WONEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

Performance 2018 - 2019





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Women MPs Contribute 33 Percent Parliamentary Business during 2018-19

Women parliamentarians maintained a track record of consistently surpassing reasonable performance expectations during 2018-2019 by making remarkable contributions to setting the agenda for parliamentary business, and sustaining spirited deliberations on a range of pressing matters.

Female lawmakers constitute 20 percent of the Parliament – 69 out of 342 in the National Assembly and 20 out of 104 in the Senate. They sponsored 53 percent (39 out of 74) private members' bills, 27 percent (27 out of 100) resolutions, 47 percent (51 out of 108) Calling Attention Notices, and 32 percent (561 out of 1772) questions in both Houses of the Parliament. Moreover, they also initiated 40 percent (four out of 10) proposals for amendments to the parliamentary rules of procedure and 39 percent (41 out of 104) motions for debate on public importance issues. They initiated around 30 percent of the parliamentary interventions singly or in partnership with other women while also partnered with their male colleagues for an additional three percent business.

On an average, each female lawmaker in the National Assembly sponsored eight agenda items in comparison to three items by each male lawmaker. However, in the Senate, they sponsored seven agenda items as compared to eight items by their male colleagues. Besides agenda contribution, female lawmakers also actively participated in the debates on scheduled business and in raising Points of Order and Matters of Public Importance. Around 62 percent female lawmakers - 46 percent of female MNAs and 90 percent of female Senators – contributed to the discussions and debates during the parliamentary proceedings.

An analysis of the official attendance records of the National Assembly and the Senate illustrates that female lawmakers are more regular in attendance than their male colleagues. On an average, each female Member of the National Assembly (MNA) attended 83 percent of the Lower House sittings while each Senator attended 64 percent of the Senate sittings. The male MNAs and male Senators attended 70 percent and 57 percent sittings of their respective House. Similarly, each NA sitting witnessed around 70 percent of the female MNAs in attendance as compared to 60 percent male MNAs. Similar was the case of Upper House, where each sitting had 83 percent female senators and 71 percent male senators present in the House.

PPPP's Sherry Rehman sponsored highest number of CANs in Senate

PPPP's Quratulain Marri moved highest number of Private Member's Bills in Senate

However, despite female lawmakers' remarkable contributions to agenda, their business suffered from neglect in the Lower House. Analyzing

legislative records suggests the bills initiated by female lawmakers were less likely to be taken up in the House than the bills sponsored by male lawmakers as only a quarter (five out of 19) of the female-sponsored bills passed the first reading stage as compared to 58 percent (seven out of 12) male sponsored bills. Similar was the case with the female-sponsored resolutions. Only two (12 percent) out of 16 female-sponsored resolutions were adopted as compared to 13 (45 percent) male-sponsored resolutions. Female-sponsored agenda may also have lower chances of being addressed because it mostly originates as private members' business unlike the male-sponsored agenda, a considerable portion of which comes from the government due to male-dominated cabinets.

In comparison with last year (2017-18), the contribution of the female lawmakers to the agenda in 2018-2019 witnessed a decline from 39 percent to 33 percent. However, the attendance of female MNAs has increased since last year while the attendance of female Senators remained unchanged. The average attendance of each female MNA was 67 percent during 2017-18 and 83 percent during 2018-19.

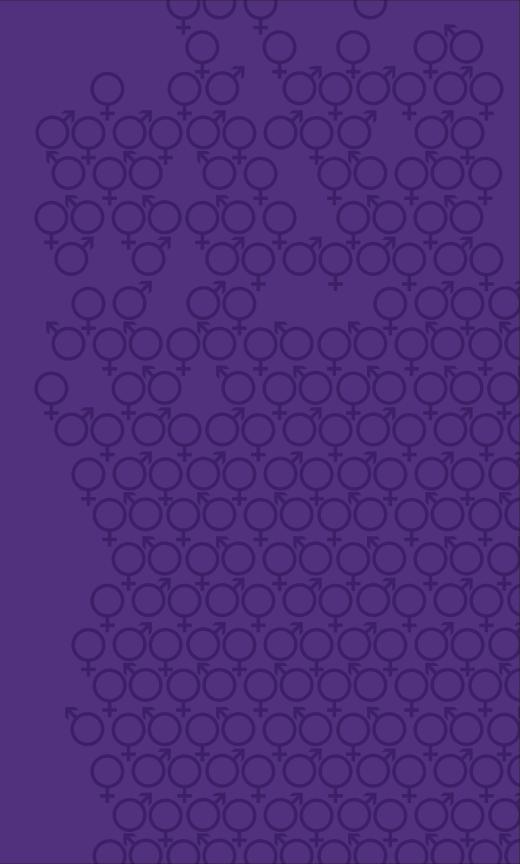
The report covers the eight sessions of the 15th National Assembly held between August 2018 and February 2019 and 13 sessions of the Senate held between March 2018 and February 2019.

