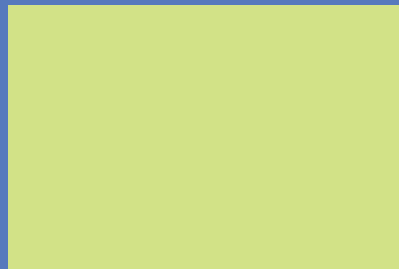


PILdAT

Annual Report

2012-2013



PILdAT

Annual Report

2012-2013



CONTENTS

Foreword

Abbreviations & Acronyms

Basic Information	11
Board of Directors	15
Mission Statement	17
Activities during the Reporting Period	21
Democratic Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan	21
Elections and Electoral Reforms	38
Democracy and Legislative Performance Assessment	46
Legislative Reforms: Strengthening and Enhancing Legislative Budget Process and Capacities	54
Regional Parliamentary Dialogues	60
Polio Awareness among Parliamentarians	65
Youth	74
Publications	83
APPENDICES	98
Appendix A: Auditor's Report and Financial Statements	



Foreword

Foreword

The PILDAT Annual Report 2012-2013 covers the period from **July 01, 2012 to June 30, 2013**. During the year, PILDAT has continued the focus of its activities upon review of the public policies relating to vital national issues.

PILDAT initiative on broadening and deepening public discourse on civilian and Parliamentary oversight on Defence continued during the reporting period. PILDAT worked closely with major political parties on developing well-defined defence and national security policies and to outline those in greater clarity and detail in their respective manifestoes. The PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations approached the new Government to sensitise them on effective democratic oversight on Defence and National Security. The Group's Recommendations on revising Pakistan's National Security structure were sent to the new Prime Minister of Pakistan on June 12, 2013. Mr. Sartaj Aziz, who is also member of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations, was appointed as Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.

Achieving free, fair and transparent elections in Pakistan have been a key area of PILDAT's focus for the past 12 years. In a long standing demand, PILDAT and its Citizen Group on Electoral Process had been asking the ECP to provide public access to disclosure and declarations made by the electoral candidates. PILDAT's long-standing demand of the inclusion of the office of the President in the Draft Code of Conduct was included by the Election Commission of Pakistan. On February 21, 2013 PILDAT welcomed the decision by the ECP to make electoral candidates' data online. In February 2013, PILDAT was also invited by the European Parliament to present its perspective on the prospects of Pakistan's General Election.

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. One of PILDAT's long-standing demands for reform was fulfilled in January 2013 when the National Assembly passed an amendment in its rules to empower Standing Committees to scrutinize their respective Ministry's Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year before the same is sent to the Ministry of Finance for inclusion in the Federal Budget.¹

PILDAT continued with its initiative of assessing democracy in Pakistan, which continued to receive media attention and coverage. PILDAT interacted with leadership of the country on the basis of findings of its evaluations to generate democratic reform.

With the successful conclusion of Chief Minister Bihar's visit to Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore from November 09-16, 2012, PILDAT's vision behind facilitating this visit stood fulfilled. *Peace and Friendship for Good Governance*, as PILDAT envisioned a year earlier and extended invitation to Chief Minister Bihar to visit Pakistan, are the way forward for improving deepening Pak-India relations. While PILDAT has and continues to facilitate a Parliamentary Dialogue between Pakistan and India on issues including Kashmir, Siachin, River Water, Tourism and Trade, among others, we envisaged that beyond the countries' capitals, the conversation must also include experience sharing on good governance and on basic public issues including Education, Health, Poverty Eradication, and Right to Services. After the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan, it was logical that experience sharing on Good Governance must take place at the Provincial level, reservoir of power in Pakistan.

During the period of 2012-2013, PILDAT facilitated a number of Workshops and Briefing Sessions to raise Polio awareness among Parliamentarians. An All Parties Conference (APC) was facilitated by PILDAT which was joined by

1. On an amendment moved by a private member of the then-opposition belonging to the PML-N, *Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan*, MNA, the 13th National Assembly passed the following amendment in its rules on January 29, 2013:
"Amendment in rule 201:- That in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007, in rule 201, after sub-rule (5), the following new sub-rule (6), shall be added, namely:-
 "(6) Each Standing Committee shall scrutinize and suggest amendments, if necessary, and recommend Ministry's Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year before the same is sent to the Ministry of Finance for inclusion in the Federal Budget for the next financial year. Each Ministry shall submit its budgetary proposals relating to Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year to the relevant Standing Committee not later than the 31st January of preceding financial year and the Standing Committee shall make recommendations thereon not later than the 1st March of the preceding financial year:
 Provided that where such recommendations are not made by the 1st March, the same shall be deemed to have been endorsed by the Standing Committee."

13 political parties of Pakistan, who considered Polio as a national security threat. Separate Briefing Sessions with major political parties of Pakistan were also held to ensure that Polio Eradication be included in every political party's manifesto. As a result of the advocacy meetings, parties including the PML-N, the PPP, the PTI, the MQM, the PML-F, and the QWP addressed polio eradication as a critical plank of their pledges on health.

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
President

Islamabad
July 2013

Abbreviations & Acronyms

AJK	Azad Jammu Kashmir
AMPS	American Muslim Studies Program
APNS	All Pakistan Newspaper Society
ANP	Awami National Party
APC	All Parties Conference
BJD	Biju Janata Dal
BJP	Bharatiya Janata Party
BNP-A	Balochistan National Party (Awami)
CEC	Chief Election Commissioner
CGEP	Citizens Group on Electoral Process in Pakistan
CMR	Civil-Military Relations
CNIC	Computerized National Identification Card
COAS	Chief of Army Staff
CPNE	Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors
DAG	Democracy Assessment Group
DCC	Defence Committee of the Cabinet
DGCMR	Dialogue Group in Civil Military Relations
DPEC	District Polio Eradication Committee
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
EU	European Union
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
INC	Indian National Congress
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
ISPR	Inter Services Public Relations
JDU	Jannata Dal United
JUI-F	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazlur Rehman)
JUI-S	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Samiul Haq)
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
MEP	Member European Parliament
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
NADRA	National Data Base and Registration Authority
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCP	Nationalist Congress Party
NESPAK	National Engineering Services of Pakistan
NFC	National Finance Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
LEA	Law Enforcement Agencies
PAC	Public Accounts Committee
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian
PSC	Provincial Steering Committee
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf
QWP	Quami Watan Party
SC	Supreme Court
UNICEF	United Nation Children's Emergency Fund
WHO	World Health Organisation
WJ	Wolesi Jirga
YP	Youth Parliament
YPF	Young Parliamentarians Forum

Basic Information

Name of the Organization

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency – PILDAT

E-mail

info@pildat.org

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

Faysal Bank Pvt. Ltd and Bank Alfalah Pvt. Ltd



Board of Directors



Sardar M Yusuf Khan Passes Away

Former Chairman of the PILDAT Board of Directors, Sardar M. Yusuf Khan, passed away on December 20, 2012. The Management, Board of Directors and the entire Team of PILDAT mourn the death of Sardar M. Yusuf Khan, the first Chairman of PILDAT. He is fondly remembered by the PILDAT family for his humility, leadership, guidance and support. May Almighty Allah bless his soul and give his loved ones the strength to bear this loss.

