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# NEWSLETTER

## The Twenty Sixth Constitution Amendment A Landmark Moment in the Legislative History



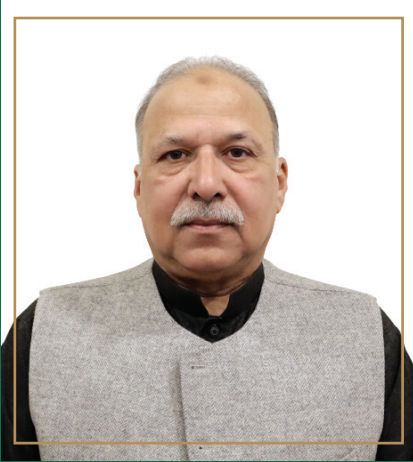
## Global Parliamentarians Unite for Justice and Peace

Highlights from the 45th Annual PGA Forum and ICC Consultative Assembly





## Message from the Secretary General



As we reflect on the period from July to October 2024, it is heartening to recognize the collective efforts and accomplishments that have advanced the work of the National Assembly. This quarter has been marked by significant developments that reinforce the importance of our legislative processes and parliamentary functions.

A landmark achievement during this period was the passage of the Constitution (Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024. Approved by the Senate with a two-thirds majority on October 20th, and subsequently by the National Assembly with the same margin on October 21st, this represents a pivotal moment in Pakistan's legislative and political history.

Another highlight was the successful hosting of the 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and Rule of Law, held in Islamabad from October 28 to 29, 2024.

The event brought together over 46 parliamentarians from around the world. Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, presided over the inaugural session, emphasizing the critical role of parliamentarians in promoting global justice and cooperation.

In parallel, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq advanced Pakistan's parliamentary diplomacy through bilateral meetings with counterparts from Germany, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, and Belarus. Furthermore, he extended Pakistan's goodwill through diplomatic correspondence with 36 nations on special

occasions, underscoring Pakistan's commitment to fostering international cooperation and strengthening ties through parliamentary engagement.

Between July and October 2024, the National Assembly demonstrated significant legislative momentum. During this period, 9 government bills and 35 private member's bills were introduced, with 15 government bills and 5 private member's bills enacted into law. In total, 17 Acts of Parliament were promulgated, marking a productive legislative phase.

Newly elected Committee Chairpersons assumed their roles with dedication, contributing to the dynamic functioning of parliamentary committees. These committees held 97 meetings, reviewing approximately 72 bills and matters on multiple issues of national importance.

Of these, 16 were thoroughly examined and finalized, while 56 remain under active deliberation, reflecting the Assembly's commitment to addressing legislative priorities and governance challenges.

I commend the unwavering dedication of our parliamentarians and staff whose efforts have been pivotal in achieving these milestones. Their hard work and dedication ensure the legislative process progresses effectively, shaping Pakistan's future through their commitment.

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## The Constitution (Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif (PML-N), Maulana Fazlur Rehman (Chief JUL-F), and Bilawal Bhutto Zardari (Chairman PPP) gathered at Parliament House on 21 October 2024, on the occasion of the 26th Amendment.

The Constitution (Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024, achieved a significant milestone when it was passed with a two-thirds majority in the Senate on October 20, 2024, and subsequently by the National Assembly on October 21, 2024. Before finalising the bill, a Special Committee, comprising representatives from all political parties, deliberated on various proposals.

The motion for consideration of the Bill was moved by Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar, Minister for Law and Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. In the National Assembly, 225 members voted in favor, while 12 members opposed the Bill, ensuring its passage with no less than two-thirds of the total Assembly membership. Following this historic achievement, Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif expressed gratitude for the successful passage of the Constitution (Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024.

### SALIENT POINTS OF AMENDMENTS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

- The Act is titled the Constitution (Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 2024 and comes into effect immediately.

- **New Article 9A:** Guarantees every individual the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.
- **Amendment to Article 38(f):** Mandates the complete elimination of riba (interest) by January 1, 2028.
- **Amendment to Article 48(4):** Clarifies that advice provided by the Cabinet or Prime Minister to the President is not subject to challenge in any court or tribunal.
- **Amendment to Article 81:** Provides allocations for judicial bodies, including the Judicial Commission of Pakistan and the Supreme Judicial Council.
- **Revision of Article 175A:** Introduces a performance evaluation system for High Court judges to enhance accountability and efficiency.
- **Revisions to Article 177:** Specifies qualifications for Supreme Court judges, requiring either five years of service as a High Court judge or 15 years of practice in the High and Supreme Courts.



- **Changes to Article 175A:** Adjusts the composition of the Judicial Commission for Supreme Court appointments. A Special Parliamentary Committee, including representatives from the National Assembly and Senate, will appoint the Chief Justice of Pakistan from among the three most senior judges, ensuring proportional political representation. Judicial appointments will require a two-thirds majority vote in the committee.
- **Amendment to Article 179:** Limits the Chief Justice of Pakistan's tenure to three years, irrespective of age. Upon completion of the term, the Chief Justice will retire regardless of their age.
- **New Article 191A:** Establishes Constitutional Benches within the Supreme Court, comprising judges nominated by the Judicial Commission of Pakistan. These benches will have proportional representation from all provinces.
- **Amendment to Article 193:** Sets eligibility criteria for High Court judges, requiring Pakistani citizenship, a minimum age of 40 years, and at least 10 years of experience as a High Court advocate or in a judicial office.<sup>1</sup>

## 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action



Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, addresses the Inaugural Session of the 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court (CAP-ICC) and Rule of Law, held on October 28, 2024, in Islamabad.

The 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and Rule of Law convened on October 28, 2024, in Islamabad, drawing over 46 parliamentarians from across the globe, with an additional 14 delegates participating online.

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq chaired the event, emphasizing the multifaceted responsibilities of parliamentarians. "Our role extends far beyond enacting laws; we must address urgent issues impacting our constituents, such as access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation," he noted.

<sup>1</sup>[https://na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/6716278086bbd\\_802.pdf](https://na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/6716278086bbd_802.pdf)

The Speaker urged parliamentarians to collectively stand against violence and conflict, highlighting the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the unresolved issue of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. He underscored that parliamentarians are duty-bound not only to legislate but also to champion the welfare and rights of their constituents amid pressing global challenges.

Expressing deep concern over the situation in Palestine, Speaker Sadiq strongly condemned the ongoing Israeli aggression against Palestinian civilians, shedding light on the severe toll on innocent lives.

PGA Secretary-General Ms. Mónica Adame lauded the National Assembly for its hospitality and reaffirmed PGA's commitment to human rights, democracy, and climate justice. "Our collective mission must focus on upholding the rights of our constituents while fostering meaningful dialogue to combat violence and human rights abuses," she emphasized.

The forum provided a crucial platform for parliamentarians to share best practices, discuss global challenges, and mobilize legislative action for a more just and peaceful world.

As the event concluded, PGA President Syed Naveed Qamar unveiled the Islamabad Plan of Global Action for International Justice, a comprehensive document outlining strategic commitments to address issues of international justice. The plan was followed by an open discussion, enabling participants to offer valuable insights and recommendations for its refinement.

The President of PGA expressed profound appreciation for the National Assembly's efforts in hosting the forum and for the contributions made by Parliamentarians for Global Action. He also acknowledged the international community's support in advancing accountability, human rights, and the rule of law.

In her closing remarks, Secretary-General Ms. Mónica Adame extended heartfelt gratitude to Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, President PGA Syed Naveed Qamar, and Chairperson of the Pakistan National Group Senator Sherry Rehman.

She commended their dedication to ensuring the forum's success and their commitment to combating impunity for international crimes, ecocide, and genocide.



Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, addresses the Inaugural Session of the 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court (CAP-ICC) and Rule of Law, held on October 28, 2024, in Islamabad.



## PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

### Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Reaffirms Commitment to Strengthening Pakistan-Belarus Relations



Speaker of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus Igor Sergeyenko receiving Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in Minsk Belarus on 21st August, 2024.

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to deepening ties with Belarus, emphasizing enhanced parliamentary cooperation as a cornerstone of bilateral engagement. During his official visit to Minsk on August 21, 2024, Speaker Sadiq met with Mr. Igor Sergeyenko, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus, and President Aleksandr Lukashenko.

Reflecting on the significance of the visit, the Speaker remarked, "This visit marks an important step forward in our bilateral relations. We deeply appreciate your hospitality and are eager to build on the foundations laid over the past 30 years of diplomatic relations."

During his meeting with President Lukashenko, Speaker Sadiq highlighted pressing global and regional issues, including the gross human rights violations in Kashmir and Palestine, calling them a test of modern humanity's conscience. He stressed that resolving the Kashmir dispute in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions is essential for regional peace and stability. He also called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to

end the ongoing Palestinian genocide. Addressing climate change, Speaker Sadiq underscored Pakistan's vulnerability despite being a minimal contributor to global emissions, stating, "The issue of global climate change requires collective international efforts."

Focusing on Pakistan-Belarus relations, Speaker Sadiq praised the cordial and friendly ties between the two nations, rooted in shared interests and mutual respect. He expressed Pakistan's determination to enhance collaboration in energy, trade, and agriculture, noting, "Pakistan is blessed with vast potential in these sectors, and our bilateral relations will



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with President of the Republic of Belarus Mr. Alexander Lukashenko in Minsk Belarus on 20th August 2024.

*expand further through economic, industrial, and agricultural partnerships."*

Both sides deliberated in detail on enhancing trade and parliamentary ties, with Speaker Sadiq emphasizing the need to modernize the legal framework for cooperation. He stated, "Our Parliament is committed to revisiting existing agreements to ensure they foster closer interaction."

The Speaker reiterated Pakistan's unwavering support for Belarus on international platforms, including its bid to join the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). He assured Belarus of Pakistan's readiness to back its membership in other global organizations.

