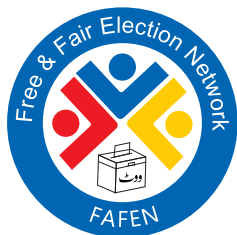


NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN

# FAFEN PARLIAMENT MONITOR

9<sup>th</sup> SESSION

April 22 - May 13 2019



**FREE AND FAIR ELECTION NETWORK**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ANP	Awami National Party
AMLP	Awami Muslim League Pakistan
BNP	Balochistan National Party
CANs	Calling Attention Notices
IND	Independent Member
MQMP	Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf
GDA	Grand Democratic Alliance
BAP	Balochistan Awami Party
JWP	Jamhoori Wattan Party
MMAP	Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal Pakistan

Total  
Sittings

14

Working  
Days

22

Cumulative  
Duration

35

Hours &amp; 21 Minutes

Total  
Break Time

3

Hours &amp; 11 Minutes

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TRANSACTS 71 PERCENT AGENDA DURING 9TH SESSION

- 169 lawmakers remain inactive during the proceedings
- Private Members' Bill passed to increase representation to ex-FATA

The National Assembly transacted 71 percent of its scheduled business during its ninth session with 173 lawmakers participating in the proceedings. The House passed one private members' bill to increase representation of ex-FATA in National and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assemblies while it also witnessed introduction of 26 other private members' bills during the session that continued between April 22 and May 13, 2019.

The regular and supplementary agenda brought before the House during ninth session comprised 44 private members' bill and 17 government bills, 15 resolutions, 20 Calling Attention Notices (CANs), ten standing committee reports, 11 motions under Rule-259, a motion of thanks and four amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in National Assembly .

Of 342 lawmakers, 173 (51 percent) including 126 men and 47 women contributed to the proceedings of the House by sponsoring various parliamentary interventions and/or contributing in the debates. Among the participating lawmakers, 60 belonged to PTI, 50 to PML-N, 32 to PPPP, 13 to MMAP, four to BNP-M, two each to BAP, GDA and Independent and one of PML.

On the other hand, as many as 169 (49 percent) lawmakers including 147 men and 22 women did not participate in the proceedings throughout the session. The lawmakers who did not participate in the proceedings belonged to PTI (97), PML-N (34), PPPP (22), PML (4), MMAP and BAP (3), two Independents and one each of AMLP, ANP, GDA and JWP.

The House proceedings commenced with an average delay of 23 minutes in each sitting while none of the sitting started on its scheduled time. The maximum delay of 43 minutes was witnessed during 12th sitting. The shortest sitting during the session i.e. 10th sitting, continued for an hour and 23 minutes, whereas the longest sitting i.e. sixth sitting, continued for four hours and 20 minutes.

Though the question of quorum did not surface throughout the session,

Average  
Sitting Delay

23

Minutes

Members at Outset  
(Average)

57

present

Members at End  
(Average)

137

present

Maximum  
Members

238

the proceedings were interrupted on six occasions by the opposition lawmakers' protests. They took exception to the remarks of various cabinet members and hike in petroleum prices. As many as two sittings were adjourned while the protests and sloganeering were underway in the House.

The session's proceedings were repeatedly interrupted by the protests, walkouts or lack of quorum. The opposition lawmakers staged five walkouts and three protests over the issues relating to legislation, use of improper language and exclusion of questions from the agenda. Moreover, they identified the quorum four times that led to the suspension of proceedings for 49 minutes and an early adjournment of a sitting.

## 1 Session, Duration and Attendance

The ninth session of the National Assembly comprised 13 sittings spanning over 22 working days and held between April 22, 2019 to May 13, 2019. The cumulative duration of the sittings was 35 hours and 21 minutes including a period of three hours and 11 minutes when the proceedings remained suspended. Each sitting, on an average, started around 23 minutes behind the scheduled time and lasted two hours and 32 minutes. The Prime Minister attended two sittings for a total of three hours and two minutes (nine percent of the proceedings) while the Leader of the Opposition did not attend any of the sitting.

