

PILdAT

# Annual Report

July 01-2010 - June 30, 2011

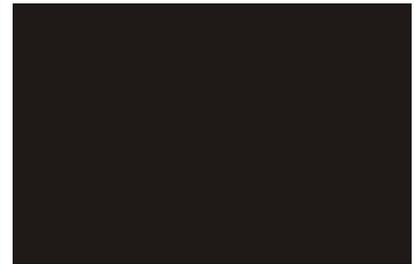
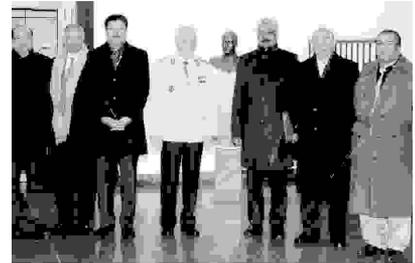
2010-2011



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## **Foreword**



## Foreword

This year has been marked by a tragic loss, not just for PILDAT but for Pakistan: 6 Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, including the Youth Prime Minister, lost their lives in an airplane crash on July 28, 2011. The 6 members of Youth Parliament were travelling from Karachi to join the final session of Youth Parliament Pakistan in Islamabad. The best and brightest of Pakistani youth included **Mr. Hassan Javed Khan**, (YP39-SINDH02; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Prime Minister*; **Syeda Rabab Zehra Naqvi**, (YP41-SINDH04; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Information Minister*; **Mr. Prem Chand**, (YP38-SINDH01; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Youth Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs*; **Mr. Bilal Jamaee**, (YP44-SINDH07; Green Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Shadow Minister for Information*; **Mr. Owais bin Laiq** (YP45-SINDH08; Green Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information and* **Syed Arsalan Ahmad** (YP42-SINDH05; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information*. PILDAT stands by the parents and families of these young martyrs of democracy. This report is dedicated to the memory of our Youth Martyrs.

PILDAT continued with its initiative of assessing democracy in Pakistan which culminated in a **Mid-Term Report on the Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan** in September 2010. The assessment covered the period of 2 ½ years of the Government and Parliament that came into being through the February 2008 General Election.

Carrying forward its theme on the need for political and legislative oversight on implementation of **Immunization Programme** in Pakistan, PILDAT continued assisting legislators across Pakistan and their Immunization Caucuses that it facilitated.

During the year, PILDAT evaluated some of the lingering issues on **labour** especially after the 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment and shared these with legislators. In addition to sensitizing national and provincial legislators on the need for comprehensive labour policies in the country, a part of PILDAT initiative has also been to politically sensitize top leadership of Pakistan Workers Federation (PWF), one of the largest workers organisation in Pakistan, on the role, functions and structure of the Parliament and Parliamentary Committees dealing with workers' issues while discussing the various aspects of engaging with the political parties in Pakistan for adoption of worker friendly policies and practices.

Once again, PILDAT revived its initiative of facilitating fact-based discourse on **Water Issues in Pakistan** through engaging with experts and elected legislators across Pakistan. The purpose behind the initiative has been to enhance the quality of the debate about internal water issues among the provinces of Pakistan and other key constituents i.e., media, parliamentarians including the relevant parliamentary committees and to encourage progress towards solutions and reduce the potential for internal conflict. PILDAT got together a group of relevant Water Experts who met to finalise a Background Paper based on which interactions with MPs and media were facilitated. Although, provinces especially Sindh and Punjab, maintained their position, there were a number of water distribution related aspects on which consensus was achieved.

PILDAT initiative on broadening and deepening public discourse on civilian and Parliamentary oversight on Defence continued during the reporting period. Many celebrated national and regional experts penned down briefing papers and case studies on the issue, based on which key public representatives from major political parties of Pakistan held interactions under the PILDAT banner. From assisting committees to overseeing their performance, PILDAT put together the first-of-its-kind **Citizens Monitoring Report on the Performance of the Parliamentary Committees of Defence and National Security** during the first 3 years of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan.

In a similar vein, PILDAT also monitored the **Performance of the Parliamentary Standing Committees on Foreign Affairs** compiling it into a report spanning over 3 years.

**Performance Monitoring of the Parliament of Pakistan** and that of the **Provincial Assembly of the Punjab** as the largest provincial legislatures of Pakistan also serve as hallmarks of PILDAT's performance during the year.

Enhancing Parliament and Provincial Assemblies' Role in the **Budget Process** has continued to be an area of focus of PILDAT's

work during this year also. From assisting Pakistan's National Assembly, PILDAT also continued to assist the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab in this regard.

These initiatives and other modest contributions of PILDAT this year in strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan are being shared with you through this report. We look forward to receiving your support and your feedback, as always.



Ahmed Bilal Mehboob  
Executive Director

Islamabad  
July 2011

## Abbreviations & Acronyms

ADP	Annual Development Programme
AJK	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
AMPS	American Muslim Studies Programme
ANP	Awami National Party
APPNA	Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America
BNP-A	Balochistan National Party (Awami)
CBM	Confidence Building Measure
CDA	Capital Development Authority
CERS	Computerized Electoral Rolls System
CGEP	Citizens Group on Electoral Process in Pakistan
CMR	Civil-Military Relations
CNIC	Computerized National Identification Card
CPA	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CPNE	Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors
DAG	Democracy Assessment Group
DFAIT	Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization
EU	European Union
EVM	Electronic Voting Machine
FATA	Federally Administrated Tribal Areas
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
GDP	Gross Domestic Production
GLA	Greater London Authority
HDFNA	Human Development Foundation of North America
IAP	Institute of Architects Pakistan
IRSA	Indus River System Authority
ISPR	Inter Services Public Relations
JUI-F	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazlur Rehman)
KPK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
LOC	Line of Control
LUMS	Lahore University of Management Sciences
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
MJ	Meshrano Jirga
MLA	Member of Legislative Assembly
MNA	Member of National Assembly
MP	Member of Parliament
MPA	Member of Provincial Assembly
MQM	Muttahida Quami Movement
NA	National Assembly
NAECHS	National Assembly Employees Cooperative Housing Society
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NDU	National Defence University
NESPAK	National Engineering Services of Pakistan
NFC	National Finance Commission

NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NLC	National Logistic Cell
NUPSA	National Union for Pakistani Students and Alumni
OIC	Organization of Islamic Conference
OPEN	Overseas Pakistani Education Network
PAC	Public Accounts Committees
PCATP	Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners
PCS	Peace and Conflict Studies
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PPPSP	Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project
PWF	Pakistan Workers Federation
QAU	Quaid-i-Azam University
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VPD	Vaccine Preventable Diseases
WAPDA	Water and Power Development Authority
WJ	Wolesi Jirga
WWF	Workers Welfare Fund
YMAG	Young Muslim Advisory Group
YP	Youth Parliament
YPF	Young Parliamentarians Forum

**Basic Information****Name of the Organization**

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency – PILDAT

**Address**

Head Office: No. 7, 9th Avenue, F-8/1, Islamabad, Pakistan

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**Website**

www.pildat.org

**Formation Date**

November 01, 2001

**Legal Entity**

Society registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860

**Objective**

To Strengthen Democracy and Democratic Institutions

**Registration Date**

September 19, 2002

**Auditors**

M. Yousuf Adil Saleem & Co.

(Member of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu)

**Bankers**

Bank Alfalah Ltd. and City Bank





## **Board of Advisors**



## Board of Advisors

The PILDAT Board of Advisors is a unique mix of prominent intellectuals, media persons, national and international Parliamentarians and academicians which regularly advise PILDAT on its programmes, oversee progress of existing programmes and act as a great resource to the organisation on an honorary basis. A brief portfolio of the members of the Board of Advisors is as under:



**Senator S. M. Zafar**  
Chairman

Senator S. M. Zafar is a prominent lawyer and former Federal Minister of Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Pakistan. He is also the Chairman of the Human Rights Society of Pakistan and is involved with various developmental works. He is Chairman of the Senate Committee on Education.



**Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**  
Member

Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi is Deputy Speaker of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan. He was elected as the 17<sup>th</sup> Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan on March 19, 2008. As a young, first-time elected MNA at the age of 33, Kundi also has the distinction of being the youngest Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan. He serves as the Patron of the Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF). Born on May 24, 1975 in Dera Ismail Khan, Mr. Kundi graduated with LLB in 2002 from Thames Valley College, UK. Kundi began his political career in 2003 and has served as the Divisional Coordinator of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) for D. I. Khan. Mr. Kundi is also the Patron of Youth Parliament Pakistan, as well as Young Parliamentarians Forum, two initiatives of PILDAT focusing on youth in Pakistan.



**Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**  
Member

Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami is a senior and renowned journalist. He is Editor-in-Chief of daily "Pakistan" and has served as the elected chairman of the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE). A thinker and a political analyst, Mr. Shami is a well-known intellectual of the country.



**Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani**  
Member

Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani is the Chairman and Chief Executive of Gallup Pakistan. He has a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA. He has also served as adviser to Prime Minister and Chairman of the Prime Minister's Committee for Research and Analysis from 1991-93. Dr. Gilani has directed electoral studies for all local bodies and national elections since 1979.



**Dr. Hasan-Askari Rizvi**  
Member

Dr. Hasan-Askari Rizvi is an independent Political and Defence Analyst. He obtained an M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania, USA, and an M. Phil. in Politics from the University of Leeds, UK. Earlier, he did his Masters in Political Science from the University of the Punjab, Lahore. He was Quaid-i-Azam Professor of Pakistan Studies at Columbia University, New York (December 1995-July 1999), and Allama Iqbal Professor at Heidelberg University, Germany and Research Scholar at University of New Mexico and Sandia National Laboratories,

Albuquerque (2002). He was also on the faculty of Political Science Department, University of the Punjab, Lahore, (1971-2001) where he also served as Chairman of the Department of Political Science.



**Dr. Zahid H. Bukhari**

Member

Dr. Zahid H. Bukhari has a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut, USA and is currently serving as the Director of the Programme, American Muslim Studies Program (AMPS) at the Georgetown University, USA.



**Lord Nazir Ahmed of Rotherham**

Member

Lord Nazir Ahmed of Rotherham is a member of the British House of Lords. Active on the international political issues, Lord Ahmed brings his sharp understanding, experience and insight of the British and International political perspective to PILDAT as a member of the Board of Advisors. He is the first person of Pakistani origin to have become a member of the House of Lords, UK.



**Mr. Mohammad Sarwar**

Member

Mr. Mohammad Sarwar has previously served as member of the British House of Commons from Glasgow Central UK. He has the distinction of being the first Pakistani-British and Muslim MP in the UK Parliament and possesses a deep insight into the political issues and parliamentary affairs of both UK and Pakistan.



**Mr. Khalid Mahmood**

Member

Mr. Khalid Mahmood is a British Parliamentarian of Pakistani origin from Perry Barr, Birmingham, UK. He is actively involved with various political forums in UK and extensively travels around the world for advocacy-related work.



**Dr. Donya Aziz**

Member

Dr. Donya Aziz, member of the National Assembly of Pakistan, is a medical doctor by profession. Her main focus is on the public health sector and gender. She is also associated with the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America - APPNA, and the Human Development Foundation of North America - HDFNA, organisations based in the USA. Dr. Donya Aziz also serves as a member of the Youth Parliament Pakistan Steering Committee, while she is the elected President of the Young Parliamentarians Forum, two initiatives of PILDAT focusing on youth in Pakistan.



**Mr. Anwar Ali**

Member

Mr. Anwar Ali is an Architect by profession. He is a member of the Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP), the Institute of Architects Pakistan, (IAP) and the Anjuman-e-Mimaran Pakistan. He has over 31 years of experience in planning, design, supervision and management of various architectural and planning projects in Pakistan and abroad, including legislative assembly buildings of Azad Kashmir and NWFP. Mr. Ali is President & Chief Executive of Ace-Arts (Pvt.) Ltd, an architectural and town planning consultancy firm.



**Board of Directors**



## Board of Directors

### Mr. Javed Nawaz

Acting Chairman Board of Directors

Mr. Javed Nawaz is the Managing Director of Agro Dev in Oman. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1980-83). He established 3 schools while he was the Chairman Board of Governors, Pakistan College, and Muscat. He is a Law Graduate and has a post graduate degree in Business and Statistics. Mr. Nawaz was member of the First Group Study Exchange Team sponsored by Rotary International to visit California, USA in 1974.

### Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob

Secretary General

The founder Executive Director of the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development And Transparency – PILDAT, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob has over 25 years experience in senior management and advisory positions and over 8 years experience in design, planning and implementation of projects in the field of Parliamentary development, strengthening democratic institutions, democratization, political discourse, Election Monitoring and dialogues for reconciliation. Mr. Mehboob is considered an authority on political, legislative and electoral affairs of the country and is often invited to comment in the national and international media.

### Mr. Abdul Latif Mirza

Board Member

Mr. Abdul Latif Mirza has served as Manager Production Support, Technology Services, Saudi Hollandi Bank, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Head, EDP Saudi Hollandi Bank, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

### Mr. Ismet Amin Khawaja

Board Member

Mr. Ismet Amin Khawaja is General Manager for Foundations Building Contracting Company, Ltd. He is Chairman of the Institution of Engineers Pakistan, Eastern Province Sub-Centre, Saudi Arabia. In October 2001, he was appointed Honorary Investment Counselor for Eastern Region of Saudi Arabia by the Board of Investment, Government of Pakistan. Mr. Khawaja has been involved in a number of international projects.

### Mr. Mohammad Haroon

Board Member

Mr. Mohammad Haroon is Senior Vice President / Assistant General Manager at United Gulf Bank, Bahrain. He has served as an Investment Banker at Investment Corporation of Pakistan at Karachi and Peshawar; Manager, Senior Manager (Development), Acting Zonal Head, Senior Manager (Credit & Marketing for Gulf); and as Commercial Manager, National Bank of Pakistan, Peshawar, Abbotabad and Bahrain, 1974-1981.

### Mr. Mohammad Jameel Bajwa

Board Member

Mr. Mohammad Jameel Bajwa is General Manager at National Engineering Services of Pakistan (NESPAK), one of the largest multi-disciplinary consulting firms in Pakistan. His expertise is in Infrastructure Development. He has worked in Nigeria as Project Manager of Kaduna State Housing Authority and has executed mega-scale projects in his field including housing projects in Pakistan and abroad.

### Dr. Sania Nishtar

Board Member

Sania Nishtar, SI, FRCP, Ph.D, is the founder and president of the Heartfile, an NGO think tank. Her areas of interests are health systems, global health, broader issues of governance and public-private relationships. She is also the founder of Pakistan's Health Policy Forum and provides support to many agencies in an advisory role. Internationally, she is a member of many Expert Working Groups and Task Forces of the World Health Organization and is currently a member of the board of the International Union for Health Promotion and the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research. She is also a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council, the Clinton Global Initiative, the Ministerial Leadership Initiative for Global Health, etc. She speaks to audiences around the world and has been extensively published in and quoted in the media. Sania Nishtar is the recipient of Pakistan's Sitara-e-Imtiaz, the European Societies Population Science Award, 16 gold medals and many accolades of the International Biographical Centre, Cambridge and the American Biographical Center. Sania Nishtar holds a Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of London and a Ph.D.

**Sardar M Yusuf Khan**

Board Member

Sardar M. Yusuf Khan is Regional Director of Xenel Group of Industries. He is a board member of the Overseas Pakistani Education Network (OPEN) as well as Preston University, and Honorary Member of the Advisory Council of the National Commission for Human Development, Government of Pakistan.

## Mission Statement

*“PILDAT will work for strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan by building the capability of and instituting non-partisan monitoring framework for the elected representatives and legislatures while facilitating greater participation of all segments of the society in the democratic process and development of new political leadership”*





## **Activities During the Reporting Period**



## Dialogue on Civil-Military Relations

Recognizing the importance of civil-military relations for the future of democracy, PILDAT established a dialogue process in 2004 on reviewing civil-military relations and exploring the prospects of improving them with the objective of promoting constitutionalism and democracy. The basic objective of the dialogue process has been to enable the civil and the military to understand each other's perspectives and to address the contentious issues that cause strains in civil-military relations and hinder consensus-building, democratization, stability and security.

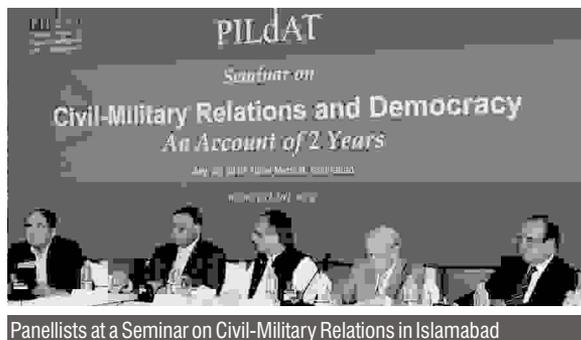
PILDAT's programme of Dialogue on Civil Military Relations continued during the reporting period. A brief description of the activities on civil-military relations during the reporting period is as follows:

### Civil-Military Relations and Democracy: An Account of 2 Years

PILDAT organized a Seminar on Civil-Military Relations and Democracy: An Account of 2 Years on July 20, 2010 in Islamabad where members of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations and other participants believed that Pakistan needs a strong tradition of Constitutionalism, Rule of Law, Good Governance, Participatory Rule and Socio-Economic Equities. Constitution defines all key relationships between institutions of the state, including that of the military under a democratic set-up and adherence to the Constitution and rule of law are the only guarantees of sustainability of democracy and a balanced civil-military relation in Pakistan.

### Panel Discussion: Parliamentary Oversight of Defence in Pakistan

Broad national consensus exists today in Pakistan on the



Panellists at a Seminar on Civil-Military Relations in Islamabad

## Parliamentary Oversight of Defence



(L to R) Ms. Sherry Rehman, Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi, Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi and Mr. Mushahid Hussain Sayed at a Panel Discussion in Islamabad

respective roles of different institutions. A strident media and an activist Judiciary have contributed to create a democratic political culture where there is little room for a military role in politics or in governance. Given the consensus achieved in Parliament in areas such as Eighteenth Constitutional Amendment, the National Finance Commission Award, Balochistan and the campaign against terrorism and extremism, the time is right for Parliamentary oversight of the Defence in Pakistan, believed Mr. Mushahid Hussain Sayed who was a keynote speaker at the PILDAT Panel Discussion on October 07, 2010 in Islamabad on Parliamentary Oversight of Defence in Pakistan. The panellists included Dr. Hasan-Askari Rizvi, Defence and Political Analyst, Mr. Haider Abbas Rizvi, MNA, Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security, Ms. Sherry Rehman, MNA; Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security and Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan, MNA, Member National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence; Member Parliamentary Committee on National Security.

### US Security Policy in Afghanistan and Implications for Pakistan

PILDAT organized a seminar on December 30, 2010 on US Security Policy in Afghanistan and its Implication for Pakistan where experts, analysts and subject-specialists believed Pakistan needs to develop an indigenous narrative keeping in view its legitimate interests and not just follow the US diktats through the US strategic policy reviews for Afghanistan. This seminar was held to cover two issues firstly, how the US Congress influences security/defence policies and secondly, to understand what implications does the new NATO/Lisbon Agreement and recent US strategy review in Afghanistan have for the civil-military relations in Pakistan. Mr. Ziad Haider Former Foreign Policy Advisor to US Senator Christopher J. Dodd, Vice Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Dr. Hasan-Askari

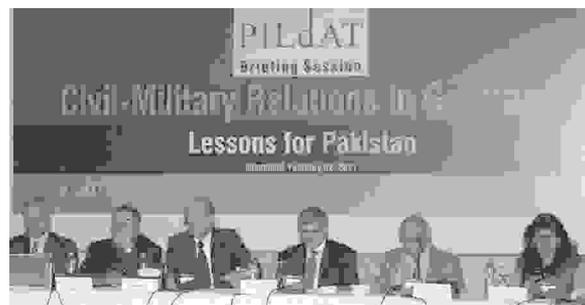
Rizvi renowned defence and policy analyst Dr. Riffat Hussain, Chairman Dept. of Defence and Strategic Studies, QAU and Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director PILDAT, spoke on the occasion. Participants at the seminar, who remained engaged with the panel for over 2 hours in Q&A/Discussion, included MPs from different political parties, Director General ISPR, academics from the NDU, media representatives and scholars.

### Good Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan require Patience and Continuation of Democracy

PILDAT organized a Briefing Session on February 02, 2010 on Civil Military Relation in Germany, Lessons for Pakistan, where panellists and participants believed that establishing a constitutional equation of Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan requires patience, maturity and continuation of democracy. The briefing was organised to discuss lessons from the civil-military relations in Germany gained through a FES-PILDAT Study Visit for selected members of the PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations in November-December 2010. Panellists at the Briefing Session included Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan and former Federal Minister of Defence, Establishment and Law and former Governor Punjab; Dr. Syed Riffat Hussain, Chairman, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad; Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, Editor-in-Chief Daily Pakistan and former President of the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors; Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch, MNA, former Governor Balochistan; Ms. Anja Minnaert, Resident Representative FES Pakistan; Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Executive Director PILDAT and Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director PILDAT. Distinguished participants at the Briefing Session included Parliamentarians, distinguished members of the PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations, former and serving military personnel, civil society representatives,



(L to R) Mr. Zaid Haider Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi and Dr. Riffat Hussain at a seminar in Islamabad



Panellists at a Briefing Session on Civil Military Relation in Germany, Lessons for Pakistan

columnists, academics and the media.

### PILDAT demands Parliamentary Committee seek details of Pak-US cooperation

PILDAT has welcomed the announcement by the Parliamentary Committee on National Security to convene its meeting on May 09. It is a much needed initiative and crucial for Parliament to investigate and scrutinise the events leading up to the killing of Osama Bin Laden on the sovereign soil of Pakistan by the US troops. While the Parliamentary committee needs to focus on the specific issue, it is equally important that the Committee seeks details of a formal *status of forces agreement*, if one exists, that Pakistan has entered into with United States of America which establishes the framework under which Pakistan is cooperating with the United States in a comprehensive security arrangement. Such a mechanism is needed to be placed before the committee so it can investigate the legal framework within which US security and intelligence personnel operate in Pakistan and how the domestic laws of Pakistan are applied toward them. If Pakistan has not entered into a formal *status of forces agreement* with the United States, the Committee needs to demand comprehensive details of any written or otherwise agreement that applies on Pak-US relations and arrangements for security and intelligence cooperation. Both the military establishment and the foreign office keep referring to red lines that the US should not cross on cooperation on counter terrorism and the committee must demand details of all such cooperation that falls under green, amber or red lines.

### Parliament urged to formulate Comprehensive Defence and Security Policies

In the backdrop of PILDAT report on the Performance of the Parliamentary Committees of Defence and the National Security during the first 3 years of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan, PILDAT organized a Roundtable

Discussion on May 10, 2010 in Islamabad on the issue of Parliament and National Security, where experts were of the opinion that the Parliament should fully use its mandate and constitutional powers to oversee the Defence and National Security Sector. Syed Talat Hussain, senior analyst, while discussing the issue, said that the PILDAT report highlights that the committee system has the essential powers to work effectively but those powers need to be put to a more effective use. *“Parliamentarians have the authority, to hold government and state's security apparatus to account, if there is political will,”* he said. Public representatives have never discussed in detail the parameters of defence and security policies, it appears. There is no internal debate inside political parties about defence and security issues. He questioned the capabilities and focus of parliamentarians even in areas other than security and defence which are under their domain. Other speakers at the roundtable included Ms. Shagufta Sadiq, MNA, Member National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence, Mr. Amir Ali Magsi, MNA, Member National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Talat Masood, defence analyst and former Federal Secretary Defence Production. The discussion was joined by well-known analysts from academia, media, political parties, members of Parliament and non-government institutions. While there was a consensus at the forum that Parliament and political government lack the political will to hold security and defence sector to account, many also raised issues such as reluctance of the security establishment as the key reason, to be called to account. There was agreement that challenging as it is, the background of the killing of Osama Bin Laden on our sovereign soil and security lapses offers a crucial opportunity for internal debate, soul searching and possibility of apportioning responsibility and exercising civilian and democratic control on the defence sector. There was also agreement that until Parliament asks the exact details of Pakistan's written or agreed understanding of cooperation with the United States, a



Parliamentarians at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

meaningful contribution towards developing a national paradigm on national security is not possible.

Participants appreciated PILDAT for its efforts in the compilation of the report and organizing discussion on such significant issues. They were of the view that the Osama Bin Laden's existence in Pakistan is a big failure of security agencies and the military should provide answers to the public on this failure. They said that the problem lies within the political parties which lack basic systems and focus on policies. Parliamentarians have no say in budget making, defence or foreign policy. Experts believed that broad national paradigm is missing in policy making, Parliament and Government should develop a new security policy and renegotiate the security cooperation with USA. They stressed that multiple centres of power should be replaced with one rightful institution of Parliament that should lead the policy debate inside Pakistan.

#### **Parliamentary Accountability and Oversight Can Strengthen National Security & Public Trust in Security Institutions: PILDAT**

1. Elected Government and Parliament continue to abdicate responsibility to define and oversee a comprehensive national security strategy
2. Committees' pace of exercising oversight, policy review remains slow and largely ineffective
3. Undue secrecy and lack of public information and consultation culture should not be the norm of Parliamentary oversight of security
4. Parliament and Parliamentary Committees, constitutionally empowered, must demand comprehensive details of security and defence related issues and agreements, especially relating to USA
5. Activate and strengthen Cabinet Committee on Defence and National Security including Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Interior and Finance;

- supported by a permanent secretariat & think tank
- 6. Activate Minister & Ministry of Defence

Releasing its report on May 10, 2011 on Performance of the Parliamentary Committees of Defence and the National Security during the first 3 years of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan, PILDAT has said that Parliament's oversight and accountability of the security sector will serve to strengthen and enhance Pakistan's national security and the absence of oversight is a negative trend that is hampering the process of institutional decision-making and national policy outlook. The PILDAT report, the first attempt of its kind in Pakistan by an independent institution and prepared in the backdrop of principle of Parliamentary oversight of security sector, covers a period of three years, i.e., from March 15, 2008 to March 15, 2011 examining closely the publicly-available data on the work of the National Assembly and Senate Standing Committees on Defence and the Parliamentary Committee on National Security - the three committees charged with the responsibility of dealing with subjects relating to defence and national security. Pakistan is engaged in an unconventional war. Our security is threatened, our troops and civilians are laying down their lives, our economy is wrecked by this on-going war and our sovereignty appears to be compromised. Our Parliamentary committees and especially the ones relating to national defence and security need to be more alert, active, vigilant and serious than ever before in discharging their responsibility of oversight. If human or infrastructural constraints are holding them back, they must get the necessary resources to do their duty, said PILDAT. The absence of Parliamentary leadership in defining policy and overseeing its implementation is most stark is the present national security scenario. One is hard pressed to find any contribution or any role played by Parliamentary committees in any major security decision taken by the country. Both Parliament and the Government do not seem prepared to be in the forefront of defining what constitutes a national security strategy of Pakistan in dealing with this war that has no end in sight. The elected leadership of the



Participants at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

people continues to abdicate its responsibility of leading the essential dialogue that can help define a winning and lasting strategy, believed PILDAT.

PILDAT believes that it is the job of Parliamentary Committees on Defence and National Security to have raised the question about institutional strengthening of civil institutions relating to national security. The security establishment will only accept the supremacy of elected civilian leaders in interpreting national interests and in laying down the broad parameters of defence and foreign policies if there is an effective mechanism for developing a national security system. There is, therefore, an urgent need to activate and strengthen Cabinet Committee on Defence and National Security to be chaired by the Prime Minister including Ministers of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Interior and Finance and members; it is equally important that the Cabinet Committee supported by a permanent secretariat and think tank. Similarly, exercising even civilian control on defence and national security will not be possible without activating the civilian Defence Minister and the Defence Ministry. Circumstances that have led to the *killing of Osama Bin Laden* and others on our sovereign soil by the armed forces of US of America have raised many questions on the role of the security agencies and the requirement of civilian and Parliamentary oversight over them, especially the supreme role Parliament needs to play in the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism and national security strategy. It is essential that Parliament demands its right to be informed on security and defence related issues; both the military establishment and the foreign office keep referring to red lines that the US should not cross on cooperation on counter terrorism and the committees must demand details of all such cooperation that falls under green, amber or red lines. One briefing to the Parliament on the issue 3 years ago ending in a resolution and formation of a committee that is still seeking response on lack of implementation of its recommendations, is unfortunately falling way short of the

required response from elected representatives of Pakistan, said PILDAT. An informed interaction needs to take place inside the Parliamentary Committees which should engage in seeking a periodic assessment of the security scenario and offer guidelines. Apart from other US entities, US Congress, in comparison, engages in a periodic review of its strategy in Afghanistan and thus leading the global discourse. Pakistan, on the other hand, despite being in the front line of the war, chooses to remain confined to just respond instead of presenting its own national assessment of the regional security and its own legitimate concerns and issues. Parliament and Parliamentary committees can, and must, be in the forefront of creating such a periodic assessment both for the national audience and the one that creates a reasonable and legitimate space in the international narrative on the security concerns in the region, demanded PILDAT. The analysis of the performance of these committees reveals that while there is some movement forward in which Parliament is gradually becoming aware of its responsibilities, the pace of exercising this responsibility remains slow and largely ineffective. During the three parliamentary years, starting from 2008-2009, the National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence held 26 meetings while the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production held 25 meetings. During the same period, the Parliamentary Committee on National Security held 35 meetings.