MQM's Kishwar Zahra sponsored six (highest) Private Members' Bills in National Assembly

PML-N's Marriyum Aurangzeb and MMAP's Aliya Kamran attended all sittings of National Assembly session

METHODOLOGY

The data used in this report is based on direct observation of the Senate and National Assembly proceedings by Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability, Free and Fair Election Network (TDEA-FAFEN). It attempts to gauge performance of women parliamentarians during the eight sessions of the 15th National Assembly held between August 2018 and February 2019 and 13 sessions of the Senate held between March 2018 and February 2019. This report is based on contribution of women lawmakers (elected on general and reserved seats) in various parliamentary interventions during aforementioned reporting period. The section-wise detail given in this report includes contribution of women lawmakers in legislation, resolutions, motions, calling attention notices, adjournment motions and questions. The section on attendance of women members is based on the attendance records available on the official websites of both Houses. Furthermore, the individual performance of each women lawmaker being a part of this report is available on TDEA-FAFEN's online parliamentary portal http://openparliament.pk



REPRESENTATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Currently, there are 69 women Members of the National Assembly (MNAs) – 60 on women - reserved seats, eight on general and one on a minority seat. This makes up for 20 percent of the total representation of women in the House of 342.

Women Seats by Party



Women Seats by Type



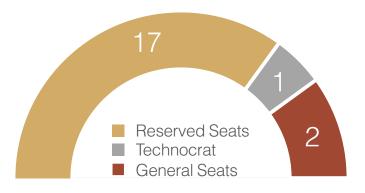
SENATE

There are 20 women Senators – 16 on the women - reserved seats, one on federal and technocrats each and two on General Seats. This makes up for 19 percent of the total representation in the House of Federation, which comprise 104 members.

Women Seats by Party



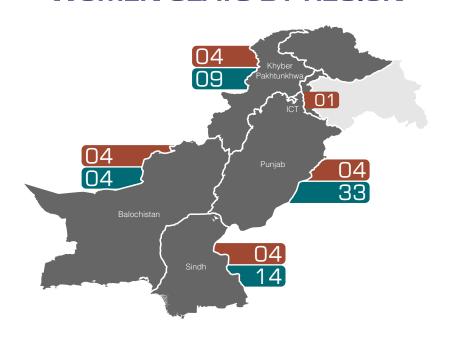
Women Seats by Type



WOMEN SEATS BY REGION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

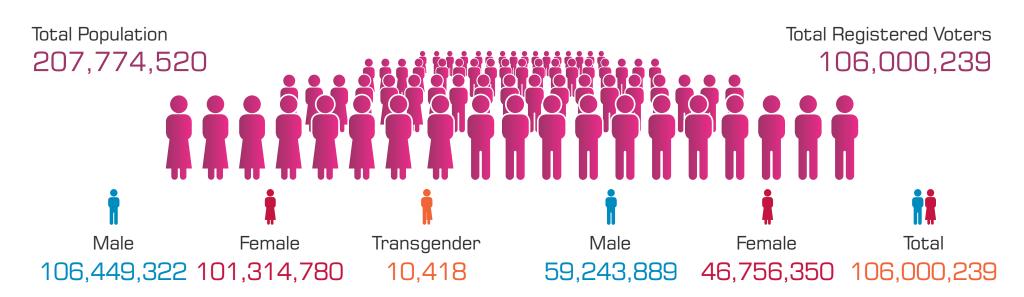
Total Reserved Seats



SENATE Total

Reserved Seats

POPULATION & VOTERS

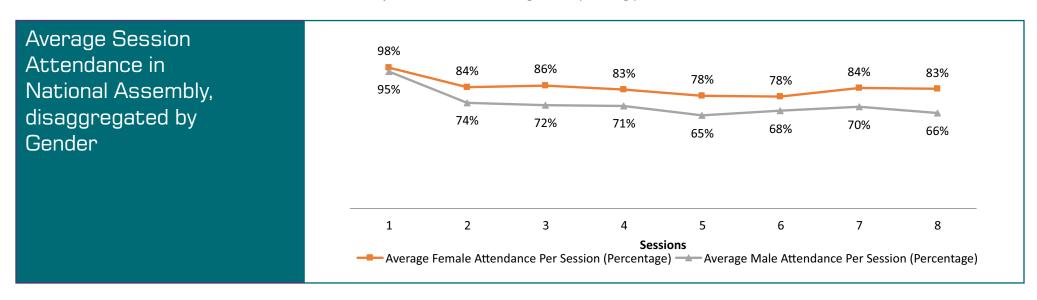


ATTENDANCE

The National Assembly and the Senate held 47 and 70 sittings, respectively during their reporting periods. A female lawmaker in the National Assembly attended an average 39 (83%) sittings whereas her male counterpart attended an average 33 (70%) sittings. In the Senate, a female lawmaker attended an average 45 (64%) sittings whereas a male lawmaker attended an average 40 (57%) sittings.

