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NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN



National Assembly Session Highlights: Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb Presents Federal Budget
10th July 2025 – Parliament House, Islamabad



Reviving Multilateralism for a Just and Peaceful World:
Pakistan's Call at the 6th World Conference of Speakers of
Parliament, 29th July to 31st July 2025 - Geneva



Strengthening Inter-Parliamentary Ties: Pakistan's Parliamentary
Delegation Visits Azerbaijan
Baku, 6th to 9th July, 2025



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MESSAGE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

It is with great pleasure that I present this edition, capturing the legislative and parliamentary highlights of the recent quarter. The 16th National Assembly continues to demonstrate its resolve to uphold democratic values, strengthen parliamentary diplomacy, and contribute effectively to policy-making for the people of Pakistan.



Effective oversight

During this period, the Federal Budget for the fiscal year 2025–2026 was presented by Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Finance and Revenue, before the House on June 10, 2025. This significant event reaffirmed the Assembly's central role in shaping Pakistan's economic direction and ensuring transparency and accountability in financial governance.

Parliamentary diplomacy

A delegation led by Honourable Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq visited Azerbaijan to strengthen bilateral and inter-parliamentary ties. He also represented Pakistan at the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in Geneva, reaffirming the country's commitment to peace, sovereignty, and the UN Charter.

Legislative business

Within the legislative domain, the Assembly maintained a robust pace of work. Multiple Government and Private Members' Bills were introduced, debated, and passed, reflecting the inclusive nature of parliamentary business. A number of these legislative initiatives successfully became Acts of Parliament, further strengthening the country's legal and institutional framework. Resolutions received, debated, and adopted in the House also underscored the Assembly's responsiveness to national and global issues.

The Special Committee on Gender Mainstreaming, led by Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA, advanced inclusive governance by promoting women's empowerment under the SDGs framework, strengthening maternal health, and championing political parity. It also initiated family law reforms and recommended a uniform marriage framework to improve Pakistan's Global Gender Gap standing. The National Assembly, led by Hon. Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, marked the success of Operation Bunyanun-Marsoos with a debate highlighting national unity, tribute to martyrs, and the Armed Forces' valor. The House adopted a resolution condemning Indian aggression, rejecting false allegations, and reaffirming Pakistan's resolve to defend its sovereignty and security.

As we move forward, the Secretariat of the National Assembly remains dedicated to providing professional, timely, and non-partisan support to Members of Parliament, enabling them to perform their constitutional responsibilities with greater effectiveness. I am confident that the collective efforts of the Honourable Members will continue to strengthen parliamentary democracy in Pakistan.

(Tahir Hussain)

Secretary General

National Assembly of Pakistan

Pakistan at the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament: Advancing Peace, Upholding International Law, and Strengthening Parliamentary Diplomacy

Geneva, Switzerland 29–31 July 2025



Reviving Multilateralism for a Just and Peaceful World: Pakistan's Call at the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament
29th July to 31st July 2025 - Geneva

Honourable Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, participated in the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in Geneva, where he reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to peace, sovereignty, multilateralism, and the principles of the United Nations Charter.

Upholding the UN Charter

Speaking at a high-level event hosted by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the theme "Upholding the UN Charter and International Law to Ensure International Peace and Security", the Speaker emphasized that the UN Charter remains the cornerstone of international peace, sovereignty, and the rule of law.

He strongly condemned the recent Israeli aggression against Iran, terming it an "unjustified and illegitimate act" in violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity. He warned that such actions threaten both regional stability and global peace. Recalling Pakistan's clear stance, he noted that the Parliament of Pakistan had already expressed solidarity with Iran through resolutions and statements supporting its right to self-defense.

The Speaker also highlighted his deep concern over the normalization of illegal occupations, unilateral force, and human rights violations. In Palestine and Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) as enduring challenges to international conscience. He urged the global community to implement UN Security Council resolutions and safeguard the right to self-determination of oppressed peoples.

Reaffirming Pakistan's principled support for multilateralism, he welcomed dialogue between Iran and the E3 (Britain, France, Germany) and voiced Pakistan's support for resolving the Iranian nuclear issue through diplomacy. He concluded that collective action, dialogue, and strict adherence to international law are vital for sustainable peace.

Strengthening Parliamentary Diplomacy

On the sidelines of the Conference, Hon. Speaker Ayaz Sadiq held several bilateral meetings to promote parliamentary cooperation and diplomatic outreach. With China (29th July 2025): He met Mr. Zhao Leji, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China. Both sides reaffirmed the historic strategic ties and emphasized the role of parliamentary friendship groups in fostering trust. The Speaker lauded China's support for CPEC and expressed Pakistan's resolve to expand cooperation in green energy, mining, agriculture, and IT. With Türkiye (30th July 2025): Meeting Prof. Dr. Numan Kurtulmuş, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, he highlighted



the exemplary brotherly ties rooted in shared values and mutual trust. Both leaders reaffirmed cooperation in trade, defense, and culture, and stressed collaboration in multilateral forums such as the IPU and APA. Speaker Ayaz Sadiq also thanked Türkiye for consistent support on Palestine and IIOJK.

With the United Kingdom (30th July 2025): In his meeting with Rt. Hon. Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the UK House of Commons, the Speaker underlined the strength of Pakistan-UK ties, supported by democratic values and a vibrant Pakistani diaspora. Both discussed regional peace, with Speaker Ayaz Sadiq stressing the urgent need to address human rights violations in IIOJK. They agreed on expanding institutional linkages through regular parliamentary exchanges.

With Iran (31st July 2025): He met Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, and reiterated Pakistan's condemnation of Israeli aggression. Both leaders pledged closer parliamentary cooperation through the Pakistan-Iran Friendship Group and agreed to work jointly for regional peace and development.

Address to the Main Session of the World Conference

On 30th July 2025, addressing the plenary of the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, Speaker Ayaz Sadiq called for urgent efforts to revive trust in multilateralism.

He underscored the need for peaceful resolution of disputes, including Palestine and Jammu & Kashmir, in line with international law and UN resolutions. He cautioned against double standards and the politicization of humanitarian principles, stressing that such practices endanger global peace and justice.

Reflecting on Geneva's legacy in diplomacy, he noted that today's interconnected crises require multilateralism to be shielded from populism, extremism, and nationalism. He urged a transition from coercion to constructive engagement, especially in addressing foreign occupations and violations of humanitarian law.

The Speaker welcomed the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2788, introduced under Pakistan's presidency, which strengthens peaceful mechanisms for

dispute resolution, including mediation and arbitration.

Reforming the Global Order

Addressing the global economic landscape, the Speaker drew attention to the debt distress of over 100 developing countries and called for urgent reforms of the international financial and trading systems. He urged the creation of a development-oriented financial structure serving the Global South and emphasized fairness and inclusivity.

He stressed the urgent need to reform the UN system, particularly the Security Council, to make it more democratic, transparent, and responsive to current challenges. In conclusion, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq stated: "The world has witnessed enough bloodshed. It is time for new thinking – to embrace pluralism, respect diversity, and work collectively for a peaceful and just future."



The Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Mr. Numan Kurtulmus on the sidelines of the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in Geneva on 30th July, 2025.

Parliamentary Diplomacy Strengthens Pakistan-Azerbaijan Bond

Baku, 6th to 9th July, 2025



The Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with the Speaker of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan, Sahiba Gafarova in Baku, Azerbaijan on 7th July, 2025

A parliamentary delegation from Pakistan, led by Honourable Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, paid an official visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan, where it engaged in a series of high-level meetings with the leadership of Azerbaijan, including Speaker of the Milli Majlis, Sahiba Gafarova, President Ilham Aliyev, and Prime Minister Ali Asadov. The visit reinforced the deep fraternal bonds between the two nations and advanced inter-parliamentary cooperation, regional connectivity, and strategic collaboration.

