



## **13th National Assembly of Pakistan**

### **17th Session Roundup**

November 02-16, 2009

**The National Assembly of Pakistan**

**17<sup>th</sup> Session Roundup**

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## **Overview**

The 17th session of the 13th National Assembly took place between November 02-16, 2009. The session lasted 15 days though actual sittings were held only for 11 days. The House met for an average of 2 hours 44 minutes everyday. The Assembly passed 1 bill and approved 1 ordinance that dates back to 2007.

The session, which does not have a lot to offer overall in terms of legislative achievements, brings forth a strange mix of lessons both of the triumph of citizens' will and views and the defeat of citizens' rights as consumers as protected by existing legislation.

In the previous session, 27 Ordinances dating back to 2007 were tabled before the National Assembly and referred to various Standing Committees. Amongst them was the highly contentious National Reconciliation Ordinance (NRO), as well as the Competition Commission Ordinance, both of which became significant issues in this session. Ultimately the NRO was withdrawn, when it became clear that the Government's allies would not support it. It is interesting to note that even though the NRO has been and continues to remain critical for the ruling PPP and especially for the person of the President Mr. Asif Ali Zardari who is considered the key beneficiary of the NRO, the Assembly could not undertake the passage of the NRO due to severe public criticism and pressure against it. The near unanimous public disapproval of the NRO forced key allies of the government, chiefly the MQM, to publicly announce they would not support the passage of the NRO in the Parliament. Can this be heralded as a victory for the citizens that their negative view of a very critical piece of legislation forced the government to withdraw it from the Parliament? However, the Government, which had expressed its willingness to produce a list of beneficiaries of the National Reconciliation Ordinance (NRO) in the National Assembly during the session on November 05, 2009, failed to do so till the session was prorogued on November 16, 2009.

Another noteworthy case is that of the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) whose very existence and its decisions remain at risk unless the National Assembly passes the ordinance before November 28 or the President re-promulgates it. The Competition Commission Ordinance 2007 although was approved without any amendment by the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance on November 12 and forwarded to the Assembly, in a rather strange move, it was sent back to the Committee for further review by the National Assembly Speaker Dr. Fehmida Mirza. The Commission's Chairman has accused "*certain lobbies and business tycoons .. against the validation of the*

*ordinance*” because of which the ordinance is said to have not been approved in the session. The current Chairman of the Commission Mr. Khalid Mirza was first rather unceremoniously removed by the Prime Minister from his post in September 2009 which was largely seen as a result of his imposition of a multi-billion rupees fine on cement manufacturers due to cartelisation resulting in hike of cement prices to the disadvantage of consumers, issuance of a show cause notice to the Pakistan Steel Mills and to Pakistan Banks Association and his views on the Ministry of Industries' alleged complicity with the sugar mills association. Although he was reinstated by the Prime Minister within the same week following critical media comments, the failure of the government not to get the ordinance passed by the Assembly now is being seen as a deliberate effort to kill the Commission itself. Interestingly, the media has reported reservations on the ordinance from major parties in the Parliament which are seen to be coming from parliamentary leaders from across the aisles who own mills mainly the ones producing sugar that have been the focus of CCP's investigation and warnings lately. The case of the handling of the Competition Commission ordinance would strengthen the public perception that parliamentary leaders, despite political differences, join hands when their personal interests are threatened. If the Competition Commission Ordinance is allowed to lapse and the Competition Commission made to die, it will be a major blow to public confidence in the Parliament.

The Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms, that comprises all political parties represented in the Parliament, held 5 meetings during the 17th session. The committee which was constituted in June 2009 to develop consensus on critical constitutional reforms, chiefly the 17th Amendment, has not officially reported back to the Parliament on its proposed reforms despite a period of nearly 5 months and over 25 meetings. Although the committee has not provided any official deadline for the completion of its work, media reports during the period suggest the committee may not be able to conclude its recommendations before March 2010.

