85	2	40
4	Thursday, February 21, 2013	4th	40	1	10
5	Friday, February 22, 2013	5th	30	1	5
6	Monday, February 25, 2013	6th	33	2	53
7	Tuesday, February 26, 2013	7th	30	1	25
8	Wednesday, February 27, 2013	8th	50	2	15
9	Thursday, February 28, 2013	9th	49	3	6
10	Friday, March 1, 2013	10th	40	1	6
11	Monday, March 4, 2013	11th	50	0	10
12	Tuesday, March 5, 2013	12th	60	2	47
13	Wednesday, March 6, 2013	13th	35	2	42
14	Thursday, March 7, 2013	14th	90	2	8
15	Friday, March 8, 2013	15th	47	1	8
16	Monday, March 11, 2013	16th	112	2	41
17	Tuesday, March 12, 2013	17th	73	2	12
18	Wednesday, March 13, 2013	18th	31	2	45
19	Thursday, March 14, 2013	19th	78	6	10
Total		19 Sittings	Average 57 Minutes	42 Hours and 45 Minutes	

1.2 Members' Attendance

The National Assembly does not make public the attendance records of members. FAFEN observers conducts a

headcount at the start and end of each sitting, and documents the actual time spent by the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

Low attendance persisted during the 50th session as, on average, 57 members were present at the outset of while 59 were there at the adjournment of each of sitting.

The quorum visibly lacking at various stages of the session was pointed out five times. On three instances the chair adjourned the sitting, and suspended one of the sittings for 40 minutes. However, during the 15th sitting, the chair did not take any action on the lack of quorum.

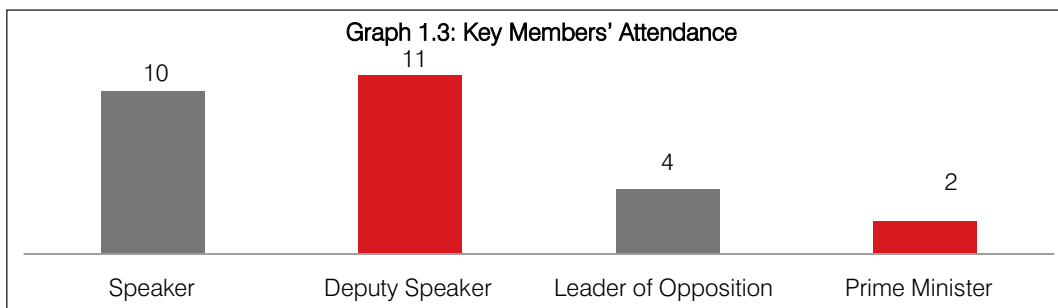
Table 1.2: Members' Attendance

Sitting No.	Members at the outset	Members present at the end	Minority members
1st	41	68	1
2nd	25	63	3
3rd	63	27	9
4th	62	160	6
5th	47	67	6
6th	46	52	6
7th	34	50	6
8th	60	61	6
9th	67	61	7
10th	57	35	6
11th	22	30	1
12th	53	27	6
13th	35	45	8
14th	98	112	10
15th	64	53	7
16th	58	51	6
17th	89	57	6
18th	75	92	6
19th	90	11	9
Average	57 Members	59 Members	6 Members

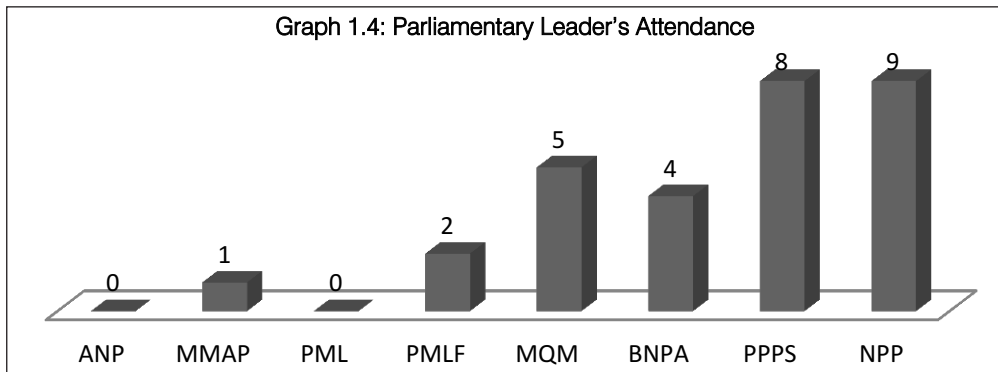
1.3 Key Members' Attendance

Attendance in sittings is crucial for members, especially those holding important positions (Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition) to perform their legislative and representative roles.

The Prime Minister spent less than two hours in the assembly, attending only two sittings while the Leader of the Opposition attended four sittings, spending almost three and a half hours (8% of total session's duration). Both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker presided over little more than 30% each of the session's duration respectively. The remaining 36% time was chaired by the Panel of Chairpersons.

