

Primer: Party Manifestos for Election 2024

Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan

About the Primer

The primer has been prepared to provide an overview of the manifestos of the three main political parties – Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz, Pakistan People’s Party, and Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf – contesting in the General Elections 2024 on 8 Feb, 02024. This document highlights agendas of each party, contained in its election manifesto 2024, with regards to key focus areas. The primer is arranged thematically and is presented in comparative columns to make it easy for the reader to contrast items on the list.

Objective and Methodology

The objective of this document is to serve as a handy information memo for public consumption based on items outlined in the manifestos of the three leading political parties. As these manifestos are lengthy documents, it can be difficult to cut through the noise. This primer therefore compiles the topline items that stand out. This primer is designed for the purpose of information only and is in no way exhaustive. The research team at PILAP has prepared it after a desk study of the publicly available manifestos presented by the aforementioned parties. It presents information as contained in each manifesto in summarized form for accessible review; it does not provide any analysis on the content of the manifestos or any opinion on the viability, or lack thereof, of any proposed agendas. However, by presenting the manifestos in comparative columns, the document leaves that assessment to the reader.

Why Vote?

Voting is a vital part of the democratic process. The right to political expression is a fundamental right guaranteed to all citizens in the constitution. Elections give the citizenry a regularly mandated chance to participate in the political process; to uphold greater transparency in public affairs, to improve governance, and to shape the making of sound economic decisions and other social and political policies. Nothing but the will of the people should give legitimacy to a sovereign democratic state. This makes a citizen’s vote not just a right but also a responsibility. Your vote is indeed an opportunity to elect representatives, but it is also the only way to ensure the doors of accountability are open. We urge you to exercise your right to vote, and do so as wisely as you can.

Executive Summaries of Manifestos

Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz

Focus remains on economic growth, structural reforms, energy development, and infrastructure expansion. PML-N vows to bring down the inflation and unemployment rate by creating at least 10mn jobs while also bringing the poverty level down to 25% from 38% in five years. It has set a target of 6% GDP growth, annual exports of \$60bn, and \$40bn in yearly remittances from expatriates. PML-N aims to reduce electricity bills by 20-30%. They further pledge to add 15,000MW to the national grid and implement a nationwide

10,000MW solar power initiative. The party also alluded to its plans to ensure closer ties with China and reduced taxes for industries while ensuring increase in the tax-to-GDP ratio from 10.4% to 13.5% by the end of the year 2029, along with privatization of loss-making State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs). PML-N’s reform agenda includes a promise to abolish NAB and to restore Articles 62 and 63 of the Constitution (Disqualifications for membership of Majlis-e-Shoora) to their original form.

Pakistan People’s Party

PPP’s election manifesto heavily focuses on social protection for the poor: programs targeting poverty and hunger alleviation, measures to protect the rights of minorities and marginalized groups, and an emphasis on strengthening the federation. PPP proposes five pillars of a new people’s economy: economic stability, increment in public and private investment, protection of vulnerable, addressing of fiscal imbalances, and management of debt and external resources. Some of the key takeaways from the manifesto are: real incomes for wage earners to be doubled in five years, provision of 300 free units of electricity for the poorest consumers, harnessing of solar and wind energy, construction of 3 million houses for women heads of households, provision of free primary healthcare, kissan/hari cards for agriculture workers, mazdoor cards for laborer, youth cards for young people, introduction of a Right to Food Act in parliament, and establishment of a free 1000-day nutritional program for expectant/new mothers. PPP hopes to fund these programs by abolishing 17 federal ministries found redundant following the 18th Amendment, saving PKR 300bn annually as well as by eliminating subsidies. PPP has pledged to protect the 18th Amendment and expand its implementation, criminalize enforced disappearances, hold intelligence agencies accountable, and repeal discriminatory and outdated colonial laws, including revisiting Clause 2 (1)(d) of the Army Act. Special emphasis has been given to a climate resilient future.

Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf

PTI’s manifesto refers to the creation of a state that embodies the spirit of Medina and is imbued with Islamic values and an Islamic welfare system. PTI has focused on rule of law, governance, justice, and accountability. PTI proposes constitutional amendments to revise the process of the Prime Minister’s election (direct election by voters rather than MNAs), reduce the tenure of the National Assembly to four years, reduce the tenure of the Senate to five years, and revise the process of the election of Senators (50 percent elected directly and 50 percent indirectly). Furthermore, PTI has pledged to establish a ‘Truth and Reconciliation Commission’ to heal the country by bridging its divides. Other commitments made by PTI include: reforms aimed at broadening the tax net, expanding the Sehat Card for the provision of free healthcare across Pakistan, reinstating the Ehsaas program, and introducing a uniform education system across the country. Special emphasis has been given to accountability across the board including efficient handling of white-collar crimes, creation of provincial anti-corruption forces, and establishment of an elite anti-corruption academy.

Key Agenda Items

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
Economy, Poverty, & Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4% GDP growth by the end of the year 2025, 5% GDP growth by the end of 2026, and over 6% GDP growth consistently in the years following Inflation to be brought to 4-6% in four years Bring CAD by bringing it in the range of 1.5% of GDP Increase per capita income to \$2,000 in five years Reduce poverty by 25% in five years Target to create over 10 million jobs in next five years Prioritize reforms in IT, agriculture, tourism, pharmaceutical, and electric vehicle sectors Legislate 5-year taxation reforms in 2024-25 budget that will remain stable until 2029 Reduce import duties and increase export duties on a graduating scale on raw materials Reduce NOC and licensing requirements for low and medium-risk businesses, industry, and exporters Create a Ministry of Economy through an integrated reform-oriented fusion of Commerce Division, Industries Division, Board of Investment, and Pakistan Customs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Double real income for wage earners. Increase Minimum Wage in real terms by 8% every year to take it to living wage Take the Tax-to GDP ratio to 15% over five years Provide targeted subsidies and undertake tax reforms Maintain the Debt-to-GDP ratio in accordance with the Fiscal Responsibility and Debt Limitations Act Form NFC and announce a new NFC Award within the first 6 months of its formation, based on correct population figures End untargeted subsidies and untargeted tax expenditures, yielding savings of over Rs.1.5 trillion to the public purse Reform State-Owned Enterprises Expand Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) through augmented resources and improved targeting mechanisms Double the federal and provincial governments' rights-based social protection spending, from the current 0.6 percent of GDP to 1.2 percent of GDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce inflation to a range of 5% to 7% Increase exports of traditional goods to 15% of the GDP within five years, with the goal of reaching 20% of GDP within a decade Reduce public debt to below 60% of GDP Running state-owned entities like Pakistan Railways, Airlines, and Steel Mills through Public-Private Partnership schemes Tourism will be promoted as a multi-billion-dollar industry Attract investments from Pakistanis abroad to increase remittances Invest in Artificial Intelligence and advanced technology to enhance agricultural productivity Shift from debt-driven growth to trade and Investment. Sustained, sustainable, inclusive, labor-intensive, export-oriented, and agriculture-led growth Restore macroeconomic stability, including the rebuilding of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reserves to cover three months of import requirements Transparency in the use of public funds
Legal & Judicial Reforms and Federation/Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accountability centric Code of Conduct for judiciary Live court proceedings of Superior Courts Appointment of Superior Court Judges on merit Amendment in Article 212 of the Constitution and other legislative steps to reduce the misuse of Constitutional Jurisdiction of High Courts under Article 199 of the Constitution by civil servants Abolition of NAB Restoration of Articles 62 and 63 to their original state Reform family and child custody laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguard the democratic, federal and parliamentary structure of the state Uphold principles of the 18th Amendment ensuring guaranteed autonomy to the provinces Overlapping responsibilities in federal ministries and provincial departments will be addressed 2006 Charter of Democracy to be implemented: setting up of a Federal Constitution Court, revisiting the procedure of appointment of Judges of Higher Judiciary Civil service reforms to be introduced as legislation Magisterial powers to district commissioners to address the challenges of private jirga system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representative parliamentary democracy for direct election of Prime Minister Limit national constituencies to a maximum of 300,000 residents Senate to become a directly elected body based on 50% of the senators elected by proportional representation Create new provinces from each existing one Appointing judges based on merit, diversity, gender, ethnicity, and socio-economic backgrounds Increase the number of female judges Establish an independent judicial commission responsible for the selection and appointment of judges

