

FAFEN Parliament Monitor

Senate  
of Pakistan  
**97th Session**  
(August 19-30, 2013)

Free and Fair Election Network  
[www.fafen.org](http://www.fafen.org)

### **Abbreviations**

ANP	Awami National Party
BNP-A	Balochistan National Party (Awami)
IND	Independent Member
JUI-F	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazal-ur-Rahman)
MQM	Muttahida Qaumi Movement
NP	National Party
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-F	Pakistan Muslim League (Functional)
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
PO	Point of Order
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians



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

## Executive Summary

Senate's 97th session was marked by the introduction of six private members' bills, three of them seeking amendments in the constitution.

The three bills sought amendments in articles 1, 51 and 106 and 140A of the constitution to empower the parliament to create new provinces, give workers representation in the national and provincial assemblies, and to provide for specified time in the constitution for holding local government elections.

Additionally, the Un-attended Orphans (Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill 2013, the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill, 2013 and the Pakistan Pharmacy Council Bill 2013 were also introduced during the session.

The 12-day session starting from 19 till 30 August 2013 lasted 30 hours and 31 minutes. Each sitting, on average, met for three hours and three minutes witnessing an average delay of 45 minutes. The session witnessed 13 walkouts by government and opposition parties.

Low attendance of Senators persisted during the session. Eight Senators, on average, were observed at the outset, 23 at the adjournment and maximum 40 at any one point during a sitting. The quorum, visibly lacking on various occasions, was pointed out once by a PPPP Senator.

Overall, out of 63 participating Senators, seven tabled agenda, 47 debated it and nine Senators did both. Fourteen women Senators (total strength 17) and 49 male Senators (total strength 86) participated in the session.

The Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition attended all 10 sittings. The Chairman chaired the proceedings for 67% of the session time, Deputy Chairman for 16 % while the remaining proceedings were chaired by the members of Panel of Presiding Officers.

Moved by a PPPP Senator, the House admitted an adjournment motion to discuss the August 15 armed standoff on Islamabad's Jinnah Avenue. Senators belonging to PPPP, ANP, PML, BNP-A, PkMAP and MQM shared their views on the incident.

Two calling attention notices moved by PML and PPPP Senators on increase in prices of electricity and a proposal to privatize Pakistan Steel Mills respectively were taken up. Eight Standing Committee reports were presented before the House.

Six out of 13 resolutions were adopted. The resolutions condemned unprovoked aggression by Indian Army across the Line of Control (LoC), crackdown on protesters by Egypt's military rulers and use of force against unarmed civilians. The House also called upon the government to eradicate the manufacturing and sale of spurious and substandard drugs in the country, adopt international standards on global warming to control environmental pollution, and congratulated a PPPP Senator on getting a doctorate degree in philosophy.

Senators submitted 205 starred questions. Of them, 67 questions were taken up and received answers from the relevant ministries. Additionally, Senators asked 120 supplementary questions.

A debate on the presidential address to parliament's joint session on June 10, 2013 lasted four hours and 40 minute. Out of 22 Senators who took part in the debate, 11 were from PPPP, four PML-N, three ANP, two MQM and a single Senator each from JUI-F and BNP-A.

None of the six motions under rule 218 was taken up during the session. The motions called for debating the performance of Pakistan Railways, night phone call packages, opening of Taliban office in Doha, non-payment of compensation to decree holders of land acquired for AFV rangers in Nowshera, procedure for appointing judges in superior courts and alleged irregularities/rigging in elections 2013.

Senators spoke on 58 points of order for two hours and forty minutes - 9 % of the session time.

### Parliament Watch and Reforms

The Parliament Watch and Reforms (PWR) takes forward the unique direct observation of the parliament by Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN). Based on the findings and recommendations of direct observation of parliament, PWR works on a reform agenda which contributes to foster a stable and close relationship between the elected representatives and their constituents. Apart from observing the proceedings of the National Assembly and the Senate, for the first time in Pakistan's parliamentary history PWR plans to start observing the proceedings of the 13 key Standing Committees of the Upper and Lower Houses of the parliament.

FAFEN started directly observing the proceedings of the National Assembly in late 2008. This unique intervention produced a valuable asset of information on the performance of the Lower House and its Members.

In late 2011 the direct observation was extended to the Senate and the four provincial assemblies.

## 1.0 Session Duration and Members' Participation

This section deals with the session duration, attendance and participation of Senators and maintenance of quorum (1/4th of the total membership-26). It also reviews the presence of key members-the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and the parliamentary leaders - and the time they spent on the floor of the House. After the 2013 general elections the composition of the Upper House has undergone a change. The ruling alliance now consists of PML-N, JUI-F, NP, PkMAP, and PML-F while the opposition benches comprise PPPP, ANP, BNP-A, MQM and PML.

### 1.1. Session Time

The session from 19-30 August 2013 lasted 30 hours and 31 minutes, holding ten sittings. On average each sitting was spread over three hours and three minutes. The ninth sitting lasting eight hours was the longest while the first sitting spanning an hour was the shortest. The longest sitting, however, took a two-hour and 50 minutes break.

