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# NEWSLETTER

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN

### President Asif Ali Zardari

Opens New Parliamentary Year with Reaffirmation of Democratic Values - Address to Joint Session - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025



Strengthening Parliamentary Ties: Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Welcomed at Hungarian National Assembly 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Budapest, Hungary



Pakistani Parliamentary Delegation, Led by Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Visits Saudi Arabia 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025



# MESSAGE

## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

It is with great pride that I present this quarterly roundup of the National Assembly's Newsletter for the period February to April 2025, a time marked by legislative progress, institutional reforms and democratic consolidation.

The quarter also coincides with the completion of the first parliamentary year of the 16th National Assembly, a milestone in our democratic journey.

The Parliamentary year was inaugurated by the Presidential Address to the Joint Session of Parliament, where the Honourable President reaffirmed the values of unity, good governance and collective responsibility.

This address not only set the tone for the new parliamentary year but also served as a powerful reminder of the role Parliament plays in promoting national cohesion and inclusive development.

Over these three months, the National Assembly introduced 16 bills, passed 6 and enacted 7 as Acts of Parliament.

In addition, 2 ordinances were laid and Parliamentary accountability of Government was addressed, demonstrating our continued commitment to transparency, legislative oversight and responsive governance.

The work of Standing Committees remained central, including Parliamentary Committees actively

reviewing legislation and holding the executive to account. Their contributions have been critical in shaping informed, people-centric policies across a range of sectors.

Internationally, the National Assembly deepened its engagement through high-level diplomatic outreach, including Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq's visit to Saudi Arabia and participation in the Group of Parliaments in Support of Palestine in Türkiye.

I would like to commend the Honourable Member and the Secretariat for their dedicated services. As we move into the second parliamentary year, let us continue working together to build a stronger, more inclusive and accountable Parliament that reflects the aspirations of the people of Pakistan.

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(Tahir Hussain)  
Secretary General  
National Assembly of Pakistan

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## PRESIDENT ASIF ALI ZARDARI OPENS NEW PARLIAMENTARY YEAR WITH VISION FOR UNITY, GROWTH AND REFORMS

Islamabad, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq; Chairman Senate, Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani; and President Asif Ali Zardari during the Joint Session of Parliament held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at Parliament House.

President Asif Ali Zardari, in his address to the Joint Session of Parliament, formally inaugurated the new parliamentary year, reaffirming an unwavering commitment to democratic principles and articulating a unified vision for Pakistan's continued progress and prosperity. He underscored that the new session represents both a continuation of the democratic journey and a renewed opportunity to advance national prosperity and cohesion.

Addressing both Houses, the President urged Parliament to focus on good governance, political stability and meaningful economic reform, highlighting that the public has placed significant trust in their elected representatives.

He emphasized the urgent need to strengthen democratic institutions, rebuild public confidence in the rule of law and place the country on a sustainable path of inclusive growth. Acknowledging recent improvements, President Asif Ali Zardari pointed to several positive economic trends.

He cited rising foreign exchange reserves, increased foreign direct investment, a historic surge in the stock market and a reduction in the central bank's policy rate from 22% to 12%. While welcoming these gains, he noted that further progress depends on aligning institutional objectives, enhancing inter-ministerial efficiency and reinforcing a culture of service delivery. He called on Parliament to function as a forum for national unity and inclusive decision-making, capable of building consensus on critical challenges.

The President stressed the importance of equitable development across all regions, asserting that no district or province should be left behind. He called for greater public investment in underdeveloped areas, especially in infrastructure, healthcare, education and economic opportunity. Parliament, he said, must be the place where deprivation is addressed through constructive dialogue and empathetic governance.



Addressing regional connectivity and infrastructure development, President Asif Ali Zardari reaffirmed the importance of strategic investments in Baluchistan and Gilgit-Baltistan. He reiterated Pakistan's commitment to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Gwadar Port as critical anchors of regional integration and trade. He also emphasized the need for urgent reforms in agriculture, modern water management systems and national food security. Commending the Sindh government's mangrove plantation and carbon credit efforts, he encouraged further investment in fisheries, livestock and climate-resilient technologies.

On national security, the President reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering resolve to combat terrorism. He lauded the sacrifices of the Armed Forces and Law Enforcement Agencies and called for a united front against extremism. He stressed that development-led strategies must accompany security measures, particularly in terrorism-affected regions. In his remarks on foreign policy, President Asif Ali Zardari emphasized Pakistan's commitment to peaceful regional engagement.

He welcomed growing bilateral cooperation with China, the Gulf countries, Central Asia, the European Union, the United Kingdom and the United States. He highlighted the success of recent diplomatic exchanges, especially with China under the CPEC framework. He reaffirmed Pakistan's principled support for the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and condemned ongoing human rights violations by Indian authorities. Expressing deep concern over the humanitarian crisis in Palestine, he called for a just resolution and the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif attended the Joint Session of Parliament and closely followed President Asif Ali Zardari's address, which outlined key national priorities. The Prime Minister's presence reflected the government's commitment to democratic continuity and its resolve to work in tandem with Parliament to advance political stability, economic reform, and inclusive development.



Honourable Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, formally receiving Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on the occasion of the Joint Session of Parliament at the Parliament House.

Concluding his address, the President reminded Parliament of its vital role in nation-building. He urged all stakeholders to work collaboratively toward economic revival, institutional strengthening and the consolidation of democracy, placing national interest above all. The joint sitting of Parliament, convened on 10th March 2025, concluded with the Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq proroguing the session in accordance with Article 54(1) of the Constitution.



President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Asif Ali Zardari, addressing the Joint Sitting of Parliament on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at Parliament House.

## FIRST YEAR OF THE 16TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:

### A Brief Round-up



The conclusion of the first parliamentary year of the 16th National Assembly on 1st March, 2025, marks a milestone in Pakistan's democratic and legislative evolution.

Under the leadership of Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, the National Assembly demonstrated substantial progress in legislative reforms, institutional modernization and the strengthening of democratic norms.

#### **Legislative Productivity and Parliamentary Performance**

Over the past year, the National Assembly passed 40 government bills and 11 private members' bills with 36 government and six private bills becoming Acts of Parliament.