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour Reforms aimed to safeguard rights of employees, and creating a fair and just working environment • Right to access to justice shall be recognized • Introducing panchayat system for alternate dispute resolution • Creation of an Ethics Committee to monitor code of conduct of Parliament members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant overseas Pakistanis the right to vote • Federal Constitutional Court to be established to address constitutional issues while the Supreme and High Courts to handle regular civil and criminal cases • Independent Judicial Complaints Commission • Rules governing Suo Moto powers to be revised • FATA and PATA areas to be empowered with local self-governments. • Revive the Aghaz-e-Huqooq-e-Baluchistan initiative • Cross-Party Parliamentary Commission to be constituted for Baluchistan. Committed to involvement of local communities in the utilization of natural resources • Pursue the creation of South Punjab Province • Increase allocation of GB's share from federal revenue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run background checks on potential candidates to verify their professional integrity, financial probity, and overall suitability for a judicial role • Establish whistleblower protection mechanisms to encourage judicial officers and staff to report any undue influence or attempts by judiciary • Empower the existing ombudsmen system • Speeding up of family court cases • Comprehensive overhaul of Pakistan Penal Code, Civil Procedure Code, and Criminal Procedure Code • Streamline anticorruption structure and establishment of national anti-corruption policy cell and provincial anti-corruption forces
Foreign Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve ground connectivity through road and rail with Central Asian states • Increase connectivity and improve effective border system for peace and trade with Afghanistan • Development of relations with India on the basis of regional peace and economic development • Primacy to be given to the resolution of disputes, especially that of Jammu and Kashmir • Build stronger relations with Russia with focus on energy and trade • Work together with US on the issues of global economy, trade, health, education, IT and climate change • Work with various European governments on migration and mobility issues • Pakistan's involvement with forums like Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), G-77, and D-8. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free-trade arrangements (FTAs), trans-regional and intra-regional energy supply and security arrangements, digital connections and secure transport and freight corridors • Leverage trade agreements with Afghanistan and Iran • Prioritize ties with Middle East and Muslim World – KSA, UAE, Qatar, GCC countries, and Turkey • Support for political and humanitarian struggle in Kashmir and Palestine • Revive the Pakistan-U.S. Strategic Dialogue • Engage extensively with UK and the EU to mobilize joint positions on trade, climate, and investment-based coalitions • Leverage Pakistan's accession to Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) • Enhance Pakistan's outreach to African and Latin American states • Revitalize diplomacy by integrated reforms at home at the Foreign Office level, and abroad at the missions' level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow a policy of "Pakistan First", thus safeguarding and promoting its multi-faceted interests worldwide • Foreign policy focuses on trade-based relationships with key global players, including the Muslim world, Europe, US, China, Russia, and Africa through trade and diplomacy • foreign policy will adhere to the values of justice, equity, and peace when selecting coalition partners • Commitment to championing the rights of Kashmiris and Palestinians focusing on their right to self-determination.

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
Agriculture & Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue and expand PM Kisan Package for farmers Subsidized prices and convenient instalment plan for solarizing tube wells Introduce smart credit guarantees at banks for small farmers (less than 5 acres) Incentivize adoption of modern technology and Smart Agriculture methods Biotechnology Integration to enhance crop yield, quality, and overall farm productivity Drone Technology for Precision Farming: Remove NOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crop support prices for to small farmers Introduce Haari/Kisaan Card for agricultural workers Subsidies for high quality seeds, DAP/Urea, land and water management, livestock extension services, climate smart agricultural practices, and crop Insurance Legal recognition of women agricultural workers Collection of agricultural income tax Elevate the status of Livestock and Dairy Development as an independent and recognized sector Promulgate the Right to Food Act in Parliament, whereby eligible households to be entitled to subsidized food Free 1000-day nutrition program for expectant/new mothers Eradicate severe food insecurity within five years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing modern water management practices in agriculture to optimize water use efficiency Promote crop diversification to maximize arable land utilization, reduce reliance on a single crop, Sustainable farming practices such as zero-tillage and crop diversification to be promoted through subsidies and education Introduction of crop insurance in Pakistan Increase wheat productivity by 7 mounds per acre, adding 3.14 million tons to annual wheat production Increase rice productivity by 10 mounds per acre, boosting annual exports by \$1bn Introduce 'Save the Buffalo Calf' and fattening programs to boost meat exports and enhance farmer incomes
Water and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce electricity bills by 20-30% Increase the contribution of solar, thar coal, hydel, nuclear, and wind energy in Pakistan's energy mix Continue nationwide 10,000MW solar initiative, launched by PMLN in 2022 Provide 4,000MW of solar power to rural areas Solarize public sector buildings, tube wells and lifeline power consumers Sign \$10bn refinery deal with Saudi Arabia Complete Diamer-Basha Dam Access to clean drinking water for Pakistani citizens Double agricultural outputs per unit of water Triple clean hydropower output and minimize flood impact Develop infrastructure and institutions for flood management Modernize institutional arrangements for water and sewerage services in cities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adherence to the Water Apportionment Accord 1991, safeguarding Sindh's rightful share of water resources Attract private sector investment in renewable energy, and resume work on the Pak-Iran gas pipeline Convert power plants from imported to domestic coal – special focus on Thar coal Unified national grid; revamp transmission lines and encourage off-grid solar solutions Introduce competition in the power distribution market Crafting of a natural resource development strategy, establishing an entity upon the successful exploration of each natural and mineral resource, with the allocation of shares to local residents and introducing legislation to prioritize the allocation of royalties from these resources for the development of the local district Focusing on mechanisms governing joint ownership of oil and natural gas by both the federal and provincial governments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize reliance on imported oil by enhancing production by bringing new wells in existing blocks into production within a period of twelve months Competitive industrial electricity tariffs to be introduce to discourage captive power generation Initiate the privatization of power DISCOs Deployment of 500MW to 1GW by 2028 Lining of 73,078 water courses across all provinces within five years Reconcentrating on hydroelectric and renewable sources while expanding oil and gas exploration Incentivize the private sector to finance and build numerous rainwater capture dams Utilizing solar energy to power railway asset and establishing solar parks on railway lands Natural gas supply to end-users will be based on their specific BTU (British Thermal Unit) requirements Pricing framework for natural gas to be redefined to align with market dynamics