All ten sittings, on average were delayed by 45 minutes. The sixth sitting, most delayed, was an hour and ten minutes behind schedule.

The House observed four breaks consuming four hours - 13 % of session time.

Table 1.1: Session

Sitting No.	Day/Date	Delay (Mins)	Hours	Minutes
1st	Monday, August 19, 2013	60	1	0
2nd	Tuesday, August 20, 2013	50	3	49
3rd	Wednesday, August 21, 2013	32	4	8
4th	Thursday, August 22, 2013	32	2	11
5th	Friday, August 23, 2013	58	1	30
6th	Monday, August 26, 2013	70	1	35
7th	Tuesday, August 27, 2013	32	3	5
8th	Wednesday, August 28, 2013	32	3	17
9th	Thursday, August 29, 2013	45	8	0
10th	Friday, August 30, 2013	40	1	56
<b>Total</b>		<b>Average delay 45 minutes</b>	<b>30 hours and 31 minutes</b>	

### 1.2 Senators' Attendance

Since the Senate Secretariat does not make Senators' attendance record public, the FAFEN observer conducts a headcount of legislators at the beginning, at the end and the time when maximum members are present in each sitting. The presence of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition during proceedings is also documented.

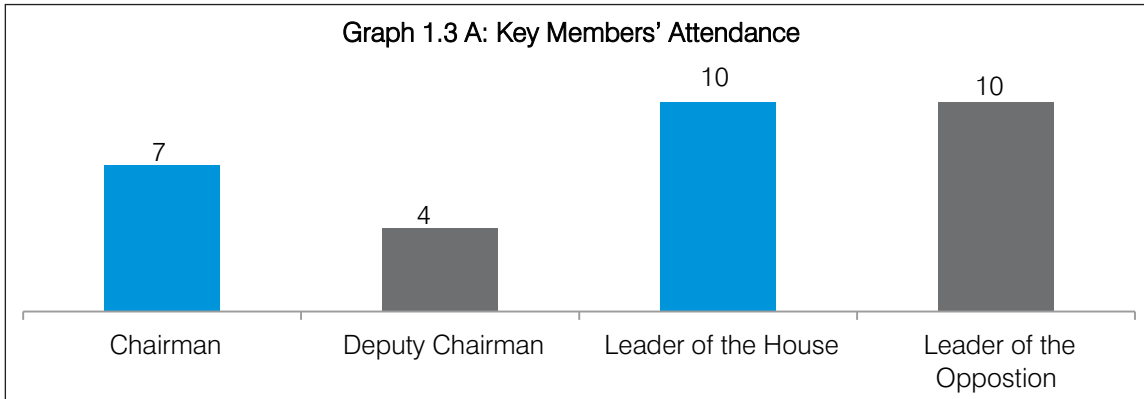
On average eight Senators were present at the outset, 23 at the end and 40 at the time of maximum attendance during each sitting. Out of the four minority Senators in the House, on average two attended each sitting. Though the quorum was lacking on various occasions during the session, it was pointed once by a PPPP Senator during the fourth sitting.

Table 1.2: Attendance

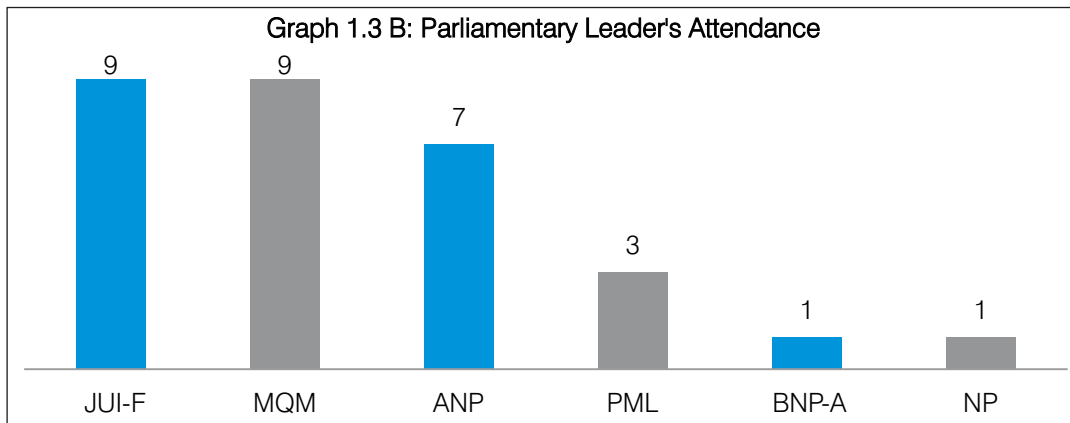
Sitting No.	Members at the outset	Members at the end	Maximum members	Minority members present
1st	13	29	45	2
2nd	14	22	38	3
3rd	5	22	38	2
4th	4	23	39	1
5th	6	18	36	1
6th	7	15	36	1
7th	8	17	39	1
8th	9	17	41	2
9th	7	20	36	1
10th	6	50	55	2
<b>Average</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>

### 1.3. Key Members' Attendance

The Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition attended all ten sittings. The Chairman presided over the proceedings for 67% of the session time (1221 minutes), the Deputy Chairman for 16% (296 minutes) while 3% of the proceedings were chaired by the members of a Panel of Presiding Officers.