Mr. Igor Sergeyenko expressed gratitude for Pakistan's consistent support at international forums and welcomed the

Pakistani parliamentary delegation, which included MNAs M. Aslam Ghumman, Syed Tariq Hussain, and Syed Hafeezuddin. He acknowledged the visit as a significant milestone in advancing bilateral ties.

President Aleksandr Lukashenko echoed these sentiments, emphasizing Belarus's commitment to strengthening its partnership with Pakistan. He highlighted the potential for collaboration in energy, trade, and agriculture, stating, "Pakistan has great potential in these sectors."

Concluding the engagements, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to fostering closer cooperation and mutual understanding, pledging to build on their longstanding partnership in the years ahead.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inscribing his remarks in visitors book at National Assembly of Belarus. Speaker of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus Igor Sergeyenko is also present in Minsk on 21st August, 2024.



# CALLS ON OF THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SARDAR AYAZ SADIQ

## From 1st July to 31st October 2024

| S.No. | Subject   | Date                |
|-------|---|---------------------|
| 1.    | <b>Parliamentary delegation</b><br>Federal Republic of <b>Germany</b>   | 11th July 2024      |
| 2.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Béla Fazekas</b><br>Ambassador of <b>Hungary</b>  | 12th July 2024      |
| 3.    | <b>H.E. Mrs. Marilina Armellini</b> , Ambassador of Italy along-with<br>Mr. Roberto Neccia, Deputy Head of Mission and Mr. Augusto Palmireri, First Secretary                 | 25th July 2024      |
| 4.    | <b>Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland KC</b><br>Secretary General, Commonwealth along-with her delegation   | 30th July, 2024     |
| 5.    | <b>Ms. Zoe-Ware</b><br>Political Counselor British High Commission  | 30th July, 2024     |
| 6.    | <b>H.E. Sheikh Dr. Salah Mohammad</b><br>M Al-Bdeer Imam Masjid Al-Nabvi (S.A.W)  | 9th August 2024     |
| 7.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Andrei Metelitsa</b><br>Ambassador along-with Mr. Maksim Kerdzialevich, Second Secretary <b>Republic Belarus</b>  | 12th August 2024    |
| 8.    | <b>Ambassador Frans Van Daele</b><br>Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion and Belief along-with H.E. Dr. Riina Kionka<br>Ambassador of the <b>European Union to Pakistan</b> | 13th September 2024 |
| 9.    | <b>Dr. Zakir Abdul Karim Naik</b><br>Scholar of Islamic Religion  | 1st October 2024    |
| 10.   | <b>H.E. Mr. Hannu Ripatti</b><br>Ambassador of <b>Finland</b>   | 1st October 2024    |

|     |  |                    |
|-----|--|--------------------|
| 11. | <b>H.E. Dr. Ihab Mohamed Abdelhamid Hassan</b><br>Ambassador Arab Republic of Egypt                              | 3rd October 2024   |
| 12. | <b>H.E. Mr. Jemal Beker Abdula</b><br>Special Envoy and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ethiopia | 3rd October 2024   |
| 13. | <b>H.E. Mr. Li Qiang</b><br>Premier of the State Council (Prime Minister) People's Republic of China             | 15th October, 2024 |
| 14. | <b>H.E. Mr. Muhammad Yasin</b><br>Member of Parliament House of Commons United Kingdom                           | 22nd October, 2024 |
| 15. | <b>H.E. Ms. Valentina Matvienko</b><br>Speaker Federation Council Russian Federation                             | 28th October, 2024 |
| 16. | <b>H.E. Ms. Saqlain Sayedah</b><br>Pakistan's Ambassador to Federal Republic of Germany                          | 29th October 2024  |
| 17. | <b>H.E. Mr. Yerzhan Kistafin</b><br>Ambassador, Republic of Kazakhstan   | 25th October 2024  |

## OUTGOING DELEGATIONS

| S.No. | Details  |
|-------|--|
| 1.    | Visit of Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation led by the Honorable Speaker to Belarus from August 20 – 24, 2024 |
| 2.    | Visit of Observer Mission to Observe the Parliamentary Elections on 1st September 2024 – Azerbaijan - Baku   |



## INCOMING DELEGATIONS

| S.No. | Details   | Date                |
|-------|---|---------------------|
| 1.    | <b>H.E. Sir Lindsay Hoyle</b><br>Speaker, House of Commons <b>United Kingdom</b> , London                                 | 12th July 2024      |
| 2.    | <b>Honorable Shabana Mahmood, MP</b><br>Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice London – <b>United Kingdom</b> | 15th July, 2024     |
| 3.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Lorenzo Fontana</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies of Italy, <b>Rome</b>                                   | 26th July, 2024     |
| 4.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Abdul Raheem Abdulla</b><br>Speaker, People's Majlis (Parliament) <b>Republic of Maldives, Male</b>           | 30th September 2024 |
| 5.    | <b>H.E. Dr. Hanafy Gebaly</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives Arab Republic of Egypt, <b>Cairo</b>                   | 4th October 2024    |
| 6.    | <b>H.E. Ms. Sahiba Gafarova,</b><br>Speaker, Milli Majlis / National Assembly Republic of Azerbaijan, <b>Baku</b>         | 30th October 2024   |

## SPEAKER'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS

| S.No. | Details  | Events                            | Date     |
|-------|--|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Greg Fergus</b><br>Speaker, House of Commons, <b>Canada, Ottawa</b>  | National Day                      | 1st July |
| 2.    | <b>H.E. Sheikh Adan Mohamed Nur (Madobe),</b><br>Speaker, House of the People,<br><b>Federal Republic of Somalia, Mogadishu</b>                                      | Independence /<br>Unification Day | 1st July |
| 3.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Igor Sergeyenko,</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives,<br><b>Republic of Belarus, Minsk</b>  | Independence Day                  | 3rd July |
| 4.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Mike Johnson,</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives,<br><b>United States of America, Capitol Hill, Washington D.C.</b>                                | Independence Day                  | 4th July |
| 5.    | <b>H.E. Mr. Brahim Boughali,</b><br>President, Al-Majlis Al-Chaabi Al-Watani (National People's Assembly),<br><b>Peoples Democratic Republic of Algeria, Algiers</b> | Independence Day                  | 5th July |

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| 6.  | <b>H.E. Mr. Martin Menem,</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies, <b>Republic of Argentina,</b><br><b>Buenos Aires</b>                 | Independence Day                    | 9th July    |
| 7.  | <b>H.E. Ms. Yaël Braun-Pivet,</b><br>President, National Assembly, <b>French Republic, Paris</b>                                      | National Day                        | 14th July   |
| 8.  | <b>H.E. Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş</b><br>Speaker, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye,<br><b>Republic of Türkiye, Ankara</b>                 | Democracy and<br>National Unity Day | 15th July   |
| 9.  | <b>H.E. Ms. Eliane Tillieux,</b><br>President, House of Representatives,<br><b>Kingdom of Belgium, Brussels</b>                       | National Day                        | 21st July   |
| 10. | <b>H. E. Mr. Hanafy Ali Gibaly,</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives,<br><b>Arab Republic of Egypt, Cairo</b>                     | National Day                        | 25th July   |
| 11. | <b>H.E. Mr. Rachid Talbi El Alami,</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives,<br><b>Kingdom of Morocco, Rabat</b>                      | National Day                        | 30th July   |
| 12. | <b>H.E. Mr. Eric Nussbaumer</b> President National Council <b>Switzerland, Bern</b>   | National Day                        | 1st August  |
| 13. | <b>H.E. Mr. Kian Peng Seah</b><br>Speaker, Parliament of Singapore<br><b>Republic of Singapore, Singapore</b>                         | National Day                        | 9th August  |
| 14. | <b>H.E. Mr. Won Shik Woo</b><br>Speaker, National Assembly<br><b>Republic of Korea, Seoul</b>   | Independence Day                    | 15th August |
| 15. | <b>H.E. Ms. Puan Maharani</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives<br>(Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat) <b>Republic of Indonesia, Jakarta</b> | Independence Day                    | 17th August |
| 16. | <b>H.E. Mr. László Kövér</b><br>Speaker, National Assembly<br><b>Hungary, Budapest</b>  | National Day                        | 20th August |
| 17. | <b>H.E. Mr. Ruslan Stefanchuk</b><br>Chairman, Verkhovna Rada (Parliament)<br><b>Ukraine, Kiev</b>                                    | Independence Day                    | 24th August |
| 18. | <b>H.E. Mr. Shakiyev Nurlanbek</b><br>Turgunbekovich<br>Speaker, Supreme Council, (Jogorku Kenesh) <b>Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek</b>    | Independence Day                    | 31st August |



