



A Tribute to
WOMEN
PARLIAMENTARIANS
2015-16

Women form half of the population in Pakistan but their share in political and economic spheres is not proportionate to their numbers primarily due to cultural barriers that restrict their social and political participation. It was against this backdrop that women were given a 22 percent quota of seats in the Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies before the General Elections in 2002. The reservation of 60 seats in the National Assembly and 17 in the Senate, although not proportionate to their population, was a step forward. The reservation was in accordance with the Article 34 of the Constitution and in sync with Pakistan's international commitments to women's political emancipation.

Currently, there are 70 women Members of the National Assembly – 60 on reserved, nine on general and one on a minority seat. This makes up for 20.46 percent of the total representation in the House of 342. Similarly, there are 19 women Senators – 17 on reserved and two on general seats. This makes up for 18.26 percent of the total representation in the Upper House that comprises 104 members. Overall, 89 women make up for 18.38 percent of the total membership in the two Houses of the Parliament.

These 89 women Parliamentarians have worked

hard to prove that their political capabilities and competence are equivalent, if not superior, to their male counterparts and their interest in parliamentary business is undisputedly unmatched. From the executive oversight through questions and calling attention notices to motions on issues of public importance and private member legislation, women Members have contributed actively to the parliamentary business throughout the current term.

A closer analysis of the Orders of the Day of the National Assembly between June 1, 2015 to February 26, 2016 and the Senate between March 12, 2015 and March 11, 2016 reveals that women Members contributed to more than 44 percent of the agenda, almost three times the proportion of their representation in the two Houses. This agenda included questions, motions under rules 259 and 218, calling attention notices, resolutions, legislative bills, amendment to rules and matters under rule 87. In addition, women Members also spoke actively on points of order and contributed to parliamentary debates on a wide array of issues of public importance.

In the National Assembly, women Members sponsored or contributed to almost 60 percent of the agenda during the reporting period. They submitted 1,159 of a total of 1,617 starred questions and 519 of 1,043 un-starred

questions, demonstrating their interest in Parliament's core function of overseeing the executive. Similarly, 28 motions under Rule 259 of a total of 50 introduced in the Lower House were moved by women Members. This was in addition to six motions under this Rule which were moved jointly by male and female Members. The contribution of women Members in the submission of calling attention notices in the Lower House has also remained impressive. Of a total of 96 notices, 24 were raised by women Members. In addition, they raised 52 calling attention notices jointly with their male colleagues.

Women were ahead of their male counterparts in the introduction of resolutions. Of a total of 71 resolutions moved by the government and private members in the House, 31 were tabled by women Members, who co-sponsored seven others with their fellow men members. Similarly, women Members individually sponsored two and jointly proposed four of a total of 15 amendments to the Rules of Procedure that appeared on the agenda. Their share in private member bills introduced in the House also remained high – 22 of a total of 26 bills.

The performance of women Members in the Senate is also noteworthy as they contributed

to 18% of the total agenda for the Upper House during the year covered in this analysis. The women Senators submitted 232 out of 1,313 starred questions and 25 of 46 un-starred questions. Similarly, they moved 10 of a total of 93 motions under Rule 218 introduced in the Upper House. Under the same Rule, the women Senators also moved four motions jointly with their male counterparts. The women Members sponsored 24 out of a total of 109 calling attention notices that appeared on the agenda for the Senate. In addition, they raised five calling attention notices jointly with their male colleagues.

Women Senators introduced 27 of a total of 113 private member resolutions including six jointly with their male counterparts. Similarly, a female senator sponsored two out of 16 amendments to the Rules of Procedure. In addition, they introduced three of a total of 12 private member bills introduced in the House. Of these, one was passed.

1. LEGISLATION

Women legislators individually or in collaboration with their male colleagues sponsored 33 of a total of 54 private member bills that appeared on the orders of the day of the two Houses of the Parliament during the reporting period. Of these women-sponsored bills, 25 bills were referred to the relevant standing committees after their introduction in the two houses, six were dropped due to the absence of the movers and two were not allowed to be introduced.