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Climate and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strictly enforce environmental quality legislation for greening of industries Legislate to control burning of municipal waste and crop residue Upgrade and incentivize funding for Trench Brick Kilns into Zig Zag Brick Kilns for 70% less emissions Reform and restructure “Green Pakistan Program” to prioritize clean air, clean water, protected areas’ management, and climate change adaptation implement a comprehensive National Plastic Policy and Plastic Action Plan to manage plastic waste effectively Introduce incentive-based policy for use of low-Sulphur fuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar powered Green Energy Parks to be set up to generate free electricity up to 300 units for the poorest Explore innovative solutions like carbon markets to raise finances. A Climate Fund for Pakistan to be set up to attract green investments in community adaptation, risk mitigation, disaster preparedness and clean energy transitions while addressing capacity-roadblocks at the technical level to access international financing Utilizing Loss and Damage Fund to address climate-related disasters such as the 2022 floods Maintain and expand international partnerships, as demonstrated at the Geneva Conference 2022, to help secure financial support and recognition of Pakistan's climate vulnerability on the global stage Participate in global initiatives against climate risks to enhance Pakistan's capacity to manage climate-related risks through insurance and prevention strategies. The UN’s call for Early Warning as a Fundamental Right will be given more attention for local needs and multilateral assistance leveraged for mitigating risk at all levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce carbon tax on fossil fuels Utilization of smaller dams and run-of-the-river electric generation to generate renewable energy at a local level Solar and wind power projects in Baluchistan and Sindh Higher tax on heavy polluting industries to reduce carbon footprint Billion Tree Tsunami project to be extended nationwide Management of the Indus Delta crisis Integration of the Power Division and Petroleum Division within the Ministry of Energy Unified framework for pricing all energy substitutes based on their respective heating values Electrification of public transport and two-wheelers Solarization of tube wells and use of solar geysers to save natural gas Implement a transparent and standardized system for carbon emission reporting of industries Policies to promote recycling, composting, and waste-to-energy technologies Enable industries to participate in carbon credit markets, allowing them to earn revenue by reducing emissions below mandated levels.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand ‘Schools for the Brick Kiln Workers’ initiative nationwide Increase access to higher education from 13% to 20% Expand the ‘school milk program’ Increase funding for higher education to 0.5% of the GDP Increase the educational budgetary allocation at federal and provincial levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate at least 5% of GDP (\$17bn) to education, including 1% of GDP on research and innovation that will come from devolving the finances of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to the provinces. This is a 194% increase from the current allocation of 1.7% of GDP Ensure schooling for all girls and boys of school-going age and implement Article 25A of the Constitution in letter and spirit Ensure the provision of quality primary schools within 30 minutes travel-time and quality middle/secondary school within 60 minutes travel-time in all communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable ten top universities in Pakistan to achieve accreditation for international degrees Establish ten new specialized technical institutes, similar to the Pak-Austria Fach Hochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Increase education spending in the first 5 years to 4% of GDP, up from the current 2.4% Revolutionize teaching methodologies, curriculum, and assessments to ensure every child receives a high-quality education

