



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

National Assembly and
Senate of Pakistan passed a
Resolution expressing
solidarity with flood victims
Page 1

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Federal Budget FY 2022-23
Demand for grants and
appropriations
Page 03

PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES

Urban management and
governance-An Islamic
Perspective
Page 12

PARLIAMENTARY ROUND TABLE

Women Empowerment:
as case study of inheritance
laws of Punjab
Page 16

World Leaders' Statements
on floods in Pakistan
Page 21

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Editorial

Honourable Members of Parliament and Dear Readers,

The month of September saw the National Assembly of Pakistan jointly organizing the Third Regional Seminar for Asia Pacific on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (September 13-16, 2022) with the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU). As per its tradition, the team Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) contributed to deliver essential technical assistance for MPs and delegates of the conference. The IPU President Mr. Duarte Pacheco, who has been a Member of Parliament in Portugal since 1991, also visited PIPS on September 12, 2022 and eulogized the professionalism, imperative services and team work of the Institute. Team PIPS held an absorbing Roundtable for Hon Members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab on September 22, 2022 at Lahore in close cooperation with the Mustehkam Parlmaan EU-GIZ-PIPS Project in addition to a one-day International Conference for Researchers and experts on Urban Development and Governance — Islamic Perspectives, held on September 29, attended by 150 delegates from across Pakistan. PIPS organized the event in collaboration of the Ripah International University as part of its pro-moting parliamentary studies initiative. Parliamentary experts, academicians, scholars and researchers from the National Parliament, PIPS and universities all over Pakistan as well as Malaysia read papers on the theme and participated in the plenaries and three breakout sessions. (see Reports) This September, 2022 issue of the new-look PIPS Parliamentary Research Digest covers Resolutions by the Parliament of Pakistan on the floods, the reports and way forward suggested in the above roundtable and seminar, statements given by world leaders on recent floods caused by global climate change, in addition to demands for Grants and appropriations Federal Budget 2022-23. We take the opportunity to express our gratitude to the Hon. Members of Parliament from all Houses for their immense appreciation of the research-based technical and knowledge-sharing initiatives undertaken by Team PIPS.

A blissful month of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) - Rabi ul Awwal to all in October, 2022!

Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka
Director General (Research)



Honorable Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan/ President PIPS BoG,
Raja Pervaiz Ashraf in a group photo with participants of 3rd IPU Regional Seminar
on SDGs for the Asia-Pacific Group at Parliament House, September 13, 2022

Glimpses of Parliamentary Roundtable on Women Empowerment: A Case Study of Inheritance Laws for Honourable Members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab, September 22, 2022



PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

National Assembly of Pakistan passed a resolution expressing solidarity with flood victims

قرارداد

یہ ایوان ملک بھر میں حالیہ سیلاب سے متاثرہ لوگوں کے ساتھ بھرپور حمایت کا اظہار کرتا ہے اس میں ہونے والے جانی و مالی نقصان پر افسوس کا اظہار کرتا ہے اور مطالبہ کرتا ہے کہ وفاقی حکومت متاثرہ لوگوں کے لیے ریسکیو اور امدادی پہنچ اپنانے کے لئے صوبائی حکومت کے تعاون سے بھرپور اقدامات کرے اور ریلیف کے کاموں میں متعلقہ اراکین قومی اسمبلی کو بھی شامل کیا جائے۔ یہ ایوان یہ مطالبہ بھی کرتا ہے کہ وفاقی حکومت بلوچستان کے متاثرہ علاقوں کو آفت زدہ قرار دے اور اس ضمن میں ضروری اقدامات کرے۔

دستخط:-

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محمد انور

شکیلہ لقمان

شمس النساء

اراکین، قومی اسمبلی

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Senate of Pakistan passed a resolution expressing solidarity with flood victims

**RESOLUTION NO. 526**

The Senate of Pakistan shows sympathy with the bereaved families of the persons who have lost their lives in the recent floods in the country especially in Balochistan. The House also shows solidarity with the persons affected by the floods this year and assured its full support to them.

"The House is of the view that almost ninety percent infrastructure in Balochistan has been damaged due to floods. The economy of that province has been affected badly. A lot of loss has been caused to the agriculture.

The House is of the opinion that the amount of compensation announced by the Government for the bereaved families of the persons who have lost their lives and for those who have suffered losses due to the said calamity is insufficient.

The House appreciates the activities of the armed forces for rescue and rehabilitation of affected persons. The House also appreciates the services being provided by them relating to health facilities and provision of food in the affected areas.

This House recommends that agriculture loans outstanding against the farmers of Balochistan should be waived off. They should also be provided financial support to enable them to grow crops in the next season. The Government should announce a special package for Balochistan in order to reconstruct the infrastructure and revival of economy.

The House recommends that the amount of compensation announced by the Government should be enhance in order to mitigate the sufferings of the affected persons. The House also recommends that immediate steps should be taken for earlier rehabilitation of the affected persons and provision of all necessities of life to them till the situation becomes normal."

Moved by Senator Sana Jamali, on her behalf, and on behalf of Senator's Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Faisal Saleem Rehman, Muhammad Tahir Bizinjo, Keshoo Bai, Syed Shibli Faraz, Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Azam Nazeer Tarar, Kauda Babar, Muhammad Akram, Mushtaq Ahmed, Muhammad Azam Khan Swati, Naseema Ehsan, Danesh Kumar, Rana Maqbool Ahmad, Muhammad Qasim, Haji Hidayatullah Khan, Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan, Abida Muhammad Azeem, Bahramand Khan Tangi, Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen, Rana Mahmood UI Hassan, Khalida Sikandar Mandhro, Khalida Ateeb, passed by the Senate of Pakistan Monday, the 1st August, 2022.

Federal Budget 2022-23 - Demands for Grants and Appropriations As Approved by National Assembly

Compiled by
Muhammad Adnan Azeem
Assistant Economic Advisor,
Finance Division

1. Statistical Analysis of Charged Expenditure:

S. No.	Ministries / Divisions	Budget Estimates Financial Year 2021-22 (in PKR Millions)	Budget Estimates Financial Year 2022-23 (in PKR Millions)	% Wise Increase/ Decrease with Prev. FY Original Estimates	Vertical Allocation to each head as of Total Charged 2021-22	Vertical Allocation to each head as of Total Charged 2022-23
1	Pakistan Post Office Department	20	10	-50%	0.00008%	0.00004%
2	Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	3,480	3,458	-1%	0.01315%	0.01240%
3	Grants, Subsidies and Misc. Expenditure	19,250	22,000	14%	0.07275%	0.07889%
4	Foreign Missions	47	50	7%	0.00018%	0.00018%
5	Law and Justice Division	297	312	5%	0.00112%	0.00112%
6	National Assembly	2,386	2,708	13%	0.00902%	0.00971%
7	The Senate	2,199	2,349	7%	0.00831%	0.00842%
8	External Development Loans and Advances by the Federal Government	237,850	296,877	25%	0.89889%	1.06459%
9	Staff, Household and Allowances of the President (Personal)	405	411	1%	0.00153%	0.00147%
10	Staff, Household and Allowances of the President (Public)	615	645	5%	0.00232%	0.00231%
11	Servicing of Foreign Debt	302,506	510,972	69%	1.14324%	1.83234%
12	Foreign Loans Repayment	1,427,592	3,792,401	166%	5.39519%	13.59948%
13	Repayment of Short Term Foreign Credits	74,405	142,772	92%	0.28119%	0.51198%
14	Audit	5,953	6,096	2%	0.02250%	0.02186%