Meeting with the Speaker of Milli Majlis

In talks with Speaker Sahiba Gafarova, Hon. Speaker Ayaz Sadiq extended gratitude for the warm welcome and acknowledged Azerbaijan's principled positions on regional and international issues. He expressed appreciation for Azerbaijan's steadfast support to Pakistan on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and its clear stance on India's escalations, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, and the Iran-Israel conflict.

He highlighted the symbolic importance of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif's recent visit to Azerbaijan's liberated territories, which underscored Pakistan's

solidarity and sent a strong message to the international community. Recalling parliamentary cooperation, he referred to landmark resolutions adopted by the National Assembly of Pakistan condemning Armenian aggression and reaffirming support for Azerbaijan following its liberation of occupied territories.

The Speaker Ayaz Sadiq also voiced concern over India's unilateral suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, calling for collective international condemnation. Stressing the need for enhanced regional connectivity, he underscored the strategic role of Gwadar Port in regional trade and proposed convening the next Pakistan-Azerbaijan-Türkiye Trilateral Speakers' Meeting at the earliest opportunity. He further suggested staff-level training programs and enhanced exchanges to strengthen institutional linkages between the two parliaments.

He shared Pakistan's parliamentary initiatives, including the establishment of the SDGs Secretariat, the Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC), the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF), and the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR), noting their contribution to inclusive and responsive governance.



Speaker Sahiba Gafarova reciprocated by recalling her visit to Pakistan in 2021 and the success of the 2024 Azerbaijan-Pakistan-Türkiye Trilateral Meeting in Baku. She expressed appreciation for Pakistan's principled support on issues of fundamental importance to Azerbaijan and reaffirmed her country's enduring friendship. She proposed a visit of the Pakistan-Azerbaijan Parliamentary Friendship Group during the autumn session of the Milli Majlis and emphasized the importance of increasing direct flights to boost exchanges.

Meeting with President Ilham Aliyev

During his audience with President Ilham Aliyev, Speaker Ayaz Sadiq reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support for Azerbaijan and commended its consistent backing of Pakistan on Jammu and Kashmir, as well as its principled stance on Gaza, the Iran-Israel conflict, and India's hostile actions. He lauded Azerbaijan's reconstruction efforts in liberated territories and highlighted Pakistan's parliamentary resolutions in solidarity with Azerbaijan.

President Ilham Aliyev welcomed the delegation, praised the enduring brotherly ties, and appreciated Pakistan's participation in the recent ECO Summit in Khankendi. Both sides stressed the importance of parliamentary diplomacy, regional connectivity, and enhanced inter-parliamentary cooperation as tools for consolidating strategic relations.

The Pakistani delegation, comprising members from both government and opposition parties, symbolized a unified

expression of friendship and support.

Meeting with Prime Minister Ali Asadov

In his meeting with Prime Minister Ali Asadov, Speaker Ayaz Sadiq reaffirmed Pakistan's steadfast support for Azerbaijan and termed his engagements in Baku as highly productive. He welcomed Azerbaijan's announcement of a \$2 billion investment in Pakistan, recognizing it as a milestone in strengthening economic ties.

Discussions covered the expansion of inter-parliamentary cooperation through a proposed MoUs, as well as preparations for the upcoming Trilateral Speakers' Meeting in Islamabad. Prime Minister Ali Asadov reaffirmed Azerbaijan's enduring support for Pakistan and highlighted opportunities for cooperation in trade, energy, and technology. Both sides agreed that sustained parliamentary diplomacy and multilateral collaboration were critical for advancing shared goals of peace and development.

At the conclusion of the visit, Speaker Ayaz Sadiq inscribed his remarks in the guest book of the Milli Majlis, affirming Pakistan's deep respect for the friendship between the two nations. Both parliaments reiterated their commitment to strengthening institutional collaboration, promoting people-to-people ties, and advancing parliamentary diplomacy as a cornerstone of bilateral and regional cooperation.



Pakistan's Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker National Assembly visited the President House of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 7th July, 2025.

Budget Session Federal Budget 2025-2026



Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb presented the budget during the budget session on June 10, 2025, at Parliament House, Islamabad.

Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Finance and Revenue, presented the Federal Budget 2025-26 in the 16th National Assembly on June 10, 2025. The House adopted a motion under Rule 288 to suspend certain rules, enabling extended budget deliberations.

Tax Reforms

- FBR Transformation Plan introduced to modernize tax collection.
- Focus on institutional reforms, digitalization, and use of AI.
- Digital tracking in cement, sugar, fertilizer, and steel industries; e-invoicing for B2B transactions.
- AI-based audits recovered Rs. 13.3 billion from fake refunds; customs audits recovered Rs. 7 billion.
- Registered taxpayers increased by 45% to 10.5 million.
- Rs. 389 billion collected via enforcement (with IMF support) and Rs. 77 billion through Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Energy Sector Reforms

- Energy inefficiencies cost over Rs. 3 trillion annually.
- DISCOs unbundled to improve governance and accountability.
- Transition towards competitive electricity markets; targeted subsidies to save Rs. 400 billion in two years.
- Closure of inefficient GENCOs, modernization of power systems.
- Oil & gas reforms: resumption of competitive bidding, enforcement of petroleum policies, and deregulation of fuel pricing.
- A \$37 billion integrated energy project under feasibility, expected to generate \$75 billion future cash flows and 41,500 jobs.

Climate Action

- Climate change declared a national priority.
- Pakistan signed the Country Climate & Development

Partnership Framework with World Bank & International Finance Corporation (IFC).

- Expected mobilization of \$40 billion climate finance.
- Launch of \$1.4 billion Sustainability & Resilience Facility for climate-resilient infrastructure.

Social Protection

- Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) allocation increased by 99% to Rs. 592 billion.
- Monthly stipends for 1.5 million mothers and children; education stipends for 16 million children.
- Integration with financial literacy and empowerment initiatives.

Digital Economy & ICT

- ICT exports rose 21.2% to \$3.1 billion in 2024; target set at \$5 billion.
- Pakistan improved rankings in UN E-Government, ICT, and Cybersecurity Indexes.
- Strategic reforms in digital governance and cybersecurity underway.

SME Growth Plan (2024-2027)

- Goal: Rs. 7 trillion SME financing by 2028, reaching 1.1 million borrowers.
- Total SME financing so far: Rs. 641 billion, benefitting 74,000 enterprises (including 62,000 women-led).
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Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) 2025-26

- 47 energy projects allocated Rs. 90.2 billion.
- Key allocations: Tarbela Dam 5th Extension (Rs. 8.4b), Dasu Dam Hydropower-I (Rs. 10.9b), Diamer-Bhasha Dam (Rs. 35.7b),



Mohmand Dam (Rs. 3.4b).