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| 19. | <b>H.E. Mr. Johari Abdul</b><br>Speaker, House of Representatives (Dewan Rakyat)<br><b>Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur</b>                           | National Day     | 31st August    |
| 20. | <b>H.E. Mr. Nurddin Ismoilov,</b><br>Speaker, Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis,<br><b>Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent</b>            | Independence Day | 1st September  |
| 21. | <b>H.E. Mr. Thanh Man Tran,</b><br>President, National Assembly<br><b>Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Hanoi</b>                              | Independence Day | 2nd September  |
| 22. | <b>H.E. Mr. Arthur César Pereira de Lira</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies,<br><b>Republic of Brazil, Brasilia</b>                      | Independence Day | 7th September  |
| 23. | <b>H.E. Mr. Rustam Emomali</b><br>Speaker, National Assembly<br><b>Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe</b>                                     | Independence Day | 9th September  |
| 24. | <b>H.E. Ms. Ifigenia Martínez Hernández</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies,<br><b>United Mexican States, Mexico City</b>                 | National Day     | 16th September |
| 25. | <b>H.E. Ms. Karol Cariola</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies<br><b>Republic of Chile, Santiago</b>                                       | National Day     | 18th September |
| 26. | <b>H.E. Mr. Narayan Prasad Dahal</b><br>Chairperson, National Assembly<br><b>Nepal, Kathmandu</b>   | National Day     | 20th September |
| 27. | <b>H.E. Mr. Abdullah Al Sheikh</b><br>President, Shura Council<br><b>Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh</b>                                    | National Day     | 23rd September |
| 28. | <b>H.E. Mr. Zhao Leji,</b><br>Chairman, Standing Committee of the<br>National People's Congress, <b>People's Republic of China, Beijing</b> | National Day     | 1st October    |
| 29. | <b>H.E. Ms. Bärbel Bas,</b><br>President, German Bundestag,<br><b>Federal Republic of Germany, Berlin</b>                                   | Unification Day  | 3rd October    |
| 30. | <b>H.E. Ms. Anita Annet Among</b><br>Speaker, Parliament,<br><b>Republic of Uganda, Kampala</b>   | Independence Day | 9th October    |
| 31. | <b>H.E. Ms. Francina Armengol</b><br>President, Congress of Deputies,<br><b>Kingdom of Spain, Madrid</b>                                    | National Day     | 12th October   |

|     |   |                  |              |
|-----|---|------------------|--------------|
| 32. | <b>H.E. Ms. Sahiba Gafarova</b><br>Speaker, Milli Majlis / National Assembly<br><b>Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku</b>       | National Day     | 18th October |
| 33. | <b>H.E. Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka,</b><br>President, National Council,<br><b>Republic of Austria, Vienna</b>                   | National Day     | 26th October |
| 34. | <b>H.E. Ms. Dunyagozel Akmuhammedovna Gulmanova</b><br>Chairperson, Mejlis / Assembly,<br><b>Turkmenistan, Ashgabat</b>   | Independence Day | 27th October |
| 35. | <b>H.E. Ms. Marketa Pekarova Adamova,</b><br>President, Chamber of Deputies (Parliament)<br><b>Czech Republic, Prague</b> | National Day     | 28th October |
| 36. | <b>H.E. Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş</b><br>Speaker, Grand National Assembly,<br><b>Republic of Türkiye, Ankara</b>                | National Day     | 29th October |

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### National representation took place on the following international events/occasions:

**1. Green Development Forum of Shanghai Cooperation Countries (SCO) from 8 – 9 July 2024 Qingdao, China:**

The forum was the first large-scale event during China's SCO presidency. At the forefront was the initiative Building a Green Partnership for Sustainable Development. Additionally, three accompanying forums facilitated discussions on key themes, including the SCO Year of Ecology 2024, Technological Innovation for Green and High-Quality Development, and Climate Action towards a Green Low-Carbon Transformation.

**2. Parliamentary Forum at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 16th July, 2024 New York, USA:**

The Parliamentary Forum at the HLPF was designed to engage parliamentarians in assessing progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level. The Parliamentary Forum focused on two SDGs that are under review at the HLPF, namely, SDG 16, on peace, justice and strong institutions, and SDG 13, on climate change.

**3. Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Workshop on Combating Gender-based violence 20 – 22 August, 2024 Abuja – Nigeria:**

This CWP Workshop focused on

empowering both male and female participants in developing their skills to work towards eliminating all forms of Gender-based Violence (GBV) with specific attention to combatting violence against women, addressing global challenges such as violence against women in politics, online or technology-facilitated violence and discriminatory laws.

**4. Outgoing Observers Mission for Parliamentary Election, Azerbaijan, 1st September 2024 Azerbaijan:**

The Pakistan parliamentary delegation participated in the subject event as observers.

**5. 12th Commonwealth Youth Parliament (CYP) 2 – 5 September, 2024 Wellington, New Zealand:**

The Commonwealth Youth Parliament (CYP) offered a unique platform for aspirational young people to develop valuable skills in democracy, good governance, networking, diplomacy, leadership, and empowerment. The programme provided participants aged 18- 29 from the Commonwealth's nine regions a plethora of opportunities for workshopping, development, and robust debate.



**6. Meeting of CPA Staff to Discuss Future CPA Programs with the Parliament of Pakistan on 16th September, 2024:** The meeting discussed areas of focus for future programs and to receive feedback on the impacts of previous collaborations with the parliament.

**7. CPA – Advance Parliamentary Development Residency Program from 22 – 28 September 2024 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia:**

This five-day programme was designed to enable Members to be better performing legislators, representatives and scrutineers.

Based on a mentoring and coaching approach, participants which identified practical solutions to the challenges they face and hone their skills at a higher level through simulations, role-play, one-to-one discussions, group activities and exercises.

**8. APA – Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs from 25 – 28 September, 2024 in Moscow – Russia:** The meeting considered the 14 Draft resolutions. During the meeting, the committee approved the following parliamentarians as members of its Bureau:

(i) H.E. Mr. Boris CHERNYSHOV, Head of the delegation of Russian Federation, as Chairperson

(ii) H.E. Mr. Vathana THUN, Head of delegation of Cambodia as Vice-Chair

(iii) H.E. Mr. Syed Ali ZAFAR, Head of delegation of Pakistan as Rapporteur

**9. 13th International Seminar for Parliamentary Research Services 14 – 16 October, 2024 Seoul – Korea:**

The subject seminar provided an opportunity to experts and researches interested in advancing legislative activities and

enhanced the roles of parliamentary research services. The main focus of this seminar was to create an interactive meeting that may provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences through a rigorous study, to spread innovative models, update strategies and to assess legislative practices. The Director General of Research participated in the said event.

**10. Legislative Strengthening Seminar to address Modern Slavery on Supply Chain from 22 – 24 October, 2024 London:**

The Seminar delivered in tandem with CPA UK Programme working to address Gender-Based violence, and therefore, some of the workshop's sessions delivered with other Commonwealth parliamentarians taking part in these programmes simultaneously.

Further, the Seminar was part of a wider project funded by the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth Development Office. The Seminar followed CPA UK's workshop 'Strengthening Parliamentary Action to Address Modern Slavery in Supply Chains' which was delivered in Nairobi last November, 2023 and co-hosted by the Kenyan Parliament.

**11. 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and 13th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law (CAP-ICC):**

October 28 – 29, 2024, Islamabad – Pakistan: 45th Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and the 13th Session of the Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians (CAP-ICC) was hosted by National Assembly on 28th and 29th October, 2024 at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), Islamabad.

In this two-day meeting, global peace, justice, climate change, and other important global issues were deliberated upon.

## Activities of Parliamentary Friendship Groups (PFGs)

Below are the activities of different Parliamentary Friendship Groups (PFGs) during this period:

| S.No. | Country/PFG                     | Convener                            | Subject  | Date  |
|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1.    | Pakistan - Morocco              | Mirza Ikhtiar Baig                  | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House  | Wednesday, 28th August 2024 at 1100                               |
| 2.    | Pakistan - Morocco              | Mirza Ikhtiar Baig                  | Meeting with the Moroccan Ambassador at Parliament House   | Wednesday, 28th August 2024 at 1100                               |
| 3.    | Pakistan - Iraq                 | Ms. Sehar Kamran                    | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House  | Thursday, 29th August 2024 at 1400                                |
| 4.    | Pakistan - Iraq                 | Ms. Sehar Kamran                    | Meeting with the Ambassador of Iraq at Parliament House  | Thursday, 29th August 2024 at 1430                                |
| 5.    | Pakistan - Tajikistan           | Syed Amin ul Haque                  | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House  | Tuesday, 3rd September 2024 at 1130 hours at                      |
| 6.    | Pakistan - Ethiopia + Eritrea   | Mr. Arshad Abdullah                 | Celebrating the vibrant Culture of Ethiopia Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) hosted Ethiopian Cultural day Showcasing the rich heritage and tradition of Ethiopia | Tuesday, 3rd September 2024 at the Embassy of Ethiopia. Islamabad |
| 7.    | Pakistan - Czech Republic       | Makhdoom Syed Samiul Hassan Gillani | Meeting of the Convener with Czech Ambassador at the Embassy   | 10th September, 2024  |
| 8.    | Pakistan - Bosnia & Herzegovina | Ms. Nikhat Shakeel Khan             | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce  | Tuesday, 10th September 2024 at 1400 hours                        |
| 9.    | Pakistan - Hungary              | Raja Osama Sarwar                   | Briefing by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce  | 11th September, 2024  |
| 10.   | Pakistan - Hungary              | Raja Osama Sarwar                   | Meeting with the Hungarian Ambassador at Parliament House  | 11th September, 2024  |
| 11.   | Pakistan - Bosnia & Herzegovina | Ms. Nikhat Shakeel Khan             | Meeting with the Bosnian Ambassador at Parliament House  | Tuesday, 10th September 2024 at 1430 hours                        |
| 12.   | Pakistan - Romania              | Mr. Danyal Chaudhary                | Virtual meeting with Pakistan's Ambassador at Romania along with Briefing by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce   | Thursday, 12th September 2024 at 1400 hours                       |



