

PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)
PRESS WING

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ISLAMABAD: MARCH 19, 2019: President Dr. Arif Alvi has said that the Senate depicts the true scheme of Constitution, where Members of the Upper House rose above party lines and legislated on issues of national public interests.

The President said this while talking to Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, who called on him at Aiwan-i-Sadr today. Chairman Senate also presented the annual report to the President.

The President lauded the work done by the Senate of Pakistan on legislative fronts as well as its efforts in Parliamentary diplomacy. He highlighted that the Senate of Pakistan brought together parliamentary leadership for promoting peace and development at the forum of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA). He noted that the APA meetings were deliberately held at Gwadar in order to establish that Gwadar would soon become the regional economic and trade hub.

Later, Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani briefed the President that the Senate has continued its legislative work for the protection of basic human rights. He also highlighted the legislative achievements of Senate which include legislation on mainstreaming of FATA and PATA, rights based legislation for women, children, transgender persons, and migrants, access to health care, access to education, and access to interest-free credit. He further said Senate met 13 times, with 111 working days and 78 actual sittings, marking an average attendance of 64.46 %. Furthermore, a total of 28 private member's bills, 15 government bills, and 7 ordinances were introduced in the Senate.

The President commended Chairman Senate's efforts as a result of which the Special Committee on Kashmir became the Parliamentary Committee after ten years, consisting of membership of both Houses of Parliament. He also expressed hope that this Committee will positively contribute towards highlighting the human rights violations in the Indian occupied Kashmir with a view to seeking a final settlement of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in line with the United Nations Resolutions.