The comparison with other Parliamentary democracies, such as India and UK, both of which follow the Westminster system, shows that our Committees lag far behind in effectiveness as well as efficiency. The statistics show that the number of meetings held by the Indian Parliamentary Committee on Defence in 2009-2010 alone is roughly equal to the total number of meetings held by the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Defence during the three years. Similarly, while the Standing Committee on Defence, India presented a total of 9 reports



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Lahore



Mr. Humayoun Saifullah Khan speaks at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

in the 15th Lok Sabha during one year, 2009-10, and the House of Commons UK Defence Committee presented 9 Reports and 5 special reports for in one year (2010), in comparison, the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production failed to table a single report during the entire three years. The Parliamentary Committee on National Security presented just one report in 3 years while the National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence presented 6 reports in three years. In addition, the Parliamentary Committee on National Security which prepared a report and sent its recommendations to the Government in 2009, still complains of lack of implementation of its reports. PILDAT recognises that no national institution wishes to undermine any aspect of national security and therefore committee meetings discussing national security are sometimes needed to be held in camera, but this does not need to be the overriding principle as determined by the Parliamentary Committee on National Security chaired by Senator Raza Rabbani. Parliament, first and foremost, is an accountable institution to the citizens and citizens views, opinions and voices need to be heard and incorporated into policies that define national security priorities for Pakistan

#### **PAC and Defence Ministry should put forward their findings on financial mismanagement in NLC: PILDAT**

PILDAT urges the Public Accounts Committee, and the Ministry of Defence to proceed against those responsible in the NLC case immediately. PILDAT urges the Public Accounts Committee particularly, to proceed with its recommendations based on inquiries completed by the Planning Commission, the NLC itself and a local Chartered Accountancy firm, in case the Ministry of Defence does not come up with the inquiry report on June 30. PILDAT acknowledges the hard work and activism of the PAC during the past three Parliamentary years, and hopes that the Committee would uphold the standards of Parliamentary accountability by making public its report

about those responsible for embezzling the tax payers' money. PILDAT at the completion of more than three years of the present Government would once again reiterate that the Government, Opposition and the Parliament as an institution must act quickly to create an effective and independent Accountability mechanism by passing a comprehensive Accountability Law. Currently, the Holders of Public Offices (Accountability) bill is with the National Assembly Standing Committee on Law and Parliamentary Affairs since its introduction on April 15, 2009. While the law remains stuck at the Committee level, the current Accountability mechanism is in a limbo. This continues to serve as a cause of erosion of public trust in Public institutions and more importantly the democratic order.

On December 08, 2010, Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, closed the inquiry headed by the PAC regarding the financial mismanagement of around Rs. 2 billion in the National Logistics Cell. While closing the inquiry he said that the Committee would wait to put its findings until a similar inquiry, ordered by the Chief of the Army Staff, is completed. Earlier, PAC Chairman had said that the Committee would go ahead with its recommendations and fix responsibility on those involved in the mismanagement despite the Army's inquiry, especially after the Planning Commission had completed its inquiry regarding the issue. After seven (7) months, there is no sign of the internal inquiry of the Army being completed. On June 11, the Defence Secretary reportedly refused to inform the Public Accounts Committee regarding the status of the inquiry report commissioned by the Chief of Army Staff. The Committee has set deadline of June 30 for the Defence Ministry to submit its report, threatening to go ahead with its own findings if the deadline is not met.

## Citizens Group on Electoral Process - CGEP

The Citizens Group on Electoral Process – CGEP, a non-partisan group comprising a number of well-known personalities from the media, legal profession, civil society and former members of the superior judiciary and armed forces, etc. was facilitated by PILDAT in December 2006, a year ahead of General Elections in Pakistan, in order to regularly monitor and examine the electoral process leading up to General Election. CGEP worked from December 2007 to post General Election held in February 2008 to timely identify communicate and offer solutions to rectify issues relating to the electoral processes. During the reporting period, CGEP worked to raise the need for comprehensive electoral reforms in Pakistan.

### Government, ECP urged to institute Electoral Reforms Now: CGEP

In a Briefing organized by PILDAT on August 10, 2010, CGEP members strongly demanded that Election Commission should act independently. Welcoming Election Commission's 5-Year Strategic Plan, CGEP demanded that media and civil society should conduct regular periodic review of its implementation. The new legislation on electoral reforms is on the cards and it is important that all required comprehensive set of electoral reforms is included in it. Participants and CGEP members questioned why ECP is not taking action against those campaigning in by-elections using state resources. There would not have been such a crisis of fake degrees in the country had the ECP done its job prior to 2008 General Election, they said. Nomination papers and declarations made by every candidate ahead of an election should be placed on ECP website prior to an Election so that media and voters have access to those, demanded CGEP members. Categories such as nationalities other than Pakistan as well as resident status of any other country



Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Information Secretary, PML-N Speakes at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

should also be included in the Nomination & Declaration Forms of all candidates. Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Senior Columnist, Mr. Javed Jabbar, Former Senator and Federal Minister of Information & Media Development and Science and Technology and Lt Gen (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, Former Governor Sindh, Interior Minister represented CGEP members in the briefing session. In a question answer session, participants raised their concerns on the faulty electoral rolls and strongly demanded the timely electoral reforms to be implemented in the country. The PILDAT Briefing was organized under project titled Electoral and Parliamentary Process and Civil Society in Pakistan, in partnership with the East-West Centre, Hawaii and supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund.

### ECP should speed up the process of Electoral reforms: PILDAT Roundtable Reviews progress on ECP Strategic Plan

PILDAT organised a Roundtable Discussion on the Electoral Reforms in Pakistan: Monitoring and Implementation of ECP 5-Year Strategic Plan on September 10, 2010 in Lahore. In the Roundtable Discussion representatives of the Civil Society, Media, analysts, and academia urged ECP to speed gear up the process of electoral Reforms as this is the right time to introduce the required reforms in the electoral process. Members of the Citizens Group on Electoral Process-CGEP including Mr. Shahid Hamid, Former Governor Punjab, Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi, Political Analyst, Mr. Mujib ur Rehman Shami, former President APNS and CPNE, Justice Nasira Iqbal, participated while Sheikh Jalil Ahmed, Deputy Secretary ECP represented the Election commission at the forum.



(L to R) Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezi, Mr. Tariq Malik and Mr. Shahid Hamid at a PILDAT Legislative Forum in Islamabad

### Government Committed to Constitutional and Legal Framework for Free, Fair and Credible Election: Senator Babar Awan

In a PILDAT Legislative Forum on Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011, held on March 01, 2011 in Islamabad, Senator Zaheeruddin Babar Awan, Federal Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, said that the Government is determined to institute a comprehensive constitutional and legal framework for electoral reforms to ensure free, fair and credible election in Pakistan. He welcomed PILDAT's review and recommendations on the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011 which he said the Parliament must consider and approve after considering all possibilities to improve the draft law. He said that after having served in opposition too, Peoples Party is committed to facilitate such electoral reforms through which no one can challenge election results in the future.

Other Speakers at the Forum included Senator Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali, Deputy Chairman Senate, Dr. Farooq Sattar, MNA, Parliamentary Leader MQM, Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan and former Federal Minister of Defence, Establishment and Law and former Governor Punjab, Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari, Leader of the House in the Senate, Mr. Tariq Malik, Deputy Chairman NADRA and Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezeai, former Deputy Speaker National Assembly. A large number of Parliamentarians from major political parties, columnists and media representatives actively participated in the Forum contributing in terms of review and recommendations to the draft law.

### PILDAT demands placing Legislators' Declarations on ECP Website

PILDAT has demanded of the Election Commission of Pakistan to place on its website all the declarations



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad



(L to R) Senator Mir Jan Muhammad Khan Jamali, Senator Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at a Briefing session

submitted by each Senator and Member of the National Assembly and the Provincial Assemblies. The nomination papers of each Senator and Member of the National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies at the time of election should be placed at the earliest on the Election Commission's website. PILDAT has said that legislators' declarations ahead of elections are made for the information of general public but the current procedure devised by the Election Commission to obtain a copy of these declarations is so complex and time-consuming that the basic purpose of the declarations is defeated in the process. PILDAT observed that the current state of information technology provides an easy and inexpensive way to make the declarations by the political leaders public by placing them on the Election Commission's website. PILDAT also demanded that the declarations submitted by all the candidates in future by-elections and general elections should also be placed on the Election Commission's website immediately after the submission of the Nomination Forms, and ahead of elections, so that general public and especially the voters become aware of the aspiring representatives' credentials before casting vote. PILDAT further said that had the Election Commission adopted the practice of making these declarations public on its website, it would have acted as a deterrent to the false declarations made by some of the current legislators whose degrees are found to be fake. PILDAT also said that the declarations about the taxes payment record would allow people to know their public representatives much better. PILDAT also demanded that the declarations of assets and liabilities which each elected representative is required to submit to the Election Commission every year should also be placed on the website in addition to the gazette notification.

### Prime Minister's continuing Election Rallies and Election Commission's inaction are severely damaging the credibility of democratic process – PILDAT

PILDAT sought clarification from the Honourable Chief Election Commissioner On August 3, 2010, PILDAT had sought clarification from the Honourable Chief Election Commissioner through a letter whether Prime Minister's continuing election rallies and announcement of development projects constituted violation of an electoral law or code of conduct. The Prime Minister had addressed an election rally at Sillanwali on July 31, 2010 to campaign for a PPPP-supported candidate for the by-election in the National Assembly Constituency NA-68, Sargodha V; lent support to his party's candidate for the by-election in constituency NA-155, Lodhran II on August 2, 2010 at Kehrore Pacca and addressed the election rally at Bahawalpur on August 20, 2010 in support of a PPPP candidate for the by-election from National Assembly constituency NA-184, Bahawalpur-II.

PILDAT feels that continuing use of state resources and announcement of development projects at election rallies by the Prime Minister is destroying the credibility of the democratic and electoral process in the country. Election Commission's continuous silence at these apparent violations of electoral ethics and the code of conduct is extremely disturbing and damaging the concept of rule of law. The practice is not only being followed by the Prime Minister but also by the Ministers and advisors of Provincial Governments especially in Punjab.

PILDAT strongly demanded that the Election Commission should clarify the correct position and initiate action irrespective of the position of the violator of the sanctity of the electoral process. PILDAT has added that by allowing the credibility of the electoral process to erode, ECP is indirectly weakening the democratic system in the country.



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad



Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch Speakes at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

### PILDAT Lauds directives of the CEC barring PM and CMs from by-election Campaign

In response to the PILDAT letter, Honourable Justice (Retd.) Hamid Ali Mirza, Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, barred the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Federal Ministers, State Ministers, advisers to the President and Prime Minister and advisers to the Chief Ministers from visiting the constituencies where by-elections are to be held. The CEC barred them from inaugurating or promise to inaugurate development schemes during the run-up to the by polls. The directive, termed as a landmark directive by PILDAT, issued by Honourable Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan on September 28, 2010 (Para (v), (vi), (vii) of the directive said the following:

*(v) After the issuance of Schedule of an election, the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Federal Ministers, State Ministers, Advisors to the President and the Prime Minister, Provincial Ministers and Advisors to the Chief Ministers will neither visit the area of any constituency where an election is being held nor shall openly or in secret give any subscription or donation or make promise for giving such subscription or donation to any institution of a constituency, nor shall inaugurate, commit to undertake or announce any development project therein for the advancement of the campaign of a candidate of his choice and thereby influence the results of that election.*

*(vi) The Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Federal Ministers, State Ministers, Advisors to the President and the Prime Minister, Provincial Ministers and Advisors to the Chief Ministers or any person on their behalf shall not visit the Constituency or a polling station after the*

*issuance of Schedule of an election till the completion of poll.*

*(vii) If any of the public office holders mentioned in Para (v) and (vi) above is found to have misused his official position to influence the result of an election in any manner whatsoever, legal action shall be taken against such person in accordance with law under section 103A of the Representation of the People Act, 1976, relating to contempt proceedings.*

The above directives made it implicit that all public office holders need to adhere to the rules and code. No violation of the directive has been reported in 2011.

PILDAT believes that this directive is a historic land mark in the existence of the Election Commission of Pakistan. It is also helpful in establishing the writ of the Election Commission for ensuring of free, fair, impartial and transparent conduct of by-elections in Pakistan. PILDAT also said that the prestige of ECP will enhance and people's trust in this vital democratic institution will increase after the CEC's directive.

**Chief Election Commissioner AJK should take notice of Pakistan's public office holders' participation in AJK election campaign: PILDAT**

On June 23, 2011, PILDAT demanded that AJK Chief Election Commissioner should take notice of Pakistan's public office holders' participation in AJK election campaign at the state expense, latest of which has been Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, Prime Minister of Pakistan, who addressed an election rally in Bagh, AJK on June 22 for the support of PPP candidate. PILDAT said it was regrettable that despite a clear order by AJK Chief Election Commissioner on May 16 that no participation of any Pakistani leaders holding public office should take place in



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

AJK election campaign, Prime Minister of Pakistan, and by other federal and state ministers earlier, addressed election rallies on state expense using the full state-funded protocol.

PILDAT also regretted AJK Chief Election Commissioner's quoted statement in newspapers in which he expressed helplessness and regret in stopping AJK Prime Minister for violating AJK Election Code of Conduct by using state resources in election campaign.



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

## Democracy and Legislative Performance Assessment

PILDAT's **Democracy Assessment Group** continued to carry out an objective assessment of the performance of democracy in Pakistan throughout the year using an international framework. The objectives of democracy assessment are that since democracy is restored in Pakistan, the society must strive to improve and strengthen it. It is a collective responsibility of all segments of the society that democracy must deliver and succeed because the poor quality of democracy may disappoint people, lead to yet another failure and derailment of democracy.

PILDAT continued its work of performance evaluation of the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies as well, details of which follow.

### Mid-Term Review of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan gets a 45% Score

The Mid-Term Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan received an average score of **45%**. Released on the International Day of Democracy and at the completion of the mid-term of the tenure of elected Parliament and the Government of Pakistan (September 16 and September 24, 2010 respectively), the Democracy Assessment Group (DAG), convened by PILDAT, carried out a comprehensive assessment based on an international democracy assessment framework reflecting the experience of democracies around the world.

Civil Society and Popular Participation in Pakistan, one of the 4 key pillars of the international assessment framework, received the highest score of **53%**. This has been followed by Citizenship, Law and Rights, with the score of **46%**. The remaining two key pillars,



Participants at a Seminar on Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan

Representative and Accountable Government and Democracy beyond the State receive the score of **43%** each. The key message of the Mid-Term Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan is that the status of Constitutional and institutional arrangements of Democracy are comparatively better than in most parts of our history. We have the basic ingredients of Democracy in place such as an independent Judiciary, independent and diverse media, a sovereign and inclusive Parliament in which the opposition is given an important role and a free open civil society. But the state of governance, rule of law, accountability and integrity in public office are not satisfactory and need urgent improvement. Effectiveness of civilian control over the armed forces gets the lowest score of **26%** of the overall assessment which calls for a serious reflection both by the civilian and military leadership, in the assessment of the Group. An elected, democratic government must be able to exercise credible and effective control of the military. In the opinion of the Group, Pakistan is far from this stage. Representativeness of the media as reflecting the diversity of public opinion received the highest score of **67%** in the overall assessment. Role of Media generally received the overall score of **58%**. Independence of media received a score of 62%; the investigative ability of the media and civil society received a score of **62%**. Relatively a lower score, i.e., **52%**, was received by the freedom of private citizens from the intrusiveness of media which underscores the need for media to be a little more sensitive to the privacy of a citizen.

The objective of Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan is to identify strengths and achievements and to also identify the weaknesses so as to propose reforms to address those weaknesses.

Drawn from all provinces and regions of Pakistan, the 24-member Democracy Assessment Group or DAG represents the broad diversity of the Pakistani Society.



Panellists at a Seminar on Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan

Province, Gender, Profession, Language and Political Affiliation are some of the features of DAG members' profiles. The framework and the assessment by DAG have been shared in two national workshops comprising about 50 participants each from different walks of life in Pakistan. The Group noted with satisfaction some of the major accomplishments of the democratic order in 2 ½ years which include Restoration of Judiciary; Unanimous passage of the 18th Constitutional Amendment; 7th National Finance Commission (NFC) Award; Making the Public Accounts Committees (PACs) more effective; Recognition of the Role of Opposition in the Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies; Constructive Role of the Opposition; Aghaz-e-Huqooq-e-Balochistan Package and the Gilgit-Baltistan Empowerment and Self-Governance Order, 2009, etc. In noting challenges to Democracy, the Group highlighted key areas of concern including Socio-Economic Challenges; Terrorism; Perceptions of Corruption and delay in instituting an Accountability Mechanism; A weak Performance Legitimacy of the Government; Perception of Confrontation between the Supreme Court and the Government; Weak Political Parties and Intra-party Democracy; Need to strengthen Parliamentary Oversight of the Executive; the Perception of Inadequate Dividends of Democracy for Public; the Need to Channelize the Potential of Youth for Democracy and the Role and Responsibility of the Media, etc.

The Group was unanimous in the firm belief that the way forward for Pakistan is to sustain, refine and strengthen the democratic system. Disappointment at the performance of elected legislatures and governments in a particular phase cannot become the justification for abandoning the democratic process, believed the Group. It is the next phase that becomes the far more formidable challenge, believed the Democracy Assessment Group. The chief challenge is of translating new Constitutional framework and consensus sanctified on paper into concrete, practical, visible benefits for the citizens and to use



Participants at a Seminar in Islamabad



Participants at a Seminar in Islamabad

democracy to conduct comprehensive reforms, to significantly improve governance, ensure transparency and accountability and enforce the rule of law without fear or favour. If democracy continues to be used to perpetuate corruption and nepotism, prolong malpractices and mis-governance, it is not just democracy which will face old or new threats but the very existence of Pakistan will be put at grave risk, the Group opined.

### Despite shortcomings, Democratic System Must Continue

In discussing the performance of the National Assembly and its evaluation in the context of democratic strengthening, speakers at a PILDAT Consultative Session on December 31, 2010 agreed that despite its shortcomings, the democratic system must continue. **Syed Fakhar Imam**, former Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan and **Prof. Muhammad Waseem**, Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) jointly chaired the session both made keynote speeches on the occasion while the session participants included a mix of MPs, analysts and the media. Marginal change has been seen in the performance of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan from the first to the second year, said **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, PILDAT Executive Director, while presenting an overview of the performance of the 2 years of the National Assembly of Pakistan. He said that the National Assembly received an overall evaluation score of 50 compared to 49 in the first year using the IPU international criteria of evaluation. He said this underscores that the need for reforms and improvements is as pressing as the previous year. **Prof. Dr. Muhammad Waseem** said that PILDAT's periodic analysis of the performance of the legislature is vital for legislators. He said that the most important function of the Parliament is to address public concerns. He suggested that there should be more in depth surveys for compilation of such score

cards in the future. **Syed Fakhar Imam** said that the most important function of the Parliament is its accountability to the masses. Legislation is the strongest pillar of the Parliament. He was of the opinion that general public was unaware of the proceedings of the Parliament and a general disconnect between the Parliament and masses is evident. He suggested that ways and means in this modern age of media be devised to telecast the parliamentary debates so that public can be involved in the policy making procedure. The political culture needs to be changed and reformed if we desire for it to be comparable to the developed Parliaments of the world. He said that the unanimous passage of the 18th Constitutional Amendment is a great achievement of the Parliament though it should have been debated extensively. He suggested that a Question Hour should be mandated for the Prime Minister after every two weeks. Referring to the money bills and the budgetary processes in developed democracies, he said that where the Parliaments are strong not a single penny can be spent without its approval. Holding the government to account is the main job of the Parliament.

#### Quality of Democracy assessed at 46% upon conclusion of 3rd Parliamentary Year

On the completion of the 3rd Parliamentary year and government, the Democracy Assessment Group of PILDAT gave a 46% score to the quality of democracy in Pakistan, which stood at 45% upon the mid-term in September 2010. A diverse Democracy Assessment Group (DAG), convened by PILDAT, carried out a comprehensive assessment based on an international democracy assessment framework reflecting the experience of democracies around the world. **Mr. Ilahi Bakhsh Soomro**, former Speaker National Assembly and a member of Democracy Assessment Group. Chaired PILDAT roundtable discussion on the Assessment of the



(L to R) Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan, Senator Rehana Yahya Baloch and Senator Najma Hameed at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Lahore

Quality of Democracy in Pakistan, while **Mr. Qamar Zaman Kaira**, Secretary Information PPPP and former Federal Minister for Information, **Mr. Ahsan Iqbal**, spokesperson of the PML N, and **Senator Nayyar Hussain Bukhari**, Leader of the House in the Senate, spoke at the occasion including members of the Democracy Assessment Group **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Senior Advocate Supreme Court, former Governor Punjab and former Federal Minister, **Mr. Javed Jabbar**, former Federal Minister, **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, Columnist, **Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad**, Senior Analyst, Geo, **Mr. Javed Hafeez**, former Ambassador, **Prof. Dr. Mohammad Waseem**, Academician, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, former Governor and Federal Minister for Interior, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**, Editor-in-Chief, Daily Pakistan and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT also participated in the Roundtable Discussion. Many Parliamentarians, analysts, civil society representatives and media persons also participated in the roundtable discussion.

#### PILDAT should constitute a Committee of eminent personalities, media persons, ex parliamentarians and academia for nomination and setting criteria for best legislator award: unanimously decided in the PILDAT Consultative Session

PILDAT organised a consultative session on December 24, 2010 in Islamabad. It was decided that PILDAT will form a committee in which media persons who cover parliament sessions, ex parliamentarians with unbiased opinion, members of citizens groups, academics and relevant veteran legislative staffers should be involved. Parliamentarians and parliamentary reporters identified various aspects of what should constitute criteria such as attendance and participation in the parliamentary sessions, legislative initiatives, etc. In his opening remarks PILDAT Executive Director **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob** said that PILDAT believes that Pakistani MPs have hardest responsibilities among international MPs in terms of the nature of demands on their time in the constituency as well

as the demands in the legislature that they are supposed to carry out completely unassisted. While PILDAT monitors the performance of the institution of Parliament periodically, we feel MPs should always be acknowledged for their performance so that it serves both as an appreciation for their efforts as well as an incentive. That is the rationale behind the consultation on how should such an award be constituted in Pakistan. He gave examples that Indian Parliament has such an award while UK and USA have such traditions too. Prominent among participants were Senator Tahir Mashhadi, Justice(Retd.) Fakhar ul Nisa, Senator Fozia Fakhar Zaman, MNA Dr. Donya Aziz, Humayon Saifullah, Nisar Tanveer, Fauzia Ijaz, Imrana Saeed, Pervaiz Khan, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch, Malik Shakir Bashir, Farkhanda Waraich and Malik Azmat Khan etc.

#### **PILDAT analyses 3rd year of the 13th National Assembly**

Upon the conclusion of the 3rd Parliamentary year, PILDAT analysis reveals on March 16, 2011 that there has been negligible change in the overall performance of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan in its 3rd year and therefore the need for systemic reforms and improvement is as pressing as was a year ago. A snapshot of performance shows that:

- i. 73% of the MNAs Questions remained unanswered during the Year
- ii. Average attendance of MNAs improved 4% from the previous year: 66% in 2010-2011 compared to 62% in 2009-2010, although still 8% below the average attendance during 1st year: 74% in 2008-2009
- iii. Met a dismal 3 hours per day at an average during 98 days in 3rd year; a consistent average through the 12th and the 13th Assemblies
- iv. 5 more days added to Budget debate from 10 days in last year though time consumed in Budget session



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- fell to 39 hours from 42 hours in 2nd year; 161 members participated in budget debate compared to 170 last year
- v. Laws passed to Presidential Ordinances issued ratio stands at 30 to 9 or 3.33 laws passed for every ordinance - significant improvement from the 2nd years of 2.1 ordinances for every law passed by the Assembly

Despite declining interest of members in the House proceedings and the absence of ministers, even pointed out by the Chair, it is a sign of maturity that the parties and members present in the House have upheld Parliamentary practices evident from lack of rowdiness in the 3 years of the National Assembly. However, looking at the trend in Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, it is feared that a tit-for-tat approach may be in the offing in the National Assembly which will be a poor response to the gains made during the past three years, observed PILDAT. PILDAT believes that the Parliament needs to institutionalise a recruitment and promotion policy of Staff through the Federal Public Service Commission, as applicable to all other entities of the Government, and the promotions of full-time staff should be subject to successful completion of courses at the National School of Public Policy like the Civil Service officials in Pakistan. PILDAT also criticised the decision to construct extension of the Parliamentary lodges and servant quarters at the huge cost of Rs. 4 billion when the Parliament had the option to construct an Office bloc for Committees which was to cost less. This clearly shows Parliament's inability to prioritise the work of facilitating Executive's oversight, the key responsibility of committees, which is unfortunate. Pakistan's Parliament, unlike a majority of Parliaments even in the developing countries, neither provide offices or staff to individual MNAs nor it caters adequately to Committees needs in terms of research staff and committee rooms. Most of the Committees cannot hold meetings due to lack of availability of a couple of Committee rooms in the

Parliament building. This lack of facilities also serves as a tool for controlling the Parliament as bureaucracy often uses it as a tactic to delay or stop a committee meeting from taking place. Despite such professionally trying circumstances where MNAs do not even have access to an office, computer, or research or legislative staff, and innumerable responsibilities relating to constituencies and delivery of services to public, it is admirable that MNAs have still managed to introduce over 200 Private Members Bills and nearly 30,000 questions in 3 years including over 70 reports of the Committees. If the Government and the Parliament truly believe in strengthening the legislative branch of the State, it is high time that prioritised investments are made through providing offices and research support to legislators and committees instead of just focusing on adding to their residential facilities, observed PILDAT. PILDAT especially praised the work of the all-party Public Accounts Committee in investigating some key embezzlement and corruption scandals and observed that despite administrative, staff, research and sometimes political challenges many committees, especially National Assembly's Committee on House and Library that investigated the alleged financial misappropriations in the purchase of land for the National Assembly Employees Cooperative Housing Society (NAECHS), and the National Assembly Special Committee on Railways that investigated the 2001 contract allotting 141 acres of Railways land to the Royal Palm Golf and Country Club allegedly on nominal prices, have managed to carry out objective and authentic investigations and prepared reports many of which have either not been presented in the House or those have not been discussed in the House which is a sorry state of affairs.

#### **PILDAT welcomes effective oversight by the National Assembly Special Committee on Railways**

PILDAT has appreciated the hard work and bold stand taken by the 21-member National Assembly Special



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

Committee on Railways regarding the 2001 contract allotting 141 acres of Railways land to the Royal Palm Golf and Country Club allegedly on nominal prices. PILDAT stated that the Report of the Committee led by PPPP MNA **Nadeem Afzal Gondal** had rightly asserted the legitimate oversight role of the Parliament while declaring that the contract was 'achieved through deceit, deception, fraud, cheating and misrepresentation.' PILDAT further said that the Committee Report would go a long way in enhancing the image and prestige of the Parliament and consolidating the parliamentary sovereignty. PILDAT hoped that the performance of the committee would set an example for other parliamentary committees to undertake effective oversight of the executive. PILDAT also hoped that the Government of Pakistan would earnestly implement the recommendations of the Special Committee. PILDAT paid rich tributes to **Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, Chairman of the Committee and other members who belonged to various political parties represented in the current National Assembly. The Report of the Committee submitted to the National Assembly on October 1, 2010 had called for legal proceedings against the former Railways Minister, two ex-secretaries and Chairmen of Railways and an ex-General Manager. The report had also recommended prosecution of five (5) members of the Railways Executive Committee that approved the contract along with confiscation and auction of properties of two of them to recover losses to the national exchequer caused by their conduct -- and 'bring to justice' three members of another committee that examined the pre-qualification criteria for bidding.