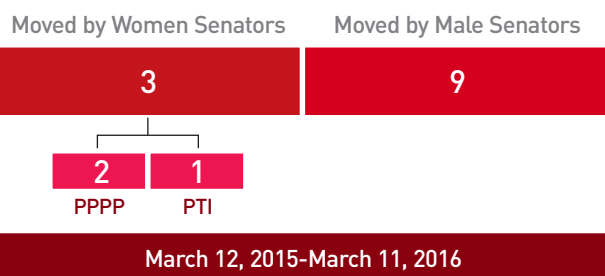
In the National Assembly, as many as 11 private members bills moved by the women Members were allowed to be introduced and referred to the relevant standing committees. Another 11 bills jointly moved by female and male Members were also referred to the standing committees. There were five bills moved by women lawmakers but were dropped due to their absence on the days of their introduction. The Lower House also rejected two bills sponsored by a woman legislator.

The proposed bills by women legislators addressed a broad array of the issues of public interest. Five of the bills sought to amend the constitution including the one seeking to enhance the minimum age for child labour from 14 to 16 years and the other proposing social security to be recognized as a fundamental right.

In the Senate, as many as three private members bills moved by the women Senators were allowed to be introduced and referred to the relevant standing committees. One of these bills related to the protection of the rights of the working women and another sought to criminalize the practice of barring women from voting. However, one bill moved by a woman Senator was dropped due to her absence on the day of its introduction.

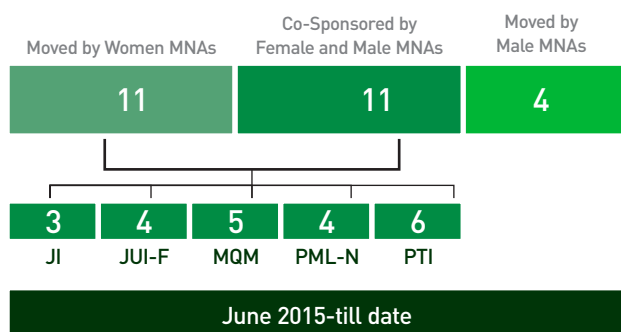
The Senate also passed two private members bills during the reporting period – one related to the employment rights of domestic workers introduced in 2013 and the other related to compulsory vaccination and protection of health workers in Islamabad introduced in 2015 was moved

12 Private Member Bills Introduced



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26 Private Member Bills Introduced



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

by a woman Senator. The Upper House also passed eight bills for speedy justice in January 2016. However, none of the bills have yet to be approved by the National Assembly.

The Pakistan Health Research Council Bill, 2015 was the only Government bill introduced by the female lawmaker of PML-N, Saira Afzal Tarar that was passed by the National Assembly.



PRIVATE MEMBER BILLS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Dr. Nikhat Shakeel
MQM

Total Bills: 5

- The National Commission on the Status of Women (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Service Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 92)



Nafeesa Khattak
PTI

Total Bills: 5

- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 161)
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 11)
- The Islamabad Capital Territory Food Authority Bill, 2015
- The Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2015



Munaza Hassan
PTI

Total Bills: 4

- The Fair Representation of Women Bill, 2015
- The Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Insertion of Article 19B)
- The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Substitution of section 89-A, Act V of 1908)



Shaza Fatima Khawaja
PML-N

Total Bills: 4

- The Pakistan Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Factories (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Employment of Children (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 11)



Saman Sultana Jafri
MQM

Total Bills: 3

- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 92)
- The Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The National Commission on the Status of Women (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Shahida Akhtar Ali
JUI-F

Total Bills: 3

- The Employment of Children (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Pakistan Army (Second Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 175)



Aisha Syed
JI

Total Bills: 3

- The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of section 33, Act V of 1908)
- An Eradication of Riba Bill, 2015



Fouzia Hameed

MQM

Total Bills: 3

- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 92)
- The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Service Tribunals (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Aliya Kamran

JUI-F

Total Bills: 3

- The Employment of Children (Amendment) Bill, 2016
- The Pakistan Army (Second Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 175)