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased enrollment, targeted at marginalized communities and girl-children with programs like “Beti Parhao, Kismat Jagao” & “School Jao, Hunar Barhao” Create a stipend fund for school-going children in rural and low-income urban communities Prioritize hybrid learning systems, school clustering, and transportation for equitable access Establish a university in every district of Pakistan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand access to schooling, particularly for girls, through public-private partnerships and targeted enrollment campaigns Aim to achieve 90% national literacy within 5 years Collaboration with the Pakistani diaspora to collect donated solar-powered tablets or laptops with pre-installed curricula for adult learners Robust scholarship programs to support deserving students Encourage partnerships with foreign institutions
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch Clinic-on-Wheels for urban slums across provinces Recognize nutrition as an inalienable right Ensure nutritious meals for all children at school in the government school system Introduce a holistic nutrition program for the first 1,000 days of a new/pregnant mother, targeting stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies Increase national Fully Immunized Child coverage to at least 90% by 2029 Introduce new vaccines like HPV and Mumps based on evidence in the EPI Program Train School Health Nutrition Supervisors (SHNS) for basic screening Separation of Jail Hospital from executive control of Jail Superintendent to ensure that access to healthcare is not misused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPP aims to increase healthcare spending to 6% from 1.2% of GDP or \$20bn Enact legislation for Right to Healthcare for accessibility to quality universal healthcare Implement financial devolution at the facility-level, ensuring transparency and affordable medicine prices Provide free primary healthcare (diagnostics and services by doctors) and medicines across the country Ensure all Basic Health Units are fully operational Free treatment for chronic diseases One Patient – One ID: A digital medical records system to better track and improve health services, including maternal, neonatal, and child health (MNCH), nutrition, and family planning Registration of children will be digitized for effective immunization via biometric technology Extensive reforms in the Drugs Regulatory Authority of Pakistan to augment the regulatory framework for healthcare products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce unified health cards across Pakistan Develop a comprehensive Electronic Health Records system Invest in public health initiatives, including vaccination programs, disease prevention, and health education To alleviate the financial burden on patients, universal health coverage or health insurance programs will be implemented
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitutional amendment to further strengthen the financial and administrative powers of local governments including elections within 90 days of dissolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen local governments in line with the Constitution and revisit Article 140-A to empower grassroots governance, in consultation with all stakeholders to ensure the financial, administrative, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role and involvement of the District Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners (ACs) will be redefined The roles of MNAs, MPAs, Elected Local Government Representatives, the administration, and the police will

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merge all parallel bodies, companies and authorities including Development Authorities, PHAs to form an integrated city/district wide local government. • Transfer of homeless shelters, langar khana, dar ul amaans, orphanages, and old homes to local governments • Formalize Provincial Finance Commissions with minimum 30% Gross Revenue Receipts for Local Governments • Devolve following departments to local governments: Primary Health (Basic Health Unit), Primary Education (Primary and Middle Schools), Social Welfare, Family Planning, Sports, Transport, Child Protection, Public Health, Disaster Management, Rescue Services, Tourism and Environment 	<p>political autonomies of local bodies as the third tier of government</p>	<p>be clearly defined to facilitate the smooth delivery of municipal services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local leadership will be elected democratically with direct elections • Reforms to transfer a maximum portion of provincial development funds to local governments
Population Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in comprehensive public awareness campaigns highlighting the benefits of family planning • Work with respected religious leaders and scholars who can provide interpretations of religious texts that are supportive of family planning • Partner with faith-based organizations that may be open to promoting family planning within the context of their religious values • Make contraceptives widely available and affordable, especially in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) to 60%, achieve a total fertility rate of 2.2 children per woman, and reduce the population growth rate to 1.1% by 2030 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure political and religious consensus on balancing our population size • Slow population growth rate through birth-spacing between children to free resources to improve the quality of education and health • Ensure reproductive health services and family planning services are affordable and available to all citizens of the country • Expand coverage of doorstep services by recruiting more lady health workers and community midwives • Utilize all available media to ensure national consensus among all stakeholders, including the general public, political parties, religious leaders and civil society • Add population management to the national curriculum
Labor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest-free loans and economic support to hawkers, fishermen, and small farmers • Ensuring minimum wage, health card, and education card for labor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of workers in the informal sector and those in self-employment for social protection through the Mazdoor Card • Guarantee a wage commensurate to their work • School fees for their children 	