15	Servicing of Domestic Debt	2,757,176	3,439,090	25%	10.41999%	12.33251%
16	Repayment of Domestic Debt	21,617,347	19,654,368	-9%	81.69685%	70.48020%
17	Supreme Court	2,810	3,091	10%	0.01062%	0.01108%
18	Islamabad High Court	1,086	1,122	3%	0.00410%	0.00402%
19	Election	3,827	6,289	64%	0.01446%	0.02255%
20	Federal Ombudsman Secretariat for Protection against Harassment of Women at work place	77	100	30%	0.00029%	0.00036%
21	Wafaqi Mohtasib	837	943	13%	0.00316%	0.00338%
22	Federal Tax Ombudsman	279	306	10%	0.00105%	0.00110%
	Total Charged	26,460,442	27,886,369	5%	100%	100%

2. Statistical Analysis of Voted Expenditure:

S. No.	Ministries / Divisions	Budget Estimates Financial Year 2021-22 (in PKR Millions)	Budget Estimates Financial Year 2022-23 (in PKR Millions)	% Wise Increase/ Decrease with Prev. FY Original Estimates	Vertical Allocation to each head as of Total Voted 2021-22	Vertical Allocation to each head as of Total Voted 2022-23
1	Aviation Division	1,483	2,227	50.2%	0.0274%	0.0402%
2	Airports Security Force	8,078	10,196	26.2%	0.1491%	0.1842%
3	Cabinet	277	282	1.8%	0.0051%	0.0051%
4	Cabinet Division	2,048	2,563	25.1%	0.0378%	0.0463%
5	Emergency Relief and Repatriation	387	393	1.6%	0.0071%	0.0071%
6	Intelligence Bureau	8,034	10,313	28.4%	0.1483%	0.1863%
7	Atomic Energy	10,818	13,794	27.5%	0.1996%	0.2492%
8	Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority	1,148	1,409	22.7%	0.0212%	0.0255%
9	Naya Pakistan Housing Development Authority	30,720	969	-96.8%	0.5669%	0.0175%
10	Prime Minister's office (Internal)	401	465	16.0%	0.0074%	0.0084%
11	Prime Minister's office (Public)	520	528	1.5%	0.0096%	0.0095%

12	National Disaster Management Authority	643	631	-1.9%	0.0119%	0.0114%
13	Board of Investment	367	378	2.9%	0.0068%	0.0068%
14	Prime Minister's Inspection Commission	60	61	1.7%	0.0011%	0.0011%
15	Special Technology Zone Authority	-	914			0.0165%
16	Establishment Division	5,500	6,203	12.8%	0.1015%	0.1120%
17	Federal Public Service Commission	884	1,085	22.8%	0.0163%	0.0196%
18	National School of Public Policy	1,168	2,409	106.3%	0.0216%	0.0435%
19	Civil Services Academy	635	949	49.4%	0.0117%	0.0171%
20	National Security Division	144	143	-0.7%	0.0027%	0.0026%
21	Council of Common Intrest (Secreatriat)	-	135			0.0024%
22	Climate Change Division	468	601	28.4%	0.0086%	0.0109%
23	Commerce Division	26,786	5,262	-80.4%	0.4943%	0.0950%
24	Communications Division	204	204	0.1%	0.0038%	0.0037%
25	Other Expenditure of Communications Division	20,096	22,392	11.4%	0.3708%	0.4045%
26	Pakistan Post office Department	14,980	15,709	4.9%	0.2764%	0.2838%
27	Defence Division	3,683	4,299	16.7%	0.0680%	0.0777%
28	Federal Government Educational Institutions In Cantonments and Garrisons	6,981	8,976	28.6%	0.1288%	0.1621%
29	Defence Services	1,370,000	1,563,000	14.1%	25.2804%	28.2328%
30	Defence Production Division	949	916	-3.5%	0.0175%	0.0165%
31	Economic Affairs Division	697	681	-2.3%	0.0129%	0.0123%
32	Miscellaneous Exp. of Economic Affairs Division	13,187	12,979	-1.6%	0.2433%	0.2344%
33	Power Division	330,460	355,368	7.5%	6.0979%	6.4191%

34	Petroleum Division	20,639	71,675	247.3%	0.3808%	1.2947%
35	Geological Survey of Pakistan	601	1,157	92.5%	0.0111%	0.0209%
36	Federal Education and Professional Training Division	19,005	20,747	9.2%	0.3507%	0.3748%
37	Higher Education Commission (HEC)	66,250	66,025	-0.3%	1.2225%	1.1926%
38	National Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen Authority	-	140			0.0025%
39	National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC)	399	469	17.6%	0.0074%	0.0085%
40	National Heritage & Culture Division	1,738	2,438	40.3%	0.0321%	0.0440%
41	Finance Division	1,980	2,610	31.8%	0.0365%	0.0471%
42	Other Expenditure of Finance Division	4,834	5,468	13.1%	0.0892%	0.0988%
43	Controller General of Accounts	7,720	9,497	23.0%	0.1425%	0.1715%
44	Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	476,520	605,542	27.1%	8.7932%	10.9380%
45	Grants Subsidies & Miscellaneous Expenditure	1,159,643	1,057,430	-8.8%	21.3987%	19.1006%
46	Revenue Division	77	57	-25.4%	0.0014%	0.0010%
47	Federal Board of Revenue	28,800	34,398	19.4%	0.5314%	0.6213%
48	Foreign Affairs Division	1,970	2,284	15.9%	0.0364%	0.0413%
49	Foreign Missions	21,120	25,007	18.4%	0.3897%	0.4517%
50	Housing and Works Division	5,051	5,916	17.1%	0.0932%	0.1069%
51	Human Rights Division	1,185	1,658	39.9%	0.0219%	0.0299%
52	Industries and Production Division	13,631	33,631	146.7%	0.2515%	0.6075%
53	Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Secretariat	85	80	-6.2%	0.0016%	0.0014%
54	Information and Broadcasting Division	2,755	2,822	2.4%	0.0508%	0.0510%
55	Miscellaneous Exp. of Information & Broadcasting Division	6,417	6,674	4.0%	0.1184%	0.1206%