Another crucial committee, the Parliamentary Committee on National Security, also chaired by Senator Raza Rabbani, held a meeting on November 3, 2009 that, according to media reports, had been called to review the situation after the return of displaced people to Swat and Malakand and to urge the government to complete payment of compensation to the IDPs. The Committee, which was formed back in November 2008, holds only in-camera sittings and despite the span of one year, the public and the media remain uninformed about the number of meetings the committee has held, details of its deliberations, or the nature of

the oversight role it has performed vis-à-vis the government over one of the gravest challenges Pakistan faces today in the realm of national security.

The eleven working days of the session covered the on-going military efforts in the South Waziristan Agency and several serious terrorist outrages across the country, along with the shooting of an alleged suicide attacker within Islamabad. The issue of security and foreigners was also a heated topic, after the two reported incidents involving foreign diplomatic staff being apprehended carrying weapons. Four days of the session were taken up, in part, with discussions over law and order, although the session was prorogued before the debate closed.

The economic situation also came under discussion with the announcement by the Cabinet of gas rationing to businesses in order to preserve domestic supply over the winter months. The Government once again was seen to be backpedalling on one its publicly-announced decisions of planned closure of CNG stations for two days from November 15 in the face of the strike by the All Pakistan CNG Association. Widespread sugar shortages also became issues of concern with sugar being unavailable in Rawalpindi, Karachi and other cities and the Government announced increased imports and subsidised sale through Utility Stores.

The session coincided with elections to the first Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly, which resulted in victory for the PPP and allegations of vote rigging by opposition parties.

A synopsis of the events of each day of the session is given below. This summary was prepared prior to the transcripts of the National Assembly session becoming available. The account of events is based upon press reporting and other reports relating to the business of the session, along with information made available by the National Assembly's website.

## **Legislative Roundup**

The 17th session of the 13th National Assembly passed only 1 bill out of 9 government-introduced bills during the session which indicates only 11 % efficiency. 1 ordinance that dates back to 2007 was also passed in the session.

In the total 17 sessions of the 13th National Assembly, only 19 bills have been passed, an average of 1.11 per cent per session. This brings the legislative efficiency of the National Assembly to 22 % or that the government was able to get only about 1 out of 5 bills passed so far.

These 19 passed legislations also include 2 private members bills and 1 ordinance. Therefore, out of a total of eighty seven (87) government bills that have so far been introduced in the House, only 16 have been passed. The Government's legislative efficiency in the National Assembly stands at 18.39 per cent or in other words the government was able to get only 1 bill passed out of over 5 (5.43) bills introduced in the 13th National Assembly so far.

A total of eighty one (81) private members bills (an average of 4.76 per session), reflecting the active interest of non-treasury members, have so far been introduced in the House. A total of eight (8) ordinances, seven (7) dating back to 2007, following the July 2009 judgement of the Supreme Court, and one (1) ordinance of 2009, have been laid in the House.

## **Background**

To set the business of the session in context it is necessary to understand the events taking place before and during the session.

Before the session began there was much media speculation regarding the National Reconciliation Ordinance (NRO), tabled by the Government on the last day of the previous session. The issue of the NRO has been seen as politically divisive and the treasury would have required the support of other coalition parties in order to get it passed through the assembly. Prior to the session, it became clear that a number of parties, including the MQM, would not lend support to the passage of the NRO in the National Assembly. Doubts over the NRO's fate remained for most of the session, until its ultimate withdrawal.

During the session the security situation within Pakistan continued to deteriorate with almost daily attacks across the north of the country. The worst attack occurred just before the session opened, on October 28, when a car bomb was detonated in a crowded market in Peshawar, killing at least 137 people. Several schools remained closed around the country, as new security requirements were put in place for educational institutions after the targeting of the International Islamic University in Islamabad.