The House convened 13 sessions, held 130 sitting days and adopted 26 resolutions. Ministries responded to over 1,050

starred and 264 unstarred questions, while 69 Calling Attention Notices and four motions under Rule 259 were discussed, reflecting a heightened level of legislative engagement.

A key achievement was the passage of the Federal Budget 2024–25, following extensive debate and incorporation of recommendations from Members.

Significant legislation included the 26th Constitutional Amendment Bill, aimed at judicial reform and reinforcing parliamentary supremacy, the Digital Nation Pakistan Act, 2025, supporting digital economy growth and amendments to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, updating cybersecurity laws.

A total of 233 meetings of 37 Standing Committees were convened, ensuring oversight on development initiatives like the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP).



### **Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq's Leadership and strive for Democracy and Parliamentary Transparency**

Throughout the year, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq played a pivotal role in maintaining a fair, impartial and inclusive parliamentary environment.

He ensured balanced representation for both government and opposition benches—allocating 71 hours of floor time to treasury members and 66 hours to the opposition.

His focus on accountability was evident through a strengthened Question Hour, with ministry secretaries summoned when questions went unanswered.

His office remained open and accessible to all Members, particularly from the opposition.

### **Institutional Reforms and Digitization**

Institutional reform remained central to the National Assembly's agenda. The National Assembly Finance Committee, under Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq's leadership, initiated a three-phase right-sizing process.

In the first two phases, 220 non-essential posts were abolished across Grades 1 to 19, generating annual savings exceeding Rs. 563 million.

The third phase aims to raise total savings to Rs. 1 billion annually. Simultaneously, efforts to digitize Parliament are underway, enhancing transparency and operational efficiency.

Furthermore, the e-office system has already become operational.

### **Revitalizing Parliamentary Forums**

The National Assembly witnessed the active revitalization of key forums. The Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) advanced gender equality legislation, while the Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights (PCCR) championed child protection.

The Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) focused on youth engagement, while the Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs worked to align legislation with development goals.

The National Assembly is also leading efforts to establish similar forums in provincial legislatures for unified action and regular follow-ups.

### **Youth Engagement and Public Transparency**

Domestically, the National Assembly took a major step toward youth inclusion by launching a Youth Internship Program, providing first-hand exposure to legislative processes.

To enhance public communication, the National Assembly reactivated its official social media platforms and launched live streaming of proceedings via NA TV, promoting transparency and public engagement.

### **Diplomatic efforts**

Pakistan's diplomatic outreach was further reinforced through six official meetings with ambassadors and delegations and 28 engagements with Parliamentary Friendship Groups, aimed at fostering cooperation and inter-parliamentary collaboration with countries including China, the United States, Saudi Arabia and Germany.

## PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

**Pakistan and Hungary Mark 60 Years of Diplomatic Relations with High-Level Parliamentary Exchange – Budapest, 26<sup>th</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**



Parliamentary Delegation of Pakistan, led by Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, with Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly Mr. László Kövér in Budapest, on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

The delegation included notable parliamentarians such as former Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf, Ms. Shazia Marri, Mr. Rafique Ahmed Jamali, Mr. Nadeem Abbas, Ms. Munaza Hassan, Mr. Saleem Rehman and Mr. Arshad Abdullah Vohra.

### Strengthening Parliamentary Ties

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq held formal talks with Mr. László Kövér, Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly.

Both sides reaffirmed their shared commitment to promoting people-centric, mutually beneficial relations. Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq

highlighted Pakistan's key legislative progress in the areas of women's and children's rights, social inclusion and its longstanding role as a host to 4.6 million Afghan refugees.

He also shed light on the country's frontline role in combating terrorism and the economic toll of climate change.

In a wider geopolitical context, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq emphasized the critical role of global parliaments in addressing pressing issues such as misinformation, the rise of Artificial Intelligence, economic recession and global conflicts in Ukraine, Kashmir, Gaza and Afghanistan. He urged international cooperation on ethical AI



governance and praised Hungary's balanced foreign policy, especially its neutrality in the Ukraine conflict and engagement with both China and Russia through the Belt and Road Initiative.

### **Diplomatic Outreach and Economic Cooperation**

During the visit, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq delivered a personal letter from Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, inviting him to visit Pakistan.

### **Meeting with the Hungarian President**

On 28th February 2025, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with President Tamás Sulyok of Hungary. Discussions focused on advancing cooperation in agriculture, infrastructure, railways and water security. President Sulyok praised Pakistan's balanced foreign policy, noting its importance in promoting peace and preventing global conflict.

### **Education and Cultural Linkages**

Both sides expressed satisfaction over deepening educational and cultural ties. Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq commended the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Program, which currently offers 500 fully funded scholarships to Pakistani students annually.

With over 1,500 beneficiaries so far, he proposed expanding the program to include internships to further build capacity and foster goodwill.

As part of the visit, the Pakistani delegation toured the historic Hungarian National Assembly and its iconic Parliament building.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also signed the Guest Book, marking a symbolic moment in Pakistan-Hungary parliamentary diplomacy.

Speaker Kövér welcomed the gesture and expressed hope for enhanced bilateral exchanges.

Speaker Kövér highlighted Hungary's economic resilience under the "Hungary First" policy and expressed interest in expanding economic cooperation with Pakistan, particularly in the energy sector where Hungarian companies are already active.

He also acknowledged Pakistan's strategic position in regional connectivity through CPEC and the Gwadar Port.



President of Hungary, Mr. Tamás Sulyok, welcoming Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, at Sándor Palace in Budapest, Hungary, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq inscribing his remarks in the Guest Book placed at the Hungarian National Assembly during the visit.

## PARLIAMENT OF PAKISTAN

Reaffirms Solidarity with Palestine at a Meeting in Türkiye – Istanbul, 18th April 2025



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, attending the Meeting of the Group of Parliaments in Support of Palestine on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025, in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, reaffirmed Pakistan’s unwavering support for the Palestinian cause at the inaugural Meeting of the Group of Parliaments in Support of Palestine.

Addressing the forum, he described the Palestinian issue as “a crisis of humanity, a modern-day genocide,” and called for urgent, collective international action.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq emphasized that for over seven decades, Palestinians have been denied their right to self-determination—a right enshrined in numerous UN resolutions. Lamenting the global inaction in the face of Israeli aggression, he stated, “This is not just a political dispute; it is a profound moral

failure of our times.”