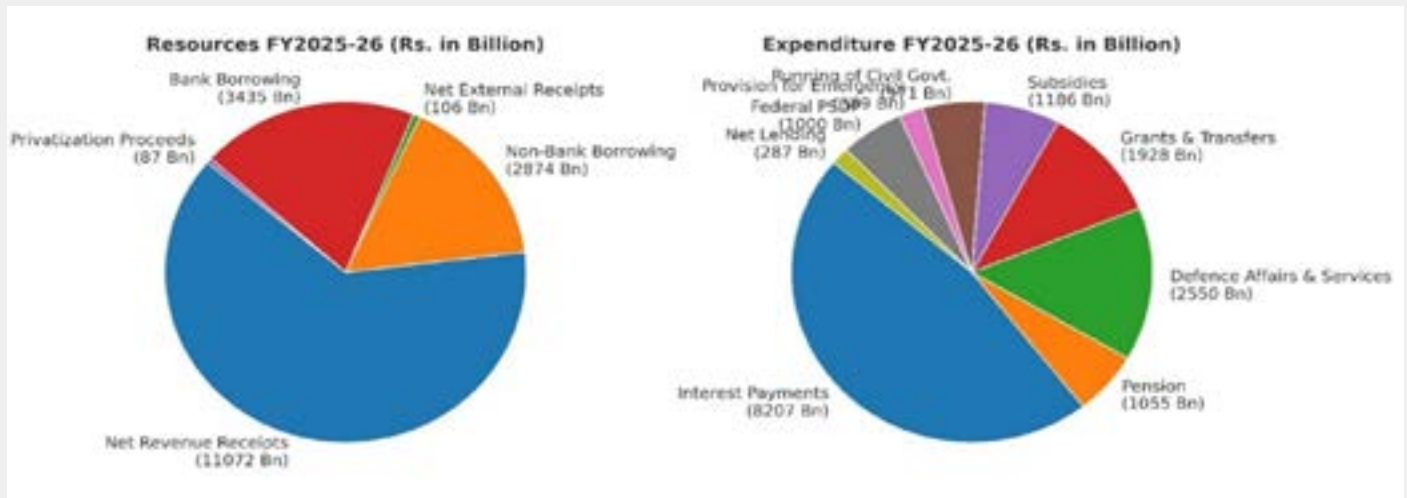
- Transmission projects include Gwadar-Turbat line (Rs. 1b) and industrial grid stations.

Administrative Reforms

- Closure/merger of 22 federal departments; 10 closed in

first phase.

- 6,000 vacant posts abolished and 30% disparity Reduction Allowance was approved.
- Relief allowances approved for soldiers and JCOs.



Source: Federal Budget Documents 2025-26

In FY2025-26, Pakistan’s resources are projected at Rs. 17,573 billion, of which net revenue receipts contribute Rs. 11,072 billion, followed by bank borrowing of Rs. 3,435 billion and non-bank borrowing of Rs. 2,874 billion. On the expenditure side, the largest outlay is on interest payments at Rs. 8,207 billion, nearly half of total spending, while defence receives Rs. 2,550 billion, pensions Rs. 1,055 billion, and grants and transfers Rs. 1,928 billion. Development expenditure, including the Federal PSDP, is Rs. 1,000 billion, reflecting limited fiscal space for growth-oriented initiatives due to high debt servicing costs.

Role of the Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue in the Budget

For the first time in the parliamentary history, the Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue actively reviewed the Federal Budget 2025-26, enhancing parliamentary oversight.

Chaired by Chairman Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue Syed Naveed Qamar, MNA, the Committee held detailed meetings with the Finance Minister, State Minister, Secretary Finance and Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on fiscal discipline, economic growth, tariff reforms, and social welfare, including tax relief for salaried classes and expanded BISP. Members raised concerns over revenue shortfalls, tax-to-GDP ratio, energy levies, customs inefficiencies, smuggling, and sectoral challenges.

A comparative report incorporating Senate’s recommendations and Committee’s amendments was presented, and the Committee recommended passage of the Finance Bill 2025-26 with its revisions.

Parliamentary Forums in the Budget process

1. **Women’s Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) – 20th June 2025**

The meeting of Women’s Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) convened during the budget session to highlight the importance of gender-responsive budgeting.

Members advocated for enhanced allocations in health, education, and women’s economic empowerment, while stressing the need for targeted social protection measures to support vulnerable women and children.

2. **Role of the Parliamentary Caucus on SDGs – 21st June 2025**

National Parliamentary Taskforce on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) held its meeting to ensure that budgetary allocations align with Pakistan’s national and international SDG commitments.

Members emphasized climate resilience, poverty reduction, clean energy transition, and investment in social services, urging for effective fiscal planning to achieve inclusive growth.

3. **Role of the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) – 22nd June 2025**

The Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) met to advocate for child-focused budgetary allocations. The Caucus called for increased funding for education, healthcare, nutrition, and protection of vulnerable children, particularly those affected by poverty, displacement, and child labor.

Members reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring access to quality education, healthcare, and a safe environment for every child in Pakistan.



PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

MEETING OF THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER WITH FOREIGN DIGNITARIES

S. N	Country Name	Date	
1.	H.E. Mr. Mohamed KARMOUNE Ambassador Kingdom of Morocco	May 14, 2025	Honourable Speaker
2.	H.E. Mr. Dan Stoenescu Ambassador of Romania	June 16, 2025	Honourable Speaker
3.	H.E. Mr. Alisher TUKHTAEV Ambassador Republic of Uzbekistan	June 17, 2025	Honourable Speaker
4.	H.E. Mr. Béla FAZEKAS Ambassador Republic of Hungary	June 18, 2025	Honourable Speaker
5.	H.E. Ms. Jane Marriott British High Commissioner	June 19, 2025	Honourable Speaker
6.	H.E. Major General (Ret.) Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sanhat Al-Harbi, Head of Saudi – Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group along-with his delegation	June 22, 2025	Honourable Speaker
7.	H.E. Dr. Zuhair Mohammad Hamdallah Zaid Ambassador of the State of Palestine accompanied by Mr. Amjad Omer Ahmed Salem First Secretary	June 25, 2025	Honourable Speaker
8.	H.E. Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam Ambassador Islamic Republic of Iran along-with Mr. Mehdi Bahmani, Second Secretary and Mr. Habib Khan, Interpreter	June 27, 2025	Honourable Speaker
9.	H.E. Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian Honourable President Islamic Republic of Iran	3 rd August, 2025	Honourable Speaker + Honourable Chairman Senate
10.	H.E. Mrs. Irena Genadieva Gancheva, Ambassador of Bulgaria	12 th August 2025	Honourable Speaker
11.	H.E. Ms. Rita Dhital, Ambassador of Nepal (Accompanied by Ms. Brinda Subedi, Third Secretary)	12 th August 2025	Honourable Speaker

Incoming Bilateral Delegation

1	Visit of Saudi-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, June 22 - 26, 2025
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Outgoing Bilateral Delegation

1.	Visit of Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation Led by the Honourable Speaker to the Republic of Azerbaijan July 6 - 9, 2025
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Felicitation Letters

Sr. No	Country Name	Independence/ National Day	Date
1	H.E. Mr. Szymon Holownia Marshal of the Sejm (Parliament) Republic of Poland, <u>Warsaw</u>	National day	3 rd May, 2025
2	H.E. Mr. Masud Gharakhani President of the Storting Kingdom of Norway, <u>Oslo</u>	Constitutions Day	17 th May, 2025
3	H.E. Mr. Isaias Afwerki Speaker, National Assembly State of Eritrea, <u>Asmara</u>	National Day	24 th May, 2025
4	H.E. Mr. Martin Menem President, Chamber of Deputies Republic of Argentina, <u>Buenos Aires</u>	National Day	25 th May, 2025
5	H.E. Mr. Ahmad Al Safadi Speaker, House of Representatives Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, <u>Amman</u>	Independence Day	25 th May, 2025
6	H.E. Ms. Sahiba Gafarova Speaker, Milli Majlis Republic of Azerbaijan, <u>Baku</u>	Independence Day	28 th May, 2025
7	H.E. Mr. Tagesse Chaffo Speaker, House of People's Representatives Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia <u>Addis Ababa</u>	National Day	28 th May, 2025
8	H.E. Mr. Lorenzo Fontana, President, Chamber of Deputies, Republic of Italy, <u>Rome</u>	National Day	June 2, 2025
9	H.E. Mr. Andreas Norlén, Speaker, Riksdag (Parliament), Kingdom of Sweden, <u>Stockholm</u>	National Day	June 6, 2025
10	H.E. Mr. José Pedro Aguiar Branco, President, Assembly of the Republic Republic of Portugal, <u>Lisbon</u>	National Day	June 10, 2025
11	H.E. Mr. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Speaker, House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines, <u>Quezon City</u>	Independence Day	June 12, 2025
12	H.E. Mr. Vyacheslav Volodin, Chairman, State Duma, Russian Federation, <u>Moscow</u>	National Day	June 12, 2025
13	H.E. Ms. Thorunn Sveinbjarnardottir Speaker, Althingi (Parliament), Republic of Iceland, <u>Reykjavik</u>	National Day	June 17, 2025
14	H.E. Mr. Gordan Jandroković, President, Croatian Parliament, Republic of Croatia, <u>Zagreb</u>	National Day	June 25, 2025