The military operation in the South Waziristan Agency also continued, with the army claiming steady progress in disrupting and dislodging militants. Whilst the tone of the media remained broadly supportive of the action, the international community expressed some doubts as to whether the action would be effective in the long term. Domestic concern also grew as to the extent to which decisions about security were being taken with international considerations in mind. Public concern over rumours of an American presence, through the security company, Blackwater (now known as Xe) was frequently voiced in the media and the Assembly.

The instability in the surrounding region continued, with allegations of widespread fraud in the Afghan Presidential elections, resulting in a run-off being announced between Mr. Hamid Karzai and Mr. Abdullah Abdullah. Mr Abdullah ultimately withdrew, citing a lack of confidence in Afghanistan's electoral commission and Mr. Karzai took office in circumstances which left much of the international community concerned about the credibility of the elections.

At home, the onset of winter saw pressure on the energy sector. After a summer of electricity load shedding, predications were made of gas shortages in Islamabad Capital Territory, Punjab and NWFP. The announcement by the Government of restrictions on the gas supply to commercial users and CNG stations for two days per week across Punjab and NWFP led to protests and the announcement of a strike by the All Pakistan CNG Association. The strike was ultimately averted following talks between the Minister for Petroleum and the Association. Additionally, a crisis arose in the supply of sugar, with prices increasing dramatically and supply drying up in several areas of the country. Whilst the Prime Minister instituted a ban on sugar being served in Prime Minister's House, Governments efforts to deal with the supply crisis were widely seen as ineffective. The intervention of the judiciary, when the Lahore High Court stepped in to set prices, was in contrast to what appeared to be the inability of Parliament to effectively control the situation.

## **Summary of the Daily Sittings**

### **Sitting 1: Monday, November 2, 2009:**

The Orders of the Day listed two call attention notices: multiple issuance of mobile telephone SIM cards and ill-planned construction in Zone-IV, Islamabad, along with the laying of four ordinances dating back to 2007, and introduction of legislative business by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs for the passage of the Protection against Harassment at the Workplace Bill, 2009. However, part of the sitting was disrupted by a combined walkout conducted by the PML-N and the PML over the NRO. FATA members also staged a walk out over the sugar crisis.

The most significant developments occurred outside the session, with the Prime Minister meeting with representatives of the ANP, the JUI and the MQM to gauge their views on the NRO. It appeared from various comments made by various parties to the press prior to the meeting that these parties would not support the NRO, whilst the ANP was still in the process of formulating its position. It therefore appeared clear that the Government would not be in a position to successfully present the NRO to the Assembly.

Discussions relating to the NRO took up much of the day. The Prime Minister indicated to the House that it was not appropriate to bring the NRO to the House without consensus. Meanwhile, Ms. Fauzia Wahab, Chair of the Finance Committee, indicated that the NRO would be tabled during the session. The Leader of the Opposition, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, sought to challenge the composition of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice that had approved the Ordinance.

Four (4) Ordinances were laid by Law Minister Senator Babar Awan including the Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority Ordinance, the DHA Authority Islamabad Ordinance, the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (Amendment) Ordinance and the National Command Ordinance, all dating back to 2007.

Other issues that arose related to the announcement of a new population policy by 2010, the regulation of homeopathic medicines and training and the pricing of conventional medicines. Allegations of corruption over medicine licensing were raised and the PML-N called for an inquiry into “undue concessions” granted to foreign pharmaceutical companies.

In a move which was later to prove controversial, the Standing Committee on Information recommended the incorporation of the Media Ordinance, placing

restrictions on the media's ability to report, be incorporated into the powers of the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA).

**Sitting 2: Tuesday November 3, 2009: Private Members' Day**

The Orders of the Day carried a range of parliamentary business including two call attention notices, the introduction of two Private Members' Bills, several motions for leave to amend the Rules of Business, two partially discussed resolutions, five proposed resolutions, five proposed Rule 259 motions, a resolution to disapprove the NRO and two rule 87 discussions. However, much of the day was taken up with discussions over the NRO. The Prime Minister termed the Ordinance a "non-issue" and indicated that his view was to let the courts decide the issue of its effects.