|     |                               |                                   |   |   |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 13. | Pakistan - Iraq               | Ms. Sehar Kamran                  | Seminar on Seerat e Nabvi   | 18th September, 2024                      |
| 14. | Pakistan - Italy              | Ms. Shazia Marri                  | Virtual meeting with Pakistan's Ambassador at Italy along with Briefing by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce                      | September 25, 2024 at 1500 hours          |
| 15. | Pakistan - Italy              | Ms. Shazia Marri                  | Meeting with the Italian Ambassador at Parliament House   | September 25, 2024 at 1530 hours          |
| 16. | Pakistan - Iran               | Syed Naveed Qamar                 | Convener went to the Iran Embassy for signing the condolence book   | Thursday, October 03, 2024                |
| 17. | Pakistan - RO Korea           | Ms. Naz Baloch                    | Convener along with the group Members visited the Korean Embassy to celebrate the National Foundation Day of RO Korea         | Tuesday, October 22, 2024                 |
| 18. | Pakistan - Lithuania          | Ms. Shahida Rehmani               | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House   | Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 1400 Hours |
| 19. | Pakistan - UK                 | Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani            | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House   | Friday, October 24, 2024 at 1400 Hours    |
| 20. | Pakistan - Portugal           | Syed Ali Qasim Gillani            | Virtual meeting with Pakistan's Ambassador at Lisbon along with Briefing by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House | 24th October, 2024 at 1400                |
| 21. | Pakistan - Portugal           | Syed Ali Qasim Gillani            | Meeting with the Portuguese Ambassador at Parliament House  | 24th October, 2024 at 1430                |
| 22. | Pakistan - Ethiopia & Eritrea | Mr. Arshad Abdullah Vohra         | Briefing Session by MoFA at Parliament House  | Friday, October 25, 2024 at 1400 Hours    |
| 23. | Pakistan - Uganda & Rwanda    | Ms. Aasia Ishaque Siddiqui        | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House   | Friday, October 25, 2024 at 1530 Hours    |
| 24. | Pakistan - UK                 | Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani            | Dinner hosted by the British High Commissioner in honor of the Members of Pakistan - UK PFG at British High Commission        | Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 1900 at      |
| 25. | Pakistan - Slovenia           | Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon          | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House   | Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 1100 hours |
| 26. | Pakistan - Saudi Arabia       | Sardar Muhammad Yousuf Zaman      | Briefing Session by MoFA and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House   | 31st October, 2024 at 1400 hours          |
| 27. | Pakistan - Australia          | Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan Kharal | Meeting of the Convener with Australian High Commissioner at the High Commission  | 31st October, 2024 at 1500 hours          |

## SNAPSHOT OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

### GOVERNMENT BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY = 09

| S.No. | Date                | Bill   |
|-------|---------------------|--|
| 1.    | 10th July, 2024     | The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024                                    |
| 2.    | 6th August, 2024    | The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2024             |
| 3.    | 2nd September, 2024 | The Pakistan Navy (Amendment) Bill, 2024   |
| 4.    | 4th September, 2024 | The Pakistan Coast Guards (Amendment) Act, 2024                                    |
| 5.    | 18th October, 2024  | The Pakistan Infrastructure Development and Assets Management Authority Bill, 2024 |
| 6.    | 18th October, 2024  | The National Commission on the Status of Women (Amendment) Bill, 2024              |
| 7.    | 18th October, 2024  | The Biological and Toxin Weapon Convention (Implementation) Bill, 2024             |
| 8.    | 25th October, 2024  | The Naturalization (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |
| 9.    | 25th October, 2024  | The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024                                    |

### PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY = 35

| S.No. | Date           | Bill  |
|-------|----------------|---|
| 1.    | 9th July, 2024 | The Nippon Institute of Advanced Sciences (NIAS) Bill, 2024 |
| 2.    | 9th July, 2024 | The Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Bill, 2024         |
| 3.    | 9th July, 2024 | The National Commission for Minorities Bill, 2024           |



|     |                     |  |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| 4.  | 9th July, 2024      | <b>The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill, 2024</b>                                     |
| 5.  | 9th July, 2024      | <b>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Amendment in Article-175A and 215)</b>       |
| 6.  | 9th July, 2024      | <b>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article-51 and 106)</b>                      |
| 7.  | 9th July, 2024      | <b>The South City University Bill, 2024</b>  |
| 8.  | 9th July, 2024      | <b>The High Courts (Establishment) (Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>                            |
| 9.  | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The West Pakistan Maintenance of Public Order (Repeal) Bill, 2024</b>                 |
| 10. | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 27)</b>                              |
| 11. | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The Pakistan Examination Board Bill, 2024</b>   |
| 12. | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The Federal Employees Benevolent Fund and Group Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>  |
| 13. | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 9A)</b>                              |
| 14. | 30th July, 2024     | <b>The Elections (Second Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>                                       |
| 15. | 6th August, 2024    | <b>The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Marriage Restraint Bill, 2024</b>               |
| 16. | 6th August, 2024    | <b>The National Commission on the Rights of Child (Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>             |
| 17. | 6th August, 2024    | <b>The Acid and Burn Crime Act, 2024</b>   |
| 18. | 6th August, 2024    | <b>The RAVI Institute (RI) Sahiwal Bill, 2024</b>  |
| 19. | 3rd September, 2024 | <b>The Reservation of Special Seats for Deserving Persons in Universities Bill, 2024</b> |
| 20. | 3rd September, 2024 | <b>The Civil Servants (Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>   |
| 21. | 3rd September, 2024 | <b>The Contempt of Court (Repeal) Bill, 2024</b>   |
| 22. | 3rd September, 2024 | <b>The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 198)</b>                             |
| 23. | 3rd September, 2024 | <b>The Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024</b>  |

|     |                      |  |
|-----|----------------------|--|
| 24. | 3rd September, 2024  | The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 177, 193 and 208)                                     |
| 25. | 3rd September, 2024  | The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 51,59 and 106)  |
| 26. | 3rd September, 2024  | The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (Article 184)  |
| 27. | 10th September, 2024 | The Pakistan Environmental Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2024   |
| 28. | 10th September, 2024 | The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |
| 29. | 22nd October, 2024   | The Nexus International University of Health Emerging Sciences and Technologies, Islamabad, Bill, 2024 |
| 30. | 22nd October, 2024   | The Pakistani Climate Refugees Rights and Protection Bill, 2024  |
| 31. | 22nd October, 2024   | The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |
| 32. | 22nd October, 2024   | The Pakistan Nursing Council (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |
| 33. | 29th October, 2024   | The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (Amendment) Bill, 2024   |
| 34. | 29th October, 2024   | The Islamabad Healthcare Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2024   |
| 35. | 29th October, 2024   | The Civil Servants (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |

## GOVERNMENT BILLS PASSED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY = 15

| S.No. | Date                | Bill  |
|-------|---------------------|---|
| 1.    | 10th July, 2024     | The State-Owned Enterprises (Governance and Operations) (Amendment) Act, 2024 |
| 2.    | 26th August, 2024   | The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government (Amendment) Bill, 2024       |
| 3.    | 2nd September, 2024 | The Privatization Commission Amendment Bill and Report, 2024                  |
| 4.    | 2nd September, 2024 | The Establishment of Telecommunication Appellate Tribunal Bill, 2024          |



|     |                     |  |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| 5.  | 2nd September, 2024 | The Cannabis Control and Regulatory Authority Bill, 2024                     |
| 6.  | 2nd September, 2024 | The Apostille Bill, 2024   |
| 7.  | 6th September, 2024 | The Elections (Amendment) Bill, 2024   |
| 8.  | 9th September, 2024 | The National University of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2024                 |
| 9.  | 18th October, 2024  | The Deposited Protection Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2024                  |
| 10. | 18th October, 2024  | The Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Bill, 2024 |
| 11. | 21st October, 2024  | The Societies Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2024                            |
| 12. | 21st October, 2024  | The Constitution (Twenty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 2024                         |
| 13. | 22nd October, 2024  | The Seed (Amendment) Bill, 2024  |
| 14. | 22nd October, 2024  | The Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2023                                 |
| 15. | 23rd October, 2024  | The Legal Aid and Justice Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2024                   |

## PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS PASSED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY = 5

| S.No. | Date                | Bill  |
|-------|---------------------|---|
| 1.    | 9th July, 2024      | The Pakistan Psychological Council Bill, 2024     |
| 2.    | 9th July, 2024      | The Christian Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2024     |
| 3.    | 30th July, 2024     | The Excellence Institute Bill, 2024               |
| 4.    | 6th August, 2024    | The Elections (Second Amendment) Act, 2024        |
| 5.    | 6th September, 2024 | The Peaceful Assembly and Public Order Bill, 2024 |

**ACTS OF THE PARLIAMENT = 17**

| S.No. | Date                 | Bill   |
|-------|----------------------|--|
| 1.    | 8th July, 2024       | The Elections (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XI of 2024)   |
| 2.    | 18th July, 2024      | The State-Owned Enterprises (Governance and Operations) (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XII of 2024)  |
| 3.    | 23rd July, 2024      | Christian Marriage (Amendment) Act, 2024   |
| 4.    | 7th August, 2024     | The Elections (Second Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XV of 2024)                                      |
| 5.    | 27th August, 2024    | The Islamabad Nature Conservation and Wildlife Management Act, 2024 (Act No. XVI of 2024)            |
| 6.    | 29th August, 2024    | The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XVIII of 2024)       |
| 7.    | 29th August, 2024    | The Hajj and Umrah (Regulation) Act, 2024 (Act No. XVII of 2024)                                     |
| 8.    | 6th September, 2024  | The Election (Third Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XX of 2024)  |
| 9.    | 6th September, 2024  | The Apostile Act, 2024 (Act No. XXI of 2024)   |
| 10.   | 6th September, 2024  | The Peaceful Assembly and Public Order Act, 2024 (ACT NO. XIX OF 2024)                               |
| 11.   | 20th September, 2024 | The National University of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XXII of 2024)                   |
| 12.   | 20th September, 2024 | The Establishment of Telecommunication Appellate Tribunal Act, 2024. (ACT NO. XXV OF 2024)           |
| 13.   | 24th September, 2024 | The Cannabis Control and Regulatory Authority Act, 2024  |
| 14.   | 21st October, 2024   | Constitution (Twenty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2024 (ACT NO. XXVI OF 2024)                               |
| 15.   | 28th October, 2024   | The Establishment of Special Court (Overseas Pakistanis Property) Act, 2024 (Act No. XXVIII of 2024) |
| 16.   | 28th October, 2024   | The Deposit Protection Corporation (Amendment) Act 2024 (Act No. XXXVII OF 2016)                     |
| 17.   | 30th October, 2024   | The Banking Companies (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. XXIX of 2024)                                   |



## ORDINANCES LAID = 1

| S.No. | Date           | Bill   |
|-------|----------------|--|
| 1.    | 9th July, 2024 | The State-Owned Enterprises (Governance and Operations) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 (Ord. VII of 2024) |

## RESOLUTIONS:

During this period, the National Assembly received a total of 113 resolutions addressing a variety of critical national and public interest issues. Out of these, 27 resolutions were admitted for detailed consideration, reflecting their alignment with parliamentary priorities and procedural requirements. Among these, 14 resolutions were ultimately adopted, demonstrating the Assembly's commitment to addressing key concerns and advancing collective decision-making through consensus.

