



7th YOUTH PARLIAMENT PAKISTAN

Youth Special Committee Reports

February 2016



Secretariat Youth Parliament Pakistan

Session





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PILdAT
Pakistan Institute of
Legislative Development
And Transparency

Secretariat Youth Parliament Pakistan

Session



PILDAT is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit indigenous research and training institution with the mission to strengthen democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan. It also serves as Secretariat, Youth Parliament Pakistan.

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PREFACE

This year PILDAT revised the model of 7th Youth Parliament Pakistan 2015 through which 240 young Pakistanis were enlisted, 60 each in 4 sessions. The fifth and final session of Youth Parliament consisted of only the top 15 MYPs from each of the 4 sessions this year, thus representing the crème de la crème of the 7th batch and included some exceptionally bright young women and men. These Members, through their hard work and dedication in their respective sessions, are able to make it to the 5th session. They passed through a comprehensive and transparent evaluation process. The Members also worked within their respective Youth Standing Committees and presented their set of recommendations to panel of experts.

As a special initiative, Members of the 5th Session of 7th Youth Parliament were assigned to develop a set of recommendations for each political party on a supposed issue to be addressed by the party ahead of General Election 2018. Young members, through mock letters from the Party Leaders of the three parties, were asked to develop recommendations to advance the working of major political parties of Pakistan and assist them in preparing for the next round of General Elections of Pakistan in 2018 and beyond. The initiative by PILDAT was undertaken so as to challenge young people to address and engage in political issues in a real-world setting.

Following were the Youth Special Committees that developed a set of recommendations for the major political parties and presented and defended their working in front of a Review Panel consisting of Political Party Representatives of PML-N, PPP and PTI:

- i. **Youth Special Committee to Provide Recommendations to Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)**
- ii. **Youth Special Committee to Provide Recommendations to Pakistan People's Party (PPP)**
- iii. **Youth Special Committee to Provide Recommendations to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)**

The Reports are compiled and finally published for the purpose of dissemination. More importantly, all the Reports will be presented to the Members of three major Political parties in National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan including relevant offices, in an effort to incorporate the voice of youth in the National policy making process. The authors of the reports, the MYPs, are to take the lead in lobbying for the Recommendations they have devised, to civil society, media and to a greater audience. The reports are also available online at www.youthparliament.pk

The 7th Youth Parliament Pakistan is supported by the Danish International Development Agency, Government of Denmark, as recognition of the importance of young people's development in democracy and democratic practices.

Disclaimer

The Secretariat of Youth Parliament Pakistan has provided unbiased feedback in a timely manner on the research reports and the scientific value of the work done by MYP's. The Secretariat has given guidance in ensuring the content is clear, concise, and relevant to the current pool of knowledge in regard to originality, and interest to the readers. The opinions, findings or recommendations expressed in this report belong to the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of PILDAT or DANIDA.

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Acknowledgments

This research report is a sincere composition and hard work of many intellectual minds who have given thoughtful recommendations to the major political parties of Pakistan PML-N, PPP and PTI to improve their party performance between now and 2018 General Elections of Pakistan.

We, the Chairpersons for (PILDAT) Youth Parliament Pakistan's Special Committees would like to thank all our Committee Members who made these reports possible with their ideas and planning. Our appreciations go to our colleagues in developing the report with the best of their knowledge.

We are highly indebted to President PILDAT, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob** and Joint Director PILDAT, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz** for their guidance and constant supervision as well as providing necessary information regarding the project and for their support in completing the report.

We would also like to thank **Ms. Aimen Khan**, Projects Manager PILDAT, **Mr. Abid Khan**, Projects Officer PILDAT and **Mr. Hamad Ullah Mangrio**, Projects Officer, PILDAT for their steady hold up and assistance for this report.

Thank You.

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Chairperson, Youth Special Committee to Provide Recommendations to PML-N

Mr. Asif Khuhro (YP5-45-SINDH02)
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**Youth Special Committee to
Provide Recommendations to
Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N);
Report**

List of Committee Members

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4.	Ms. Anusheh Bakht Aziz YP5-16-PUNJAB05	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
5.	Ms. Aymen Ahmad YP5-19-PUNJAB08	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
6.	Mr. Mahboob Mohsin YP5-23-PUNJAB12	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
7.	Syed Ahmad Saleem Bokhari YP5-40-PUNJAB29	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
8.	Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Valika YP5-47-SINDH04	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
9.	Ms. Marina Marri YP5-49-SINDH06	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
10.	Ms. Rutaba Tariq YP5-51-SINDH08	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
11.	Mr. Saifullah Hassan Rana YP5-53-SINDH10	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
12.	Mr. Sarfaraz Jamali YP5-54-SINDH11	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
13.	Ms. Uzma Gul YP5-58-SINDH15	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
14.	Mr. Muhammad Mustafa Rizvi YP5-63-ICT03	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
15.	Mr. Ayaz Haider Bangash YP5-66-FATA02	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
16.	Mr. Nuaman Ishfaq Mughal YP5-71-AJK03	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan

17.	Mr. Muhammad Latif YP5-76-GB04	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
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Introduction

This brief report is written in response to the 'Mock Letter' sent to the Youth Special Committee at the Youth Parliament Session. In the letter, PML-N President Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif requested Recommendations on 4 points to improve their Party's current and future performance especially prior to the General Elections of 2018. This Report addresses those 4 points.