There was also discussion of the possibility of former President Musharraf standing trial under Article 6 of the Constitution. Ms. Marvi Memon unsuccessfully attempted to raise a resolution condemning the Kerry Lugar Bill.

The Standing Committee on Finance approved two measures, the Banking Companies Ordinance and the Anti Money Laundering Bill. This latter measure is required to satisfy the international financial community of Pakistan's commitments on money laundering and to avert Pakistan being declared "high risk" in terms of financial security.

The Standing Committee on Law and Justice approved a further draft of the Holders of Public Offices (Accountability) Bill, which controversially replaces the NAB with a new body and narrows the scope of the accountability provisions.

**Sitting 3: Wednesday November 4, 2009:**

The Orders of the Day listed two call attention notices and the introduction of the legislative business by the Minister of State for Law and Justice for the passage of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2009.

The day resulted in the Assembly passing the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill 2009, which redefines sexual harassment to give additional protection for women in public and the workplace, by amending section 509 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC). Penalties for harassment of a sexual nature are a maximum 3 years' imprisonment and a Rs. 500,000 fine. The bill was originally moved by Ms. Sherry Rehman, MNA when she held the additional portfolio of Ministry of Women's Development. Although the House passed the bill unanimously, some members across party lines expressed reservations and concern over its possible misuse, while others called for proper implementation.

Senator Babar Awan indicated to the House that the NRO stood withdrawn, although speculation continued that the Government would attempt to push forward with the Ordinance if a way could be found to attract support.

However, again the main developments of the day took place outside the House, with a cabinet meeting taking place to discuss the economic and power situation. The cabinet approved a Gas Load Management Plan, that will see gas supply in Punjab and NWFP suspended for two days per week on a rotating basis to preserve gas for domestic use. The government announced that the suspension will affect CNG stations and industrial users for a five month period from November 15, 2009 to March 15, 2010. The cabinet also approved a sugar policy, requiring the import of sugar to supplement domestic supply and a paddy policy.

#### **Sitting 4: Thursday November 5, 2009**

The Orders of the Day listed two calling attention notices; introduction of a legislative business by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to make provision for the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Bill, 2009 as reported by the Standing Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication and the passage of the bill by the House, and a Rule 259 motion to discuss the law and order situation in the country.

The NRO issue, however, returned, with requests for a list of beneficiaries of the Ordinance and a PML-N call for a committee to investigate cases. Senator Babar Awan indicated that the Government was ready to table a list of beneficiaries, although this was not done and still remained outstanding at the end of the session.

The Prime Minister made a series of announcements on legislative business. He directed the Information Ministry to reject the report of the Standing Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication which recommended the adoption of the Media Ordinance into PEMRA powers, setting out that the Government did not wish to adopt a measure curbing the freedom of the media. He called on the Standing Committee on Law and Justice to further review the accountability provisions contained in the Holders of the Public Offices (Accountability) Bill, in the light of concerns expressed by various MNAs. He also requested that the Ministries of Parliamentary Affairs and Interior withdraw the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Ordinance 2007 and refer it again to the Standing Committee for further discussion.

The Minister of State for Finance, Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, announced that Pakistan would receive US \$1.6 billion from the Friends of Democratic Pakistan, the largest amounts coming from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Japan and the US.

The Standing Committee on Finance refused to approve the Competition Commission Ordinance and Industrial Development Bank of Pakistan (Reorganisation and Conversion) Ordinance without having sufficient time to consider both in detail. Consideration of both Ordinances was deferred to the committee's next meeting.

**Sitting 5: Friday November 6, 2009:**

The Orders of the Day contained the legislative business for the passage of the The Public Defender and Legal Aid Office Bill, 2009, two calling attention notices dealing with theft in utility stores and minor children prisoners in Adiala Jail.