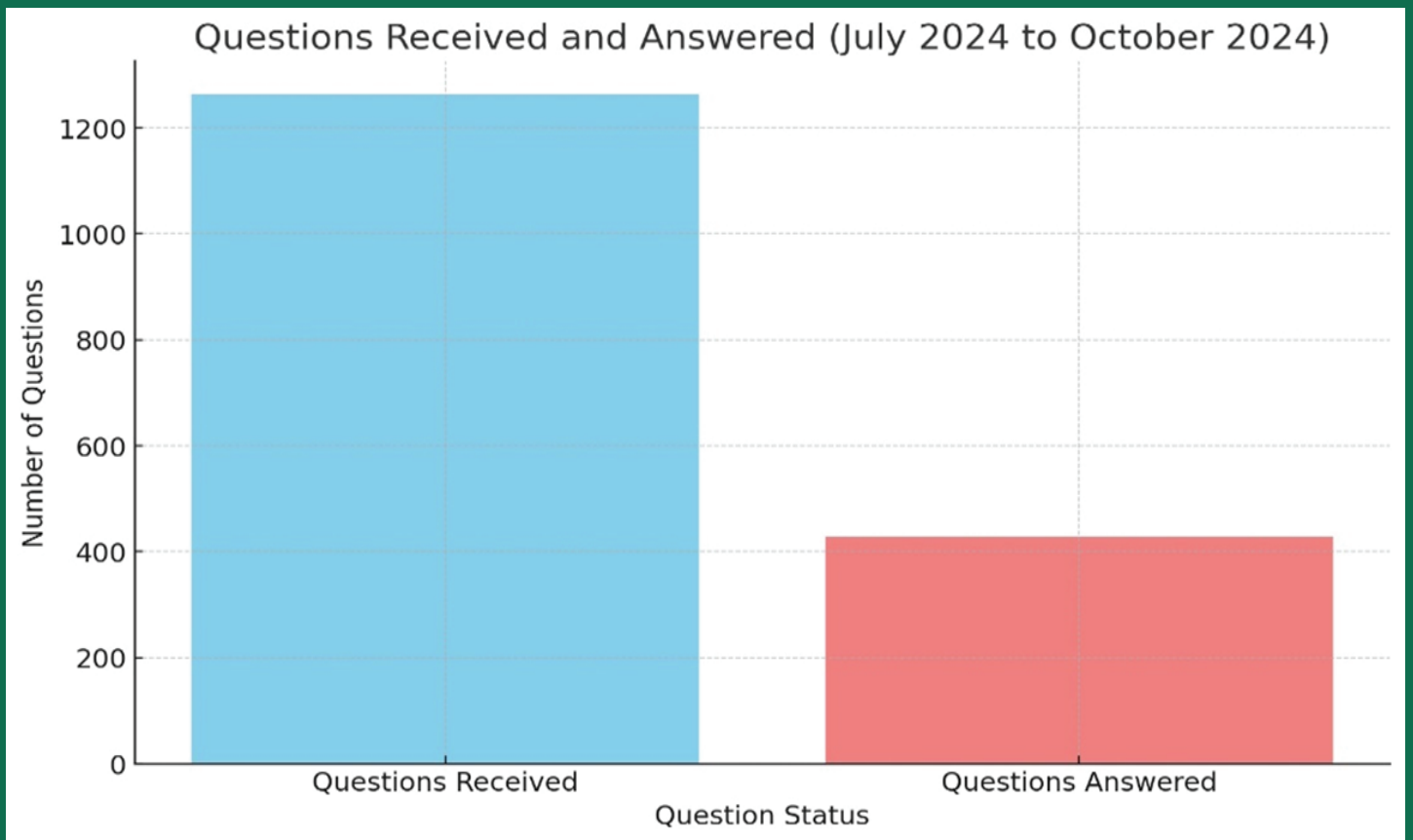
| Received | Admitted | Adopted |
|----------|----------|---------|
| 113      | 27       | 14      |

## Notices submitted in the National Assembly during the period (July 2024 to October 2024).

|                          | Brought before the House | Discussed in the House | Disallowed | Withdrawn | Admitted but lapsed | Under process | Lapsed | Referred to Standing Committee | Total |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------|
| Calling Attention Notice | 39                       | 26                     | -          | -         | -                   | -             | 192    | 5                              | 231   |
| Adjournment Motion       | -                        | -                      | 5          | -         | -                   | -             | -      | -                              | 5     |
| Questions of Privilege   | -                        | -                      | 3          | 2         | -                   | 11            | -      | 5                              | 21    |
| Motion under Rule 259    | 23                       | 2                      | 12         | -         | -                   | 75            | -      | -                              | 112   |
| Motion under Rule 244(B) | 4                        | -                      | -          | -         | -                   | -             | -      | 4                              | 4     |

## Questions (Period July 2024 to October 2024)

From July to October 2024, Members of the National Assembly of Pakistan raised a total of 1,263 questions directed at various Ministries, reflecting the Assembly's active role in government oversight and accountability. Of these questions, 428 received responses. This data highlights the proactive approach of Assembly Members in seeking information on a wide range of issues.





## COMMITTEES AT WORK

### Legislative Progress Report

Between July and October 2024, Standing Committees of the National Assembly demonstrated their commitment to legislative responsibilities. During this period, elections of the Chairmen took place and they soon resumed their responsibilities with missionary zeal. Approximately 72 bills and matters were referred to the committees for review and deliberation during this period. The committees convened a total

of 97 meetings to discuss these legislative items, leading to the successful review and resolution of 16 bills and matters. Meanwhile, 56 items remain under active consideration, pending further deliberation and action. This robust engagement underscores the vital role of Standing Committees in shaping and refining legislation for the nation.

### Committees Meetings and Performance (July 2024 to October 2024)

| S.No. | Name of Committees  | Chairperson                         | Meetings Held | Referred | Bills Passed | Bills Pending            |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1.    | Aviation Division   | Nawabzada Iftikhar Ahmed Khan Babar | 03            | 0        | 0            | 0                        |
| 2.    | Cabinet Secretariat   | Vacant                              | 0             | 0        | 0            | 0                        |
| 3.    | Climate Change  | Ms. Munaza Hassan                   | 05            | 01       | --           | 01                       |
| 4.    | Commerce  | Mr. Muhammad Jawed Hanif Khan       | 03            | --       | --           | --                       |
| 5.    | Communications  | Mr. Aijaz Hussain Jakhriani         | 03            | 0        | 0            | 0                        |
| 6.    | Defence   | Mr. Fateh Ullah Khan                | 02            | 02       | --           | 02                       |
| 7.    | Defence Production  | Mr. Javaid Iqbal Waraich            | 02            | --       | --           | --                       |
| 8.    | Economic Affairs Division   | Mr. Muhammad Atif                   | 02            | --       | --           | --                       |
| 9.    | Federal Education, Professional Training, National Heritage and Culture | Mr. Azim-ud-Din Zahid               | 04            | 07       | 02           | 03<br>1 Return to Senate |
| 10.   | Finance and Revenue   | Syed Naveed Qamar                   | 06            | 01       | 01           | --                       |
| 11.   | Foreign Affairs   | Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar               | 05            | 02       | 01           | 01                       |
| 12.   | Government Assurances   | Vacant                              | 0             | 0        | 0            | 0                        |
| 13.   | Housing and Works   | Vacant                              | --            | 03       | --           | 03                       |
| 14.   | Human Rights  | Sahibzada Muhammad Hamid Raza       | --            | 03       | --           | 03                       |

|     |   |                               |    |    |        |    |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|----|----|--------|----|
| 15. | Industries and Production                             | Syed Hafeezuddin              | 03 | 02 | 0      | 02 |
| 16. | Information and Broadcasting                          | Mr. Pullain                   | 02 | 0  | 0      | 0  |
| 17. | Information Technology and Telecommunications         | Syed Amin-ul-Haque            | 04 | -- | 01     | -- |
| 18. | Interior  | Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz    | 04 | 15 | 03     | 12 |
| 19. | Inter Provincial Coordination                         | Mr. Sana Ullah Khan Mastikhel | 02 | -- | --     | -- |
| 20. | Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan                  | Haji Imtiaz Ahmad Choudhry    | -- | -- | --     | -- |
| 21. | Law and Justice                                       | Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk  | 04 | 14 | 03     | 11 |
| 22. | Maritime Affairs                                      | Mr. Abdul Qadir Patel         | 04 | -- | --     | -- |
| 23. | National Food Security and Research                   | Syed Hussain Tariq            | 07 | 1  | passed | 01 |
| 24. | Narcotics Control                                     | Malik Shah                    | -- | -- | --     | -- |
| 25. | National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination | Dr. Mahesh Kumar Malani       | 05 | 05 | --     | 05 |
| 26. | Overseas Pakistani and Human Resource Development     | Mr. Junaid Akbar              | -- | -- | --     | -- |
| 27. | Parliamentary Affairs                                 | Rana Iradat Sharif Khan       | 02 | 01 | 01     | -- |
| 28. | Privatization   | Dr. Muhammad Farooq Sattar    | 04 | 01 | passed | 0  |
| 29. | Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety                 | Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur         | 04 | 0  | 0      | 0  |
| 30. | Planning, Development and Special Initiatives         | Syed Abdul Kadir Gillani      | 02 | 0  | 0      | 0  |
| 31. | Energy (Petroleum Division)                           | Syed Mustafa Mehmood          | 04 | -- | --     | -- |
| 32. | Energy (Power Division)                               | Mr. Muhammad Idrees           | 03 | 02 | --     | 02 |
| 33. | Religious Affairs and Inter-faith Harmony             | Malik Muhammad Aamir Dogar    | -- | -- | --     | -- |
| 34. | Railways  | Rai Hassan Nawaz Khan         | 02 | -- | --     | -- |



|     |                                   |                          |    |    |    |    |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| 35. | Science and Technology            | Khawaja Sheraz Mehmood   | 02 | 01 | 01 | -- |
| 36. | States and Frontier Regions       | Vacant                   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 37. | Water Resources                   | Mr. Khalid Hussain Magsi | 01 | -- | -- | -- |
| 38. | Rules of Procedure and Privileges | Mr. Muhammad Afzal       | 03 | 11 | 01 | 10 |