#### **Failure of Governance should not be seen as Failure of Democracy**

Failure of governance should not be seen as a failure of democracy and democracy is the only way forward for Pakistan, stressed members of the PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group joined by other participants at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion on April 25, 2011 in Lahore on How to Assess the Quality of Democracy in

Pakistan in the backdrop of PILDAT Report on Mid-Term Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan. Citizens participation is essential to making democracy work, they said.

Participants believed basic problems and concerns of masses should be addressed properly after which public will be interested in the election process. Dynastic rule in politics should come to an end to flourish true sense of democracy in the country. Institutions should remain within their limits while Parliament and Provincial Assemblies should show through their performance that they are supreme. Some observed that we see less democracy at play and more fear of dictatorship in the country at present. Others opined that for greater participation of educated middle classes, election expenses need to be reduced. Lower courts need to deliver justice. Country needs local Government system and hence elections should not be postponed any further. Members of Provincial Assembly also said that all political parties should vow today that no political party will join any military dictator in the future. Provincial autonomy, as a principle, should also be held dear and exercised.

### **Government should Work to Improve Standards of Governance**

Government should work to address issues of governance in areas such as endemic corruption, spiralling prices, chronic unemployment and deteriorating law and order, stressed PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group. The Group was addressing a Roundtable Discussion held by PILDAT on May 03, 2011 over How to Assess Quality of Democracy in Pakistan. The Group further urged the Parliament to investigate incident of killing of Osama Bin Laden and demanded the Government to issue a comprehensive statement on this operation on sovereign soil of Pakistan. Participants at the roundtable included veteran Members of Parliament, Members of Sindh Provincial Assembly, academicians and analysts and



Participants at a Seminar in Islamabad



Participants at a Seminar in Islamabad

media. Participants proposed details on developing a Pakistan-specific focus on criteria for assessing quality of democracy. Wide ranging issues such as law and order, corruption, elections and legislative reform were also discussed at the roundtable.

### **PILDAT Group demands Comprehensive Statement from Government on OBL killing; demands Parliament to Investigate**

PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group urged the Government to make a comprehensive statement, without further delay on the facts and circumstances that have led to the killing of Osama Bin Laden and others on our sovereign soil by the armed forces of the United States of America.

The Group urged the Parliament to immediately constitute a joint Parliamentary Commission to investigate all aspects of this event which caused world-wide adverse comments on our complicity or our incompetence or a bit of both in regard to the presence of Osama Bin Laden on our soil. The Group called upon the newly-constituted Federal Cabinet to take up this matter as its first order of business at the next Cabinet meeting.

The Group hoped that the new Coalition government will urgently take steps to improve the standards of governance in critical areas including endemic corruption, spiraling prices, chronic unemployment and deteriorating law and order. The national need is to nurture and promote democracy which will only be possible if these problems are addressed with dedication and commitment.

### **PILDAT demands Right-Sizing the Federal Cabinet; Retaining Federal Ministers despite devolving Ministries undue burden on National Exchequer**

On June 29, 2011 PILDAT demanded that the Federal Government should immediately right-size the cabinet and

has questioned the Federal Cabinet's decision to retain 7 Federal Ministers despite devolving 7 Federal Ministries. "Retaining Ministers after devolving their portfolios is not only an undue burden on the National Exchequer, it is also against the spirit of devolution," said PILDAT. On June 28, the Federal Cabinet, while approving devolution of 7 ministries, decided that the number of ministers would remain unchanged in the Federal Cabinet and those left without a portfolio as a result of devolution would be given new assignments by the Prime Minister.

"It is rather strange and questionable that the Prime Minister has decided to retain ministers despite devolving portfolios as paying ministers without any job or work is not only a bad practice and precedence but extreme mismanagement of scarce national resources when the Government is already under pressure to curtail expenditures and plug corruption," said PILDAT. PILDAT cautioned that creation of new ministries or portfolios just to adjust these ministers will be wastage of public funds, and against the spirit of the 18th Constitutional Amendment as well as harmful to the whole process of devolution. PILDAT appreciated the devolution of 7 more ministries to the provinces, completing the process two days before the deadline of June 30, 2011 under the 18th Constitutional Amendment according to which after this 3rd and final phase of devolution total 17 Federal Ministries and the subjects of Concurrent List will stand dissolved from July 01, 2011. PILDAT demanded that as in first two phases of devolution in which 12 Federal Ministries were devolved and their ministers were discharged as well, Government should do the same and discharge ministers without any portfolio immediately. PILDAT also demanded that after completion of devolution, Standing Committees of the National Assembly and the Senate should also be re arranged and re adjusted accordingly.



(L to R) Ms. Aasiya Riaz and Syed Talat Hussain at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

## Orientation of Legislators on Conflict Resolution

PILDAT continued its initiative to build the conflict resolution capabilities of Members and relevant Staff from the National and Provincial Assemblies (Punjab & Sindh), Legislative Assemblies of Gilgit-Baltistan and AJ&K and political party youth wings. Activities under the reporting period follow.

### PILDAT Skills-building workshop on Conflict Transformation: Dynamics, Skills and Strategies for the members and Secretariat Staff of the Legislative Assembly of Gilgit Baltistan

The Honourable Speaker Legislative Assembly of Gilgit Baltistan **Mr. Wazir Baig** inaugurated the PILDAT Skills-building workshop on Conflict Transformation: Dynamics, Skills and Strategies for the members of the Legislative Assembly of Gilgit Baltistan and the Secretariat Staff of the Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly on November 03, 2010 in Gilgit. The workshop was conducted by **Prof. Iftikhar Ali**, a Professor at the Karakoram International University specializing in Conflict Resolution Techniques. A background paper on *Conflict Transformation: Dynamics, Skills and Strategies* in English and Urdu languages was especially prepared by PILDAT for the participants of the Skills-building Workshops, in addition to workshop materials and exercises developed by the resource person.

### South Punjab: to be or not to be a separate province: talks remain deadlocked

In an exercise to build conflict resolution and negotiation strategies for Members of Punjab Assembly and office bearers of major political parties, a mock simulation exercise was conducted on March 17, 2011 in Lahore by a seasoned instructor, **Mohammed Feyyaz**, who has



Parliamentarians at a Workshop in Islamabad



Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab at a Workshop in Lahore

extensive experience of leading similar workshops in renowned national institutions, based on a live issue of whether or not Southern Punjab should be a separate province.

In order to carry out the mock exercise aimed at enhancing conflict management and resolution skills of the participants, they were divided into two groups: the proponents and opponents of the conflict. The two sides were briefed on how to understand the contours of a conflict and prepare negotiation points in each group. Actively assisted by the Conductor on the strategies of negotiations, the two sides faced each other on the negotiation table in a negotiation that went on for hours. Skilfully managed, the talks though could not result in a clear victory for either side, the opponents agreed in a media debrief after the talks, that the proponents had valid concerns about the lack of development of the South Punjab and promised that development funds will be allocated in the upcoming budget on the basis of population of South Punjab. The workshop was the first of the series of exercises organised by PILDAT on *How to Resolve Real Conflicts?* to enhance conflict understanding, resolution and negotiation strategies among elected legislators and office bearers of major political parties through which participants will be trained through an opportunity to resolve a real issue, in a real time setting, through simulated role playing so as to generate meaningful solutions to the issue.

### To construct or not to construct Kalabagh Dam: agreement to continue dialogue

Talks on whether or not Kalabagh dam should be constructed moved forward when Parliamentarians agreed to the demand of civil society's representatives to construct Kalabagh dam and to continue dialogue to help remove trust deficit. In an exercise to build conflict



Members of the Legislative Assembly of Gilgit Baltistan at Workshop in Islamabad

resolution and negotiation strategies for Members of Parliament and office bearers of major political parties, a mock simulation exercise was conducted on March 21, 2011 in Islamabad by a seasoned instructor, **Mohammed Feyyaz**, who has extensive experience of leading similar workshops in renowned national institutions, based on a live issue of whether or not Kalabagh dam should be constructed.

#### **Dialogue only way forward to resolve sectarian conflicts in GB: GB Legislators**

To resolve sectarian conflict in Gilgit Baltistan and to remove trust deficit, dialogue is the only way forward, agreed .legislators who believed they can play an important role in facilitating the discourse between conflicting groups. Members from Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly joined a PILDAT workshop on “How to Resolve Real Conflicts” held on May 04, 2011 in Islamabad.

To assist the members of the Legislative Assembly of Gilgit-Baltistan in enhancing the conflict resolution and negotiation strategies, a mock simulation exercise was conducted by a seasoned instructor, Mohammed Feyyaz, who has extensive experience of leading similar workshops in renowned national institutions, based on a live issue of Sectarian conflict in GB. The workshop was attended by Mr. Jamil Ahmed Deputy Speaker GBLA, Ministers and members of Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly. Eighteen (18) members of the G-B Legislative Assembly while the Secretary and the Additional Secretary of G-B Legislative Assembly also took part in the simulation exercise.

## Strengthening Budget Process and Legislative Capacities

Legislative Control of the purse strings or the national budget is one of the most crucial powers of any Legislature. Pakistan's current budgetary process has, for various historical reasons, attracted little input from legislators, political parties or wider civil society groups and organisations. The budget process has in consequence become solely the domain of the executive, leaving little scope for input in formulation, analysis or accountability.

PILDAT has been working to make the Federal and Provincial Budget Process more inclusive and to strengthen the channels and practices of Parliamentary input, scrutiny and oversight of the national budget.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment has omitted the Concurrent List from the 1973 Constitution thereby adding to the legislative and administrative responsibilities of the provinces in Pakistan. A greater awareness of this change and the resulting requirements of capacity enhancement and better governance need to be created at all levels of the society but especially among the Provincial Legislators, Provincial Government officials and the Provincial Assembly staff. It is with this background that PILDAT continued its enhanced engagement with the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

### Punjab Speaker chairs PILDAT Briefing Session on Impact of the 18th Constitutional Amendment and the 7th NFC Award on the Federation-Provinces Relations

Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab from major political parties met in Lahore on July 22, 2010 to participate in a PILDAT Briefing Session on Impact of the 18th Constitutional Amendment and the 7th NFC Award on



(L to R) Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq and Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



(L to R) Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Senator S. M. Zafar and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at a Workshop in Lahore

the Federation-Provinces Relations. The meeting was chaired by the Honourable Speaker of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab and was addressed by **Mr. Shahid Hamid**; Senior Advocate High Court; Former Minister for Defence, Establishment & Law and Former Governor of Punjab, **Senator S. M. Zafar**, Constitutional Lawyer; Member Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Reforms; Former Federal Minister of Law, **Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, Consultant and **Mr. Sartaj Aziz**, Vice Chancellor Beaconhouse National University; Former Federal Minister for Finance and Foreign Affairs.

### Members of the Punjab Assembly discuss the development of a Parliamentary Curriculum

On October 07, 2010 Members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab met, with Honourable Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Speaker of Provincial Assembly of the Punjab in chair, to deliberate on the development of a Legislative Curriculum for the members of Punjab Assembly. Honourable Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan appreciated PILDAT's effort to consult MPAs on the subject of Curriculum Development and said a comprehensive curriculum would greatly benefit the seasoned as well as new MPAs in the discharge of their responsibilities. He went on to say that experts of the relevant fields may be invited to deliver lectures and impart training to the members. He said that priority should be given to local resource persons for conducting legislative strengthening workshops.

### Involvement of Parliament, Political Parties, Media and Citizens Groups must for effective Budget Process in Pakistan

On October 18, 2010 at a PILDAT Evaluation Workshop involving Parliamentarians, Media, Citizens Groups and Political Parties, Panellists and participants agreed that the involvement of Parliament, Political Parties, Media and

Citizens Groups must for effective Budget Process in Pakistan. **Dr. Sania Nishtar**, President Heartfile, an NGO Think Tank, **Mr. M. Ziauddin**, Executive Editor The Express Tribune and **Mr. Rasheed Godil**, MNA; Member National Assembly Standing Committee on Finance, were panellists at the Workshop while a large number of stakeholders including Parliamentarians, academics, citizens groups and media participated in the workshop.

Opening the workshop, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, PILDAT Executive Director, said that it may be surprising to many why we are taking up the subject of Budget in the month of October while the budget session starts in June – but it is the month of October when Budget Call Circular is initiated by the Ministry of Finance and for stakeholders to make an effective contribution in influencing the budget, this is the time to initiate this. He said that PILDAT has been working to make the Federal Budget Process more inclusive and to strengthen the channels and practices of Parliamentary input, scrutiny and oversight of the national budget. The workshop today is to evaluate the process and to take stock of the contributions in this regard.

He also led the panel and participants through the PILDAT Budget Process Guide launched to facilitate and strengthen the role of Parliament, Political Parties, Citizens Groups and Media in the Federal Budget Process in Pakistan that contains a variety of papers, case studies and reports on how to make the federal and Parliamentary budget process more effective in Pakistan. The various case studies, especially from countries such as Canada and India, highlight how various segments of the democratic polity in the two countries affect the budget formulation, its scrutiny and oversight. Mr. Mehboob acknowledged and thanked the Parliamentary Centre, Canada, PILDAT's partner in implementing the project on *Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project* which is funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Senator Muhammad Ali Durrani, Mr. Ishaq Khaqwani and Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor at a Public Policy Dialogue in Lahore



(L to R) Mr. M. Ziauddin, Mr. Rasheed Godil and Dr. Sania Nishtar at a Workshop in Islamabad

and International Trade–DFAIT. Participants underscored urged Government and the Parliament to take concrete steps to bring in required reforms in the budget process at this stage in the begging of the budget cycle.

#### **Fact-based Discourse and Awareness needed on Grievances of South Punjab**

MPAs, politicians and media persons in Punjab vowed to work in their respective spheres of influence to create awareness on grievances of South Punjab at a PILDAT Public Policy Dialogue on Grievances of South Punjab: Myth and Reality held on November 26, 2010 in Lahore. A PILDAT Discussion Paper Development Funds for South Punjab was also shared on the occasion based on the statistics of development funds allocated to South Punjab from 2003 to 2010. Speakers at the dialogue included PILDAT Executive Director **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, **Senator Muhammad Ali Durrani**, former Federal Minister of Information, **Mr. Ishaq Khaqwani**, former Minister of State and **Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor**, MNA.

#### **South Punjab development share will be 35% in the 2011 budget: Rana Sanaullah Khan, MPA, Provincial Minister of Law & Parliamentary Affairs Punjab**

At the PILDAT Public Policy Dialogue on South Punjab in December 2010, in Lahore Rana **Sanaullah Khan**, MPA, Minister of law and Parliamentary Affairs Punjab acknowledged that while allocation of adequate development funds to South Punjab has been a problem in the past, after reviewing the discussion paper on South Punjab, the development share of South Punjab will be 35% in the upcoming budget 2011-2012. Rana Sanaullah Khan, who thanked PILDAT on behalf of Chief Minister and Government of Punjab for undertaking an important research and disseminating it to policy makers, said that the leaders of South Punjab in the past have been unfaithful to their constituencies although they have been ruling

Punjab and Pakistan. South Punjab should now elect a middle-class leadership, as the elite class has proved to be ruthless to its voters.

Opening the session, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, said that the PILDAT dialogue on South Punjab has been initiated so as to objectively analyse the reasons behind the grievances of South Punjab. PILDAT paper on Development Funds of South Punjab traces the allocation of development funds to the region and is available in English and Urdu. He gave details of the amount of allocations from 2003-2010. He also shared the amount of percentages of schools, hospital and the labour force employment in South Punjab. He said that PILDAT discussion paper has been prepared to generate a fact-based discourse on the issue.

#### **Provincial Ministers and Senior Government Officials brief the Punjab MPAs on the forthcoming Budget 2011-2012**

On January 13, 2011, Punjab MPAs got a chance to make contributions into the upcoming annual budget of Punjab and the Annual Development Programme (ADP) through a Pre-Budget Briefing Session organized by PILDAT in association with the Provincial Assembly of Punjab. The objective of the PILDAT Pre-Budget Briefing was to provide an overview of the current budget process, the upcoming Budget and the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the year 2011-2012 to enable the Honourable MPAs to contribute more effectively during the planned Pre-Budget Session of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab. Speakers at the Pre-Budget Briefing Session included **Mr. Tariq Bajwa**, Secretary Department of Finance, and Government of Punjab, **Mr. Javed Aslam**, Chairman, Planning and Development, Government of Punjab and **Mr. Mohsin Leghari**, MPA. **Honourable Rana Sanaullah Khan**, MPA and Provincial Minister of Law and **Mr. Tanvir**



Participants at a Seminar in Islamabad



Parliamentarians at a Workshop in Islamabad

**Ashraf Kaira**, MPA, Provincial Minister for Finance, co-chaired the Briefing Session. Over 60 MPAs and staff of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab and Ministry of Finance and Planning and Development Department actively participated in the pre-budget briefing session.

#### **Budgetary Demands for Grants must be reviewed by Parliamentary Committees**

Parliamentary Committees must review budgetary demands for grants in order to effectively oversee the executive. Parliament's role in the budget needs to be enhanced, and a Pre-Budget session should be held in March to get Parliamentarians' input before the finalization of budget. These views were expressed at a PILDAT Workshop, held on March 03, 2011 in Islamabad, for Chairs and Members of Parliamentary Committees on How to Review Budget and Demands for Grants. Committee chairs and members believed that technical understanding of MPs needs to be enhanced through such forums specifically held also for Parliamentary Parties.

**Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, Public Financial Management Specialist, briefed Parliamentarians in detail on the budget documents presented to the Parliament and how those can be used to evaluate and review budget. He said that Parliamentary Committees specifically need to review their related ministries' demands for grants by comparing those with each ministry/division's goals and objectives presented for 3 years in the Medium Term Budgetary Framework booklet. He said that Committees must review whether principles of good budgeting, i.e., fiscal discipline, strategic prioritisation, and operational efficiency, have been utilised in budget. Key Parliamentarians at the session included **Senator Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari**, Leader of the House in the Senate, **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Rules and Privileges, **Sheikh Waqas Akram**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Resources, **Mrs.**

**Tahira Aurangzeb**, MNA, member of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce, **Mr. Noor Alam Khan**, MNA, Parliamentary Secretary of Commerce, **Begum Nuzhat Sadiq**, MNA, member, National Assembly Standing Committee on Information & Broadcasting, **Malak Azmat Khan**, MNA, Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Affairs & Statistics, **Mrs. Nisar Tanveer**, MNA, member National Assembly Standing Committee on Women Development, **Mrs. Khalida Mansoor**, MNA, member National Assembly Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development, **Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Water & Power, **Mrs. Nighat Mir**, MNA; member National Assembly Standing Committee on Finance, Revenue & Planning and Development and **Mrs. Shehnaz Saleem**, MNA, member National Assembly Standing Committee on Tourism etc. among others. Legislative staff assisting various committees also took part in the workshop.

#### No representation without taxation, Experts tell MPs

In the PILDAT briefing on June 06, 2011 in Islamabad on How to effectively participate in the Budget Debate, experts told MPs that Parliament, political leadership and ruling elite of Pakistan have to lead by example in paying taxes to avoid catastrophic future of the country. While foreign aid is criticized, and it should be under effective scrutiny of Parliament, MPs must note it is actually taxes that citizens of foreign countries pay to their governments. Pakistan ranks at 153rd number in the world countries in tax to GDP ratio, just ahead of Congo. It was highlighted that people should launch a movement with the slogan “*No Representation without Taxation*” to bring ruling elite into the tax net.

The Parliamentary budget process needs to be made more effective and that the Parliament and its committees should play an effective role in influencing and scrutinizing the



Panelists at a Briefing Session on How to Effectively Participate in the Budget Debate in Islamabad



Participants at a Briefing Session in Lahore

budget before its passage. PILDAT has recommended that a pre-budget session should be held by the Parliament every year; Committees should hold pre-budget public hearings and budget period in Parliament be extended to at least 60 days, in which committees should review departmental budget. The vast powers of the executive relating to supplementary budget spending allowed by the Constitution in Article 84 according to which the executive has powers to spend beyond the originally approved budget, need a Parliamentary review. There are perhaps no more than 2-3 countries in the world including Pakistan where there is no ex-ante (before the expenditure) approval of the Parliament of supplementary budget, it was noted and therefore, Article 84 of the Constitution needs a review. Furthermore, the participants also stressed the need to form a consensus-based national economic strategy, where the provincial governments should be taken on board and development projects be prioritized in view of the limited financial resources.

**Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, Financial Expert, **Mr. Abid Niaz Hasan**, Former Advisor Operation-World Bank, **Mr. Sakib Sherani**, Former Advisor to Finance Ministry, **Mr. Mohammad Malick**, Editor, The News and **Mr. Muhammad Ziauddin**, Executive Editor, The Express Tribune spoke at the briefing session. **Dr Farooq Sattar**, Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis, said that current budget is not a representative budget, rather it is once again a traditional budget. He stressed that it is time to save the country rather than saving just a government. He stressed that the law and order situation is important for economic improvement and there is an urgent need to improve it. He demanded that a land reform package should be introduced in the budget.

#### Go beyond Constituencies in Budget Debate, Punjab MPAs told

**Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan**, MPA, Speaker Provincial Assembly Punjab, agreed to the proposal that subject-

wise groups of MPAs should participate in the budget debate in Punjab Assembly. He was presiding over the PILDAT briefing session, held on June 13, 2011 in Lahore, on How to Effectively Participate in the Budget Debate scheduled ahead of the start of the budget debate in the Provincial Assembly of Punjab. He was responding to a suggestion by former Finance Minister Tanvir Ashraf Kaira, MPA that instead of every MPA repeating each topic, groups of 10 MPAs should prepare their budget analysis on one or other topic and discuss it threadbare. The Speaker stressed that in order to be self-reliant, there is need to enlarge the tax-base in Pakistan and urged MPAs to be in the forefront of a drive to pay more taxes. He highlighted that Punjab Assembly was the first provincial legislature to have amended its Rules of Procedure to institutionalize Pre-Budget debate. Other Speakers stressed MPAs need to more effectively scrutinise budget and while doing so, give suggestions on policy priorities instead of just focusing on the budget. MPAs also demanded a greater role for Standing Committees in reviewing budget and demands for grants while Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami highlighted that reforms in Provincial Budget Process need to emulate the Indian model where Parliamentary Committees review budget for their departments and ministries and budget duration runs into months.

**Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan**, MPA, Speaker Provincial Assembly of Punjab was joined by a panel of speakers at the Briefing Session that included **Mr. Tanvir Ashraf Kaira**, MPA, former Finance Minister Punjab, **Mr. Mohsin Khan Leghari**, MPA, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**, senior analyst and media person and **Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, Public Financial Expert.



(L to R) Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Mr. Tanvir Ashraf Kaira and Mr. Mohsin Khan Leghari at a Briefing Session in Lahore



Participants at a Briefing Session in Lahore

### **Punjab Assembly Council of Chairmen Discuss Reform Proposals to Empower Standing Committees in reviewing Provincial Budget**

“Government of Punjab wishes to strengthen and empower the Parliamentary Committee System in Punjab Assembly, especially in relation to scrutinising budget,” said **Honourable Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan**, MPA, Speaker Provincial Assembly of Punjab at the *PILDAT organized Consultative session* on June 29, 2011 in Lahore on Increased Role of the Assembly Committees especially in the Provincial Budget Process held for the Council of Chairmen, Provincial Assembly of Punjab at the Assembly secretariat on June 27, 2011. He thanked PILDAT for organising and facilitating the meeting and for sharing comparative information and proposed amendments in the rules and announced that another meeting of committee chairs, secretariat, Law and Finance Ministries of Punjab will be organised at the end of the on-going budget session to further consider these proposed amendments.

Earlier, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director, PILDAT, gave a presentation to the Honourable Chairpersons of Punjab Assembly Committees on the need for creating a role of the committees in the budget process. He shared comparisons of the budget processes operational in the Indian and the Canadian Parliaments as well as the State Legislature of Ontario in Canada and the Indian States of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. He concluded with the recommendations that Punjab Assembly should consider:

1. Amending its Rules of Procedure to provide a role for the Standing Committees to review ministerial demands for grants once the budget is presented and prepare reports by a specified period and table those reports in the House. The debate on budget should resume in the light of reports by Committees; and

2. Increasing the budget session period from existing 11-13 days to at least 30 to 45 days. This would require budget to be presented to the House in May every year so as to conclude the budget session before June 30.

Endorsing the recommendations of PILDAT, various committee chairs belonging to various political parties said that Punjab Assembly should move swiftly to introduce these changes. **Mr. Iftikhar Ali**, MPA (PPPP; PP-266), Chairperson for the Co-operatives Committee, said that the committees and the concerned departments should work altogether, regardless of their inner differences. **Mr. Hafiz Mian Muhammad Nauman**, MPA (PML-N, PP-148), Chairperson Excise and Taxation Committee, praised the sharing of comparative information about the Canadian and Indian legislatures and said that India offered the most relevant model for Pakistan. He advocated that committees in the Assembly should have similar powers as in the Parliament of Pakistan to consider any aspect of the related department without an issue being referred to the committees by the House. **Mr. Mohsin Khan Leghari**, MPA, (PML, PP-245) said that the vast chunk of supplementary budget that is presented to the House for post-fac to approval violates the legislative principle of control over the purse. Instead departments should seek respective committees' approval for supplementary budget as and when needed. Analysis of supplementary budget also reveals that budgetary planning is not up to the mark therefore expenditures that should be budgeted for in annual budget land into the supplementary budget unnecessarily. He also said that committee meetings are not held because of lack of availability of sufficient meeting rooms in the Assembly whereas the Committees can meet utilising the linked or concerned department's office or building. **Mr. Muhammad Tariq Amin Hotyana**, MPA (PPPP, PP-278), Chairperson Information Technology Committee, said that the Committees should be empowered to carry out their



Participants at a Briefing Session in Lahore

role of oversight effectively and any impediments in rules in this regard should be done away with. He said that in his view, Committees should have the power and authority to take '*Suo-Moto*' actions in the light of powers of Parliamentary Committees in Pakistan. Secretary Provincial Assembly of Punjab, **Dr. Maqsood Ahmad Malik**, alongside senior secretariat staff of the Assembly also took part in the consultative session. PILDAT prepared and disseminated a Working Paper at the Consultative Session for the benefit of Committee Chairmen: *Proposal for Increased Role Provincial Assembly of the Punjab & its Committees in the Provincial Budget Process.*



Participants at a Briefing Session in Lahore

## Education for All

Education, alongside other public policy issues, has been an area of focus of PILDAT. Post-election, PILDAT has specifically worked to generate political support and commitments on Education for All (EFA) objectives, in partnership with the UNESCO. Its initiatives have both included getting political parties support and commitment as well as briefing to and lobbying with the news media on EFA goals. PILDAT has worked with national and provincial legislatures especially in briefing them on the requirements of enforcement of the newly-inserted Article 25A of the Constitution of Pakistan (April 2008) that guarantees education as a fundamental right to the citizens.

PILDAT initiatives in this regard, during the reporting period, are as follows:

### **Sindh Government takes credit for merit based recruitment of 10,000 teachers, says Pir Mazhar ul Haq, Senior Minister of Education in PILDAT Roundtable Discussion**

In a Roundtable Discussion on October 04, 2010 in Karachi on Financing Quality Basic Education for All organized by PILDAT, **Pir Mazhar ul Haq**, Senior Education Minister of Sindh said that unfortunately previous governments had involved political considerations in teachers' recruitment, promotions and transfers and its only now that the current Government has had the opportunity to eliminate this political influence to a greater extent. Now all recruitments are being made through neutral testing system of World Bank, said the Minister. The Incumbent government has taken strong action on ghost schools and succeeds in re-opening and clearing of about 1400 schools, he added. The Government needs 5 years to implement all its policies including the Education. Talking to the participants of the Roundtable Discussion he said that Manifesto of Pakistan Peoples Party



Panelists at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



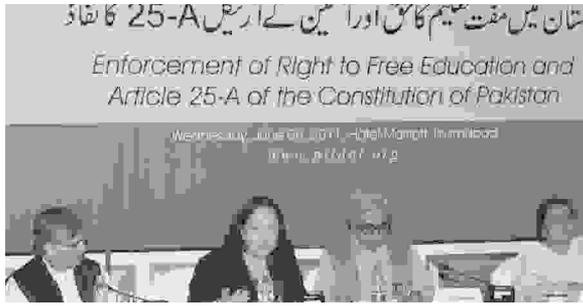
(L to R) Mr Arshad Saeed Khan, Mr. Warren Mellor and Mr. Pir Mazhar ul Haq at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

Parliamentarians-PPPP carries 5 E's including Employment, Education, Environment, Energy and Equality where education is the most important of all. "I took the portfolio of Education Minister by choice because awareness of education in its true sense is the real issue of our country," said Pir Mazhar ul Haq.