56	Information Technology and Telecommunication Division	5,872	8,048	37.1%	0.1084%	0.1454%
57	Interior Division	8,642	12,041	39.3%	0.1595%	0.2175%
58	Other Expenditure of Interior Division	6,147	6,614	7.6%	0.1134%	0.1195%
59	Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT)	11,430	13,979	22.3%	0.2109%	0.2525%
60	Combined Civil Armed Forces	136,827	162,670	18.9%	2.5249%	2.9383%
61	National Counter Terrorism Authority	-	269			0.0049%
62	Inter-Provincial Coordination Division	1,661	2,099	26.3%	0.0307%	0.0379%
63	Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Division	891	1,142	28.2%	0.0164%	0.0206%
64	Law and Justice Division	5,225	5,774	10.5%	0.0964%	0.1043%
65	Federal Judicial Academy	210	221	5.2%	0.0039%	0.0040%
66	Federal Shariat Court	494	521	5.5%	0.0091%	0.0094%
67	Council of Islamic Ideology	140	196	40.2%	0.0026%	0.0035%
68	National Accountability Bureau	5,137	5,233	1.9%	0.0948%	0.0945%
69	District Judiciary, Islamabad Capital Territory	645	774	20.0%	0.0119%	0.0140%
70	Maritime Affairs Division	1,190	1,178	-1.0%	0.0220%	0.0213%
71	Narcotics Control Division	3,534	3,635	2.9%	0.0652%	0.0657%
72	National Assembly	3,195	3,453	8.1%	0.0590%	0.0624%
73	The Senate	1,548	1,397	-9.8%	0.0286%	0.0252%
74	National Food Security and Research Division	13,118	9,303	-29.1%	0.2421%	0.1680%
75	Pakistan Agriculture Research Council	-	5,738			0.1036%
76	National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Division	28,074	19,304	-31.2%	0.5180%	0.3487%

77	Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Division	1,626	1,880	15.6%	0.0300%	0.0340%
78	Parliamentary Affairs Division	482	482	-0.1%	0.0089%	0.0087%
79	Planning, Development And Special Initiatives Division	5,620	6,159	9.6%	0.1037%	0.1112%
80	CPEC Authority	313	131	-58.1%	0.0058%	0.0024%
81	Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division	2,155	2,202	2.2%	0.0398%	0.0398%
82	Benazir Income Support Programme	250,000	364,078	45.6%	4.6132%	6.5764%
83	Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal	6,505	6,040	-7.1%	0.1200%	0.1091%
84	Privatisation Division	215	237	10.2%	0.0040%	0.0043%
85	Railways Division	42,300	45,315	7.1%	0.7806%	0.8185%
86	Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony Division	1,231	1,285	4.4%	0.0227%	0.0232%
87	Science and Technology Division	10,201	11,612	13.8%	0.1882%	0.2097%
88	States and Frontier Regions Division	2,621	787	-70.0%	0.0484%	0.0142%
89	Water Resources Division	523	2,064	294.6%	0.0097%	0.0373%
90	Federal Miscellaneous Investments & Other Loans and Advances	99,214	101,101	1.9%	1.8308%	1.8262%
91	Development Expenditure of Aviation Division	3,558	2,485	-30.2%	0.0657%	0.0449%
92	Development Expenditure of Cabinet Division	46,235	71,366	54.4%	0.8532%	1.2891%
93	Development Expenditure of Establishment Division	349	425	21.8%	0.0064%	0.0077%
94	Development Expenditure of SUPARCO	7,369	7,395	0.4%	0.1360%	0.1336%
95	Development Expenditure of Climate Change Division	14,327	9,600	-33.0%	0.2644%	0.1734%
96	Development Expenditure of Commerce Division	1,614	1,174	-27.2%	0.0298%	0.0212%

97	Development Expenditure of Communications Division	451	9,250	1949.5%	0.0083%	0.1671%
98	Development Expenditure of Defence Division	1,978	2,232	12.9%	0.0365%	0.0403%
99	Development Expenditure of Survey of Pakistan	1,502	500	-66.7%	0.0277%	0.0090%
100	Development Expenditure of Defence Production Division	1,745	2,200	26.1%	0.0322%	0.0397%
101	Development Expenditure of Power Division	19,362	7,953	-58.9%	0.3573%	0.1437%
102	Development Expenditure of Federal Education & Professional Training Division	4,485	3,140	-30.0%	0.0828%	0.0567%
103	Development Expenditure of Higher Education Education Commission	42,450	44,179	4.1%	0.7833%	0.7980%
104	Development Expenditure of National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTC)	5,215	4,100	-21.4%	0.0962%	0.0741%
105	Development Expenditure of National Heritage & Culture Division	126	550	336.8%	0.0023%	0.0099%
106	Development Expenditure of Finance Division	836	1,660	98.6%	0.0154%	0.0300%
107	Other Development Expenditure	122,295	134,806	10.2%	2.2567%	2.4350%
108	Development Expenditure of Revenue Division	4,025	3,189	-20.8%	0.0743%	0.0576%
109	Development Expenditure of Human Rights Division	279	185	-33.9%	0.0052%	0.0033%
110	Development Expenditure of	902	1,333	47.7%	0.0166%	0.0241%

	Information & Broadcasting Division					
111	Development Expenditure of Information Technology and Telecommunication Division	9,361	6,331	-32.4%	0.1727%	0.1144%
112	Development Expenditure of Interior Division	21,049	9,093	-56.8%	0.3884%	0.1642%
113	Development Expenditure of Inter Provincial Coordination Division	3,735	3,472	-7.0%	0.0689%	0.0627%
114	Development Expenditure of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Division	37,920	-		0.6997%	
115	Development Expenditure of Law and Justice Division	6,027	1,814	-69.9%	0.1112%	0.0328%
116	Development Expenditure of Narcotics Control Division	489	208	-57.5%	0.0090%	0.0038%
117	Development Expenditure of National Food Security and Research Division	12,017	10,129	-15.7%	0.2218%	0.1830%
118	Development Expenditure of National Health Services, Regulation & Coord. Division	21,723	12,651	-41.8%	0.4008%	0.2285%
119	Development Expenditure of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Division	106,244	41,677	-60.8%	1.9605%	0.7528%
120	Dev Exp of Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety Division	599	500	-16.5%	0.0111%	0.0090%
121	Development Exp of Science & Technology Division	8,341	5,716	-31.5%	0.1539%	0.1033%