Recommendations for 5 key Changes/Additions in the Party Manifesto

The manifesto written by PML-N is quite thorough and comprehensive when it comes to addressing major issues and concerns of the Pakistani society. However, it is felt that there are some elements which have scope for improvements and can do well for the party in the coming General Elections of 2018 and help them refine their approach, outlook and bring a possible increase in their vote bank.

i. Ideology

The manifesto needs to include an ideology that includes PML-N's recurrent themes of economics, Quaid and Allama Iqbal's vision, democracy, federalism, etc. Ideologies are the backbone of any political party, the lack of which in the manifesto results in confusion and misguided perceptions as to what the PML-N stands for. Ideologies do not only solidify political parties structure, but are among the first things that appeals to the voters. In order to garner more interest and broaden PML-N's voters base the party manifesto, which not only captures the historical standing of the party, but also its trajectory in future should be included.

ii. CPEC transparency, Right to Know and Inclusion of Relevant Stakeholders

CPEC's longevity and grandeur as a development project demands that the issue be given its due share in 2018's manifesto. As a pivotal point in the current politics, with its numerous ambiguities and unresolved prospects, a promise in the manifesto following CPEC's transparency, continued commitment to inculcate all stakeholders and clear dissemination of knowledge regarding CPEC to the people will foster in the public and the state PML-N's undisputed priority of Pakistan's National Interests.

iii. Environment and Disaster Management and commitment to COP21

Environment and Disaster Management are feebly handled in Pakistan, unfortunately the same has

followed in PML-N's current manifesto and little attention has been placed in order to prioritize it. Promised dedication and assurance, keeping in light Pakistan's dire need of an independent and 'competent' disaster management force will help PML-N's manifesto be more appealing, thoughtful and complete.

iv. Sustainability in Development Policies

A large chunk of the manifesto has done well in promising development but the element of sustainability is missing. Sustainability is foresight and without it, the impression of the prospective projects seems half-hearted. Moreover, since development projects take up the most focus in the PML-N's manifesto, relating the long term national interest of Pakistan and specifically identifying the sustainability in all development policies will enable the manifesto in curating the PML-N as a more thorough and logic oriented political party.

How PML-N can Improve its Influence in Sindh

PML-N stands on a very weak position in Sindh. Despite the bad governance in last Government, Pakistan People's Party turned out to be the most dominant one in Sindh during general elections 2013. The PML-N had fielded dozens of its candidates across Sindh on national and provincial assembly seats. However it managed to secure only 3 seats out of the total of 60 National Assembly seats from Sindh. Even PML (N)'s president Sindh and former chief minister Syed Ghous Ali Shah lost on both provincial and national assembly seats in Khairpur.

The general perception of PML-N in Sindh is that it is a party of the Punjab province and focused on Punjab only. Whenever PML-N is in power, the most development takes in Punjab, not in Sindh or any other province. Securing the vote-bank in Punjab means securing the Prime Minister's seat, that is why Sindh is not as important to PML-N as Punjab. On the other hand, PPP is perceived to be a Sindh based party. This mentality needs to change. Other stenotype is the central leadership is not accessible to the people of Sindh, to get there grievances addressed the voters and workers will have to travel to Lahore or Islamabad.

To start with PML-N's leadership needs to be more visible and active on the ground level in Sindh. While in power, PML-N should take the initiative of federal developing projects from Sindh not other provinces.

PML-N has a very weak internal party structure in Sindh. It is recommended to hold provincial council sessions and let the counsellors and workers of Sindh

choose their local leadership at PML-N's platform. Currently, the PML-N's President of Sindh is handpicked and President Sindh uses his influence to select candidates for general and local body elections as well. PML-N's top leadership and central committee members should attend the council sessions so that the workers could directly interact with them. At present there is no communication channel between PMLN's leadership and workers.

The party fund for Sindh should be increased in-order to enable the mobilisation of workers and opening new offices. Also, allocating small funds to PML-N's local leaders in rural Sindh to address small issues faced by the community and getting them engaged in minor political activities. Moreover, during this tenure of PML-N the federal government should allocate further funds to address alarming issues in Sindh. PML-N should also take immediate action and make sure its highlighted in the media in any kind of emergency in Sindh.

PML-N should capitalise on improved security situation in Sindh after Zarb-e-Azb, Military and rangers operations. It is a good time for the party to do a more enthusiastic promotion campaign in Sindh particularly.

How the Quality of Candidates can be Improved?

i. Intra-Party Elections

Intra-party election is the corner stone of democratic culture within a political party. And the fact that there is only a nominal or no culture of intra-party election in the PMLN is damaging at many levels. There is not much for the party members to look forward to. The broader perception of PML-N is, the central leadership of the party is dominated by a limited number of individuals of a family and the same model is replicated at the regional level across the country.