The parliamentary leader of BAP attended all 14 sittings and was followed by GDA, PML and PPPP who attended 13 sittings each. Moreover, PML-N leader attended 11 sittings, MMAP nine, MQM six, ANP and AMLP five each and BNP-M four sittings during the session. According to the headcount conducted by FAFEN observer, an average of 57 lawmakers were present at the start and 137 at the adjournment of each sitting. The Speaker attended 11 sittings and presided over the session for 21 hours and eight minutes (60 percent of the proceedings) while the Deputy Speaker was present in eight and chaired the proceedings for 11 hours and two minutes (31 percent of the proceedings).

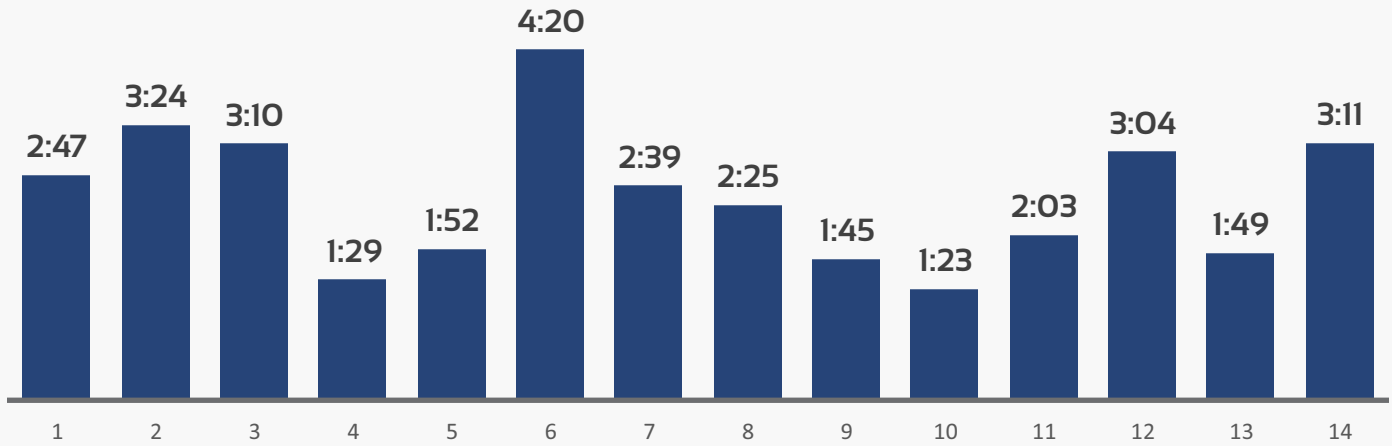
## 2 Assembly Output

This section deals with the legislative business, resolutions, amendment to the rules, reports and documents presented before the House during the session.

### 2.1 Legislation

The legislative agenda brought before the House during the ninth session comprised 61 legislative proposals including 44 private members' bills and 17 government bills. The House passed three of these bills – two government and one private member – while rejecting six private members' bills. Moreover, 41 bills – 26 private members' and 15