122	Development Expenditure of Water Resources Division	92,473	91,878	-0.6%	1.7064%	1.6596%
123	Capital Outlay on Development of Atomic Energy	27,000	25,991	-3.7%	0.4982%	0.4695%
124	Capital Outlay on Development of Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority	200	290	44.9%	0.0037%	0.0052%
125	Capital Outlay on Petroleum Division	3,250	1,481	-54.4%	0.0600%	0.0267%
126	Capital Outlay on Federal Investments	699	205	-70.7%	0.0129%	0.0037%
127	Development Loans and Advances By the Federal Government	131,346	104,103	-20.7%	2.4237%	1.8804%
128	External Development Loans and Advances by the Federal Government	75,866	49,717	-34.5%	1.3999%	0.8981%
129	Capital Outlay of Civil Works	25,157	15,060	-40.1%	0.4642%	0.2720%
130	Capital Outlay on Industrial Development	2,916	2,850	-2.3%	0.0538%	0.0515%
131	Capital Outlay on Maritime Affairs Division	4,462	3,465	-22.3%	0.0823%	0.0626%
132	Capital Outlay on Railways Division	30,026	32,648	8.7%	0.5541%	0.5897%
133	Provision for Pay & Pension Increase	160,000	-		2.9525%	
	Total Voted	5,419,213	5,536,119	2.2%	100%	100%
	Total Charged and Voted	5,419,239	5,536,147	2.2%		

Source: Website of Finance Division - Federal Budget 2022-23

PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES PROGRAM

Urban Management and Governance – An Islamic Perspective

PIPS International Relations and Strategic Studies Desk

The Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in collaboration with the Ripah International University held an International Researchers Conference on Islamic Perspectives on Urban Management and Governance on September 29, 2022. No less than 30 academic researchers and experts read papers on the theme from different universities from all federating units of Pakistan and brotherly country of Malaysia. The conference was attended by over 150 delegates including parliamentary researchers from the National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan, PIPS, legislative experts, academicians and M.Phil. and PhD students from the disciplines of political science, public policy, social sciences, Islamic studies, humanities and international relations.

Inaugural Session: The proceedings commenced by the national anthem. Qari Anis ur Rehman recited verses from the Holy Quran in the inaugural session. Prof. Dr Qibla Ayaz, Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology was the Guest of Honour; Dr .Anis Ahmed, Vice Chancellor, Ripah International University presented the key note address while Mr. Muhammad Anwar, Executive Director presented the Welcome remarks for the worthy panelists, experts and delegates of the conference. Ms Tehseen Khalid, Director (Research) PIPS moderated the opening and closing sessions.

Mr. Muhammad Anwar, Executive Director PIPS expressed the hope that papers read by learned experts and senior students of social sciences will provide the parliamentary researchers and academicians a much-needed keen opportunity to oversee and develop policy and legislative instruments in urban governance from an Islamic perspective. He encouraged researchers, librarians and legislative experts from parliamentary institutions to utilize the participation in this event to elucidate and develop papers for parliamentarians and committees so as to provide them with the technical assistance on various aspects of contemporary urban governance.

Dr. Tahir Hijazi reiterated that every government and state has to focus its primary responsibility to ensure food security, education, health and housing for all. Dr. Anis Ahmed stressed the central role of Mosque as key to socio-economic and political life as all offices were in circles surrounding the mosque; He deliberated the example of Cairo that was built in similar manner with a city wall, a fort in circles around the Mosque at the Centre. Dr. Anis also reiterated the need to revive Urdu language as the national dialect for intellectual progress of majority.

Prof. Dr. Qibla Ayaz, emphasized that the local economies remained key in an Islamic society where they setup their indigenous system of clean drinking water, wall of city and entrances to protect against external threats; crops, forest cover and orchards: as well as cottage industry where everyone earned their living.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS: There were three simultaneous breakout sessions on various sub topics of the conference. Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka, Director General (Research) PIPS, chaired the session on urban management and development. He shared the vision of the father of Nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who earmarked protection of life, faith and property of the people especially the poor as the primary responsibility of the State and the Government. He chose democracy and consultative decision making as the system of governance in Pakistan through elected representatives in the Parliament enjoying all the authority as well as responsibility to deliver to the people. Mr. Zaka also

stated that the 1940 Pakistan Resolution passed in Lahore clearly promised socio-economic, cultural and political freedoms of non-Muslims in consultation with them in Pakistan. It is imperative that Pakistan develops its own socio-political order as envisioned by the founding fathers that promises basic fundamental rights of education, health and all freedoms enshrined in the Constitution, which the state must deliver in all circumstances to all inhabitants.

Dr. Waleed Rasool was the Key Note Panelist who emphasized the need for water conservation and building of small dams within every city to capture rain water and develop sources of irrigation and clean drinking water. Dr. Faizan Ahmed identified peace for all as the core value through freedom for minorities and unity in the society that the Misaq-e-Medina aimed to achieve in the first Islamic State. Mr. Muhammad Rizwan Manzoor, Assistant Director (Research) PIPS moderated this session.

Prof. Dr. Mumtaz Ali, Dept. Of Usuluddin & Comparative Religion, IIUM, Malaysia, spoke as the Key Note Speaker on the Islamic Perspective of Urban and Human Development while Dr Zahid Anwar, Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean Social Sciences, University of Peshawar, chaired the session.

Key Recommendations: The following suggestions came as key recommendations on the conference:

- i. **Peace and Unity as the Top Priority - Islamic System of Governance revolves around rule of law for all and provision of basic economic and cultural freedoms** to every member of society including the non-muslims. Peace and the maxim of live and let live remains top priority. It is a role model for contemporary policy and decision makers for Pakistan and other contemporary states.
- ii. **Mosque at the Centre of City:** Traditionally Islamic cities were built with mosques in the centre providing a community centre where people met at regular basis not only to offer prayers but find solutions to day to day matters, issues and conflicts. It not only emphasizes and reminds Muslims of their primary responsibility towards submission towards Allah swt as the Master of all universe and the sovereign of the Muslim of society, but the mosque serves the key role in meeting immediate needs of people as well as maintaining peace and unity in the society by providing a consensus-oriented dispute settlement mechanism respected by all and sundry. Even in the sub-continent, Islam spread through the humane teachings of peace, forgiveness and unity for all, by the Sufi (saints) and their "Khanqa," (along with Mosque) remained at the centre of intellectual, academic, socio-economic and political discourse as well as implementation of universal principles of Islam for the mutual good of the whole society around it. Pakistan and other Muslim states must follow the model especially in their planning to design new cities and towns.
- iii. **Justice for All:** The Government and State Institutions are fulfilling trust reposed by the Allah swt, therefore, they must ensure justice to all members of society without any discrimination.
- iv. **Equitable Distribution of Resources and Rights - Social Justice for all** is imperative. It emphasizes inclusion of all strata including women, people with disabilities and local communities in national life in addition to equitable distribution of rights and resources amongst the people especially the poor.
- v. **Education and Knowledge from the best experts** must remain hall mark of any Islamic education system. Islamic society is always open to learning from the renowned experts, schools and universities. It is noteworthy that 21 non-Muslim teachers from Quraysh, including 17 males and 04 females served as educationists in the First Islamic State and taught "*kitabab*," (calligraphy/writing text for books) and teaching languages to Muslims. It is a classical example of openness to seek knowledge from whoever best knows the subject. Pakistan needs to raise its education system on similar lines hiring the expertise of best teachers and scholars at all tiers of education.