Sr. No	Country Name	Independence/ National Day	Date
15	H.E. Ms. Margarida Adamugy Talapa Speaker, Assembly of the Republic, Republic of Mozambique, <u>Maputo</u>	National Day	June 25, 2025
16	H.E. Mr. Roger Mancienne, Speaker, National Assembly, Republic of Seychelles, <u>Victoria</u>	National Day	June 29, 2025
17	H.E. Mr. Francis Scarpaleggia Speaker, House of Commons, Canada, <u>Ottawa</u>	National Day	1 st July, 2025
18	H.E. Sheikh Adan Mohamed Nur (Madobe), Speaker, House of the People, Federal Republic of Somalia, <u>Mogadishu</u>	Independence / Unification Day	1 st July, 2025
19	H.E. Mr. Igor Sergeyenko, Speaker, House of Representatives, Republic of Belarus, <u>Minsk</u>	Independence Day	3 rd July, 2025
20	H.E. Mr. Mike Johnson, Speaker, House of Representatives, United States of America, Capitol Hill, Washington D.C.	Independence Day	4 th July, 2025
21	H.E. Mr. Brahim Boughali, President, Al-Majlis Al-Chaabi Al-Watani (National People's Assembly), People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, <u>Algiers</u>	Independence Day	5 th July, 2025
22	H.E. Mr. Martin Menem, President, Chamber of Deputies, Republic of Argentina, <u>Buenos Aires</u>	Independence Day	9 th July, 2025
23	H.E. Ms. Yaël Braun-Pivet, President National Assembly, French Republic, <u>Paris</u>	National Day	14 th July, 2025
24	H.E. Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş Speaker, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Republic of Türkiye, <u>Ankara</u>	Democracy and National Unity Day	15 th July, 2025
25	H.E. Mr. Peter De Roover President, House of Representatives, Kingdom of Belgium, <u>Brussels</u>	National Day	21 st July, 2025
26	H. E. Mr. Hanafy Ali Gebali, Speaker, House of Representatives, Arab Republic of Egypt, <u>Cairo</u>	National Day	23 rd July, 2025

International Conferences

1. **19th Conference of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member State (PUIC) held from 14th to 15th May, 2025 Jakarta, Indonesia:** The Session focused on the main theme: “PUIC Silver Jubilee: Sound Governance and Strong Institutions as Pillars of Resilience”. The delegation contributed in the following meetings of the subject conference:

i. 19th Session of the PUIC Conference

ii. 26th General Committee meeting

iii. Specialized Standing Committee on Cultural and Legal Affairs and Dialogue between Civilizations and Religions.

Moreover, Pakistan delegation presented the Kashmir Resolution on the PUIC’s Palestine Committee on the matter of occupied Kashmir.

2. **CPA UK Asia-Pacific PAC Regional Workshop, 19th – 21st May, 2025 – Nadi, Fiji:** A 3-day regional workshop, organized in collaboration with the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji, underscored the critical role of Public Accounts Committees (PACs) in ensuring transparency and accountability through the scrutiny of public finances. The event brought together PACs and equivalent committees from across the Asia-Pacific region, offering participants an opportunity to share experiences, discuss common challenges, and develop practical solutions to strengthen parliamentary oversight.

It also served as a platform for building networks and promoting the exchange of best practices in financial accountability. The workshop programme addressed a wide range of important themes, including the role and functions of PACs, effective parliamentary scrutiny, and the strategic use of audit reports for inquiries. Sessions also focused on fostering cross-party collaboration, adopting collaborative inquiry methods, and sharpening questioning skills and techniques.

3. **Information Seminar on the Structure and Functioning of the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), 20th – 23rd May, 2025, Geneva, Switzerland:** The National Assembly of Pakistan was represented by Mr. Nisar Ahmed, Director (Protocol). He highlighted Pakistan’s initiatives including vibrant parliamentary forums, the SDGs Secretariat, student engagement through internships and visits, and digital innovations such as e-office and social media outreach, which were appreciated by participants.

4. **17th ECO Summit, 3rd-4th July, 2025, Khankendi – Azerbaijan:** The event focused on promoting regional cooperation and sustainable development. A key theme of the summit was a “New ECO Vision for a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Future”. The National Assembly of Pakistan in its capacity as the interim Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of Economic Cooperation Organization (PAECO) was invited to participate as observer at the event. Climate change severely impacts Pakistan through rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, and frequent floods. These changes threaten agriculture, water resources, and livelihoods, intensifying poverty and creating long-term environmental and economic challenges. Mr. Rizwan Ullah Khan, Additional Secretary (Litigation) participated in the subject event as an observer.

5. **Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) Board Meeting, 6th – 8th July, 2025 in New York City:** The purpose of the meeting was to examine the effectiveness of PGA’s work and to approve a plan of action for each program under the organization’s Strategic Plan. This aspect of PGA’s internal decision-making allowed for a real commitment and genuine ownership of priorities and subsequent actions undertaken by Member-Parliamentarians on behalf of a truly democratic organization. Mirza Ikhtiar Baig, MNA in his capacity as PGA Board Member participated in the event.

6. **Commonwealth Parliamentary Academy Residency Course for Clerks and Officials, 6th – 12th July, 2025, Wellington, New Zealand:** The subject programme specifically designed for Parliamentary Staff helped both experienced senior officials and their newer, more junior counterparts enhance to their people and soft skills on topics ranging from leadership strategic thinking to project management, conflict resolution and mediation. The course focused on developing these skills but did not directly address parliamentary practice and procedure. A key aspect of the residency programme was its emphasis



on “training for trainers,” which aimed to embed sustainability into parliamentary learning and development. Ms. Salma Joveria, Director (IR) participated in the subject event.

7. **The 16th AIPA Caucus Parliamentary Dialogue was held from 14th–17th July 2025: under the theme “Peace through Dialogue: The Parliamentary Path Forward.”** The Caucus served as a platform to promote regional law harmonization, foster legislative initiatives, and monitor the implementation of AIPA resolutions. The National Assembly of Pakistan was represented by Raja Qamar ul Islam, MNA, who actively contributed to the discussions. The Dialogue provided a valuable opportunity for Member and Observer Parliaments to deliberate on peace, stability, and cooperation through parliamentary diplomacy, with a focus on the following sessions:

- a. Session 1: Strengthening Parliamentary Actions for Inclusive Peace
- b. Session 2: Addressing Contemporary Risks and Challenges through Parliamentary Cooperation
- c. Session 3: Strengthening Parliamentary Contributions to Regional and Global Peace and Security

8. **Seminar for Members of Parliament of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in China, 14th – 20th July, 2025 – China:** The programme included interactive discussions, capacity-building sessions, and on-site visits aimed at enhancing parliamentary cooperation among SCO member states. National Assembly of Pakistan was represented by MNA, Raja Osama Sarwar; Mir Shabbir Ali Bijarani, MNA; Muhammad Mobeen Arif, MNA; and Sadiq Iftikhar, MNA. Beside activities in Beijing, the seminar also featured a visit to the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, providing valuable insights into regional development initiatives.