The party has to do away with the yoke of dynastic politics and introduce a systematic design and organizational structure within the party so that the true leadership emerges and evolves step by step only on the basis of merit. The hierarchical structure within the party and intra-party elections is the key. In this regard, it is recommended that intra-party elections should be held according to the party constitution, that is, every three years.

It is also recommended that the regular meetings of the National Council of the party should be held

and the election of the party president be held in a transparent manner. It is advisable that secret balloting should be used in order to elect the party president unlike the previous intra-party elections-the recent ones held in 2006 and 2011.

Another recommendation in this regard is the devolution of the powers of the party president. Party president is a powerful figure within the party that the next-in-line party office bearers (Chairman and Vice Presidents) are practically rendered toothless. It is recommended that the powers of the president should be devolved in a just and transparent manner so that an effective second tier leadership emerges on the basis of their performance and be there to replace the first tier leadership when need be. Vacancy on the top and a vacuum down below would create chaos and serious leadership crisis.

ii. Local Government Elections: Devolution of Power

Devolution of power and empowerment of a common man is the linchpin of democratic culture. Although local body elections have already taken place and there is a third tier of leadership available, sadly however the powers have not been devolved to the local representatives. Power centralization in the provincial capitals is a death knell to the spirit of the LG polls. If a chairman or a councilor does not even have powers to deliver on needs as basic as healthcare, education and security and people have to look up to Lahore, Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar for the smallest of their problems, the local representatives would just be toothless which renders LB polls a useless exercise. District level politics is the nursery of political leadership and the only way where a person with lesser means may have a chance to come into politics. In this regard, PMLN being the ruling party in Punjab and the centre has to realize greater responsibility on its part.

It is recommended that article 140-A of the constitution which provides for the legal framework of local government elections should be amended in order to make government time-bound to hold local government elections regularly.

Furthermore, it is noteworthy that the mentioned article which provides for devolution of political, administrative and financial responsibility and authority to the elected representatives of the local Governments is vague in terms of the scope and limit of these powers. The powers to be devolved

should be clearly specified by every province in their local Government act(s).

iii. Electoral Reforms

Electoral reforms are significant in order to purge political lot of the black sheep through stringent, transparent and a merit-based process. Plus it should serve as a mechanism to the educated youth who aspire to take part in the political processes and decision-making. To the detriment of improvement of quality of the candidates, the prevalent election procedures and the related financial limitations make it nearly impossible for a common man to take part in politics.

It is recommended that transparent and merit-based party ticket allocations should be ensured. In this regard, ideological party workers with limited financial means should not be neglected.

Also, following the principle of separation of powers, administrative party office-bearers should be barred from contesting general elections. Likewise, those electable party workers who contest in general elections should not hold any office within the party's administration.

Finally, it is recommended that in order to encourage and support new leadership, party should facilitate the neglected sections of the society to contest elections where there is a greater likelihood of winning-where there are more votes for the party and lesser votes for the individual contestant. In this vein, women, youth, religious minorities etc. should be encouraged. Also the nomination of women on reserved seats should be made in a just and transparent manner as well.

What further Improvement is needed in the Quality of Governance at the Federal Level?

Rule of law

Rule of law is of primary importance in the civilized society. It is one of the core features in good governance. At present, the performance in this area needs improvement with immediate effect. It also requires full protection of human rights, particularly those of minorities. This recommendation seeks to strengthen the independence of the judiciary by its separation from the executive and ridding the courts of the menace of corruption, thereby presenting a clean and positive image of judiciary. The Quality of Justice in Pakistan can be improved by addressing some of the problems mentioned below:

- i. Frivolous and never ending litigation
- ii. Time frame for disposal of civil and criminal cases

- iii. No witness protection programme
- iv. Right to legal counsel needs improvement in Quality

Energy Production and Management

Current problem is dependence on expensive thermal fuel sources. The outdated machinery must be refurbished and upgraded so that per unit fuel consumption is reduced. Large scale Hydro power plant must be established as the main power generation resources. The Government should also consider renewable sources of generating power.

Disaster Preparation and Management & Environmental Sustainability

Climate policy is not defined and therefore, uncontrollable floods and earthquakes are frequent which are causing disasters of the national significance. The government should introduce strict laws for preservation of trees and introduce a nationwide forestation campaign. Furthermore, civil defence and scouting programmes should be introduced which train personnel so that there isn't reliance on armed forces for relief work all the time. The low water level in the majority of Pakistan is very alarming; there is immediate need of small dams all over the country. Effectively Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) approval is required for development projects. On the paper but not in practice 120 days for approval from Environment Protection Agency is required. The government should address all the required elements of EIA. The government should also encourage the eco-friendly products by providing tax incentives.

Council of Common Interest

According to Article 153 of the constitution of Pakistan, there is a Council of Common Interest consisting of Chief Ministers of the provinces and three members of the federal government, which is to be chaired by the Prime Minister as the chairman. And it is bound to meet at-least once in 90 days. The last CCI meeting was held in March 2015, which is the violation of constitution. CCI meeting should take place on time so that all the provinces could be taken on board on the issues of nation interest, such as CPEC.