**Pir Mazhar ul Haq**, Senior Minister Education was the Chief Guest at the Roundtable Discussion while **Mr. Najamudin Abro**, Chairman, Standing Committee on Education of the Provincial Assembly of Sindh, **Mr. Warren Mellor**, Representative of UNESCO to Pakistan and **Mr. Arshad Saeed Khan**, Senior Education Advisor, UNESCO spoke at the session. The Roundtable Discussion was well attended by the key members of Provincial Assembly of Sindh including **Mr. Anwar Alam Mahar**, MPA, **Mr. Khalid Bin Wilayat**, MPA, **Ms. Farheen Mughal**, MPA, **Mr. Taimur Talpur**, MPA, **Syed Bachal Shah**, MPA, **Ms. Humera Alwani**, MPA, **Ms Shehnaz Ali**, MPA, **Ms. Rai Naz Bozdar**, MPA etc., Representatives of Civil Society and media including Mr. Javed Jabbar, Mr. Wasim Badami and many distinguished figures also participated in the discussion. Participants engaged in a discussion session presenting their views and ideas on the subject.

### **Frame Legislation and Rules to Implement Article 25-A: Experts stressed at PILDAT Forum on Enforcement of right to free education and article 25-A of the Constitution**

on June 08, 2011 in PILDAT Public Forum on Enforcement of the Right to Free Education and Article 25-A of the Constitution, experts stressed that necessary legislation and rules need to be framed for the implementation of Article 25-A of the Constitution that makes the right to education as a fundamental right making it mandatory for the State to provide free and compulsory education to all children from age 5 to 16 years in such manner as may be determined by law. The experts urged the Provincial



Panelists at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

Governments to increase their education budgets and the Federal government to allocate special grants to under-developed Provinces/areas to facilitate implementation of this article. Experts believed that a separate and independent system for monitoring of enforcement of Article 25-A should be evolved by the respective governments. An Islamabad Resolution on Enforcement of Article 25-A was unanimously adopted by the Forum. **Sardar Asseff Ahmed Ali**, MNA, former Federal Minister for Education, **Senator S.M. Zafar**, former Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Education, **Ms. Shehnaz Wazir Ali**, MNA, former Chairperson Higher Education Commission, **Pir Mazhar ul Haq**, MPA, Senior Provincial Minister for Education, Sindh, **Ch. Javaid Ahmed**, MPA Chairperson, Punjab Assembly Standing Committee on Education, **Mr. Ali Sher Madad**, Minister for Education Gilgit Baltistan, **Mr. Akbar Durrani**, Secretary Government of Balochistan, **Mr. Fareed Qureshi**, Special Secretary, Elementary and Secondary Education, KPK, **Dr. Allah Buksh Malik**, Provincial Secretary, Literacy and Non-formal Basic Education Punjab, **Dr. Kozue Kay Nagata**, Country Representative UNESCO, **Professor Laeeq Ahmed Khan**, Education Expert, **Dr. Eshya Mujahid Mukhtar** and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT spoke at the Forum.

## Regional Parliamentary Dialogues

In the face of many issues that confront the region and cloud our relations, PILDAT felt that Parliaments and Parliamentarians should be facilitated across the region for a greater interaction and developing a better understanding for resolving issues. In this regard, PILDAT initiated Parliamentary Dialogues between Pakistan and India and Pakistan and Afghanistan. The objective behind the Dialogues has been to enhance the role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in Pakistan's relations in the region and around the World as well as to promote better understanding between Pakistani, Afghan and Indian legislators on cooperation regarding cross-border issues.

PILDAT successfully accomplished a series of Dialogues between Parliamentarians of Pakistan and India and Pakistan and Afghanistan Brief description of each dialogue is given below:

### **Pakistan and India should resume dialogue for peace and reconciliation: Pakistan-India Parliamentarians agreed**

The First Dialogue between Indian and Pakistani Parliamentarians took place on January 06-07, 2011 in Hotel Marriott, Islamabad, Pakistan. 7 Indian MPs and 18 Pakistani MPs participated in the Dialogue. Upon conclusion of the Dialogue, the Indian Parliamentary Delegation also met with Leadership of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) including **Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif**, Party Head, **Mian Shahbaz Sharif**, Chief Minister of Punjab and **Ch. Nisar Ali Khan**, Opposition Leader in National Assembly of Pakistan. A Joint statement was also issued at the end of the dialogue by the two sides agreeing to the need to continue dialogue.

The parliamentarians of the two countries held a constructive, candid and comprehensive dialogue while



(L to R) Senator S. M. Zafar, Mr. Yashwant Sinha and Senator Mr. Jan Muhammad Jamali at the Pak-India MPs Dialogue in Islamabad



Participants at the First Pak-India Parliamentarians Dialogue in Islamabad

recognizing the importance of their role in removing the trust deficit in the areas that divide the two countries. The Parliamentarians guided by the principals of cooperative and good neighbourly relations would be able to address all issues of mutual concern and interest meaningfully including Kashmir, Water and Terrorism. MPs from both sides were unanimous that the *trust deficit should be removed particularly in the areas that divide the two countries, with a view to resume the dialogue and promote a people's movement for peace and reconciliation.*

**Senator S. M. Zafar** from Pakistan and former Indian Minister for external affairs **Yashwant Sinha** from India co-chaired the Parliamentarians' Dialogue while Senator **Jan. M. Jamali**, Deputy Chairman Senate and **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly, formally opened the dialogue. The Indian Parliamentarians participating in the dialogue include **Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar**, Member Rajya Sabha (Indian National Congress); **Mr. Vijay Darda**, Member Rajya Sabha (Indian National Congress); **Ms. Naznin Faruque**, Member Rajya Sabha (Indian National Congress); **Mr. Shatrughan Sinha**, Member Lok Sabha (Bharatiya Janata Party); **Mr. Assaduddin Owaisi**, Member Lok Sabha (All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen), and **Mr. Pradeep Majhi**, Member Lok Sabha (Indian National Congress).

Pakistani Parliamentarians engaged in the Dialogue included **Senator Nayyar Hussain Bukhari**, Leader of the House in the Senate (PPPP), **Senator Waseem Sajjad**, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (PML), **Senator Jahangir Badar** (PPPP), **Senator Salim Saifullah Khan**, Chairman Senate Foreign Affairs Committee (PML), **Senator Ilyas Bilour**, Chairman Senate Committee on Commerce (ANP), **Dr. Donya Aziz**, (PML), **Khurram Dastgir Khan**, Chairman National Assembly Committee on Commerce (PML-N), **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch** (PML-N), **Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman** (PML-N), **Shaikh Waqas Akram**, Chairman National Assembly

Standing Committee on Petroleum (PML), **Senator Syeda Sugra Imam** (PPPP), **Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan** (MQM), **Senator Zahid Khan**, (ANP); **Mr. Lal Chand**, MNA, (PPPP), and **Senator Saeeda Iqbal** (PPPP). Former Foreign Ministers of Pakistan, **Mr. Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri** and **Mr. Sartaj Aziz**, along with former Federal Minister **Mr. Javed Jabbar** serve as distinguished Observers to the Dialogue.

### **Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians agree to continue dialogue**

The first Dialogue between Pakistani and Afghan Parliamentarians was held in Islamabad on March 29-30, 2011. Eighteen (18) Afghan MPs and two (2) parliamentary staff from the Afghan Parliament participated in the Dialogue while a total of 16 Pakistani MPs participated in the Dialogue. The Afghan Parliamentary delegation also met with the *President of Pakistan* **Mr. Asif Ali Zardari** and also called upon Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan, **Senator Farooq H. Naek** during their visit. Parliamentarians from two sides discussed terrorism, trade, narcotics and education in a candid interaction. A joint statement was issued upon the conclusion of the dialogue which was shared with the media. A joint press conference was also held upon the conclusion of the dialogue.

A delegation of 20 Afghan MPs, belonging to Meshrano Jirga (Senate of Afghanistan) and Wolesi Jirga (National Assembly of Afghanistan), led by **Honourable Sayed Ishaq Gailani**, Member of Afghan Wolesi Jirga, engaged in dialogue with their Pakistani counterparts on issues that impact the relations between two brotherly Islamic countries. Afghan Parliamentary delegation from Meshrano Jirga included **Senator Mawlawi Abdul Wali Raji**, **Senator Bahram Samkani**, **Senator Dar Khail Mangul**, **Senator Hedayetullah Rehaie**, **Senator Muhammad Arsalan Rahmani**, **Senator Molla**



Senator Farooq H. Naik, Chairman Senate of Pakistan speaks to the Afghan Parliamentary Delegation



(L to R) Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Syed Ishaq Gailani and Senator Salim Saifullah Khan at a Press briefing on Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians Dialogue in Islamabad

**Mohammad Faizi**, **Senator Rafiullah Haidari**, **Senator Sali Mohammad Pahlawan**, **Senator Shah Naz Ghowsi** and **Senator Sher Mohammad Akhonzada** while delegates from the Afghan Wolesi Jirga included **Engineer Abdul Ghafar**, **Haji Abdul Khaliq Bala Karzai**, **Mr. Abdul Satar Khawasi**, **Mr. Ahmad Farhad Majeedi**, **Ms. Farkhunda Naderi**, **Mr. Gul Badshah Majeedi**, **Ms. Helay Ershad**, **Ms. Rangina Kargar** and **Sayed Jamal Fakory Beheshti**.

While both sides agreed the only way forward for Pakistan and Afghanistan is to jointly address the challenges of security in the region to rid the region of foreign interference, key themes that echoed through the dialogue included trust deficit between the two neighbours, need to increase and improve bilateral trade, remove complications in Afghan Transit Trade, promote each other's media in both countries, and stop the spread of narcotics and smuggling, etc.

The dialogue proceedings were opened by **Senator Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali**, Deputy Chairman Senate of Pakistan and **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan while **Sayed Ishaq Gailani**, Member of Afghan Wolesi Jirga and **Senator Salim Saifullah Khan**, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, co-chaired the dialogue.

Pakistani Parliamentarians who engaged in the dialogue included **Senator Abdul Rashid Khan**, FATA, **Senator Abdul Malik**, National Party, Balochistan, **Mr. Asif Hasnain**, MNA, MQM, **Ms. Fozia Ejaz Khan**, MNA, MQM, **Mr. Humayun Saifullah Khan**, MNA, PML, **Senator Humayun Khan Mandokhel**, Balochistan, **Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo**, National Party, Balochistan, **Senator Muhammad Jahangir Bader**, Secretary General PPP, Punjab, **Mr. Parvaiz Khan**, MNA, ANP, **Mr. Riaz Fatiana**,

MNA, PML, **Senator Saleh Shah**, FATA, **Senator Syeda Sughra Imam**, PPPP, Punjab, and **Mrs. Tahira Aurangzeb**, MNA, PML-N.

In a meeting of the Afghan Parliamentary delegation with the *President of Pakistan Mr. Asif Ali Zardari*, the delegates raised the issues of held containers under Afghan Transit Trade, cross-border terrorism and greater Parliamentary interaction between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The meeting started with the fateha for the departed soul of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Saheed. Sayed Ishaq Gailani, Member Wolesi Jirga and leader of Afghan Parliamentary delegation, congratulated Mr. Zardari for successful completion of 3 years of democratic government. He briefed the President about the proceedings of the Parliamentarians Dialogue held earlier in the day and major concerns discussed by both sides. Mr. Zardari felicitated Afghan delegation for holding of successful elections and establishing a Parliament despite war and law and order situation in Afghanistan. The President pledged Pakistan's support to Afghanistan in eradicating the roots of terrorism in the region. He also promised scholarships and better education opportunities for Afghan nationals in response to requests by Afghan delegates. He also assured Afghan Parliamentarians that quota of Afghan students in Pakistani educational institutions will be increased. Responding to the concerns of delegates about containers stopped at Karachi, Senator Rahman Malik, Federal Minister for Interior, promised that the issue will be resolved very soon as the Prime Minister of Pakistan has taken personal interest in this matter.

### Second Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians' Dialogue-II

The second Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians Dialogue was held in Kabul on **May 29-30, 2011** on the overarching theme of *terrorism*. Fifteen (15) Pak MPs, one (1) Parliamentary Staff from the Pakistan Parliament along



A Group photo of Afghan Parliamentarians in Islamabad



Pak MPs at the Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians Dialogue in Kabul

with PILDAT officials participated in the dialogue. Twenty-one (21) Afghan MPs participated in the Dialogue. The Pakistani Parliamentarians also called on **Mr. Hamid Karzai**, President of Afghanistan as well as **Mr. Burhanuddin Rabbani**, Chairman, High Peace Council/ Former President of Afghanistan on May 30, 2011. MPs of both the countries focussed on counter-terrorism strategies for the two countries and issued a joint statement at the end of the dialogue which was shared with the media.

Friendship and Deep Relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan are the way forward for regional stability and Peace, said **Mr. Hamid Karzai** while what he termed as 'very warm welcome' to Pakistani Parliamentarians who called on him today upon the conclusion of the 5th round of Pak-Afghan Parliamentarians Dialogue in Kabul, facilitated by PILDAT. Please take a message of deepest love from Afghanistan to Pakistan, said Mr. Karzai. Parliamentarians of Pakistan joined their Afghan counterparts in Kabul for a two-day dialogue, May 29-30, 2011, that focussed on counter-terrorism strategies for the two countries. Pakistani MPs, who appreciated the welcome and hospitality of President Karzai, said that the Parliament of Pakistan, reflecting all political shades in Pakistan, stands firmly behind strengthening of ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan. They said that only through people-to-people dialogue can the two countries move forward on removing mistrust and cultivate and enhance the deepest ties between the two countries. Pakistani MPs shared with President Karzai details of the comprehensive round of dialogue and candid interaction that took place in two days. President Karzai was also presented with a copy of the Joint Resolution agreed to by the Parliamentarians of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Pakistani delegation included **Honourable Senator Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali**, Deputy Chairman Senate of Pakistan and **Honourable Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan; **Honourable**



Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi and Senator Mir Jan Jamali present a memento to Mohammad Alam Izadyar

**Senator Abdul Ghaffar Qureshi, PML; Honourable Senator Fauzia Fakhar-uz-Zaman, PML; Honourable Senator Najma Hameed, PML-N; Honourable Senator Mrs. Saeeda Iqbal, PPPP; Honourable Senator Afrasiab Khattak, ANP, Honourable Senator Dr. Abdul Malik, Honourable Malik Amad Khan, PPPP; Honourable Dr. Muhammad Ayub Shaikh, MQM, Honourable Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal, PPPP; Honourable Mr. Pervaiz Khan, Advocate, ANP; Honourable Sardar Mehtab Ahmed Khan Abbasi, PML-N; Honourable Mr. Humayon Saifullah Khan, PML; Honourable Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, PML, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Executive Director PILDAT, Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director PILDAT, Mr. Hmmal Dostain and Mr. Mamoon Bilal, Project Managers of PILDAT.**

## Inter-Provincial Water Disputes

PILDAT re-initiated its work on Water Issues in Pakistan in order to enhance the quality of the debate about internal water issues among the provinces of Pakistan and other key constituents i.e. media, Parliamentarians including the relevant Parliamentary committees and to encourage progress towards solutions and reduce the potential for internal conflict. Key activities during the reporting period follow.

### Parliamentarians to build Consensus among Provinces on Water Issues

In a bid to highlight the difference of opinion among provinces on water issues and to open the way for dialogue, PILDAT arranged a Roundtable Discussion for Parliamentarians on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan on January 04, 2011 in Islamabad. Leading water experts from all provinces including **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, former Secretary Irrigation Sindh, **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, member IRSA, Balochistan, **Ch. Mazhar Ali**, former Adviser Irrigation Department, Punjab and **Mr. Shams-ul-Mulk**, former Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (formerly NWFP) and former Chairman WAPDA, made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues. A background paper, prepared by PILDAT and approved by a PILDAT-facilitated inter-provincial Steering Committee of water experts, was also shared with Parliamentarians at the Roundtable discussion.

It was unanimously agreed that discussions at different forums among all stakeholders, and candid dialogue is only way forward to resolve the disputes and Parliamentarians can play a very important role in this regard. Trust deficit among provinces is the biggest hurdle and Parliamentarians should work for creating consensus



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Mr. Rao Irshad Ali Khan, Chairman IRSA at a Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan in Islamabad



Panellists at a Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Lahore

in this regard. Parliamentarians present at the occasion took keen interest in the discussion and raised questions to the Water Experts and promised to do their utmost to create awareness among the masses. A number of parliamentarians participated in the Roundtable and actively took part in discussion and question answer session.

Key parliamentarians including **Pir Muhammad Aslam Bodla**, MNA, PML, NA-158 Khanewal-III, Punjab, **Sardar Muhammad Arshad Khan Leghari**, MNA, PML-NA-Rahimyar Khan-VI, Punjab, **Mr. Kishan Chand Parwani**, MNA, PML, **Muhammad Baleegh-ur-Rehman**, MNA, PML-N, NA-185 Bahawalpur-III, Punjab, **Syed Zafar Ali Shah**, MNA, PPPP, NA-212 Naushero Feroze-II, Sindh, **Malak Azmat Khan**, MNA, PPPP, NA-34 Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Chaudhry Naseer Ahmed Bhutta**, MNA, PML-N, NA-127 Lahore-X, **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb**, MNA, PML-N, Punjab, **Engr. Usman Khan Tarakai**, MNA, Independent, NA-12 Swabi-I, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Chaudhry Saud Majeed**, MNA, PML-N, NA-187, Bahawalpur-V, Punjab and **Senator Suraiya Amiruddin**, member of the Senate from Balochistan as well as member of the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Special Education took part in the Roundtable discussion.

### Dialogue is the only way to build Consensus among Provinces on Water Issues

PILDAT arranged a Roundtable Discussion for Members of Provincial Assembly of Punjab on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan on January 18, 2011 in Lahore. Punjab MPAs believed a concerted and informed dialogue among various provincial stakeholders at the political level is the way forward towards getting a consensus on contentious issues. MPAs commended PILDAT for taking the initiative in an objective and non-partisan manner and believed that only such an initiative can pave the way for future development of water resources as well as conservation and better management of water resources. "Punjab is

certainly on board, as Punjab Assembly's record of resolutions shows in favour of construction of new reservoirs, but the way forward is to allay negative perceptions and lack of fears of other provinces, only possible through the dialogue," said MPs. The spirit Punjab showed in consensus-building on the 7th NFC Award is what is needed to move forward in this domain as well, they believed.

Leading water experts from all provinces including **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, former Secretary Irrigation Sindh, **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad**, chairman IRSA **Raqeab Khan**, member IRSA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues. A background paper, prepared by PILDAT and approved by a PILDAT-facilitated Inter-Provincial Steering Committee of Water Experts, was also shared with MPAs at the Roundtable Discussion. Honourable Speaker Punjab Assembly **Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan**, chaired the Roundtable Discussion while over 50 Punjab MPAs actively participated in the Briefing.

#### **Sindh is not against building new water reservoirs: Sindh MPAs**

Sindh is not against building new water reservoirs but reservations on Kalabagh Dam persist and dialogue may help, said Sindh MPAs at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion, held on January 19, 2011 in Karachi for Members of Provincial Assembly of Sindh on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan. MPAs demanded that a joint dialogue involving MPAs of four (4) Provincial Assemblies should be organized in order to find a way forward on water issues. The roundtable was organized in order to generate dialogue and create awareness of inter provincial water issues with the presentation of the different opinions of experts from all provinces. Similar Roundtable



(L to R) Mr. Muhammad Aslam Bhootani, Mr. Muhammad Amin and Rao Irshad Ali Khan in a Roundtable Discussion on water Issues in Quetta.



Participants at a Briefing Session in Lahore

Discussions have been held for Parliament of Pakistan and Provincial Assembly of Punjab. MPAs commended PILDAT for taking the initiative in an objective and non-partisan manner and believed that with the discussion few apprehensions have been cleared and only such an initiative can pave the way for future development of water resources as well as conservation and better management of water resources.

Leading water experts from provinces including **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, former Secretary Irrigation Sindh, **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad Ali Khan**, and Chairman IRSA from Punjab made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues. A background paper, prepared by PILDAT and approved by a PILDAT-facilitated Inter-Provincial Steering Committee of Water Experts, was also shared with MPAs at the Roundtable Discussion. **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, while highlighting reasons behind this effort, said, that the PILDAT effort is to raise the issue, open it for debate and create awareness for ultimate consensus-building He said that after the devastating flood the question of batter water management is again raised and if 7th NFC award and 18 amendment can achieve unanimously than interprovincial water issues can be handle with such spirit He said that the ultimate objective is to resolve such issues through sustained and informed dialogue with all stakeholders.

#### **Political decision-making through Dialogue needed to resolve issues over construction of reservoirs: Balochistan MPAs**

In a Roundtable Discussion for Members of the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan, organized by PILDAT on January 21, 2011, MPAs from Balochistan were of the opinion that issues of construction of reservoirs, including Kalabagh Dam have been overly politicized and political decision-making based on dialogue is needed urgently to resolve issues and

misunderstandings. **Honourable Mr. Muhammad Aslam Bhootani**, Speaker Provincial Assembly of Balochistan, while speaking at the occasion, said that water crisis lies at the heart of our survival and needs to be resolved urgently. He appreciated PILDAT for organizing and facilitating dialogue on this key issue and said that through this roundtable few apprehensions have been cleared and only such an initiative can pave the way for future development of water resources as well as conservation and better management of water resources. Recent floods have once again highlighted the question of water resources management in Pakistan. There has been divergence of views among the provinces about the desirability of instituting water development projects but the dialogue is only way forward to reach consensus. Leading water experts from all provinces including **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, former Secretary Irrigation Sindh, **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad Ali Khan**, and Chairman IRSA from Punjab made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues. A background paper, prepared by PILDAT and approved by a PILDAT-facilitated Inter-Provincial Steering Committee of Water Experts, was also shared with MPs at the Roundtable Discussion.

#### **Parliamentarians and Media should play role in conflict-resolution and political consensus-building among Provinces on Water Issues**

On January 26, 2011 in a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion for Parliamentarians and Media on **Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan**, Parliamentarians and experts stressed upon the need for urgent conflict-resolution and consensus-building among provinces on water issues and the leading role in this regard should be played by MPs and media. **Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Water and Power, chaired the Roundtable Discussion. While presenting their points of view, experts were of the opinion



Speakers at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan



Speakers at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan

that the issues between provinces are such that it is only the elected representatives who have to take the initiative in consensus-building. They should also work for removing trust deficit among provinces which is the biggest hurdle. They said that not only on Indus River but off channel dams should also be constructed to fulfil future needs. They were of the opinion that big reservoirs are the need of hour and no one including Sindh is against building new reservoirs but Sindh has strong reservation on Kala Bagh dam. Experts believed that to overcome differences, we need to convert shortages into surpluses which is only possible through building new reservoirs after political initiatives in consensus-building.

Parliamentarians praised the PILDAT efforts for providing an opportunity to them to understand facts behind the issues and mistrust and believed that a concerted and informed dialogue among various provincial stakeholders at the political level is the way forward. Members of Parliament commended PILDAT for taking the initiative in an objective and non-partisan manner and believed that only such an initiative can pave the way for future development of water resources as well as conservation and better management of water resources. Parliamentarians believed that immediate steps should be taken to counter trust deficit. Earlier, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, while opening the session, said, that the PILDAT effort is to highlight and raise the issue, open it for debate and create awareness and pave the way for consensus-building. He said we should admit it that there are strong differences among provinces Mr. Mehboob said that after the devastating flood the question of better water management is again raised so it is the right time to discuss this very important issue. He said the ultimate objective is to resolve such issues through fact-based, sustained and informed dialogue in the political-public domain. **Mr. Ejaz Jhokrani**, MNA, Federal Minister for Sports and **Syed Samsam Ali Bhukhari**, MNA, Minister of State for Information,

alongside a large number of MPs from various political parties participated in discussion alongside various TV anchors, columnists and media representatives.

### Concerns of Smaller Provinces on Water Issues should be addressed to overcome trust deficit on Water Issues: KP MPAs

Concerns of smaller provinces should be addressed properly on water issues and serious efforts are needed to overcome trust deficit among provinces, said Pakhtunkhwa MPAs at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion for Members of Provincial Assembly of KPK on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan that held on February 01, 2011 in Peshawar. MPAs believed that building new reservoirs is important for development of the country but efforts should be made for consensus building. **Mr. Khushdil Khan**, Deputy Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Chief Guest of the session, in his opening remarks said resolving water issues is most important for national development and future of the nation. He believed that hydro generation for electricity is the cheapest and most affordable form of electricity which should be generated for economic and industrial development. MPAs commended PILDAT for taking the initiative in an objective manner and believed that with the discussion few apprehensions have been cleared and only such an initiative can pave the way for future development of water resources as well as conservation and better management of water resources. Leading water experts from provinces including **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, former Secretary Irrigation Sindh, **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad Ali Khan**, Chairman IRSA from Punjab, **Mr. Raqeeb Khan** member IRSA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and **Mr. Shmas ul Mulk**, former Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and former Chairman WAPDA made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues.



Speakers at a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



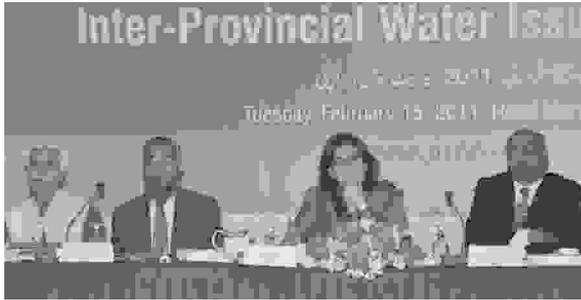
Participants at a Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan

### MPAs and Media resolve to work closely to remove the mistrust amongst the provinces to build big water reservoirs

On February 11, 2011 in a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion for the Members of Provincial Assembly of Punjab and the Media on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan, participants and experts stressed upon the need for urgent conflict-resolution and consensus-building among provinces on water issues and the leading role in this regard should be played by MPAs and media. Leading water experts **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, Member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad Ahmad**, Chairman IRSA and **Mr. Shams-Ul-Mulk**, Former Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and chairman WAPDA, made presentations on different view points on inter provincial water issues. PILDAT unveiled three papers at the Roundtable Discussion including Background Paper on Inter-provincial water issues, a Case Study on Cauvery river from Peninsular India and a briefing paper on issues of water resources in Pakistan. Specific research publications produced by PILDAT to serve as background to the discourse on water issues that were shared with participants included:

### Removal of Trust-Deficit among provinces needed for building water reservoirs in the Country

In a PILDAT Roundtable Discussion, held on February 15, 2011, for the Members of the Provincial Assembly of Sindh and the Media on Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan, participants and experts stressed upon the need for removing trust deficit among provinces on water issues and the leading role in this regard should be played by MPAs and media. Leading water experts **Mr. Mohammad Amin**, Member IRSA, Balochistan, **Rao Irshad Ahmad**, Chairman IRSA and **Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput**, Former Secretary Irrigation and Power Department, Government of Sindh made presentations on different view



(L to R) Mr. Illahi Bakhsh Soomro, Mr. Muhammad Idrees Rajput, Ms. Aasiya Riaz and Mr. Rao Irshad Ali Khan at a Roundtable Discussion in Karachi

points on inter provincial water issues whereas **Mr. Illahi Bakhsh Soomro**, Former Speaker, National Assembly and **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, Former Governor Sindh also expressed their views on the subject at this occasion. **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT, while opening the session, said, that the PILDAT effort is to highlight and raise the issue, open it for debate and create awareness and pave the way for consensus-building among the provincial and national stakeholders. She said that after the devastating flood the question of better water management is again raised so it is the right time to discuss this very important issue. She said the ultimate objective is to resolve such issues through sustained and informed dialogue in the political-public domain.

## Youth Parliament Pakistan

6 Members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan were martyred in the cause of Public Service and Democracy on July 28, 2010 – a tragic loss not just for PILDAT but for Pakistan. These 6 Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, including the Youth Prime Minister, lost their lives in an airplane crash on July 28, 2011. The 6 members of Youth Parliament were travelling from Karachi to join the final session of Youth Parliament Pakistan in Islamabad.