Highlighting Pakistan’s historical and principled stance, he recalled the country's early opposition to the UN partition plan and the creation of Israel.

He noted that Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had vocally championed the Palestinian cause, a legacy that continues to shape Pakistan’s foreign policy.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also pointed to Parliament’s consistent advocacy, citing numerous bipartisan resolutions reflecting national consensus in support of Palestinian rights.



Condemning Israel's ongoing military campaign, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq described the situation in Gaza as "a war crime and part of a broader campaign of ethnic cleansing."

He denounced the illegal annexation of Palestinian land under the pretext of security corridors and the bombing of a UN-run clinic in Jabalia as grave violations of international law.

He welcomed South Africa's legal case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) under the Genocide Convention, viewing it as a landmark step.

He noted that multiple countries, including Nicaragua, Libya, Mexico and Spain, have filed interventions—reflecting the growing global recognition of the humanitarian crisis in Palestine.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq condemned the storming of Al-Aqsa Mosque during

Eid-ul-Fitr, calling it a calculated provocation.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq reiterated Pakistan's call for a viable, independent and contiguous State of Palestine based on pre-1967 borders with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, in line with UN and OIC resolutions.

Drawing a parallel with India's occupation of Jammu and Kashmir, he noted that in both cases, indigenous populations face systematic denial of basic rights.

Appealing to the Muslim Ummah, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq urged unity and decisive action. "The resources, public will and moral authority exist," he said. "What we lack is coordination. Unity, not division, is our greatest strength."

Concluding his remarks, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq called Palestine "a moral test for the international community" and vowed that Pakistan will continue to raise its voice on every platform for justice, peace and human dignity in Palestine.

## HON. SPEAKER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, SARDAR AYAZ SADIQ

Reaffirms Strong Bilateral Ties with Saudi Arabia – Saudi-Arabia, 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2025



During meetings with the Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia, Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh, and the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia, Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al Sheikh, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq was accompanied by Members of the National Assembly Syed Naveed Qamar, Pir Syed Fazal Ali Shah Jeelani, Haji Jamal Shah Kakar, Major (R) Tahir Iqbal, and Amjad Ali Khan on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, reaffirmed Pakistan's deep-rooted ties with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, emphasizing shared faith, history and mutual respect.

During a meeting with Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad Al-Sheikh, Chairman of the Shura Council, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq called for enhanced parliamentary cooperation and more frequent legislative exchanges to foster institutional collaboration and mutual understanding.

Highlighting Pakistan's investment potential in energy, infrastructure, agriculture and IT, he invited Saudi investors to explore these sectors, assuring full facilitation. Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also acknowledged the Kingdom's steadfast support for Pakistan on regional and global forums.

Condemning the ongoing violence in Palestine and Kashmir, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq stressed the urgent need for Muslim unity to address injustice and extremism. "Our collective voice must rise against the killing of innocent civilians," he remarked.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq called on Chairman of Shura Council of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2025 at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

### Call for Religious Leadership Against Extremism

In a separate meeting with Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdulaziz Al Sheikh, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq underscored the crucial role of religious scholars in promoting peace and countering extremism.

He urged the issuance of a unified fatwa against terrorism, noting that Islam and all major religions forbid the killing of innocents.



He emphasized the responsibility of faith leaders to guide youth and propagate narratives of moderation.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq expressed Pakistan's interest in expanding cooperation between religious institutions in both countries to foster interfaith harmony and confront radicalization.

### **Bilateral Engagement with Riyadh Leadership**

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also met with Prince Faisal bin Bandar Al Saud, Governor of Riyadh, to explore expanded cooperation in trade, culture, and economic development.

He expressed Pakistan's full support for Saudi Vision 2030, highlighting shared interests in regional connectivity and inclusive growth.

### **Visit to Madinah Al-Munawwarah and Meeting with Governor**

As part of his official visit, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq visited Masjid-e-Nabawi and offered prayers at Roza-e-Rasool (ﷺ).

Accompanied by members of the parliamentary delegation, he prayed for peace, unity and the prosperity of the Muslim Ummah and Pakistan.

Later, Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met with Prince Faisal bin Salman Al Saud, Governor of Madinah.

Emphasizing the historical brotherhood between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, he stated, "Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are like

one soul in two bodies." He reiterated the value of Saudi support to Pakistan and called for greater parliamentary exchanges to strengthen ties.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq also condemned the continued bloodshed in Palestine, urging the international community to respond decisively to these violations of human rights and calling for unity across the Muslim world to ensure justice and lasting peace.

### **Engagement with Muslim World League Leadership**

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, along with a parliamentary delegation, met Sheikh Dr. Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, Secretary General of the Muslim World League.

The meeting focused on promoting Muslim unity, countering Islamophobia and advancing global understanding of Islam.

Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq lauded the League's efforts in projecting a peaceful image of Islam, promoting girls' education and advocating for interfaith cohesion.

He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to working closely with the League on shared objectives.

Secretary General Al-Issa praised Pakistan's leadership in fostering Muslim solidarity and its consistent voice for justice and unity within the international community, recognizing the country's pivotal role in the Islamic world.

## DETAILS OF BILATERAL MEETINGS

### CALLS ON THE HONORABLE SPEAKER WITH FOREIGN DIGNITARIES

S. No	Events	Date
1.	H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ebrahim Mohamed Abdulqader, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
2.	H.E. Mr. Béla Fazekas Ambassador of Hungary	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
3.	H.E. Mr. Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musalam Speaker Council of the Representatives Kingdom of Bahrain along-with delegation	17 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
4.	H.E. Mr. Mohamed KARMOUNE Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco	10 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
5.	Meeting with the US Congressional delegation	13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
6.	Delegation for Relations with Countries of South Asia of the European Parliament	15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025

### INCOMING BILATERAL DELEGATION

1.	Visit of the Bahraini Parliamentary Delegation Headed by H.E. Mr. Ahmed Bin Salman Al-Musalam Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Kingdom of Bahrain to Pakistan from February 16 – 19, 2025.
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### OUTGOING BILATERAL DELEGATION

1.	Visit of Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation Led by the Honorable Speaker to Hungary from February 24 - 27, 2025.
2.	Visit of A Parliamentary Delegation from the National Assembly of Pakistan to the Council of Representatives (Parliament) of the Kingdom of Bahrain, February 25 to March 1, 2025.
3.	Visit of Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation Led by the Honorable Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan to Republic of Turkiye from April 18, 2025.
4.	Visit of Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation Led by the Honorable Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from April 20 – 26, 2025.