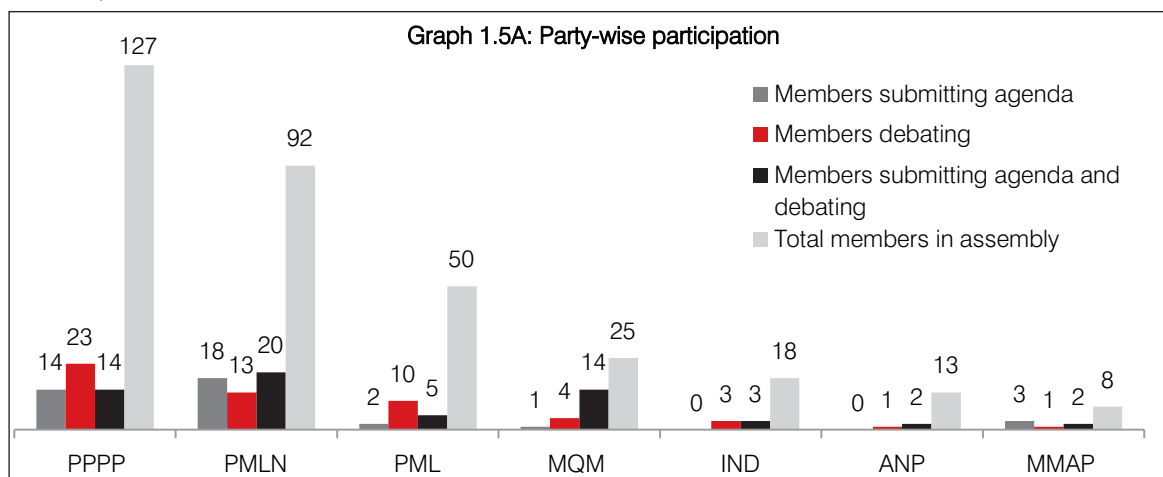


The presence of parliamentary leaders of political parties is important to give members direction and leadership. During the 50th session, on average only three parliamentary leaders were present in each sitting, whereas there are 10 political parties on treasury and opposition benches. The ANP and PML parliamentary leaders remained absent throughout the session. The NPP party head attended nine sittings, followed by PPPS eight, MQM five, BNPA four, PMLF two and MMAP leader attended one sitting.

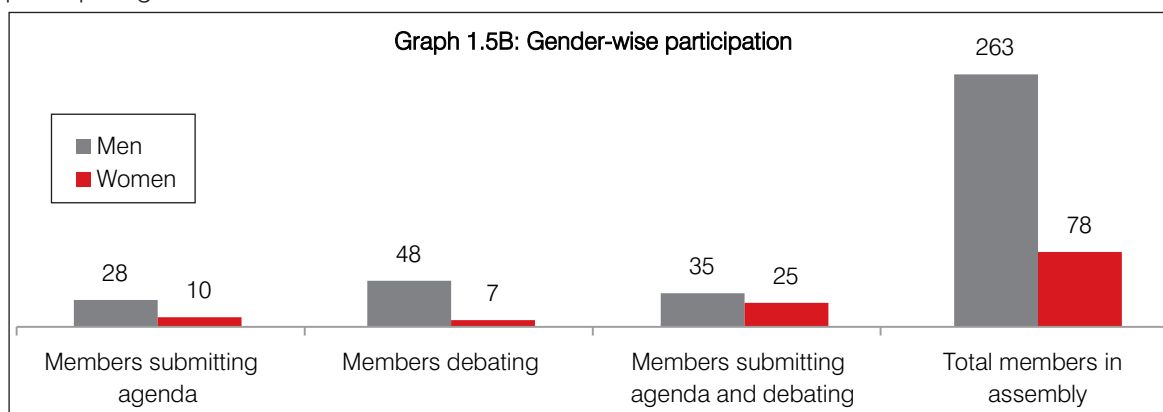


1.5 Members' Participation

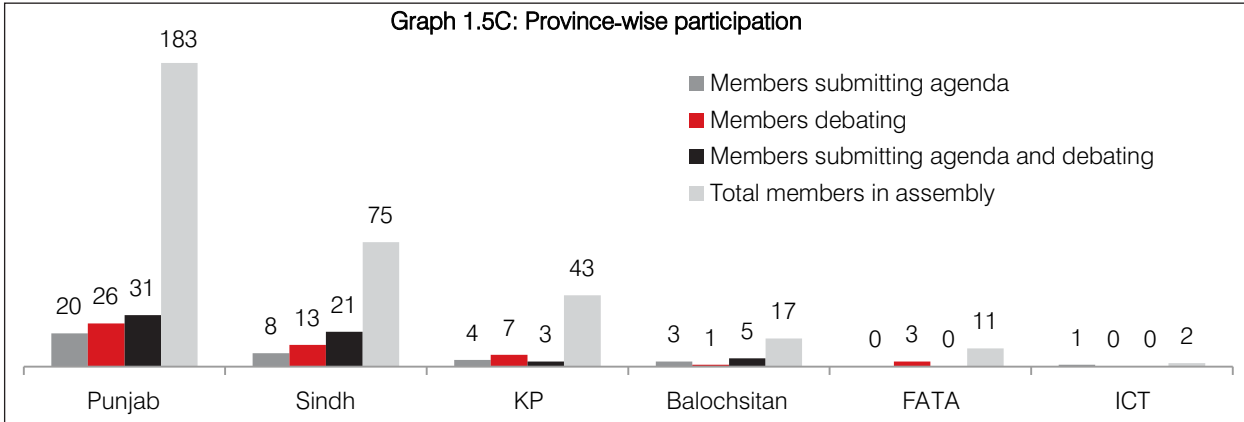
Members' participation is measured in three ways – those who submitted agenda on the orders of the day, those who took part in debates, and those who did both. During the 50th session, 187 legislators did not participate in any way in the proceedings, and no members of the PMLF, BNPA, NPP and PPPS participated in the session, the last three being single-member parties in the house.



From a gender-wise perspective, proportionally more women than men participated in the session by both submitting agenda items and taking part in debates. In addition, women on reserved seats were the most active, as 39 out of the total 42 participating women were on reserved seats.