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. 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 Counsellor 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, Abbottabad 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, PhD, 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 Centre. Sania Nishtar holds a Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of



London and a Ph.D.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob

Secretary General

The founder, President 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.

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

Democratic Civil Military Relations in Pakistan

Working to establish a constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan is an important initiative of PILDAT, one of its continuing areas of focus over the years. Recognising the importance of civil-military relations for the future of democracy in Pakistan, 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, democratisation, stability and security. While it has worked to improve civil-military relations in Pakistan, PILDAT has used its approach on the issue to work with Parliament and relevant Parliamentary Committees in Pakistan to build their capacities to institute democratic civil and democratic control on defence and security forces in Pakistan.

Continuing dialogue process on understanding and improving Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan, PILDAT has produced and disseminated nearly 67 papers, case studies, Issue papers, briefing papers, policy papers and reports on issues relating to civil-military relations in Pakistan.

To our credit, the pioneering work on promoting Democratic Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan has helped initiate a public debate on an issue considered taboo in Pakistan earlier. PILDAT's research and fact-based, responsible and non-sensational discourse on the issue in the public domain has helped shape citizens' opinion on the national need to establish a primacy of the elected civil and democratic governments in national security, defence and all other related spheres.

On critical questions, PILDAT has taken a firm public position. In July 2006, PILDAT was the only indigenous organisation, which together with a group of eminent Pakistanis known as our Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations, asked the then-Military Chief and President, at the pinnacle of his power, to resign from one post. The letter resulted in immense national and international coverage and is part of the history of Pakistan as a first step of public demand leading to the dictator's ouster from power in 2008.

A number of policy reforms on democratic civil-military relations, institutionalisation of Pakistan's decision-making structure on national security and

defence, Parliamentary oversight of national security, defence and intelligence, etc. are offered from time to time under this platform by PILDAT. Our work on facilitating key reform has also resulted in enhancing the need for change in policies in successive Parliaments and Governments. Policy changes, such as changing the mode of a one-liner defence budget to the provision of regionally and internationally comparable details of defence budget to the Parliament, have also occurred as a result of PILDAT's efforts.

PILDAT's work with political parties has helped parties in greater articulation of their policies on national security, defence and democratic civil-military relations over the years.

A favourable public opinion and media atmosphere created largely through this initiative has created a conducive environment for initiatives by political class for reforms.

PILDAT has developed and made available a vast and respectable body of knowledge on the issue through regional and international comparative perspectives and studies.

PILDAT's non-partisan, independent and national approach has helped involve military into the deliberations on sensitive issue of democratic civil military relations and the military's successive spokespersons have joined PILDAT's Civil-Military Dialogue sittings as observers.

During the reporting period, proposals for reforms in Civil Military Relations were prepared and shared with the Government, leading political parties, as well as the military.

The Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Production Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, based on a proposed plan of action by PILDAT to the committee, asked PILDAT to help the Committee in preparing and publishing the Committee reports. Four (4) reports in this regard have been prepared and printed with the help of PILDAT during July 2012 to June 2013.

During the year, PILDAT worked closely with major political parties on developing well-defined defence and national security policies and to outline those in greater clarity and detail in their respective manifestoes. Many proposals like appointing a full time National Security Advisor, restructuring the Defence Committee of the Cabinet, better Parliamentary oversight on Defence and debating

Defence Budget in the Parliament were incorporated in PML-N, PPPP and PTI manifestoes.

The PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations approached the new Government to sensitise them on effective democratic oversight on Defence and National Security. The Group's Recommendations on revising Pakistan's National Security structure were sent to the new Prime Minister of Pakistan on June 12, 2013. Mr. Sartaj Aziz, who is also member of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations, was appointed as Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs.

Activities related to Democratic Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan during 2012-2013 are enlisted with brief description:

Senior Pakistan Delegation holds interactions on National Security in London

A Pakistan delegation comprising senior Parliamentary leaders and representatives of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations concluded 3 days of interactions with UK Govt. Ministers, Parliamentary committee chairs, MPs, UK party representatives, intellectuals and think tanks representatives on July 05, 2012.

Study visit to UK had been centred around National Security and the role of Parliament and Political Parties in influencing and scrutinizing the strategies. The 10-member delegation that visited UK from July 3-5, 2012 included **Senator Ishaq Dar**, Leader of the Opposition in Senate, **Senator Raza Rabbani**, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security, **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence, **Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan**, MNA, **Syed Haider Abbas Rizvi**, MNA, Deputy Parliamentary Leader MQM, **Dr. Arif Alvi**, Secretary General, PTI, **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Former Minister for Defence, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rahman**

Shami, Editor in Chief Daily Pakistan, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director, PILDAT.

The senior delegation very ably articulated Pakistan's perspective, concerns and issues on the planned exit of the US/NATO forces from Afghanistan in 2014 and its impact for Afghanistan and Pakistan in conversations with the senior ministers, Parliamentary leaders and opinion makers in the UK. The Group highlighted that security, political and economic future balance of the region must be carefully planned for with deep engagement of Pakistan. Pakistan's changing dynamics as a vibrant, most democratic and freest Muslim democracy in the world with its independent media, assertive judiciary, and vital civil society /citizens groups must be kept in view while recognising that Pakistan is positioning itself for the post-2014 realities of the region.

It was underlined that Pakistan is the biggest stakeholder on the issue of post-2014 Afghanistan, hosting 2.5 million refugees, having suffered and sacrificed the most after 9/11 with over 40,000 loss of lives of civilians and soldiers, hence the Afghan reconciliation process requires Pakistan's proactive participation, and its interests are in a stable, united and peaceful Afghanistan.

In the context of a changing Pakistan, where multiple power centres are equally important, the newly acquired role of Parliament, particularly the Parliamentary Committee on National Security, was emphasised given its lead role in presenting new policy guidelines on issues pertaining to security and foreign policy.

All through the visit, the delegation, which included representatives from 5 political parties, spoke on issues focusing on a national approach, above party lines.



(Left to Right) Senator Raza Rabbani, Rt. Hon. John Spellar, MP, Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Russell Brown, MP, Shadow Minister for Defence, Senator Ishaq Dar and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed

The visit combined avenues of mutual learning and engagement between the Pakistan delegation and the UK Government, Parliament, political parties and think tanks on the institutional arrangements for national security in the UK and the changing role of Parliament and democratic government in Pakistan in defining national security priorities of Pakistan.