- vi. **Urban Management:**
 - a. **Cities should have a limit of maximum population offering optimum amenities through efficient administrative municipality:** Islam allows provision of basic amenities and clean quality -oriented city lives for all. In this context, new cities must be built after a city reaches a saturation point viz a viz maximum population as decided by the authorities. City Municipal office is headed by a Caretaker/Mayor, which has sub offices of ombudsman (Mohtasib), police (kotawal) and engineer (for maintenance, civil works and providing basic amenities). City roads of Islamic cities were wide enough to allow two carts of camels going in opposite direction at the same time. Cleanliness of city was a regular day to day function of the municipality. This model is easily replicable in contemporary Pakistan.
 - b. **National Parliament and provincial legislatures must ensure legislation to protect forests and agricultural lands** from the mushrooming land mafia. The government must ban the blind occupation to build housing societies on agricultural lands through strict compliance of laws and penalties to the violators. The private development societies are capturing acres and acres of agricultural land destroying crops and trees to replace them with brick and mortar in Lahore, Gujranwala, Multan, Gujar Khan, Hyderabad and other cities that threatens the future environment and food security of Pakistan. It is a major concern for future generations because, with a population expected to double by 2050, we will need to import even basic staple foods.
 - c. **Strict Bylaws** should be implemented by federal, provincial and local governments to ensure every household in their jurisdiction, builds its own underground tank for sewerage in order to adversely affect the depleting sources of clean drinking water.
 - d. **Local communities must be protected** whenever government plans to undertake development of an area. In fact it should be ensured by law that each housing town will dedicate 30% area for locals.
 - e. **Each city must build its own Small Dams;** each town must devote resources in kind (land) or money to build the dam in order to collect rain water and provide a source of drinking water to the city/town.
- vii. **Judiciary should earmark a time limit to complete a Case** and give final verdict within a deadline so that justice is not only done but it is seen to be done in time.
- viii. **Dispute Resolution Mechanisms for Peace:** State Institutions including police, judiciary and local union councils must contribute as source of dispute resolution amongst the people. The Alternate Dispute Settlement mechanisms within the ambit of State's law should be encouraged to maintain peace and tranquility in society e.g. punchayat, jirga, etc.
- ix. **State Responsibility to organize Sports and Recreational System** for its population especially encouraging them to build strong health bodies as precursors of health minds: Swimming, archery, wrestling and horse riding have been popular sports of the glorious Islamic tradition that must be encouraged amongst the all men and women in addition to contemporary sports that contribute to healthy minds with strong health. Competition in Athletics, hockey, football, archery, wrestling and other sports must be encouraged while public and private departments must be encouraged by the government employ players and provide them respectable living to produce champions of sports representing Pakistan at international competitions and bring laurels. Thus, all sports and recreational activities that do not contradict from principles of Islam must flourish in the society.

The concluding ceremony involved presentation of Mementoes by Dr. Zahid Anwar, Pro Vice

Chancellor and Dean Social Sciences, University of Peshawar and Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka, Director General (Research) PIPS, to the scholars who presented their papers in the conference. Ms Tehseen Khalid, Director (Research) PIPS moderated the concluding session in the PIPS auditorium packed with 150 delegates from all over Pakistan.

Dr. Atiq-uz Zafar Dean (Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities FSSH at Ripah), and Mr. Muhammad Nazir Khan Director General (I.T), PIPS presented certificates to 150 conference delegates including parliamentary researchers from the National Assembly, Senate and PIPS as well as academicians from across numerous universities of the country. Dr. Atiquz Zafar presented the vote of thanks on behalf of Ripah International University recognizing the selfless services of the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in flourishing parliamentary studies amongst the academia, general public as well as students of law, political sciences, social sciences, public policy and international relations. He also thanked Dr. Anis Ahmed Vice Chancellor Ripah University for the mentorship of such initiatives of research to organize an international conference as well as setting up a unique topic.

Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka Director General (Research) PIPS eulogized the efforts of the Ripah University for ensuring diversity and inclusion of scholars from universities based in all federating units of the country for presenting their papers in this imperative and unique conference. However, he expressed the hope that emphasizes on empirical methodology for data-based analysis must be enhanced to refine the scholastic contribution in the discipline of social sciences in future. He thanked the delegate scholars, the Riphah International University and the Team Research, IT and Admin of the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services especially Mr. Atiq-uz-Zafar Dean (FSSH Ripah), Dr. Inam ur Rehman, (FIS) and Mr. Kashif Zaheer AP, (Ripah Institute of Public Policy); Ms. Tehseen Khalid (Director Research) PIPS, Mr. Muhammad Rizwan Manzoor AD (Research) and Mr. Muhammad Nazir Khan DG (I.T) and his team for the tireless work to make the conference a memorable event. The event concluded with the slogan...Pakistan Zindabad.

Parliamentary Roundtable on Women Empowerment: a case study of inheritance laws for honourable Members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab

Muhammad Hanif Khan, Deputy Director (Research) &
Wajid Aslam, Assistant Coordination Officer, Punjab

The Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), in collaboration with the European Union-GIZ ‘Mustehkam Parlamaan’ Project, organized a Parliamentary Roundtable on the topic of Women Empowerment: A case Study of Inheritance Laws on September 22, 2022 at Avari Hotel, Lahore. Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak, Secretary Provincial Assembly Punjab, was the Key Note Speaker of the Roundtable, attended by around 40 participants comprising Honourable Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, representatives from GIZ and PIPS, senior officers of the secretariat of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab, Secretary Women Development Department Punjab and representatives, representative from the Council of Islamic Ideology, representatives from the Provincial Government of Punjab, as well as members of the civil society and media.

The Roundtable aimed to stimulate intellectual debate on the issues confronting women inheritance rights and the prevailing issues in Pakistan and particularly in the Province of Punjab. The main objectives of the session were to:

- i. Identify challenges and legislative gaps in order to address issues related to inheritance rights in Punjab province.
- ii. Generate recommendations to address the challenges and address the issues related to inheritance laws.