Facilitated by PILDAT, the Youth Parliament Pakistan is patterned after the National Assembly of Pakistan. Its membership is drawn from young Pakistanis aged between 18-29 years from Balochistan, KP, Punjab, Sindh, Gilgit-Baltistan, AJK and FATA. PILDAT has conceived, planned and facilitated 3, year-long batches of Youth Parliament Pakistan in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

### PILDAT mourns the death of Youth Parliament Members on-board Airblue Flight ED 202

PILDAT expressed deepest sorrow at the sad demise of 6 Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, including the Youth Prime Minister, on board the airblue flight ED 202 that crashed on July 28, 2010 in Islamabad. The best and brightest of Pakistani youth included **Mr. Hassan Javed Khan**, (YP39-SINDH02; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Prime Minister*; **Syeda Rabab Zehra Naqvi**, (YP41-SINDH04; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Information Minister*; **Mr. Prem Chand**, (YP38-SINDH01; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Youth Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs*; **Mr. Bilal Jamaee**, (YP44-SINDH07; Green Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan) *Youth Shadow Minister for Information*; **Mr. Owais bin Laiq** (YP45-SINDH08; Green Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information and* **Syed Arsalan**



Mr. Imtiaz Inayat Elahi, Chairman CDA offers prayers for the martyrs at Margalla hills, Islamabad



Members of the Youth Parliament Pakistan present a memento to Mr. Khursheed Mahmood Kasuri

**Ahmad** (YP42-SINDH05; Blue Party; Member 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Parliament Pakistan), *Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information*.

The 6 members of Youth Parliament onboard the flight were travelling from Karachi to join the Youth Parliament session, final session of this batch that began in Islamabad on July 28, 2010. The PILDAT management and team, its board of directors, board of advisors and the Youth Parliament Steering Committee mourned the untimely and tragic death of the Youth Parliament members.

### Youth Parliament pays glowing tribute to its Prime Minister & fellow Members

The Youth Parliament that met on July 29, 2010 in Islamabad after one day of mourning paid glowing tribute to its Prime Minister and fellow Members who died in a plane crash on July 28, 2010 on their way to join the fifth and final session of Youth Parliament. “Our biggest tribute to our deceased members is to carry out the very business of the House, the Youth Parliament, for which our 6 members were travelling and lost their lives,” said members while initiating the proceedings of Youth Parliament here today. “This session is dedicated to the memory of our 6 members,” said MYPs while passing unanimous resolution to offer a joint prayer for the deceased and their families. In a Condolence Reference organised by Youth Parliament, that also included a one-minute silence observed in memory of the departed souls. “We remember our members through their commitment, courage and drive,” said members and wish to follow in their footsteps by continuing with our session.

**Mr. Adam Thomson offers condolences to Youth Parliament on the loss of 6 Members UK will never turn its back on Pakistan: British High Commissioner Adam Thomson**

British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Mr. Adam Thomson, who joined Youth Parliament on July 29, 2010 in Islamabad on the first regular session after the tragedy of the death of 6 Members of Youth Parliament, offered his condolences and observed a minute of silence on the sad and tragic death of MYPs. "UK will never turn its back on Pakistan," said Mr. Thomson while addressing the Youth Parliament on the topic of UK's Foreign Policy towards Pakistan.

Pakistan has lost more soldiers in the fight against militancy than Britain has lost in many wars and sacrifices of Pakistani citizens are huge, he said. Mr. Thomson, who discussed in detail the support UK has committed to provide to Pakistan, despite cuts in every government department back home, said that education, population and democracy are three key areas that youth of Pakistan may like to focus on. The societal discourse on these three key areas needs to be accelerated. UK's policy focus in Pakistan has to be focussed towards Youth as Pakistan is a very young country in terms of demographics. This is both a unique opportunity and a challenge for Pakistan as well. Democracy in Pakistan will succeed when a democratic elected government precedes another, he said. Mr. Thomson said that UK's policy towards Pakistan focuses on trade, youth, education, and skills-building. Answering a question about what is the role UK is playing in resolving Kashmir and the water disputes, Mr. Thomson said that Britain wishes to see friendly relations between Pakistan and India but the issues between the two nations need to be resolved between the two. He believed that while Pakistanis look for ways to resolve water issues, water



A Group Photo of the Members of the Youth Parliament Pakistan with Mr. Adam Thomson, British High Commissioner to Pakistan



MYP offers Prays for the Martyrs of Youth Parliament

conservation should also be one of the major strategies adopted. Mr. Thomson was presented with a Youth Parliament memento by the Leader of the Opposition and the Minister of Defence and Foreign Affairs.

**Mourning the Martyrs of Democracy: Youth Parliament elects new Prime Minister; holds a commemoration ceremony for the martyrs at Margalla hills alongside the CDA Chairman, Chief Commissioner Islamabad**

In the concluding day of the fifth and final session of the Youth Parliament Pakistan 2009-2010 batch, the members elected a new Youth Prime Minister with a heavy heart while reminiscing about their lost leadership in the plane crash of July 28. **Mr. Hassan Sajjad Naqvi** (YP25-PUNJAB07) took oath as the Youth Prime Minister. The oath was administered by Youth Deputy Speaker **Ms. Ayesha Bilal Bhatti** (YP27PUNJAB09). In his address to the House, the Prime Minister said that he accepted the responsibility just to be able to fill a vacuum procedurally even though the vacuum left by the sad departure of the Youth Prime Minister Mr. Hassan Javed Khan and his cabinet members martyred on July 28 cannot be filled in the minds and hearts of the Youth Parliament. "We vow to carry the mission of our fallen Youth leaders forward and we owe it to Pakistan to step forward and shoulder our responsibilities," he said. The Prime Minister also filled the vacant cabinet posts after the tragic demise of Youth cabinet members including **Ms. Fatima Saleem** (YP-33-PUNJAB15) as the Youth Minister for Information; **Mr. Muhammad Adil** (YP37-PUNJAB19) as the Youth Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth affairs.

The Youth Parliament members also organised a commemoration ceremony at the Margalla Hills, together with the CDA Chairman **Mr. Imtiaz Inayat Elahi** and the Chief Commissioner Islamabad, **Mr. Tariq Pervaiz** to erect a monument for the Youth Parliament martyrs. The Youth Parliament members, who thanked the CDA Chairman and the staff of CDA for their swift and active facilitation for

organising the ceremony, said that they wished to leave behind a monument befitting the martyrs of democracy. "We plan to build a monument wall near the site of the accident soon to pay our respects to those who lost their lives," said the CDA Chairman **Mr. Imtiaz Inayat Elahi**. Offering his condolences to the Youth Parliament members at their loss he said that it is the loss of 6 trained future leaders for Pakistan. "One cannot distinguish between the flowers and the faces of the Youth Parliament's martyred members," said the Chief Commissioner Islamabad, **Mr. Tahir Pervaiz** commenting on the floral wreathed photographs of the 6 deceased members of the Youth Parliament at the commemorative ceremony while expressing his grief and sorrow at the loss that is both of the nation and of the Youth Parliament and the families of the 6 deceased members. "We are proud that our youth is conscious, aware and getting trained for its responsibilities towards a democratic Pakistan through the Youth Parliament platform," they said.

The last and final sitting of the 2009-2010 batch of Youth Parliament was followed by elections to the Youth Parliament Pakistan Alumni Association 2009-2010. Ms. Anam Javed Cheema (YP29-PUNJAB11) has been elected as the President of the YPP Alumni Association 2009-2010, while **Syed Manzoor Shah** (YP04-BALUCHISTAN03) has been elected as the Vice President Balochistan and Gilgit-Baltistan; **Mr. Ehsan Naveed Irfan** (YP13-KP02) elected as the Vice President FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; **Mr. Imtiaz Ali Khuhruo** (YP46-SINDH09) Vice President AJK and Sindh; and **Ms. Asbah Rehman** (YP30-PUNJAB12) has been elected as the Vice President Punjab & ICT. The office of the General Secretary YPPAA 2009-2010 has been filled by **Mr. Kamil Qudus** (YP22-PUNJAB04) while **Mr. Muneeb Afzal** (YP09-ICT02) has been elected as the Finance Secretary.



A Condolence Reference to pay Tribute to Youth Parliament Martyred Members in Karachi



Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Information Secretary, PML-N Speakes at the Youth Parliament Pakistan

### Condolence Reference to pay tribute to 6 martyred Members of Youth Parliament Youth Parliament Martyrs Remembered

6 Martyrs of Youth Parliament Pakistan who lost their lives in an air crash on July 28, 2010, were fondly remembered in a Condolence Reference organised on August 11, 2010 by PILDAT, the Secretariat of Youth Parliament Pakistan. Parents and families of the 6 martyred members of Youth Parliament spoke at the occasion in addition to **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai**, former Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Speaker Youth Parliament and Member Youth Parliament Steering Committee; and **Mr. Javed Jabbar**, former Senator and Federal Minister for Information and Media Development. **Mr. Amir Liaqat Hussain**, former MNA, conducted dua at the ceremony. **Mr. and Mrs. Javed Khan**, parents of Mr. Hassan Javed Khan; **Mr. and Mrs. Murtaza Naqvi**, parents of Syeda Rubab Zahra Naqvi; **Mrs. Thakoram** and **Ms. Sangeeta N Andlal**, Mother and Sister of Mr. Prem Chand; **Mr. and Mrs. Naseer Ahmad**, parents of Mr. Bilal Jamaee, Mr. and **Mrs. Laiq Ali**, parents of Mr. Owais bin Laiq and **Mrs. And Syed Ahmed Yahya**, parents of Syed Arsalan Ahmad, participated in and spoke at the occasion. These 6 members were representative of the 80 million youth of Pakistan, said Mr. Javed Jabbar. The tragedy of the air blue crash has to be accounted for and it is unfortunate that the inquiry has been initiated using an innocuous clause of the relevant law.

### Youth Parliament Pakistan Alumni Association Calls for Help for the Flood Victims: Sets up a Flood Relief Camp in Nowshera

The Youth Parliament Pakistan 2009-10 Alumni Association set up a Flood Relief Camp in Nowshera aimed at providing relief to the victims by actively collecting and making available funds, food and other necessary items for the flood victims. The Youth Parliament Alumni Association calls the Youth Parliament Alumni from all

batches as well as others to help in every way to make it possible to provide immediate relief to flood victims. The important items that can be donated included Personal clothing (all sizes-for kids, adults and women), Food items, Mineral Water bottles, Disinfectant Sprays etc and Medical supplies.

## Oversight of Immunization Programme

Carrying forward its theme on the need for political and legislative oversight on implementation of **Immunization Programme** in Pakistan, PILDAT continued assisting legislators across Pakistan and their Immunization Caucuses that it facilitated.

### Parliamentary Caucus on the Promotion of Immunization in Pakistan elects its Executive Committee and Office Bearers

The Parliamentary Caucus on the Promotion of Immunization in Pakistan, in its General Meeting held on June 30, 2010, adopted a Constitution of the Caucus and elected a 15-member **Executive Committee**. The Executive Committee unanimously elected its office bearers: President: **Dr. Mahreen Razzaq Bhutto**, MNA, Parliamentary Secretary Health (NA-314, Sindh VII, PPPP); Vice Presidents: **Dr. Donya Aziz**, MNA (NA-304, Punjab-XXXII, PML) and **Ms. Fauzia Ijaz**, MNA (NA-317, Sindh-X, MQM); General Secretary: **Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry**, MNA (NA-49, Islamabad-II, PML-N); Joint Secretary: **Engr. Shaukatullah**, MNA, Parliamentary Secretary Information Technology (NA-43, Bajaur Agency, FATA, Ind.); and Treasurer: **Syed Haider Ali Shah**, MNA (NA-16, Hangu, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ANP).

The Parliamentary Caucus on the Promotion of Immunization in Pakistan, including Members of National Assembly and Senate of Pakistan, has been facilitated by PILDAT on June 01, 2010. **Honourable Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan has consented to be the Patron of the Caucus while it has a total of 22 members (as of June 30, 2010) with 3 Senators and 19 MNAs. PILDAT has facilitated the formation of the Caucus in the Sindh Assembly under the patronage of **Honourable Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuhro**, MPA and Speaker Provincial Assembly of Sindh, while **Mr.**



Panellists at a Briefing Session on Importance of Immunization in Flood hit Areas



Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab at a Workshop in Lahore

**Anwar Ahmed Khan Mahar**, MPA and **Mr. Mohammad Moin Aamir Pirzada** have taken up the responsibilities as coordinators of the Caucus. A similar caucus has also been established in Punjab Assembly under the patronage of the Deputy Speaker **Honourable Mr. Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan**, MPA and **Dr. Asad Ashraf**, MPA has been elected as the convener of the Caucus. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly has also formed similar caucus under the patronage of **Honourable Mr. Kiramat Ullah Khan**, Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly and has elected **Mr. Saleem Khan** MPA and Minister for Population Welfare and **Ms. Shazia Tehmas**, MPA and Chairperson of Committee on Population Welfare as the Convener and Coordinator, respectively, of the Caucus. PILDAT also facilitated the formation of caucus on the Promotion of Immunization in the Legislative Assembly of Azad Jammu and Kashmir under the patronage of **Honourable Mr. Shah Ghulam Qadir**, MLA, Speaker Legislative Assembly of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. **Dr. Muhammad Najeeb Naqi**, MLA and Minister for Health have been elected as the Convener of the Caucus. The Caucus is also formed in the Balochistan Assembly under the patronage of **Honourable Mr. Muhammad Aslam Bhootani**, Speaker Balochistan Assembly and **Dr. Ruqaya Saeed Hashmi** MPA and Minister for inter provincial Coordination is appointed as a convener of the Caucus.

The *Parliamentary Caucus on Promoting Immunization Programme in Pakistan* has been facilitated by PILDAT so that concerned and interested Parliamentarians can take up this cause with positive approach and rally other Parliamentarians, to raise this issue in the Parliament, in their Constituencies and in public and to monitor performance/implementation of EPI programme in their constituencies. A committed leadership of Parliamentarians can add to the steps towards achieving MDG 4 (Health) as they can strongly *advocate on the issue at the highest level, allocate adequate resources for child health, legislate to ensure universal access to essential*

care and also oversee the implementation of relevant policies.

### Government should join hands with the Parliamentarians and media to promote immunization in flood affected areas

Participants of the briefing session organized by PILDAT on September 02, 2010 in Islamabad strongly urged the government to collaborate with all stakeholders while launching campaigns in flood affected areas. Lack of coordination in handling calamity has caused serious delivery implications in the past and now in this time of difficulty we have faced the same dilemma. Media including local and regional FM channels should be used as a tool for this cause, was suggested by the participants of the session. **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan chaired the session while a large number of parliamentarians, representatives of the civil society and media persons attended and participated in the briefing session. **Mr. Azhar Abid Raza**, Health Specialist, UNICEF in his presentation told the audience that in 77 districts more than two million children under the age of 5 have direct threats from Measles and Polio. Emergency vaccination efforts are required to protect the most vulnerable group in emergencies - pregnant women and children. Immunization will protect more than 20% of the displaced population from vaccine preventable diseases (VPD); *Polio, Measles, Hepatitis, Diptheria, whooping cough, tetanus, childhood tuberculosis and influenza (Hib)*. Immunization can avert a large number of childhood illnesses and deaths from the immediate threat of a Measles outbreak. Nearly 126,000 diseases and 600 deaths averted through measles vaccination with Vitamin A Supplementation and mothers and their newly born children can be saved from Tetanus. Nutritional Support to pregnant women & children through high energy food supplements is also required. Establishing child friendly



(L to R) Mr. Abid Raza, Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan and Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi at Consultative Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

spaces wherein educational and recreational facilities as well as psycho-social support is provided is our priority. We are working for the revival of damaged and interrupted EPI Services, support Lady Health Workers programme in re-establishing Health Houses and LHWs services. We aim to integrate immunization during community based interventions – Mother & Child Weeks / Days. Support Ministry of Health in measles follow-up campaign. Other speakers at the briefing session included **Dr. Altaf Bosan**, National Programme Manager, **Ms. Fouzia Ejaz Khan**, Vice President, Parliamentary Caucus on the promotion of immunization **Mr. Naseer Bhutta**, MNA, **Senator Sabir Ali Baloch**, **Justice (Retd.) Fakhar Nisa Khokar**, MNA, **Lt. Gen (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch**, MNA, **Mir Amir Ali Magsi**, MNA, **Ms. Mehraj M Khan**, Development expert **Dr. Donya Aziz**, MNA and **Mr. Anwar ul Hassan** anchorperson PTV.

### Honourable Kiramat Ullah Khan, Speaker Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa terms Awareness about the Immunization programmes as increased

Members of the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa belonging to different major political parties met in Peshawar on September 02, 2010 with Speaker Honourable **Mr. Kiramat Ullah Khan** in the chair. Addressing the gathering the Honourable Speaker commented that these kind of awareness briefing sessions have helped improve the awareness and understanding of the people if not 100% but certainly 95-98%. He laid special emphasis on the education of female students and said that it is the need of the hour and only by educating the girls we can bring about a change in the society. Praising the efforts of PILDAT, the speaker said that this was a timely effort to address the health issues in the flood hit areas and said PILDAT has once again taken a lead in addressing this issue of immunization in flood hit areas. Other speakers included **Dr. Muhammad Rafiq**, Programme Specialist UNICEF, **Dr. Ershad Karim**, Head UNICEF Peshawar and **Mr. Israr Ullah Gandapur**, Member

Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The briefing Session was attended by a large number of MPAs including **Shah Hussain Khan** (MPA, PF-60), **Malik Hayat Khan** (MPA, PF-93), **Israr Ullah Khan** (MPA, PF-67), **Muhammad Anwar** (MPA, PF-91), **Waji uz Zaman Khan** (MPA, PF-56), **Sardar Ali Khan** (MPA, PF-34), **Malik Badshah Saleh** (MPA, PF-92), **Dr. Iqbal Fana** (MPA, PF-39), **Nargis Sameen** (MPA, Reserved Seat), **Dr Faiza Rashid** (MPA, Reserved Seat), **Yasmin Pir Muhammad Khan** (MPA, Reserved Seat), **Shagufta Malik** (MPA, Reserved Seat), **Pervez Khan** (MPA, PF-16), **Moulvi Abdullah** (MPA, PF-18), **Syed Aqil Shah** (MPA, PF-4), **Price Javed** (MPA, Reserve Seat), **MPA, (Reserve Seat)**, **Tabbasum Younis Katozai** (MPA, **Khalifa Abdul Qayyum** (MPA, PF-64) and **Uzma Khan** (Reserve Seat).

#### **Government urged to join hands with Legislators, civil society and media to promote immunization in flood affected areas**

Members of the Legislative Assembly of AJK, government officials, media persons and civil society representatives strongly urged the government to collaborate with all stakeholders while launching immunization campaigns in flood affected areas. PILDAT had organized a briefing session on September 28, 2010 on the Importance of Immunization in Flood Hit Areas of AJK where participants shared their views and concerns about the current situation of health and immunization campaigns in flood affected areas. The pledge was made by the participants at the PILDAT Briefing Session, chaired by **Ms. Mehrun Nisa**, Deputy Speaker AJK Legislative Assembly, to work in their respective spheres of influence to create awareness regarding importance of immunization in flood hit areas. **Dr. Sardar Shabbir Abbasi**, Provincial Programme Manager, Expanded Programme of Immunization-EPI, presented an overview of immediate response in the wake of floods in Pakistan. District Health Officer Muzaffarabad **Dr. Sabir Abbasi** was of the view that if preventive



Panelists at a Briefing Session on Importance of Immunization in Flood hit Areas



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion on Water Issues in Pakistan

treatment had been given preference over curative treatment people could have avoided a number of health and economic problems. Minister for social welfare **Ms. Shamim Ali Malick** pointed out that vaccination teams had not accessed some remote areas of valley, such as Nagdar, Dawarain, Surgan and Lawat Bala. The event was also attended by minister for TEVTA **Ms. Nasreen Mazhar Rani**, Minister for Electricity.

#### **Well Coordinated Efforts by the Government, Legislators, Media and Civil Society required to promote Immunization in Flood Hit Areas, Said Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan in PILDAT Briefing**

**Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan**, Deputy Speaker Provincial Assembly Punjab and Patron PILDAT Parliamentary Caucus of MPAs of Punjab on Immunization, while speaking to the participants of the Briefing Session, held on September 30, 2010 in Lahore, on the Importance of Immunization in Flood Hit Areas, said that the magnitude of this disaster was huge and even bigger than hurricane KATRINA. Therefore well coordinated and planned efforts are required to deal with the calamity. He praised the efforts of not only the Government of Punjab but also the members of Punjab Assembly that they came together to help the victims across board and across party lines. He said that the government could not meet with this challenge alone and all sectors of the society have to come forward and contribute. He thanked PILDAT for providing the platform where the members of the Provincial Assembly of Punjab could debate these issues above partlines. He asked PILDAT to arrange another meeting in which he asked the MPA's to come prepared with their suggestions to cope with the issues in the flood hit areas more effectively. The MPA's who attended the briefing session included **Ms. Sajida Mir** (PPPP, W-336), **Mr. Ajasim Sharif** (PML-N, PP-140), **Mr. Awais Qasim Khan** (PML-N, PP-132), **Ms. Joyce Rufin Julius** (PML, W-370), **Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan** (PML-N, PP-137), **Dr. Asma Mamdoot** (PML-F, W-363), **Ms. Ayesha Javed** (PML, W-

355), **Ms. Sakina Shaheen Khan** (PML-N, W-321), **Dr. Zamurad Yasmin Rana** (PML-N, W-317), **Mr. Mohsin Khan Leghari** (PML, PP-245), **Ms. Arifa Khalid** (PML-N, W-305), **Mr. Sher Ali Khan** (PML, PP-17), **Dr. Amna Buttar** (PPPP, W-339) and **Rana Munawwar Hussain** (PPPP, PP-36), **Ch. Asghar Ali Manda** (PML-N, PP-165).

### Harmony between bureaucracy and public representatives is must to promote immunization in flood hit areas of Sindh, says Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuhro at PILDAT Briefing Session

**Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuhro**, Speaker Provincial Assembly Sindh while chairing the Briefing Session on the Importance of Immunization in Flood Hit Areas organized by PILDAT on October 05, 2010 in Karachi, criticized the performance of the Expanded Programme on Immunization-EPI cell of the health department. "Lack of coordination between the health department and the public representatives caused the lapse in achieving targets of immunization campaigns in flood affected areas of Sindh", said Mr. Khuhro. Public representatives are blamed for not contributing in highlighting the importance of immunization in flood affected areas while we see no summary of legislation regarding compulsory immunization is ever moved from the health department that shows lack of commitment at the end of departments, he added. Mr. Khuhro also criticized the still pending status of PC 1 of EPI programme at departments' level for the last 3 months. "We are in a habit of reacting to crisis while we need to develop a practice of acting and planning to control the crisis", he said to the participants. While talking to the representatives of Provincial EPI programme present at the session, he questioned about the planning, allocation of resources to the vaccinators who go to the fields and use of the official authority to manage vaccinators. **Mr. Khuhro** supported the idea of issuing a vaccination card to the children at the time of vaccination. The Briefing Session was organized by PILDAT to highlight the importance of



(L to R) Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuru, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Ms. Fauzia Ijaz Khan at a Roundtable Discussion in Karachi



Members of the Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly at Briefing Session

Immunization in flood affected areas. Representatives of the Parliamentary Caucus to promote immunization in the Sindh Province, facilitated by PILDAT, including the conveners of Caucus **Mr. Moin Amir Pirzada**, MPA and **Mr. Anwar Ahmed Khan Mahar**, MPA participated in the briefing session. The members of the Parliamentary Caucus who participated included **Nawab Taimur Talpur**, MPA, **Ms Farheen Mughal**, MPA, **Haji Munawar Ali Abbasi**, MPA, **Ms. Kalsoom Chandio**, MPA, **Ms. Rashida Akhtar Panhwar**, MPA, **Mr. Najamuddin Abro**, MPA, **Syed Bachal Ali Shah**, MPA. **Dr. Laila Rizvi**, Immunization officer represented UNICEF at the forum while **Dr. Rizwana Memon**, Deputy Project Director-EPI represented the ministry of health at the briefing session. The session was attended by a large number of media persons, civil society representatives and volunteers working in flood affected areas.

### Speaker Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly chairs MLAs meeting to form cross-party Caucus on Promotion of Immunization in the Gilgit Baltistan

Members of the Legislative Assembly of Gilgit Baltistan belonging to different major political parties met in Gilgit on November 02, 2010 with Speaker Honourable **Mr. Wazir Baig** in the chair and agreed to initiate multi-party Caucus of MLAs to raise awareness about the significance of immunization and the fatal consequences of not immunizing children. Honourable **Syed Mehdi Shah**, Chief Minister of Gilgit Baltistan, was the chief guest on the occasion. Addressing the MLA's the honourable speaker declared his full support and cooperation to the initiative and urged MLAs to join the Caucus and tirelessly work to keep Gilgit Baltistan a polio-free region. He also agreed to become the Patron of the Caucus to actively work with other MLAs to promote immunization in the area. MLAs present at the meeting filled out their membership forms for the Caucus and agreed to start a membership drive within the Assembly. MLAs participated and became members of the Gilgit Baltistan Caucus on promotion of

immunization included **Syed Mehdi Shah** (GB VII Skardu 1, PPP), **Wazir Baig** (GB VI, PPP), **Gudbar Khan** (GB XVIII, JUI), **Atta Ullah Shahab** – Member GB Council, (JUI F), **Nisar Hussain** (GBVIII Skardu II, PPP), **Abdul Hameed Khan** (GB XIII Astore I, PPP), **Wazir Hassan** GB X Skardu IV, PPP), **Wazir Ibadat Ali** (Member GB Council (PPP), **Janzab Khan** (GB XVI, PML-N), **Muhammad Naseer Khan** (GB XIV, PPP), **Syed Muhammad Ali Shah Kharmong** (GB XI PPP), **Raja Muhammad Azam Khan Shire** (GB XII MQM), **Bashir Ahmed Khan** (PML Q), **Jamil Ahmed** (PPP), **Maulana Syed Sarwar Shan** (JUI), **Engineer M. Ismael** (GB XXIV, PPP), **Muhammad Ayub Shah** (GB XXI, PPP), **Muhammad Ali Akhtar** (GB IV, PPP), **Wazir Shakeel Ahmed** (GB IX, PPP), **Ms. Saadia Danish** (PPP), **Dr. Ali Madad** (GB XX, PPP) and **Haji Rehmat Khaliq** (Member GB, JUI).

#### **Government to Formulate Comprehensive Policies to Improve routine Immunization in Balochistan: Dr. Ruqayya Saeed Hashmi**

In order to highlight the importance of Immunization in Flood Hit Areas in Balochistan Province, PILDAT organised a Briefing Session on November 11, 2010 in Quetta. The briefing session was chaired by **Dr. Ruqayya Saeed Hashmi**, Provincial Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination and Convener of the Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization in Balochistan whereas speakers who expressed their expert views on the subject at the occasion included **Dr. Mohammad Ayub Kakar**, Provincial Coordinator of EPI Balochistan and **Dr. Jawahir Habib**, Communication Officer, UNICEF Quetta. The briefing session aimed to highlight the importance of immunization in flood affected areas. Representatives of the Parliamentary Caucus to promote immunization in the Balochistan Province, facilitated by PILDAT, included the convener of Caucus **Dr. Ruqayya Saeed Hashmi**. The members of the Parliamentary Caucus who participated included **Ms. Ghazal Gola**, Minister for Women



Panellists at a Briefing Session on Importance of Immunization in Flood hit Areas



(L to R) Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, Ms. Fauzia Ejaz Khan and Mr. Abid Raza at a Consultative Session in Islamabad

Development; **Ms. Nasreen Khaitran**, Provincial Minister; **Ms. Zarina Baloch**, Advisor to the Chief Minister Balochistan; **Ms. Hassrat Bano**, Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan and **Mr. Jan Ali Changezi**, Provincial Minister for Quality Education. The session was attended by a large number of media persons, civil society representatives and government officials.