## SITTINGS DURATION (hh:mm)



## KEY MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE



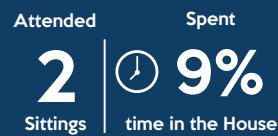
Speaker



Deputy Speaker



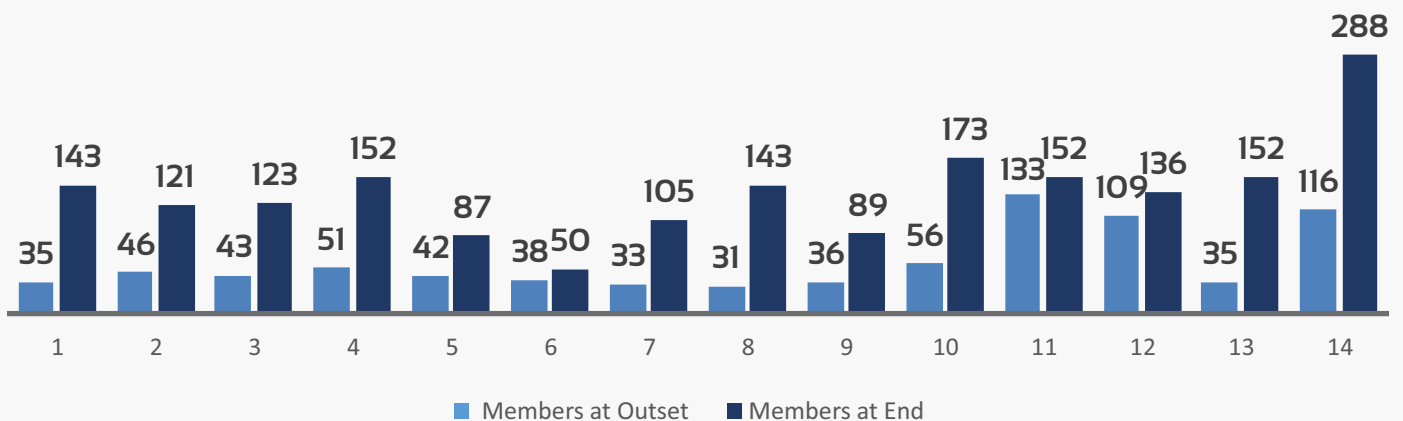
Prime Minister



Leader of the Opposition



## MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE



# PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS ATTENDANCE



**Khalid Hussain Magsi**



**BAP**

14  
attended



**Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui**



**GDA**

13  
attended



**Ch. Tariq Bashir Cheema**



**PML**

13  
attended



**Syed Naveed Qammar**



**PPPP**

13  
attended



**Rana Tanveer / Khawaja Asif**



**PML-N**

6/8-5/6  
attended



**Asad Mehmood**



**MMAP**

9  
attended

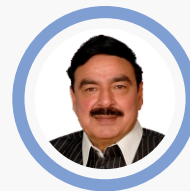


**Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui**



**MQMP**

6  
attended



**Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed**



**AMLP**

5  
attended



**M. Akhtar Mengal**



**BNP-M**

4  
attended

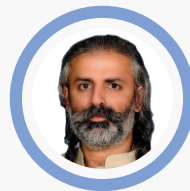


**Amir Haider Khan**



**ANP**

5  
attended



**Shah Zain Bugti**



**JWP**

0  
attended

61

Total  
Bills

41

Bills  
Introduced

44

Private  
Members'  
Bills

3

Bills  
Passed

government – were referred to the concerned committees following their first reading. A private member's bills moved by a PTI lawmaker was clubbed with a bill of MMAP legislator while one bill was withdrawn by its mover. The remaining nine private members' bills were not addressed during the session.

The male private lawmakers introduced 26 bills while the female lawmakers initiated 18 bills during the session. Moreover, the private lawmakers belonging to PTI moved 16 bills followed by PML-N (eight), PPPP & MQM (six each), MMAP and Independent lawmakers (four each).

### 2.1.1 Passed Government Bills

#### 1 The Elections (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill provides for grouping two or more separate areas into one constituency for elections to provincial assembly in newly merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

- Mover: Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Ali Muhammad Khan)
- Date of Introduction: January 25, 2019
- Date of Passage of Bill: April 25, 2019

#### 2 The Heavy Industries Taxila Board (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill seeks to amend the Heavy Industries Taxila (HIT) Board Act, 1997 in order to expand the scope of commercial activities and potential of HIT.

- Mover: Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Ali Muhammad Khan)
- Date of Introduction: March 4, 2019
- Date of Presentation of Committee Report: April 29, 2019
- Date of Passage of Bill: April 29, 2019

### 2.1.2 Private Member's Bill Passed

#### 1 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 51 and 106)

The bill seeks to increase the number of seats allocated to erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in the National Assembly and the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

- Mover: Mohsin Dawar (Independent)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Date of Presentation of Committee Report: May 9, 2019
- Date of Passage of Bill: May 13, 2019

### 2.1.3 Government Bills Introduced:

#### 1 The Control of Narcotics Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill provides for an increase in the punishment for trafficking of "Methamphetamine" commonly known as "ice" and "crystal meth" keeping in view the substance and quantity of drugs.

- Mover: Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Ali Muhammad)
- Date of Introduction: April 22, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

#### 2 The Anti Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill provides for increasing the maximum punishment for money laundering to 10 years with a fine of five million rupees.