9. **Parliamentary Forum 2025 of High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), 22nd July, 2025 New York, USA:** The Parliamentary Forum 2025, a special event of the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA. The Forum engaged parliamentarians in reviewing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with particular focus on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 3 (Health and Well-being).

Mr. Sher Afzal Marwat, MNA, represented Pakistan and took part in discussions that emphasized gender parity, inclusive health systems, and evidence-based solutions to ensure no one is left behind.

10. **Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments, 29th – 31st July, 2025 at UN Geneva, Switzerland:** The Conference of the theme “A World in Turmoil: Parliamentary Cooperation and Multilateralism for Peace, Justice and Prosperity for All.” National Assembly of Pakistan delegation was led by Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Honourable Speaker National Assembly, who delivered the country statement of Pakistan on the theme of the conference also, along with Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur, MNA, Isphanyar M. Bhandara, MNA, Syed Shamoon Hashmi, Special Secretary (SI), and Waseem Iqbal Ch., Special Secretary (PD & CoP).

The delegation actively participated in the deliberations, reaffirming Pakistan’s commitment to multilateral cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy.

In addition to it, the Honourable Speaker also held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from various friendly countries to discuss the ongoing bilateral engagements and to devise mutually beneficial mechanisms for enhancing cooperation in diverse fields.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

During the 16th and 17th Sessions of the National Assembly in May–June 2025, significant legislative business was conducted. A total of 7 Government Bills and 13 Private Members' Bills were introduced, while 13 Government Bills and 4 Private Members' Bills were passed. Moreover, 10 Bills received Presidential assent and became Acts of Parliament,

covering key areas such as taxation, technology zones, citizenship, explosives, child marriage restraint, and finance. One Ordinance was also laid before the House. Alongside legislation, the Assembly considered numerous resolutions, with 5 adopted during the two sessions.

07 Government Bills Laid in National Assembly:

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	12 th May, 2025	The Income Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2025
2.	12 th May, 2025	The Islamabad Capital Territory Local Government (Amendment) Bill, 2025
3.	12 th May, 2025	The Petroleum (Amendment) Bill, 2025
4.	12 th May, 2025	The Asaan Karobar Bill, 2025
5.	12 th May, 2025	The National School of Public Policy (Amendment) Bill, 2025
6.	19 th May, 2025	The Explosives (Amendment) Bill, 2025
7.	10 th June, 2025	The Finance Bill, 2025

13 Private Member's Bills Laid in National Assembly:

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	13 th May, 2025	The Pakistan General Cosmetics (Repeal) Bill, 2025
2.	13 th May, 2025	The Rawal International University Islamabad Bill, 2025
3.	13 th May, 2025	The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (Amendment) Bill, 2025
4.	13 th May, 2025	The Civil Servants (Amendment) Bill, 2025
5.	13 th May, 2025	The Al Musaddiq Institute of Higher Education Bill, 2025
6.	13 th May, 2025	The Export Development Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2025
7.	13 th May, 2025	The Wah Institute of Modern Sciences, Wah Cantt Bill, 2025
8.	13 th May, 2025	The Industrial Relations (Amendment) Bill, 2025
9.	13 th May, 2025	The Control of Narcotic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2025
10.	13 th May, 2025	The Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens (Amendment) Bill, 2025
11.	13 th May, 2025	The Parliamentary Budget Office Bill, 2025
12.	13 th May, 2025	The Trade Organizations (Amendment) Bill, 2025
13.	13 th May, 2025	The Election (Amendment) Bill, 2025

13 Government Bills Passed in National Assembly:

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	12 th May, 2025	The National Commission for Minorities Rights Bill, 2025
2.	12 th May, 2025	The Special Technology Zone Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025
3.	16 th May, 2025	The Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (Amendment) Bill, 2025
4.	16 th May, 2025	The Anti-Dumping Duties (Amendment) Bill, 2025
5.	16 th May, 2025	The Civil Servants (Amendment) Bill, 2025
6.	16 th May, 2025	The Naturalization (Amendment) Bill, 2025
7.	16 th May, 2025	The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2025
8.	16 th May, 2025	The Extradition (Amendment) Bill, 2025
9.	16 th May, 2025	The Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025



10.	19 th May, 2025	The Pakistan Navy (Amendment) Bill, 2025
11.	19 th May, 2025	The Explosives (Amendment) Bill, 2025
12.	22 nd May, 2025	The Off the Grid (Captive Power Plants) Levy Bill, 2025
13.	27 th June, 2025	The Finance Bill, 2025

04 Private Member's Passed in National Assembly:

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	13 th May, 2025	The Ghurki Institute of Science and Technology Bill, 2025
2.	13 th May, 2025	The International Examination Board Bill, 2025
3.	16 th May, 2025	The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Marriage Restraint Bill, 2025
4.	16 th May, 2025	The Trade Organizations (Second Amendment) Bill, 2025

10 Acts of Parliament:

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	25 th May, 2025	The Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2025, (Act No. XIII of 2025)
2.	25 th May, 2025	The Special Technology Zones Authority (Amendment) Act, (ACT No. XII of 2025) 2025
3.	29 th May, 2025	The Islamabad Capital Territory Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2025 (Act No. XI of 2025)
4.	30 th May, 2025	The Off the Grid (Captive Power Plants) Levy Act, 2025 (Act No. XIV of 2025)
5.	5 th June, 2025	The Explosives (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. XVII of 2025)
6.	5 th June, 2025	The Civil Courts (Amendment) Act, 2025, (Act No. XV of 2025)
7.	5 th June, 2025	The Naturalization (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. XVI)
8.	5 th June, 2025	The Trade Organizations (Amendment) Act, 2025, (Act No. XVIII of 2025)
9.	27 th June, 2025	The Civil Servants (Amendment) Act, 2025. (Act No. XX of 2025)
10.	27 th June, 2025	The Finance Act, 2025 (Act No. XIX of 2025)

01 Ordinances Laid

Sr No.	Date	Title
1.	12 th May, 2025	The Off the Grid (Captive Power Plants) Levy Ordinance, 2025 (Ord. No. I of 2025)

16th Session (05-05-2025 to 21-05-2025)

Government Bills/Ordinances:	
Government Bills introduced	06
Ordinance laid	01
Bills transmitted by the Senate	01
Government Bills Passed	12
Private Members' Bills:	
Private Members' Bills introduced	13
Bills transmitted by the Senate	07
Private Members' Bills passed	04
Act	
Government Bills Become Act	
Private Members' Bills Become Act	
Resolutions:	
Resolutions Received	32
Resolutions Lapsed	22
Resolutions Passed	04

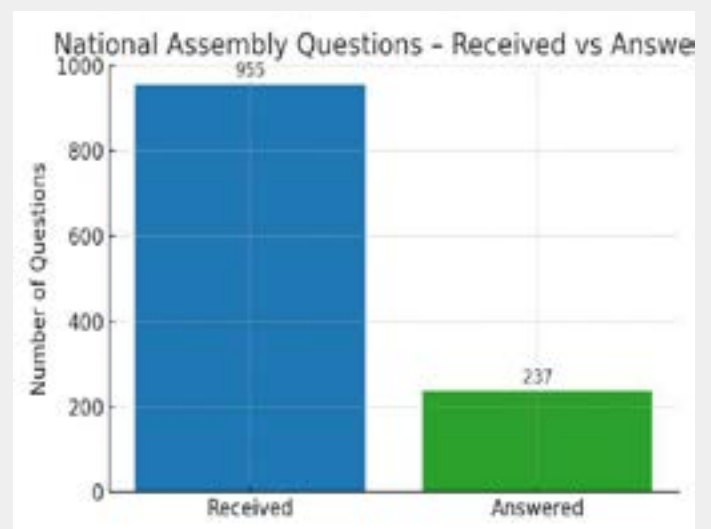
17th Session (10-06-2025 to 27-06-2025)

Government Bills/Ordinances:	
Government Bills introduced	01
Ordinance laid	--
Bills transmitted by the Senate	01
Government Bills Passed	01
Private Members' Bills:	
Private Members' Bills introduced	--
Bills transmitted by the Senate	--
Private Members' Bills passed	--
Act	
Government Bills Become Act	07
Private Members' Bills Become Act	02
Resolutions:	
Resolutions Received	01
Resolutions Lapsed	--
Resolutions Passed	01

Questions

S. no	Questions received	Questions answered	Answer rate (%)
1	955	237	24.82

During the reporting period, the National Assembly demonstrated active legislative engagement, addressing 237 questions out of 955 received. This reflects the Assembly's commitment to parliamentary oversight and responsiveness to Members' concerns. The substantial number of questions received indicates vibrant participation by parliamentarians, while the answers provided contribute to transparency, accountability, and informed decision-making in national governance.





