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Punjab Assembly Scuffle Sparks Political Uproar

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— Categories: Finance



A physical altercation in the Punjab Assembly on Tuesday has deepened tensions between treasury and opposition members, triggering widespread condemnation from both sides of the House.

The incident occurred during a session chaired by Acting Speaker Malik Zaheer Iqbal Channer. According to reports, the clash began after opposition lawmaker Sheikh Imtiaz pointed out the lack of quorum. A confrontation allegedly followed between opposition

MPA Khalid Nisar Dogar and treasury MPA Hassan Riaz, with both sides accusing each other of using inappropriate language.

Matters escalated when private guards, reportedly linked to treasury lawmakers, entered the assembly premises. Opposition members claim these individuals physically assaulted several MPAs and disrupted proceedings, prompting strong calls for accountability.

Deputy Opposition Leader Muhammad Moeenuddin Riaz condemned the incident and demanded disciplinary action. He called for the suspension of PML-N MPA Hassan Riaz, the registration of an FIR against the private guards involved, and the removal of the assembly's chief security officer for failing to prevent the breach.

Provincial Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Mian Mujtaba Shuja ur Rehman defended the treasury benches, stating that the disruption began after opposition members heckled Hassan Riaz while he was addressing the Speaker. He acknowledged that the events inside the Media Hall require investigation, but emphasized that accountability should apply equally to all involved.

Acting Speaker Channer assured the House that if any private individual is found responsible for attacking lawmakers, strict action will be taken. Meanwhile, treasury MPA Hassan Riaz boycotted the session in protest against the nomination of opposition MPA Mian Ijaz Shafi to the investigative committee. He also called for Shafi's suspension, alleging he contributed to the escalation.

In a separate matter, treasury MPA Amina Perveen raised concerns over delayed traffic challan deliveries, stating that citizens are receiving outdated notices. She urged authorities to improve delivery systems to avoid confusion and penalties.

The scuffle has sparked debates on security protocols, conduct within the House, and the role of external individuals in parliamentary proceedings. An investigation into the incident is expected to determine accountability and prevent future disruptions.