Aasiya Nasir

JUI-F

Total Bills: 3

- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 175)
- The Pakistan Army (Second Amendment) Bill, 2015
- The Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Farhana Qamar

PML-N

Total Bills: 2

- The Right to free and Compulsory Physical Education and Training Bill, 2015
- The Right to Compulsory Education and Training in the field of Information Technology Bill, 2015

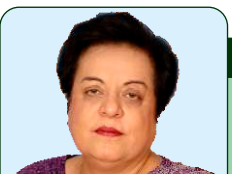


Kishwer Zehra

MQM

Total Bills: 2

- The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016 (Amendment of Article 92)
- The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Dr. Shireen Mazari

PTI

Total Bills: 2

- The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Substitution of section 89-A, Act V of 1908)
- The Fair Representation of Women Bill, 2015



Asyia Naz Tanoli

PML-N

Total Bills: 1

- The Factories (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Belum Hasnain
PPPP

Total Bills: 1

- The Pakistan Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2016



Naeema Kishwar Khan
JUI-F

Total Bills: 1

- The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2015



Romina Khurshid Alam
PML-N

Total Bills: 1

- The National Commission for Minority Education Bill, 2015

PRIVATE MEMBER BILLS IN THE SENATE OF PAKISTAN



Ayesha Raza Farooq
PML-N

Total Bills: 1

- The Islamabad Compulsory Vaccination and Protection of Health Workers Bill, 2015



Rahila Magsi
PML-N

Total Bills: 1

- The Fair Representation of Women Bill, 2015



Samina Abid
PTI

Total Bills: 1

- The Working Women (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2015



Sassui Palijo
PPPP

Total Bills: 1

- The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2015



Sherry Rehman
PPPP

Total Bills: 1

- The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2016

2. AMENDMENT TO THE RULES

The two Houses of the Parliament are empowered by the constitution to frame their own rules of procedures for their functioning. These rules are evolutionary and the two Houses continue to improve them from time to time. During the reporting period, as many as 31 amendments to the rules of business and procedures appeared on the Orders of the Day of the two Houses – 16 in the Senate and 15 in the National Assembly. Of these, three were moved by women legislators individually and five in a collaboration with their male counterparts.

The Senate approved all amendments but one that came up on its agenda through the year.

One proposal for amendment was referred to the relevant standing committee. On the other hand, the National Assembly approved four amendments, referred five to the relevant standing committee, rejected four, dropped and deferred one each during the reporting period.

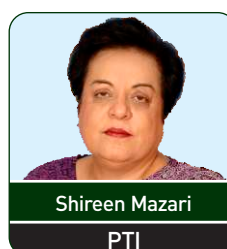
Women lawmakers individually sponsored two amendments to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the National Assembly and four in collaboration with their male counterparts. Similarly, a female Senator moved two amendments, one individually and one jointly with a male member.

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Total Amendment: 3

- Amendment of Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure
- Amendment in Sub-Rule (3) of Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure
- Insertion of new rule after Rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure



Total Amendment: 2

- Amendment of Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure
- Amendment in Sub-Rule (2) of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure



Total Amendment: 2

- Amendment of Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure
- Amendment in Sub-Rule (2) of Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure



Total Amendment: 2

- Amendment of rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure
- Amendment in sub-rule (3) of rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure



Total Amendment: 1

- Insertion of new rule after rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure



Total Amendment: 1

- Insertion of new rule after rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure

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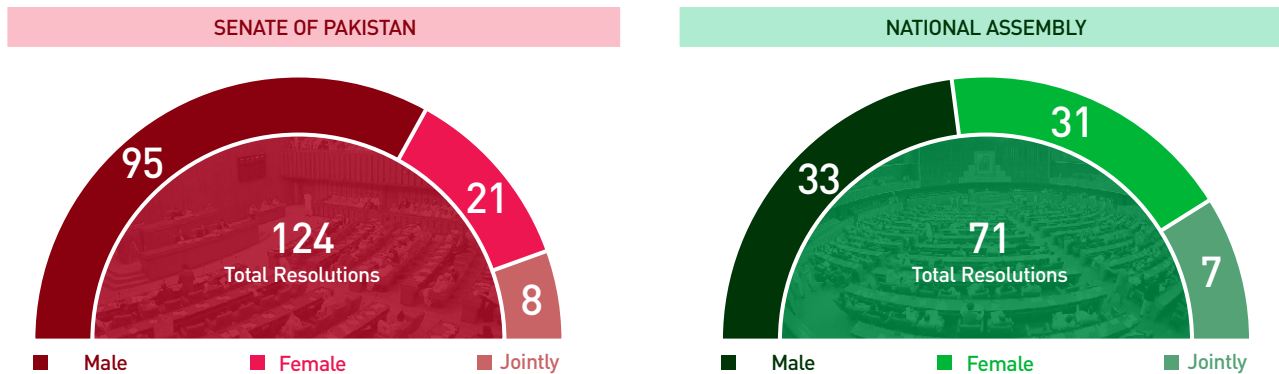
Total Amendment: 2

- Amendment in Rule 184, for Sub-Rule (1) of the Rules of Procedure
- Amendment in Rule 198, for Sub-Rule (1) of the Rules of Procedure

3. RESOLUTIONS

Through resolutions, a legislature, elected party/parties or a legislator expresses an opinion, makes recommendations, or conveys a message on a specific and important issue.

