

## **Observation of GBLA 8<sup>th</sup> Session**

**Gilgit, April 20, 2016.** The 2nd sitting of the 8th session of Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative assembly was held today while Speaker GBLA chaired the full session of the assembly. The members of the assembly were scheduled to sit in the assembly lobby at 11:00 AM. Session started at its scheduled time, continued for 1 hour and 50 minutes and adjourned until April 22, 2016.

### **Key Observations House Proceeding:**

#### **Bills and resolutions:**

Parliamentary Secretary for Legislation Mr. Aurungzeb Advocate introduced a bill on the Regulation of Sound (Use of loudspeaker) in GB. After the amendment “this Act will not be applicable on religious activities” the bill was passed by the house. Two resolutions were presented by Kacho Imtiaz Haider Khan and Rizwan Ali of MWM which were dopted by the house.

#### **General Observations on representation:**

- At the start of the session, 22 members (67%) of the assembly were present in the house including the Leader of the house while 3 members joined the session later.
- Total number of women members of the assembly was 2 (33%) at the beginning of the session while 1 member joined the session later.
- All preliminary secretaries and chair persons of standing committee were present in the house for the full session.
- Leader of the Opposition remained there for the full session.
- Chief Minister was not present in the session.
- 6 out of 7 ministers were present for the session.
- Out of 33 assembly members, 8 members were absent during the session but their application for leave was not recorded before the house.

#### **Representation and Responsiveness:**

In the beginning of the session member GBLA Jafarullah Khan pointed out the risk of budget lapse of the existing year. Speaker GBLA made two committees to regulate the budget expenses within the specified time frame and he also made a Special Committee on Budget Development to prevent the budget lapse. Speaker GBLA subjected the committees to present their respective report in next 15 days.

Member GBLA Muhammad Shafi complained that relief accessories did not reach to the affected people of Haramosh Bala. Aurungzeb Advocate clarified by saying that GB-DMA will approach all the affected areas with relief accordingly.

On point of order Ghulam Hussain Advocate claimed that vacancies in the health sector of his district have been compromised with other district of GB. Speaker GBLA advised health minister Haider Khan to relocate these vacancies district wise.

#### **Outcome:**

One bill regarding the regulation of sound (Use of loudspeaker) was introduced and passed by the house while two resolutions were presented by the members of MWM and adopted by the house.

**Transparency:**

The order of the day was restricted to the legislators whereas it was not available for the observers and others. The information on attendance of the legislators was not available for observers and general public.

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