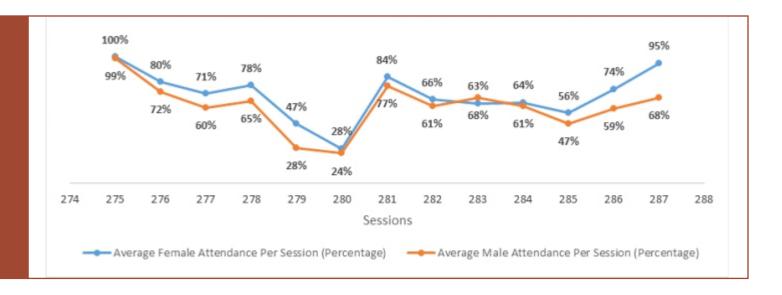
On an average, 63 lawmakers including 14 (70% of total female membership in the Senate) female lawmakers and 49 male lawmakers (60% of total male membership in the Senate) attended a Senate sitting. Similarly, 253 lawmakers including 57 (83% of total female membership in the NA) female lawmakers and 194 (71% of total male membership in the NA) male lawmakers attended a National Assembly sitting on an average.

A comparison between average session attendance of male and female lawmakers in the National Assembly shows that female lawmakers' attendance remained higher than male lawmakers throughout the reporting period. In fact, the difference between average male attendance and average female attendance has become starker since the first session of the incumbent National Assembly. Following graph shows the average attendance of male and female lawmakers in Assembly sessions held during the reporting period.



A similar pattern of higher female attendance than male attendance is visible in the Senate as well. Following graph shows the average attendance of male and female lawmakers in Senate sessions held during the reporting period.

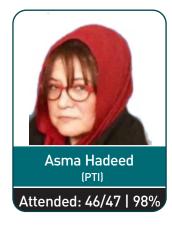
Average Session Attendance in Senate, disaggregated by Gender



ATTENDANCE - NATIONAL ASSEMBLY













ATTENDANCE





Attended: 46/47 | 98%

































National Assembly









Attended: 42/47 | 89%























Attended: 37/47 | 79%













ATTENDANCE

















































ATTENDANCE - SENATE









Attended: 60/70 | 86%







Attended: 18/18 | 100%





Kalsoom Perveen (PML-N) Attended: 87/70 | 81%



Sana Jamali (IND) Attended: 57/70 | 77%







(PPPP) Attended: 48/70 | 69%



(PTI) Attended: 47/70 | 67%









(MQMP) Attended: 43/70 | 61%



(PPPP) Attended: 33/70 | 47%







PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS

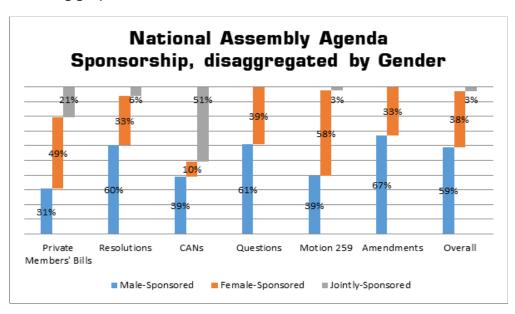
The lawmakers perform their legislative and representative functions by initiating, debating and voting upon various parliamentary agenda. Although the Orders of the Day and parliamentary verbatim records as well as proceedings are publicly available, however, their voting records are not. The lawmakers' participation in parliamentary proceedings, therefore, can only be assessed through their contribution to the agenda and involvement in the debates.

Female lawmakers, who make only a fifth (20 percent) of the parliamentary membership, contributed a third of the parliamentary agenda during the reporting period. Both the National Assembly and the Senate transacted an agenda comprising 2,224 interventions – 1,397 in the National Assembly and 827 in the Senate – of which women lawmakers sponsored 671 (30 percent) interventions on their own and 56 (three percent) in partnership with their male colleagues.

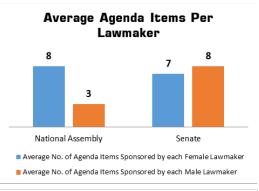
The female lawmakers' contributed 38 percent of the National Assembly's agenda on their own and three percent agenda in partnership with male lawmakers. In the Senate, women lawmakers contributed 17 percent agenda on their own and an additional two percent in partnership with their male colleagues.

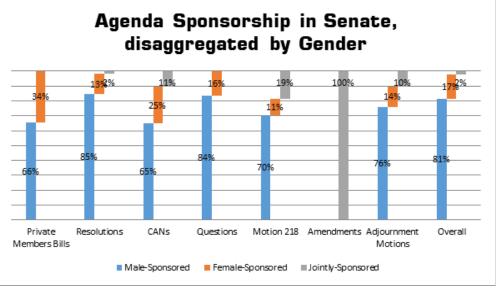
Comparing the average agenda items per lawmaker, a female lawmaker in the National Assembly sponsored average eight agenda items against three by a male lawmaker. Similarly, a female lawmaker in the Senate contributed an average seven agenda items against eight submitted by a male lawmaker.

Following graphs show the contribution of female lawmakers in each House of the Parliament.