Resolution sponsored by women lawmakers

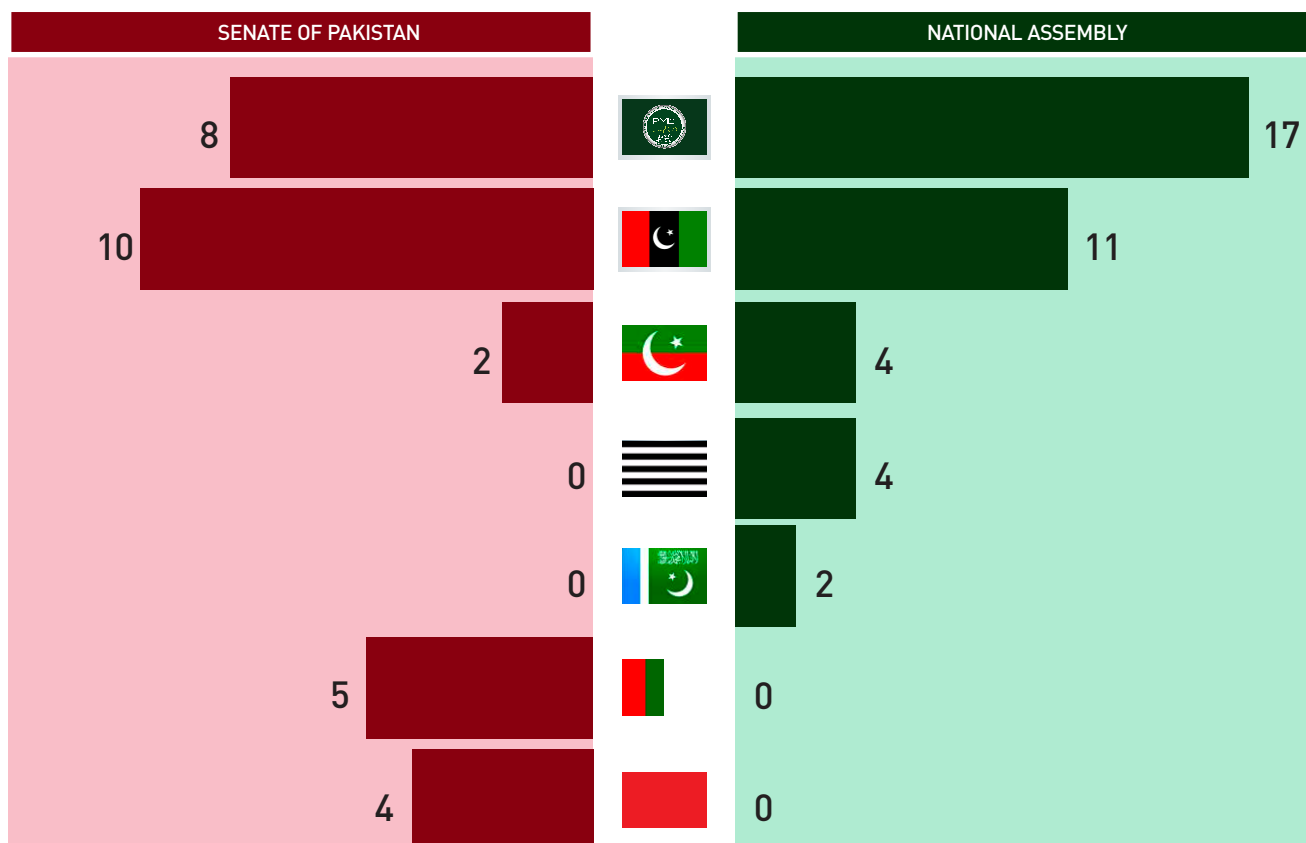


During the reporting period, women Members sponsored 31 resolutions individually and seven jointly in the National Assembly, of which 10 were adopted by the House. Similarly, 29 resolutions were tabled by the women lawmakers either individually or jointly in the Upper House. Of these 21 were adopted.

The women-sponsored resolutions adopted in the two Houses mainly focused on the issues related to governance, foreign policy, security and law and order.

ANP women lawmaker Sitara Ayaz sponsored highest number of resolutions (7) in Senate of which, three were adopted by the House.

Party-wise details of Resolutions sponsored by Women Individually/Jointly



Nineteen women Senators sponsored at least one resolution during the reporting period. Senator Sitara Ayaz of ANP took the lead as she sponsored seven resolutions (individually and jointly), followed by Sassui Palijo of PPPP (6) and Samina Abid of PTI (5). Two women Senators belonging to PML-N and one each of MQM and PTI sponsored four resolutions each.

On the other hand, 36% women Members in the National Assembly sponsored resolutions during the reporting period. The JUI lawmaker Naeema Kishwar Khan along with Nafisa Shah and Belum Hasnain of PPPP sponsored four resolutions each. They were followed by Sajida Begum and Shireen Mazari (PTI), Parveen Masood Bhatti and Khalida Mansoor (PML-N), Shazia Marri (PPPP) and Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan (MQM) who sponsored three resolutions each. Five women legislators sponsored two resolutions each and 11 others sponsored one resolution each.

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Naeema Kishwar Khan

Resolution: 4



JUI-F



Nafisa Shah

Resolution: 4



PPPP



Belum Hasnain

Resolution: 4



PPPP



Sajida Begum

Resolution: 3



PTI



Parveen Masood Bhatti

Resolution: 3



PML-N



Nikhat Shakeel Khan

Resolution: 3



MQM



Dr. Shireen Mazari

Resolution: 3



PTI



Khalida Mansoor

Resolution: 3



PML-N



Shazia Marri

Resolution: 3



PPPP

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Sitara Ayaz

Resolution: 7



ANP



Sassui Palijo

Resolution: 6



PPPP



Samina Abid

Resolution: 5



PTI

4. CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE

Calling Attention Notice is a parliamentary tool to draw attention of the government towards the issues of public importance. Of 89 women parliamentarians, 56 (45 MNAs and 11 Senators) used this tool to highlight public issues in the Parliament during the reporting period.

There were 205 CANs brought to the two Houses of the Parliament – 96 in the National Assembly and 109 in the Senate. Half of these CANs were sponsored by the women legislators individually or jointly with their male counterparts. Women MNAs remained ahead of their male colleagues in raising public issues through CANs. They sponsored 24 CANs individually or in partnership with other women members and 52 CANs jointly with male parliamentarians. Similarly, women's share of the CANs raised in the Senate was 25%. They sponsored 24 CANs individually and five in collaboration with male legislators.