## Special 18-Member NA Committee Formed to Ensure Smooth Parliamentary Functioning

### Legislative Progress Report



Syed Khursheed Ahmed Shah, MNA chairing the meeting (16th October 2024)

In a significant move to address parliamentary challenges and uphold the sanctity of the National Assembly, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq announced the formation of an 18-member special committee on 11th September 2024. The decision followed a motion adopted unanimously by the Assembly in response to recent political tensions. The Committee, comprising equal

representation from treasury and opposition benches, includes prominent figures such as Deputy Prime Minister Senator Ishaq Dar, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, Mr. Naveed Qamar and leaders from various political parties including Senators.

The Committee's terms of reference include addressing parliamentary issues, revisiting constitutional and procedural rules, and ensuring the smooth functioning of the House. The formation of the Committee represented a bipartisan effort to navigate political challenges and reinforce parliamentary democracy. Recently, the Committee paved way towards the passage of 26th Constitutional Amendment by building national consensus which shows the Committees. A sub-committee under the Convenership of Syed Naveed Qamar has also been constituted to draft amendments in this regard.



Senators and MNAs from all parties and provinces paving way towards national consensus (17th October 2024)

## Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir

Under the leadership of Chairman Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, elected on August 6, 2024, the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir adopted a strategic and focused approach to advocate for the rights of the Kashmiri people and highlight human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

### Early Initiatives and Strategic Actions

On August 19, 2024, the Committee convened to address human rights violations in IIOJK and devise strategies for global lobbying.

On September 9, 2024, Chairman Noon emphasized the unjust incarceration of Kashmiri leader Yasin Malik, urging global advocacy for his release and amplifying international awareness of these violations.

### National Coordination Efforts

A Ministerial Committee was established on October 25, 2024, with representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Planning, and Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, ensuring a cohesive and integrated approach to the Kashmir cause. The Chairman engaged with the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), discussing the AJK Legislative Assembly's



Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir, Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, met with Hurriyat leaders and Ms. Mushaal Mullick, wife of Yasin Malik on 26th September, 2024 at Parliament House.

resolution opposing India's revocation of Articles 370 and 35A, and ongoing human rights abuses in the region.

### Engagement with Stakeholders

- Meetings were held with Hurriyat leaders and Ms. Mushaal Mullick, wife of Yasin Malik, to strengthen international advocacy against IIOJK atrocities.
- Met with a Chinese delegation to discuss regional stability and the Kashmir issue.
- Engaged with Dr. Zakir Naik on the implications of India's actions on Articles 370 and 35A.



## PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

### Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR)

#### The Young Citizen Internship Program

On July 19, 2024, the National Assembly Secretariat officially launched the "Young Citizen Internship Program" with a registration and orientation session. The event featured a welcome address by Special Secretary Syed Shamoan Hashmi, a keynote by the Honorable Speaker emphasizing youth engagement in democracy, and remarks from Save the Children's Director highlighting their support for the initiative. The Program concluded on August 17th, 2024.

#### Meeting of Convener Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) Ms. Nikhat Shakeel with Ms. Mehnaz Akber Aziz

Dr. Nikhat Shakeel, Convener of the Child Rights Caucus, met with former Convener Ms. Mehnaz Akbar Aziz to review the Caucus's achievements and challenges on 29th August, 2024. Key discussions included progress in combating child labor, abuse, and exploitation, as well as efforts to enhance education and healthcare. Future priorities, such as strengthening stakeholder collaboration and monitoring, were also outlined.

#### Young Citizen Internship Program: Collaboration with Google Tech Valley on Student Videos

The National Assembly, in partnership with Google, organized a YouTube Shorts session where students created videos on themes such as parliamentary landmarks, child rights, and sustainability on 8th September 2024. Coordinated by the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights, 14 groups participated, and Google shortlisted three top videos. Highlighted topics included "Plantation by International Dignitaries," "The Legacy of Quaid-e-Azam," and "Green Parliament," reflecting the the Assembly's culture and commitment to progress.



#### Members Finalization for Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights

Following the directive of the Competent Authority, a comprehensive effort was undertaken to gauge National Assembly Members' interest in the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights. A Performa was circulated, and follow-up calls were made, yielding an overwhelming response from 94 Members. In consultation with the Caucus Convener, 50 Members were shortlisted and submitted for approval.

#### Meetings Held on Important Subjects

1. Meeting of Ms. Nikhat Shakeel (Convener PCCR) with Ms. Ayesha Raza Farooq (Chairperson National Commission on Child Rights) Dated:12th -Sep-2024
2. Meeting of Ms. Nikhat Shakeel (Convener PCCR) with Mr. Mujtaba Zaidi (Chief Adviser Anthro Insights) Dated: 23rd Sep,2024
3. Parliamentary Engagement on National Education Emergency and Out-of-School Children Dated: 3rd -Oct-2024
4. 1st Meeting held on for October 23, 2024, in Committee

## Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC)

### First General Assembly (July 10, 2024):

The First General Assembly of WPC, chaired by Dr. Shahida Rehmani, discussed BISP and emphasized improvements for women's socio-economic independence, with assurances from the BISP Chairperson.

### Second General Assembly of WPC held (August 8, 2024):

The Second General Assembly of WPC was held under the leadership of Dr. Shahida Rehmani to discuss cybercrime laws, inheritance issues for Hindu women, contraceptive costs, rural women's challenges, and strategies for population growth, as well as tax reduction on contraceptives.

### Third General Assembly (August 28, 2024):

The Third General Assembly of WPC on August 28, 2024, addressed sexist remarks by a male MNA, proposed sub-committees for key sectors, and concluded with an Aurat Foundation presentation on tackling rising drug use.

### Fourth General Assembly (September 10, 2024):

The Fourth WPC General Assembly, chaired by the Secretary, addressed concerns over derogatory remarks against women, political challenges, and women's representation, while BISP Chairperson Rubina Khalid briefed on BISP's status and future initiatives.

## Working Council Meetings

### First Working Council Meeting (September 5th, 2024)

The first WPC Working Council meeting, chaired by Dr. Shahida Rehmani, focused on introducing new members, enforcing uniform laws, expanding the Harassment Act, and planning for the 16 Days of Activism.

### Second Working Council Meeting (October 22nd, 2024)

The Second WPC Working Council meeting, chaired by Dr. Shahida Rehmani, reviewed upcoming events like the PGA conference and CWP workshop and discussed issues including domestic violence, child marriage, and women's mental health.

### Visits of Women's Parliamentary Caucus

Parliamentarians led by Secretary WPC visited NORI Islamabad to discuss the breast cancer crisis. They advocated for establishing temporary medical camps and promoting awareness campaigns for early detection (October 3rd, 2024).

### Visits of Women's Parliamentary Caucus to PIMS

A delegation of women Parliamentarians led by Secretary Ms. Shahida Rehmani, visited PIMS to discuss and evaluate health facilities, the importance of early detection, public awareness, and improved healthcare for women in Pakistan (October 29th, 2024).





#### WPC Visit to Balochistan Assembly

Dr. Shahida Rehmani led a delegation of women parliamentarians to the Balochistan Assembly, discussing WPC's progress, gender-focused budgeting, and legislative support for minorities. The meeting emphasized collaboration and advancing women's legislative roles (**October 30th, 2024**).



#### MEETING WITH AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER

An introductory meeting brought together Dr. Shahida Rehmani, Secretary of WPC, and the Australian High Commissioner, showcasing WPC's landmark achievements in advancing gender equality (**August 9, 2024**).

## Establishment of the Provincial Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC)



Following the written correspondence, Dr. Shahida Rehmani, Secretary WPC, met Speaker Syed Awais Qadir Shah at the Sindh Assembly to discuss forming a Provincial Women's Caucus. (**19th September 2024**).

## Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF)

### First Board Meeting (July 23, 2024)

The inaugural YPF Board meeting, chaired by President Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar, focused on promoting child rights, addressing Kashmir and climate issues, and fostering bipartisan collaboration. Key decisions included shifting the Secretariat to Parliament House and visiting Provincial Assemblies.

### Second Board Meeting (August 6, 2024)

The Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) convened its Second Board meeting on 6th August 2024, presided by President YPF, Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar. Discussions included youth empowerment strategies in education, employment, and environmental sustainability.