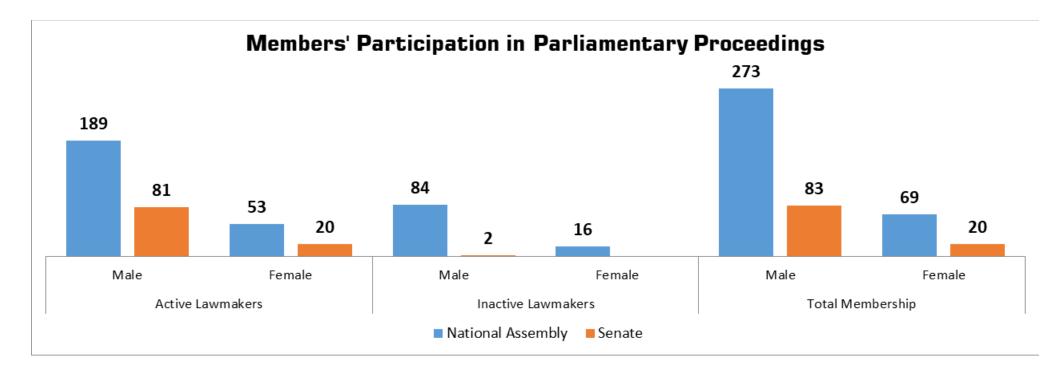








Around 82 percent female parliamentarians participated in the parliamentary proceedings by sponsoring agenda items or taking part in debates. On the other hand, percentage of male lawmakers actively contributing in proceedings was 76 percent indicating that more female lawmakers tend to contribute to the parliamentary proceedings than male lawmakers. As many as 16 (18 percent) female lawmakers in the National Assembly did not participate in the House proceedings. Following graph shows the number of active and inactive lawmakers in both Houses disaggregated by gender.



LEGISLATION

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The National Assembly's legislative agenda comprised 51 bills including 12 government-sponsored and 39 private members' bills. The government legislation was heavily dominated by male cabinet members as only one out of 12 bills was initiated by a female minister. However, female lawmakers made significant contribution to the private members' legislation. They sponsored around half (19) of the private members' bills individually and nearly one-fifth (eight) in partnership with their male colleagues. Following figure shows the disaggregation of the legislation initiated in the National Assembly by the type of their sponsors.

| Sponsor(s) | Туре | Total | |
|--------------------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| ahonan.(a) | Government | Private Member | IULdi |
| Individual Female Lawmaker | 1 | 19 | 20 |
| Individual Male Lawmaker | 11 | 12 | 23 |
| Both Female and Male Lawmakers | | 8 | 8 |
| Total | 12 | 39 | 51 |

An analysis of the legislative records suggests the bills introduced by female lawmakers face a different fate than those introduced by male lawmakers as only a quarter (five out of 19) of the female-sponsored bills passed the first reading stage as compared to 58 percent (seven out of 12) male sponsored bills. On the other hand, eight (or 42 percent) of the female-sponsored and four (or 33 percent) male-sponsored bills remained unaddressed despite their inclusion on the Orders of the Day multiple times. Moreover, two female-sponsored private members' bills were called out in the House but were deferred without any further proceeding. The remaining four female-sponsored bills were withdrawn by the movers on treasury's opposition to those bills. The sole women-sponsored government bill has only passed first reading, so far.

Similarly, only one of the eight bills jointly sponsored by male and female lawmakers was read in the House and referred to the concerned standing committee while two thirds (five) of those were never called during the House proceedings. Moreover, one bill was deferred and another was withdrawn.

Following chart shows the status of private members' bills disaggregated by the type of their sponsors.

| Status | No. of Bills Individually Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | No. of Bills Individually Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | No. of Bills Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
|--------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Not Taken Up | 8 | 4 | 5 | 17 |
| Introduced | 5 | 7 | 1 | 13 |
| Withdrawn | 4 | - | 1 | 5 |
| Deferred | 2 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Rejected | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Total | 19 | 12 | 8 | 39 |

Of 69 female MNAs, 13 (18 percent) contributed to the Lower House's legislative agenda. These lawmakers belonged to five parliamentary parties – five to PTI, three to PML-N, two each to PPPP and MMAP, and one to MQM. Following figure shows the bills sponsored by these parliamentarians.



























LEGISLATION

SENATE OF PAKISTAN

The Senate's legislative agenda comprised 79 bills including 45 government-sponsored and 34 sponsored by private members. Like National Assembly, the male cabinet members dominated the government legislative business in the Senate as well. Female ministers brought only three out of 44 government bills in the House during the reporting period. However, female private members made significant legislative contributions to the agenda. They sponsored almost one third (12 out of 35) of the private members' bills on their own.