On the first day of the visit, the delegates held interactions with **Mr. James Brokenshire**, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Crime and Security, Home Office, **Rt. Hon. James Arbuthnot**, MP, chair and members of the Defence Committee of the House of Commons, **Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett**, MP chair and members of the Joint Committee of UK Parliament on National Security Strategy, **Mr. Alex Neil**, Senior Research Fellow RUSI on Pakistan and NATO/UK Role in Afghanistan: Challenges for 2014 Exit, **Mr. Gerald Howarth**, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence and **Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Bruce**, MP, Chair and members of International Development Select Committee.

The second day began with a candid conversation with the Labour party on the role it has played in reviewing UK National Strategy and the role of Labour in formulation of policies on national security. The delegation was joined by **Rt. Hon. John Spellar**, Shadow Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, **Mr. Russell Brown**, Shadow Minister for Defence and **Ms. Jo Greening**.

Pakistan delegation engaged deeply with the chair and members of the Intelligence and Security Committee and its remit in overseeing Intelligence agencies of the UK. **Rt. Hon. Sir Malcom Rifkind**, chair, was joined by **Rt. Hon. George Howarth**, MP, **Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears**, MP, and **Rt. Hon. Paul Goggins**, MP in sharing with the delegation the evolving remit of the committee which is moving towards being a Parliamentary committee changing its current status. The committee will also, once the legislation under



(L to R) Mr. David Miliband and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed at National Security Meeting in UK



Home Secretary, Rt. Hon. Theresa May, and Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar in UK

consideration is passed by the Parliament, be able to look at operations of the UK intelligence agencies.

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, cabinet minister, and **Mr. Andrew Stephenson**, MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Pakistan joined the Pakistan delegation at a lunch interaction on Pak-UK relations and how Parliamentary ties can strengthen these further. Members of the Pakistan group including **Mr. Eric Ollenshaw**, MP, **Ms. Yasmeen Qureshi**, MP and **Lord Ahmed** also joined the interaction.

Ms. Shabana Mahmood, young British MP of Pakistan origin and Shadow Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills, discussed in detail with the delegation role of the community cohesion in relation to National Security.

The delegation called on the Home Secretary, **Rt. Hon. Theresa May**, to discuss the role of interior security to national security and raised questions relating to Pak-UK cooperation on capacity building of LEAs and intelligence sharing.

UK National Security Advisor **Sir Kim Darroch** and Deputy National Security Advisor **Mr. Julian Miller** engaged with the Pakistan delegation on the role of National Security Council, its composition and how it has been able to bring together elements of national security to reach important decisions in weekly meetings.

Rt. Hon. David Miliband, MP spoke to the Pakistan delegation on the role of cross-party cooperation on national security.

The delegation was briefed in the most eloquent manner on the Parliamentary and judicial enquiry of the phone hacking scandal in the UK by **Mr. John Whittingdale**, MP chair of Culture, Media and Sports Select Committee.

Third and final day of the study visit began with the

delegation in conversation with the UK Minister for Middle East and South Asia **Mr. Alistair Burt**, MP on UK strategy for 2014 exit from Afghanistan and how the FCO contributes to National Security strategy and implementation.

Prof. Anatol Lieven, academic and celebrated author of the book *Pakistan: A Hard Country* engaged in a candid discussion with the Pakistan delegation on promise of Pakistan and what it can do to encounter some of the security, economic and political challenges.

Geo security in a globalized world was the topic of the Group's discussion with **Mr. Neil Crompton**, Director for South Asia and Afghanistan at the FCO followed by a candid conversation at the International Institute for Strategic Studies on international perspectives on 2014 exit of ISAF/NATO forces from Afghanistan.

PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations Called for Early Introduction and Passage of Stringent Anti-Terrorism Laws; Government Must Disclose the Reasons for Presence and TORs of UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in Pakistan

PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations met on September 11, 2012 in Islamabad. They demanded that the Government must swiftly introduce an effective Anti-terrorism law in the country. The Group asked that an amended law must maintain the balance between human rights, individual liberty and effectively curbing terrorism in Pakistan. The Group asked that, following the practice in UK, the Parliament must appoint an independent reviewer that can periodically study that implementation of an amended law fulfils the requirements of this balance.

The Group welcomed the reported approval of a revised Anti-Terrorism law by the Federal Cabinet



(L to R) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider and Vice Admiral (Retd.) Khalid Mir at Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations Meeting in Islamabad



(L to R) Mr. Rushtam Shah Mohmand and Dr. Hassan Askari Rizvi at Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations Meeting in Islamabad

demanding that these must be placed before the Parliament at the earliest. The Group also urged the Parliament that it must fulfil the requirements of scrutiny of these amended laws as a priority and pass the laws that can effectively put in place stringent measures to tackle terrorism. The Group regretted that earlier attempts by the Government to amend the existing terrorism laws have been slow and ineffective as the Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Bill, 2010, proposing 25 amendments in the existing Anti-terrorism Act, 1997, remained pending with the Parliament for over 2 years. The Group underscored that owing to the crucial challenge of terrorism facing Pakistan, it is imperative that people's elected representatives rise to the challenge of effectively containing and thwarting it first through passing effective anti-terrorism laws and then effective oversight on implementation of these laws.

The Group questioned the arrival of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in Pakistan. The Dialogue Group demanded that the Government must immediately disclose the reason behind reported invitation of the Government to the Group to visit Pakistan. The Group expressed its concern on the presence of the UN Working Group to look into a domestic issue of Pakistan and asked the Government to make public the terms of reference of the UN Working Group.

The Dialogue Group met to discuss various developments impacting civil-military relations in Pakistan. The proceedings began with the Group members paying tribute to Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah. The Group members believed that in order to make Pakistan follow the vision of Quid-e-Azam, citizens needed to create an alternate discourse based on equal citizenship and social justice.

The Group also discussed and approved recommendations for leadership of major political parties on improving Civil-Military Relations. The Group also discussed the need and possible content of a

legislation governing the legal remit of the Intelligence Services in Pakistan. The Group, which was briefed on the PILDAT Study Visit to the UK held in July, commended the initiative and said that the learning from the visit offers useful insight that can serve reform proposals for Pakistan on democratic oversight on defence and national security.

Political Parties should establish policy think tanks: PILDAT Forum

Political Parties, eager to represent Pakistanis, can perform better through establishing research and study centres to support policy-making that is rooted in *intense, sustained, in-house debate about pros and cons of a course of action in an environment of free thinking and candour*. These views were shared at the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and PILDAT Joint Forum for Political Parties on Improving Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan that was held on September 19, 2012 in Islamabad.