During the Question Hour the Government failed to answer thirteen (13) of the questions posed. The Assembly deferred the Public Defender and Legal Aid Office Bill 2009 in the face of opposition from both the PML-N and the PML, who had concerns regarding provincial autonomy. The bill was referred back to the Standing Committee on Law and Justice for further consideration.

The House was updated on the status of Dr. Aafia Siddiqui. The House was also informed about the losses incurred through theft at the Utility Stores Corporation during the financial year that stood at Rs. 90 million.

The PML announced its intention to table a bill in response to the Kerry Lugar provisions, requiring the President to annually certify that there had been no breach of sovereignty or nuclear security.

The Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms indicated that it was close to reaching consensus on abolition of the concurrent list (which sets out matters which are within the remit of the federal and provincial authorities).

Elsewhere President Zardari indicated that the Government would repeal all controversial clauses in the constitution before March 2010. This was widely taken to refer to the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment and Article 58(2) b, which allocates the power to the President at present to dissolve the Assembly.

**Sitting 6: Saturday November 7, 2009:**

The House sat on Saturday due to the holiday on the following Monday. The Orders of the Day carried a Calling Attention Notice regarding affairs of the

Pakistan Mint Lahore; release of less than due funds for development projects during the first quarter of the financial year, and a report of the Rules of Procedure and Privileges Committee on a question of privilege.

Attendance was poor, particularly amongst Government Ministers. Whilst the Prime Minister attended, the absence of both the Interior and Foreign Ministers was noted by the MNAs and the press.

The sitting continued the debate on law and order, with the Prime Minister highlighting further commitments to the IDPs in Malakand and South Waziristan. The PML raised issues of militancy in Punjab, which should not be ignored. The Federal Defence Minister announced PIA's cumulative losses that stand at Rs. 76.54 billion. No legislative business was conducted.

**Sitting 6: Tuesday November 10, 2009: Private Members' Day:**

The sitting took place following the publication of various inflammatory and critical remarks regarding President Zardari made by former President Musharraf in London. The Leader of the Opposition was critical of former President Musharraf's comments. He went on to raise the status of the NRO cases following the lapse of the NRO and also questioned why the Government had failed to put the latest draft of the accountability provisions before the House.

The Opposition also raised the issue of poor security and the current law and order position. The Interior Minister Senator Rehman Malik addressed the House on the law and order issue, discussing the Government's attempts to build capacity amongst the law enforcement agencies.

The Prime Minister called for "firm resolve" in the face of the various security issues. He also indicated that national resources would be mobilised to assist the NWFP. He issued a directive to halt the recovery of loans in Malakand and indicated that the Government was considering the formulation of a special package to assist with agriculture, business and industry.

In terms of legislative business, a private member's bill, The Competition (Amendment) Act 2009 was laid by Sheikh Waqqas Akram, Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada, Dr Donya Aziz and Mr. Humayun Saifullah Khan. Four bills seeking to amend the rules of procedures were deferred.

Senator Babar Awan announced the prosecution of cell phone companies distributing messages and adverts and also the arrival of closed circuit television

and scanners for use at airports and on major roads. He also indicated to the House that should the courts issue warrants in relation to former President Musharraf, the Government would execute those warrants.

Various financial announcements were made, including the Government's intention to reduce inflation to single figures by the end of the year and the failure of the Friends of Democratic Pakistan to realise pledges of US \$ 45.2 billion for development.

The Standing Committee on Defence reported on the National Command Authority Bill 2009 (the draft of which lists the President as chairman and the Prime Minister as vice chairman) which was tabled for presentation to the House on the following day.

The Standing Committee on Health approved the Transplant of Human Organs and Tissues Bill 2009, designed to ensure the regulation of transplants in Pakistan.

**Sitting 7: Wednesday November 11, 2009:**

The day's sitting took place as voting began in the first elections to the newly created Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly. Additionally, overnight, allegations of "kickbacks" allegedly paid to President Zardari over a 1994 submarine deal with the French and the suggestion that he had been implicated in the deaths of French engineers in a bomb explosion in Karachi were published in the French press. The Government sought to rebut these allegations, pointing out that they had been made previously, been investigated and not pursued.