The parliamentary leader of MQM attended the most, nine out of the ten, sittings during the session. The ANP parliamentary leader attended seven sittings, followed by three PML and one sitting each was attended by the parliamentary heads of BNP-A and NP.



### 1.4. Participation

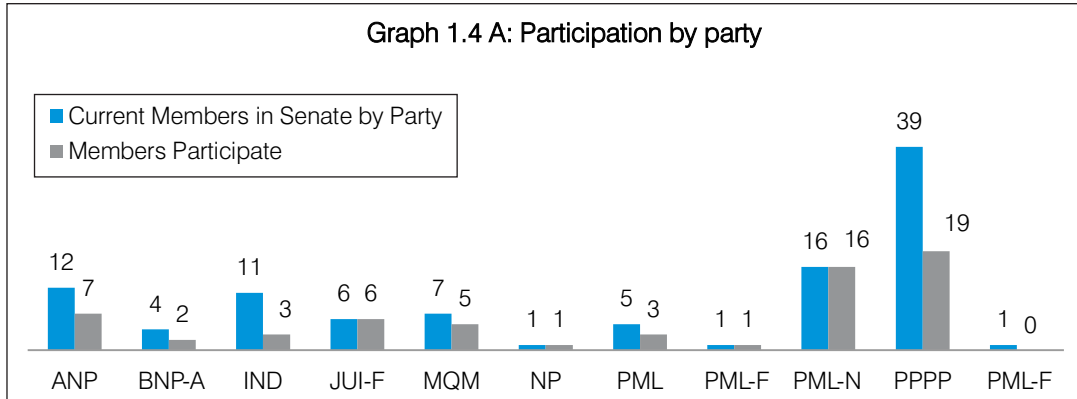
Participation has been classified into three categories: Senators who submit agenda, those who take part in the on-floor debates and the Senators who, both, submit agenda and participate in debates.

Out of 103 sitting Senators, 63 (61%) participated in the session. Most of them – 47 – took part in debates while seven submitted agenda. Moreover, nine Senators submitted agenda and also participated in debates during the session.

Table 1.4: Participation

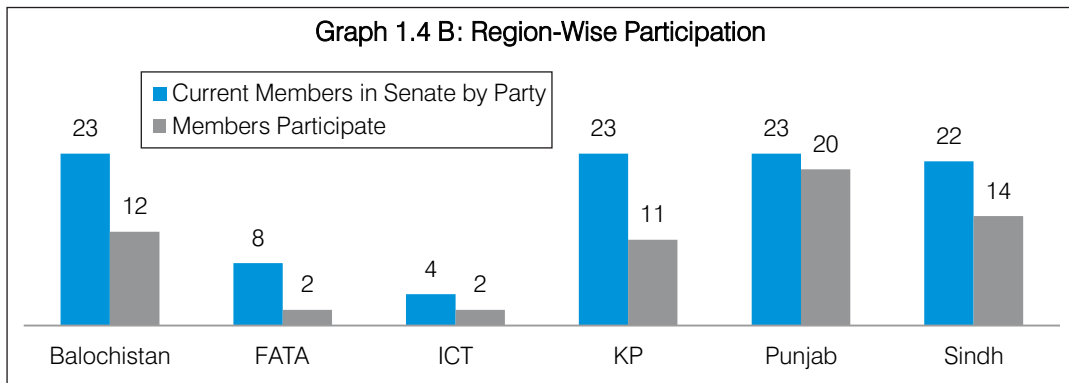
Party	Members Who only Submitted Agenda Items	Members Who Took Part only in Debates	Members Who Participated in Debates as well as Submitted Agenda Items	Percentage of Members Who Submitted only Agenda Items	Percentage of Members Who only Participated in Debates	Percentage of Members Who Submitted Agenda Items And Participated in Debates	Current Members in Senate by Party
ANP	1	5	1	8%	42%	8%	12
BNP-A	0	2	0	0%	50%	0%	4
IND	0	2	1	0%	18%	9%	11
JUI-F	1	5	0	17%	83%	0%	6
MQM	0	3	2	0%	43%	29%	7
NP	0	1	0	0%	100%	0%	1
PML	2	1	0	40%	20%	0%	5
PKMAP	0	1	0	0%	100%	0%	1
PML-N	3	13	0	19%	81%	0%	16
PPPP	0	14	5	0%	36%	13%	39
PML-F	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>103</b>

Nineteen PPPP Senators – the largest party in the Upper House – participated in the session by submitting agenda items and taking part in debates. They were followed by 16 PML-N Senators, seven ANP, six JUI-F, five MQM, three each PML and Independents, two BNP-A, and one Senator each from NP and PkMAP. All Senators of PML-N and JUI-F participated in the proceedings during the session.



Currently there are 17 female and 86 male Senators in the Upper House. The participation of female Senators was comparatively higher at 82% (14 Senators) compared to their male colleagues 57% (49 Senators). The Senators demonstrated more interest in the house debates.