E-Governance and Technology Involvement

PML-N government should further invest in use of ICT for effective monitoring and evaluation taken for public welfare at federal and provincial levels. This should directly deal with health, education and law and order. Role of Punjab information technology board in this regard is appreciated but such boards need to be established in other Provinces.



**Youth Special Committee to
Provide Recommendations to
Pakistan People's Party;
Report**

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Introduction

Youth Special Committee was assigned to provide Recommendations on the following key areas:

- 5 key changes/additions in the Party Manifesto
- PPP Vote bank declined in Pakistan generally and in Punjab particularly. What are the main reasons behind the decline and what measures should be adopted to revive Party popularity before 2018 Elections?
- PPP has become more Sindh-Centric. What is the main reason behind and how to revive party influence?

Five Proposed Changes /Additions in Party Manifesto

Administrative Reforms

2013 manifesto of the PPP contains a clear stance taken up by the party that it supports formation of a new province “Bahawalpur-Junioobi Punjab” in the Southern Punjab. It is a well-observed fact that a demand for creation of new provinces exists in other parts of Pakistan too e.g. Hazara Province in southern KPK, Pushtoon province in northern Baluchistan, and demand of creation of a new province consisting of Karachi and Hyderabad in Sindh. As all such demands, including that of Southern Punjab only reflect ethnic friction, creation of new provinces on linguistic basis might do more harm than good.

Keeping this in view, we have come up with a proposition of resource distribution within the provinces so that the problem of administration of various regions within a province may be addressed effectively. It has commonly been seen that once the provinces take their share from the Divisible Pool under the NFC, the whole discretion of the utilization of those funds transfers to the provincial executive, which might or might not take all the regions of the province on board in the decision making process related to allocation of development funds. This in turn gives rise to a sense of deprivation in the peoples of such regions, which consequently remain under-developed. In order to address this issue, we suggest that provincial “Councils of Common Interests” be created, which may include a representative from each of the regions of that province. The recommendations of the provincial CCI must be made binding on the provincial chief executive, so that allocation of funds might be done equitably, with fair inclusion and representation of all the regions of the province. It must also be made binding on the provincial executive, through the recommendations of the CCI, that the under-developed regions of the province must be given priority in development funds allocation, so that they might be brought at par with the other developed regions of that province.

The Committee also recommends the addition of a clause to provide fiscal autonomy to federally administered regions such GB and FATA to run their

own financial affairs through their elected representatives.

Intra-Party Elections

The Committee recommends taking a thorough review of the party Constitution as it is sufficiently vague and providing a clear stance about the will to conduct intra party elections on a regular basis. The constitution provides no clear rules about the qualifications of candidates, Electoral College and the procedure of elections at the district and provincial level. The constitution is also silent about the power vested in different office bearers. All these clarifications must be included in the manifesto to do away with the allegation of dictatorship culture within the party.

Economic Issues

Land & agricultural reforms were once the benchmark of PPP but no steps were taken after the failure of land reforms in Bhutto's era. Likewise no considerable steps were taken to overcome the failures of the experiment of nationalization of all industries. This committee recommends that PPP should include clear actionable strategy about land reforms, progressive taxation and tax amnesty schemes in its manifesto.

Social and Cultural Policy

There was a distinct beautiful culture attached with PPP at the time of its emergence in 1960s. It appealed to the people of working class in the whole federation, irrespective of their ethnicity, gender, color, sect, cast and creed. That socialist culture of PPP is long gone and we find no hint about the revival of that culture in PPP manifesto. This committee recommends the party to once again clarify that ideology which had a uniting force, a pluralistic and progressive cultural values of its own.

Foreign Policy

PPP is the only progressive leftist party at the national level currently in Pakistan and it has its distinct identity rooted in the leftist socialist ideas. The world is going through a transition in the current era in which many leftist figures and movements are emerging in many countries. This committee believes that PPP should give a clear stance to align itself with the emerging leftist movements throughout the world. Only then it can regain its ideological and popular support, which was once the benchmark of PPP.

Reasons for PPP's Downfall in Punjab

Leadership Crisis after Benazir Bhutto's Death

In the face of looming terrorist threats to Benazir, she came to Pakistan and campaigned for the party for the general elections in 2008. However, her sudden demise in terrorist attack left a huge vacuum in the party as there was no alternative and as charismatic as her. There were doubts that PPP won't be able to participate in elections. Some even said that the PPP won't be able to survive for long. In the midst of this situation, Asif Ali Zardari took reigns of the party and PPP took part in elections. As a result PPP not only formed government

in Federal and Sindh, it also formed a coalition in Punjab. However, a number of close confidantes loyal to Benazir had serious reservations over Asif Zardari. People like Safdar Abbasi, Naheed and Sahbzada Ghazanfur Gul even went on to say that Benazir's image was somewhat tainted because of Zardari's corruption.