## ACTIVITIES OF PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS (PFGS) FROM 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY – 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2025

Sr. No.	Country / PFG	Convener	Meetings	Date
1.	Pakistan-Canada	Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi, MNA	Canada-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group with H.E. Ms. Leslie Scanlon at the Canadian High Commission.	3 <sup>rd</sup> February, 2025
2.	Pakistan – Iran PFG	Syed Naveed Qamar, MNA	H.E. Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam, Ambassador of Iran, at Serena Hotel, Islamabad.	6 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
3.	Pakistan – New Zealand PFG	Ms. Sabheen Ghoury, MNA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Commerce at Parliament House, Islamabad.	13 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
4.	Pakistan – Romania PFG	Mr. Danyal Chaudhary, MNA	H.E. Mr. Dan Stoenescu, Ambassador of Romania, at Parliament House, Islamabad.	14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
5.	Pakistan – DPR Korea PFG	Dr. Darshan, MNA	Choe Chang Man, Ambassador of DPRK, on the 83 <sup>rd</sup> Birth Anniversary of H.E. Kim Jong Il at Islamabad Hotel.	14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
6.	Pakistan – Bahrain PFG	Syed Imran Ahmad Shah, MNA (Convended by MNA Ch. Muhammad Shahbaz Babar, MNA)	Parliamentary delegation from Bahrain received at Parliament Huse	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
7.	Pakistan – Oman PFG	Mr. Pullain Baloch, MNA	Meeting with Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Commerce at Parliament House.	18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
8.	Pakistan – Japan PFG	Ms. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MNA	H.E. Mr. Akamatsu Shuichi, Ambassador of Japan, celebrates the 65 <sup>th</sup> birthday of His Majesty the Emperor at Serena Hotel, Islamabad.	18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
9.	Pakistan – South Africa PFG	Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA	Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, and Pakistani Community Representatives from South Africa at Parliament House.	19 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
10.	Pakistan – Bosnia Herzegovina PFG	Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA	H.E. Mr. Emin Cohodarvic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on Independence Day at Serena Hotel, Islamabad.	27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025
11.	Pakistan –	Chaudhry	Meeting with Foreign Affairs and	11 <sup>th</sup> March,

	Bangladesh PFG	Mahmood Bashir Virk, MNA	Commerce Ministries at Parliament House.	2025
12.	Pakistan – Zimbabwe PFG	Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur, MNA	Meeting with Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries at Parliament House, Islamabad.	12 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025
13.	Pakistan – UAE PFG	Mr. Khurshed Ahmed Junejo, MNA	Meeting with Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries at Parliament House.	13 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025
14.	Pakistan – Brazil PFG	Mr. Aqeel Malik, MNA	Meeting with Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries at Parliament House.	19 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025
15.	Pakistan – Czech Republic PFG	Makhdoom Syed Sami-ul-Hassan Gillani, MNA	Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries meeting at Parliament House.	20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025
16.	Pakistan – Ethiopia Eritrea PFG	Mr. Arshad Abdullah Vohra, MNA	H.E. Dr. Jemal Beker, Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan, at the Ethiopian Embassy, Islamabad.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
17.	Pakistan – Tanzania PFG	Malik Shakir Bashir Awan, MNA	Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries meeting at Parliament House.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
18.	Pakistan – Finland PFG	Ms. Sharmila Sahiba Faruqui Hashaam, MNA	H.E. Mr. Hannu Ripatti, Ambassador of Finland, at Parliament House, Islamabad.	10 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
19.	Pakistan – USA PFG	Syed Hussain Tariq, MNA	Chargé d’Affaires Ms. Natalie A. Baker for Representatives Jack Bergman & Tom Suozzi at the U.S. Ambassador’s Residence, Islamabad.	12 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
20.	Pakistan – USA PFG	Syed Hussain Tariq, MNA	Meeting with the US Congressional Delegation, followed by dinner.	13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
21.	Pakistan – Japan PFG	Ms. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MNA	Meeting with Foreign Affairs and Commerce Ministries at Speaker’s House, Islamabad.	14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
22.	Pakistan – Japan PFG	Ms. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MNA	Meeting with Ambassador Akamatsu Shuichi at Parliament House.	14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
23.	Pakistan – DPR Korea PFG	Dr. Darshan, MNA	H.E. Choe Chang Man, DPRK Ambassador, on the 113th Anniversary of H.E. Kim Il Sung at Islamabad Hotel.	14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
24.	Pakistan – EU PFG	Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, MNA	Foreign Affairs Ministry meeting at Parliament House.	15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
25.	Pakistan – EU PFG	Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, MNA	Foreign Affairs Committee meeting with EU Parliament delegation led by Mr. Șerban Dimitrie Sturdza at Parliament House.	15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
26.	Pakistan – Bosnia and Herzegovina PFG	Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan, MNA	Hon. Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan met H.E. Mr. Emin Cohodarevic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at the Embassy in Islamabad.	16 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
27.	Pakistan – UK PFG	Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani, MNA	Meeting with Lord Wajid Khan and the British High Commissioner at Parliament House, Islamabad.	16 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025
28.	International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)	--	Speaker National Assembly met with ITUC delegation at Speaker’s Lounge, Parliament House.	23 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2025



## INTERNATIONAL VISITS AND CONFERENCES

From 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2025

1. 1st Joint CPA Asia & South-East Asia Regional Conference (6–10 Feb 2025, Lahore) focused on “Parliamentary Strategies for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Future,” bringing together parliamentarians and experts to address regional challenges and promote democratic governance.
2. 2025 UN Parliamentary Hearing (13–14 Feb, New York) focused on “Scaling up Action for the SDGs,” discussing strategies to advance the 2030 Agenda through political consensus, institutional strengthening, and financing for sustainable development.
3. 15th APA Plenary Session & Executive Council Meeting (17–21 Feb 2025, Baku) focused on parliamentary diplomacy’s role in enhancing multilateral cooperation across Asia for a better future.
4. Pakistan Whips visited the UK Parliament (24–28 Feb 2025) to meet counterparts and discuss the role of Whips.
5. 73rd Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliaments (10–14 Mar 2025, London) promoted parliamentary collaboration, innovation, and professional development for Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks.
6. IPU-Parliamentary Meeting at the UN Commission

on the Status of Women (11 Mar 2025, New York) focused on strengthening parliamentary action for gender equality and women’s leadership.

7. IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians (13–16 Mar 2025, Mexico) emphasized mobilizing for gender parity and equal political participation.

8. 150th IPU Assembly (5–9 Apr 2025, Tashkent) focused on parliamentary action for social development and justice, including forums for women and young parliamentarians.

9. U.S.–Pakistan Symposium (30 Apr 2025, Washington D.C.) fostered dialogue among lawmakers, business leaders, and communities to strengthen bilateral relations.

### FELICITATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In early 2025, Hon. Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq sent felicitations to parliamentary leaders of 21 countries on their National and Independence Days, reinforcing Pakistan’s commitment to parliamentary diplomacy. In return, he received numerous goodwill messages from leaders and diplomats worldwide, highlighting Pakistan’s active engagement in global legislative relations.

## LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

In the first quarter of 2025, the National Assembly exhibited a commendable and forward-looking legislative performance, underscoring its steadfast commitment to good governance, institutional reform and effective oversight. A notable number of bills were introduced by both government and private members, addressing vital areas including civil service reform, anti-dumping regulations, environmental sustainability and the safeguarding of minority rights. Several important pieces of legislation were successfully passed, notably those aimed at combating human trafficking and enhancing the efficiency

of the judicial system.

A significant portion of the approved legislation received Presidential assent, thus becoming Acts of Parliament, while key ordinances were also laid before the House. Oversight efforts remained vigorous, with an impressive volume of parliamentary questions answered, representing the National Assembly’s ongoing dedication to accountability, transparency and responsiveness to public concerns. The following is an overview of the legislative accomplishments during this period.

### 03 Government Bills Introduced in the National Assembly

S. No	Date	Bill
1.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Civil Servants (Amendment) Bill, 2025
2.	17 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Extradition (Amendment) Bill, 2025
3.	17 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Anti-Dumping Duties (Amendment) Bill, 2025

### 13 Private Member's Bills Introduced in the National Assembly

S. No	Date	Bill
1.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2025
2.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Article 59)
3.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Islamabad (Preservation of Landscape) Bill, 2025
4.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Corporate Social Responsibility Bill, 2025
5.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Islamabad Capital Territory Compulsory Thalassaemia Screening Bill, 2025
6.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Pakistan Environmental Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2025
7.	18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The National Commission for Minorities' Right Bill, 2025
8.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Pakistan Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2025
9.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Anti-Rape (investigation and Trial) (Amendment) Bill, 2025
10.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Al-Biruni International University Bill, 2025
11.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Right of Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2025
12.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Orbit Institute of Management and Technology Bill, 2025
13.	9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025	The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Section 382A and 181)



## 05 Government Bills Passed in the National Assembly

S. No	Date	Bill
1.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Pakistan Coast Guards (Amendment) Bill, 2025
2.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2025
3.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Emigration (Amendment) Bill, 2025
4.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Prevention of Smuggling of Migrants (Amendment) Bill, 2025
5.	17 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (Amendment) Bill, 2025

## 01 Private Member's Bill Passed in the National Assembly

S. No	Date	Bill
1.	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Members of Parliament (Salaries and Allowances) (Amendment) Bill, 2025

## 07 Acts of Parliament

S. No	Date	Acts
1.	13 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Trade Organizations (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. IV of 2025)
2.	13 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Import and Export (Control) (Amendment) Act, 2025 (Act No. V of 2025)
3.	16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The National Excellence Institute Act, 2025 (Act No. VII of 2025)
4.	16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The National Institute of Technology Act, 2025 (Act No. VI of 2025)
5.	14 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Emigration (Amendment) Act, 2025 (ACT NO. VIII of 2025)
6.	14 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (Amendment) Act, 2025 (ACT NO. IX of 2025)
7.	14 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Prevention of Smuggling of Migrants (Amendment) Act, 2025 (ACT NO. X of 2025)

## 02 Ordinances Laid in the National Assembly

S. No	Date	Ordinances
1.	10 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025	The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 (Ord. No. X of 2024)
2.	17 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	The Societies Registration (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024

## 13<sup>TH</sup> SESSION (10-02-2025 TO 18-02-2025)

<b>Government Bills/Ordinances:</b>	
Government Bills introduced	1
Ordinance laid	1
Bills transmitted by the Senate	3
Government Bills Passed	5
<b>Private Members' Bills:</b>	
Private Members' Bills introduced	7
Bills transmitted by the Senate	1
Private Members' Bills passed	1
<b>Act</b>	
Government Bills Become Act	--
Private Members' Bills Become Act	
<b>Resolutions:</b>	
Resolutions Received	24
Resolutions Lapsed	14
Resolutions Passed	2
Total Actual Sitting	6
Total Working Days	9

## 14<sup>TH</sup> SESSION DATED 11.03.2025 TO 21-03-2025

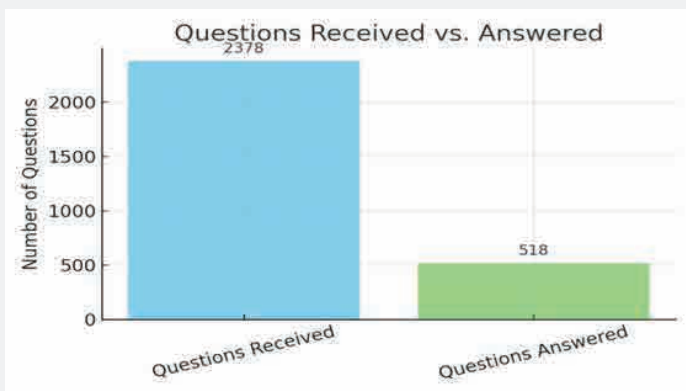
<b>Government Bills/Ordinances:</b>	
Government Bills introduced	02
Ordinance laid	01
Bills transmitted by the Senate	01
Government Bills Passed	--
<b>Private Members' Bills:</b>	
Private Members' Bills introduced	--
Bills transmitted by the Senate	--
Private Members' Bills passed	--
<b>Act</b>	
Government Bills Become Act	03
Private Members' Bills Become Act	
<b>Resolutions:</b>	
Resolutions Received	--
Resolutions Lapsed	--
Resolutions Passed	--
Total Actual Sitting	9
Total Working Days	12