### Logo Design Contest (August 13–21, 2024)

YPF launched a nationwide logo design competition. From 33 submissions, Syed Saif Abbas from Quetta was declared the winner, receiving PKR 100,000.





### Meeting of YPF on 8th August, 2024

The Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) met on August 8, 2024, in Committee Room 5, presided by YPF President, Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar and co-chaired by Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Program (PMYP), session outlined the '4E's' pillars—Education, Employment, Engagement, and Environment for further discussions in the forums.

### Third Board Meeting (September 4, 2024)

On September 4, 2024, the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) held its third board meeting, focusing on selecting a logo to establish its visual identity. Key outcomes included selecting the official logo, proposing constitutional amendments to include

members from both the National Assembly and Senate, and planning an Annual General Meeting (AGM) with subcommittees and a calendar of activities.

### Meeting with the Best Diplomats (September 9, 2024):

On September 9, 2024, the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) met with Best Diplomats to discuss enhancing youth engagement in governance and diplomacy.

### Collaboration with Shaor Foundation (October 17, 2024)

YPF discussed partnerships with Shaor Foundation on youth initiatives like education, civic engagement, and combating misinformation. Plans include visits to the AJK Assembly and expanding activities to colleges and universities.

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Secretariat

### Meeting with -The UN Pakistan Resident Coordinator, Mohamed Yahya (1st July 2024)

The UN Pakistan Resident Coordinator, Mohamed Yahya, called on the Convener on July 1st, 2024. They discussed the status of SDGs in Pakistan and chalked out strategies for future collaborations, especially in terms of capacitating MPs and building knowledge around the SDGs framework.



### Meeting with United Nation's Population Fund Representative, Dr. Luay Shabaneh (4th July 2024)

United Nations Population Fund Representative in Pakistan, Dr. Luay Shabaneh calls on the Convener of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, Hon. Bilal Azhar Kayani at the Parliament House, on July 4th, 2024. Both sides focused on the alleviation of the problems arising in the provision of quality education, health services, and food production due to the unprecedented increase in the population of Pakistan.



### UNDP – Regional Delegation on Strengthening Electoral and Legislative Processes (SELP) Call – ON (18th July 2024)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Delegation called on Hon. Convener Parliamentary Taskforce on

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani at the SDGs Secretariat, Parliament House on 18th July 2024. Discussion Focused on SDGs 5, 10, and 16, particularly on strengthening electoral and legislative processes.



**Meeting with UNDP delegation Pakistan Office (22nd July 2024)**

The delegation met with the Convener SDG, Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani and discussed the 2023-2027 SDGs Cooperation Framework, prioritizing gender mainstreaming, governance, and climate resilience.

**Introductory briefing sessions – for the newly formed SDGs Taskforce (23rd July 2024)**

The SDGs Secretariat at the National Assembly of Pakistan, in

collaboration with the UNRC, provides a comprehensive overview of the 5Ps—People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership.

**Meeting with the World Food Programme (WFP) (3rd October 2024)**

A meeting with WFP representatives to discuss partnership opportunities aimed at addressing food security and hunger-related Sustainable Development Goals and the progress so far made.

## Project Management Unit (PMU)

The Project Management Unit was formed in July 2013 to streamline the donor-driven activity, negotiate meaningful work plans with optimum utilization of funds and acts as the central coordination cell for the Secretariat.

In September 2020, Special Initiatives Wing was created in the National Assembly Secretariat and the Project Management Unit was made the central part of this Wing.

## National Assembly Strategic Plan (NASP) 2024-29

1. The Strategic Planning Committee of the 16th National Assembly has been constituted which held its first meeting on 15 May 2024. PMU has actively supported the National Assembly Strategic Plan Committee in its establishment / working during the strategic plans of 2014-2018 and 2019-2023. The Committee has diverse membership from political parties represented in the National Assembly of Pakistan.

2. PMU facilitated the exercise of assessment and evaluation of the National Assembly Strategic Plan 2019-23 and 2014-2018 in collaboration with Mustehkam Parliamaan. Implementation, Logical Frameworks and Budgetary Allocations within the National Assembly Secretariat were also facilitated in the past, to bring the Secretariat led activities in line with the organization's strategic goals.

## Rapid Assessment of the National Assembly Strategic Plans (NASP) 2014 and 2019

In collaboration with Mustehkam Parliamaan (MuP), a project funded by the European Union, the Project Management Unit (PMU) facilitated a Rapid Assessment of the National Assembly Strategic Plans (NASP) 2014 and 2019. This critical activity involved extensive consultations with various branches of the National Assembly Secretariat and key stakeholders, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of the strategic plans. The assessment culminated in the submission of a detailed report,

followed by targeted follow-up meetings.

This initiative underscores the importance of continuous evaluation and refinement of parliamentary strategies, promoting institutional effectiveness, transparency, and responsiveness to evolving national priorities. It also reflects the commitment of the National Assembly to leveraging international partnerships for capacity building and improved governance.

## Internship and Civic Engagement Program

One of the very important components of the strategic planning framework 2019-23 as per its Goal-2 is to devise strategy for "Parliament to effectively communicate, and positively engage with its publics to develop their ownership and trust for the House." Furthermore, it pre-conceives that National Assembly shall effectively communicate with citizens to raise their awareness about the Parliament, parliamentary values and parliamentary processes including parliamentary business and proceedings of the House.

Therefore, as part of the National Assembly Strategic Plan 2019-23, it was decided that steps would be taken to "enhance and encourage citizen participation." This included compre-

hensive Youth Engagement Plan by providing high caliber graduates, regular internship programs in various sections of the Secretariat.

Considering the above, PMU has continued providing various internship opportunities to talented youth/ students and graduates from all over Pakistan.

For the period between July-October 2024 alone, around 400 interns served in the Secretariat hailing from various universities of Islamabad and other areas of Pakistan especially far-flung areas of Sindh, Southern Punjab, Baluchistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.



### Training and Orientation at PIPS

As part of the Internship, one week training and orientation of the interns was also organized at the Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS) Islamabad covering important areas of

rules of procedures, Constitution, legislative and non-legislative business and other important areas.

### Empowering Future Leaders: Success of the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024

The National Assembly Secretariat, under the visionary leadership of Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Honorable Speaker, successfully conducted the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024 during July-August. Building on the remarkable achievements of the 2023 initiative, this month-long program engaged over 70 students aged 12 to 18 from across Pakistan.

Participants gained firsthand knowledge of parliamentary processes, democracy, and civic responsibility through interac-

tive sessions, workshops, and a two-day mock youth parliament. The program featured enlightening discussions with parliamentarians, media experts, and civil society representatives, alongside skill-building activities that enhanced critical thinking, communication, and leadership.

By inspiring young minds to become informed and responsible citizens, the program reaffirmed its commitment to empowering Pakistan's youth for a brighter democratic future.

### Media Literacy Workshop by Google: A Highlight of the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024

As part of the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024, a dynamic media literacy workshop was conducted in collaboration with Google, equipping participants with essential skills to navigate the digital world responsibly.

The workshop focused on identifying credible information, combating misinformation, and understanding the impact of media on democracy and civic engagement.

Participants were introduced to tools and strategies for critical evaluation of online content and learned about the ethical responsibilities of digital citizens.

The interactive format, featuring case studies and real-world examples, made the session a standout experience, leaving a lasting impression on the young minds about the importance of media literacy in today's connected world.

### Championing Child Rights: Workshop by the National Commission on the Rights of Child

During the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024, the National Commission on the Rights of Child conducted an insightful workshop on child rights, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children in Pakistan.

The session highlighted key aspects of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Pakistan's legislative framework, and the challenges faced by children,

including child labor, early marriage, and access to education. Through interactive discussions and activities, participants gained a deeper understanding of their own rights and responsibilities as young citizens, fostering a sense of advocacy and civic duty.

The workshop was a powerful reminder of the role youth can play in shaping a more equitable and just society.

## Bridging Perspectives: Exposure Visits to Provincial Assemblies

As part of the Young Citizen Internship Program 2024, participants embarked on insightful exposure visits to the Provincial Assemblies of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

These visits provided a unique opportunity for students to witness provincial legislative processes firsthand, interact with assembly members, and understand the critical role of provincial governance in Pakistan's democratic framework. Parti-

cipants observed parliamentary sessions, engaged in discussions with lawmakers, and learned about the workings of committees and legislative drafting.

These experiences deepened their appreciation for the interconnectedness of federal and provincial legislatures, inspiring a greater sense of civic responsibility and a broader perspective on governance and democracy.

## Central Coordination of Donor Funded Projects

The Project Management Unit serves as the central hub for coordinating with the Economic Affairs Ministry vis a vis international grants and parliamentary strengthening initiatives in Pakistan. It plays a vital role in representing the National

Assembly of Pakistan during consultations, particularly in the development and signing of key projects that bolster parliamentary functions and capacity-building efforts. Following projects are underway:

## The 'Support to Parliament' Project / IP5 Project (Mustehkam Pakistan)

The IP5 Project is an assistance package of EUR 15 million to the Parliament, signing of the financing agreement of which (by EAD) took place in December 2018. PMU led the consultation.

The project implementation is due to start tentatively by the first quarter of year 2021 by the GIZ and PIPS.

The overall objective of the IP5 program is to support the consolidation of parliamentary democracy in the federal and provincial legislatures of Pakistan – Senate, National Assembly and 4 Provincial Assemblies.

## National Governance Program

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)'s Reforms and Innovation in Government for High Performance Project (the 'Project') has been providing support to the federal government in key reform initiatives for the last eight years. The reform

agenda is anchored in various themes including performance management, evidence-based policy planning, and strengthening governance and institutional capacity of public sector.

## Technical Assistance to Parliamentary Committees

Support in this area includes working with the relevant parliamentary committees (e.g. Public Accounts Committee, Finance and Revenue Committee, Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, etc.) to better equip them to exercise their oversight function.