Political parties at the Forum were represented by **Senator Jahangir Badar**, Leader of the House in the Senate and Secretary General, PPP, **Senator Mian Raza Rabbani**, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security, **Dr. Tariq Fazal**, MNA, PML-N, **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Secretary General, PML, Chairman Senate Defence Committee, **Syed Tayyab Hussain**, MNA MQM, **Mr. Ehsan Wyne**, Secretary General, ANP, **Dr. Arif Alvi**, Secretary General PTI, and **Senator Muhammad Akram Shah**, Central General Secretary, PMAP, at the Forum.

Unveiling his recommendations for Political Parties on developing internal think tanks in a Discussion Paper published under PILDAT banner titled *A Blue Print for Creating Think Tanks in Political Parties of Pakistan*, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Senate Defence Committee, said that as engines of developing policies and institutionalising decision-making, think



Participants at Joint Forum of Senate Defence Committee and PILDAT on 'Improving Civil Military Relations in Pakistan'

tanks, or research institutes, attached to political parties are an essential requirement for parties that are serious in delivering good governance to the public.

Traversing Pakistan's political history for policy decisions, which he referred to as 'policy blunders' or those that have had 'disastrous repercussions' for Pakistan, Senator Sayed said that institutionalized, well thought out decision-making, anchored in dedicated research and broad consultation, can help political parties, representing the interests of the people of Pakistan, serve Pakistan better. Looking at the emergence and existence of think tanks around the world, how these have helped countries' decision making and how all established democracies promote centres of study and research in parties through state funding, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed argued that it is time that parties in Pakistan also focus their energies and resources on establishing dedicated think-tanks to support their work. He also supported state funding for these endeavours on the pattern of established democracies, through a legal, transparent mechanism.

Speaking on the occasion, **Senator Raza Rabbani** said that the grave challenges facing Pakistan can only be tackled by political parties of Pakistan. The nature of State Pakistan has to be is a decision that has to be taken by political parties of Pakistan jointly in the Parliament. He believed that while national security includes human security, economic and food security, but Pakistan's current situation demands it should, in the short term, be only defined in the sense of internal and external security. Parliament is supreme and Parliamentary accountability and supremacy has to be the first step towards democratic control of defence. He said that security forces are not one of the 4 pillars of the State. Military has to be under civilian control defined under the ambit of the Constitution of Pakistan.

Senator Rabbani did not agree with re-introduction of the post of a civilian National Security Advisor owing to what he termed 'negative' experiences of Pakistan in



(L to R) Senator Mohammed Jehnagir Badar, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at PILDAT Forum with Political Parties in Islamabad

this regard earlier. He also recommended that since the Parliamentary Committee on National Security (PCNS) has played a key role in working towards establishing Parliamentary oversight on security affairs, therefore a permanent structure to the PCNS and the Kashmir Committee should be given by the current Parliament.

Senator Jehangir Badar, Leader of the House in the Senate of Pakistan and Secretary General PPP, endorsed the views of Senator Rabbani. He appreciated PILDAT's continuous efforts in the national interest to create political consensus in Pakistan on crucial challenges facing the country. Senator Badar said that the relationship was between civil servants and the military, not between civil and the military. He said that Armed Forces of Pakistan are the key to Pakistan's security and are respected, revered and protected by political parties of Pakistan. However, there can be no political role of the military in Pakistan. He strongly believed political parties must create internal think tanks focussing on developing policies on defence and national security.

Representing PML-N, **Dr. Tariq Fazal**, MNA, said that consistency and continuity is required in civilian policies. He also questioned who makes Pakistan's national security policy. He praised Parliament's proactive role in the recent past in 18th to 20th Amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. Ehsan Wyne, Secretary General, ANP, said that ANP has an internal policy think tank where decisions are taken. He said political consensus in the past 4 ½ years has helped Parliament and coalition Government resolve long-standing issues of this country including that of provincial autonomy. Until the mindset of military does not change, relations between civil society and military can not improve. He also believed that political consensus amongst parties is the key to establishing civilian supremacy in defence and security affairs. Pakistan has paid a huge price in socio-



(L to R) Senator Muhammad Akram Shah, PKMAP and Mr. Ehsan Wyne, Secretary General ANP at PILDAT Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Senator Raza Rabbani, Mr. Tariq Fazal Chaudry, MNA and Mr. Arif Alvi, MNA at PILDAT Forum in Islamabad

economic terms for retaining its defence capabilities. Military should be used for productive purposes. Political views that are not in sync with the military are termed as anti-patriotic by the military, which must change now, he said.

Dr. Arif Alvi, Secretary General PTI, thanked PILDAT and appreciated the paper, authored by Senator Sayed on establishing think tanks in parties. He said that PTI has been working with a few think tanks but has not known what to do with the product of think tanks. Agreeing with PILDAT's recommendations, he said that these are crucial for developing Pakistan's sovereign security strategy. He also endorsed Senator Rabbani's view that national security needs to be narrowly defined in the case of Pakistan. He said that human security and equal rights for all citizens are the need of the hour. Transparency and freedom of information are key ingredients also. He underscored that an adversarial relationship should not exist between the civil and the military. Establishing civilian control on defence affairs is a long process but must begin with political ownership and good governance by political parties.

Representing Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PMAP), **Senator Muhammad Akram Shah**, said that in established democracies, civil-military relations are pre-determined in Constitutions and legal frameworks. Establishing civilian supremacy is a tall order in Pakistan. All powers need to be with elected public representatives of the country. Military must be consulted on defence and national security affairs but deciding which country is a friend or foe is the responsibility of elected civilian leadership.

Speaking on behalf of MQM, **Syed Tayyab Hussain**, MNA, said that MQM is very keen to work towards resolving issues and challenges facing Pakistan. MQM believes in working together with Pakistan's other political parties. He said that MQM will revert as a party on recommendations outlined in the forum.

PILDAT has been working together with leading political parties of Pakistan on the need to develop indigenous and organic policies and internal structures in order to both develop democratic oversight of defence and national security in Pakistan and establish a Constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan. As an indigenous organisation led by citizens of Pakistan, PILDAT have put together a set of recommendations for political parties in this regard.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, outlined the following recommendations:

- i. Create Think-Tanks inside the Political Parties
- ii. Designate a Focal Person on Defence/National Security
- iii. Develop a National Security Strategy
- iv. Prepare an Election Manifesto that Effectively Addresses Civil-Military Relations
- v. Strengthen Defence Committee of the Cabinet (DCC)
- vi. Strengthen Ministry of Defence
- vii. Parliamentary Oversight on Defence iv. Parliamentary Oversight on Intelligence

He hoped that policy recommendations and reform proposals shared at the Forum will be carefully considered, discussed, debated, accepted and adopted with or without modifications by all political parties of Pakistan, especially those, which, over many decades, have come to represent Pakistanis in the Parliament and in successive Governments.