#### **MPAs resolve to move resolution to overcome immunization challenges in flood-hit areas**

Discussing the problems faced during immunization campaigns in the flood hit areas, the Members of the Punjab Assembly resolved to move a resolution in the House to overcome these challenges. The pledge was made at a special briefing organised by PILDAT on December 07, 2010 in Lahore, which was chaired by Honourable **Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan**, Deputy Speaker Provincial Assembly Punjab and Patron of the Caucus of MPAs of Punjab on Immunization. Speakers at the Briefing Session included **Dr. Muhammad Mushtaq Hussain** UNICEF, **Dr. Arshad Iqbal Dar**, Director Health Services Punjab, **Dr. Asad Ashraf**, MPA, Former Chairman, Chief Minister's Task Force on Health and convener PILDAT Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization.

#### **Members of the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa express shock over the rising rate of Polio in the Province and FATA**

Members of Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa belonging to different major political parties met in Peshawar on December 22, 2010 with Speaker Honourable **Mr. Kiramat Ullah Khan** in the chair. The briefing session aimed to discuss the "Immunization Campaigns in the Flood hit areas – Challenges and Way Forward" was arranged for the members of Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by PILDAT.

### PILDAT Briefing Session on Immunization Campaigns: Challenges & Way Forward

On December 31, 2010 in a PILDAT briefing session on 'Immunization Campaigns: Challenges and Way Forward', experts were of the opinion that parliamentarians could have played important role in immunization campaign and polio eradication cause. **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, Deputy Speaker National Assembly and Patron of the Parliamentary Caucus on the promotion of the Assembly said in the start of the session. Experts gave astonishing facts that Pakistan is one of only four countries in the world where polio still exists, and Pakistan is the only country where number of polio cases is rising. In 2010 140 cases of polio detected as compare to 86 cases last year. In FATA and Interior Sindh polio cases increases in huge numbers. Addressing at the occasion **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi** said that we cannot go to FATA in near future without the help of parliamentarians. He said that Parliamentarians have an important role to play in this regard. He stressed upon the authorities to involve the parliamentarians in eradication of polio. He said that Parliamentarians will be more than happy to help the health officers who visit their area. More than 20 parliamentarians participated in the briefing session and highlighted various loopholes in the campaigns and stressed on the effective role of the Health Ministry in this regard.

### Take Public Representatives along in Immunization Campaigns: Sindh MPAs demand from Government & UNICEF

**Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khauro**, Speaker Sindh Assembly was joined by MPAs in Karachi on January 20, 2011 in demanding the Ministry of Health and UNICEF to inform MPAs before the beginning of each immunization campaign so as to maximize the success of immunization campaigns in the province. Honourable Speaker and MPAs were part of a PILDAT Briefing Session on Immunization



Panelists at a Briefing Session on Importance of Immunization in Flood hit Areas



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

Campaigns: Challenges and the Way Forward. **Syed Hashim Raza Zaidi**, Provincial Secretary Health, **Dr. Mazhar Khamisani**, Project Director Expanded Programme of Immunization, Government of Sindh and **Dr. Laila Rizvi**, immunization officer, UNICEF Sindh were speakers at the occasion while **Mr. Moin Aamir Pirzada**, MPA, Chairman Standing Committee on Health and Convener Sindh Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization and **Ms. Fozia Ejaz Khan**, MNA and Vice President Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization in the National Assembly were also present on the occasion.

### Compulsory Immunization Bill should be moved in Parliament and Provincial Assemblies: MPs believe

In a PILDAT arranged Legislative Forum on February 09, 2011 in Islamabad on **Critical need to improve Immunization in Pakistan and the Compulsory Immunization Bill**, Parliamentarians and MPAs believed that the draft compulsory Immunization Bill is a good initiative to make immunization compulsory for all in Pakistan and respective Governments should table this in the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies for review and adoption by legislators. Experts believed that to eradicate polio a nation-wide awareness campaign should be launched with effective participation of Parliamentarians and media. The speakers at the PILDAT Legislative Forum included **Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq**, Speaker, Legislative Assembly of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), **Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan**, MPA, Deputy Speaker Provincial Assembly Punjab, **Mr. Zameen Khan**, MPA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly, **Dr. Sania Nishtar**, Founder President, Pakistan Health Policy Forum, **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai**, former Deputy Speaker National Assembly and **Ms. Fozia Ejaz Khan**, MNA and Vice President Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization in the National Assembly.

### Briefing on the Benefits on Immunization

Azad Jammu and Kashmir's Health Minister **Dr. Muhammad Najeeb Naqi Khan** said that return of polio to Pakistan is alarming and needed to be tackled by collective efforts at official and civil society levels. He was speaking to a select gathering of legislators, government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations and media at a special briefing organized by PILDAT on February 22, 2011. The briefing was chaired by AJK Legislative Assembly's Deputy Speaker **Ms. Mehrun Nisa**. Resurgence of polio in Pakistan, Dr. Najeeb Naqi Khan said, had led to the launch of an emergency plan by the President of Pakistan which was being supported by the entire world. At the same time, he noted with satisfaction, the immunization coverage in AJK was 100 per cent and there had not been any single instance of a polio case in the region. "We do not need to improve but maintain and sustain this coverage," he said, asking the members of the AJK Legislative Assembly to support the campaign. Dr. Najeeb Naqi Khan thanked PILDAT for organizing the briefing to raise the awareness level of policy and opinion making circles and vowed that his ministry would leave no stone unturned in rendering its responsibilities in this regard.

### FATA is the key to achieve the goal of polio eradication in Pakistan: FATA MPs urged to play a role

In a PILDAT briefing session, held on February 24, 2011 in Islamabad on Critical Need to Improve Immunization in FATA, experts shared alarming figures of polio increase in FATA with FATA MPs urging them to provide guidance, support and oversight to the immunization campaign in FATA. **Mr. Munir Khan Orakzai**, MNA and Parliamentary leader FATA in the National Assembly chaired the session while he was joined by **Senator Saleh Shah Quraishi**, **Engineer Shaukat Ullah**, Federal Minister for SAFRON, **Dr. Azhar Abid Raza**, Health Specialist UNICEF, and **Dr. Altaf**



Speakers at a Briefing Session on Critical need to improve immunization in FATA



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

**Bosan**, National Programme Manager-Expanded Programme of Immunization. Additionally **Mr. Bilal Rehman**, MNA, **Mr. Kamran Khan**, MNA, **Mr. Abdul Maalik Wazir**, MNA, **Senator Hafiz Rasheed Ahmed** and **Ms. Samina Mushtaq Pagganwala**, MNA, and member Parliamentary Caucus to Promote Immunization in Pakistan, were part of the briefing, as well as key journalists from FATA, health policy professionals and others.

### Health officials insisted to involve elected representatives for successful immunization campaigns, demanded MPAs of Sindh Assembly and Parliamentarians of FATA in PILDAT review meetings on the recent immunization campaigns

PILDAT facilitated separate meetings with members of Sindh Assembly in Karachi on March 09, 2011 and with the Parliamentarians of FATA on March 10, 2011 in Peshawar to review the situation analysis of recent immunization campaigns. "Increase in polio cases from 2009 to 2010 is a frightening situation for us, absence of harmonization between bureaucracy and public representative is one of the main reasons for this failure, said **Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khuhro**, Speaker Sindh Assembly while chairing the review meeting. He strongly criticized the high ratio of missed children that remain deprived of polio vaccination during campaigns days. Discussing the fact that polio cases are increasing in FATA and Sindh, he said "it is awful to know that Sindh, with entirely different circumstances is compared with FATA where other than war many religious and social taboos act as impediments in immunization campaigns". **Ms. Fouzia Ejaz Khan**, MNA also participated in the meeting. Other participants include **Mr. Anwar Ahmed Khan Mahar**, MPA, **Dr. Ahmed Ali Shah**, MPA, **Dr. Nadeem Cabool**, MPA and **Ms. Marvi Rashdi**, MPA.

The meeting held in Peshawar on March 10, 2011 was

attended by members of the FATA Parliament including **Mr. Abdul Maalik Wazir**, MNA, **Mr. Kamran Khan**, MNA, **Senator Abdur Rasheed** and **Senator Hafiz Rasheed** while **Mr. Abid Majeed**, Secretary Administration and Coordination, **Dr. Fawad Khan**, Director Health, FATA Secretariat, and **Dr. Muhammad Rafiq**, Programme Specialist, UNICEF also participated in the meeting. Members from the Tribal Union of Journalists and representatives of civil society also participated in the meeting. FATA legislator concerned at lack of coordination between FATA Secretariat and legislators during immunization campaigns. They demanded that Government should call upon Grand Jirga to make a consensus on improving immunization coverage in FATA.

#### **A committee of MPAs should be constituted especially for monitoring of immunization campaign in KPK: Experts**

In a PILDAT briefing session, held on March 14, 2011 in Peshawar on Critical Need to Improve Immunization & Draft Legislation for compulsory Immunization, experts believed that a committee of MPAs should be constituted especially for monitoring of performance of immunization campaign in KPK. They stressed on the public representatives to play their role in creating awareness among the masses. **Honourable Mr. Karamat Ullah Khan**, Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, was chief guest of the session while he was joined by **Ms. Shazia Tehmas Khan**, MPA, convener Parliamentary Caucus to promote Immunization, KPK, **Dr. Prikko Heineonen**, Health Specialist UNICEF, **Dr. Janbaz Khan**, Director, Expanded Programme of Immunization, KPK and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT.

#### **A subcommittee of MPAs to be formed in Punjab Assembly under Dr. Asad Ashraf to debate and draft a compulsory Immunization Bill**

On March 15, 2011 in a PILDAT briefing session on Critical



Participants at a Roundtable Discussion in Peshawar



Participants at a Briefing Session in Peshawar

Need to Improve Immunization & Draft Legislation for compulsory Immunization, experts believed that a committee of MPAs should be constituted especially for monitoring of performance of immunization campaign in Punjab. They stressed on the public representatives to play their role in creating awareness among the masses. **Dr. Asad Ashraf**, Former Chairman, Chief Minister's Task force on health chaired the session while he was joined by **Dr. Naeen Ullah** from UNICEF and **Dr. Usman Ahmed Khan** from provincial EPI division, and Mr. Faheem Ahmed Khan, Projects Manager, PILDAT. The briefing session was attended by 37 members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

#### **Make Immunization Drive More Effective and Result Oriented: MPAs Balochistan**

Stressing upon the need of making immunization drive more effective and result oriented, speakers at a seminar on March 24, 2011 have urged parliamentarians, civil society organizations and media to join hands for the cause of saving women and children from diseases. The event was chaired by **Dr. Fauzia Nazir Marri**, MPA (BNP-Awami) Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan. **Dr. Aurangzeb Kamal**, Immunization officer, UNICEF, gave an overview of the recent Polio campaign run in the province and highlighted the problems faced during the campaign. He highlighted Qila Abdullah as the main troubled area where the vaccination teams were facing problems and requested the cooperation of the elected members of the parliament. The session was attended by six Ministers of Balochistan Government and a large number of Media and civil Society Organizations.

#### **Public Representatives urged to Monitor and Oversee the National Emergency Action Plan 2011**

In a PILDAT arranged National workshop on the National Emergency Action Plan 2011 for Polio Eradication, held on



(L to R) Mr. Moin Amir Pirzada, Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Mr. Fauzia Ejaz Khan, Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Mr. Wazir Baig and Mr. Abdul Khaliq Achakzai in a National Workshop in Islamabad

March 28, 2011 in Islamabad, Parliamentarians and MPAs from all Provincial Assemblies believed that public representatives should effectively monitor and oversee the National Emergency Action Plan 2011 for Polio eradication. “To eradicate polio a nation-wide awareness campaign should be launched with effective participation of Parliamentarians and media,” said experts in the National Workshop. A strategy through which both public representatives take a pro-active role in overseeing the programme as well as Federal and Provincial Governments inform legislators ahead of campaigns to ensure legislators involvement and oversight is crucial to ensuring the success of the National Emergency Action Plan, said Parliamentarians and MPAs. In 2011 so far 24 cases of polio have been detected across Pakistan which is twice as compared to 12 in the same period in 2010 – an alarming scenario believed experts and legislators, and requires effective measures to counter the spread as well. **Ms. Fozia Ejaz Khan**, MNA and Vice President Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization, chaired the session. Other speakers included **Mr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhary**, MNA, General Secretary Parliamentary Caucus on Immunization, **Mr. Wazir Baig**, Speaker, Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly, **Dr. Abdul Khaliq Achakzai**, MPA and Provincial Minister for Youth Affairs, Balochistan, **Dr. Asad Ashraf**, MPA, Convener, Parliamentary Caucus to promote Immunization in the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, **Mr. Anwar Ahmed Mehar**, MPA, Convener, Parliamentary Caucus to promote Immunization in Provincial Assembly of Sindh, **Mr. Moin Aamir Pirzada**, Convener, Parliamentary Caucus to promote Immunization in the Provincial Assembly of the Sindh, **Dr. Azhar Abid Raza**, Health Specialist, UNICEF, **Mr. Agha Ishfaq**, Deputy National Programme Manager, EPI, Government of Pakistan and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT.

## Analysis of Assets Declaration by MNAs

In an effort to promote transparency, public access and understanding of the affairs of their elected representatives, PILDAT has been carrying out and presenting analyses of the declarations of assets by the Members of the National Assembly of Pakistan since 2002.

### Average Value of MNAs' Assets increases three folds since 2002; the current National Assembly twice as rich compared to the previous one

A comparative analysis of the assets declared by MNAs belonging to the 12th and the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan reveals on September 14, 2010 that the average value of an MNA's assets has increased three folds in six years from 2002-2003 to 2008-2009. The average value of an MNA's Assets in the 12th National Assembly was just below Rs. 27 million in 2002-2003 which has increased to almost Rs. 81 million in 2008-2009, a 3-fold increase in six years, according to a PILDAT Analysis of the Declarations of Assets submitted by MNAs. The analysis also indicates that an average MNA of the current (13th) National Assembly is twice as rich compared to his/her counterpart in the previous (12th) National Assembly.

The PILDAT report series titled How Rich are Pakistani MNAs? has analysed assets declared by MNAs for the years 2002-2003 to 2005-2006; 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 through 3 separate reports. The latest of this series of PILDAT reports, comparing assets declared by MNAs belonging to the 13th (current) National Assembly of Pakistan, has used data contained in the Gazettes published by the Election Commission of Pakistan on October 15, 2008 and October 27, 2009.

The report depicts that the current average value of assets held by an MNA stands at Rs. 80.89 million, based on the



(L to R) Mr. Shaukatullah and Riaz Ahmed Fatiyana at a Briefing Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

2008-2009 declarations. This figure demonstrates a modest increase of 9.5% from the 2007-2008 figure of Rs. 73.92 million. The average value of assets owned by non-Muslim MNAs, Rs. 20.35 million, is 75% lower than the overall average of almost Rs. 81 million, based on 2008-2009 figures.

### PILDAT Analysis did not malign MNAs; used assets declared by Legislators

#### *PILDAT writes to Prime Minister, Speaker and Leader of the Opposition to dispel misperceptions*

PILDAT analysis is based on the declarations of assets by MNAs themselves that the ECP publishes every year and PILDAT neither attempts to verify the information provided by the legislators, nor does PILDAT attach any value judgment about the sources of assets. This has been stated by PILDAT in letters separately written to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan and the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly of Pakistan today to set on record facts about PILDAT Analysis of MNAs assets declarations and to dispel misperceptions that seemed to have resulted in an outrage by public representatives. In the PILDAT report released on September 14, 2010, there is neither a categorical statement nor any insinuation that MNAs' assets constitute any ill-gotten wealth or assets have increased due to corrupt practices. PILDAT does not even maintain that wealth increase in itself is a questionable activity but states facts obtained through analysis without value judgment, stated the letters. The letters written by PILDAT Executive Director Ahmed Bilal Mehboob state that PILDAT firmly believes in a strong Parliament, and has been making modest contributions to strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan since 2002 which are recognized and appreciated across party lines. PILDAT has been carrying out analysis of the MNAs' declared assets since 2002 so as to *contribute to the process of transparency that every MNA adheres to* based on the declarations of assets by MNAs that the Election

Commission of Pakistan publishes every year in the form of a Gazette of the Federal Government for the information and use of general public. The declarations are only analysed to demonstrate and highlight underlying trends among parties, provinces and individual legislators.

"Honourable public representatives are entitled to their views, just as all citizens are, however we wish to place facts on the record and to remove misperceptions," the letter stated. Terming some legislators' outrage on their self-declared assets as unfortunate, Mr. Mehboob maintained that PILDAT holds elected representatives in the highest esteem and cannot think of bringing them into disrepute. At the same time, PILDAT holds dear the principles of transparency and public's right to information and accountability for a vibrant and sustainable democracy. A reference is repeatedly made by legislators that why PILDAT does not carry out a similar analysis of the assets held by other segments of the society such as Military, Judiciary, Bureaucracy, etc. PILDAT Executive Director said that we believe in and have always demanded greater transparency for all segments but we do not have access to data as the law currently provides for making public assets declarations of only the elected legislators' assets. If the Parliament frames a law to make public the assets statements of other public officials, a similar analysis about them will also follow, if not by us, by another think tank, he stated. PILDAT reports carry a disclaimer that any error in the report is not deliberate, and we are open to further scrutiny and clarification as and where needed, if the reports have in any way contributed to mis-reporting of facts or have hurt the sensibilities of any one, we deeply regret that and are ready to correct where a specific error is brought to our notice. He also offered to brief Parliamentarians further and to answer questions to remove any misunderstandings as and when needed. Referring to a recent PILDAT Report on Mid-Term Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan, based on the analysis and assessment by a non-partisan



Participants at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

Democracy Assessment Group, he stated that the key messages of the Report are that Status of Constitutional and institutional arrangements of Democracy today are comparatively better than in most parts of our history; a democratic Pakistan alone is a secure Pakistan and that way forward for Pakistan is to sustain, refine and strengthen the democratic system.



Parliamentarians at a Roundtable Discussion in Islamabad

## Labour

### PILDAT Briefing Session on Impact of the 18th Constitutional Amendment on Labour Rights

Citing complexities in 18th Constitutional Amendment relating to Labour laws, especially in terms of decentralisation of Workers Welfare Fund, implementation of State's international agreements and the need for uniformity in minimum wages and standards, on November 11, 2010 the panellists at the PILDAT Briefing Session urged the Federal Government to facilitate a uniformity in provincial labour laws through forums such as the Council of Common Interests. Panellists at the PILDAT Briefing Session on Impact of the 18th Constitutional Amendment on Labour Rights included **Mr. Fasih Karim Siddiqi**, Former Director, Employers Federation of Pakistan-EFP, **Mr. Zahoore Awan**, Deputy General Secretary, All Pakistan Workers Federation, **Mr. Babar Sattar**, Advocate who has been advising the Ministry of Labour, **Mr. Hamayun Saifullah Khan**, MNA, Member, National Assembly Standing Committee on Labour and Manpower and **Senator Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari**, Leader of the House, Senate of Pakistan and Member, Senate Standing Committee on Labour & Manpower.

A large number of participants joined in the discussion belonging to labour unions, Parliament, business community and the media. Some of the major issues highlighted during the discussion included that all labour laws have been inherited from the international Labour movement. Decentralization should not affect international labour solidarity. There is a need for harmonizing the Labour laws within the provinces in order to improve Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and minimize disparity between provinces with regards to the FDI. The EOBI



(L to R) Mr. Humayoun Saifullah Khan, Mr. Fasih Ul Karim Saddiqi and Mr. Zahoore Awan at a Briefing Session on Labour Issues



Participants at a Briefing Session in Islamabad

suffers from under-registration which affects labour adversely because there is no law.

### Federal Oversight is necessary in Labour Affairs after Devolution: Experts

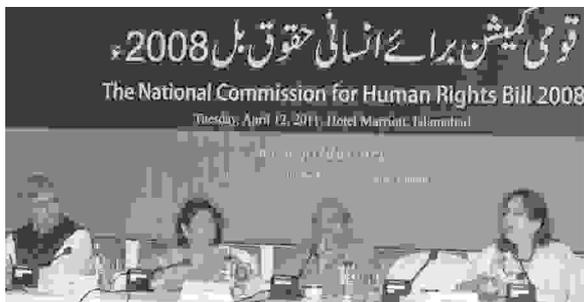
PILDAT organised a Consultative Session on April 21, 2011 in Islamabad on Devolution of Labour Ministry post 18th Constitutional Amendment: Impact and Challenges, where experts believed that federal oversight is necessary in labour affairs and therefore should be maintained after devolution. Labour experts, researchers, officials of Provincial and Federal Governments and representatives of trade unions participated in the session. Participants appreciated PILDAT for arranging consultative session on such an important issue. The questions put before the panel included: identification of areas of concern, international treaties, EOBI, WWF, Trade unions, uniformity of workers benefits in Multi-Provincial companies and uniform safety and social protection laws. Key speakers at the session included **Mr. Javed Gill**, Central Labour Advisor, Federal Ministry of Labour and Manpower and **Mr. Zafar Iqbal Gondal**, Chairman, EOBI, was of the opinion that EOBI and Workers Welfare Fund. Participants stressed on uniformity of laws among provinces. They believed that it is a window of opportunity for provinces as well to cut their administrative cost. Federal oversight is necessary in labour affairs. Social security organizations should be merged and there should be one universal card which should be applicable all over the country.

## Legislative Forums

### PILDAT Suggestions to amend the National Commission for Human Rights Bill 2008 are adopted by the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights, Ms. Fauzia Habib

Most of the suggestions presented by PILDAT to amend the draft National Commission for Human Rights Bill 2008 are accepted by the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights for setting up National Commission for Human Rights, said **Ms. Fauzia Habib**, Member, National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights and Political Secretary to the President of Pakistan while **Mr. I.A. Rehman**, General Secretary, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan also supported the recommendations at the Legislative Forum on **The National Commission for Human Rights Bill 2008** organised by PILDAT in Islamabad on April 12, 2011. **Ms. Fauzia Habib**, MNA, member, National Assembly standing committee on Human Rights/Political Secretary to the President of Pakistan, **Mr. I.A. Rehman**, General Secretary, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, **Ms. Ayesha Hamid**, Advocate High Court analysed the draft Bill of the National Commission for Human Rights at the Forum. The Forum was attended by the Parliamentarians of major political parties, representatives of civil society and a select gathering of media analysts. Many Parliamentarians, members of civil society and members of media actively participated at the Forum.

**Ms. Fouzia Habib** while speaking on the occasion said that they do realize the human rights situation in Pakistan is not so good and lots of efforts need to be done in this regard. "Improvement in the plight of human rights is one of the concerned areas of our Government," Ms. Habib emphasised. Pointing out the reasons of low standards of human rights in the country, she said that dictatorship is the main reason for such a fiasco in human rights situation



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Ms. Fauzia Habib, Mr. I. A. Rehman and Ms. Ayesha Hamid at a PILDAT Consultative Session in Islamabad



Panelists at a Legislative Forum on Health and the 18th Constitutional Amendment in Islamabad

in Pakistan. She assured the participants that all members of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights are committed to the independence and freedom of the Commission. "Governments come and go; but institutions remain, so it is the time to strengthen the institutions," stressed Ms. Habib at the forum. She said that the Bill will be presented in National Assembly for approval during this session or the session after budget. In the discussion session, participants also presented many suggestions while a debate on the jurisdiction of the Parliament to pass a Bill for setting up the National Commission for Human Rights was also questioned as some of the participants believed that after the passage of 18th Constitutional Amendment Human Rights has become the provincial subject and Parliament has no right to legislate for setting up the National Commission. Participants urged to investigate the matter whether the provinces need to establish their own Human Rights Commission or the National Human Rights Commission can be established after the 18th amendment.

### Federal health division should be created to retain national role in health: Experts

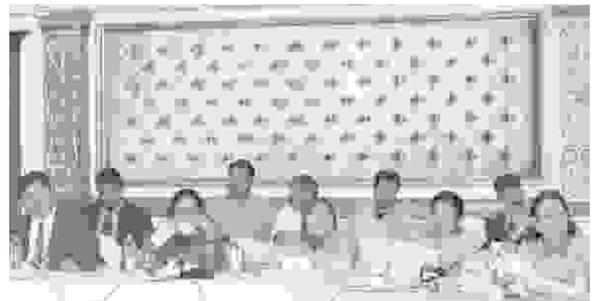
In a PILDAT and Heartfile Legislative Forum, held on April, 2011 on Health and the 18th Constitutional Amendment, experts believed that a Federal health division should be created to retain national role in health after devolution of health to provinces. Provinces should be given fiscal autonomy as well to effectively implement its powers after devolution. **Dr. Nadeem Ehsan**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Health was the chief guest on the occasion while other speakers include **Dr. Sania Nishtar**, President, Heartfile, **Mr. Jalal Mandokhel**, Secretary Health Balochistan, **Ms. Shaheen Afridi**, Director Health, KPK, **Mr. Aftab Shaban Mirani**, MNA, former Federal Minister, **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezi**, former Deputy Speaker, National Assembly and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director, PILDAT.

### Constitutional Arrangements of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan need reforms, PILDAT Legislative Forum

on May 18, 2011 in a PILDAT Legislative Forum on Proposed Constitutional Amendments in the Constitution of Pakistan 1973, for Empowerment of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan, experts agreed that the current Constitutional Arrangements for Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan need reforms and informed deliberations and discourse should lead to creating reform options to be considered by Parliament. The Legislative Forum was organised to initiate a dialogue on the proposed amendments in the Constitution of Pakistan so that the Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan enjoy equitable rights and facilities till the time a permanent settlement on the status of these regions is reached and the people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir get their right of self-determination as provided in United Nations Security Council resolutions. The Legislative Forum was participated by a large number of analysts and subject experts. Justice (Retd.) Syed Manzoor Hussain Gillani, former Acting Chief Justice of Supreme Court AJ&K, presented his discussion paper on the proposed Constitutional Reforms. Commenting on the issue, **Raja Farooq Haider Khan**, former Prime Minister AJK, said that powers given in article 31(3) should be given to Pakistan Government and rest should be given to AJK Government. He said that there is a dire need to bring people of AJK at par with other citizen of Pakistan. **Gen (Retd.) Muhammad Aziz Khan**, former CJCSC, was of the view that in principle maximum autonomy should be given to AJK and GB but we need to be careful that any constitutional change does not affect legal status of Pakistan's case on Kashmir in international for a. He further stressed that any constitutional reform proposals should be vetted in detail by experienced constitutional lawyers of the country. Similar points were raised by **Mr. Sartaj Aziz**, former Senator and Federal Minister, who sent in his written



Parliamentarians at a Legislative Forum in Islamabad



Participants at a Legislative Forum in Islamabad

remarks on the PILDAT Discussion Paper stressing need of legal and constitutional scrutiny of any proposed reforms on the issue to avoid weakening Pakistan's case on Kashmir. He has also in principle, favoured reforms for greater autonomy and rights for the citizens under the federal structure. **Mr. Asif Ezdi**, analyst, believed that there is a constitution limbo in AJK and GB status. He said that these regions should be given representation in the Parliament and other constitutional bodies. He believed that with these amendments, the resolve to Kashmir cause would be strengthened. **Mr. Musharaf Zaidi**, analyst, suggested that strategic calculus should be kept in mind whenever we discuss any constitutional, administrative or legal changes. Status of Kashmir is a broader policy question before Pakistan and should be discussed in a holistic manner. **Mr. Inam ul Haq**, former Foreign Minister, while commenting on the topic said that it is only in the ambit of the UN Security Council that Pakistan can stand internationally on Kashmir, although he believed giving greater autonomy does not weaken Pakistan's case internationally. He said that there is a need to encourage a wider debate on the constitutional arrangements regarding AJK and GB. **Mr. Ghulam Abbas**, Editor Daily K2, said that UN Security Council doesn't deny fundamental rights to the people of AJK and GB therefore these constitutional amendments should be considered. Federal Government needs to be shaken out of its apathy towards current insufficient constitutional status of AJK and GB and carry out reforms for enhancing citizens rights and representation within federal structure. **Ms. Amina Ansari**, member Gilgit Baltistan Legislative Assembly, said that people of GB are part of Pakistan who voluntarily joined Pakistan after liberating it. GB has its own distinct identity which should be recognised and respected. **Sardar Mohammad Anwar**, former President of AJK, was of the view that Gilgit Baltistan is a part of larger Kashmir under UN resolution. GB has never had a political system in place. Our contention was that giving provincial status to GB would lead to complications. He said that people of AJK voluntarily declared themselves to be a disputed territory

so as to keep the claim alive on the Indian held Kashmir. **Mr. Haroon Khalid**, politician from GB, commented that Gilgilt-Baltistan is strategically most important part of Pakistan; therefore this region should be given its due importance. **Dr. Riffat Hussain**, Chairman Defence and Strategic Studies Dept. QAU, was of the view that any effort to empower people of AJK and GB would undermine India's stance against us of not giving rights to those areas. He said that autonomy to these areas cannot be achieved unless constitutional provisions are enforced in letter and spirit. **Mr. Khalid Sultan**, former Chief Secretary AJK, said that the only way to protect the rights of AJK and GB is through amendments in the constitution. Most of the grievances of AJK emanate from the role of AJK Council which needs to be reviewed, said **Ms. Nasim Zehra**, analyst. She welcomed the deliberations facilitated by PILDAT and believed greater public discourse is needed before introducing reforms. **Sardar Khalid Ibrahim**, politician, was of the view that the spirit of the proposed amendments is not questioned but its timing is not appropriate and it will be harmful for Kashmir cause internationally. **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, while introducing the forum, said that there is a need to discuss constitutional status of AJ&K and G-B region before it explodes into a crisis. PILDAT's objective behind facilitating this discussion is to initiate a much-needed informed discourse on the need for reforms in the constitutional arrangement for AJK and GB.