From a region-wise perspective, 91% Senators from Punjab participated during the session, followed by their colleagues from Sindh (67%), Balochistan 55%, and Khyber Pakhtunkawa 50%. Out of eight Senators -four each from ICT and those representing minorities - two Senators each participated in this session.



## 2.0 Orders of the Day

The orders of the day were available to Senators as well as uploaded on the official website of Senate ([www.senate.gov.pk](http://www.senate.gov.pk)) for each sitting.

Fifty-one percent or 39 of the total 76 agenda items were left unaddressed. The agenda of the private members days – first and sixth sittings - was ambitiously set. The entire agenda on the first private members' day during the session was not taken up while the House addressed all the business of the eighth and ninth sittings.

### 3.0 Representation, Responsiveness and Government Oversight

This section reviews legislators' efforts to represent the interests of their constituents through calling attention notices (CANs) and to monitor government's performance during question hour. It also includes various motions and matters of public importance on the orders of the day.

#### 3.1 Question Hour

Senators submitted 208 questions - 205 starred and three un-starred. Of the total questions, 166 were fully answered. Sixty-Seven starred questions were taken up and received reply from the relevant ministry/department. Additionally, 120 supplementary questions were asked during the question hour.

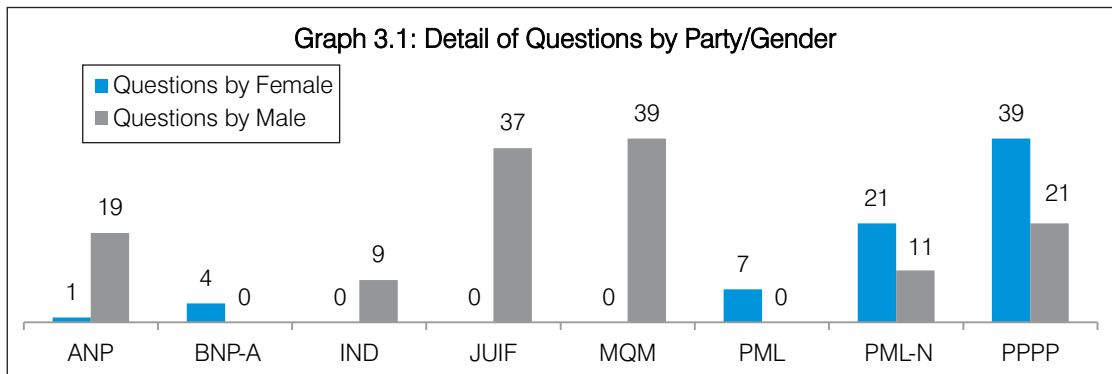
Question Hour was not held on the private members' days (Mondays in Senate) during the first and sixth sittings.

Table 3.1: Question Hour

Sittings No.	Starred Questions of the Agenda	Starred Questions taken up	Starred Questions not taken up	Supplementary Questions
1st	Private Members' Day			
2nd	20	11	9	23
3rd	31	6	25	10
4th	30	8	22	16
5th	39	6	33	11
6th	Private Members' Day			
7th	23	7	16	16
8th	14	7	7	19
9th	22	22	0	25
10th	26	0	26	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>120</b>

Out of 17 female Senators, eight submitted 72 questions during the session. Meanwhile 22 male senators out of the total 86 submitted 136 questions.

Of the parties submitting questions on the agenda, PPPP tabled 60 questions, MQM 39, JUI-F 37, PML-N 32, ANP 20, Independents nine, PML seven and the BNP-A Senators submitted four questions during the session.



More than half of the questions (133) were addressed to six ministries - Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization; Cabinet Division; Communications; Housing and Works; Interior and Narcotics Control; and Water and Power. The PPPP, MQM and JUI-F Senators asked most of their questions from the Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatizations. Most of the questions by ANP Senators were directed to Cabinet Division.

Table 3.2: Ministry-wise Questions

Sr. No.	Ministry	Total
1	Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization	48
2	Cabinet Division	29
3	Communications	16
4	Housing and Works	15
5	Interior and Narcotics Control	15
6	Water and Power	10

Sr. No.	Ministry	Total
7	Aviation Division	9
8	Petroleum and Natural Resources	7
9	Capital Administration and Development Division	6
10	National Food Security and Research	6
11	Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development	6
12	Climate Change Division	4
13	Foreign Affairs	4
14	Industries and Production	4
15	National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination	4
16	Education, Trainings and Standards in Higher Education	3
17	Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage	3
18	Inter Provincial Coordination	3
19	Law, Justice and Human Rights	3
20	Railways	3
21	Commerce and Textile Industry	2
22	Defence	2
23	Establishment Division	2
24	Planning and Development	2
25	Ports and Shipping	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>208</b>

### 3.2. Calling Attention Notices

This section highlights the efforts of Senators in raising the matters of public interest through calling attention notices. Under rule 64 (Chapter XI) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, a senator may call the attention of a minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the minister may make a brief statement or ask for time to make a statement at a later hour or date provided that no more than one notice is be allowed a senator per sitting.