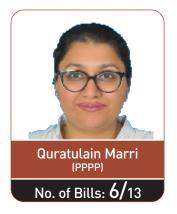
Following table shows the disaggregation of legislation initiated in the Upper House by the type of their sponsors.

| Sponsor(s) | Type of Bill | No of Dillo | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Shoulant (3) | Government | Private | No of Bills |
| Male Lawmakers | 41 | 23 | 64 |
| Female Lawmakers | 3 | 12 | 15 |
| Grand Total | 44 | 35 | 79 |

The House passed only one (eight percent) of the female sponsored bills while their majority (9 or 75 percent) is pending with the standing committees or awaiting motions for second reading. On the other hand, male-sponsored private members' legislation includes three (13 percent) bills that have passed all three readings while 14 (61 percent) remained pending after first-reading. Following figure shows the number of bills sponsored by male and female lawmakers disaggregated by their statuses.

| Status | No. of Bills Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | No. of Bills Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | Total |
|--------------|--|--|-------|
| Introduced | 9 | 14 | 23 |
| Passed | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Deferred | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Dropped | - | 2 | 2 |
| Not Taken Up | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Withdrawn | - | 1 | 1 |
| Rejected | - | 1 | 1 |
| Grand Total | 12 | 23 | 35 |

Of 20 female Senators, six (30 percent) contributed to the Upper House's legislative agenda. These lawmakers belonged to four parliamentary parties – three to PPPP, one each to PTI, MQM and ANP. Following are the list of Senators who contributed to the legislative agenda along with the number of bills they sponsored.







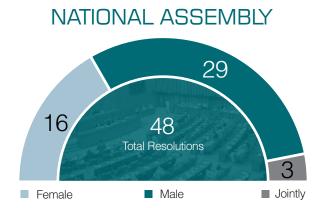


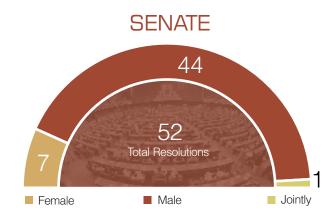




RESOLUTIONS

Through resolutions, lawmakers express an opinion, make recommendations, or covey a message on a specific and important issue.





NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Female lawmakers sponsored 19 (40 percent) out of 48 resolutions which were part of the Lower House's agenda during the reporting period. They initiated 16 of these resolutions on their own while partnered three resolutions with their male colleagues. All female-sponsored resolutions, except one, were private members' resolutions. On the other hand, a major portion (31 percent) of the male-sponsored resolutions comprised government resolutions.

| Type of Resolutions | Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------|
| Government Resolutions | 1 | 9 | 1 | 11 |
| Private Members' Resolutions | 15 | 18 | 1 | 34 |
| Joint Resolutions | - | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Total | 16 | 29 | 3 | 48 |

As was observed in legislation, the House ignored more female-sponsored resolutions than male-sponsored resolutions. Only two (12 percent) out of 16 female-sponsored resolutions were adopted as compared to 13 (45 percent) male-sponsored resolutions. However nine of the male-sponsored resolutions were initiated by the government ministers.

| Supremu(a) | Status of R | Status of Resolutions | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|---------|--|--|
| Sponsor(s) | Adopted | Unaddressed | - Total | | |
| Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | 2 | 14 | 16 | | |
| Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | 13 | 16 | 29 | | |
| Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | 3 | | 3 | | |
| Total | 18 | 30 | 48 | | |

Of 69 female MNAs, 17 (25 percent) contributed resolutions to the Assembly's agenda. These lawmakers belonged to PPPP (10), PTI (five) and MMAP (two). The female-sponsored resolutions encompassed the issues related to governance, energy crisis, pubic funds management, health reforms, water crisis and its management, tax reforms, education reforms, Indian atrocities in Kashmir and affairs related to parliament.

| Members | Party | No. of Resolutions Individually Sponsored | No. of Resolutions Jointly Sponsored with Female Lawmakers | No. of Resolutions Jointly Sponsored with Male Lawmakers | Total |
|----------------------------------|-------|---|--|--|-------|
| Mrs. Shahida Rehmani | PPPP | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| Mrs. Musarat Rafique Mahesar | PPPP | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| Shamim Ara Panhwar | PPPP | 1 | 1 | | 2 |
| Ms. Nafisa Shah | PPPP | 1 | | | 1 |
| Uzma Riaz | PTI | 2 | | | 2 |
| Dr. Shireen Mehrunnisa Mazari | PTI | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak | PTI | 1 | | | 1 |
| Shazia Marri | PPPP | 1 | | | 1 |
| Shamas-un-Nisa | PPPP | | 1 | | 1 |
| Zille Huma | PTI | 1 | | | 1 |
| Dr. Shazia Sobia | PPPP | | 1 | | 1 |
| Mrs. Aliya Kamran | MMAP | 1 | | | 1 |
| Nasiba Channa | PPPP | | 1 | | 1 |
| Ms Shagufta Jumani | PPPP | | 1 | | 1 |
| Nausheen Hamid | PTI | 1 | | | 1 |
| Hina Rabbani Khar | PPPP | | | 1 | 1 |
| Shahida Akhtar Ali | MMA | | | 1 | 1 |
| Total | | 14 | 7 | 3 | 24 |