- Mover: Minister of State for Revenue (Muhammad Hammad Azhar)
- Date of Introduction: April 22, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs

26

Private  
Members'  
Bills Introduced

1

Clubbed  
Bill

6

Bills  
Rejected

1

Private  
Member's  
Bill Withdrawn**3 The Foreign Exchange Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

The bill seeks to regulate the outflow of funds from the country through foreign currency accounts and local transportation of foreign exchange.

- Mover: Minister of State for Revenue (Muhammad Hammad Azhar)
- Date of Introduction: April 22, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs

**4 The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council Ordinance, 2019 (Ordinance No.II of 2019)**

This bill seeks to regulate and control the medical professional and establish a uniform minimum standard of basic medical education and training and recognition of qualifications in medicine and dentistry.

- Mover: Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination (Dr. Nausheen Hamid)
- Date of introduction: April 22, 2018
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination

**5 The Zainab Alert, Response and Recovery Bill, 2019**

The bill aims to raise the required alert and initiate the responses required for the recovery of missing, abducted, abused or kidnapped children in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

- Mover: Minister for Human Rights (Mehrunnisa Shireen Mazari)
- Date of Introduction: April 24, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

**6 The Muslim Family Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Section 4)**

The bill seeks to amend the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance 1961 for allowing the followers of Fiqh Jafria to settle the matters of inheritance according to their interpretation of Quran and Sunnah.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Law and Justice

**7 The Muslim Family Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Section 7)**

The bill seeks to amend the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance 1961 for allowing the followers of Fiqh Jafaria to settle their matters of dissolution of marriage (talaq) according to their interpretation of Quran and Sunnah.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Referred to: Committee on Law and Justice

**8 The Letters of Administration and Succession Certificates Bill, 2019**

The bill provides for improving the mechanism for issuance of Letters of Administration and Succession Certificates through National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) Sahulat Centres to prevent forgery and fraud in inheritance-related issues.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Law and Justice

**9 The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

This bill provides for speedy disposal of civil cases within two years without compromising the fundamental right to fair trial.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Interior



**10: The Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Bill, 2019**

This bill provides for a speedy redressal mechanism for hearing the complaints of women deprived of their inheritance rights.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Law and Justice

**11: The Whistleblower Protection and Vigilance Commission Bill, 2019**

The bill provides for setting up a Whistleblower Protection and Vigilance Commission to facilitate whistleblowing on corruption in government departments and protect the whistleblowers from disadvantageous measures.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Law and Justice

**12: The Legal Aid and Justice Authority Bill, 2019**

The bill aims to establish a Legal Aid and Justice Authority for providing legal and financial assistance to poor and vulnerable sections of society for accessing the justice system.

- Mover: Minister for Law and Justice (Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem)
- Date of Introduction: May 2, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Law and Justice

**13: The University of Islamabad Bill, 2019**

The bill provides legal framework for setting up the University of Islamabad at Bahria Golf City, Murree Expressway Islamabad.

- Mover: Parliamentary Secretary for Federal Education and Professional Training (Ms. Wajiha Akram)
- Date of Introduction: May 9, 2019
- Status: Referred to Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training

**14: The Efficient Recovery of Mortgage-backed Securities Bill, 2019**

The bill provides for the efficient recovery of mortgage-backed securities by financial institutions.

- Mover: Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema)
- Date of Introduction: May 13, 2019
- Referred to: Committee on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs

**15: The Naya Pakistan Housing Authority Bill, 2019**

The bill provides for the establishment of "Naya Pakistan Housing Authority" to regulate the private sector through an enabling environment which will regulate debt to GDP ratio by adapting better legal frameworks and minimize housing lag on supply side.

- Mover: Minister for Housing and Works (Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema)
- Date of Introduction: May 13, 2019
- Referred to: Committee on Housing and Works

**2.1.4 Private Members Bills Introduced****1: The Eradication of Riba Bill, 2019**

The bill aims at prohibiting the interest-based foreign and domestic loans.

- Mover: Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali (MMAF)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs

## 2 The Chamber of Agriculture Bill, 2019

The bill provides legal framework for establishing Chamber of Agriculture aimed at creating a platform for agriculturists to seek redressal of their grievances and promote agriculture.