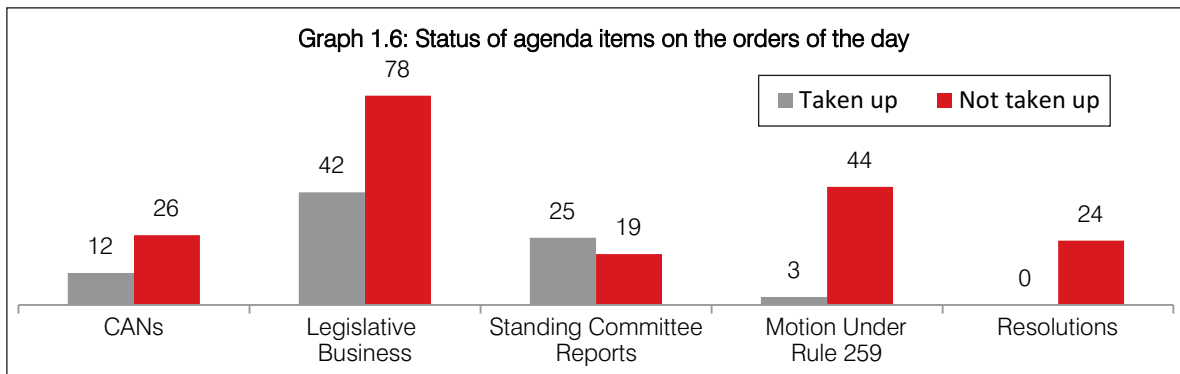
Seven minority members also participated in the session by submitting agenda (two) and debating (five). From a provincial standpoint, overall, more than half the total membership from Sindh and Balochistan participated in any of the three above-mentioned ways, 42% of the total members from Punjab did so, as did 33% from KP and 27% from FATA.



1.6 Orders of the Day

The agenda of the assembly naturally stems from the issues of national and public importance that require attention and is prioritized as such. As per FAFEN’s methodology, calling attention notices, legislation, resolutions, adjournment motions and other motions (under rule 259 etc.), matters of public importance and amendments to the rules and procedures, as well as motions to introduce, consider and/or pass or adopt the above are counted as the total number of agenda items during the session. The recitation of the Quran at the commencement of each sitting as well as question hour are not included.

Only 30% agenda (82 out of 273) was taken up on the orders of the day letting 70% agenda (191 out of 273) remain unaddressed. Among all the agenda items which were taken up on the floor of the house, a major chunk (42 out of 82) were bills and related motions, while only one motion (about law and order) under rule 259 on the agenda was debated in three different sittings. However 12 supplementary interventions (two bills, eight resolutions, one adjournment motions and one amendment) were brought in several sittings of 50th session and all of them were taken up by the house.



2.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

This section is concerned with legislators’ efforts to represent the interests of their constituents through calling attention notices and to monitor government accountability, especially through questions submitted during the question hour, and the ministers’ responsiveness to those questions.

Female parliamentarians raised most of the starred questions while a large number of questions were directed to Ministry of Water and Power. Issues of national and international importance were discussed in the house through calling attention notices.

2.1 Questions and Responses

Question Hour gives legislators the opportunity to monitor the government's performance. Answers to questions may be demanded in written or oral form, referred to as un-starred or starred questions, respectively.

A total of 413 questions (163 starred and 250 un-starred) were raised in the house during the last session of the assembly. Among them, 267 were fully answered either by written and/or oral answers. Twenty five percent of starred questions were taken up by the house while 122 did not receive responses. An additional 78 supplementary questions were asked in order to gain further explanations of answers given by the relevant ministers.

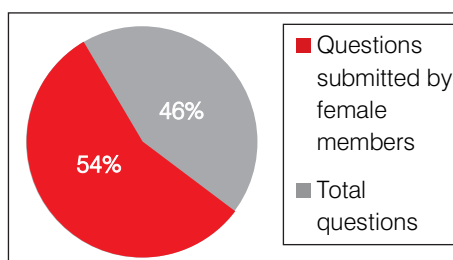
Four sittings of the 50th session fell on the private members day (Tuesday in National Assembly) so question hour was not observed in these four sittings according to the rules and procedure of National Assembly. However question hour was also not observed in the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th sitting of the session, since fifteen days notices has to be given for a question, and less than that time had elapsed between the previous (49th) session and the 50th session.

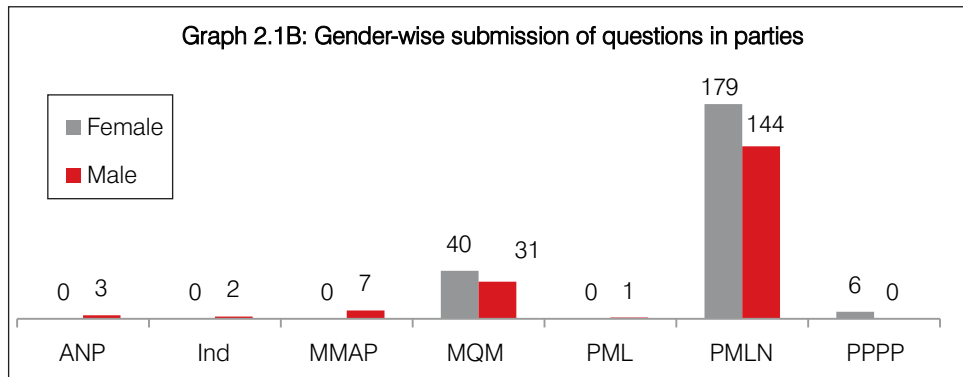
Table 2.1A: Questions Hour Statistics

Sitting No.	Starred questions	Starred questions taken up	Starred questions not taken up	Supplementary Questions
1st	-	-	-	-
2nd	Private Member's Day			
3rd	-	-	-	-
4th	-	-	-	-
5th	-	-	-	-
6th	14	9	5	10
7th	Private Member's Day			
8th	15	7	8	10
9th	19	6	13	16
10th	16	4	12	9
11th	14	0	14	0
12th	Private Member's Day			
13th	12	4	8	6
14th	15	4	11	16
15th	13	0	13	0
16th	19	0	19	0
17th	Private Member's Day			
18th	16	7	9	11
19th	10	0	10	0
Total	163	41	122	78