The lawmakers raised issues of governance, energy, law and order and foreign affairs. Six CANs – five in the National Assembly and one in the Senate – focused on women-specific issues such as maternal health, working of Benazir Income Support Programme, honor-killing and discrimination against women parliamentarians in allocation of development funds.

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Asyia Naz Tanoli

CANs: 13



PML-N

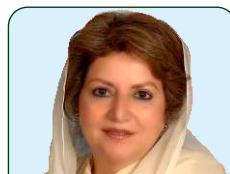


Nafisa Shah

CANs: 9



PPP



Shaista Pervaiz

CANs: 8



PML-N



Shahida Rehmani

CANs: 8



PPP



Naeema Kishwar Khan

CANs: 7



JI-F



Nighat Parveen

CANs: 7



PML-N



Aisha Syed

CANs: 7



JI

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



Sitara Ayaz

CANs: 7



ANP



Sassui Palijo

CANs: 6



PPP



Muddassir Sehar

CANs: 6



PPP

5a. MOTION UNDER RULE 218 (SENATE)

Any Minister or a member may give notice of a motion under Rule 218 that any policy, situation, statement or any other matter may be taken into consideration.

During the reporting period, 11 women Senators raised 14 such motions, 10 individually and four jointly.





















Among these motions, five were raised by the PPP's Senators followed by MQM (2) and PML-N, BNP-A, PML and PTI (one each). PPP's Sehar Kamran raised five motions (individually and jointly) followed by PPP lawmaker Saussi Palejo and PML Senator Robina Irfan (4 each).

The women lawmakers highlighted issues related to health sector, foreign affairs, law and order, energy and governance.



Party Wise Detail of Women MPs Sponsoring Motions Individually/Jointly

5	2	1	1	1	1
PPPP	MQM	PML-N	BNP-A	PML	PTI

SENATE OF PAKISTAN					
 Muddassir Sehar Motions: 5  PPPP	 Sassui Palijo Motions: 4  PPPP	 Robina Irfan Motions: 4  PML	 Rubina Khalid Motions: 3  PPPP	 Samina Abid Motions: 2  PTI	
 Khalida Parveen Motions: 2  PPPP	 Sherry Rehman Motions: 2  PPPP	 Naseema Ehsan Motions: 2  BNP-A	 Kalsoom Perveen Motions: 1  PML-N	 Khushbakht Shujat Motions: 1  MQM	





















5b. MOTION UNDER RULE 259 (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY)

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 under Rule 259 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.

Fourteen women Members raised 34 motions, 28 individually and 6 jointly, under Rule 259 during the reporting period. PML-N's Khalida Mansoor raised seven motions (individually or jointly) followed by JI's Aisha Syed, PML-N's Shakila Luqman and JUI-F's Naeema Kishwar Khan who moved four motions each.

The motions raised in the National Assembly were related to the issues of governance, health, foreign affairs, law and order, education and environment.

Total 34					
6 Motions Raised (Jointly)		28 Motions Raised (Individually)			
Party Wise Detail of Women MPs Sponsoring Motions Individually/Jointly					
4	3	3	2	1	1
PML-N	PPPP	PTI	MQM	JI	JUI-F










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 <p>Khalida Mansoor Motions: 7</p>  PML-N	 <p>Aisha Syed Motions: 4</p>  JI	 <p>Shakila Luqman Motions: 4</p>  PML-N	 <p>Naeema Kishwar Khan Motions: 4</p>  JUI-F	 <p>Parveen Masood Bhatti Motions: 3</p>  PML-N	
 <p>Munaza Hassan Motions: 3</p>  PTI	 <p>Shazia Marri Motions: 2</p>  PPPP	 <p>Belum Hasnain Motions: 2</p>  PPPP	 <p>Nafisa Shah Motions: 2</p>  PPPP	 <p>Nafeesa Khattak Motions: 2</p>  PTI	

6. QUESTIONS





















Questions allow the lawmakers to conduct executive oversight by seeking information from the ministries.