Lawyers' movement and Restoration of Chief Justice of Pakistan

PPP took charge of the government at a time when there was a full-fledged lawyers movement going on in the country. Since the military dictator had deposed Chief Justice and all the political parties including PPP had participated in rallies for the restoration of Chief Justice of Pakistan, the expectation was that the newly formed democratic government will immediately restore Chief Justice. However, the delay in restoring Chief Justice coupled with the agitation put forth by PML-N gave an impression as if PPP was not willing to have an independent judiciary. Although, PPP restored Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhary later on but the reluctance coupled with PML-N led agitation sent a wrong message from PPP side.

Media Management

PPP media management had also been very poor. PPP didn't have spokesperson that could create a positive image of PPP in the minds of the people. The result was that, media continued to carry out trials and reported major corruption scams against PPP government whereas PPP leaders didn't try to counter the negative image being developed through such image.

To add fuel to fire, there was an unsaid feud between PPP government and Iftikhar Ahmed Chaudhary led judiciary. He left no stone unturned to take as many suo moto notices against PPP as possible. It was also the time when media fervently reported on Supreme Court cases. The media trial coupled with judicial trials of PPP developed a negative image of PPP in the minds of the people. Also, because of the media management, people are comparing a proactive Shahbaz Sharif in Punjab with ageing Qaim Ali Shah in Sindh and it again sends a negative message against PPP.

Politics of reconciliation and PTI factor in Punjab

PPP politics of reconciliation with PML-N in the spirit to block any way for the martial law backfired as it failed to become an alternative voice against PML-N in Punjab. While PPP's negative image building was being done by PML-N media team and judicial trial, PPP failed to bring PML-N in negative light and give them a tough time in Punjab. This created resentment among PPP leadership who wanted PPP central leadership to allow them to agitate and do the tough opposition.

In the midst of this situation, PTI emerged in Punjab and began to challenge PML-N. It began to argue that PPP and PML-N were two sides of the same coin. PTI capitalized on the vacuum left by PPP and eventually

replaced PPP within Punjab.

PPP had called PML-Q "Qatil league" and held them responsible for the death of Benazir Bhutto. Benazir also named Parvaiz Ilahi as perpetrators of the attack if she was ever killed. However, the same "Qatil league" became hand in glove with Asif Zardari led PPP afterwards. In fact, Parvaiz Ilahi was offered a position of Deputy Prime Minister within PPP cabinet. This hurt the feelings of PPP diehard workers who felt that PPP leaders were not bringing to justice the murderers of Benazir Bhutto.

Failure to conclude the investigation of Benazir Bhutto's murder:

One of the biggest expectations of PPP workers from the PPP led government was that it will unearth the murderers of Benazir Bhutto and bring them to book. However, PPP leaders not only failed to have a conclusive investigation of Benazir Bhutto but also failed to unearth and bring to book the murderers of Benazir Bhutto and gave an impression as if Asif Zardari and his team were deliberately delaying the investigation of Benazir Bhutto murder case. No active election campaign owing to terrorist threat in Punjab. PPP was also faced with a looming terrorist threat and was not able to actively do election campaign in Punjab for the general elections 2013.

Defeating Mentality

PPP was also suffering from defeating mentality. They had somehow accepted that it was not their turn to be in power and it was inevitable for them to lose in general elections of 2013. Because of this, they also didn't try hard to campaign for the general elections and create a positive image of PPP.

Proposed Measures / Recommendations to be taken to revive PPP

Media Management

PPP needs to prepare a team of media people who would make sure that a positive image of PPP is created through media.

Politics of Agitation

PPP has to revive the politics of agitation on genuine issues of public interest against PML-N. It cannot stay silent for too long.

Reorganization of Party workers

PPP workers from Punjab want Mr. Bilawal Bhutto to enter the field, hold jalsas and meetings with them on regular basis.

Model of Good Governance in Sindh

PPP has its government in Sindh. It has to make Sindh a model of Good Governance in Pakistan to woo more voters. It should ensure merit and transparency in its dealings with in Sindh Government. Without this, it would be difficult to convince people to vote for PPP again.



**Youth Special Committee to
Provide Recommendations to
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI);
Report**

Sr. #	Name	Designation
1	Mr. Zain UIAbideen Sohail YP5-43-PUNJAB32	Chairperson Youth Special Committee/Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
2	Syed Ali Yaseenzai YP5-04-BALOCHISTAN04	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
3	Mr. Aaqib Ali Khan YP5-06-KP01	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
4	Mr. Anas Munir YP5-14-PUNJAB03	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
5	Mr. Ans Khurram YP5-15-PUNJAB04	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
6	Hafiz Muhammad Faizan YP5-20-PUNJAB09	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
7	Ms. Ifrah Waqar YP5-21-PUNJAB10	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
8	Mr. Jasir Shahbaz YP5-22-PUNJAB11	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
9	Ms. Mariam Hassan Naqvi YP5-24-PUNJAB13	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
10	Mr. Mohammad Hassan Shaigan YP5-25-PUNJAB14	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
11	Mr. Muhammad Farhan YP5-29-PUNJAB18	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
12	Mr. Rizwan YP5-36-PUNJAB25	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
13	Mr. Asad Palijo YP5-44-SINDH01	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
14	Mr. Sohaib Nehal YP5-55-SINDH12	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
15	Syed Nousherwan Haroon Kirmani YP5-57-SINDH14	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
16	Barrister Jawad Ahmed Qureshi YP5-60-SINDH17	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
17	Ms. Irum Pervaiz YP5-62-ICT02	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan

18	Mr. Haroon Ur Rashid YP5-67-FATA03	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
19	Mr. Muhammad Fawad Afridi YP5-68-FATA04	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
21	Mr. Abubakr Ayesb YP5-69-AJK01	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan

Introduction

Youth Parliamentarians were given a mock situation where the Top leadership of the three Mainstream Political parties of Pakistan requested them to devise a recommendation plan for a set number of issues.