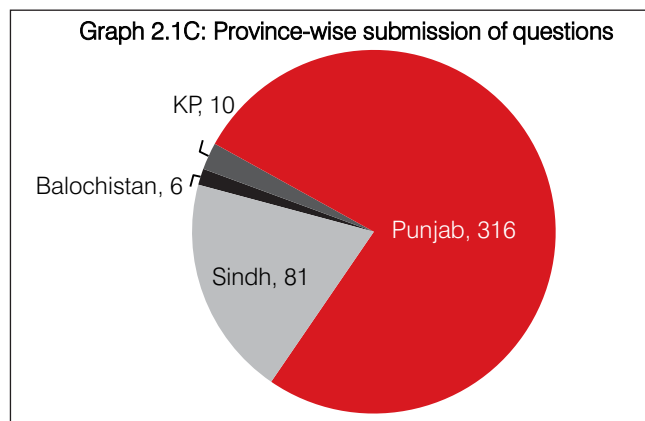
Female parliamentarians remained more active in raising questions compared to their male counterparts as 225 questions were submitted by 17 female members while 188 were submitted by 27 male members.

Graph 2.1A: Gender-wise submission of questions





A breakdown of province wise submission of questions shows that a sizeable chunk of questions (316 out of 413) came from Punjab. Sindh took 2nd position in raising questions (81) whereas KP and Balochistan raised 10 and six questions respectively.



Seventy three percent of all questions were directed to eight ministries in the 50th session of National Assembly. The Ministry of Water and Power received 75 questions, the Ministry of Interior 59, the Cabinet Secretariat 46, Defence 29, and Finance and Revenue, and Railways 24 each.

Table 2.1B: Ministry-wise submission of questions

Sr. No.	Ministry	Total
1.	Water and Power	75
2.	Interior	59
3.	Cabinet Secretariat	46
4.	Defence	29
5.	Finance & Revenue	24
6.	Railways	24
7.	Commerce	23
8.	Petroleum and Natural Resources	23
9.	Housing	12
10.	Communications	10
11.	Capital Administration and Development	8
12.	Science & Technology	8
13.	Climate Change	5
14.	Foreign Affairs	5
15.	Industries	5

Sr. No.	Ministry	Total
16.	Law and Justice	5
17.	National Regulations and Services	5
18.	Postal Services	5
19.	Information and Broadcasting	4
20.	Information Technology	4
21.	Inter Provincial Coordination	4
22.	National Food Security and Research	4
23.	Education	3
24.	Education and Trainings	3
25.	Parliamentary Affairs	3
26.	Works	3
27.	Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan	2
28.	Religious Affairs	2
29.	States & Frontier Regions	2
30.	Textile Industries	2
31.	Economic Affairs and Statistics	1
32.	Human Rights	1
33.	Narcotics Control	1
34.	National Heritage and Integration	1
35.	Overseas Pakistanis	1
36.	Ports & Shipping	1
Total		413

2.2 Calling Attention Notices (CANs)

This section highlights the efforts of members in raising matters of public interest through calling attention notices. Under rule 88 (chapter XI) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, a member may call the attention of a minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date provided that no more than one notice shall be allowed to a member per sitting.

Eighteen CANs were presented in the 50th session, of which 12 were taken up by the house while six were left unaddressed. Issues related to health care, safety devices in vehicles, environmental degradation due to industrial wastes, unscheduled load shedding, deteriorating law and order situation and increasing number of beggars in ICT etc. were discussed in the taken up CANs.

Members of PPPP and PMLN presented six CANs each, while the MQM tabled four CANs. Two CANs about beggary and firing on wedding occasions, were tabled jointly, the first by members of the PMLN, PML and MQM and the second by members of the ANP, MMAP, and PPPP.

Eight CANs were directed to the Ministry of Interior, four to the Cabinet Secretariat, and one each to the Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Resources, Railways, Defence, Water and Power, Capital Administration and Development, and Commerce.

Table 2.2: Calling Attention Notices

Call Attention Notices	Party	Ministry Concerned
Beggars in Islamabad Capital Territory	MQM, PML, PMLN	Interior
Handing over profitable rail car plying between Rawalpindi – Lahore to Pakistan Railway Advisory & Consultancy Services Limited.	PMLN	Railways
PIAC lack of maintenance	PMLN	Defence
Unregistered NGOs	PPPP	Interior
Unscheduled load-shedding	PMLN	Water and Power
Pollution in sectors I-10, I-11 of Islamabad Capital Territory	PMLN	Cabinet Secretariat
Lack of safety devices in imported vehicles	PPPP	Commerce
Lack of medical care and child healthcare in Islamabad Capital Territory's (ICT) and other government hospitals	PPPP	Capital Administration and Development
Attack on media persons by drug mafia in Tando Meer Muhammad, Hyderabad	MQM	Interior
Indiscriminate firing on the occasions of marriage resulting in terrible casualties in Islamabad	ANP, MMAP PPPP	Interior
Rapid increase of robberies in Islamabad, particularly in Sector G-6	PPPP	Interior
Not giving possession of plots to the allottee's in Park Enclave Islamabad	PPPP	Cabinet Secretariat
Twenty percent increase in the prices of gas for domestic as well as commercial consumers	PMLN	Petroleum and Natural Resources
Illegal explosives and recovery thereof in huge quantity in Karachi	MQM	Interior
Illegal supply of explosives especially in Karachi	MQM	Interior
Power break down on 24th and 25th February, 2013 in the country	PMLN	Cabinet Secretariat
Vandalism of public parks in Islamabad	PPPP	Cabinet Secretariat
Issuance of National Identity Cards by the NADRA in Sindh particularly Hyderabad	MQM	Interior

2.3 Motion under Rule 259

Any minister or a member may give notice of a motion that any policy, situation, statement or any other matter may be taken into consideration. No question shall be put at the conclusion of the debate unless any minister or a member, with the consent of the chair, moves a substantive motion immediately after in appropriate terms in which case, a question shall be put.