Out of three calling attention notices, two on electricity prices and a proposal to privatize Pakistan Steel Mills were taken up. The PML and PPPP Senators jointly moved a calling attention notice on increase in electricity tariff. Responding to the notice, the Ministry of Water and Power informed the House that NEPRA had the authority to regulate electricity rates. Apart from insisting on generating revenue to build new dams to address the issue of power outages, the House was also informed that the government was giving Rs345 billion subsidy on electricity.

The calling attention notice on a proposal to privatize Pakistan Steel Mills was moved by a PPPP Senator. The Ministry of Industries and Production responded that the government was making efforts to revive the financial position of Pakistan Steel Mills, which is on the list of state enterprises to be privatized since 2005.

Another calling attention notice by a PPPP Senator, which was addressed to the Aviation Division on the sacking of several PIA employees on foreign stations, was not taken up.

### 3.3. Privilege Motion

According to Senate's rules and procedures "a member may, with the consent of Chairperson, raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a member the Senate or a Committee".

A PPPP Senator moved a question of privilege against the Finance Division for misinforming the Standing Committee on Rules and Privileges about security papers of the Managing Director. The matter was referred to the committee.

### 3.4 Motion of Thanks

Senate adopted a motion of thanks during the tenth sitting to offer "gratitude to the President of Pakistan for his address to both the houses assembled together on June 10, 2013". Twenty-two Senators took part in the four hours and forty minutes debate on the presidential address. Of the 22 Senators who took part in the debate, 11 were from PPPP, four PML-N, three ANP, two MQM, and one each from BNP-A and JUI-F.



### 3.5 Adjournment Motion

An adjournment motion is used to bring a matter of urgent public importance by suspending the business of the House. Two adjournment motions were taken up during the session.

Senate suspended the regular agenda of the first, second and third sittings to discuss the standoff incident on August 15, 2013 in Islamabad in which an armed man along with his family demanded implementation of Islamic system in the country. The armed standoff ended after six hours when a PPPP leader tried to overpower the armed man, leading to a brief exchange of firing in which the man was injured and arrested.

Thirteen Senators debated the adjournment motion on the armed standoff. Of them, four Senators each were from PPPP and ANP, two PML and one each from MQM, BNP-A and PkMAP.

An ANP Senator moved an adjournment motion on the increase in petroleum prices but it was not taken up after it was rejected through a vote.

### 3.6 Motion under Rule 218

Under rule 218, a minister or a member may give notice of a motion that any policy, situation, statement of any other matter may be taken into consideration.

None of the six motions under rule 218 was taken up during the session. Four of the motions were moved by PPPP Senators and one each by MQM and PML-N Senators. The motions called for debating the performance of Pakistan Railways, night phone call packages, opening of Taliban office in Doha, non-payment of compensation to decree holders of land acquired for AFV rangers in Nowshera, procedure for appointing judges in superior courts and alleged irregularities/rigging in elections 2013.

### 3.7 Motion under Rule 60

Motions under Rule 60 provides for the Chairman to allow half-an-hour discussion on a matter which in his opinion is of sufficient public importance and has recently been the subject of a question. One such motion by a male PPPP Senator seeking details of suo motu actions taken by high courts since 2009 was not taken up.

## 4.0 Parliamentary Output

Lawmaking is one of the most important functions of the parliament. This section evaluates the presentation, introduction, passage and subject matter of bills, ordinances, resolutions and parliamentary reports tabled during the session.

### 4.1 Private Members' Bills

Six private members' bills, three of them of seeking amendments in the constitution, were introduced during the session. The bills were referred to the relevant Standing Committees.

Table 4.1

Sr. No	Bills Introduced
1	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2013 (Amendment of Article 140A)
2	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2013 (Amendment of Articles 51 and 106)
3	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2013 (Amendment of Article 1)
4	The Un-attended Orphans (Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill 2013
5	The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill 2013
6	The Pakistan Pharmacy Council Bill 2013

#### 4.1.1 Details of Introduced bills

##### a) The Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2013 (Amendment of Article 140A)

An independent Senator from Punjab introduced the bill seeking amendment in the Article 140A of the constitution. The bill has been introduced to cater to the absence of specified time for local government elections in the constitution. It calls for making it binding upon the Election Commission of Pakistan to hold local government elections within 45 days of the expiry of the term of the local governments. The bill introduced during the tenth sitting was referred to the Standing Committee on Law and Justice as the government did not oppose it.

It seeks insertion of new clause 3 in Article 140A saying: "The elections to a local government shall be held within a period of 45 days immediately following the day on which the term of the local government is due to expire unless the local government has been sooner dissolved and new elections are necessitated, in such a case, new elections will be held and new local government will be put in place within 45 days of the dissolution of the said local government."

**b) The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (Amendment of Articles 51 and 106)**

Two PPPP Senators introduced the bill seeking allocation of reserved seats for workers or laborers in the National Assembly and four provincial assemblies. The bill was referred to the relevant Standing Committee after the government did not oppose it. The bill suggests allocation of four reserved seats for workers – one from each province – in the National Assembly and two reserved seats for the workers in each provincial assembly. The bill defines “worker” as given in the Industrial Relations Act 2012.<sup>1</sup>

**c) The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (Amendment of Article 1)**

Calling for amending Article 1 (The Republic and its territories) of the constitution, the bill by an independent Senator from Punjab seeks to empower the parliament to create new provinces with the consent of the majority of the people of the districts or tehsils to be included in the new province or provinces. The bill introduced during the 10th sitting was referred to the Standing Committee on Law and Justice without any debate after the government did not oppose it.