Project Management Unit facilitated the preliminary meetings of the implementing partner UNDP with the Special Initiatives and Committees Wings of this Secretariat to chalk out the project plan after thorough project scoping and needs assessment.



### EU's project on Women participation and leadership in governance and democratic processes in Pakistan

Project Management Unit is facilitating the coordination with the Economic Affairs Division and UN Women and UNDP Pakistan on EU's project on Women participation and leadership in governance and democratic processes in Pakistan.

The Project aims to ensure women's full participation and equal opportunities at all levels of decision making in political and public spheres of life in Pakistan. This would be done by

strengthening enabling conditions for the participation of women and socially marginalized groups in democratic and governance processes ensuring women adopt behaviors and attitudes for equal participation and leadership as voters, aspiring leaders, contestants, local councilors and parliamentarians and incorporating affirmative measures for increased and effective women's participation and representation in the institutional and legislative frameworks.

### Calligraphy Exhibition

The National Assembly of Pakistan organized a prestigious Calligraphy Exhibition from 13th to 18th September 2024 at the Speaker Banquet Hall, Parliament House, Islamabad, in celebration of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAAWW).

The exhibition showcased the exquisite works of renowned calligrapher, reflecting the profound beauty of Islamic art and its deep connection to the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAAWW).

Distinguished guests, including Honorable Members of the National Assembly, Ambassadors of Islamic countries, media representatives, and eminent artists, graced the event. Honor-

able Speaker National Assembly inaugurated the exhibition. On this occasion, the 'Seerat Mahal' section was also inaugurated in the National Assembly Library.

This dedicated section features an extensive collection of books and literature on Seerat-un-Nabi (SAAWW), providing invaluable insights into the exemplary life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAAWW).

The event underscored the Parliament's commitment to promoting Islamic heritage and fostering an appreciation of the timeless teachings of Islam.

### Strengthening Legislative Collaboration: Experience Sharing Workshop with the Provincial Assembly of Punjab

The Provincial Assembly of Punjab, in collaboration with UN Women, organized an Experience Sharing Workshop on 9-10 September 2024 to explore the structure and functioning of the Project Management Unit (PMU) and Special Initiatives Wing of the National Assembly of Pakistan.

The workshop, attended by the head of the PMU and Special Initiatives Wing, provided a detailed overview of the innovative projects and management practices implemented at the

National Assembly. The session aimed to facilitate the replication of these successful initiatives in the Provincial Assembly of Punjab, fostering institutional capacity and promoting best practices.

The event was widely acknowledged as a success, marking a significant step towards strengthening inter-parliamentary collaboration and improving operational efficiency across legislative institutions.

## Support to Parliamentary Forums and PIPS

The Project Management Unit (PMU) played a pivotal role in the reconstitution of key Parliamentary Forums, such as the Women Parliamentary Caucus, Young Parliamentarians Forum, SDG Taskforce, and the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights, ensuring their effective functioning and alignment with contemporary legislative priorities. This included notifying the heads of forums.

These forums serve as vital platforms for addressing critical

issues, fostering inclusive dialogue, and advancing legislative actions on gender equality, youth empowerment, sustainable development goals, and child rights.

The reconstitution of these forums reflects the National Assembly's commitment to strengthening its institutional framework and addressing the diverse needs of the nation. PMU also provided organizational supervision and support to the following parliamentary platforms:

## Signing of MoUs with the Academia and Development Partners

The National Assembly of Pakistan has taken significant steps to foster collaboration and capacity building by signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with esteemed academic institutions and development partners.

These include COMSATS University Islamabad, Sukkur IBA University, Kinnaird College for Women University Lahore, National Defence University (NDU) Islamabad, and other

leading institutions.

These partnerships aim to bridge the gap between academia and legislative processes, promote research-based policymaking, and encourage youth engagement in parliamentary affairs. Such collaborations also enhance the Parliament's ability to address complex socio-economic challenges through informed and inclusive approaches, fostering a culture of innovation and knowledge-sharing.

## Coordination with Different Development Partners

Project Management Unit has been engaged with various local and foreign development partners on regular basis including ministries and divisions. Around 20 think tanks, partners and expert groups from various national and international organizations were engaged to support the working of the Secretariat with zero financial liability on the Secretariat.

These included:

Hans Seidel Foundation (HSF), Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS), OXFAM

International, World Health Organization (WHO), Special Talent Exchange Program (STEP), UN Women, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), Democracy Reporting International (DRI), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), British Council, Pakistan, Shoor Foundation, PILDAT, Sight savers, National Dialogue Forum (NDF), MANTAQ Centre for Research, Anthro Insights (PVT) LTD, Tech Valley, GIZ Pakistan, Signify Consulting, Pakistan, Asia Foundation Pakistan and COMSATS Islamabad.



## PICTURE GALLERY



Parliamentary delegation from Federal Republic of Germany called on Deputy Speaker National Assembly/Convener of the Pak-German Parliamentary Friendship Group, Syed Mir Ghulam Mustafa Shah at Parliament House on 10th July, 2024



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with parliamentary delegation from Federal Republic of Germany at Parliament House on 11th July, 2024



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq chairing meeting of the PIPS Board of Governors at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) on 11th July, 2024.



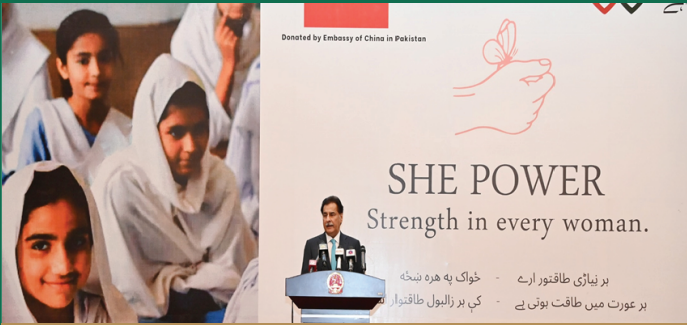
Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the Participants of National Assembly Young Citizen Internship Program at Parliament House on 19th July, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with Secretary General Commonwealth Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland & Representatives of the Parliamentary Forums at Parliament House on 30th July, 2024.



Political Counselor British High Commission to Pakistan Ms. Zoe-Ware Called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 30th July, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of ceremony to donate health kits for women of Balochistan Province by Chinese Government at Chinese Embassy on 31st July, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with participants of ceremony to donate health kits for women of Balochistan Province by Chinese Government at Chinese Embassy on 31st July, 2024.



Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah leads delegation of Parliamentary Leaders to UN Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator to Pakistan office and presents National Assembly Resolution on Palestine in Islamabad on 5th August, 2024.



Imam Masjid Al-Nabvi (S.A.W) Sheikh Dr. Salah Mohammad M Al-Badeer Called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 9th August, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq along with other Parliamentarians presented gift to Imam Al-Sheikh of Masjid Nabwi (S.A.W) Dr. Salah bin Muhammad Al-Bdeer at Parliament House on 9th August, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with participants of the Regional Meeting on Gender Empowerment and Green Economy in the Context of ICPD30 in Islamabad on 12th August, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Minister of State of Japan Toshiko Abe in Islamabad on 12th August, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Chairperson of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of Belarus Natalya Kochanova in Minsk Belarus on 21st August, 2024.



Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of the Seminar on "Parliamentary Consultation on strategic options for electricity distribution system in Pakistan" in Islamabad on 3rd September, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the recently promoted employees of National Assembly Secretariat at Parliament House on 5th September, 2024.

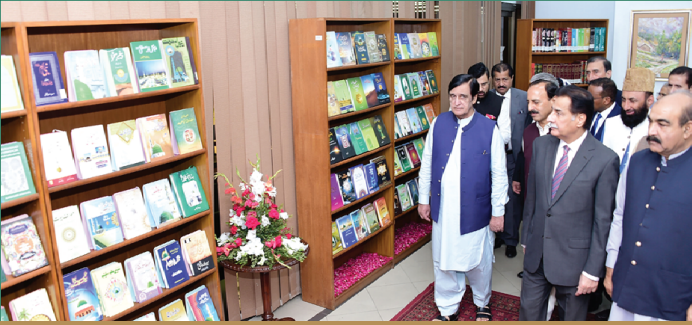


Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah presiding over the meeting of House & Library committee of the National Assembly at Parliament House 12th September, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with European delegation led by Ambassador Frans Van Daele, Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion and Belief along-with Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan Dr. Riina Kionka at Parliament Houe on 13th September, 2024.

QUARTERLY **2024**  
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**NEWSLETTER**



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq viewing Seerat Mehal a book corner at the National Assembly Library in Parliament House on 13th September, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with MPs and Officers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at Parliament House on 18th September, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Office bearers of Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA) at Parliament House on 20th September, 2024.



Renowned Islamic Philosopher Dr. Zakir Abdul Karim Naik called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 1st October, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inaugurated Silo Grain storage facility. MNA Isphanyar M. Bhandara is also present on this occasion in Rawalpindi on 2nd October, 2024.



Special Envoy and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ethiopia Mr. Jemel Beker Abdula called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 3rd October, 2024



Ambassador of Egypt Dr. Ihab Mohamed Abdelhamid Hassan called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 3rd October, 2024



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq shaking hand with Chinese Premier H.E Li Qiang in Islamabad on 15th October, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Chinese Premier H.E Li Qiang in Islamabad on 15th October, 2024.



Members of the House of Commons, United Kingdom Muhammad Yasin called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on 22nd October, 2024.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation Ms. Valentina Matvienko at Parliament House on 28th October, 2024.

## Obituary

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, expressed deep sorrow and regret over the death of former Speaker Elahi Bakhsh Soomro, who passed away on October 9, 2024, at the age of 98.





## EDITORIAL BOARD

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