

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
PRESS RELEASE

Islamabad, 20th August, 2025 13th meeting of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice was held today under the Chairmanship of **Ch. Mahmood Bashir Virk, MNA**, at 02:00 P.M. in the Committee Room, No. 7, Parliament House, Islamabad.

2) The meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd July, 2025, were confirmed by the Committee. Agenda Item No. 2 was deferred. The Committee offered *Fateha* for the departed souls of those who lost their lives in the recent floods in different parts of the country and prayed to Almighty Allah for His mercy and protection in such challenging circumstances across the nation. Then the committee decided to proceed with the agenda.

3) The Committee considered the Bill, **the Whistleblower Protection and Vigilance Commission Bill, 2025 (Government Bill)**. During detailed deliberations, members raised various questions, including the applicability of the proposed law across the country and its permissibility in light of constitutional limits. Members also sought information regarding the performance and data on the implementation of the Public Interest Disclosure Act, 2017, (existing legislation) particularly with reference to sections 8, 9 and 16 thereof. In addition, certain members raised clause-by-clause objections. The Committee, therefore, recommended that all these issues be addressed. The Ministry of Law and Justice requested a fortnight's time and the matter was deferred till next meeting, so that the concerns raised by members may be duly examined in line with international best practices.

4) The Committee considered the Bill "**The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2024**" (Section 54-A) (moved by Ms. Sofia Saeed Shah, MNA). During detailed deliberations, the Ministry of Law and Justice informed the Committee that a comprehensive reform process to amend the civil laws is already in progress at the Ministry. It was further stated that the objectives of the Bill could appropriately be addressed through consultations with the Mover. Accordingly, the Committee decided that the Bill be deferred until such consultation takes place.

5) The Committee did not consider the Bills: "**The Qanun-e-Shahadat (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (Moved by Ms. Shazia Marri, MNA)** and **The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2024**" (Article 25) (moved by Ms. Nafeesa Shah MNA), and deferred the same as requested by the Hon. Movers.

6) The Committee also discussed "**The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2025**" (Article 140-A) (moved by Mr. Muhammad Jawed Hanif Khan, MNA). During detailed deliberations, the Committee observed that, in compliance with its previous directions, letters were issued to the Provincial Governments as well as to the Parliamentary Leaders of all Political Parties, seeking their views on the matter under consideration. However, it was noted with concern that, to date, no response has been received from any Parliamentary Leader. Accordingly, the Committee directed the Secretariat to issue a reminder to the concerned Parliamentary Leaders to proceed further in the matter, and deferred the same till the next meeting.

7) Hon. Members/MNAs Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi, Ms. Kiran Haider, Syed Ali Qasim Gillani, Dr. Nafeesa Shah, Syed Ibrar Ali Shah, Syed Naveed Qamar, Syed Hafeezuddin, Mr. Sohail Sultan, Mr. Ali Muhammad Khan, Mr. Umair Khan Niazi, Sardar Muhammad Latif Khan Khosa, Ms. Aliya Kamran, Ms. Sofia Saeed Shah, Mr. Jawed Hanif Khan, Minister of State for Law and Justice and officers from the ministry along with relevant staff attended the meeting.


(TAHIR FAROOQ)

Draftsman/Secretary Committee

J.S.C

✓ Director General (I.T)
Director General (Media)