A total of 21 motions under rule 259 were presented in the house by three female and seven male members, however, only three of them were debated on the floor of the house for nearly four and a half hours. All the three debated motions were about to law and order in the country and presented by PPPP members.

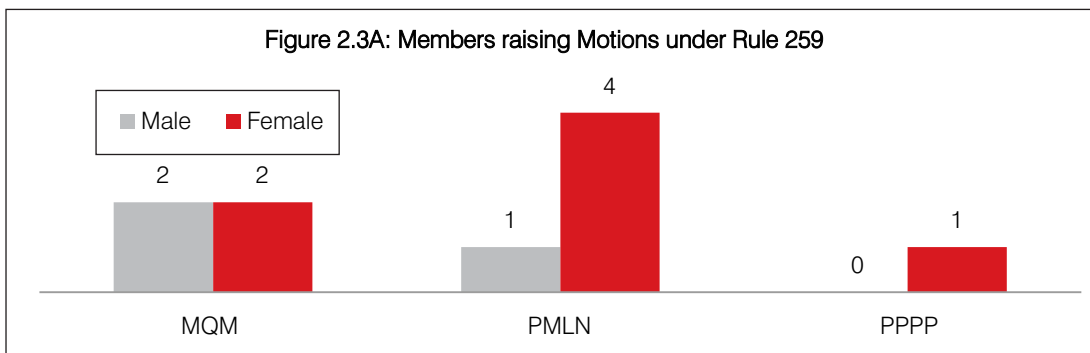


Table 2.3: Motions under Rule 259

Motion under Rule 259	Party	Status
This house may discuss the law and order situation prevailing in the country	PPPP	Debated by the house
This house may discuss the situation arising out of un-employment in the country	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the natural gas load shedding in the country	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the performance of estate office Islamabad with reference to allotment of government quarters to the employees on merit	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising due to non-up-gradation of trained graduate teacher (B.16) recruited by the FPSC in 2010	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the difficulties being faced by the people due to delay in the preparation of national identity cards in the country	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising out of increasing fees in the universities in Islamabad	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the performance of Pakistan International Air Lines Corporation (PIAC)	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising out of allotment of plots to CDA employees on green belts in Islamabad	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the adverse effects on health due to non-availability of clean drinking water in the federal capital area	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising out of delay in the start of work on the extension project of poly-clinic, Islamabad	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may take into consideration the situation arising out of fast spreading of hepatitis disease in the country	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising out of non-vocation of government quarters by the estate office Islamabad from the unauthorized occupants	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising out of non-provision of security in and around the graveyards in Islamabad	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the increasing deficit in Pakistan Railways	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss Pakistan's trade relations with the neighboring countries	PMLN	Not taken up
This house may discuss the situation arising due to non-up-gradation of the trained graduate teacher (B.16) recruited by the FPSC in 2010	MQM	Not taken up
This house may discuss the performance of embassies of Pakistan abroad	PMLN	Not taken up

2.4 Adjournment Motions

Members may request the Speaker to consider a matter of public importance. By moving the adjournment motion, they try to impress upon the Speaker that their concern regarding a particular issue justifies that the National Assembly adjourn or stop its regular agenda and consider the matter which is being raised.

In the 50th session of National Assembly, only one adjournment motion was moved by an MQM member about the incident of twin bomb blasts in Karachi targeting the Shia community. The motion was taken up by the house.

3.0 Parliamentary Outputs

Lawmaking is one of the most important functions of the parliament. 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 bills, private-member bills, and ordinances. Both government and private bills were on the agenda in this session. The resolutions appearing on supplementary agenda were given precedence to those appearing on the orders of the day. Standing committee reports, on proposed legislation reviewing technical aspects, making recommendations, as well as other reports of attached departments/ministries etc. were presented before the house.

3.1 Government Bills

In the 50th session of National Assembly, the house passed 10 bills while seven bills were introduced and sent to relevant committees for review.

Table 3.1: Government Bills

Sr. No.	Sitting	Government Bills	Status of Bills
1.	3rd	The Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
2.	4th	The Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS) Islamabad Bill 2013	Passed
3.	6th	The Global Change Impact Studies Centre Bill 2013	Passed
4.		The Defence Housing Authority Islamabad Bill 2013	Passed
5.	9th	The Federal Ombudsmen Institutional Reforms Bill 2013	Passed
6.		The Capital University of Science and Technology Bill 2012	Passed
7.	13th	The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
8.	15th	The National Counter Terrorism Authority Bill 2013	Passed
9.	18th	The Anti-terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
10.		The Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS), Islamabad (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
11.	1st	The Federal Employees Benevolent Fund and Group Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
12.	3rd	The Rulers of Acceding States (Abolition of Privy Purses and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
13.	13th	The Pakistan Institute of Fashion Design (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
14.		The Surveying and Mapping Bill 2013	Introduced
15.	16th	The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
16.		The Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2013	Introduced
17.	18th	The Futures Trading Bill 2013	Introduced
18.	19th	The Cost and Management Accountants (Amendment) Bill 2013	Not Taken Up
19.		The Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill 2012	Not Taken Up
20.		The Constitution (Twenty-Third Amendment) Bill 2012	Not Taken Up

3.1.1 Details of Government Passed Bills

1. The National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013¹

The bill seeks to establish a National Counter Terrorism Authority, a focal institution to integrate the state’s effort in countering terrorism and devising comprehensive counter terrorism strategies.