According to the bill, no district/tehsil (administrative unit) shall be reallocated to another province or be made part of any newly-created province without the consent of the majority of its people. It seeks insertion of new clause 4 in Article 1 saying: “Majlis-i-Shoora (Parliament) may by law carve out or create new provinces from the existing limits of an existing province or withdraw the boundaries of more than one provinces to create a new province, subject to the will of the majority of that district/tehsil (administrative unit) being affected and the provisions of Article 239(4) regarding approval of the respective provincial assemblies.”

**d) The Un-attended Orphans (Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2013**

This bill seeks to protect the rights and provide for un-attended orphans and children of unknown parentage. According to the bill, the provision of security, education, health and other facilities would enable them to become respectable and useful citizens.

**e) The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill 2013**

The bill proposes amendments to the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Act, 2012 to further empower the Drug Regulatory Authority to achieve the goals for which it was established.

**f) The Pakistan Pharmacy Council Bill, 2013**

This bill aims to stop the registration of non-professional/non-qualified persons as pharmacist and ensures public health safety by professional handling of medicines and drugs. It also stresses for providing quality and standardized pharmacy education and opportunities of jobs to thousands of un-employed pharmacy graduates, which are produced each year by over 30 Universities/ institutions conducting pharmacy degree courses.

**4.2. Ordinance**

Two ordinances - the Civil Servants (Amendment) Ordinance 2013 and the Electoral Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2013 - were laid during the session.

The ordinance on civil servants is about making around 10,000 civil servants of 17 devolved ministries/departments permanent in the organizations to which they were transferred. The ordinance on electoral laws is to further amend the Representation of the People Act 1976 (LXXXV of 1976 to provide for overseas Pakistanis to vote.

**4.3. Resolutions**

The House expresses its opinion, makes recommendations or conveys a message on important issues through resolutions. It can also commend, urge or request action upon a situation under consideration by the government.

The Senate adopted six of 13 resolutions on the orders of the day. During the first sitting, the House adopted two PML-N and PPPP sponsored resolutions to condemn the unprovoked aggression by Indian Army across the Line of Control (LoC), and the Egyptian military's taking over the democratic government and use of force against unarmed civilians respectively. A resolution was also adopted to congratulate a PPPP Senator on getting a doctorate degree of philosophy from the University of Punjab.

Two resolutions adopted during the sixth sitting called on the government to take effective steps to eradicate

<sup>1</sup> “worker” and “workman” mean person not falling within the definition of employer who is employed (including employment as a supervisor or as an apprentice) in an establishment or industry for hire or reward either directly or through a contractor whether the terms of employment are express or implied, and, for the purpose of any proceedings under this Act in relation to an industrial dispute includes a person who has been dismissed, discharged, retrenched, laid off or otherwise removed from employment in connection with or as a consequence of that dispute or whose dismissal, discharge, retrenchment, lay-off, or removal has led to that dispute but does not include any person who is employed in managerial or administrative capacity. [http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1335934287\\_218.pdf](http://www.na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/1335934287_218.pdf)

manufacturing and sale of spurious and substandard drugs and adopt standards on global warming and take steps to control environmental pollution in the country.

**Table 4.3: Resolutions**

Sr. No.	Resolutions	Party	Status
1	The House condemns the unprovoked aggression by Indian Army across the LoC, attacks on Pakistan High Commission, demonstration outside the PIA offices in New Delhi and the efforts to prevent the friendship bus from proceeding to Pakistan.	PML-N	Unanimously adopted
2	The House condemns bloody crackdown on protesters by Egypt's military rulers and use of force against unarmed civilians.	PPPP	Unanimously adopted
3	The House congratulates Senator Jehangir Badar on getting degree of Doctorate of Philosophy	PML	Unanimously adopted
4	The government should take effective steps to eradicate manufacturing and sale of spurious and substandard drugs in the country.	JUI-F	Adopted
5	The government should take effective steps to control environmental pollution in ICT.	PPPP	Not Taken Up
6	The government may take necessary steps to shift head office of the State Bank of Pakistan from Karachi to Islamabad within one year.	ANP	Not Taken Up
7	The government should delete the words "Education" and "Health" from the names of the Federal Ministries listed in the Rules of Business, 1973 in pursuance of the 18 <sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment.	PPPP	Not Taken Up
8	The government should take effective steps to provide free medical treatment to the patients visiting Federal Government hospitals	MQM	Not Taken Up
9	The government should take immediate steps to conduct forensic audit of all departments dealing with power sector.	PML-N	Not Taken Up
10	The House recommends for effective steps to overcome unemployment in the country.	JUI-F	Not Taken Up
11	This House recommends that the infrastructure of PIMS and Federal Government Polyclinic Hospital, Islamabad, may be extended to accommodate increased number of beds in all wards.	MQM	Adopted
12	The House recommends that the government may take effective steps to implement the international obligations of the Federal Government regarding global warming and to control environmental pollution in the country.	PPPP	Adopted
13	The House recommends that the government may take effective steps to overcome energy crisis in the country	JUI-F	Not Taken Up

#### 4.4. Committee Reports

Eight Standing Committee reports were presented before the House during the session.