The event commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr. Wajid Aslam. Mr. Christopher Shields, Team Lead, Mustehkam Parlamaan welcomed all participants and the worthy Secretary Provincial Assembly of Punjab Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak. He thanked the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) for jointly organizing the Roundtable session and apprised the audience members of the purpose of this Roundtable was to discuss critical issues and challenges relating to women rights as a whole and specially the right of inheritance. He shared his expectations to develop a pathway to resolve these issues by coming up with the series of recommendations, that can eventually help in generating policy recommendations and legislative reforms, for the Members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab. He was followed by Key Note Speech and presentation of Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak, the Secretary Provincial Assembly of the Punjab. On behalf of the Honourable Speaker of Punjab Assembly, he formally welcomed all the participants and thanked PIPS and GIZ ‘Mustehkam Parlamaan’ for organizing the session on such a critical and attention needed issue. Ms. Nadia Batool, Legislative Affairs Advisor, GIZ International Services, discussed the objectives, norms and context setting of the session.

Ms. Tehseen Khalid, Director (Research), PIPS, and Moderator of the session formally inaugurated the session and welcomed all participants on behalf of PIPS. She also expressed gratitude to Mustehkam Parlamaan, GIZ International Services and Mr. Christopher for collaboration and support on behalf of the Worthy Executive Director, PIPS.

Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak, the worthy Secretary of Assembly of the Punjab, was invited to apprise the audience about the legal framework enacted in the Punjab province on women empowerment with specific focus on inheritance laws. He started by defining the term inheritance, which means the transferring of

properties, titles, debts, rights and obligations to the legal heirs of the person upon his/her death. He informed the audience that -in the past- fictitious transfer of property by male heirs was the norm. However a lot of work has been done to ensure the rights of women in inheritance in last decade. Now NADRA is involved in one way or the other in transfers of property, which has led to ensure more transparency.

Talking about the legal framework, he told that there are two laws which are currently in place at the federal level, namely;

- i. Enforcement of Women Property Rights Act, 2020.
- ii. National commission on the status of Women Act, 2012.

Similarly, in Punjab following laws are in place;

- i. The Punjab Enforcement of Women Property Rights Act, 2021.
- ii. The Punjab Fair Representation of Women Act, 2014.
- iii. The Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2010.
- iv. The Punjab commission on the status of Women Act, 2014

Furthermore, Mr. Lak apprised the MPs about legal reforms taken on the issue. An amendment has been made in the Punjab Pension Rules, 2009, which states that the divorced daughter of a deceased govt. employee is entitled to family pension. Likewise, according to sub section 6(1) of Transfer of Property Act, 1882, Muslim women cannot withdraw their right of inheritance. According to section 6 of Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961, in the absence or death of son and daughter, grandson and granddaughter are also legal heirs. Pakistan Penal Code, under section (498-A) prohibits to deprive a women from inheriting property. The term of punishment for such offense may be extended to 10 years with fine. He also mentioned the Articles 23, 25 and 37 of constitution of Pakistan, prevented any discrimination on the basis of gender. In the end, he concluded his session with formal vote of thanks.

Mr. Abdul Rasheed Tokhai, Senior Research Officer, Council of Islamic Ideology (CII), explained the inheritance rights of women and equality of women and men under the Islamic laws and teachings. He discussed the shares of men and women in inheritance as per the rules provided under Islam. He gave the reference of different Quranic verses and Ahadiths regarding rights of women and their share in the inheritance. Quoting a verse from the Holy Quran, as translated, “We created you from a single pair of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, so that you may know each other (not that ye may despise each other). Verily the most honoured among you in the sight of Allah is one who is the most righteous of you”. Referring to the verse he said that it clearly states that men and women are born equal. He further quoted a verse from the holy Quran Chapter 49, Verse 11, as translated “O believers! Do not let some ‘men’ ridicule others, they may be better than them, nor let ‘some’ women ridicule other women, they may be better than them” which shows that Allah has discouraged all kinds of discriminations. In some other Quranic Verses Allah clearly stated that “For men and women there is a share in the property left by their parents”, “These are the boundaries established by Allah which can’t be transgressed”. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said that “Allah has given the Rightful person his due rights” which clearly states that the deceased person cannot make an illegal will. In other words, one cannot deprive one from his legal share in inheritance through any will. In another Hadith, Prophet ﷺ said that “Give the one what is due to him”. He also discussed different hurdles to women right of inheritance. In most of the cases, women forfeit their share or right of inheritance in favour of the male members of the family. Similarly, dowry is considered a replacement of inheritance in some cases. He further added that Islam has clearly mentioned the shares of men and women in inheritance, according to responsibilities and needs of each of them. It is often argued that Women are given half as compare to men’s share in inheritance in Islam. That is because they get inheritance from their parents as well as husband. He concluded on the note that Islam being a complete code of life has given equal status to women and gave rights to women when they were not even considered as human beings.

Mr. Muhammad Hanif Khan Nasar, Deputy Director (Research), PIPS, discussed about the laws and hurdles to women inheritance rights in Pakistan. He described that inheritance is an involuntary devolution of property of deceased person to legal heirs and it is applicable to both moveable and immoveable properties. All the debts, funeral expenses and testamentary disposition (i.e. will) are deducted before distributing the property of the deceased. He further added that Islamic law does not support to disinherit someone as a legal heir, either in lifetime or through will. He further added that Allah has clearly mentioned the rights of women to a specified share of inheritance in Holy Quran and these rights are duly regulated by the Pakistan's legislation. He also highlighted the differences between distribution of Estate under Shia and Sunni schools of thoughts.

While talking about the evolution of inheritance laws in Pakistan, he discussed that during colonial period customary law was given preference over Muslim law in which male descendants were given priority over female relations and female legal heirs could not challenge the alienation of ancestral property. He briefly discussed the different laws of inheritance enacted in sub-continent during the period of British rule, namely;

- i. The Punjab Laws Act 1872 and N.W.F.P. Law and Justice Regulation 1901.
- ii. The Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act 1937.

He informed that after the inception of Pakistan, these laws were replaced by;

- i. West Punjab Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1948.
- ii. West Pakistan Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1962.
- iii. The Muslim Family Law Ordinance, 1961.
- iv. Pakistan Penal Code 1860: amended through Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Criminal Law (3rd Amendment) Act 2011, address women inheritance through following sections; Section 498A, 498B and 498C.
- v. Criminal Procedure Code 1898, amended through Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Criminal Law (3rd Amendment) Act 2011.
- vi. The Succession Act, 1925.

He also deliberated upon other laws (federal and provincial) that are relevant to inheritance rights, and some of which also address the women inheritance rights in Pakistan. He explained the recent law enacted in all the provinces except Balochistan, under which citizens can now apply to NADRA for their letters of administration and Succession Certificates of inheritance, without consulting the courts. However, if any objection is raised by a relevant party against someone availing letters of administration and Succession Certificates from NADRA, the legal heirs will then have to consult the court of law.