## 15<sup>TH</sup> SESSION DATED 07.04.2025 TO 14-04-2025

<b>Government Bills/Ordinances:</b>	
Government Bills introduced	--
Ordinance laid	--
Bills transmitted by the Senate	--
Government Bills Passed	--
<b>Private Members' Bills:</b>	
Private Members' Bills introduced	06
Bills transmitted by the Senate	--
Private Members' Bills passed	--
<b>Act</b>	
Government Bills Become Act	--
Private Members' Bills Become Act	--
<b>Resolutions:</b>	
Resolutions Received	--
Resolutions Lapsed	--
Resolutions Passed	01
Total Actual Sitting	5
Total Working Days	8

## PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS



Out of 2,378 questions received by the National Assembly Secretariat, 518 were answered after passing through a rigorous vetting process. This reflects the National Assembly's commitment to maintaining standards of relevance and accountability in parliamentary oversight.

## COMMITTEES AT WORK:

### Enhancing Oversight and Legislative Review

During this period, the Standing Committees of the National Assembly remained actively engaged in legislative review, ministerial oversight and National Policy deliberations. Key committees, including Finance,

Education, Interior and Law, played a central role in scrutinizing bills and refining policy, reflecting National Assembly's commitment to informed and accountable lawmaking.

S #	Name of Committee	Chairman/Convener	Meetings held	Bills		
				Referred	Disposed of	Pending
1.	Communications	Mr. Aijaz Hussain Jakrani	03	01	--	01
2.	Climate Change	Ms. Munaza Hassan	03	01	--	01
3.	Commerce	Muhammad Jawad Hanif,	03	01	01	--
4.	Defence	Fateh Ullah Khan	02	--	--	--
5.	Defence Production	Mr. Javaid Iqbal	02	--	--	--
6.	Finance and Revenue	Syed Naveed Qamar	02	02	01	01
7.	Sub-Com-Finance and Revenue	Bilal AzharKahyani				
8.	Federal Education, Professional Training and Culture	Azeem Uddin Zahid Lakhvi	04	03	---	03
9.	Foreign Affairs	Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar	02	--	--	--
10.	Industries and Production	Syed Hafeezuddin	03	--	--	--



11.	Information and Broadcasting	Mr. Pullain	02	--	--	--
12.	Interior and Narcotics	Raja Khuram Shahzad Nawaz	03	06	---	1
13.	Maritime Affairs	Abdul Qadir Patel	01	--	--	--
14.	National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination	Maresh Kumar Malani	05	01	01	--
15.	National Food Security and Research	Syed Hussain Tariq	03	--	--	--
16.	Planning, Development and Special Initiatives	Abdul Qadir Gillani	01	--	--	--
17.	Privatization	Muhammad Farooq Sattar	03	--	--	--
18.	Poverty Alleviation	Mir Ghulam Ali Talpur	02	01	01	--
19.	Railways	Rai Hassan Nawaz Khan	05	--	--	--
20.	Sub Com- Railways	Ramesh Lal				
21.	Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony	Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar	02	01	--	01
22.	Rules of Procedure and Privileges	Mr. Muhammad Afzal	03	02 Matters	--	02
23.	Science and Technology	Khawaja Sheraz Mehmood	02	--	--	--
24.	Economic Affairs Division	Mr. Muhammad Atif	02	--	--	--
25.	Energy (Petroleum Division)	Syed Mustafa Mehmood	03	--	--	--
26.	Energy (Power Division)	Mr. Muhammad Idrees	01	--	1	--
27.	Housing and Works	Moulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri	02	--	--	--
28.	Human Rights	Sahibzada Muhammad Hamid Raza	01	--	--	--
29.	Information Technology and Telecommunication	Syed Amin-ul-Haque	02	--	--	--
30.	Inter Provincial Coordination	Mr. Sana Ullah Khan Mastikhel	01	--	--	--
31.	Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON)	Haji Imtiaz Ahmad Choudhry	02	--	--	--
32.	Law and Justice	Chaudhry Mahmood Bashir Virk	02	02	01	01
33.	Narcotics Control	Malik Shah				
34.	Parliamentary Affairs	Rana Iradat Sharif Khan	03	--	--	--
35.	Water Resources	Mr. Ahmad Atteeq Anwer, MNA	01	--	--	--

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE



PAC Chairman, Mr. Junaid Akbar, chairing a meeting on 23rd April, 2025 at the Parliament House.

The 16th Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was constituted by the House on 17th May 2024, and Mr. Junaid Akbar was elected as its chairman on 24th January 2025.

Since its formation, the Committee has made notable progress. One of the major challenges it has addressed is the backlog of over 36,000 audit paras accumulated over the past 14 years.

To tackle this, four Sub-Committees, including the Monitoring and Implementation (M&I) Sub-Committee, have been established to focus on clearing the backlog.

The PAC also expressed concern over the non-implementation of its decisions and proposed making its directives mandatory for all Principal Accounting Officers (PAOs).

In terms of financial recoveries, the PAC has recovered Rs. 55,963.32 million from January 24th to April 2025, underscoring its commitment to fiscal accountability. It has

raised concerns regarding the timing of scheduled payments and emphasized the need for mid-May projections to facilitate reappropriation within approved budget provisions.

The PAC has also addressed critical financial matters such as the rise in sugar prices, instructing relevant ministries to submit a comprehensive report within seven days.

Furthermore, the Committee took up the issue of non-payment of petroleum levies amounting to Rs. 14.631 billion and summoned stakeholders including NAB, FIA, SECP and OGRA for clarification.

In its oversight of disaster-related funds, the PAC directed the Chairman NDMA to resolve issues related to low-interest investments amounting to Rs. 800.690 million.

It also sought reports on financial discrepancies involving the National Bank of Pakistan and the Canteen Stores Department.