Two reports each were submitted by the Standing Committees on the Rules of Procedure and Privileges, Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization, and Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. The Standing Committee on Inter-Provincial Coordination and a Special Committee on Mass Transport System for Islamabad also presented their reports.

**Table 4.4: Reports**

Sr. No.	Report	Name of Committee
1	Failure of Ministry of National Regulations and Services to reply to Starred Question No. 57	Rules of Procedure and Privileges
2	Failure of Ministry of Interior to reply to Starred Question No.9	Rules of Procedure and Privileges
3	Financial year 2011-2012 and the reports of Auditor General thereon for the Audit year 2012-2013	Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization
4	Report of the Standing Committee on Inter-Provincial Coordination for March 2012 to April 2013	Inter-Provincial Coordination
5	Third Quarterly Report for the year 2012-2013 of the Central Board of Directors of SBP on the state of Pakistan's Economy	Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization
6	Report of the Committee on mass transport system for Islamabad	Special Committee on mass transport system for Islamabad
7	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (Insertion of new Article 19B)	Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
8	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2012 (Amendment of Articles 9 and 10)	Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs

## 5.0 Order and Institutionalization

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

### 5.1. Points of Order

A point of order is raised to address an apparent breach in the rules of the parliamentary procedures while the House business is under way. In Senate, members can speak about national or regional issues of public importance during the zero hour near the adjournment of a sitting.

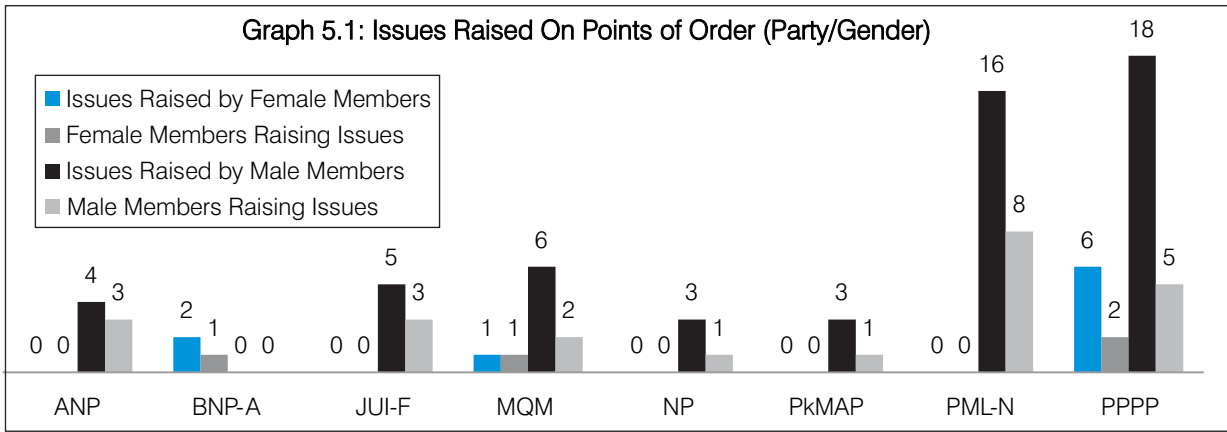
However Senators spoke on 58 points of order for two hours and forty minutes of the session. During the first and second sitting of the session, no points of order were raised.

Table 5.1: Point of Order

Sitting No.	Number of Points of Order	Time Consumed (Mins)
1st	0	0
2nd	0	0
3rd	2	5
4th	9	35
5th	4	10
6th	7	10
7th	16	40
8th	3	10
9th	6	30
10th	11	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>160</b>

Most of the 58 points of order by 27 Senators were on national issues and business of the House. Overall, seven PPPP Senators highlighted the most 24 issues while speaking on points of order. From a province wise perspective nine Senators from Punjab, eight from Balochistan, five from Sindh, four from KP and one from ICT spoke on points of order.

**Graph 5.1: Issues Raised On Points of Order (Party/Gender)**



The Business of the House was discussed on 16 points of order, mostly by PPPP and PML-N senators. On nine points of order Senators demanded response from the Advisor on National Security, especially regarding the recent LOC violations by India. Other issues mainly discussed in the house included law and order situation in Balochistan and Karachi, cases against media and floods.

Some eminent national issues such as energy and power and corruption took a backseat as they were spoken about on one point of order each.