Furthermore, he also discussed the rules, regulations and legal formalities of Hiba (Gift) and Wills and their validity in context of inheritance. He said that validity of a gift in the context of inheritance arises, when some of the legal heirs are preferred over the others, by gifting whole or part of the estate in lifetime by the deceased. Section 122 of Transfers of Property Act 1882, defines gift/hiba an immediate and unqualified transfer of ownership in a property voluntarily to another without any consideration or value in return. However, under Wills only 1/3rd of property can be disposed to anyone.

Talking about the international commitments of Pakistan regarding women rights and inheritance, he apprised that Pakistan is signatory to following international conventions:

- i. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979 of the United Nations.
- ii. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1976.
- iii. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966.
- iv. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 1995, that was adopted in Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

After discussing the legal framework, he shed light on the current issues in Pakistan affecting women's inheritance rights. The first and most important of these issues is relinquishment of rights, in which females give up their right to inherit in favor of male family members. However, superior courts in Pakistan have declared such relinquishment to be contrary to 'public policy,' and the act of agreement and contract constituting the relinquishment is considered void. Similarly, in most cases, females are unaware of their rights and thus suffer. Since our society is predominately conservative, women find it difficult to claim their rights because of their dependence on male members. Similarly, our culture adheres to the tradition of dowry, which is given as compensation for their inheritance share. Furthermore, impersonation and fraudulent relinquishment of share by other women, as well as a lack of women's empowerment, impede inheritance rights. In addition to the issues mentioned above, legal pluralism makes claiming inheritance rights more difficult.

At the end of his presentation, he gave some suggestions and recommendations for protecting and strengthening women's inheritance rights:

- i. The digitization of land records, as well as the digitization of property ownership with the NADRA family tree, is critical in combating inheritance fraud.
- ii. The use of coercive and welfare measures to enforce laws is unavoidable.
- iii. It is critical to build the capacity of all stakeholders, including the judiciary, administration, and revenue department.
- iv. Recruiting female patwaris would be extremely beneficial in sorting out inheritance-related complexities.
- v. The state must ensure the protection of women's rights using less expensive and less wasteful resources rather than enforcing rights through courts, which are far more time-consuming and expensive.
- vi. Legal aid cells should be established, used, and engaged at the district level to expedite inheritance-related matters.
- vii. Coordination between government technical units and research institutions such as PIPS should be improved in order to accelerate legal reforms.
- viii. The role of education and its curriculum in changing discriminatory attitudes toward women's inheritance is critical.

Ms. Sumaira Samad, Secretary, Women Development Department Punjab, discussed the challenges and opportunities related to inheritance laws. She praised the significance of the event in bringing attention to the difficulties women experience in asserting their inheritance rights. She meticulously debated the factual status of inheritance laws enacted in the province of Punjab. She stated that one of the biggest obstacles to women asserting their inheritance rights is lack of legal enforcement. Later on, she emphasized on coordination among different provinces in building a narrative of gender equality which is the need of the hour. She proposed that making of rules for share in inheritance would act as a catalyst in implementation of inheritance laws. Moreover, she also reinforced the capacity building of different departments for enhancement of their efficiency. Furthermore, she cited the role of Ombudsman in removing the hurdles faced by women in different departments. She suggested long-term strategies-cum-plans that must be scrupulously designed for easement of procedures and granting of due rights to women.

During the thought-provoking session, the Honourable members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab enthusiastically debated on the intricacies of inheritance laws that resulted into following key set of **recommendations**:

1. Induction and representation of women members in the Islamic Ideology Council.
2. Implementation of laws in true letter and spirit.
3. Meticulously designing long-term policies.
4. Coordination among different provinces in building a narrative of gender equality
5. Reinforce the capacity building of different departments for enhancement of their efficiency.
6. Awareness on inheritance rights instead of dowry slogan.

7. Sensitization of people is mandatory.
8. Induction of female patwaris.
9. Standing up for women issues at every council by hook and crook.
10. Conversion of land record to digital platform.
11. Digitization of land record along with digitization of property ownership with NADRA family tree is indispensable in combating fraud against inheritance.
12. The state must ensure the protection of women rights through cheaper and less wasteful resources rather than enforcing rights through courts which are far laborious and expensive.
13. Establishment, utilization and engagement of legal aid cells at district levels that would expedite the inheritance related matters.
14. Coordinated policy initiatives and legislative efforts of the Women Parliamentary Caucuses National Assembly and other provincial assemblies, can undoubtedly be crucial in bringing to light and resolving the inheritance rights challenges.

Concluding the session, Ms. Tehseen Khalid, Director (Research), PIPS and Ms. Nadia Batool, GIZ International Services thanked all the participants, distinguished guests and the facilitators who participated in the session and shared their knowledge and views. Ms. Tehseen Khalid also presented set of PIPS Publications to Secretary, Provincial Assembly of Punjab, Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak.

Compilation of World Leaders' statements on floods in Pakistan¹

Fakiha Mahmood,
Deputy Director (Research), PIPS

- i. **H.E. Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan:** "I want to thank each and every one of the countries that have sent help, and their representatives to Pakistan to stand in solidarity with us in our most trying hour. On behalf of my nation, I once again express my sincerest appreciation to all of them."
- ii. **H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General:** "The climate crisis is the defining issue of our time. It must be the first priority of every government and multilateral organization. ... I recently saw it with my own eyes in Pakistan – where one-third of the country is submerged by a monsoon on steroids. Planet earth is a victim of scorched earth policies."
- iii. **H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the General Assembly:** "I stand in solidarity with the people of Pakistan, where devastating floods washed away hundreds of villages. You have seen the heart-wrenching scenes of devastation: this can be a window into our future."
- iv. **Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and Member of the Parliament in Portugal:** "This is obligation of all countries in the world especially of the developed countries to help Pakistan recover from this catastrophe because the contribution of Pakistan to climate change is too small but the consequences are too big and so the biggest economies of the world that have more contributions to the climate change need to understand."²
- v. **H.E. Mr. Charles Michel, President of the European Council:** "Natural extreme events are becoming more and more frequent, as has recently been the case, dramatically, in Pakistan and Nigeria. The faultlines are cracking open between developed and developing countries ..."
- vi. **H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye:** "We once again convey our recovery wishes to the Pakistani people, who are going extremely difficult times, due to the recent flood disaster. We continue our humanitarian aid work, which we have initiated following the disaster, without interruption. We also expect the international community to support the Pakistan people during this painful period that they are going through."
- vii. **H.E. Mr. Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States of America:** "We all know we're living in a climate crisis. No one seems to doubt it after this past year ... as we meet, much of Pakistan is still under water, it needs help. ... So, as I announced last year, to meet our global responsibility, my administration is working with our Congress to deliver more than \$11 billion a year to international climate finance to help lower-income countries implement their climate goals and ensure a just energy transition."
- viii. **H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of France:** "Let's look at Pakistan: a third of the country under water, more than 1,400 dead, 1,300 injured, millions of people in emergency situations. ... Half of humanity now lives in the climate danger zone. Our ecosystems are reaching the points of no return."
- ix. **H.E. Mr. Sauli Niinistö, President of Finland:** "The magnitude of the catastrophe caused by the floods in Pakistan is not yet fully visible but the destruction is already tremendous. These are not isolated or local events. They are, once again, a reminder that climate change is an existential threat to the human kind. We are on the verge of very dangerous tipping points."