- Mover: Riaz Fatyana (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on National Food Security and Research

## 3 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 1, 51, 59, 106, 154, 175A, 198 and 218)

The bill seeks to amend the Constitution for the creation of Bahawalpur and South Punjab provinces. It suggests to constitute a national commission for the creation of new provinces.

- Mover: Rana Sana Ullah Khan (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

## 4 The Prohibition of Forced Religious Conversion Bill, 2019

The bill seeks to criminalize the forced religious conversion and protect the victims of this practice.

- Mover: Naveed Aamir Jeeva (PPPP)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Inter-faith Harmony

## 5 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 51 and 106)

The bill seeks to increase the number of seats allocated to erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in the National Assembly and the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

- Mover: Sajid Khan (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

## 6 The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill seeks to create a deterrence against the misuse of the Protection Against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2010 by suggesting punishment for false complaints.

- Mover: Shahida Rehmani (PPPP)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

## 7 The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2019;

The bill suggests to enhance punishments for involvement in corruption.

- Mover: Sher Akbar Khan (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

## 8 The Family Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The bill seeks to amend the existing law for the appointment of an arbitrator from the families of spouses in case of any conflict between the parties for the purpose of conciliation.

- Mover: Syed Javed Husnain (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 23, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

## 9 The Control of Narcotics Substances (Amendment) Bill 2019

The bill provides for stricter punishments for trafficking or carrying Amphetamine, ICE or other forms of heroin.

- Mover: Noor Alam Khan (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

**10 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 1, 5, 59, 106, 175 A and 218)**

The bill seeks to amend the Constitution for creation of Hazara province.

- Mover: Ali Khan Jadoon (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**11 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 1, 5, 59, 106, 154, 175 A, 198 and 2018)**

The bill seeks to amend the Constitution for creation of Hazara province.

- Mover: Murtaza Javed Abbasi (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**12 The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill 2019**

This bill seeks to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 for increasing the minimum age for marriage age to 18 years and for enhancing punishments for underage marriages.

- Mover: Murtaza Javed Abbasi (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**13 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 51, 76 and 106)**

The bill provides for delimiting the constituencies for elections to the federal and provincial assemblies on the basis of the registered voters instead of general population.

- Mover: Kishwer Zehra (MQMP)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**14 The Disabled Persons (Employment and Rehabilitation) (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

The bill seeks to make the public offices accessible for persons with disabilities (PWDs) and also seeks to discourage the misuse of job-quota reserved for PWDs in public and private offices.

- Mover: Tahira Aurangzeb (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

**15 The Islamabad Capital Territory Prohibition of Corporal Punishment Bill, 2019**

The bill provides for a ban on corporal punishment to children in Islamabad Capital Territory and their protection from all forms of physical and mental violence.

- Mover: Mehnaz Akber Aziz (PML-N)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

**16 The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

The bill seeks to make provision for donation of human organs or tissues in case accidental death. This donation may be announced at the time of applying for driving license.

- Mover: Kishwer Zehra (MQMP)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination

**17 The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

The bill seeks to amend the Pakistan Citizenship Act, 1951 to regulate the award of Pakistani citizenship to the persons who are living in the country for more than twenty years or were born in the country to foreign parents living here due to conditions like civil war in their home country.

- Mover: Riaz Fatyana (PTI)
- Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

**18 The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Section 489F)**

The bill aims to increase the punishments for issuing fake or fraudulent bank cheques dishonored by the banks.

- ... Mover: Kishwer Zehra (MQMP)
- ... Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

**19 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 51 and 106)**

The bill seeks to amend the Constitution for increasing the number of seats reserved for non-Muslim minorities' in National and Provincial Assemblies.

- ... Mover: Dr. Darshan (PML-N)
- ... Date of Introduction: April 30, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**20 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

This bill seeks to amend the Constitution for the creation of South Punjab province.

- ... Mover(s): Makhdoom Syed Sami-ul-Hassan Gillani, Sardar Nasrullah Khan Dreshak, Zahoor Hussain Qureshi
- ... Date of Introduction: May 13, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Special Committee

**21 The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2019. (Section 166A, B, 176A, B, C, D, E, F and G)**

The bill seeks to introduce reforms in the crime reporting and investigation processes to curb the practice of violence and ensure the protection of fundamental rights of accused persons.