The below mentioned areas requested to be worked upon:

1. Recommend 5 Key changes/Additions in the 2013 Party Manifesto
2. What should KP Government do between now and 2018 elections to present KP as a Model for the rest of Pakistan
3. How PTI can help grow its influence at the national level and acquiring more seats in Punjab
4. How PTI can Insure more competent candidates to take part in the GE 2018
5. In your viewpoint is PTI lacking a comprehensive strategy that can be aligned with the vision of party leadership? If yes, how can the party overcome this shortcoming?

We have divided each point and laid down our plan accordingly. We have also tried to limit our Recommendations to actionable points and not usual rhetoric so that understanding and implementation can be practical.

Recommend 5 Key changes/Additions in the 2013 Party Manifesto

i. Foreign Policy

- a. Mention and define a clear strategy on Occupied Kashmir, with the focus being on Bi-Lateral Dialogue with India. We propose to Add specifically the strategy to tackle the Kashmir issue which was missing from the 2013 Election Manifesto.
- b. Clear Strategy on Afghan Refugees. Return or integration to be clearly defined.

ii. Population Control

With one of the fastest growing Populations in the world and limited resources, this extremely important policy segment was missing in the 2013 Manifesto. A thorough plan to control population through marketing campaigns, incentivizing less children, and getting religious scholars on board to remove the contraceptive use Taboos, is recommended to be included in the 2018 Manifesto.

iii. Education

- a. Mention the Content and Syllabus up-

gradation. The Syllabus needs to be up to date with the global learning standards especially at the Primary school level.

- b. Promotion on learning of regional languages/Regional Cultures in the schools.
- c. Specify the education system to be followed under the “One Education System” as multiple systems are currently at practice in Pakistan.

iv. National Security

- a. Cyber Crime Unit to be formed, protecting the citizens in their Personal Virtual space in the spirit of Article 14 (1).
- b. 2013 Manifesto recommends negotiations as the first solution to the terrorism problems, but with recent events of failure of Negotiations we need to incorporate that any organization that raises arms against the state would be dealt with an armed intervention to establish the writ of the state.
- c. The points of NAP should be included in the Manifesto to reinforce the narrative of countering terrorism and sectarianism, and emphasis should be laid that when PTI comes to Power it would be implemented in letter and spirit.
- d. Security and effective human monitoring on the Durand Line would be ensured to protect Pakistan's Western Front. It is understandable that currently the resources required to seal the Border are not available, thus effective monitoring needs to be implemented in order to stop cross border terrorism import.

v. Constitutional Amendments

- a. Minorities Black laws amendment, Marriage laws introduction clause to be added in the Manifesto.
- b. Abolishment of reserved seats for Minorities. Elections to be held on Minority specific seats.
- c. MPs need to be present in the Assembly for a minimum set number of days with disqualification as a sanction. The minimum days need to be enough for making sure that the candidate spends time for legislative business while having spare time to spend in His/her constituency owing to ground realities of expectations in our country.
- d. “Sasta Insaaf” through Free Legal representations for all Stance.
- e. The hard stance needs to go. 90 days deadlines need to be removed as they build expectations that are not close to the ground realities. Such stance area used to discredit even the

measures taken to fulfill the claim.

What should KP Government do between now and 2018 elections to present KP as a Model for the rest of Pakistan?

Justice, Nepotism and internal Rifts

- i. Few party tickets were issued to relatives of MPAs in local elections, Defeat in such polls reflected public mandate against Nepotism. It should be avoided in all future appointments.
- ii. Internal rifts and relations with coalition partners need to be focused upon. The Party needs to give an outlook of Unity.

Administration

- a. Make the 7 divisional HQs as administrative models so that one can easily point out as test cases.
- b. Existing Health infrastructure improvements and concentration on developing new hospitals is very important as Health is one of the most neglected areas of governance and even small improvements can outshine other provinces to make an impact in public perception.
- c. Model Police stations to be built in all districts rather than just Peshawar
- d. Constitute a School Protection training program for existing Security personal deputed at the Schools
- e. Municipal services (clean water, sewerage etc)
- f. In light of recent disasters, the KPK PDMA, needs to be reinforced with recourses such as funding and forecasting equipment from the local budget rather than waiting for the centre.