The Orders of the Day carried a total of 27 items including questions, only five of which were dealt with during the day.

During the sitting the PML-N staged a short token walk out to protest against the delay in the Government tabling the accountability provisions in the Holders of Public Offices (Accountability) Bill. A further walkout occurred in relation to paddy policy.

Further financial matters were discussed, with the Assembly being informed that Pakistan had received US \$174 million following the lifting of the suspension of payments by the US of budgetary support. US \$50 million had been received from the Asian Development Bank, US \$300 million from Saudi Arabia and US \$10 million from Turkey. In total, the house was told, Pakistan had received US \$450 million from the Friends of Democratic Pakistan in 2009-2010.

The Interior Minister Senator Rehman Malik, announced the arrests of suspects in the bombings of the World Food Programme office and International Islamic University in Islamabad. He informed the House that there had been 80 blasts so far since the beginning of 2009.

The Standing Committee on Finance approved the Competition Commission Ordinance, 2007 and the Defence Committee tabled its report on the National Command Authority Bill 2009.

**Sitting 8: Thursday November 12, 2009:**

The sitting took place against a background of allegations of vote rigging in the Gilgit-Baltistan elections made by various monitoring organisations and political parties. Additionally, a strike called by the All Pakistan CNG Association was called in response to the Government's Gas Load Management Plan. The strike was postponed when the Petroleum Minister offered talks with the Association.

Unusually the House completed majority of the business on its agenda in this sitting, despite proceedings being suspended for lack of Quorum on one occasion and a threatened suspension later for the same reason.

The Assembly approved the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 2009 and the Minister of Law and Justice laid the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill. Three Ordinances were laid including the Alternative Energy Development Board Ordinance 2007, the Dawood College of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Ordinance, 2007 and the Pakistan Army (Amendment) Ordinance 2007.

The debate on the law and order situation in the country continued. The Government announced the extension of the sitting to allow it to present a package of measures on Balochistan to the House.

Outside Parliament, the Prime Minister met with Mr. Nawaz Sharif to discuss constitutional issues and the situation in Balochistan. The National Accountability Bureau issued a list of 62 beneficiaries of the NRO, including 13 politicians.

**Sitting 09: Friday November 13: 2009:**

The sitting was marked by further allegations of vote rigging and a walk out staged by the PML-N and PML over the issue.

The Speaker confirmed her consent to the formal withdrawal of the NRO. The Prime Minister confirmed to the House that a list of NRO beneficiaries would be prepared and presented to the House.

The issue of law and order continued to be debated, with the Leader of the Opposition raising concerns over the shooting of an alleged suicide bomber at a check point in Islamabad, which he termed as an “extra-judicial killing.” The issue of foreigners carrying arms in the capital and elsewhere was raised, with the Interior Minister clarifying that no foreigner was permitted to carry weapons without a licence. He also stated that contrary to much media speculation, Blackwater (now known as Xe) were not operating in Pakistan, although an American security contractor, Dyn Corp were permitted to provide security to US personnel.

The Interior Minister also gave the House details of rape statistics, setting out that between 2007-2009 a total of 7,546 rapes had been reported in the country.

Outside the House, the All Pakistan CNG Association called off its strike following talks with the Petroleum Minister who announced that the planned closure of CNG stations for two days would not start from November 15, 2009 as approved and announced earlier by the Federal Cabinet.

**Sitting 10: Monday November 16, 2009:**

The session ended abruptly with the unexpected proroguing of the Assembly.

The debate on law and order continued, though not formally concluded, with the Prime Minister making clear that there was no possibility of dialogue with those terrorising the country, whom he termed “savages.” He stated that the Government was committed to completing military action in South Waziristan and gave a Rs 2.5 billion commitment to the rehabilitation of Malakand and IDPs. He announced the establishment of a trust fund to benefit FATA, Malakand and Balochistan. He denied that there was no plan to fill the power vacuum left in the wake of military action, stating that there was a road map to make the area a model for development.