RESOLUTIONS

SENATE

Female lawmakers sponsored eight (15 percent) out of 52 resolutions in the Senate during the reporting period. They initiated seven of these resolutions on their own and one in partnership with their male colleagues. Half of the female-sponsored resolutions were initiated as private members' resolutions while the remaining half were jointly moved by treasury and private members.

| Tune of Benefitting | | Sponsor(s) | | Total |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------|
| Type of Resolutions | Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
| Private Members' Resolutions | 4 | 35 | | 39 |
| Joint Resolutions | 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| Government resolutions | | 4 | | 4 |
| Grand Total | 7 | 44 | 1 | 52 |

The House adopted five out of seven female-sponsored resolutions while a resolution was dropped off the agenda due to absence of the sponsor and another was left unaddressed. The sole co-sponsored resolution by male and female lawmakers also remained unaddressed. On the other hand, 24 out of 44 male-sponsored resolutions were adopted, three were deferred, six were dropped and 10 remained unaddressed.

| Sucreau(a) | Status of Resolutions | | | | | · Total |
|--|-----------------------|----------|---------|--------------|----------|---------|
| Sponsor(s) | Adopted | Deferred | Dropped | Not Taken up | Rejected | IULdi |
| Sponsored Individually by Male Lawmakers | 24 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 44 |
| Sponsored Individually by Female Lawmakers | 5 | | 1 | 1 | | 7 |
| Sponsored Jointly by Male and Female Lawmakers | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Grand Total | 29 | 3 | 7 | 12 | 1 | 52 |

Of 20 female Senators, six (30 percent) contributed to the Senate agenda in the form of resolutions. These Senators belonged to PPPP (three), MQM, PTI and ANP (one each). Women-sponsored resolutions focused on the issues of governance, education, terrorism, sports and Indian aggression in the Indian Occupied Kashmir.

Of 20 female Senators, six (30 percent) contributed to the Senate agenda in the form of resolutions. These Senators belonged to PPPP (three), MQM, PTI and ANP (one each). Women-sponsored resolutions focused on the issues of governance, education, terrorism, sports and Indian aggression in the Indian Occupied Kashmir.

| Members | Party | No of Resolutions Sponsored Individually | No of Resolutions Sponsored Jointly |
|---------------------------|-------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Sheher Bano Sherry Rehman | PPPP | 4 | 1 |
| Kesho Bai | PPPP | | 1 |
| Khushbakht Shujat | MQM | 1 | |
| Robina Khalid | PPPP | | 1 |
| Samina Saeed | PTI | 1 | |
| Sitara Ayaz | ANP | 1 | |

AMENDMENT TO THE RULES

The National Assembly and the Senate are empowered by the Constitution to frame their own Rules of Procedure to govern their proceedings. These rules are evolutionary and can be amended from time to time.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The lawmakers initiated nine proposals for amendments to the Assembly's Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, 2007. As many as three of these proposals came from a female lawmaker belonging to PPPP while four from a male cabinet member and two from a male private lawmaker belonging to PTI. The House deliberated upon and adopted three of the government-sponsored amendments while female-sponsored amendments were left unaddressed.

Below are the details of the female-sponsored proposals for amendments.



Nafisa Shah (PPPP)

Not Taken Up

Committee of the Whole House

The proposed amendment sought to include a new sub-rule in Rule 244 of the National Assembly's Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, 2007 providing for the constitution of a Committee of the Whole House comprising entire membership of the National Assembly. This provision will empower the House to exercise the powers of a Committee. Another amendment sought to add a new provision under Rule 122 to empower the House to review and debate the bills in the Committee of the Whole.



Public Petitions

• The amendment sought to include a new Rule 295 in the National Assembly's Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, 2007 enabling citizens to file petitions to the Speaker on matters of public importance. The suggested rule includes the procedure for admissibility of the petitions, their examination and decisions upon them.

SENATE

The senators proposed only one amendment to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate 2012. Moved by the Leaders of the House and the Opposition, the amendment was adopted and incorporated in the rules.

Below is the detail of the amendment.



Sherry Rehman (PPPP)

Standing Committees of the Senate

■ The amendment proposed to amend the Rule 158 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 2012 in order to make provision for constituting separate standing committees for various divisions of a ministry. Earlier, the Rules provided for a single committee to the constituted for each ministry, irrespective of the number of divisions of departments in the ministry.

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Calling Attention Notice (CAN) is a parliamentary tool to draw the government's attention towards the issues of public importance. The lawmakers may move a notice to call the attention of a minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the minister shall make a brief statement on these notices. The rules of procedure in Lower House also read that CANs shall lapse if they are not taken up during the sitting for which they have been given while in Upper House they stand lapse at the end of the week for which they have been given, if not taken up by the House.