The data pertaining to the PAC's performance from 1st February to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 has been summarized accordingly:-

S#	Name of Committee	Chairman/Convenor	Meetings Held	Discussed Grants	Discussed Paras	Pending Grants	Pending Paras	Recovery
1	PAC	Mr. Junaid Akbar	22	77	350	75	3300	Rs. 55,963.32 million
2	Sub-Committee (M & I)	Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhary	01	0	103	46	3196	Rs. 193.065 million
3	Sub-Committee -I	Ms. Shaida Begum	0	0	0	0	0	—
4	Sub-Committee -II	Syed Naveed Qamar	0	0	0	0	0	—
5	Sub-Committee -III	Malik Aamir Dogar	01	0	70	51	11633	—

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON KASHMIR



President of the Malaysian Consultative Council of Islamic Organization (MAPIM), Haji Mohd Azmi Abd Hamid, called on Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir, Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, on 13th February, 2025 at the Parliament House.

The National Assembly continued to highlight the Kashmir issue through active public outreach and diplomatic engagement. Led by the Special Committee on Kashmir, these efforts reaffirmed Pakistan's firm support for the Kashmiri people and helped raise international awareness of the ongoing human rights violations in the region.

On 5th February 2025, the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir observed Kashmir Solidarity Day with a symbolic walk from Radio Pakistan to D-Chowk, followed by a press talk outside the Parliament House in Islamabad. The event reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support for the Kashmiri people and their right to self-determination.

In a series of diplomatic engagements, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir met with international stakeholders to garner support for the Kashmir cause. On 13th February 2025, the Chairman held meetings with Mr. Haji Mohd Azmi Abd Hamid (Cikgu Azmi), President of the Malaysia Consultative Council of Islamic Organization (MAPIM) and the Honorable Ambassador of Azerbaijan. These discussions focused on deepening international cooperation and highlighting the plight of the Kashmiri people.

Continuing advocacy efforts at the national level, the Chairman addressed a high-level conference titled "An

Affirmation of Pakistan's Resolve to the Kashmir Conflict, Peace and Stability," organized by the Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS) on 27th February 2025 at PC Hotel, Muzaffarabad. The Committee also engaged in meaningful dialogue with the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkiye during a meeting held on 19th March 2025.

On 9th April 2025, the Chairman addressed another important event, the "Kashmir Voice for Justice and Peace" conference organized by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) at Kashmir House. Additionally, the Chairman met with Ambassador Yousef Mohammed S. Aldobeay, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Special Envoy of the OIC Secretary General for Jammu and Kashmir, as part of ongoing diplomatic outreach.

A key meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir was held on 21st April 2025 to discuss the redesigning of Kashmir policy and regional infrastructure, including the development of airports in Mirpur, Muzaffarabad and Rawalakot.

As part of broader political engagement, the Chairman also met with heads and representatives of all political parties in the AJK Assembly on 22nd April 2025 at the Regency Hotel, Mirpur AJK.



## PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

### SDGs Secretariat

» In 25th February 2025, Khushhali Fellowship students visited the Parliament of Pakistan, where the SDGs Secretariat organized a session on Pakistan's progress on SDGs. Chaired by MNA, Romina Khurshid Alam, the session highlighted climate change and the parliamentary role in advancing SDGs.



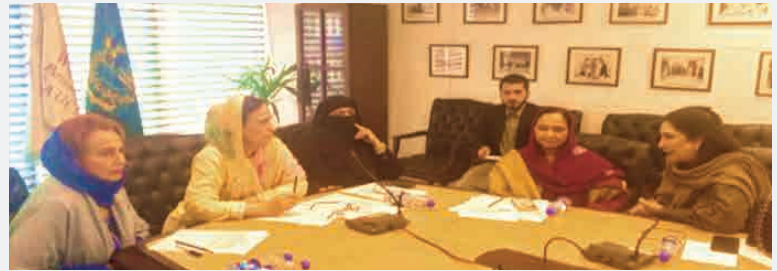
» During the month of March 2025, the SDGs Secretariat and former Convenor Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, MNA, advanced efforts to re-launch the Global Development Initiative (GDI) by proposing the formation of a Parliamentary Working Group on GDI.

» In 15th April, 2025 a briefing session of the SDGs Taskforce, chaired by Convenor Syed Hafeez Uddin, was held at the SDGs Secretariat, where Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UNFAO) experts presented key challenges in restoring the Indus Water Basin. Members reviewed the Living Indus Initiative and emphasized regular updates, public-private partnerships, and practical, financeable interventions.



## WOMEN'S PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS (WPC)

» In February, 2025, the Women's Parliamentary Caucus held meetings of its Working Council and Sub-Committees, focusing on gender-responsive budgeting, the upcoming National Women's Convention, public health risks of trans fats and by-law amendments.



» The National Women's Convention 2025, held on 12th to 13th February at Parliament House, Islamabad, marked a key step in Pakistan's journey towards gender equality. Organized by the Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC), it brought together members from provincial women's caucuses for the first time. Coinciding with National Women's Day, the event celebrated women's contributions to democracy and set a strategic direction for the future through collaborative dialogue.



» On 13th March 2025, the Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) hosted a roundtable at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) on "Women's Right to Health: Eliminating Trans Fats for a Healthier Future." The dialogue emphasized the urgent need for policy reforms to remove partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs) from the food supply, addressing their role in non-communicable diseases like heart disease and diabetes. Parliamentarians and health experts called for legislative action at both the Federal and Provincial levels.



» On 19th March 2025, the WPC, in collaboration with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, hosted a discussion on gender-responsive budgeting for the Federal Budget 2025-26.



The event focused on the gender analysis of the 2023-24 budget, with calls for better budget monitoring, increased women's representation and a "care economy" approach.



## YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS FORUM (YPF)

» In 17th February 2025, YPF President Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar inaugurated the Annual Sports Day at Government Graduate College for Women, Daska. She highlighted how sports promote youth development, provincial cohesion, and democratic values, empowering youth to build a prosperous and peaceful Pakistan.



» On 20th February 2025, YPF, in collaboration with Sialkot Medical College and SFEA, hosted a "Grand Dialogue with Youth on Preventing Polarization and Radicalization" in Daska. The event brought together various stakeholders to discuss societal division and strategies for empowering youth in democratic processes, concluding with a call for policy reforms to combat radicalization and enhance national cohesion.