Pakistan Needs an Effective Legislation to Tackle Terrorism in the Country

There is a need to come up with an effective legislation to tackle terrorism in the country, as the world has changed after 9/11 and our anti-terrorism laws are not in sync with the time. This was the dominant view on a Public Forum on “**Anti-Terrorism Laws in Pakistan: the Quest to balance Civil Liberties and Addressing**



(L to R) Lord Carlile, Member of the House of Lords and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at Public Forum on 'Anti-Terrorism Laws in Pakistan'



(L to R) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Asad Durrani, Mr. Ayaz Wazir and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Talat Masood at Public Forum in Islamabad

Terrorism” held in Islamabad on **October 31, 2012.**

The Forum was chaired by **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Former Governor Punjab and an eminent lawyer while **Lord Carlile**, the former Independent Reviewer of UK Counter-Terrorism Legislation, was the keynote speaker in the Forum.

Lord Carlile shared his experience of strengthening legislation to tackle counter-terrorism. He underlined that there has to be a powerful narrative that deals with the counter terrorism strategy. Lord Carlile said that the definition of terrorism in Pakistani laws is much wider than that in the UK and many other countries. He said that it is to be recognized that Pakistan is the frontline state against terrorism and it has offered more sacrifices than any other country in the recent times. An effective way of tackling terrorism, he added, would be “shared solutions toward shared problems.” Lord Carlile said that it is an art to maintain an effective balance between civil liberties and effective counter-terrorism.

Mr. Shahid Hamid, while explaining the legislation in Pakistan regarding Anti-Terrorism, said that so far, there are two key legislative instruments that deal with terrorism. The first such law is the Anti-Terrorism Act which was originally passed in 1997; the law has since then been amended in 2001 and 2004. The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2010 was introduced in the Senate of Pakistan by the Federal Interior Minister on July 27, 2010 but has since been withdrawn with the intention of bringing an updated version to the Parliament. The second bill, which curbs financial aspect of terrorism, is the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2010. The Act, he said, itself came in the backdrop of Pakistan's commitment to the United Nation's 1998 Resolution, which asked for the States to come up with measures to control money laundering. The law requires reporting any suspicious transaction beyond Rs. 2.5 million.

Earlier, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President

PILDAT, said that are no two opinions that Pakistan is faced with a gigantic challenge of continued and increased acts of terrorism in almost all parts of the country. He said that whereas the current 13th National Assembly and the Senate have a healthy record of legislation at least in a relative sense, the two areas where the Parliament has not been able to successfully legislate are accountability and counter-terrorism. He underscored the need for an early passage of an effective Anti-terrorism legislation.

Parliamentarians, Academia, civil society and media participated in large numbers in the Forum.

Institutional Balance and Counter-Terrorism Narrative Needed

PILDAT's Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations met on November 30, 2012 in Islamabad. The Group discussed the Supreme Court judgement on the Asghar Khan Case and largely termed it as largely positive. However, the Group pointed out that the involvement of the Presidency and the ISI in the political process neither began nor ended in 1990. The judgement underlines the need to strengthen civilian supremacy and sustainable democracy in Pakistan.

There was a broad consensus in the Group that there has been considerable improvement in civil-military relations over the past 5 years. However, there is still a need to work in this area for improving the quality of relationship through a graduated approach.

It is imperative to apply a holistic perspective covering the major sectors of civilian and military relationship especially governance and political management and legal and socio-economic sectors of society. Pakistan needs institutional balance where all State institutions work within the limits defined by the Constitution and Law and demonstrate respect for each other's domain.

Partisan agenda-oriented criticism of the State

institutions and sectors, be it the Parliament, the Judiciary, the Executive, and its branch, the Armed Forces, should be avoided. Responsibility of individuals for certain wrong actions should not be adduced to the entire institution.

While recognising the military's role in combating terrorism, it was observed that the political leadership should articulate a credible and comprehensive counter-narrative. The Group also underscored the urgency with which Parliament needs to debate and adopt a comprehensive legal framework to address grave threats of terrorism that have emerged in the past 5 years.

Study Visit to Indonesia

A Pakistan delegation comprising MPs, intellectuals, representatives of political parties and members of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations concluded 4 days of interactions with the Indonesian Government Ministers, Parliamentary Committee chairs and Members, defence institutions, Indonesian party representatives, academia and think tanks representatives to study and understand the subject of *Journey of Democratic Oversight of Defence and Civil-Military Relations in Indonesia*. The Study Visit was held from February 11-14, 2013.

The Pakistan delegation, under the Chairmanship of **Senator Hasil Bizenjo** (National Party, Balochistan), included **Senator Mohammad Mohsin Leghari** (Independent, Punjab), **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, Chairman Public Accounts Committee, (NA 64, Sargodha, Punjab, PPP), **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch**, MNA (NA-271, Kharan-cum-Panjgur, Balochistan, PML-N), **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Anis Bajwa**, Focal Person of the PTI on Defence and National Security, **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Athar Abbas**, Former Director General Inter-Services Public Relations, **Mr. Saleem Khan Safi**, senior Journalist, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**,



Pakistan Delegation during the Study Visit to Indonesia on 'Journey of Democratic Oversight of Defence and Civil Military Relations in Indonesia'

Joint Director PILDAT.

Pakistan delegation met and interacted with Members of Indonesia's House of Representatives (Parliament) and various key committees including the Commission on Inter Parliamentary Cooperation and Parliamentary Commission-I on Defence, Foreign Affairs and Information.

The delegation discussed in detail the role of Ministry of Defence and that of Coordinating Ministry of Political, Legal and Security Affairs in their separate call-ons Indonesia's Minister of Defence **Mr. Purnomo Yusgiantoro** and Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs, Indonesia, **Mr. Djoko Suyanto**.

Mr. Jakob Tobing, a renowned former member of Indonesian Parliament and former Chairman Committee on Constitutional Amendment, alongside some sitting MPs and academics briefed the Pakistan delegation in detail on the challenges faced by Indonesia in its instituting constitutional and security-sector reforms.

Another interaction at the Indonesian Parliament was at a Lunch Meeting with **Mrs. Dr. Sumaryati Aryso**, Chairperson of the State Financial Accountability Committee (BAKN), a counterpart committee of the Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly in Pakistan, in which members were briefed about the role and responsibilities of the somewhat-newly constituted BAKN.