The women Parliamentarians effectively oversaw the performance of the executive. Forty-two of the 70 women MNAs asked 1,678 questions in the Lower House whereas 56 male legislators asked 982 questions. Three women legislators asked more than 100 questions each. Similarly, fourteen out of 19 women Senators asked 257 questions during the reporting period.

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 Nuzhat Sadiq Questions: 60	 Samina Abid Questions: 53	 Rahila Magsi Questions: 32	 Khalida Parveen Questions: 20	 Kalsoom Perveen Questions: 19
 PML-N	 PTI	 PML-N	 PPP	 PML-N
 Sassui Palijo Questions: 18	 Muddasir Sehar Questions: 16	 Begum Najma Hameed Questions: 11	 Ayesha Raza Farooq Questions: 10	 Sitara Ayaz Questions: 5
 PPP	 PPP	 PML-N	 PML-N	 ANP

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 Sajida Begum Questions: 133	 Munaza Hassan Questions: 100	 Naeema Kishwar Questions: 100	 Khalida Mansoor Questions: 97	 Aisha Syed Questions: 92
 PTI	 PTI	 JUI-F	 PML-N	 JI
 Shahida Rehmani Questions: 82	 Belum Hasnain Questions: 80	 Nafeesa Khattak Questions: 76	 Nafisa Shah Questions: 72	 Nighat Parveen Questions: 71
 PPP	 PPP	 PTI	 PPP	 PML-N

ATTENDANCE OF MOST PUNCTUAL MEMBERS

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 Sitara Ayaz Attend: 92/103 89%  ANP	 Gul Bashra Attend: 89/103 86%  PkMAP	 Begum Najma Hameed Attend: 84/103 82%  PML-N	 Kalsoom Perveen Attend: 83/103 81%  PML-N	 Khalida Parveen Attend: 81/103 79%  PPPP
 Rubina Khalid Attend: 80/103 78%  PPPP	 Sassui Palijo Attend: 79/103 77%  PPPP	 Samina Abid Attend: 76/103 74%  PTI	 Muddassir Sehar Attend: 76/103 74%  PPPP	 Nuzhat Sadiq Attend: 74/103 72%  PML-N

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 Aliya Kamran Attend: 75/75 100%  JUI-F	 Naeema Kishwar Khan Attend: 75/75 100%  JUI-F	 Naseema Hafeez Panezai Attend: 75/75 100%  PkMAP	 Musarat Rafique Attend: 74/75 99%  PPPP	 Begum Tahira Bukhari Attend: 74/75 99%  PML-N
 Kiran Haider Attend: 74/75 99%  PML-N	 Shaheen Shafiq Attend: 73/75 97%  PML-N	 Shahida Rehmani Attend: 72/75 96%  PPPP	 Sajida Begum Attend: 69/75 92%  PTI	 Dr. Shireen Mazari Attend: 69/75 92%  PTI

State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Sheikh Aftab Ahmed attended 74 out of 75 sittings of the National Assembly, followed by legislators Aftab Shaban Mirani and Sardar Mumtaz Khan (73 each).

In Senate, M. Hamza attended the maximum 100 out of 103 sittings, followed by Usman Kakar, Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi and Lt. General (R) Salahuddin Tirmizi (94 each) and Taj Haider (93).

This report is based on the data gathered through direct observation of the proceedings of the National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan. Errors and omissions are excepted.

About FAFEN

- FAFEN is one of the most credible networks of civil society organizations working for strengthening 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 the work of Parliamentary Committee for Electoral 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 18,000 and 40,000 non-partisan and trained observers for the systematic observation of general election 2008 and 2013, respectively, largest citizens' observation ever undertaken in Pakistan.
- FAFEN's evidence and recommendations for reforms have improved the quality of public and political discourse on elections, its issues and need for reforms. Leading political parties and media houses extensively use FAFEN's election findings and analysis to build a case for reforms.
- With more than 16,100 followers on Twitter and around 65,000 on Facebook, FAFEN is considered one of the most reliable sources of electoral and parliamentary information in the country.

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