Unlike other parliamentary interventions, which mostly get individual sponsors, a CAN is usually a multi-sponsor agenda item. In the National Assembly, female lawmakers were contributors or sponsors of 61 percent of the 51 CANs included in the Lower House's agenda. They submitted 26 (51 percent) CANs in partnership with their male colleagues and five (10 percent) on their own. Around 60 percent of the CANs sponsored by female lawmakers on their own were not taken up during the proceedings while only 30 percent of the male-sponsored CANs had remained unaddressed. Following figure shows the number of CANs submitted by male and female lawmakers disaggregated by their status.

| Status | No. of CANs Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | No. of CANs Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | No. of CANs Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
|--------------|--|--|---|-------|
| Addressed | 2 | 13 | 11 | 26 |
| Not Taken Up | 3 | 6 | 15 | 24 |
| Dropped | | 1 | | 1 |
| Total | 5 | 20 | 26 | 51 |

Nearly one-third of female lawmakers (24 out of 69) utilized CANs to perform their parliamentary duties. They belonged to PTI (eight), PPPP (seven), PML-N (six), MMAP (two), and PML (one). Their notices were addressed to 16 ministries and sought their responses on various issues of public importance such as health, governance, potable water, development schemes, energy projects and employment regulations. Following is the list of women who contributed to the agenda using CANs.







(PPPP) No. of CANs: 4



Dr. Shazia Sobia (PPPP) No. of CANs: 3



Hina Rabbani Khar (PPPP) No. of CANs: 3





No. of CANs: 3



No. of CANs: 2























CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES













SENATE

In the Senate, female lawmakers were contributors or sponsors of 20 (35 percent) of the 57 CANs included in the Upper House's agenda. They submitted six (11 percent) CANs in partnership with their male colleagues and 14 (25 percent) on their own. Around 86 percent of the CANs sponsored by female lawmakers on their own were addressed during the proceedings while the rate of male-sponsored CANs being addressed was 73 percent.

Following figure shows the number of CANs submitted by male and female lawmakers disaggregated by their status.

| Status | No. of CANs Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | No. of CANs Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | No. of CANs Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
|--------------|--|--|--|-------|
| Addressed | 12 | 27 | 5 | 44 |
| Deferred | | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Not taken up | 2 | 2 | | 4 |
| Withdrawn | | 1 | | 1 |
| Total | 14 | 37 | 6 | 57 |

Of 20 women Senators, eight (40 percent) utilized CANs to perform their parliamentary duties. They belonged to PPPP (four), PTI, ANP, PML-N (one each) and an independent member. Their notices were addressing to 23 ministries of the government and sough their response on various issues of public importance mainly related to government workers, finance and economic affairs, parliamentary affairs, water and energy crisis, citizens' rights, load shedding, CPEC, elections, law and order, encroachment on government land and foreign relations.















MOTIONS

The lawmakers may scrutinize the government policies, statements or issues of public importance in the Parliament through Motion under Rule 218 in the Senate and Motion under Rule 259 in the National Assembly. These motions are made part of the parliamentary agenda on private members' day. On government days, the lawmakers may move for adjournment of the proceedings to discuss an urgent matter of public importance.

Female lawmakers in the Senate submitted four Motions under Rule 218 individually and seven in collaboration with male lawmakers. Similarly, female lawmakers in the National Assembly sponsored 22 Motions under Rule 259 on their own and partnered with their male colleagues for one.

The National Assembly did not include any adjournment motion on its agenda as it included the Motion of Thanks to the President for his address to the Parliament at the start of current parliamentary year. The Assembly's Rules of Procedure prohibit the inclusion of Adjournment Motions when a Motion of Thanks is being debated. Senate, however, included 29 Adjournment Motions of which seven were sponsored by female lawmakers.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The private members initiated 38 Motions under Rule 259 in the National Assembly to debate various matters of public importance. As many as 35 of these motions were initiated by private members while the remaining by the ministers. Female lawmakers sponsored 22 of the private members' motions seeking discussions on issues related to agriculture development, cybercrime, economy, energy crisis, environmental change, flood and disaster management, foreign affairs, government services, health, imports, law and order, transportation and railways, water shortage and governance. All of these motions, except one, were moved by female lawmakers individually or in partnership with other female colleagues. The House debated only the government motions and did not address any of the private members' motions during the reporting period.

As many as 12 (22 percent) female lawmakers attempted to exercise their right to raise public importance issues through Motions under Rule 259. These lawmakers belonged to PPPP (seven), PTI and MMAP (two each), and PML-N (one). Moreover, a female cabinet member also sponsored a Motion under Rule 259 seeking discussion on the incident of civilian killings in a Counter Terrorism Department's (CTD) shootout in Sahiwal.



























SENATE

Senate business included 37 Motions under Rule 218, of which four were individually sponsored by female lawmakers and seven jointly sponsored by female and male lawmakers. In Senate, through Motion under Rule 218, women senators raised issues concerning governance, law and order, health, environmental pollution, trade and economic affairs, foreign affairs, energy and resources' crisis and implementation of 18th Constitutional Amendment.