- ... Mover: Kishwer Zehra (MQM)
- ... Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

**22 The Islamabad Capital Territory Domestic Workers Bill, 2019**

This bill provides for the protection of the rights of domestic workers, regulation of their terms of employment and working conditions, and provision of social protection to them.

- ... Mover: Mehnaz Akber Aziz (PML-N)
- ... Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

**23 The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Article 51 and 59)**

This bill seeks to amend the Constitution to provide Persons with Disabilities representation in the Senate and National Assembly.

- ... Mover: Kishwer Zehra (MQM)
- ... Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Law and Justice

**24 The Protection of Persons against forced Religious Conversion Bill, 2019**

The bill seeks to protect the citizens against forced conversion of their religion by criminalizing this practice.

- ... Mover: Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani (PTI)
- ... Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Inter-faith Harmony

**25 The Day Care Centres Bill, 2019**

The bill proposes to set up day-care centers at public and private organizations to facilitate working mothers.

- ... Mover: Shazia Marri (PPPP)
- ... Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- ... Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Human Rights

4

Resolutions  
Adopted

10

Resolutions  
Not Taken Up

4

Amendments  
Taken Up

7

Reports  
Presented

## 26 The Islamabad Capital Territory Prohibition of Interest on Private Loans Bill, 2019

The bill seeks to prohibit the charging of interest on private loans.

- Mover: Moulana Abdul Akbar Chitrali (MMA)
- Date of Introduction: May 8, 2019
- Status: Referred to Standing Committee on Interior

### 2.2 Resolutions

The House adopted only two out of 12 resolutions appearing on its agenda during the session. Both adopted resolutions were initiated by the government and sought extension for the Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 and the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council Ordinance, 2019 for a further period of 120 days. According to the Constitution, the legislatures may extend the life of ordinances through a resolution to this effect.

In addition, the House also passed two resolutions moved as supplementary agenda. Through these supplementary resolutions, the lawmakers marked the Labor Day and recommended the government to restore the regulatory customs duty on cotton import besides setting a minimum support price for the crop.

The House did not address ten private members' resolutions included on its agenda. These unaddressed resolutions were related to reduction in the prices of life saving medicines, provision of electricity to villages, inflation management, awareness around public cleanliness, imposition of ban plastic bags, reduction in environmental pollution, restoration of the educational increments of all federal government employees, abolition of Riba system, uniform pricing mechanism for medicines and reduction in unemployment. These resolutions were sponsored individually or jointly by the lawmakers belonging to PTI, PML-N and PPP.

### 2.3 Reports

Various standing committees of the House presented seven reports to the plenary during the session. These reports gave their recommendations on the legislative bills referred by the House to the committees. Below is a list of the reports and their relevant committees.

#	Name of Standing Committee	Subject of the Report	Date of Presentation
1.	<b>Law and Justice</b>	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019	April 22, 2019
2.	<b>Defence Production</b>	The Heavy Industries Taxila Board (Amendment) Bill, 2019	April 22, 2019
3.	<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2019] (Ordinance No. I of 2019	April 22, 2019
4.	<b>Law and Justice</b>	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019	May 8, 2019
5.	<b>Law and Justice</b>	The Islamabad High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2019	May 8, 2019
6.	<b>Parliamentary Affairs</b>	The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2019	May 8, 2019
7.	<b>Law and Justice</b>	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2019	May 9, 2019

A total of seven reports were presented in the House during the session. The Standing Committee on Law and Justice presented three reports on as many Constitution (Amendment) Bills, 2019 and the Islamabad High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2019. A report on the Heavy Industries Taxila Board (Amendment) Bill, 2019 was presented by the Standing Committee on Defence Production. The Standing Committee on Parliamentary Affairs presented the reports on the Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Ordinance No. I of 2019) and the Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Additionally, the government presented two statutory reports to the House. These reports are listed below:

## 2.4 Amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business

The private lawmakers belonging to MMAP and PPPP made three motions for amending 12 rules of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007. The House referred these motions to the Standing Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges for review and recommendations. Below are the details of the proposed amendments:

### **Provision for Prayer Break:**

The proposal seeks to add a new rule 292A to make provision for a 20-minute mandatory break whence a call for prayers (Azaan) is made during the proceedings.