2. The Federal Ombudsmen Institutional Reforms Act, 2013²

The bill was passed to improve the working of Ombudsman officers and ensure speedy disposal of complaints of the citizens, besides giving them the right to move a review petition against the findings of the Ombudsman.

3. The Global Change Impact Studies Centre Act, 2013³

The passage of this bill makes the Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC) an autonomous body established to carry out research in the fields of environment and climatology. Prior to this bill, it was working under the Ministry of Environment.

4. The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2013⁴

The act addresses the limitations of Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 by strengthening provisions related to financing terrorism. The act will enable law enforcement agencies to take actions against those who finance terrorism by freezing/capturing their property.

¹ The National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1363152631_196.pdf

² The Federal Ombudsmen Institutional Reforms Act, 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1362476461_618.pdf

³ The Global Change Impact Studies Centre Act, 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1362476501_268.pdf

⁴ The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1362476591_471.pdf

5. *The Anti-terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill 2013*⁵

The passage of Anti-terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill aims to create a more stringent law and expand the powers of law enforcement agencies for curbing terrorism more effectively. The bill proposes freezing of assets or a ten year life imprisonment for perpetrators of terrorist activities as defined in the bill.

6. *The Capital University of Science and Technology Bill 2012*⁶

The bill permits establishment of Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST) to increase the enrollment of students at all levels of education with more opportunities and strengthening higher education in Pakistan.

7. *The Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS), Islamabad (Amendment) Bill 2013*⁷

The bill seeks to provide degree awarding status to Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto University which was proposed by Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS). It also encourages extensive research and training in the field of medical science.

8. *The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill 2013*⁸

The passage of bill seeks to amend the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan Act, 1997 making it more effective to achieve the objective of regulating domestic capital market and safeguarding the interest of investors.

9. *The Defence Housing Authority Islamabad Bill 2013*⁹

The Defence Housing Authority bill carries out welfare projects for the bereaved families of martyrs, war injured, disabled and other persons of the defence forces through land development schemes.

3.2 Private Members' Bills

Fourteen private member bills were tabled in the house on the orders of the day, however five of them were passed by the house and six were introduced and sent to the relevant committees, while three were not taken up.

3.2.2 Details of Private Bills (Passed)

1. *The Capital University Islamabad Bill 2013*¹⁰

The bill aims to promote the quality higher education in the country by setting up the Capital University. The university will excel the innovation, research and training in fields of social and natural sciences.

2. *The Prohibition of Corporal Punishment Bill 2013*¹¹

The passage of this bill prohibits physical punishment in educational institutions.

3. *The Reproductive Healthcare and Rights Bill 2013*¹²

The bill seeks to promote the reproductive health care rights of men and women so that the mortality rate and complications related to child birth and reproductive health can be minimized.

4. *The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2013*¹³

The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2013 permits filing of nomination papers of leaders of political parties living abroad by cancelling an earlier requirement under which all candidates are required to appear in person before the returning officer to file nomination papers. The bill permits the candidate to file nomination papers by their nominees.

⁵ The Anti-terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1365050846_309.pdf

⁶ The Capital University of Science and Technology Bill 2012. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1361947682_486.pdf

⁷ The Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS), Islamabad (Amendment) Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1361446652_148.pdf

⁸ The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1364795114_853.pdf

⁹ The Defence Housing Authority Islamabad Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1364794877_957.pdf

¹⁰ The Capital University Islamabad Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1361947682_486.pdf

¹¹ The Prohibition of Corporal Punishment Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1363153050_300.pdf

¹² The Reproductive Healthcare and Rights Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1363153338_953.pdf

¹³ The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1363152790_668.pdf

5. The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill 2013¹⁴

The bill aims to improve the mental health and psychological services by providing a code of conduct and reducing the psychological stress and other mental ailments. It aims to support professionals in field of psychology by promoting research and academic integration.

Table 3.2: Private Members' Bills

Sr. No.	Sitting	Private Bills	Status of Bills
1.	7th	The Capital University Islamabad Bill 2013	Passed
2.	17th	The Prohibition of Corporal Punishment Bill 2013	Passed
3.		The Reproductive Healthcare and Rights Bill 2013	Passed
4.		The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2013	Passed
5.	9th	The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill 2013	Passed
6.	7th	The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
7.	17th	The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government Bill 2013	Introduced
8.		The Legal Practitioners and Bar Council (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
9.		The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
10.		The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill 2013	Introduced
11.		The Overseas Pakistanis Facilitation of Voting Bill 2013	Introduced
12.		The Charter of Child Rights Bill 2013	Not Taken Up
13.	12th	The Charter of Child Rights Bill 2012	Not Taken Up
14.	2nd	The Muslim Family Laws (Amendment) Bill 2013	Not Taken Up

3.3 Standing Committee Reports

Laws and state policies originate in the parliament but are scrutinized and put under technical review in the standing committees.

In the 50th session of National Assembly, 28 standing committee reports on various topics were presented in the house. Seventeen of all these were related to bills introduced in the house while one report was presented on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Reports to look into power crises, threats to journalists and media personnel, foreign and domestic loans, allotment of plots to federal employees and accounts of Federal Government were also presented in the house, as well as reports of the National Economic Council and the Public Accounts Committee.