¹ Except where mentioned, the statements have been extracted from the Addresses at the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 21-23 September 2022.

² Inaugural Address at the 3rd IPU Seminar on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for the Asia-Pacific region Parliaments, 13-14 September, 2022, Islamabad, Pakistan.

- x. **H.E. Mr. Mario Draghi, President of the Council of Ministers, Italy:** “We must continue to support the most vulnerable states to help them defend themselves against the impacts of climate change and to pursue their own transition paths. I am thinking, for example, of the tragic flooding in Pakistan, where a very large part of the country is underwater and millions of people have been forced to leave their homes.”
- xi. **H.E. Mr. Muhammadu Buhari, President of Nigeria:** “... we are the hardest hit by the consequences of climate change as we see in the sustained droughts in Somalia and floods of unprecedented severity in Pakistan. These and other climate-related occurrences are now sadly becoming widely commonplace in the developing world.”
- xii. **H.E. Mr. Alar Karis, President of the Republic of Estonia:** “There remains little dispute over the existential crisis posed by climate change. We witnessed devastating flooding in Pakistan caused by erratic monsoon rains. In solidarity with the people of Pakistan, Estonia provides help to those severely affected.”
- xiii. **H.E. Mr. Jonas Gahr Støre, Prime Minister of Norway:** “Pakistan is contending with devastating floods. More than 300 million people affected by conflicts and humanitarian crises are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection.”
- xiv. **H.E. Mr. Azali Assoumani, President of Comoros:** “I take the opportunity to renew our condolences, as well as our support and sympathy to the Pakistani authorities, and through them, to the bereaved families and to the victims, following the heavy flooding that affected this brother country.”
- xv. **H.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, Prince:** “I have a moved thought for the people of Pakistan who are suffering the consequences of terrible floods. These urgent and indispensable efforts must be carried out in concert with policies aimed at drastically reduce[ing] greenhouse gas emissions and reverse the curve of biodiversity loss by 2030.”

Comments/Feedback by the Honourable Members and Dignitaries on PIPS Services

- i. Great honour to see the success at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in such a short time. **(Mr. Kent Edward Pipe, Head, DAI, USA – November 10, 2021)**
- ii. Impressive Library; very impressed and touched by the warm welcome; Amazed by the professionalism I saw at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) **(Ms Stoyanka Stich, Resident Director GIZ for EU project, March 10, 2021)**
- iii. PIPS is providing value added research support to MPs; I am pleased congratulate Team PIPS and Mustehkam Parliamaan EU-GIZ-PIPS project as we found the two-day Roundtable on Inheritance and Trafficking Laws most absorbing. **(Honorable Ms Madiha Nisar, MPA, Women Parliamentarians Caucus, Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, June 10, 2022)**
- iv. We are always in need of some immediate redresses viz a viz economic analysis; PIPS support is pertinent in such endeavors. **[Hon. Mr. Salahuddin, MNA, June 13, 2022]**
- v. Excellent facilitator by PIPS who presented a simple and objective analysis. **[Honorable Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja, MNA and SAMP on Youth Affairs, June 13, 2022]**
- vi. We appreciate PIPS team and faculty for being always available to assist our members in technical parliamentary areas like budget and economy. **[Acting Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Honorable Sardar Babar Khan, June 15, 2022]**
- vii. PIPS research assistance and seminars on technical areas, e.g Budget & Public Finance are always very helpful. It's better to increase frequency of seminars and roundtables to develop understanding for effective participation in parliamentary processes. **[Honorable MPA Balochistan, Sanaullah Baloch, June 15, 2022]**
- viii. We are provided very little time to read and analyze the budget documents. In such circumstances, it is important to engage some technical experts to provide an unbiased comprehensive analysis. PIPS has played this role in an appreciable way. **[MPA Balochistan, Honorable Rubaba Khan Buledi, June 15, 2022]**
- ix. To build a better understanding among members, I would suggest PIPS to organize a 2-3 day residential workshop so as members may participate in dedicated way and learn on subject matter more appropriately. **[Secretary Balochistan Assembly, Mr. Tahir Shah Kakar, June 15, 2022]**
- x. PIPS has always come up with excellent facilitators to explain the hardcore concepts and jargons in understandable terms, for the MPs. I would ask my fellow colleagues, to take benefit of this great service. **[MPA Punjab, Honorable Syed Yawar Abbas Bukhari, June 22, 2022]**
- xi. I acknowledge PIPS as a key think tank in parliamentary side to sensitize and apprise members in key areas. **[Honorable Deputy Chairman Senate, Mirza Muhammad Afridi, June 24, 2022]**
- xii. PIPS and the Ripah International University are longstanding partners committed to serve the nation. I appreciate the PIPS support in providing the discipline of governance, parliamentary studies and research We hope that PIPS will continue to provide the role of bridge between the academic and parliamentary domains. **(Dr. Anis Ahmed, Vice Chancellor, Ripah International University, August 31, 2022)**
- xiii. I need to repeat Thank You many times...Its important to know that here you have a special Institute to support the activity of the parliamentarians! Without it we will not have a perfect democracy. So, thanks PIPS for your work. One example to me, to many other parliamentarians, to the IPU! I found seeing and meeting Team PIPS the most important part of my visit.

- (Honorable Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President Inter Parliamentary Union and Portuguese MP, September 12, 2022)
- xiv. I would like to thank all key departments of the National Assembly of Pakistan as well as PIPS for smooth execution for this 3rd Regional Seminar on Achieving SDGs (**Hon. Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, MNA and Convener, National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, September 13, 2022**)

Glimpses of International Conference
Islamic Perspectives on Contemporary Urban Governance
September 29, 2022





Seminar on International Democracy Day 2022 organized by Women Parliamentary Caucus
graced by the Honorable Speaker National Assembly/ President PIPS BoG, Raja Perviaz
Ashraf, September 12, 2022 as the Chief Guest



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