### Effective Implementation of Anti-Money Laundering Laws Stressed

**Senator Zaheeruddin Babar Awan**, Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs announced to hold a Conference in collaboration with PILDAT on implementation and prosecution of Anti Money-Laundering act 2010. He also sought recommendations from PILDAT on Implementation on Anti Money-



Senator Zaheeruddin Babar Awan, Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs speaks at a PILDAT Conference on Anti Money laundering and Implications for Counter-terrorism efforts



(L to R) Syed Mansoor Ali and Mr. Ahmer Bilal Sufi at a Legislative Forum in Islamabad

Laundering Act 2010. Senator Babar Awan was the chief guest at a PILDAT Conference on Anti Money laundering and Implications for Counter-terrorism efforts held on December 14, 2010 in Islamabad. Speaking on the occasion Federal Minister for Law Dr Babar Awan emphasizes the need to have a global broad based-consensus on what is money laundering. He was of the opinion that countries like Pakistan need to document their economy at multiple levels and the black holes need to be addressed like there is no documentation for money used in charity or donations. **Syed Mansoor Ali**, Senior Joint Director, Financing Monitoring Unit, Government of Pakistan, gave his presentation on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Domestic and International Initiatives. He said that Pakistan does not have adequate laws to check the in or out flow of cash money at airports and the Government is considering to review this part of existing Act. **Mr. Ahmer Bilal Sufi**, President Research Society of International Law, was of the view that this conference would serve to further launch and strengthen anti money-laundering campaign as the law is good but it lacks implementation. **Mr. Khalid Masood**, former Chairman, Council of Islamic Ideology presented the ideological aspect of money laundering and said that the terms used in Islam for Money Laundering are 'to Abuse' or 'to Trespass'. He said that ideological differences create a hurdle in effective implementation of anti money laundering laws. **Ms. Ayla Majid**, financial consultant, while speaking on the topic, was of the view that a big threat the economy faces is in terms of not getting legitimate money documented and this has an impact on the fiscal and monitoring policy and economy on the whole suffers. **Malik Azmat Khan**, MNA and Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Affairs and Statistics, thanked PILDAT for holding a conference on such a pressing issue. He stressed the need of capacity building inside and outside the Parliament.

## British MPs visit PILDAT Office; interact with Pakistani MPs on Challenges facing Pakistani Parliament and Role of PILDAT

A 9 member delegation of British MPs visited PILDAT Office on January 27, 2011 to talk about the role of PILDAT in the challenges facing Pakistan's Parliament. British MPs were joined by their Pakistani counterparts, a group of Pakistani MPs, and the two sides interacted on issues of mutual interest. British Parliamentary delegation was led by **Mr. Roger Gale**, MP, Conservative Party from North Thanet, and included **Mr. Kevan Jones**, MP, Labour Party from North Durham, **Mr. Bob Rusell**, MP, Liberal Democrat from Colchester, **Mr. Simon Danczuk**, MP, Labour Party from Rochdale, **Ms. Yasmin Qureshi**, MP, Labour Party from Bolton South East, **Mr. Andrew Stephenson**, MP, Conservative Party from Pendle, **Lord Popat of Harrow**, Conservative Party and **Lord Hylton**, Crossbench Party from Raymond Joliffe. The delegation also included **Mr. Andrew Tuggey**, DL, Secretary Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, UK Branch and **Ms. Claire Bowman**, CPA-UK. Pakistani MPs who engaged in an interaction with their British counterparts included **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, **Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan**, MNA Pakistan Muslim League-N, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce, **Mr. Baleegh-ur-Rehman**, MNA Pakistan Muslim League-N and **Dr. Donya Aziz**, MNA Pakistan Muslim League.

**Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi** welcomed the delegation and said that PILDAT has been playing a very crucial role in supporting Parliament, its Committees and the individual MPs, not only in orientation and training on roles and responsibilities but also prepares objective research on key policy issues and legislation under consideration in the Parliament. PILDAT's role as an independent and objective



Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi Presents a memento to Mr. Roger Gale



Panellists at the launching session of Discussion Papers on Jammu and Kashmir: Trade Across the Line of Control (LoC) in Islamabad

think tank in strengthening democracy is also appreciable. British MPs believed that in their visit, their perceptions about Pakistan have been proved wrong. Current security situation in Pakistan and war on terror also come under discussion in the meeting. British MPs appreciated the role of Pakistan and Pakistan's sacrifices in this effort. Formally welcoming the British delegation to PILDAT office, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, formally introducing PILDAT said that PILDAT was founded by a group of Pakistanis living and working outside Pakistan. We at PILDAT firmly believe that Democracy is the only way forward for Pakistan while we understand that Democracy needs nurturing not only just by politicians but also by citizens to make it work and deliver. He said that PILDAT through its work tries to make a modest contribution in this regard.

### Trade across LOC is a good tool to enhance inter-dependence that could lead towards Indo-Pak conflict resolution

At the launching session of Discussion Papers on Jammu and Kashmir: Trade Across the Line of Control (LoC), panellists believed that trade and commerce across the line of control can minimize the tension and it could enhance inter-dependence on each other which could lead towards Pak-India conflict resolution. Panellists were of the view that trade across LoC is the only confidence-building measure (CBM) between Pakistan and India which directly benefits the Kashmiri people. Experts believed that people-to-people contact and trade has contributed positively on both sides of Kashmir. PILDAT organised the session on February 08, 2011 in Islamabad. **Honourable Shahzada Mohyuddin**, MNA, Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, was the Chief Guest at the session. **Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi**, Political & Defence Analyst, **Mr. Arif Kamal**, Former Ambassador, **Ms. Ayesha Saeed**, Faculty Member, NUST Business School, **Mr. Zulfiqar Abbasi**,



(L to R) Mr. Tasneem Noorani, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Mr. Zulfiqar Abbasi at a Roundtable in Islamabad

President J&K Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industries, **Mr. Tasneem Noorani**, former Federal Secretary, Interior and Commerce, **Mr. Jonathan Cohen**, Director Programmes, Conciliation Resource, United Kingdom and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director PILDAT, spoke on the occasion. Parliamentarians, civil society representatives, academicians, intellectuals, diplomats and media representatives were present at the Launching Ceremony.

## Study Visits

### Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation's Study Visit to Canada on Parliament and Budgetary Accountability

PILDAT facilitated **Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation's study visit of Canada from October 23-30, 2010**. The Study Visit was facilitated jointly with the Parliamentary Centre Canada under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project (PPPSP) funded through the Glyn Berry Program of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).

The delegation comprised **Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan**, MNA, Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), NA-96, Gujranwala-II, Punjab); **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Rules of Procedure and Privileges (Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP), NA-64 Sargodha-I, Punjab); **Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah**, MNA, Chairperson National Assembly Standing Committee on Water and Power (Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian (PPPP), NA-214 Nawabshah-II, Sindh); **Khawaja Sohail Mansoor**, MNA, (Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM); NA-240, Karachi-II, Sindh); **Dr. Maqsood Ahmad Malik**, Secretary, Provincial Assembly Punjab; **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director, PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director, PILDAT.

The objective behind the Study Visit was to facilitate an opportunity of interaction and learning on the role of Canadian Parliament and Parliamentary Committees in the Budget Process of Canada so as to strengthen and accelerate the process of reform in enhancing the role of Parliamentary input, scrutiny and oversight of the Budget in Pakistan. The Study Visit provided an opportunity to a multi-party group of National Assembly Standing Committee chairs and members, as well as to the



Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation with Mr. Steve Peters, Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly



A Group photo of Pakistani Parliamentary Delegation study visit to Canada

Provincial Assembly of Punjab, to study first hand and interact with their Canadian counterparts on how the Canadian Parliamentary oversight of budget takes place and what lessons can be drawn for implementation in Pakistan.

Pakistani Delegation was given an Overview of the Parliamentary and Political System in Canada by **Mr. Jean-Paul Ruszkowski**, President and CEO and **Mr. Ivo Balinov**, Senior Expert, Parliamentary Development, of the Parliamentary Centre, Canada. **Mr. Peter Devries**, former official of the Department of Finance, Canada, shared a detailed Overview of the Budget Process in Canada and budget scrutiny by parliamentary committees.

Pakistani delegation had a candid exchange of views with a group of officials from the South Asia Division of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade on a variety of issues including Pakistan's perspectives on Canada's support in democratic development, flood disaster relief and rehabilitation, the support and assistance Pakistan prefers in the form of trade, NATO's role in the war in Afghanistan and its fall-out on Pakistan and the diplomatic and moral support Pakistan expects from the international community and bilateral relations on issue of Kashmir and relations with India, etc. Pakistani delegation was joined by **Mr. Greg Giokas**, Director, South Asia Division, **Mr. Jane Bartlett**, Acting Deputy Director, South Asia Division, **Mr. Martin Cooke**, Senior Analyst, Democracy, Commonwealth, and Francophonie Division, **Mr. Chris Triggs**, Desk Officer, South Asia Division and **Mr. Matt Robertson**, Desk Officer, South Asia Division.

The High Commissioner of Pakistan to Canada **Mian Gul Akbar Zeb** invited the Pakistani delegation at his residence for supper and interaction. **Senator Salma Ataullahjan**, the Canadian Senator of Pakistani origin, was also part of the group the Pakistani delegation interacted with. Pakistan

Parliamentary Delegation interacted with the chairs and members of the various Canadian Parliamentary Standing Committees to discuss the Canadian committees' powers and role of estimates and budget scrutiny and oversight. Pakistan delegation met with the Standing Committee of the Canadian House of Commons on Natural Resources. The delegation was greeted by the Chair **Mr. Leon Benoit** who was joined by other committee members including **Mr. Scott Andrews, Mr. Alan Tonks, Mr. Nathan Cullen**. As the counterpart committee of the Pakistan's National Assembly Standing Committee on Water and Power whose chair **Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah**, MNA was also part of the delegation, the two sides discussed the range of issues the two committees deal with and the scrutiny and oversight mechanisms in view of committees' work.

In a meeting with the Canadian Parliament's Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs with the chairman **Mr. Joe Preston**, the Vice Chair **Ms. Yasmin Ratansi** and **Mr. Louis Plamondon**, senior member of the committee, the two sides engaged on the specific rules that give the powers to the Canadian committees to review budgetary estimates and approve those. A wider discussion on how best to write workable rules for the functioning of a Parliament to represent the electorate's aspirations also ensued and the delegates appreciated on both sides the candidness and practicality of the Parliamentarians exchanges not only for a greater learning and understanding but also to develop deeper relationship between the two countries and its people.

The Canadian Standing Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament was represented by the chair **Senator Percy Downe** and joined by members **Ms. Carole Hughes** and **Mr. Gerard Asselin**. Pakistan delegation asked questions about the purview of the committee and its role in overseeing the Parliamentary Budget Officer in Canada in addition to the advice the committee provides to the Speaker of the House of Commons and Speaker of the Canadian Senate.



Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation with Mr. David P C Price



Pakistan Parliamentary Delegation presents a momento to Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons, Mr. Peter Milliken in Ottawa

The Pakistan Parliamentary delegation called on the Honourable Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons **Mr. Peter Milliken** as on October 28, 2010 in Ottawa. Honourable Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons welcomed the Pakistani delegates and shared his sorrow at the catastrophic floods in Pakistan. The delegation shared with Speaker Milliken the key points of interaction and learning during the 3-day interactions with various committees at the Hill and underscored that it is taking with it the Canadian Parliamentary spirit of making the Parliament work in addition to the tradition and practices of Parliamentary scrutiny and role in formulation of the budget, scrutiny of the departmental estimates and oversight by the Canadian Parliamentary Committees.

The delegation interacted in detail with the office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer representatives **Mr. Sahir Khan**, Director General Expenditure and Revenue Analysis and **Mr. Mostafa Askari**, Director General Economic and Fiscal Analysis, alongside **Mr. James Kalwarowsky**, Senior Director International Affairs, Trade and Finance of the Parliament Library. The interaction involved around the role of the PBO and how it has enhanced the work of Canadian Parliament in the executive's budget scrutiny and how the PBO's role is different from that of the Parliament's Library. The delegation was briefed in detail about the process of developing and approving the Canadian Parliament's internal budget by **Ms. Clair Kennedy**, Chief Financial Officer, House of Commons, Canada. The delegation engaged in an in-depth discussion on the processes the House of Commons adopts in preparing its plans and budgets, a responsibility that rests with the National Assembly's Finance Committee in Pakistan. The delegation was hosted to a luncheon by **Mr. Devinder Shory**, the Indian-origin Canadian MP from Calgary Northeast. Mr. Shory, a member of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources, had graciously invited the delegation as a hospitable gesture due to the mutual affinity of belonging to the South Asian region. **Mr. David C.**

**Price**, former Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Defence and member of the Canadian Association of former Parliamentarians, discussed in detail with the delegation the powers and functions of the Canadian Parliament on Defence Oversight and the scrutiny carried out by the Standing Committee on Defence.

Pakistan Parliamentary delegation called on the Honourable Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly **Mr. Steve Peters** on October 29, 2010. The energetic and lively Honourable Speaker of the Ontario Legislature welcomed Pakistani delegates and discussed in detail the working of the Ontario Legislature, its members, and its committees and how the demarcation of roles exists between the federal and provincial legislature and with the local governments. The delegation also met with the chair of the Ontario Finance and Economic Affairs Committee and discussed in detail the role of the Committee in holding pre-budget hearings, interaction with the public and scrutiny and oversight of the provincial budget. Pakistan delegation was acknowledged and welcomed inside the House by the Honourable Speaker as the members clapped on while the delegation viewed the proceedings of the House, especially the Question Hour, from the Speaker's Gallery.

The delegation interacted on the Committee structure and functions with the clerks of the Committee branch including **Mr. Douglas Arnott**, Deputy Clerk of Committees and Clerk of the Standing Committee on Estimates; **Mr. Trevor Day**, Clerk of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and **Ms. Sylwia Przewdziecki**, Clerk of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. The delegation also held a detailed interaction with the Deputy Clerk of the Ontario Legislature on various processes, budget of the legislature, etc.

As a concluding part of its visit, delegation held meetings



A Group photo of Pakistan Delegation with Mr. Leon Benoit, Chairman, Standing Committee of the Canadian House of Commons on Natural Resources



A Group photo of Pakistani Parliamentary Delegation to Canada

with the Ontario Ministry of Finance officials **Mr. Mashood Mirza**, **Ms. Susan Rhodes**, **Mr. Sasa Jurak** and **Mr. Ted Griffith** to discuss the process of budget formulation and its various stages. The chair of the delegation Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan held a concluding session with the delegation discussing the key lessons learnt and the areas of follow-up for the Pakistan delegation upon its return in Pakistan. Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, PILDAT Executive Director thanked the chair and members of the delegation for their participation, interest and in-depth interactions during the study visit.

#### Youth Parliament Pakistan Study Visit to UK

PILDAT facilitated a study visit of Youth Parliament of Pakistan to UK from July 04-07, 2010. Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan who were part of the delegation to UK included **Mr. Lehrasip Hayat**, YP23-PUNJAB05; Youth Leader of Opposition; **Syed Manzoor Shah**, YP04-BALUCHISTAN03; Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence; **Mr. Hannan Ali Abbasi**, YP15-NWFP04; former Youth Minister for Information; **Ms. Anam Javed Cheema**, YP29-PUNJAB11; Chairperson Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information; **Ms. Zil-e-Huma**, YP31-PUNJAB13; General Secretary, Youth Parliament Green Party; **Ms. Madeeha Shahid Rana**, YP34-PUNJAB16; Former Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs; **Mr. Bilal Nasir**, YP44-SINDH07; Youth Shadow Minister for Information and **Mr. Imtiaz Ali**, YP46-SINDH09; Chief Whip, Youth Parliament Green Party.

The Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation during a week-long study visit, met and interacted with the Conservative Future, the youth movement of the **Conservative Party**, UK; **British Youth Council**, a youth related organization led by young people, for young people, aged 25 and under, across UK and **UK Youth Parliament**, that has over 500 elected MYPs (Members of Youth Parliament) and Deputy MYPs who represent both young men and women, including young people from a variety of ethnic

backgrounds, and with physical and learning disabilities in UK. The delegation had an interaction with the representatives of the Conservative Future, the youth movement of the British Conservative Party, for members aged up to 30 years old. The objective of the meeting was to understand the role and function of the Youth Wing within the party, to understand how Students Unions and Students' Chapters of the work and interact, why Youth Wings of the party are considered important and the linkages youth Wings have in the party's decision-making and policy forums, etc.

The delegation also met with the representatives of the British Youth Council, a 63 year old registered charity formed after the World War II. BYC connects with their community of member organizations and network of Local Youth Council to empower young people, to have a say and be heard. The Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation discussed the functions of the British Youth Council, especially in relation to youth's involvement in politics and democracy in UK and how the British Youth Council interacts with the outside world, especially youth groups.

Youth Parliament delegation also visited the offices of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, The Chatham House, the Greater London Authority as well as the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In a detailed interaction at the Chatham House, the leading British think tank, the youth Parliament delegation not only discussed the structure, functions and the spread of various research and study initiatives of the Chatham House but also engaged in a conversation about the existing British policies towards Pakistan, the South Asian region and the world. The Youth Parliament delegation met with the Chatham House Communications Director **Mr. Keith Burnet** and **Ms. Rosheen Kabraji**, the Asia Programme Coordinator to understand how the Chatham House works, the role it plays in the British political system, its current work in South Asia, how does the Chatham House maintain its



Youth Parliament delegation interacting with the British Youth Council.



Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation with the Jang Group and Geo TV Officials in London

independence and an interaction about the policy changes brought in after the formation of the new coalition government in the UK, etc.

The Youth Parliament delegation visited the Greater London Authority and held a detailed meeting and interaction with the Deputy Mayor of London, **Mr. Richard Barnes**. In a frank and candid conversation, while the Youth Parliament delegation asked questions about the role of the GLA in managing the affairs of London, Mr. Barnes engaged in a conversation with the delegates on their views and perceptions as Pakistani youth in many different areas. The objective of the delegation's work was to understand the role of the local government, especially in a city like London, with that of other branches of the Government and the challenges of managing a metropolitan like London. The delegation also discussed the approach of the GLA especially towards engaging the youth of London.

The delegation visited the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and was briefed by the role and work of the FCO, especially the Pakistan desk, by **Mr. Ben Stride**, Desk Officer for Pakistan. The delegates were also given a brief tour of the historical FCO building and admired the attention to detail and design and architecture of the historical building.

The Youth Parliament Pakistan spent an entire day at the UK Parliament to understand the British Parliamentary System and interact with Muslim origin members of the Parliament for an exchange of views. The delegation attended a briefing of the welcome and explanation of the work and activities of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) UK in the CPA room by **Mr. Andrew Tuggey**, **Secretary**, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK. He briefed the delegation on the working of the CPA branch and the working of the UK Parliament, with special emphasis on the standards, ethics, privileges and the Committee System. He also explained the workings of

other branches of CPA and their relationship and working with the Parliament. **Mr. Liam Laurence Smyth**, Clerk of the Journals and having a 33 year association with UK Parliament further briefed delegation on the rules and procedures of the Parliament and gave an introduction on the Prime Minister Question and Answers Session. The delegation then witnessed the PM's Q&A session in the House of Commons. The questions were mostly related to the ways and means and the trade offs for England to resist and revive from the financial crisis.

Youth Parliament Pakistan also met Pakistani origin UK Members of the Parliament which included **Lord Ahmed, Mr. Sajid Javid, Ms. Yasmin Qureshi, Mr. Rehman Chisti and Mr. Anas Sarwar**. The discussions revolved around the opportunities in British politics for a Pakistani-origin British Muslim and the state of relationship of the Pakistani Diaspora with the British society. The members of the Youth Parliament enquired about the high number of rejections to the Pakistani's for UK visas and the reason for excessive tuition fees for international students and the decreasing standards of education in UK. UK members of Parliament reiterated the fact that Pakistan is an exceptional country full of natural resources and talented youth, urging the MYPs' to work harder for the prosperity of their country.

The delegation also visited the House of Lords and the House of Commons to witness the proceedings. The Delegation visited the Carbon Gym in the Portcullis House where the members were educated about the complexities of production of energy, urging the use of energy savers. Members also visited the Supreme Court and were given an overview and background of the institution, including the tour of the building and all its court rooms. Delegation also witnessed the proceedings of the Supreme Court.

MYPs were also briefed on the UK Judicial System by **Ms. Hannah Stewart**, Legal Specialist to the Justice



A Group Photo of the Memearbs of Youth Parliament with Pakistani origin UK Member of Parliaments in London



Youth Parliament Pakistan with the Representatives of Chatham House, UK

Committee in the Westminster Hall. She explained the difference between Scottish and the English Justice systems. She also outlined shifts in legal structures with regards to UK's relationship with the European Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights.

Members of the Youth Parliament delegation also appeared on the BBC World News and were interviewed at the BBC World Service Radio by **Ms. Mishal Husain** and **Mr. Owen Bennett Jones** respectively. In an interaction with **Ms. Mishal Husain** at the Impact Asia segment at the BBC World News, **Mr. Lehrasip Hayat**, Leader of the Opposition, Youth Parliament and **Ms. Anam Javed Cheema**, Chairperson, Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information, explained the working of the Youth Parliament Pakistan and how the experience is helping Pakistani youth understand and appreciate the working of crucial democratic institutions such as Parliament as well as help create the culture of structured dialogue and debate amongst youth on policy issues that confront Pakistan.

In a radio conversation with **Mr. Owen Bennett Jones, Syed Manzoor Shah**, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence, Youth Parliament belonging to Balochistan, **Mr. Imtiaz Ali Khuhro**, Chief Whip, Youth Parliament Green Party, belonging to Sindh and **Ms. Anam Javed Cheema**, representing Punjab, discussed in detail their perspectives on issues faced by youth in Pakistan and the youth's perspective on insurgency in Pakistan. Members of the Youth Parliament said that contrary to the Western perception, Pakistan is not an epicentre of global terrorism but a victim of terrorism as Pakistan has suffered the greatest in terms of human cost and suffering as well as the economic, social and military cost. Pakistan needs friends to support its efforts against insurgency; this help is not just military help but help in areas of trade and economic ties mainly, followed by education and social sector development and enhancement.

Members of the Youth Parliament delegation also visited the offices of the Jang Group and Geo in London upon the invitation of the Jang Group. The delegation shared their experiences of the Study Visit with the key team of the Jang and Geo Group and answered questions about the objective of the Youth Parliament visit to UK as well as the mandate and role of the Youth Parliament Pakistan. The delegation that visited the offices upon the invitation of **Mr. Baseem Baig Chughtai**, Director Operations International Division, also met with **Mr. Murtaza Ali Shah**, Assistant Editor, and other senior colleagues at the Jang offices.

The Youth Parliament Pakistan held detailed conversations with the Young Muslim Advisory Group (YMAG), the National Union for Pakistani Students and Alumni (NUPSA), and the City Circle, London. **Mr. Phil Long**, YMAG Youth Worker explained that YMAG is made up of 21 young Muslims from around England and has representatives in each of the 9 regions and exists to advise the Government and empower young Muslims by acting as a clear channel for Government to communicate to young Muslims and for young Muslims to communicate to Government. During the discussion, the Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation engaged in an interaction on youth's perspectives on the issues faced by Pakistan today and the role that youth can play in elimination of such problems. Pakistan delegation and the YMAG officials discussed partnership and the possibility of future association between the two organizations for a greater liaison and interaction between the Youth in UK and Pakistan. Discussions also included the nature of community relations and cohesion specially of the British Muslim community in Britain and its challenges.

The meeting with the National Union for Pakistani Students and Alumni that took place at the Imperial College, London premises, revolved around the Pakistani students' perceptions of the British society and the interaction



Ms. Hannah Stewart Legal Specialist to the Justice Committee with the Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation



Members of the Youth Parliament presenting a memento to YMAG representatives

between youth of Pakistani origin and the British society. NUPSA is Pakistani Student Community that represents Pakistan Youth across United Kingdom. **Mr. Ammar Rauf, Vice President** and **Mr. Naeem ur Rehman, former Vice President, NUPSA**, explained the structure of their union and the research projects that they had initiated, amongst other projects, which help bridge the gap between the Pakistani Students and the English community here in the UK. The discussion also included the issues of second generation Pakistani British Youth and the challenges, opportunities and issues faced by the Pakistani British Youth in UK.

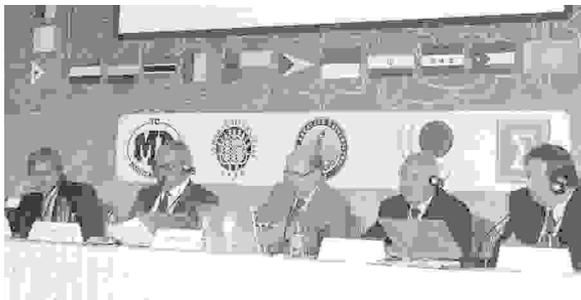
The Youth Parliament delegation also met the City Circle, London, an organization that works to promote development of distinct Muslim identity in UK. **Mr. Sid Djerfi**, a trustee of the organization, explained that the City Circle seeks to assist the process of community cohesion and integration by building bilateral strategic alliances between Muslim and the non-Muslim communities and harness and channel the skills and resources of Muslim professionals into practical projects. The discussion were mainly on understanding the British Muslims in UK and the undercurrents of this relationship, with special emphasis on the way the British Muslims look at the policies and Democracy in UK.

The Youth Parliament Pakistan delegation visited constituency of **Mr. Malcolm Wicks**, MP in Croydon on Friday 09, 2011. Youth delegation that was received in the Croydon Town Hall by **Mr. Wicks**, discussed in detail the constituency relations of the MP and the demarcation of roles between the local government and the MP at the constituency level. Delegates asked questions about the role as well as involvement of the MP in the constituency. The delegation also met with **Mayor Councillor Avril Slipper** and Mayor's Consort **Mr. Harry Slipper**.

### 400 Parliamentarians, Ministers and Experts from 32 Countries meet in Turkey to debate Parliament's Role in the Budget Process

PILDAT Executive Director Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, alongside Senator Ishaq Dar (Punjab, PML-N) joined about 400 Parliamentarians, Ministers, Parliamentary Staff and Experts from 32 member countries of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the European Union in their deliberations on the changing role of Parliaments in the Budget Process on September 24, 2010 in Turkey. The international symposium was organized by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey in cooperation with the Parliamentary Union of the member states of the OIC (PUIC) and the European Union (EU) with Turkey truly acting as the bridge between the East and the West. The Symposium was opened on September 23 by the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, **Mr. Mehmet Ali Sahin**.

A comparative study of the Parliamentary Budget Processes in the countries whose cases were presented at the Symposium indicated that almost all countries give a substantial role to the parliamentary committees in their budget process unlike Pakistan where the parliamentary committees in National Assembly have no formal role in the budget process. It also transpired that the period of parliamentary budget process in most of the countries is much longer than in Pakistan. Turkey has a parliamentary budget process of 75 days out of which the Plan and Budget Committee of the Turkish Parliament discusses the budget for 55 days while the full Grand National Assembly debates the budget for 20 days before passing it. A Budget Directorate works within the Turkish Parliament to support the Plan and Budget Committee in the analysis and discussion on the Budget. In comparison, Pakistan's National Assembly debated the budget for 11 days on the average during the last 10 budget sessions. Pakistanis



The Changing Role of Parliaments in the Budget Process: Experiences of PUIC Countries and EU Member States



(L to R) Mr. Baligh ur Rehman, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, Mr. Zaigham Uddin Azam, Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, Mir Amer Ali Khan Magsi, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Ms. Aasiya Riaz in South Africa

National Assembly has no Budget Office to assist the Parliamentarians in the budget debate.