Two Presidential candidates in the past and likely candidates in the future, **Mr. Josuf Kalla**, former Vice President and currently Chairman of the Indonesian Red Cross, and former Military Chief and currently Chairman of Hanura Party, **Gen. (Retd.) H. Wiranto**, SH, also received the Pakistan delegation separately and discussed in detail their perspectives on the reasons and pace of Indonesia's transition towards democracy

and its security sector reforms to contain the role of Indonesian Military to non-political professional field. The Pakistan delegation engaged in a candid and comprehensive exchange of views with the academic community of Indonesia by visiting the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, at the Pacivis University of Indonesia.

Interaction with Indonesian defence forces was held at the National Resilience Institute of Indonesia (LEMHANAS) in which military perspective on pace and progress of security sector reforms as well as their view of democracy was discussed.

On the sidelines of the Study Visit, a panel discussion was also organised. In order to share their perspectives on civil-military relations in Pakistan and best practices from the Indonesian transition to democracy, participants of the Study visit, alongside Ambassador of Pakistan to Indonesia joined Mr. Saleem Safi, senior Journalist, in an exclusive panel discussion in Jakarta. The panel discussion was aired on Geo TV in Pakistan on February 16, 2013 as a special programme of "Jirga." The programme can be accessed at: <http://saleemsafi.com/videos/jirga-16th-february-2013/>

Pakistan's Ambassador to Indonesia very graciously hosted a dinner reception for the Pakistan delegation alongside members of the Pakistan community based in Jakarta. The community engaged in a candid discussion with Pakistan delegation on political and economic scenario in Pakistan. Community members also offered their views and insights into the Indonesian political system and its transition to democracy.

PILDAT Welcomes Anti-Terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013; urges Government to get Parliamentary approval before March 16

On February 28, 2013, PILDAT welcomed the introduction of Anti-Terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013 in the National Assembly of Pakistan and



A Group photo of Pakistan Delegation with Mr. Jakob Tobing in Indonesia

urged the Government to get Parliamentary consensus for its passage before the expiry of the term of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan on March 16, 2013.

The Anti-Terrorism (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013 is a reproduction of the earlier draft of the Anti-Terrorism Bill 2010 that was withdrawn in 2012. Such an important bill has been introduced in the National Assembly when only 20 days are left before the expiry of the term of the 13th National Assembly of Pakistan on March 16, 2013. Moreover the bill has been introduced just six (6) days after the House unanimously passed another amendment to the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1997, known as the Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013, to strengthen provisions against terrorism-financing. It remains to be seen whether the Government will be able to create necessary consensus to pass the bill from the National Assembly and the Senate before the National Assembly completes its term.

It is worth noting here that if passed, this bill, together with the two earlier laws passed by the Parliament, the Anti-terrorism (Amendment) Act 2013 (dealing with terrorism-financing) and the Investigation for Fair Trial Act, 2013, (allowing the law enforcement agencies to use modern techniques and devices against terrorists and making e-mails, SMS, phone calls and audio-visual recordings as admissible evidence) will contribute to strengthening the anti-terrorism legal regime in Pakistan.

The Anti-Terrorism Act 2013 incorporated a broader definition of terrorism and terrorist acts which includes foreign governments or population or an international organization as well. The present bill has revised this definition further and includes acts like intimidating and terrorising the public, social sectors, business community government and security installations.

Under this bill the Federal Government will exercise the authority to tape, trace and intercept calls or SMSs and the police will exercise the authority to summon



(L to R) Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Athar Abbas and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at PILDAT Discussion Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Anis Bajwa and Mr. Saleem Safi at PILDAT Discussion Forum in Islamabad

any person for information regarding investigation. The bill also proposes that suspected persons involved in an act of terrorism shall be investigated by a police officer below the rank of sub inspector.

Civil-Military Relations of Pakistan and Indonesia Compared

Civil-Military Relations of Pakistan and Indonesia were compared at PILDAT Discussion Forum on **Indonesia's Transition from Military Rule to Democracy: What can Pakistan Learn?** on March 19, 2013 in Islamabad.

The Forum was organized so as to disseminate learning from PILDAT Study Visit to Indonesia which was held from February 11-14, 2013 at Jakarta, Indonesia.

Nawabzada Malik Amad Khan, former MNA and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs chaired the session, while **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Athar Abbas**, former DG, ISPR, **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Anis Bajwa**, spokesman of the PTI on National Security and Defence issues, **Mr. Saleem Safi**, Senior Journalist/Anchor, **Mr. Ahmad Bilal Mehboob**, President, PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director, PILDAT, spoke on the occasion. Members of the Parliament, Representatives of Civil Society and members of media participated in the Forum.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, while welcoming the participants said that PILDAT facilitated the Study Visit to Indonesia for Parliamentarians, intellectuals and media persons to understand and learn from the transition of Indonesia from Military rule to Democracy.

Presenting an overview of key learning from the Visit, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz** said that the delegation learnt that stability in transition from military to civil rule in Indonesia has come about through a variety of factors. First and foremost among these has been public demand for re-drawing non-political professional

boundaries of the Military. Successive civilian elected governments and Parliament in Indonesia have carefully and effectively used the public mandate to put in place constitutional and legal boundaries and parameters regarding the role of military including that of barring military from politics and business, deployment of military and a legal framework governing intelligence agencies. Civil society and academia have worked closely with Parliament and Government in putting these frameworks in place. Parliament and its bodies overseeing Defence are both powerful and well-resourced. Military leadership, as and when invited, appears before the Parliamentary Commissions. Parliament also has an effective oversight on defence budget and strategic planning of the military. Military and Police have been separated and internal security has become the exclusive domain of the Police which previously was a duty shared by the military as well. Military quota in Parliamentary representation has been abolished and its members recalled. Pakistan delegation found that some reforms worth considering for Pakistan include instituting a system of public funding of political parties based on a formula that takes into account both percentage of votes and seats secured by each party. A dialogue must also begin in Pakistan on putting in place a legal framework for intelligence agencies specially those associated with the military. How the Indonesian military was legally barred from business and commercial activities while the political government stepped in to take care of welfare of military personnel also requires consideration by the decision-makers in Pakistan.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Athar Abbas said that in transition in Indonesia has come about through inter-connectivity and harmony between the institutions. He also pointed out that Parliamentary Commissions in Indonesia are well resourced, qualified and well informed. He said that DCC is not a regular, permanent institution in Pakistan but Indonesia is already debating a law to establish National Security Council He also said that



(L to R) Mr. Hamayun Saifullah Khan, MNA and Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, MNA at PILDAT Discussion Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Nawabzada Malik Amad Khan and Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Anis Bajwa interacting at PILDAT Discussion Forum in Islamabad

Indonesia recently increased 150% salaries of armed forces He said that at the moment almost 20% senior officers of army are sons of junior ranked soldiers. He said that no one can deny that there should be civilian control of armed forces but you can't put ISI under Ministry of Interior. He also stressed that current military leadership did its best not to derail the system. He said that military is ready for the accountability.