Sr. No	Issues highlighted through POs	Number
1	Business of the House	16
2	National Security	9
3	Media	7
4	Balochistan related affairs	5
5	Criticism on colleague	5
6	Karachi related affairs	3
7	BISP	2
8	Elections	2
9	KPK related affairs	2
10	Law and order	2
11	Ministerial absence	2
12	Natural calamity	2
13	Corruption	1
14	Criticism of ECP	1
15	Criticism of Judiciary	1
16	Devolution	1
17	National security	1
18	Power and energy	1
19	Religious affairs	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>64</b>

### 5.2 Protests/Walkout/Boycotts

Thirteen protests and walkouts were witnessed during the session consuming two hours of the proceedings. The ANP and MQM lawmakers staged separate walkouts over the arrest of their party workers in Karachi. The former staged another walkout when the Chair did not allow one of their party colleagues to speak. The opposition and the MQM Senators separately staged walkouts on the Balochistan government registering a case against the ARY News over airing Ziarat residency attack video.

The entire opposition staged walkouts over treasury's lack of interest in responding to PPPP Senators's inquiries,

the police delaying registration of FIR on the killing of ANP lawmaker's cousin in Balochistan, the absence of Foreign Policy Advisor, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's outstanding dues and a missing BNP-A leader.

The JUI-F lawmakers protested against the alleged rigging in by-polls and the postponement of by-elections in NA-25.

**Table 5.2: Protests/Walkout/Boycotts**

Sr. No	Party	Reason	Time (Min.)
1	All Opposition	Over the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's outstanding dues	3
2	JUI-F	Over postponement of by-elections in NA-25	3
3	ANP	After the Chair did not allow him to ask a supplementary question	3
4	All Opposition	Over the absence of Minister of Industries and Production to respond to a Calling Attention Notice of the party's Senator regarding a proposal given to the prime minister to privatize the Pakistan Steel Mill	8
5	JUI-F	Against the alleged rigging in by-polls	5
6	PPPP All Opposition	On not receiving written reply to a PPPP Senator's question	15
7	All Opposition	Against police delaying registration of FIR on the killing of ANP lawmaker's cousin in Balochistan	The Chairman adjourned the sitting immediately after the walkout
8	All Opposition	Over the registration of FIR by the Balochistan government against ARY News over airing Ziarat residency attack video	30
9	MQM	Over the registration of FIR by the Balochistan government against ARY News over airing Ziarat residency attack video	30
10	All Opposition	Over the absence of Foreign Policy Advisor	5
11	ANP	Over the arrest of their workers in Karachi	8
12	MQM	Over the arrest of their workers in Karachi	5
13	All Opposition	Missing BNP-A leader and the delay by the police to register an FIR on the death of an ANP leader's cousin	5

## GLOSSARY

### **Adjournment Motion**

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

### **Amendments**

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

### **Assent**

Refers to the power of the President to assent the bill passed by the house or return the same to the house for reconsideration.

### **Chairperson**

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

### **Calling Attention Notice**

A Senator who wishes to raise a matter of sufficient public importance can call attention of the minister to such matter by giving notice in writing. The Chairman would select one of them but not more than two notices in a week for a statement by the minister.

### **Chair**

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

### **Chamber**

The place where the Senate meets to transact its business.

### **Deputy Chairman**

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

### **Election**

The process of choosing a representative by vote.

### **Leader of the Opposition**

"Leader of the Opposition" means a senator who, in the opinion of the Chairman, is the leader of the majority of opposition senators for a certain time period.

### **Legislation**

The process of crafting law.

### **Legislative Process**

The processes by which bills are approved by assembly.

### **Member**

A member of the assembly and for purposes of moving or opposing a bill, an amendment, a motion or a resolution, includes a minister.

### **Member-in-Charge**

In the case of government bill, a minister or a parliamentary secretary acting on behalf of the government and in the case of a private member's bill, the member who has introduced it or any other member authorized by him in writing to assume charge of the bill in his absence.

### **Minister**

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

### **Motion**

A proposal made by a member or a minister relating to any matter, which may be discussed by the house and includes an amendment.

### **Mover**

The mover of a bill, a resolution, a motion or an amendment of a bill, a resolution or a motion and in the case of a government bill, a resolution, a motion or an amendment, a minister or a Parliamentary Secretary acting on behalf of the government.

### **Opposition**

The party or parties who do not belong to the governing party.

### **Orders of the Day**

"Orders of the Day" means the list of business to be brought before the house on any day.

### **Point of Order**

A member can raise a point of order relating to the interpretation or enforcement of the rules or such articles of the constitution as regulate the business of the Senate, and are in the cognizance of the Chairman. A point of order can also be raised in relation to the business before the Senate at the moment.

### **Private Member**

A member who is not a minister or a Parliamentary Secretary.

### **Private Member's Bill**

A proposed law introduced by a private member.

### **Proceedings**

The actions taken by the house or by a committee, the most important parts of the proceedings are the decisions that are taken.

### **Quorum**

Quorum is the minimum number of members of Senate necessary to conduct the business of the assembly. (one-fourth of the house)

### **Question Hour**

A time fixed under the rules for asking and answering questions.

### **Resolution**

A motion for the purpose of discussing and expressing an opinion on a matter of general public interest.

### **Starred question**

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

### **Senate**

The upper house of Majlis-e-Shoora (parliament) known by that name.

# About FAFEN

Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN), established in 2006, is a coalition of 42 leading civil society organizations working to strengthen all forms of democratic accountabilities in Pakistan. Governed by Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), FAFEN's key achievements include:

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

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



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