



PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB



MONTHLY E-CIRCULAR APRIL–MAY 2026

During April and May 2026, the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab continued to strengthen its role in parliamentary diplomacy, legislative reform, and international engagement through interactions with diplomatic missions, parliamentary counterparts, and international parliamentary organizations. Alongside regular parliamentary proceedings and committee work, the Assembly actively promoted inter-parliamentary cooperation, democratic governance, and international goodwill.

INTERNATIONAL & PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENTS

Punjab Assembly Participates in 74th Westminster Seminar in the United Kingdom

The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab participated in the 74th Westminster Seminar held in the United Kingdom in March 2026 under the auspices of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).



The Seminar brought together parliamentarians and parliamentary officials from across the Commonwealth to exchange experiences and discuss democratic governance, parliamentary procedures, legislative oversight, and institutional strengthening.

Punjab Assembly's participation reflected its continued commitment to parliamentary learning, international cooperation, and engagement within the Commonwealth parliamentary community.

Speaker Congratulates Newly Elected Secretary General of the IPU

Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan extended congratulations to the newly elected Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), conveying best wishes for a successful tenure and reaffirming support for strengthening global parliamentary cooperation and democratic dialogue.

The Speaker highlighted the importance of the IPU in promoting parliamentary diplomacy, multilateral engagement, and international understanding among legislatures worldwide.



Newly elected IPU Secretary General Anda Filip flanked by outgoing IPU Secretary General Martin Chungong and IPU President Tulia Ackson.

Speaker Congratulates Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament

Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan extended congratulations and best wishes to the newly elected Speaker of the Parliament of Bangladesh.

The message emphasized the importance of strengthening parliamentary cooperation, democratic values, and friendly relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh through parliamentary diplomacy and institutional engagement.

The Speaker reaffirmed the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab's commitment to constructive inter-parliamentary dialogue within the broader Asian and Commonwealth parliamentary community.



Speaker Welcomes Newly Appointed Chinese Consul General in Lahore

Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan met the newly appointed Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Lahore on 18 March 2026 at the Assembly Chamber.

During the meeting, both sides discussed:

- Pakistan-China friendship,
- parliamentary cooperation,
- economic collaboration,
- regional connectivity,
- cultural exchange,
- and people-to-people engagement.



لاہور: سپیکر ملک محمد احمد خاں لاہور میں نئے تعینات چینی کنصل جنرل سن یان سے اسمبلی چیئرمین ملاقات کر رہے ہیں۔ (18 مارچ، 2026)

The Speaker acknowledged China's longstanding support for Pakistan and emphasized the importance of continued bilateral cooperation and parliamentary engagement.

The Chinese Consul General appreciated the institutional significance of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and reaffirmed commitment to strengthening ties between Punjab and China.

United States Consul General Calls on Speaker Punjab Assembly

United States Consul General in Lahore, Mr. Stetson Sanders, called on Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan on 15 May 2026.

During the meeting, both sides discussed:

- Pakistan–United States relations,
- parliamentary cooperation,
- education,
- climate resilience,
- trade and investment,
- food security,
- and democratic engagement.



لاہور:- سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی ملک محمد احمد خاں امریکی قونصل جنرل لاہور اسٹیشن سینڈرز (Mr.Stetson Sanders) سے سپیکر چیئرمین ملاقات کر رہے ہیں۔ 15-05-2026

The meeting reflected continued diplomatic interaction and institutional cooperation between Punjab and international partners.

Ambassador of Azerbaijan condoles with Speaker Punjab

Ambassador of Azerbaijan visited Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan to express condolences on the passing of the Speaker's sister on 30 April 2026.



لاہور:- سپیکر پنجاب اسمبلی ملک محمد احمد خاں سے آذربائیجان کے سفیر خضر فرہادوف ان کی ہم شیرہ کے انتقال پر
سپیکر ہاؤس میں تعزیت کر رہے ہیں۔ (30-04-2026)

The Ambassador conveyed sympathies and solidarity on behalf of the people and Parliament of Azerbaijan and prayed for the departed soul.

The gesture reflected both sides' continued emphasis on cordial diplomatic relations and humanitarian solidarity.

Speaker Visits Iranian Mission to Offer Condolences

Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan visited the Iranian diplomatic mission to express condolences and solidarity concerning tragic developments relating to the leadership and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran.



The Speaker conveyed sympathies on behalf of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and emphasized the importance of peace, stability, mutual respect, and regional harmony.

The visit reflected the Assembly's continued commitment to humanitarian solidarity and cordial diplomatic engagement with friendly countries.

CPA & INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION

The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab continued coordination and engagement within the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) framework and related parliamentary networks during April and May 2026.

The Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to:

- democratic governance,
- parliamentary diplomacy,
- institutional modernization,
- regional cooperation,
- and parliamentary capacity-building.

Punjab Assembly also continued preparations and coordination concerning regional parliamentary activities and international parliamentary engagement platforms.

Punjab Assembly Representation in CPA Journal *The Parliamentarian*

The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab continued to strengthen its intellectual and parliamentary contribution within the Commonwealth parliamentary community through representation in *The Parliamentarian*, the quarterly journal of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

An article authored by a Member of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab was published in Quarter 1 (2026) edition of *The Parliamentarian*, reflecting Punjab Assembly's growing engagement in international parliamentary discourse and policy dialogue.

DISABILITY
INCLUSION

ADVANCING DISABILITY INCLUSION THROUGH LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

In recent years, disability inclusion has moved steadily from the margins of public debate to the centre of parliamentary responsibility. This shift reflects a growing understanding that inclusive governance is not achieved through intent alone, but through sustained legislative attention, oversight and public engagement. For Legislatures, the question is no longer whether disability inclusion should be addressed, but how effectively it is embedded within law-making and democratic practice.

Within the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, the rights and needs of children with disabilities have increasingly informed parliamentary discussion. As legislators, we are conscious that exclusion at an early stage of life often leads to lifelong disadvantages. Addressing this reality is not only a social obligation; it is a legislative duty grounded in principles of equality, dignity and representation.

Disability Inclusion as a Legislative Matter

Disability is often misunderstood as a matter to be resolved solely through service delivery. From a legislative perspective, however, it is fundamentally a question of rights, access and accountability. Laws shape priorities. Parliamentary debate shapes

policy; it is usually the result of systemic oversight.

The role of the Parliamentary Caucus for Children with Disabilities

The Parliamentary Caucus for Children with Disabilities was formed to provide focused legislative attention to an area that is often underrepresented in parliamentary discourse. As a cross-party forum, the Caucus allows Members to engage beyond political divisions, share perspectives and keep the issue of children with disabilities firmly on the legislative agenda.

The work of the Caucus is rooted in parliamentary functions - advocacy within the Provincial Assembly, contribution to legislative debate and sustained attention through Committee engagement. Its purpose is not administrative. Rather, it exists to ensure that the voices and concerns of children with disabilities are reflected in the laws that we debate and the questions we raise as legislators.

Parliamentary Awareness and Public Engagement

Legislation does not operate in isolation from society. Recognising this, the Caucus undertook a parliamentary-led awareness initiative to reinforce the

In addition, awareness walks were organised to signal publicly that disability inclusion is a matter of legislative concern. These walks were not symbolic gestures alone; they were deliberate efforts to affirm that the rights of children with disabilities belong within the democratic space and deserve visible parliamentary support.

Legislative Oversight and Accountability

Oversight is one of the most powerful tools available to a Legislature. In the context of disability inclusion, it allows Parliamentarians to examine whether existing laws and policy commitments deliver meaningful outcomes.

Members of the Punjab Provincial Assembly have raised issues relating to accessibility, inclusion and service provision through parliamentary questions and debates. Such engagement ensures that disability-related concerns remain part of the formal legislative record and subject to public scrutiny. Oversight, when exercised consistently, reinforces accountability and strengthens public confidence in democratic institutions.

Children with Disabilities as a Legislative Priority

approaches when outcomes fall short of expectations.

Looking Beyond Borders

Globally, a number of countries - including China, Saudi Arabia and the United States - have adopted comprehensive approaches to disability inclusion through law and long-term policy planning. While political and legal systems differ, these examples demonstrate that progress depends on sustained legislative commitment. For Punjab, the task is to move steadily towards stronger, more coherent legislative frameworks that reflect both international standards and local realities.

Conclusion

The experience of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab demonstrates that Legislatures have a central role to play in advancing disability inclusion. Through debate, oversight and public engagement, Parliaments shape both policy outcomes and public attitudes.

As Chairperson of the Parliamentary Caucus for Children with Disabilities,



Hon. Salma Saeed, MPA is a Member of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, Pakistan and Chairperson of the Parliamentary Caucus for Children with Disabilities.

The publication highlighted the Assembly's commitment to promoting democratic values, parliamentary exchange, and knowledge-sharing through Commonwealth parliamentary platforms.

Punjab Assembly's continued representation in CPA publications reflects its active and constructive participation within the wider Commonwealth parliamentary network.

The Provincial Assembly of the Punjab remains committed to strengthening democratic governance, parliamentary diplomacy, legislative reform, institutional modernization, and constructive international engagement through active legislative work and meaningful cooperation with parliamentary and diplomatic partners across the region and beyond.