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Senior Citizen Card & Benefits to workers over 60 years of age, including EOBI Insurance, travel subsidies, and certain tax exemptions • Protect female laborers/workers against social, financial, sexual, and administrative harassment and exploitation • Establish a 'National Labor Helpline' for conflict resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health insurance for themselves and their families • Social Security/Pensions • Old age benefits • Disability benefits 	
Women's Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedite resolution of post-divorce property disputes, aiming within 12 months • Introduce policies to ensure equal pay for equal work across all government roles • Establishment of nurseries in all major workplaces • Improve transportation systems to ensure safety and accessibility for working mothers • Integrate gender studies into the national curriculum • Enhancement of women's access to healthcare, focusing on rural areas • Setting a 25% quota for women in political roles at all levels of governance • Establishing accessible legal aid clinics and support centers for women • Introducing community education programs to highlight the legal and social ramifications of forced marriages • Creation of an independent body to monitor and review complaints of harassment and abuse, ensuring accountability and justice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt Gender-Responsive Budgeting, a widely recognized global best practice for allocating resources to social sector programs, in all government schemes related to women • Implement programs aimed at facilitating women's ownership of cultivable land by granting them land titles coupled with asset transfer schemes • Raise the number of reserved seats for women from 17% to 33% in the National and Provincial Assemblies • Raising electoral tickets for women candidates contesting elections on general seats from 5% to at least 15% • Strive for legal recognition of single parent-led households, particularly women-led households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure ongoing financial assistance for girls' education and subsidized educational loans for higher studies • Increase the number of women contesting general election seats • Ensure increased representation of women as board members in public and private sectors • Ensure at least 30% representation of women in national and provincial cabinets
Housing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large-scale housing scheme for the poor, the landless, and the working classes, covering rural and low-income urban areas in all provinces/regions • At least 3 million women heads of household to get legal titles of their property with the resilient housing program in flood-affected areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop land for low-cost housing, with an emphasis on incremental construction on small sized plots • Interest rates for housing loans to be capped at single digits for at least five years post-possession • Set up the Pakistan Housing bank for a more robust and efficient housing finance system

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katchi Abadis to be regularized and inhabitants to get ownership • People living in Katcha area will be brought into the mainstream with tenancy rights and ownership of municipal services 	
Human Rights: Children’s Rights Minority Rights Transgender Rights Persons with Disabilities Senior Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Protection Programs for rehabilitation of abused children and guard their identity • End child marriages through urgent and effective measures • Implementation of the UNGA Resolution 135/47 on minority rights • implement legislation to prevent forced conversions • Create a special task force for protection of life, property and religious places of minorities in Pakistan • Include and integrate interreligious harmony as a subject in the national curriculum • Introduce interest free loans for minority communities especially for youth • Provision of model cemeteries, model crematoriums, and last rites services and governmental security to all worship spaces • Implementation of measures to ensure effective participation of minorities in the electoral process • Mandatory human rights education in schools and colleges • Ensure equal opportunities for transgender people in education, health, social protection schemes, and employment • Ensure provision of identity documents to transgender people indiscriminately and in a dignified manner • Senior citizen discounts in public housing, healthcare, and travel • Expand Old Homes Initiative for senior citizens • Develop healthcare infrastructure and policies to meet the needs of persons with intellectual disability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the Constitution to make Article 38(d) justiciable, thus recognizing the fundamental right of citizens to basic necessities of food, clothing, health, housing and employment as contained in Chapter 1 on "Fundamental Rights" of the Constitution • Introduce legislation to criminalize enforced disappearances, aligning the laws with international standards and commitments - sign and ratify the International Convention on Enforced Disappearances. Internment centers to be closed and replaced with regular jails in accordance with the verdict of Peshawar High Court • Introduce legislation to criminalize torture, in line with international human rights standards • Introduce legislation to prevent the misuse of the Blasphemy Law in accordance with the reports of the Senate Human Rights Committee • Drastically reduce the number of offences that carry the death penalty in the first instance while moving towards abolishing the death penalty altogether • Articles 41 and 91 of the Constitution reserving some state offices for Muslims only to be revisited • A Minorities Commission will be set up under an Act of the Parliament for the protection of non-Muslim minorities as in the Supreme Court verdict of 2014 • Reorient the security state towards a welfare-oriented society that prioritizes the rights of citizens over the privileges of the civil-military bureaucratic complex. • Bring state intelligence agencies under legislation, ensuring oversight and accountability. Also, efforts will 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint Federal Ombudsman or National Human Rights Commissioners to ensure access to higher education especially for female students, transgender individual, minorities, and persons with disabilities. • Strengthen legal protection against early and forced marriages as well as child marriages • Increase penalties for crimes related to child trafficking, child pornography, and employment of child domestic workers