Malik Amad Khan, former MNA, said we should learn from other countries but need to consider our own ground realities. He said that there should be some high level forum for civil and military consultations like DCC or NSC. He believed that Army bashing is not good for the country. He said that civilian are gradually getting space and with the passage of time the situation will further improve. He was of the view that to enhance role of Parliamentary committees, the right people should be placed in the committees who knows the subject well. He said it is wrong perception that Foreign policy is made by military, Foreign office gets input from different departments including Defence organizations.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Anis Bajwa believed that the Study Visit to Indonesia was a good experience and Pakistan can learn lessons from transition in Indonesia. He said that public uprising after the economic crisis triggered the reformation in Indonesia and. Military also agreed to be a part of the reformation and accepted introduction of democracy. Transition in Indonesia was smooth and mutual civil military respect remained intact. He said that Pakistan needs some permanent institution to deal National Security with a permanent secretariat. He said that military should not execute the Foreign policy but it can give its feedback and input in policy matters. Military should recognize the superiority of elected political leadership.

Mr. Saleem Safi said Indonesia has no external threats while Pakistan has a different scenario and it is a national security state. In Indonesia, neither army nor

political parties used religion as a tool. There are lots of complications in Pakistan in Civil Military Relations. In Indonesia, army has no role in domestic security. We should clearly define role of army, Intelligence agencies and police. Another achievement of Indonesian democratic Government is that they prohibited army from doing business. The political leadership of Indonesia proved its supremacy. Army is still handling the National Security and foreign policy affairs but we are reluctant to give them a constitutional role. He said that Pakistan does not have any general like Wiran to but our civilian political leadership was also not competent enough.

Mr. Humayun Saifullah Khan, former MNA was of the view that there is a start in last five years but to strengthen democracy there is lot more to be done. He said that army cannot take over if there is good governance. He said that politicians should improve their character to earn respect of society and military.

Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, former MNA, said that now we have greater freedom to comment on 'generals'. Our civilian set up was not allowed to continue beyond 2 to 3 years. He said that corruption continues even when military heads a civilian institution. Army generally remained secretive. She was of the view that decision making is still with the military and still military decides about relations with India.

Institutional Solutions sought for Civil-Military Relations; Counter-Terrorism Strategy should be first priority of new Government: Citizens Forum

Institutional solutions for resolving civil-military relations in Pakistan have been sought in the past 5 years and the country has witnessed a movement forward in democratic control of defence and national security, said **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Chairman Senate Defence Committee, while addressing the **PILDAT Citizens Forum on Democratic Oversight of Defence and National**



(L to R) Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed and Senator Haji Muhammad Adeel at Citizens Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Talat Masood and Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) Shahzad Chaudhry at Citizens Forum in Islamabad

Security: A Performance Evaluation by Citizens in Islamabad held on April 03, 2013.

Awarding it 5 out of 10 marks, he said that the key flaw has been outgoing Government's failure in developing a counter-terrorism strategy. This should be the top priority of the Government coming after May 2013 General Election. He said that democratic governments should be more knowledgeable and proactive in formulating defence and security policies.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed appreciated PILDAT for always serving as a link between Parliament and civil society on defence and national security issues. He also acknowledged PILDAT's support for publishing Senate Defence Committee's reports since June 2012.

Speakers at the Citizens Forum included **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Chairman Senate Defence Committee in the chair, **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, senior Advocate Supreme Court; former Defence Minister, **Senator Haji Muhammad Adeel**, Vice Chairman ANP and Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT.

Mr. Shahid Hamid began by acknowledging PILDAT's active role in making issues of democratic control of defence and national security as part of public discourse in Pakistan. Awarding it 4 marks on a scale of 10, Mr. Shahid Hamid said that some progress has been recorded in the past 5 years in this realm. However, he believed, activation and effective utilisation of existing forums is needed to establish effective democratic control of defence. Effective utilisation of higher defence organisation, including its 3 tiers of Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Defence Council and Defence Committee of the Cabinet is essential in this regard. He added that an empowered Defence Minister is the first step towards an effective Defence Ministry that can establish democratic control on defence in Pakistan.

Senator Haji Adeel said that it is due to the role of the military in combating terrorism and militancy in Pakistan that the ANP has begun to support the military. Military's job, however, is just to defend the territorial borders of the country. Ideological debates and policies in this regard are firmly the domain of elected representatives of the people. He lamented that despite the return to democracy, defence and foreign policies of the country have not been under the control of elected representatives.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed said that it is incorrect to suggest that only defence establishment is responsible for a lop-sided civil-military equation in Pakistan. He emphasised that effective democratic and parliamentary control on defence is possible when elected representatives are prepared to play that role effectively.

Presenting PILDAT's analysis, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz** said that PILDAT's objective behind carrying out analysis of performance of democratic and Parliamentary forums of defence oversight is to contribute to promoting democratic control and Parliamentary oversight on Defence and National Security in Pakistan. PILDAT analysis is carried out to examine the exercise of available Constitutional and legal powers of these Committees.

Institutional Forums of Decision-making on Defence should be strengthened: PILDAT Forum

Institutional forums of decision making on defence and national security should be strengthened to achieve a balance in civil-military relations, believed participants of a PILDAT Forum on 5 Years of Civil Military Relations in Pakistan: 2008-2013. The Forum was held on April 18, 2013 in Lahore.

Senator S. M. Zafar, Former Federal Minister, chaired the Citizens Forum while other speakers at the Forum included **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, senior Advocate Supreme Court; former Defence Minister, **Dr. Hasan**



(L to R) Dr. Hassan Askari Rizvi and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob speaking at Citizens Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Mr. Shahid Hamid and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Hamayun Bangash at Citizens Forum in Islamabad

Askari Rizvi, Defence and Political Analyst, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**, Editor in Chief Daily Pakistan, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Hamayun Bangash**, Former Ambassador and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT.

Senator S. M. Zafar said that the Constitution of Pakistan clearly defines the role of Armed Forces of Pakistan but the reality is that Army took over the reins of power four times. Military's role increases when there is an internal or external security threat perception. Another reason for military interference is weakness of the political system including bad governance. There is no democracy in most political parties and their weaknesses have allowed the military to intervene. He said that most of the elections in the history were manipulated and rigged. He also said the Parliament has been ineffective in its oversight role on defence. Looking ahead, he said, people will choose who governs them through upcoming Election and they must exercise this power responsibly.

Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi believed that in current scenario no single organization can run the Government. Army ran the system alone in the past but it is not possible to do so anymore. However, this does not mean that Army's role in power has diminished; instead it is influencing the decision-making from the sidelines and will continue to do so for a while using channels such as political or religious parties as well as media. He believed that the traditional model of Civil Military relations in Pakistan is no more workable. The relationship today is more flexible and with a room for bargaining on both sides. Military needs the support of political leadership in war or terror. He believed that a credible civilian alternative should be created for a balanced and constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan.