COMMITTEES AT WORK

During the reporting period, the Standing Committees of the National Assembly remained actively engaged in legislative scrutiny and oversight. A total of 36 committees held 103 meetings on diverse governance, policy, and legislative matters. The most active committee was Finance and Revenue,

which held 14 meetings, considering six bills, disposing of two, and carrying forward six for further deliberation. Other committees, including Education, Commerce, Cabinet Division, and Law and Justice, also processed multiple bills.

S #	Name of Committee	Chairman/Convener	Meetings held	Bills		
				Referred	Disposed of	Pending
1.	Cabinet Division	Mr. Ibrar Ahmed	03	03	02	01
2.	Communications	Mr. Aijaz Hussain Jakrani	02	--	--	--
3.	Climate Change and Environmental Coordination	Ms. Munaza Hassan	02	--	01	--
		Ms. Musarrat Asif Khawaja, Convener	--	--	--	--
4.	Commerce	Muhammad Jawed Hanif	03	03	01	02
		Mr. Khurshid Ahmed Junejo, Convener	01	--	--	--
5.	Defence	Fateh Ullah Khan	02	--	--	--
6.	Defence Production	Mr. Javaid Iqbal	02	--	--	--
7.	Finance and Revenue	Syed Naveed Qamar	14	06	02	06
		Dr. Mirza Ikhtiar Baig, Convener	02	01	--	01
		Dr. Nafisa Shah, Convener	01	01	--	01
8.	Federal Education, Professional Training and Culture	Dr. Azeem Uddin Zahid Lakhvi	03	03	02	01
9.	Government Assurance	Ms. Nuzhat Sadiq	03	04	--	04
10.	Housing and Works	Moulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri	02	--	--	--
		Mr. Anjum Aqeel Khan, Convener	02	--	--	--
		Mr. Anjum Aqeel Khan, Convener	02	--	--	--
11.	Foreign Affairs	Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar	02	--	--	--
12.	Industries and Production	Syed Hafeezuddin	03	--	--	--

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13.	Information and Broadcasting	Mr. Pullain Baloch	02	--	--	--
14.	Interior and Narcotics	Raja Khuram Shahzad Nawaz	02	03	01	02
		Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar, Convener	01	--	--	--
15.	Maritime Affairs	Abdul Qadir Patel	01	--	--	--
16.	National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination	Mahesh Kumar Malani	05	--	01	03
		Mr. Amjad Ali Khan, Convener	03	--	--	--
17.	Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development	Junaid Akbar (Excluded on 13-5-2025) Syed Rafiullah Elected on 12-08-2025)	--	--	--	--
18.	National Food Security and Research	Syed Hussain Tariq	02	--	--	--
19.	Planning, Development and Special Initiatives	Abdul Qadir Gillani	03	--	--	--
		Syed Sami Ul Hassan Gillani, Convener	03	--	--	--
20.	Privatization	Muhammad Farooq Sattar	02	--	--	--
21.	Poverty Alleviation	Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur	03	--	--	--
22.	Railways	Rai Hassan Nawaz khan	02	01	01	--
		Mr. Ramesh Lal, Convener	02	--	--	--
		Mr. Shafqat Abbas, Convener	01	--	--	--
23.	Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony	Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar	01	--	--	01
24.	Rules of Procedure and Privileges	Mr. Muhammad Afzal	03	--	--	--
25.	Science and Technology	Khawaja Sheraz Mehmood	04	01	--	01



26.	Economic Affairs Division	Mr. Muhammad Atif	02	--	--	--
27.	Energy (Petroleum Division)	Syed Mustafa Mehmood	01	02	01	01
28.	Energy (Power Division)	Mr. Muhammad Idrees	03	--	--	--
29.	Human Rights	Sahibzada Muhammad Hamid Raza (de-notified on 5-8-2025)	03	--	--	--
30.	Information Technology and Telecommunication	Syed Amin-ul-Haque	02	--	--	--
		Mr. Sher Ali Arbab, Convener	02	--	--	--
31.	Inter Provincial Coordination	Mr. Sana Ullah Khan Mastikhel	01	--	--	--
		Mr. Jamshaid Ahmed, Convener	03	--	--	--
32.	Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON)	Haji Imtiaz Ahmad Choudhry	02	--	--	--
33.	Law and Justice	Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk	02	--	03	04
34.	Narcotics Control	Malik Shah				
35.	Parliamentary Affairs	Rana Iradat Sharif Khan	01	01	01	01
36.	Water Resources	Mr. Ahmad Atteeq Anwer	01	--	--	--

Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

Chairperson: Mr. Junaid Akbar, MNA

The 16th Public Accounts Committee was constituted by the House on 17th May 2024 and Junaid Akbar was elected as Chairman on 1st January 2025. Since its formation, the Committee has made the following progress:

The PAC has been addressing a major challenge involving over 36,000 audit paras accumulated over the past 14 years. To tackle this, five Sub-Committees, including the Monitoring and Implementation (M&I) Sub-Committee, have been established to focus on clearing the backlog.

The PAC also raised concerns about the non-implementation of its decisions and proposed making PAC's directives mandatory for all Principal Accounting Officers (PAOs).

From May 1st, 2025 to July 31st, 2025, the PAC recovered Rs. 11,350.58 million, reflecting its effectiveness in ensuring fiscal soundness.



Chairman PAC Mr. Junaid Akbar chairing the committee meeting at Parliament House on 16th July, 2025.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC) (1st May – 31st July, 2025)

Sl #	Name of Committee	Chairman/Convener	Meetings held	Discussed Grants	Discussed Paras	Pending Grants	Pending Paras	Recovery
1	Public Accounts Committee	Mr. Junaid Akbar	16	14	163	61	3251	Recovery Rs. 11,350.58 million
2	Sub-Committee-I	Ms. Shahida Begum	07	6	192	178	1292	Nil
3	Sub-Committee-II	Syed Naveed Qamar	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Sub-Committee-III	Malik Aamir Dogar	04	16	158	35	11544	Nil
5	Sub-Committee-IV (M&I)	Dr. Tariq Fazal Ch.	03	0	159	46	3125	Nil
6	Sub-Committee-V	Mr. M. Moin Aamer Pirzada	03	4	103	180	6439	Nil



Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir

Chairperson: Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, MNA



The National Assembly's Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir met under the chairmanship of Hon. Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, MNA, at Parliament House on 27th June, 2025

The 8th in-camera meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir was held on 27th June 2025 at 02:00 p.m. in Committee Room No. 5, Constitution Room, Parliament House, Islamabad, under the chairmanship of Hon. Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, MNA. The Committee discussed the recent Pakistan-India military standoff and the Kashmir dispute, received strategic debriefs on diplomatic fallout and realignments, and deliberated on information warfare

and perception dominance strategies. It also reviewed the role of academia and youth, assessed the status of PSDP projects for 2025–26 along with Saudi Fund Development (SFD) projects, and examined progress on the Mansehra–Muzaffarabad Motorway. Additionally, matters related to civil aviation, including the establishment of airports, were considered.