*Mover: Salahudin Ayubi (MMAP)*

### **Female Representation in Committees:**

The proposal seeks to amend rules 200(1), 206, 208(1), 210, 212, 244(A)(2), 244(B) and 244(C)(2) to ensure one-fourth representation of women in the House committees.

*Mover: Shazia Marri (PPPP)*

### **Prime Minister's Question Hour:**

The proposal seeks to amend rules 69 in order to make provision for holding a half-hour Prime Minister's Question Time on first Wednesday of each session.

*Mover: Nafisa Shah (PPPP)*

### **Committee of the Whole House:**

The amendments proposed to rules 122 and 244 of the Rules of Procedure provide for constituting the Committee of the Whole House and consideration of legislative proposals in the Committee of the Whole House.

*Mover: Nafisa Shah (PPPP)*

### **Public Petition:**

The proposal seeks to insert a new chapter XXVIII in the Rules of Procedure in order to make provision for submission and disposal of public petitions to the National Assembly.

*Mover: Nafisa Shah (PPPP)*

382

Starred  
Questions

181

Supplementary  
Questions

93

Questions  
Taken Up

189

Questions  
Unstarred

### 3 Representation and Responsiveness

This section gives statistical as well as qualitative overview of legislator's interventions in the House – Questions, Calling Attention Notices (CANs), Motions under Rule 259 or any other motions – for the oversight of government and to articulate issues of public interest and importance

#### 3.1 Questions

According to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, the first hour of every sitting except Monday is reserved for asking and answering questions by the members. These questions can be starred or unstarred. The Rules of Procedure require the cabinet ministers to answer a starred question orally as well as in writing while the un-starred questions are to be replied only in writing.

During the reporting session, the House held Question Hours during 11 sittings and 571 questions – 382 starred and 189 unstarred – were listed for answers during these sittings. Out of 382 starred questions, the House took up 93 questions for answers during the proceedings while leaving the remaining 193 questions were not taken up. The lawmakers asked 181 supplementary questions as well for further elucidation of the answers given by the government.

Out of 342 lawmakers, 102 including 71 male and 31 female exercised their right to ask questions from the government during the session. The male lawmakers asked 382 questions and female lawmakers 189 questions. These lawmakers belonged to BAP, BNP-M, GDA, MMAP, JWP, MQM, GDA, PML-N, PPP and PTI.

The questions appearing on the list were addressed to 36 ministries or departments of the government with the Ministry of Energy receiving the highest number of questions i.e. 105.

Following table shows the number of questions addressed to each ministry.

Name of Ministr	No. of Questions
<b>Federal Education and Professional Training</b>	30
<b>Aviation Division</b>	8
<b>Cabinet Division</b>	6
<b>Climate Change Division</b>	12
<b>Commerce and Textile</b>	22
<b>Communication</b>	18
<b>Defence</b>	2
<b>Defence Production</b>	2
<b>Energy</b>	105
<b>Establishment Division</b>	8
<b>Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs</b>	50
<b>Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development</b>	1

20

Calling  
Attention  
Notices

17

CANs  
Taken Up

3

CANs  
Remained  
Unaddressed/  
Deferred

11

Motions  
under Rule  
259

Name of Ministr	No. of Questions
Foreign Affairs	16
Housing & Works	15
Human Rights	9
Industries & Production	10
Information and Broadcasting	9
Information Technology and Telecommunication	3
Interior	101
Inter-Provincial Coordination	6
Law and Justice	9
Narcotics Control	1
National Food Security and Research	5
National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination	34
Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development	17
Parliamentary Affairs	1
Planning, Development and Reform	17
Postal Services	4
Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division	9
Prime Minister's Office	5
Privatization	4
Railways	9
Religious Affairs and Inter-faith Harmony	7
Science and Technology	5
States and Frontier Regions	1
Water Resources	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>571</b>

### 3.2 Calling Attention Notices

The House took up 17 out of 20 Call Attention Notices (CANs) appearing on the agenda. These notices were individually or jointly sponsored by 50 male and 20 female lawmakers belonging to PTI, PML-N, BNP-M, PPPP, MMAP and MQM.