In Senate, 75 percent (three) female-sponsored Motions under Rule 218 were not considered for any further action as compared to 23 percent (six) of male-sponsored motions. Moreover, five out of seven (71 percent) motions co-sponsored by male and female lawmakers were admitted for debate in the House while two remained unaddressed during the reporting period.

| | Sponsor Type of Motion Under Rule 218 | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------|
| Status | Sponsored by Female Lawmakers | Sponsored by Male Lawmakers | Jointly Sponsored by Male and Female Lawmakers | Total |
| Debated | 1 | 7 | 5 | 13 |
| Not Taken up | 3 | 6 | 2 | 11 |
| Deferred | | 9 | | 9 |
| Dropped | | 3 | | 3 |
| Referred to relevant committee | | 1 | | 1 |
| Grand Total | 4 | 26 | 7 | 37 |

MOTIONS

As many as 12 (60 percent) female lawmakers raised issues of public importance through Motions under Rule 218. These lawmakers belonged to PPPP (five), PML-N (four), and PkMAP (one) while two were independent lawmakers.

Details of female-sponsored Motions under Rule 218 in the Senate is given below.



Sheher Bano Sherry Rehman (PPPP) No. of Motions under Rule 218: 8



(PkMAP) No. of Motions under Rule 218: 7



(IND) No. of Motions under Rule 218: 5



(PPPP) No. of Motions under Rule 218: 4



No. of Motions under Rule 218: 4





Rule 218: 4





No. of Motions under Rule 218: 1



(PML-N) No. of Motions under Rule 218: 1



No. of Motions under Rule 218: 1



No. of Motions under Rule 218: 1

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS – SENATE

Female Senators submitted four Adjournment Motions (AMs) on their own and three in collaboration with their male colleagues to discuss the matters of urgent importance in the House during the reporting period. Of seven female-sponsored AMs, four were admitted for discussion while three were called inadmissible by the Chair.

Through Adjournment Motions, women lawmakers discussed the issues concerning operationalization of new Islamabad International Airport, increasing deforestation, current account deficit of the country and delay in the announcement of National Finance Commission (NFC) Award. As many as five lawmakers belonging to PPPP (three) and PTI (two) moved AMs in the House of Federation.











QUESTIONS

Questions allow the lawmakers to conduct the oversight of the executive's performance by seeking information from the ministries. Women lawmakers kept an effective check on the executive by asking 468 questions in the National Assembly and 93 in the Senate.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

In the National Assembly, around 39 percent questions were submitted by female lawmakers. The House received the replies from the government on a majority of these questions (375 or 80 percent) while around 19 percent questions remained unanswered. Moreover, two questions were disallowed by the Chair and one lapsed due to appointment of the questioner as parliamentary secretary.

| Status | No. of Questions Submitted by Female Lawmakers | No. of Questions Submitted by Male Lawmakers | Total |
|---|---|---|-------|
| Answered | 375 | 550 | 925 |
| Disallowed | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Other (Lapsed or Admissibility Under Consideration) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Reply Not Received | 90 | 176 | 266 |
| Total | 468 | 732 | 1200 |

As many as 38 (55 percent) out of 69 female lawmakers exercised their right to ask questions. They belonged to PTI (13), PPPP (12), PML-N (8), MMAP (2) and MQMP, BNP-M and GDA (one each). Female lawmakers belonging to PPPP asked 238 questions, PTI 106, PML-N 66, MMAP 35, MQMP 11 and BNP-M and GDA one each. Their questions were

| Party | No. of Questions Submitted by Members | No. of Members who submitted Questions |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| BNP-M | 6 | 1 |
| GDA | 6 | 1 |
| PML-N | 66 | 8 |
| РРРР | 238 | 12 |

| Party | No. of Questions Submitted by Members | No. of Members who submitted Questions |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| PTI | 106 | 13 |
| ММАР | 35 | 2 |
| MQMP | 11 | 1 |
| Total | 468 | 38 |

Following is a list of top 10 female lawmakers who asked highest number of questions during the reporting period.

























QUESTIONS

SENATE

In Senate, around 16 percent questions were submitted by female lawmakers. The House received the replies from the government on most of these questions (85 or 91 percent) while replies from the concerned government departments were not received against eight (nine percent) female-sponsored questions. The proportion of answered male-sponsored questions during this period was around 97 percent.

| Status | No. of Questions Submitted by Female Lawmakers | No. of Questions Submitted by Male Lawmakers | Total |
|--------------------|---|---|-------|
| Fully Answered | 85 | 464 | 549 |
| Reply Not Received | 8 | 15 | 23 |
| Total | 93 | 479 | 572 |

A many as 11 (55 percent) out of 20 female lawmakers exercised their right to ask questions. They belonged to PML-N, PTI, PPPP (three each), MQM and ANP (one each). Women Senators belonging to PML-N asked 39 question, PTI 36, MQM 11, PPPP five and ANP two questions. Their questions were addressed to 25 ministries or government departments.

| Party | No. of Questions Submitted by Members | No. of Members who submitted Questions |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| PML-N | 39 | 3 |
| PTI | 36 | 3 |
| MQM | 11 | 1 |
| PPPP | 5 | 3 |
| ANP | 2 | 1 |
| Total | 93 | 11 |

Following is a list of female lawmakers who asked questions during the reporting period.





No. of Questions: 27



