Committee's official visit to UK

The Chairman, while addressing a press conference at the Press Information Department in Islamabad, highlighted the Committee's recent visit to the United Kingdom.

He commended the Pakistan Army's firm response to India, which renewed international attention on the Kashmir issue and gave fresh hope to the Kashmiri people. Accompanied by Committee Members including Syed Javed Ali Shah Jillani, MNA, and Riyaz Khan Fatyana, MNA, he stated that the Pakistani and Kashmiri community in the UK had strongly supported Pakistan's stance and lauded the Army's response to Indian aggression.

During the visit, the Committee urged British lawmakers to play a more active role in resolving the long-standing dispute and drew attention to human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Rana Qasim Noon reaffirmed that Kashmir was the “jugular vein of Pakistan” and stressed that peace in the region was impossible without a just settlement in accordance with UN resolutions.



Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir delegation presents a commemorative shield during their official visit to the United Kingdom – 4th June 2025.

The Special Committee on Gender Mainstreaming

Chairperson: Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA

The Special Committee on Gender Mainstreaming convened multiple meetings during the quarter to advance gender equality, promote women's empowerment, and address legislative and policy gaps. The Committee's work

was guided by the National Gender Policy Framework, which prioritizes governance, education, economic empowerment, political participation, health, and safety.



Chairperson, Special Committee on Gender Mainstreaming Dr. Nafisa Shah chairing the committee meeting at Parliament House on 2nd May, 2025

Meeting Summaries

8th Meeting – 2nd May 2025

Focus: SDG Goals and Women's Empowerment Initiatives

- Discussed SDG-related targets and gender-disaggregated initiatives.
- Emphasized inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities.
- Addressed gender gaps in medical education.

Recommendations:

1. Increase budget allocations for women's empowerment under PSDP.
2. Ensure women's representation in SDG processes without discrimination.
3. Expand SMEDA funding for women entrepreneurs.

9th Meeting – 20th May 2025

Focus: Support for Families Affected by Indian Aggression

- Addressed provision of health, shelter, and education to affected families.
- Advocated trauma support centres with female

personnel in disaster-affected areas.

- Recommended strengthening emergency medical services and security.

10th Meeting – 2nd June 2025

Focus: Maternal and Child Health

Action Points:

1. Fill vacant positions in National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) and Provincial Commissions on the Status of Women (PCSWs) transparently.
2. Adopt a federal template law for commissions.
3. Convert BHUs into 24/7 functional centres.
4. Strengthen Lady Health Visitor's (LHV) role.
5. Allocate resources for non-communicable diseases.
6. Prioritise maternal services under NHSP.
7. Address gaps from the 2016–2025 plan in accountability frameworks.
8. Identify provincial legal gaps.

11th Meeting – 26th June 2025

Theme: International Day of Parliamentarism

Thematic Areas: Parity in politics, gender-sensitive institutions, and combating gender-based violence.



Resolution (10 Action Points):

- Enact parity laws for 50-50 representation.
- Eliminate violence against women in politics.
- Introduce political quotas for diverse women.
- Revise discriminatory laws.
- Prevent and punish gender-based violence.
- Monitor legislation and budgets.
- Ensure equal decision-making access.
- Promote gender-sensitive governance.
- Track gender equity progress.

12th Meeting – 7th July 2025

Agenda:

1. Review of Pakistan's Global Gender Gap Report standing.
2. Legislative review of the Child Marriage Restraint Act.
3. Women's health status follow-up.

Key Discussion: Establish a uniform legal framework for marriage to improve Pakistan's ranking in the Global Gender Gap Index.

Resolution: Finalized recommendations sent to relevant departments.

Sub-Committee Activities

1st Meeting – 19th June 2025

Agenda: Review of Family and Inheritance Laws (ICT)

Key Recommendations & Status:

1. **Family Law Reform** – NCSW to propose amendments for gender equality; consultations underway.
2. **Child Protection Law Review** – National Commission on the Rights of Child (NCRC) to examine custody laws; delayed due to absence of key institutions.
3. **Alignment with Islamic Principles** – CII to review reforms for Shariah compliance; participation ongoing.
4. **Draft Bill Preparation** – Expedite consensus bill; provide proposals and court verdicts to Ministry of Law & Justice.

Acts Under Review:

- Dowry and Bridal Gifts (Restriction) Act, 1976
- West Pakistan Family Court Act, 1964
- Muslim Marriage Act, 1939
- Guardian and Ward Act, 1980

PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR)

Convener: Dr. Nikhat Shakeel, MNA

» PCCR Holds Two Key Meetings, Parliament House – May 2025

The Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) convened two meetings in May 2025. On 7 May, the Advisory Council, chaired by Convener Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, reviewed performance and decided to appoint provincial and regional focal persons. On 8 May, PCCR Members met a development partner to discuss collaboration on the Young Citizen Internship Program.



» Report Launch & Closing Ceremony on Education Emergency, Parliament House – 26 May 2025

The Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) closed its Education Crisis initiative with the launch of a report proposing legislative and policy steps to reduce out-of-school children. State Minister Ms. Wajiha Qamar praised Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan's leadership and called for swift action. Commitments included higher education budgets, stronger oversight, and a cross-party task force.



» PCCR Briefs Lawmakers on Education Budget, Parliament House – 18 June 2025

The Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) held a briefing on the federal education budget for FY2025–26 under the Parliamentary Engagement on National Education Emergency. The session equipped lawmakers with technical insights on budget allocations and trends, reviewing federal education spending over the past five years.



» PCCR Presents Education Emergency Report to Speaker, Parliament House – 23 June 2025

The Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR), led by Convener Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, presented its flagship report “Parliamentary Engagement for National Strategy on Education Emergency” to Honourable Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. He praised the Caucus's efforts and recognized the report as a timely contribution to addressing Pakistan's out-of-school children crisis.





Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Secretariat

Convener: Ms. Shaista Pervaiz, MNA

» Meetings on Nutrition Policy, Parliament House – 5th June 2025

The SDGs Secretariat held meetings with development partners to address malnutrition, focusing on food fortification and trans-fat elimination. On 5th June, Nutrition International shared data underscoring the need for large-scale fortification. On 25th June, a joint meeting with Pakistan Youth Change Advocates (PYCA) and Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) called for strong policy measures and public awareness to reduce trans-fat consumption.



» SDGs Taskforce Reviews Federal Budget, Parliament House – 11th June 2025

Led by Convenor, Ms. Shaista Pervaiz, the Parliamentary SDGs Taskforce reviewed the Federal Budget 2025–26 to assess alignment with Sustainable Development Goals. Members examined allocations in key sectors, identified funding gaps, and called for transparency, stronger policy coherence, and effective monitoring of SDG-related spending.



» SDGs Secretariat Strengthens Collaboration & Data Systems, Parliament House – 14th June 2025

The SDGs Secretariat held two key engagements to advance SDG delivery. On 12 June, Convenor Ms. Shaista Pervaiz met UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator Muhammad Yahya to enhance collaboration, capacity building, and evidence-based policymaking. On 14 June, the Secretariat hosted a UNESCAP mission to assess and improve Pakistan's SDG data ecosystem, focusing on data quality, coordination, and institutional capacity.



» SDGs Convenor Meets GB Assembly Speaker, Parliament House – 22 July 2025

Convenor SDGs met the Speaker of the Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly, Nazir Ahmad to discuss advancing SDGs in the region, focusing on clean energy, disaster management, deforestation, and climate action. The meeting highlighted the Attabad Lake incident's urgency, prioritizing solar energy incentives, water conservation, and academic partnerships with Karakoram University.



Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC)

Convener: Dr. Shahida Rehmani, MNA

» WPC Delegation Visits National Incubation Centre, Islamabad – 12th May 2025

The Women's Parliamentary Caucus delegation, led by Secretary Dr. Shahida Rehmani, visited the National Incubation Centre (NIC) in Islamabad. The NIC CEO briefed on initiatives in health and education, emphasizing support for SMEs through innovative startup and incubation programs.



» WPC Holds Key Meetings on Women's Issues, Parliament House – May & June 2025

Multiple meetings addressing women's rights and representation. On 13 May, the General Assembly condemned violence by Indian forces and reviewed the Benazir Hunarmand Programme 2025. On 24 June, the Working Council discussed women's underrepresentation in voter registration with NADRA. On 25 June, the Assembly marked Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed's birth anniversary and reviewed the 2025–26 Annual Working Plan.



» WPC Hosts Dialogue on Women's Political Participation, PIPS – 14th May 2025

The roundtable "Raising Her Voice in Politics" with parliamentarians, civil society, and policy experts to address women's underrepresentation in politics. Chairperson Dr. Shahida Rehmani called for stronger enforcement of the 5% quota under the Elections Act 2017 and proposed a 33% quota in political party decision-making bodies to ensure genuine inclusion.



YPF President Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar, visited the Balochistan Assembly to engage with provincial leadership on youth challenges, media representation, and empowerment. Outcomes included plans for joint workshops, academic partnerships, women's electoral participation, youth-inclusive budgeting, and combating misinformation. A Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) panel discussion and a Quetta Press Club briefing reinforced YPF's commitment to youth participation and peacebuilding.





PMU (Project Management Unit)

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.

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 public 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.

As part of the National Assembly Strategic Plan 2019–23, a decision was made to take steps to enhance and promote citizen participation. To achieve this, a comprehensive Youth Engagement Plan was introduced, which included the induction of high-caliber graduates and the launch of regular internship programs across various sections of the Secretariat.



Participants attending a training session organized by the National Assembly of Pakistan to enhance professional skills and parliamentary knowledge.

The PMU has continued providing various internship opportunities to talented youth/ students and graduates from all over Pakistan. For the period, around 100 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.

Facilitating IT reforms in the National Assembly

The National Assembly of Pakistan is undertaking comprehensive IT reforms to modernize its working and legislative processes, improve transparency, and enhance public accessibility to parliamentary proceedings. These reforms include the digitization of records, the development e-office platforms, and the upgrade of internal communication and data management systems among others.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) plays an important role in facilitating these reforms by regularly monitoring and reporting on progress, ensuring timely implementation, and identifying areas for improvement. Through these efforts, the National Assembly aims to build a more efficient, tech-enabled parliamentary environment aligned with global standards of digital governance.

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:

Parliamentary Delegation Visits Austria and Ireland to Strengthen Budgetary Oversight

A high-level parliamentary delegation from Pakistan, comprising Honourable Members of the National Assembly

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and Senate, along with the Speakers of the Provincial Assemblies, visited the Parliaments and Parliamentary Budget Offices (PBOs) of Austria and Ireland with the support of the European Union's Mustehkam Parlimaan project in January 2025.

The visit aimed to enhance Pakistan's legislative capacity by studying independent budgetary analysis models and best practices in fiscal governance. Delegates engaged with parliamentary experts to understand how Austria's and Ireland's PBOs contribute to transparent and accountable budgetary decision-making.

This initiative aligns with ongoing efforts to establish a Parliamentary Budget Office in Pakistan, ensuring data-driven policymaking and strengthening parliamentary oversight on economic and fiscal matters.

The delegation's discussions with officials in Austria and Ireland focused on key aspects of financial governance, including independent budget assessments, fiscal policy analysis, and effective parliamentary scrutiny of public expenditures.

This knowledge-sharing experience will play a crucial role in shaping Pakistan's legislative reforms, fostering transparency, and enhancing the role of parliamentarians in economic decision-making.

This visit marks a significant step towards reinforcing democratic institutions in Pakistan, strengthening parliamentary independence, and ensuring more informed financial legislation through professional, non-partisan research and analysis.

As a follow-up, PMU has facilitated consultative meetings between the concerned members of the National Assembly and development partners to streamline the PBO.

National Governance Program

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)'s Reforms and Innovation in Government for 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.

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
- Sightsavers
- National Dialogue Forum (NDF)
- MANTAQ Centre for Research
- Anthro Insights (PVT) LTD
- Tech Valley
- GIZ Pakistan
- Signify Consulting, Pakistan
- Asia Foundation Pakistan
- COMSATS Islamabad

PICTURE GALLERY



Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, attended a ceremony at the Embassy of the Russian Federation to mark the 80th Anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War on 7th May, 2025 at Islamabad.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq visited CMH Rawalpindi to inquire about the wellbeing of those injured in the aftermath of the shameful Indian attack on Pakistan in 14 May, 2025 at Rawalpindi.



Ambassador of Germany Mr. Alfred Grannas called on Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah on 15th May, 2025 at Parliament House.



Ambassador of Morocco Mr. Mohamed Karmoune called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on 14th May, 2025 at Parliament House.



Members of the National Assembly called on Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and appreciated his role in conducting the proceedings of the House in an effective, orderly, and impartial manner on 20th May, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of Celebrations of 74th Anniversary of establishment of Diplomatic Relations between China and Pakistan on 21st May, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq along with Ambassador of China Jiang Zaidong witnessing Chinese Art & Culture Exhibition on 21st May, 2025 at Islamabad.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq attended a dinner hosted by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir in honor of the country's political and military leadership on 24th May, 2025 at Islamabad.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the interns of the National Assembly Secretariat on 16th June, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq cutting cake as a Chief Guest on National Day of the Republic of Portugal on 17th June, 2025 at Islamabad.



Ambassador of Uzbekistan Mr. Alisher Tukhtaev called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on 17th June, 2025 at Parliament House.



British High Commissioner to Pakistan Ms. Jane Marriott called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on 19th June, 2025 at Parliament House.

NEWSLETTER



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inaugurating the Parliamentarians Coffee Corner by Third Culture Coffee on 20th June, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with Saudi Parliamentary delegation led by Head of Saudi-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Committee Major General (Ret.) Dr. Abdulrahman bin Sanhat Al-Harbi on 22nd June, 2025 at Islamabad.



Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah in a group photo with Saudi Parliamentary delegation led by Head of Saudi-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Committee Major General (Ret.) Dr. Abdulrahman bin Sanhat Al-Harbi on 23rd June, 2025 at Parliament House.



Ambassador of Palestine Dr. Zuhair Mohammad Hamdallah Zaid called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on 25th June, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq chairing MoU signing ceremony between Pakistan National Assembly Secretariat and Allied Bank on 25th June, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inscribed his remarks in the guest book of Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 7th July, 2025 at Baku, Azerbaijan.



Pakistan's Parliamentary Delegation led by Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq receiving a briefing from the Officials of ASAN Service on 8th July, 2025 at Baku, Azerbaijan.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq shaking hands with the Prime Minister of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ali Asadov on 9th July, 2025 at Cabinet of Minister in Baku, Azerbaijan.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress Mr. Zhao Leji on the sidelines of the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament being held on 29th July, 2025 at Geneva.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Mr. Numan Kurtulmus on the sidelines of the 6th World Conference of Speaker of Parliament on 30th July, 2025 at Geneva.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with the President of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, Mr. Numan Kurtulmus on the sidelines of the 6th World Conference of Speaker of Parliament on 30th July, 2025 at Geneva.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with Speaker of the UK House of Commons Sir Lindsay Hoyle on the sidelines of 6th World Speakers Conference on 31st July, 2025 at Geneva.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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