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Skill Centers where special people can learn to become self-sufficient Ensure inclusive infrastructure in the public sphere to ensure access to all special persons Ensure effective legislation to safeguard rights of people with special needs 	<p>be made to de-politicize and de-corporatize the national security complex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdated, discriminatory colonial era laws inconsistent with human rights principles will be revisited including Clause 2 (1) (d) of the Army Act Ensure implementation of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2018, and facilitate the participation of transgender persons in political processes at all levels Institutionalize data collection with respect to persons living with disabilities particularly birth registration of children with disabilities at their doorstep Disability Commissions in provinces to work towards eliminating infrastructural and attitudinal barriers Ratify the protocol to the Convention on Rights of Child (CRC) on preventing use of children in armed conflicts Make a valid CNIC conditional for the solemnization and registration of the marriage 	
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar-powered agricultural tube wells for young farmers Agricultural loan for youth for young farmers Continue National Youth Laptop Scheme Sports endowment fund for young sportsmen Establish Pakistan's first sports university Construct 250 new state-of-the-art stadiums and Astro-Turf pitches Expand Prime Minister's Youth Program to integrate sports education in schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce the Youth Card which will provide one-year stipend for educated deserving young women and men to transition to work Student loan opportunities for higher education Link-up with internships and trainee jobs in the public and private sectors Opportunities for youth-led startups in all sectors for which PPP aims to provide the required IT infrastructure to guarantee high speed connectivity across the country Youth centers to be established across the country for accessing libraries and digital libraries with free Wi-Fi Culture, and recreational facilities, vocational training, skill and language development classes, career and employment facilitation services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing mental health services and awareness campaigns for the youth Investment in sports programs and cultural activities and development of infrastructure for the same Collaborate with industry leaders to provide internship opportunities for students Offer scholarships and financial assistance to deserving students Establish advanced IT training centers and coding boot camps. The goal is to equip young individuals with programming and digital skills

	PML-N	PPP	PTI
Media and Freedom of Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish National Security and Safety Commission under Security and Safety Journalist Act 2022 • Expand Life Insurance for media workers who lose their lives in the line of duty • Establishment of a media city in Islamabad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of Speech: Will review media related laws, including Section 37 of the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016 (PECA 2016), in consultation with stakeholders to protect and enhance freedom of speech 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enact legislation to protect the rights of journalists and media houses • Launch media literacy initiatives to educate the public about discerning credible information • Create a fund to support media outlets • Mandate quotas for content in regional languages on national media channels • Set up regional information bureaus that provide timely and equitable access to government information and resources • Establishment of a government-backed Journalist Safety Fund • Establishment of a new, independent media regulatory authority that works with PEMRA
Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish 'Pakistani Tech Fund' to provide funding to start ups • Bring large online payment platform companies to Pakistan • To incorporate e-governance within government departments at all levels • Establishment of five world class IT cities across the country • Digital skills training and certification of 5 million students/freelancers in the next 5 years 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise annual Information Technology (IT) exports to \$30bn within five years • Establish a digital economy development bank • Invest in healthcare technology and expand internet access, speed, and affordability • Identifying startups, new economy initiatives, and relevant educational institutions akin to Silicon Valley

About PILAP

Public Interest Law Association of Pakistan (PILAP) works to promote and protect fundamental rights of all Pakistanis as enshrined in the constitution. PILAP seeks to address issues of public interest, through a multi-pronged strategy of research, advocacy and litigation. PILAP is an independent, non-political and not-for-profit organization.