Education

- a. Capacity building of teachers through practical trainings and workshops
- b. Empower Parent Teacher Councils (PTCs)
- c. Syllabus- Encourage diversity and discourage rote learning
- d. Improve coordination between higher education and provincial government
- e. Inter provincial cultural exchanges to promote the better image of KPK in the eyes of other provinces

Economic Policies

- a. Vocational training programs to improve employment opportunities for the Youth
- b. Fulfill the claim of widening tax base by achieving Promised numbers
- c. Jawan Markaz (Youth Centers) implementation to guide and facilitate the booming youth population
- d. Cultural heritage promotion and Impactful

Tourism through infrastructure development and Sustainable Marketing.

Impact

- a. A Comprehensive Marketing Campaign to promote the better things happening in the Province, not just on social and mainstream media but local media of rural areas and smaller cities.

How PTI can help grow its Influence at the National Level and Acquiring more seats in Punjab?

Organizational Structure

- a. Investing in human resource to develop a decentralised local leadership at grass roots level. Intra-party elections can get you the HR but developing them to be effective leaders and more importantly winning votes is very important.
- b. Voices should be raised against the system rather than attacking the people in the ruling parties which may hurt sentiments of their existing voters. They might start ignoring even the genuine issues because of the bias created due to insulting the previous leaders.
- c. Should not make alliances with political parties with diverse political agendas and ideologies. Should run welfare/awareness programs in rural areas to appeal to masses instead of focusing on protests which does make a media impact, but ignores the massive segment not influenced by the media.
- d. Engage with educated youth through educational institutions and get them into the party fold.
- e. Extensive Door to door campaigning, and focussing on local issues rather than 'Jalsas' and mass gatherings specially in rural and remote areas, where people have localised issues, and a general inclination towards the respect/importance given by a visiting candidate.
- f. Focus groups and surveys should be arranged in all provinces to identify local issues and Government's shortcomings. This should be used to develop a message that tackles those issues rather than one National Slogan for every-one.
- g. Assume active legislative and participatory role in Punjab assembly to build a case for pro-legislative voters.
- h. Raise the local issues to create a sense of Ideological belonging between party and voters.
- i. Engage with farmers in rural Punjab through extension services, and introduce farmer support programs on floor of Punjab Assembly.

How PTI can ensure competent candidates to take part in the General Elections 2018

Selection Committee

The first and foremost step is to strengthen the

Selection Committee. For that it should have a greater degree of independence and autonomy. The role of the Selection Committee should be to check the:

- a. Background
- b. Credentials
- c. Beliefs of the Candidates

Establish proper criteria for the allocation of tickets. Local criteria to be shared with the candidates for self-evaluation. The Criteria like any job description should be a localised requirement for every area. This way the committee would have a written criterion, which would minimize the chances of Nepotism and Favouritism. To shortlist candidates a year prior to the General Elections so that they have enough time to work in their areas and make a campaign plan. The best candidate out of the shortlisted would thus be prepared for the elections and would have ample time to showcase his credentials.

Training and Development

PTI should polish its candidates by organizing training workshops and short courses in election management, campaigning, expectation management and public handling. Monitor the performance of the candidate before/after joining the party and after winning the Elections via Oversight Committee. Convince the non-political influential people, encouraging them to play their parts in electoral politics and to back the party candidates.

Dynastic and Youth Politics

- a. Family politics and nepotism should be discouraged; rule of merit should be upheld, but it is understandable that if multiple members of a family are political workers and deserve to be recognized, then their family ties should not be held against them.
- b. Local party leadership should have advisory powers in nominating the candidates but the final decision should be of the committee and the Chairman. This would ensure multiple checks and 4 eye principal would ensure tickets are not given to non-deserving candidates.
- c. No seat should be held un-contested in Pakistan. In places where PTI is low on popularity, youth should be preferred, so that PTI can ensure youth participation in electoral politics and build future support in these areas.
- d. Debates between prospective candidates should be held in their respective localities before allotting the tickets. This would help prepare the candidates before actual campaigning stars. This will also help to recognize local issues to be addressed in the campaigning.

In your viewpoint is PTI lacking a comprehensive strategy that can be aligned with the vision of Party leadership? If yes, how can the party overcome this shortcoming?

PTI Vision

Modern Islamic Welfare State

Most of the above mentioned recommendations take PTI closer to its intended vision. The Party leadership currently does not give the impact that they are following the strategy towards achieving its vision as the party is limiting itself to agitation rather than grass root penetration through localized trouble shooting.

If the above-mentioned recommendations are followed practically and the leadership adopts the strategy of promoting their actions towards Modernity and Islamic Welfare combined with understanding what the masses want then the message would be clearer than it is now and the popularity would start translating into votes.

Appendices

Appendix I

A Mock letter from Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, President PML-N

Dear Members Youth Parliament Pakistan,

I hope this finds you well.

As Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, I understand you have been actively involved in undergoing a comprehensive training on democratic and political affairs of Pakistan, legislative processes and leadership skills through the platform provided to you. It is in this perspective that I am writing down this letter to you, seeking your assistance in improving my party's working and policies to help prepare us for the next round of General Elections of Pakistan in 2018 and beyond.

Most of you must be aware that Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz came into existence in 1993 and emerged as the mainstream political party along with Pakistan Peoples Party during the 1990s and since then has been into power from time to time. While staying in power, PML-N is focussing on making Pakistan a stronger and more prosperous state and we are confident that we would again get the people's mandate due to our performance.