### Visit by Pakistan Delegation to Republic of South Africa

PILDAT, in collaboration with Institute for Democracy in Africa (IDASA), organised a Study visit of Parliamentarians and former senior Military personnel to Republic of South Africa from May 21 - 26, 2011. **The purpose of the visit was to study and understand the challenges faced by South Africa in its democratisation and the civil-military Relations in South Africa.**

The Pakistan Delegation included **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan (NA-24, D.I.Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, PPP), **Mir Amer Ali Khan Magsi**, MNA, Member National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence (NA-206 Larkana-III, Sindh, PPP), **Mr. Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman**, MNA (NA-185, Bahawalpur-III, Punjab, PML-N), **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, Former Governor Sindh; former Interior Minister, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, Executive Director, PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director-PILDAT.

Apart from various interactions at IDASA relating to the political history, Parliamentary system and Parliamentary reform efforts and initiatives relating to Parliamentary oversight of defence and national security and the challenges of civil-military relations, the delegation also met with the members of Parliament and Parliament staff to understand the South African Parliament and its working. The Pakistani delegation also held meetings with the Members, Researcher and Secretary of the Joint Standing Committee on Defence and discussed the Parliamentary oversight of Defence in South Africa. They also met with Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA) and Manager of PIMS Budget Unit and

discussed structure & functioning of local government system of South Africa and its demarcation vis-à-vis National and Provincial structures of governance.

In Johannesburg, the Pakistan Delegation visited the offices of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission and discussed in detail the background & formation of TRC South Africa and its role mandate and work. The delegates discussed in detail the major milestones covered by the TRC during its tenure and how it went about doing that. The delegation was also briefed about how the South African Department of Justice and Constitutional Development carries out the work of TRC.

### Pakistan Fellowship Programme

PILDAT together with the American Council for Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) undertook a series of educational exchanges between the US and Pakistan during the reporting period. The educational exchanges are uniquely designed to introduce young political leaders to policy and decision-making processes and political and electoral dynamics. Programmes provided a forum for oftentimes divergent groups to explore common concerns and points of difference. Each program included visits to several cities highlighting the cultural, geographic, economic, and political diversity of the US.

The first delegation comprised **Sardar Athar Hassan Khan Gorchani**, MPA, PPP; PP-248 (Rajapur-II, Punjab), **Mr. Muhammad Taimur Khan**, MPA, ANP; PF-20 (Charsadda-4, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Mr. Zahoor Ahmed Buledi**, MPA, Independent; PB 49 (Kech II, Blochistan) and **Ms. Heer Soho**, MPA, MQM; Reserved Seat (PSW-149, Sindh) visited US from September 11, 2010 to October 11, 2010.

The Second Delegation visited US from October 13, 2010



A Group photo of Pakistan Delegation to US



Dr. Muhammad Farooq Sattar with ACYPL Delegation

to November 11, 2010 comprised **Aneela Akhtar Chaudhry**, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz); W-320, Punjab, **Ms. Nazma Jawad Hashmi**, MPA, Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian (PPPP), W-334, Punjab, **Ms. Shamsa Gohar**, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz); W-319, Punjab, **Ms. Shazia Tehmas Khan**, Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP); Women Reserved Seat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Ms. Nusrat Bano Abbasi**, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League (Functional); PSW-159, Sindh, **Ms. Fauzia Shaheen**, Director Programs, Innovative Development Organization (IDO), **Ms. Asma Mohsin**, Program Officer, Democracy Reporting International and **Ms. Wajiha Kanwal**, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

The Third delegation of the Pakistan fellowship program visited US from **November 13-24, 2010** comprised **Mr. Asif Saeed**, MPA, PML-N, Punjab, **Ms. Sassui Palijo**, MPA, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Sindh, **Mr. Kamran Yousaf**, Reporter, Dawn News TV, Punjab, **Mr. Makhdoom Muhammad Irtaza Hashmi**, MPA, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Punjab, **Mr. Sardar Shamoonyar Khan**, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Mr. Muhammad Sharrayar Khan Mahar**, MPA, PML, Sindh, **Mr. Muhammad Rashid Mafzool Zaka**, Legislative Capacity Advisor, PIPS / USAID Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Project.

The Final Delegation visited US from **January 11, 2011 to February 9, 2011** included **Mr. Imran Khalid Butt**, MPA, Punjab, PML, **Mr. Khurram Ijaz**, MPA, Punjab, Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N), **Mr. Shahzad Rasool Khan**, MPA, Punjab, PPP, **Mr. Imran Ali Laghari**, MPA, Sindh, PPPP, **Ms. Humera Alwani**, MPA, Sindh, PPPP, **Mr. Khaliq-ur-Rehman**, Politician, Pakistan Muslim League (PML), (Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa).





## Appreciations

## Notes of Appreciation

PILDAT has received several notes of appreciation and encouragement from friends and stakeholders over the years. Excerpts from some of these notes, received during the period of this Annual Report, are shared below:

*I appreciate PILDAT's efforts, Spirit and acknowledge this gesture with thanks."*

**General Ashfaq Pervez Kayani**, Chief of Army Staff, Pakistan

*"PILDAT's Publication on Parliamentary Oversight of Security Sector is indeed, a very thoughtful gesture, which I sincerely acknowledge. I have had the opportunity of glancing through the contents and am impressed by the comprehensive knowledge provided on the issues of our political system regarding civil – military relations in Pakistan. The efforts of PILDAT are indeed worth appreciating."*

**Rao Qamar Suleman**, Air Chief Marshal, NI (M), S Bt.

*"The PILDAT's annual review of the State of Democracy & Parliament in Pakistan identifies good points in the Do's and don'ts of "Understanding Corporate Interests of the Armed Forces" These are very informative and I would like to compliment PILDAT on these efforts."*

**Liaqat Baloch, Secretary**, General Jamaat-e-Islami

*"I appreciate PILDAT efforts that would indeed help strengthen the democratic system in our beloved country through addressing the weaknesses pointed out in its reports. Please keep this noble task up."*

**Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati**, Minister of Science & Technology

*"We are extremely thankful to PILDAT for sharing with us its publication on Parliamentary oversight of Security Sector in Pakistan. And we look forward to have meaningful intellectual interaction between PILDAT and the PCS Department of National Defence University (NDU)."*

**Dr. Abdur Rehman**, In Charge Department of Peace and Conflict Studies (PCS), National Defence University, Islamabad

*"I believe that PILDAT is providing a very valuable service to our society through its information, dissemination, monitoring and other activities related to parliamentary governance in Pakistan. I have personally benefited a lot from your organization's work and look forward to continuing my interaction with PILDAT in the future."*

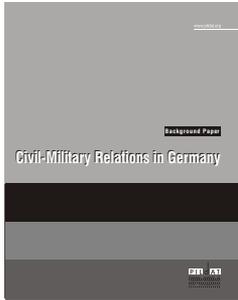
**Muhammad Yar Hiraj**, Deputy Parliamentary Leader, PML-Q



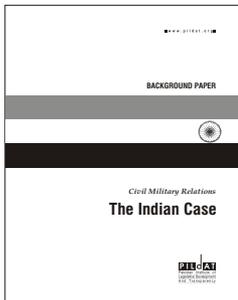
## Publications



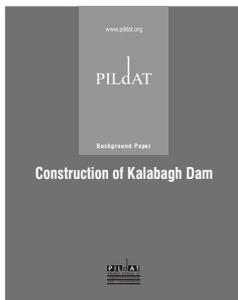
## BACKGROUND PAPERS



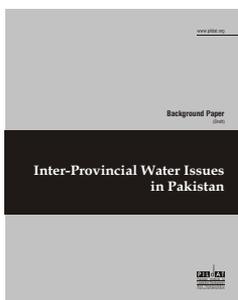
Background Paper: ***Civil-Military Relations in Germany***, January 2011, English: 15 Pages. Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung-FES



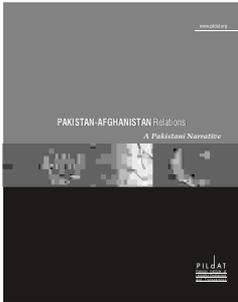
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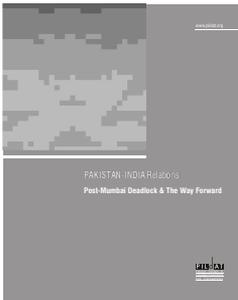
Background Paper: ***Construction of Kalabagh Dam***, March 2011, English: 20 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



Background Paper: ***Inter-Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan***, January 2011, English: 23 Pages. Sindhi: 27 Pages. Urdu: 28 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



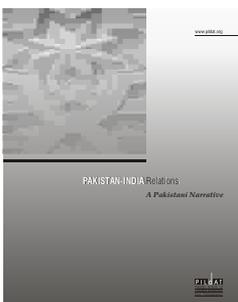
Background Paper: ***Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations: A Pakistani Narrative***, March 2011, English: 16 Pages. Pashto: 19 Pages. Urdu: 19 Pages. Dari: 19 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



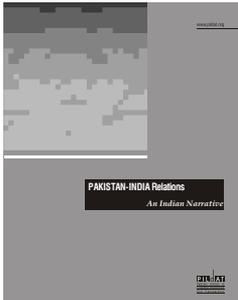
Background Paper: ***Pakistan-India Relation: Post-Mumbai Deadlock and the Way Forward***, December 2010, English: 16 Pages. Supported by British High Commission, Islamabad



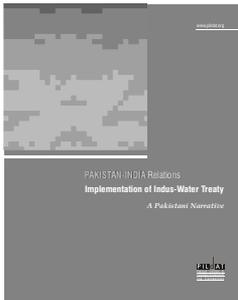
Background Paper: ***Pakistan-India Relations Old Problems New Initiatives***, August 2011, English: 28 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



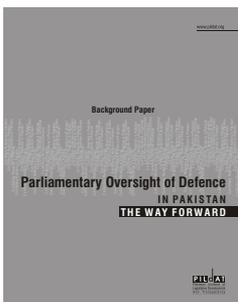
Background Paper: ***Pakistan-India Relations: A Pakistani Narrative***, December 2010, English: 16 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



Background Paper: ***Pakistan-India Relations: An Indian Narrative***, January 2011, English: 12 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



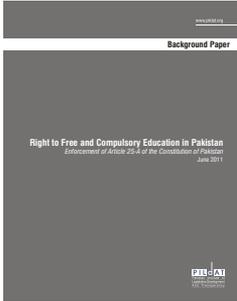
Background Paper: ***Pakistan-India Relations: Implementations of Indus Water Treaty***, December 2010, English: 16 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



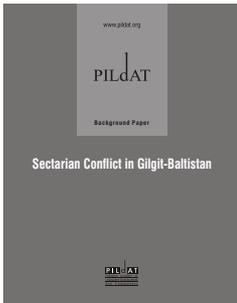
Background Paper: ***Parliamentary Oversight of Defence in Pakistan, The Way Forward***, September 2010, English: 15 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



Background Paper: ***Parliamentary Oversight of Security Sector in Pakistan***, October 2010, English: 32 Pages. Supported by the United States Institute of Peace (USIP)



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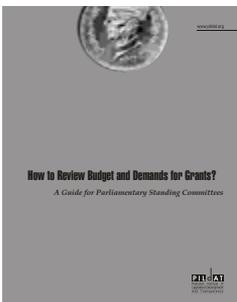


Background Paper: ***Sectarian Conflict in Gilgit-Baltistan***, May 2011, English: 20 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad

## BRIEFING PAPERS



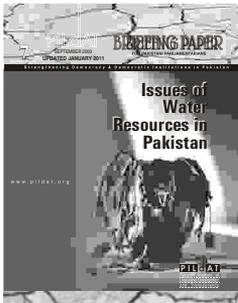
Briefing Paper: ***18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment and Devolution of Labour Ministry***, June 2011, English: 24 Pages. Supported by the American Centre for International Labor Solidarity



Briefing Paper: ***How to Review Budget and Demands for Grants?*** March 2011, English: 20 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



Briefing Paper: ***Impact of the 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment on Federation-Provinces Relations***, July 2010, English: 16 Pages. Urdu: 15 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT

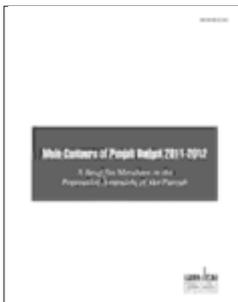


Briefing Paper: ***Issues of Water Resource in Pakistan***, Updated: January 2011, English: 60 Pages. Urdu: 62 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad

## BRIEFS

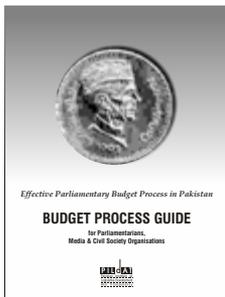


A Brief for Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab: ***Main Contours of Punjab Budget 2011-2012***; June 2011, English: 11 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT

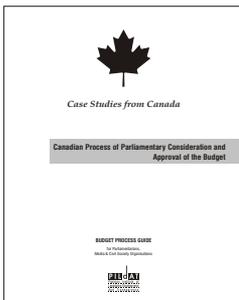


A Brief for Parliamentarians: ***Main Contours of Federal Budget 2011-2012***, June 2011, English: 12 Pages. Urdu: 15 Pages. Supported by the UK's Department for International Development, DFID

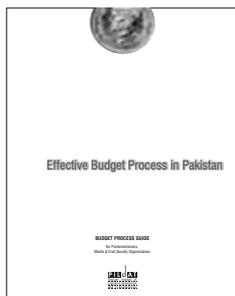
## BUDGET PROCESS GUIDE



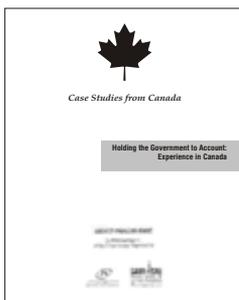
Budget Process Guide: **Effective Parliamentary Budget Process in Pakistan** for Parliamentarians, Media & Civil Society Organisations, December 2010, English: 8 Papers. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



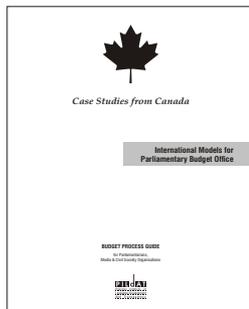
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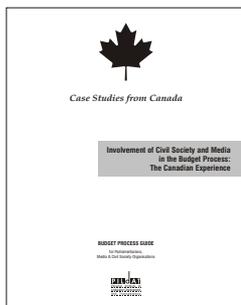
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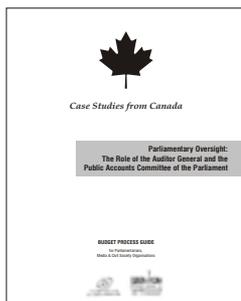
Case Studies from Canada: **Holding the Government to Account: Experience in Canada**, December 2010, English: 5 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



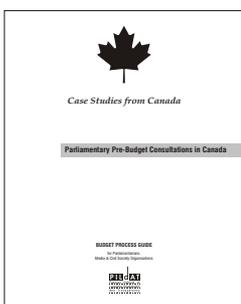
Case Studies from Canada: ***International Models for Parliamentary Budget Office***, December 2010, English: 8 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



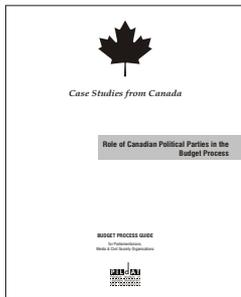
Case Studies from Canada: ***Involvement of Civil Society and Media in the Budget Process: The Canadian Experience***, December 2010, English: 6 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



Case Studies from Canada: ***Parliamentary Oversight: The Role of the Auditor General and the Public accounts Committee of the Parliament***, December 2010, English: 3 Pages. Urdu: 126 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT

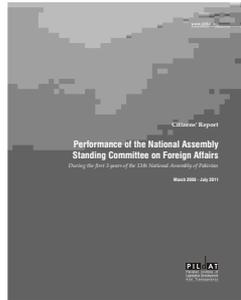


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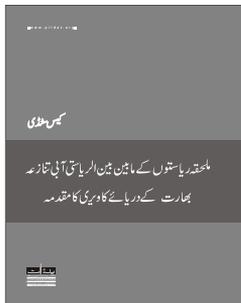
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**CITIZENS' REPORT**

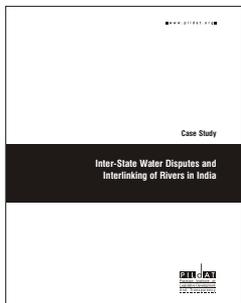


Citizen Report: **Performance of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs** July 2011, English: 20 Pages.

**CASE STUDIES**

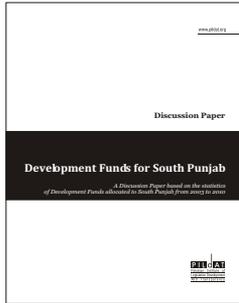


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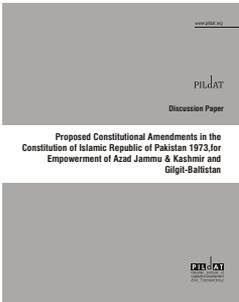


Case Study: **Inter-State Water Disputes and Interlinking of Rivers in India**, March 2011, English: 14 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad

## DISCUSSION PAPER

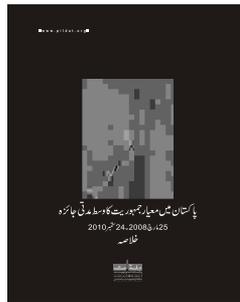


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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

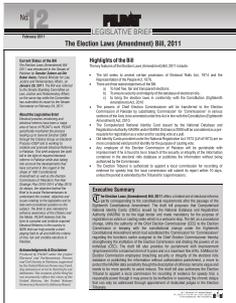


**Summary of Mid-Term Assessment of the Pakistan** March 25, 2008-September 24, 2010, September 2010, English: 32 Pages. Urdu: 27 Pages. Supported by the Foundation For the Future

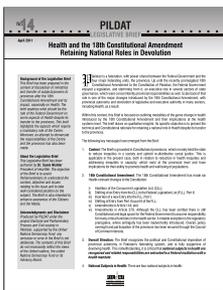
## LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS



Legislative Brief: **Draft Compulsory Immunization Bill, February 2011**, English: 3 Pages. Urdu: 4 Pages. Supported by the UNICEF



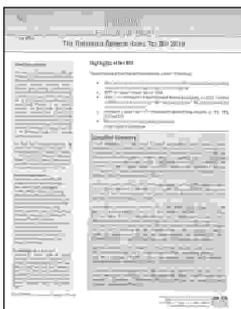
Legislative Brief: **Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011**, February 2011, English: 4 Pages. Urdu: 4 Pages. Supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF)



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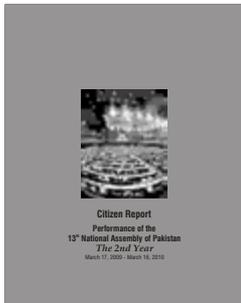


Legislative Brief: **National Commission on Human Rights Bill 2008**, April 2011, Urdu: 4 Pages. English: 4 Pages. Supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF)

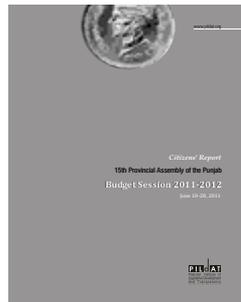


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## REPORTS



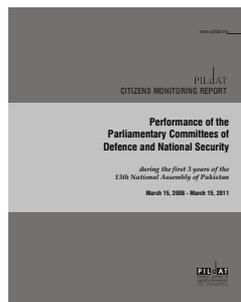
Citizen Report: ***Performance of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Year***, July 2010, English: 28 Pages. Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung-FES



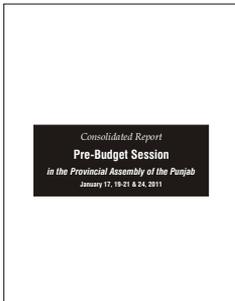
Citizen's Report: ***15<sup>th</sup> Provincial Assembly of the Punjab Budget Session 2011-2012***, July 2011, English: 32 Pages. Urdu: 32 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



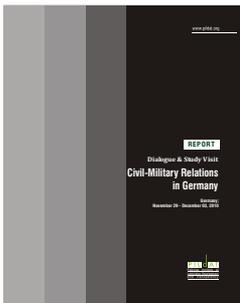
Citizen's Report: ***Performance of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan: Budget Session 2011-2012***, July 2011, English: 20 Pages. Urdu: 24 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



Citizens Monitoring Report: ***Performance of the Parliamentary Committees of Defence and National Security during the First 3 Years of the 13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan***, May 2011, English: 40 Pages.



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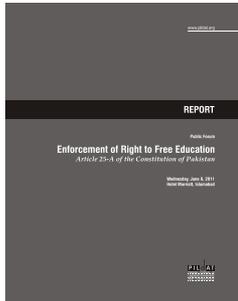
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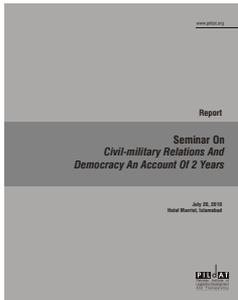
Report of Briefing Session: ***Impact of the 18<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment on Labour Rights***, December 2010, English: 28 Pages. Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung-FES



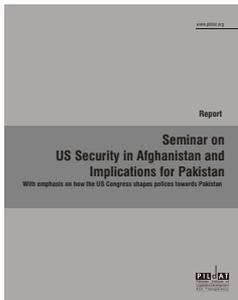
Report of Consultative Session: ***Developing a Curriculum for Legislative Strengthening of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab***, October 2010, English: 15 Pages. Supported under the Parliamentary and Political Party Strengthening Project, funded by Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and implemented jointly by the Parliamentary Centre, Canada and PILDAT



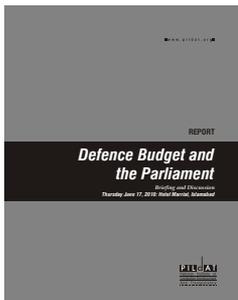
Report of Public Forum: **Enforcement of Right to Free Education: Article 25-A of the Constitution of Pakistan**, June 2011, English: 54 Pages. Urdu: 54 Pages. Supported by the UNESCO



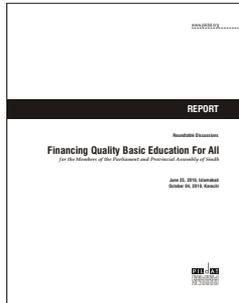
Report of Seminar: **Civil-Military Relations and Democracy: An Account of 2 Years**, September 2010, English: 23 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



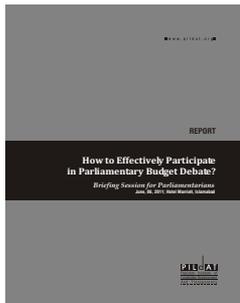
Report of Seminar: **US Security in Afghanistan and Implications for Pakistan**, January 2011, English: 21 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



Report of the Briefing and Discussion: **Defence Budget and the Parliament**, June 2010, English: 28 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



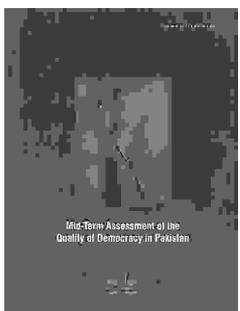
Report of the Roundtable Discussion: **Financing Quality Basic Education for All for the Members of the Parliament and Provincial Assembly of Sindh**, June 2011, English: 24 Pages. Urdu: 24 Pages. Supported by the UNESCO



Report: **How to Effectively Participate in Parliamentary Budget: Briefing Session for Parliamentarians**, June 2011, English: 51 Pages. Supported by the UK's Department for International Development, DFID



Report: **Inter Provincial Water Issues in Pakistan: Final Recommendations Report**, March 2011, English: 24 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad

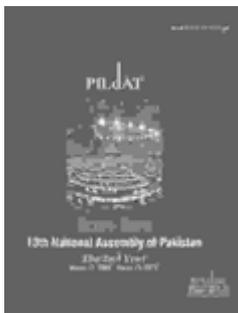


Report: **Mid-Term Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan**; March 25, 2008 – September 24, 2010, September 2010, English: 110 Pages. Supported by the Foundation For the Future



Report: ***Skills Building Workshops Conflict Transformation; Dynamics, Skills, Strategies*** for Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, Sindh and Legislative Assemblies of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, November 2010, English: 51 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad

## SCORE CARD



Score Card on ***13<sup>th</sup> National Assembly of Pakistan: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Year March 17, 2009-March 16, 2010***, July 2010, English: 28 Pages, Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung-FES.

## WORKING PAPER



Working Paper on ***State of Democracy in Pakistan 2008-2010***, December 2010, English: 27 Pages. Supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF)





## **Auditors Report and Financial Statements**

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We have audited the annexed balance sheet of the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency ("the Society") as at June 30, 2011 and the related income and expenditure account, cash flow statement and statement of changes in accumulated fund together with the notes forming part thereof (here-in-after referred to as the "financial statements" for the year then ended).

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to establish and maintain a system of internal control, and prepare and present the financial statements in conformity with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion the financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the Society as at June 30, 2011 and of its surplus and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan.

Date:  
Islamabad

Chartered Accountants  
(Engagement Partner: Mohammad Saleem)

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT JUNE 30, 2011**

	2011	2010
Note	----- (Rupees) -----	
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	5 30,862,646	5,223,486
Intangible assets	6 599,925	-
	31,462,571	5,223,486
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Advances, deposits and prepayments	7 2,284,768	2,591,134
Cash and bank balances	8 44,351,920	54,700,458
Receivable from donors	10 5,600,584	-
	52,237,272	57,291,592
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	9 268,595	628,997
	268,595	628,997
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
	51,968,677	56,662,595
	83,431,248	61,886,081
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Deferred grants	10 -	(14,067,254)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
	83,431,248	47,818,827
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
Accumulated fund	83,431,248	47,818,827
	83,431,248	47,818,827

**CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS**

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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Secretary General

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Chairman

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011**

	Note	2011 (Rupees)	2010
<b>Income</b>	12	135,942,526	93,331,356
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Workshop and seminar expenses	13	64,668,944	30,464,936
Operational support service and administrative expenses	14	35,646,778	26,936,384
Finance costs	15	14,383	57,342
Study tour		-	6,177,736
		<b>100,330,105</b>	<b>63,636,398</b>
Surplus for the year		<b>35,612,421</b>	<b>29,694,958</b>
Opening balance brought forward		<b>47,818,827</b>	<b>18,123,869</b>
<b>Closing balance carried to balance sheet</b>		<b>83,431,248</b>	<b>47,818,827</b>

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statement

*M. Yousuf*

*[Signature]*

Secretary General

*[Signature]*

Chairman

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011**

Note	2011	2010
	(Rupees)	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Surplus for the year	35,612,421	29,694,958
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,200,213	677,181
Amortization of intangible	299,963	39,583
Amortization of deferred grant	(14,067,254)	-
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	83,052	-
Finance costs	14,383	57,342
	(12,469,643)	774,106
	<u>23,142,778</u>	<u>30,469,064</u>
Working capital changes		
(Increase) in advances, deposits and prepayments	(593,522)	(965,197)
(Increase) in receivables from donors	(5,600,584)	-
(Decrease)/increase in accrued expenses and other liabilities	(360,402)	339,017
(Decrease) in advance against services	-	(1,225,766)
	(6,554,508)	(1,851,946)
Cash generated from operations	16,588,270	28,617,118
Finance costs paid	(14,383)	(57,342)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>16,573,887</u>	<u>28,559,776</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(28,178,332)	(3,046,402)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	1,255,907	-
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(26,922,425)</u>	<u>(3,046,402)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Increase in deferred grant	-	2,003,777
Net cash from financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>2,003,777</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(10,348,538)	27,517,151
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	54,700,458	27,183,307
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	<u>8 44,351,920</u>	<u>54,700,458</u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Secretary General

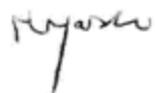



Chairman

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011**

	(Rupees)
Balance as at June 30, 2009	18,123,869
Surplus for the year	29,694,958
Balance as at June 30, 2010	<u>47,818,827</u>
Surplus for the year	35,612,421
<b>Balance as at June 30, 2011</b>	<b><u>83,431,248</u></b>

The annexed notes from 1 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.




**Secretary General**



**Chairman**



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