The addressed CANs highlighted the issues relating to the damage caused to the crops due to rains, increase in the electricity load shedding, hike in petroleum prices, flood-relief measures for Balochistan, trade barriers for dates' export, unavailability of funds for the Neurosciences Centre at Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) Islamabad, state of human rights in the country, abolishing cadre of Sales Officers in State Life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan, unavailability of funds for hearing impaired children in CDA Hospital Islamabad, unavailability of admission forms to students in Islamabad, purchase of contaminated wheat by PASSCO, high markup on agricultural loans by Microfinance Banks, performance of cell phone



26

Points of  
Order

6

Walkouts &  
Protests

towers, increase in the number of polio cases, steps for release of fishermen detained in Indian jails, and the ban on new electricity and gas connections meters in Islamabad.

The House did not address two CANs related to proposed cut in the budget of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and depriving people of development funds under Sustainable Development Program while another notice regarding protection to educational institutions of non-Muslim community was deferred.

### 3.3 Motions

The government and the private lawmakers had sought discussions on the matters of public importance through 11 Motions under Rule 259. However, the House did not take up any of these motions for discussion. Moreover, the House skipped the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address to the Parliament. The Motion of Thanks is pending on the agenda since October 17, 2018.

The House did not address two CANs related to proposed cut in the budget of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and depriving people of development funds under Sustainable Development Program while another notice regarding protection to educational institutions of non-Muslim community was deferred.

## 4 Order and Institutionalization

Order and institutionalization are important for an efficient and productive legislature. This section provides information about the members' Question of Privilege, Points of Order, Quorum and any instances of walkout, protest or boycott during the proceeding.

### 4.1 Points of Order/ Matters under Rule 18

As many as 26 Points of Order (POs) were raised in the House that consumed an hour and 42 minutes of the proceedings. These POs highlighted the issues related to legislative business, politics, creation of new provinces, deal with International Monetary Fund (IMF), circular debt and governance. Moreover, the lawmakers raised five matters of public importance under Rule 18 consuming 51 minutes of the proceedings.

### 4.2 Walkouts and Protests

The opposition lawmakers staged protests on six occasions during the session. Half of these protests were jointly staged by all opposition parties including PML-N, PPPP and MMAP while the remaining half were held by the lawmakers belonging to PML-N and PPPP.

These protests were instigated by the remarks and comments made by the Ministers for Power Division, Communications and Postal Services, and Aviation. Moreover, the opposition also protested against the hike in petroleum prices and the Chair's refusal to allow PPPP lawmaker to speak on point of order. Cumulatively, these protests continued for 45 minutes.

## ABOUT FAFEN

- FAFEN is one of the most credible networks among civil society organizations working to strengthen citizens' voice and accountability in Pakistan since 2006.
- FAFEN has harnessed information technology for real-time monitoring, facilitation and technical backstopping of partners for effective and result-based program delivery.
- FAFEN is the only civil society group to have been invited by the Judicial Commission to present the evidence of illegalities and irregularities documented through the course of General Elections 2013 observation. The systemic and procedural issues identified by FAFEN have been acknowledged by the Commission in its detailed findings.
- FAFEN's recommendations for electoral reforms have contributed to finalization of the Elections Act, 2017 and helped improve the quality of public and political discourse on elections. Leading political parties and media houses extensively use FAFEN's election findings and analysis to build upon the cases for reforms.
- FAFEN's advocacy for parliamentary transparency, accountability and reforms has shaped public discourse on parliamentary reforms. Improved citizens' access to parliamentary information, including daily public release of parliamentarians' attendance records can be directly attributed to FAFEN's work.
- FAFEN deployed around 18,000, 40,000 and 20,000 non-partisan and trained observers for the systematic observation of the General Elections 2008, 2013 and 2018, respectively.
- With more than 25,000 followers on Twitter and around 143,000 on Facebook, FAFEN is considered to be one of the most reliable sources of electoral and parliamentary information in the country.

**Free and Fair Election Network**

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

[www.openparliament.pk](http://www.openparliament.pk)

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*This report is based on direct observation of the proceedings of the National Assembly conducted by Free and Fair Election Network. Every effort has been made to keep this report, which deals with on-floor performance of the Members, accurate and comprehensive. Errors and omissions are excepted.*