I am very much interested in seeking your well-considered recommendations on the following from our youth. Fresh minds like you can help us improve further in our working and policy making before the next General Elections.

- i. After going through the Party Manifesto issued before the General Elections of 2013, what 5 key changes/additions you want us to incorporate in our Manifesto for next General Elections 2018?
- ii. Why PML-N has failed to win a significant number of seats in rural and urban Sindh. Although PML-N is popular in Punjab, KP and some parts of Balochistan, the party has not been able to make a headway in Sindh. What steps should be taken by us that could help PMLN to grow our party influence in Sindh?
- iii. How can PML-N improve quality of Candidates for the upcoming Elections in 2018?
- iv. Do you think a further improvement is needed in the quality of governance at the federal level? If so, please identify the key areas that require improvement and indicate the major weaknesses in the Governance in your opinion.

Your recommendations and findings on the above would be of immense value and will be of great assistance to the party to help achieve its goals and objectives by next General Elections of 2018.

Looking forward to receiving your recommendations.

Regards,
Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
President, Pakistan Muslim League (N)

Appendix II

A Mock letter from Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Chairman PPP

Dear Members Youth Parliament Pakistan,

I hope this finds you well.

As Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, I understand you have been actively involved in undergoing a comprehensive training on democratic and political affairs of Pakistan, legislative processes and leadership skills through the platform provided to you. It is in this perspective that I am writing down this letter to you, seeking your assistance in improving my party's working and policies to help prepare us for the next round of General Elections of Pakistan in 2018 and beyond.

Most of you must be aware that The Pakistan Peoples Party came into existence on November 30, 1967. The party has seen some of the charismatic leadership like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Mohtarma Benzair Bhutto. First democratic transition from one democratic Government to another democratic Government in the history of Pakistan was also done under the leadership of Mr. Asif Ali Zardari.

I am very much keen to seek your recommendations on the following from our young women and men. Fresh minds like you can help us improve further in our working and policy making before the next General Elections.

- i. After going through the Party Manifesto issued before the General Elections of 2013, what **5 key changes/additions** you want us to incorporate in our Manifesto for next General Elections 2018?
- ii. It has been witnessed during the course of time that PPP vote bank in Pakistan in general and in Punjab in particular has declined. The comparison of percentage vote of 1970s and 2013 depicts a gradual decline in popularity of the party. What do you think can be the main reasons behind this and what measure should be adopted to revive party popularity before 2018 Elections?
- iii. It is also being seen that PPP has become more Sindh-centric party as compared to the past when it was considered a national party of the entire federation with considerable representation from almost all parts of the country. What in your opinion can be the major reason behind this and how to revive party influence and popularity in rest of the country?

Your recommendations and findings on the above would be of immense value and will be of great assistance to the party to help achieve its goals and objectives by next General Elections of 2018.

Looking forward for receiving a fruitful set of recommendations.

Regards,

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari
Chairman, Pakistan People's Party

Appendix III

A Mock letter from Imran Khan, Chairman PTI

Dear Members Youth Parliament Pakistan,

I hope this finds you well.

As Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, I understand you have been actively involved in undergoing a comprehensive training on democratic and political affairs of Pakistan, legislative processes and leadership skills through the platform provided to you. It is in this perspective that I am writing to you, seeking your assistance in improving my party's working and policies to help prepare us for the next round of General Elections of Pakistan in 2018 and beyond.

Most of you must be aware that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was founded in 1996 in Lahore. PTI was launched as a party to represent the true aspirations of the people of Pakistan. Taking part in the 2002 Elections, I was able to become a Member of Parliament, however I have always been dissatisfied with the political system of Pakistan. Therefore, my party has started grass root campaign to raise awareness about the political system of Pakistan. Engaging the youth and providing opportunities to them to enter politics has always been an important part of PTI programme. Though, we succeeded in getting mandate in KP in 2013 Elections and we are making efforts in KP to set it as an example for other political parties, however, we are very keen to develop a comprehensive plan and strategy before the 2018 elections for the party.

I am very much interested in seeking your well-considered recommendations on the following from our youth. Fresh minds like you can help us improve further in our working and policy making before the next General Elections.

- i. After going through the Party Manifesto issued before the General Elections of 2013, what **5 key changes/additions** you want us to incorporate in our Manifesto for next General Elections 2018?
- ii. What should KP Government do between now and 2018 General Elections to represent KP as a model for rest of Pakistan?
- iii. How PTI can help grow its influence at the national level and acquiring more seats in Punjab?
- iv. How PTI can ensure more competent candidates to take part in the General Elections 2018?
- v. In your viewpoint, is PTI lacking a comprehensive strategy that can be aligned with the vision of Party Leadership? If yes, how can the party overcome this shortcoming?

Your recommendations and findings on the above would be of immense value and will be of great assistance to the party to help achieve its goals and objectives by next General Elections of 2018.

Looking forward to receiving your recommendations.

Regards,

Imran Khan
Chairman, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf



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