3.4 Resolutions

Through resolutions, the house expresses its opinion, makes recommendations, or conveys a message on a definite and important issue. Resolutions may be moved by ministers or private members. This section contains information on the types and amount of resolutions considered or adopted by the assembly during the session.

Fourteen resolutions were on the orders of the day during the session, however none of these were taken up the house, and instead, eight supplementary resolutions were adopted by the house. These were about the Badami Bagh incident, females' education, International Women's day, the hanging of Afzal Guru, and defamation of parliamentarians by media, among others.

A total of 56 parliamentarians (26 females and 30 male) presented all 28 regular and supplementary resolutions either singly or jointly, belonging variously to the PPPP, PMLN, PML, MQM, MMAP, ANP as well as Independents.

¹⁴ The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill 2013. Retrieved from the website of the National Assembly of Pakistan: http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1363152079_521.pdf

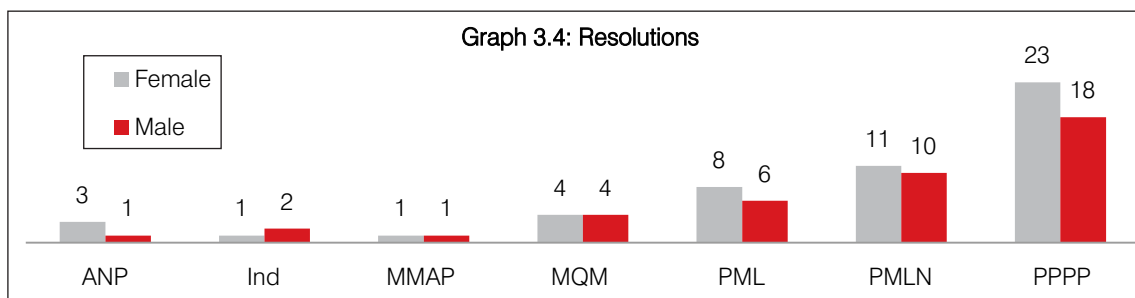


Table 3.4: Resolutions

Sr. No	Sitting	Resolutions	Party	Status
1.	13th	Against parliament's/parliamentarians' image presented in the media and by anchorpersons.	PMLN, PPPP, ANP, MQM	Adopted by the house
2.	15th	Commemoration of international women's day, condemnation of violence against women and appreciation of female Speaker.	IND, MQM PML., PMLN PPPP	Adopted by the house
3.	16th	Condemnation of the <i>Badami Bagh</i> incident, demanding judicial enquiry, and compensation for the victims		Adopted by the house
4.	17th	Against corporal punishment in educational institutions.	PPPP, PMLPMLN	Adopted by the house
5.	19th	Against the hanging of Afzal Guru	MMAP	Adopted by the house
6.	19th	Resolution to support the sacrifices of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto for democracy	PPPP	Adopted by the house
7.	19th	Condemnation of discouragement of female education	ANP, INDP, MQM, PML, PMLN, PPPP	Adopted by the house
8.	19th	Appreciation of Women's Parliamentary Caucus	ANP, INDP, MMAP, MQM, PML, PMLN PPPP	Adopted by the house
9.	2nd	Load-shedding	MQM	Not Taken Up
10.	2nd	Increase in basic salaries of government employees	PMLN	Not Taken Up
11.	2nd	Ending beggary in ICT	PMLN	Not Taken Up
12.	2nd	Extending PIMS and Poly-clinic Islamabad	PMLN	Not Taken Up
13.	2nd	Water shortage	PMLN	Not Taken Up
14.	7th	PIAC audit	PMLN	Not Taken Up
15.	7th	Free medical treatment in government hospitals	PMLN	Not Taken Up
16.	7th	Fixing of consultation fee of private doctors	PMLN	Not Taken Up
17.	7th	Shortage of government houses in Karachi and Islamabad	PMLN	Not Taken Up
18.	12th	Alternative energy exploration	PMLN	Not Taken Up
19.	12th	Narcotics control	PMLN	Not Taken Up
20.	12th	Price control authorities' activation	MQM	Not Taken Up
21.	12th	Up gradation of railways	PMLN	Not Taken Up
22.	12th	Fixing of pensions of federal government employees	PMLN	Not Taken Up
23.	17th	Increase in basic salaries of federal government employees	MQM	Not Taken Up
24.	17th	Against quakery	PMLN	Not Taken Up
25.	17th	PIAC deficit	PMLN	Not Taken Up
26.	7th	Free treatment in government hospitals	PMLN	Not Taken Up
27.	7th	Shortage of government houses in Karachi and Lahore	PMLN	Not Taken Up
28.	12th	Alternative energy exploration	PMLN	Not Taken Up

4.0 Order and Institutionalization

This section deals with issues raised through points of order and the time consumed by them. It also reviews the questions of privileges and the instances of protests, walkouts or boycotts during the session.

4.1 Points of Order

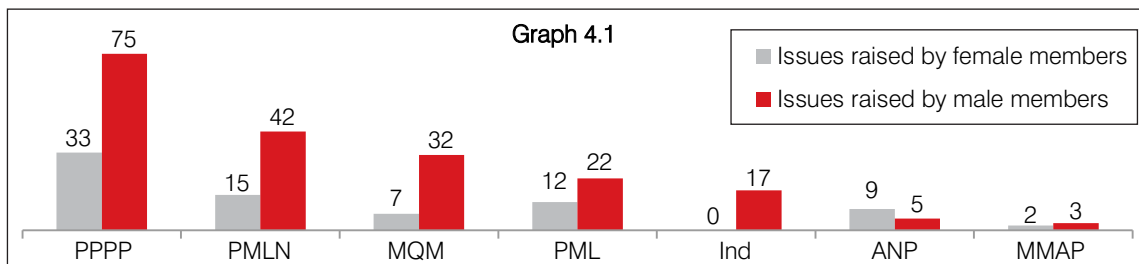
Points of order are raised on the floor of the house when a member has to highlight a breach in the assembly rules and procedures and code of conduct. A PO's admissibility in the assembly output is subject to the Speaker's ruling. Members erroneously use points of order to speak on matters of national, international or constituency level importance, and these therefore do not contribute to any assembly output. However, these speeches and rejoinders give an idea of members' interests and priorities.