» On 25th February 2025, students of the Khushhali Fellowship program visited the Parliament of Pakistan and during their visit, Young Parliamentarians Forums (YPF) arranged a comprehensive session on the activities of YPF and role of youth in Nation building process.



» In 24th April, 2025 YPF Coordinator for AJK, Ms. Kiran Imran Dar, met with AJK Speaker Ch. Latif Akbar and YPF President Mr. Hassan Ibrahim. They discussed enhancing youth engagement and strengthening participation in policymaking, with a focus on empowering youth and amplifying their role in shaping national policies.



## PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS ON CHILD RIGHTS (PCCR)

» On 27th February 2025, a PCCR delegation led by MNA, Dr. Nikhat Shakeel visited Tharparkar and Nagarparkar, Sindh, to address the issue of out-of-school children. The Provincial Consultation, hosted by MPA Muhammad Qasim Somro, gathered policymakers and educators to discuss tackling educational disparities and implementing sustainable solutions.



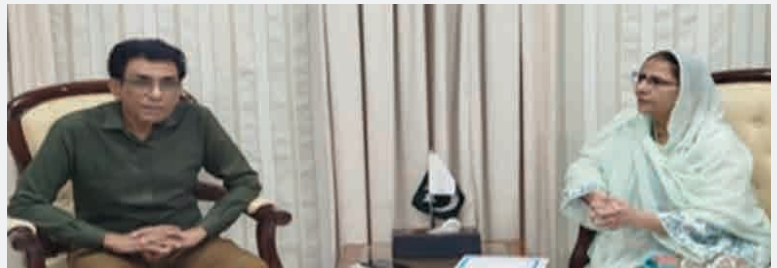
» In 12th April, 2025 the PCCR held two consultations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on out-of-school children (OOSC). On 13th March, a consultation in Haripur brought together government officials, education experts, and civil society to discuss education barriers. On 26th March, a session at the Provincial Assembly of KP focused on strategies for improving access to education, with the aim of informing a national OOSC strategy.



» On 10th April 2025, the PCCR held a virtual consultative session with the Baluchistan Assembly under the National Education Emergency. Parliamentarians, ministers, and education officials discussed coordinated solutions to the province's critical education challenges.



» On 21st April 2025, MNA Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan met with Federal Minister Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui to discuss the Out-of-School Children (OOSC) crisis. She shared outcomes from recent provincial consultations, highlighting the need for region-specific strategies and the impact of poverty, limited access, and weak infrastructure on education.





## PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU) 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 comprehensive 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, 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.

### 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 in January-February 2025 covering important areas of Rules of Procedures, Constitution, legislative and non-legislative business and other important areas.

### Mock Parliament

On 25th February 2025, the National Assembly of Pakistan successfully organized a Mock Parliament session for its interns as part of the Internship Program. The Project Management Unit facilitated and mentored the interns in organizing this moot. Elections for the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Prime Minister

were held and an entire order of the day was followed. This engaging and educational exercise provided young participants with a hands-on experience of parliamentary proceedings, including debates, legislative drafting, and policy discussions. Interns assumed the roles of Members of the National Assembly, cabinet ministers and opposition leaders, gaining valuable insight into the democratic process and legislative responsibilities. The initiative aimed to foster political awareness, critical thinking, and leadership skills among youth, aligning with the National Assembly’s commitment to promoting civic education and parliamentary outreach.

### 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 of 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.

### Three-day workshop on Hansard/Verbatim, April 2025

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the National Assembly took a proactive step towards strengthening parliamentary reporting standards by initiating a specialized training workshop on Verbatim and Hansard reporting. Organized in collaboration with the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), the three-day workshop brought together staff from all relevant branches involved in the preparation and maintenance of parliamentary records. The training focused on enhancing technical skills, ensuring accuracy in transcription and aligning reporting practices with international parliamentary norms. This initiative reflects the PMU’s commitment to capacity building and institutional excellence within the legislative framework.

PICTURE GALLERY



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, with Speakers of Provincial and AJK Assemblies, foreign dignitaries, and officials at the 1st CPA Asia & South-East Asia Regional Conference on 7th February, 2025 in Lahore



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of Launch of Pakistan Women Leaders and Convention on National Women's Day on 12th February, 2025 at Parliament House.



Ambassador of Hungary Mr. Bela Fazekas called on Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on 12th February, 2025 at Parliament House.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq welcoming Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Bahrain Dr. Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musalam on 17th February, 2025 at Parliament House.



Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Bahrain Dr. Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musalam inscribing his remarks in Visitor Book on 17th February, 2025 at Parliament House.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq presided over a meeting with senior officers of the National Assembly Secretariat and the Capital Development Authority (CDA) to discuss the renovation and rehabilitation of the Parliament House on 13th February, 2025.



President of Hungary, Mr. Tamas Sulyok, welcoming the Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Sandor Palace on 28th February, at Budapest, Hungary



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, welcomes President Asif Ali Zardari, on the occasion of the Joint Sitting of Parliament held on March 10, 2025



Hon. Dr. Nafisa Shah, MNA, addresses the IPU-Parliamentary Meeting in New York on March 11, 2025, emphasizing the urgent need for global action on gender parity.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, inaugurates the plantation drive by planting a Magnolia Grandiflora tree on 14th March, 2025 at the Parliament House lawn.



Pakistani Parliamentary delegation, led by Hon. Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Mir Ghulam Mustafa Shah, attends the IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians on 18th March, 2025, in Mexico City.



Hon. Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Syed Mir Ghulam Mustafa Shah, attended the IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians on 18th March, 2025, in Mexico City.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with Members delegates from Harvard University United States of America on 20th March, 2025 at Parliament House.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a meeting with EU Parliamentary delegation led by Mr. Serban Dimitrie Sturdza (ECR Romania) Chair of the Delegation for Relations with Countries of South Asia on 14th April, 2025 at Parliament House.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of the First Annual Overseas Pakistanis Convention 2025 on 14th March, 2025 in Islamabad.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq addressing the participants of Passing out ceremony of the 44th Specialized Diplomatic Course for FSP Officers on 15th March, 2025 in Islamabad.



Hon. Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, welcomes the delegation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) during their visit to the Parliament House on 23rd March, 2025.



Hon. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, meets Secretary General of the Muslim World League, Sheikh Dr. Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, on 27th April, 2025 in Makkah.



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