The Minister for Industries and Production addressed the House on the sugar crisis in response to a call to attention notice, denying that the shortages had been caused by inefficiency and corruption and instead blamed hoarding and dual rates for sugar in the market. He set out a plan to import 70,000 tonnes of sugar to be sold at subsidised prices through the Utilities Stores. He also pledged action against hoarders and profiteers.

In legislative terms, the Competition Ordinance was sent back to the Finance Committee despite it being approved unanimously in the Committee. A single ordinance, the Benazir Income Support Programme Ordinance 2009 was also laid.

The National Command Authority Bill, 2009 was deferred when it became clear that it was unlikely the draft would be passed, as objections to the President being named as Chairman of the Authority emerged. Some sections of the media reported that the lack of consensus on the legislation seems the likely cause for the abrupt closure of the session.

*Appendix A*

## The Session at a Glance

### Legislation

1. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2009
2. The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Ordinance, 2007

<b>Punctuality &amp; Working Hours</b>	<b>Session 17</b>
Total No. of Days the Session Lasted	15
Actual No. of Days the House Met	11
Total No. of Hours the House Met	27 hours and 10 minutes
Average No. of Hours per work Day	02 hours and 44 minutes

### Performance during the Session

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Session 17</b>
Total Questions Received	1005
Total Questions Answered	362
Total Questions Disallowed	111
<b>Motions</b>	
Total Motion Received	07
Total Motion Discussed	01
<b>Calling Attention Notices</b>	
Total Calling Attention Notices Received	116
Statements Made on	14
<b>Privilege Motions</b>	
Total Questions of Privileges Received	07
Brought before the House	02
Referred to the Privileges Committee	02
<b>Adjournment Motions</b>	
Total Adjournment Motions Received	33

*The PILDAT Session Roundup*  
*17<sup>th</sup> Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan*

Brought before the House	10
Admitted for Two Hours Discussion	10
Discussed for Two Hours	00
Converted into Motion and Discussed	10
<b>Motions Under Rule 259</b> (Motion that Policy, Situation, Statement or any other matter be taken into consideration)	
Total Motions Received under Rule 259	67
Total Motions Admitted	45
Total Motions Discussed in the House	01
<b>Resolutions</b>	
Total Resolutions Received	74
Total Resolutions Admitted	42
Total Resolutions Passed	01
<b>Government Bills and Ordinances Introduced or Laid</b>	
Total Government Bills Introduced	09
Total Ordinances Laid	08
Bills Passed	02
Bills Withdrawn	02
Bills Pending	71
<b>Private Members Bills</b>	
Private Members' Bills Received	01
Bills Admitted	00
Bills Introduced	01

*Appendix B*

**Bills Passed by the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly in 17 Sessions**

1. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2009
2. The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Ordinance, 2007
3. The Federal Board of Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2009
4. The Modaraba Companies and Modaraba (Floatation and Control) (Amendment) Act, 2009
5. The NFC Institute of Engineering and Technology Multan Act, 2009
6. The Stock Exchanges (Corporatisation, Demutualization and Integration) Act, 2008
7. The Family Courts (Amendment) Act, 2008
8. The Guardians and Wards (Amendment) Act, 2008
9. The Election Law (Amendment) Bill, 2009
10. The Cotton Standardization (Amendment) Act, 2008
11. The Anti-Dumping Duties (Amendment) Act, 2008
12. The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2008
13. The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2009
14. The Rulers of Acceding States (Abolition of Privy Purses and Privileges) (Amendment) Act, 2008
15. The Finance Bill 2009
16. The Industrial Relations Bill, 2008
17. The Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services Act, 2008
18. The Pakistan International Airline Corporation (Suspension of Trade Unions and Existing Agreements) Order (Repeal) Act, 2008
19. The Finance Bill 2008

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17<sup>th</sup> Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan*



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