One hundred legislators spoke on 208 point of orders consuming 38% (966 minutes) of the total session time. The last sitting of the 50th session saw the most POs (52,) consuming nearly six hours in speeches and rejoinders.

Table 4.1: Points of Order

Sitting No.	Points of Order	Time Consumed
1st	3	5
2nd	3	3
3rd	10	115
4th	0	0
5th	10	40
6th	3	15
7th	10	20
8th	19	75
9th	5	16
10th	7	8
11th	3	4
12th	9	28
13th	19	108
14th	5	8
15th	1	3
16th	19	50
17th	21	48
18th	9	10
19th	52	350
Total	208	966

A total of 272 issues were raised by 100 MNA's in all, among them, 28% of the issues were raised by female parliamentarians and the remaining 72% by male members of National Assembly. PPPP remained ahead of all parties as 30 MNAs participated in raising POs followed by PMLN with 27 members, MQM (16), PML (15) and Ind (6).



Review of five years' work, praising parliament members, minority issues and business of the house were discussed in most POs. Situation of law and order was raised in 16 POs by parliamentarians.

Table 4.1.1: Issues raised through POs

Sr. No.	Issues	Points of Order
1	Performance of the Federal Government	42
2	Criticism on the Federal Government	38
3	Business of the House	21
4	Performance of the National Assembly	19
5	Minority Rights	17
6	Law and Order	16
7	Miscellaneous Affairs	12
8	Election Commission of Pakistan	11
9	Terrorism	7
10	Request for fateha	6
11	Employment	5
12	Energy and Power	5
13	Women Rights	5
14	FATA related issues	3
15	Gwadar Port	3
16	ICT related issues	3
17	Local Government System	3
18	Ministerial Absence	3
19	Perks and Privileges of Members	3
20	Petroleum and Natural Resources	3
21	Sindh Related Issues	3
22	Taxation	3
23	Agriculture	2
24	Balochistan Related Issues	2
25	Ban on You -tube	2
26	Communications	2
27	Condemnation of Abbas town incident	2
28	Elections	2
29	Foreign affairs	2
30	Hajj Affairs	2
31	Issuance of passports	2
32	Media	2
33	Natural Calamities	2
34	Rights of the Disabled Persons	2
35	Sports	2
36	Telecommunications	2
37	Civil Aviation Authority	1
38	Decorum of the House	1

Sr. No.	Issues	Points of Order
38	Decorum of the House	1
39	Democracy	1
40	Development Funds	1
41	Foreign Investment	1
42	Kala Bagh Dam	1
43	Narcotics	1
44	New provinces	1
45	Pakistan Electronic Media Regularity Authority	1
46	Sectarianism	1
47	Southern Punjab Issues	1
48	Tribute to Parween Rehman	1
49	Water and Power	1
Total		272

4.2 Walkouts, Boycotts and Protests

The 50th session witnessed 14 walkouts and two protests consuming four hours and 47 minutes. The longest walkout by a PPPP member was on the twin Quetta blasts. PMLN Members staged a 60-minute walkout after the Speaker ignored the lack of quorum they pointed out. A 45-minute long walkout was staged by members of MMAP and MQM over the law and order situation. Members of MQM and PMLN staged their protest over Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS) Islamabad Bill 2013. Walkouts were also observed on various issues such as Badami Bagh incident and petroleum price hike.

Table 4.2: Details of walkouts, boycotts and protests

Sitting No.	Party	Reason	Time (Min)
1st	PPPP	Over recent Quetta bomb blast	97
	ANP		5
	MMAP	Against the continuous of proceedings during debate on law and order	5
	MQM		45
2nd	MQM	Over recent Quetta bomb blast	7
	PMLN		14
4th	PMLN	Over Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (PIMS) Islamabad Bill 2013	5
	MQM		5
5th	MQM	Over SPLGA repeal bill in Sindh	14
6th	MQM	Over the remarks of the Sindh Education Minister over not allowing a university in Hyderabad	8
7th	MMAP	Over the killing of laborers in Pasni	6
10th	MQM	Increase in the prices of petroleum	7
	PMLN	Increase in the prices of petroleum	1
14th	PMLN (Minority member)	Against the absence of most parliamentary leaders and the members of the house from the proceedings	3
15th	PMLN	He pointed out the quorum but was ignored by the Speaker	60
16th	MQM	Over the Badami Bagh incidence	5
Total			287 (minutes)

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.

Chairperson

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

Calling Attention Notice

A notice by which a special question of public importance involving law and order may be raised.

Chair

The presiding officer at a meeting of the house.

Committee

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

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.

Minister

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

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 assembly on any day.

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 chair.

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 assembly necessary to conduct the business of the assembly. Under Article 55 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.

Starred Question

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

Sitting

A meeting of the assembly on a day.

Table

The table of the house.

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, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2010, 2011 and 2012
- Implemented a unique methodology to observe parliamentary proceedings under its Parliamentary Watch Project
- Monitors public institutions across Pakistan and issues monthly reports on the state and performance of educational, health and other local level institutions. In addition, monthly reports on prices, crimes, incidence of disease, caseload in lower courts and political and electoral violence are issued

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

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