Mr. Shahid Hamid said that some progress has been recorded in the past 5 years in this realm. However, he

believed, activation and effective utilisation of existing forums is needed to establish effective democratic control of defence. Effective utilisation of higher defence organisation, including its 3 tiers of Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, Defence Council and Defence Committee of the Cabinet is essential in this regard. He added that an empowered Defence Minister is the first step towards an effective Defence Ministry that can establish democratic control on defence in Pakistan.

Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami blamed Pakistan's nascent political culture and processes, as well as those at the helm of affairs since independence for the imbalance in Pakistan's civil-military relations. He believed that politicians and political governments did not quite receive a fair chance of governance. He also stressed that weakness of the governance does not mean the weakness or failure of democracy. He was of the view that the upcoming Government needs to provide improvement in governance as well as on establishing democratic supremacy in defence affairs.

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Humayun Bangash was of the view that in most of the countries where military has ruled has been due to corruption and ineptness of the politicians. When improvement in governance is achieved under the military rule, the military goes back to barracks. Essentially, he repeated the general military notion that military intervenes to respond to a political vacuum in governance and decision-making. He also questioned the talk of the trial of Gen. Musharraf.

Earlier Mr. Ahmad Bilal Mehboob, while welcoming the participants, gave a brief presentation on the past 5 years of Civil Military relations in Pakistan. He said that in the past 5 years, some improvement has been seen in an endeavour to balance civil-military relations. For the first time in the history of the country, an elected

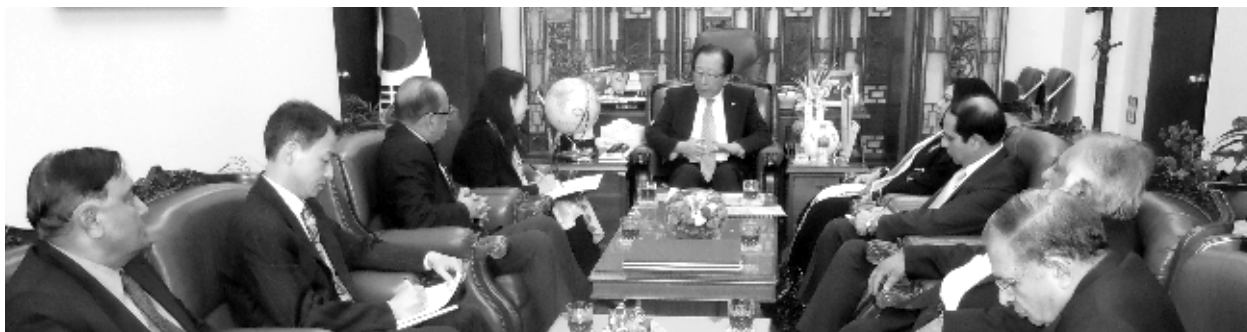
civilian Government completed its term without direct military intervention. Parliament has received greater details of the defence budget and Parliamentary committees, especially those of defence and national security, have begun to exercise some oversight on defence. The previous 5 years have also seen many stresses in civil-military relations especially those in the case of the Memo controversy. A lot needs to be accomplished by the incoming Government which must strengthen forums of decision-making on defence and strategic issues.

Pakistan Delegation Visited South Korea to Study Korean Journey of Democratic Consolidation & Democratic Control on Defence

PILDAT facilitated Pakistan Delegation visited South Korea from April 20-26, 2013 to study the Korean journey of democratic control on defence and Korean transition to democracy.

The 10 member delegation was led by **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan, former Governor Punjab & Former Minister of Defence, while other members included **Senator Sehar Kamran**, Member Senate Standing Committee on Defence, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Humayun Bangash**, Former Ambassador, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, Former Federal Interior Minister & former Governor Sindh, **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai**, Former Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, **Mr. Saleem Safi**, Senior Journalist and Anchor Geo TV, **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, Senior Analyst, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director, PILDAT and **Mr. Khurram Malik**, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

The objective of the Study Visit was to facilitate an opportunity for the Pakistan delegation to interact with subject specialists, experts and counterparts in the Republic of Korea to understand the Korean journey of



Pakistan Delegation calling on Mr. Ahn Hong Joon, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the National Assembly in South Korea

consolidation of democracy after repeated military rules, Korean experience of civil-military relations and the current status of democratic control of defence and national security in South Korea.

The Pakistan delegation interacted with leading Korean think tanks, members of Korean National Assembly, Defence Institutions, Korean business and media representatives while in Seoul.

The visit began with candid discussion on South Korea's transition from military rule to democracy with Mr. Ham Chaibong, President, ASAN Institute of Policy Studies and on the model of Korean economic growth with Dr. Joo-Hoon Kim, Vice President, Korean Development Institute. The delegation was given a detailed briefing on the history of civil military relations in South Korea and how the Republic achieved the basis of its economic growth and stability under the military rule of President Park Chung Hee.

On the second day of the Visit, the delegation called on Mr. Joao, Seung-Yong, Chairman Korea-Pakistan Friendship Group in the National Assembly of South Korea and Mr. Ahn Hong Joon, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee at the National Assembly. The delegation also visited the National Assembly Research Service (NARS) where Mr. Koh, Hyun Wook, Chief of the Research Service, gave a detailed briefing about the working of NARS and the support it provides to the members of the Korean National Assembly.

In exclusive discussions on Korean defence, the delegation held interactions with two leading defence think tanks of South Korea, the Sejong Institute and the Korea Institute of Defence Analysis.

Pakistan delegation also visited the National Election Commission of South Korea where Mr. Moon, Sang Boo, Secretary General of the NEC, briefed the



(L to R) Mr. Joo Hoon Kim, Senior Vice President KDI and Mr. Moon Joong Tcha, Executive Director, Centre for International Development, KDI interacting with Pakistan Delegation in South Korea



UN Military Commander briefing the Pakistan delegation at the Demilitarization Zone at North-South Korea border

delegation about the election process and the working of the National Election Commission of South Korea. Discussing how effective is Korean National Assembly's oversight on defence, the delegation also engaged in detail with Mr. Yoo, Seung min, Chairman, National Defence Committee.

Pakistan delegation also visited the Demilitarization Zone on South-North Korean border, where UN Command Military Armistice Commission gave a detailed briefing on the current situation of North and South Korean Conflict.

Pakistan delegation also held meetings with the two leading business houses of South Korea, the Lotte Group and the Sambu Construction, both of which have deep business ties with Pakistan. The delegation discussed in detail the avenues of furthering Pak-Korea business and economic cooperation.

Under the dynamic and able leadership of Pakistan's Ambassador to Korea, H. E. Mr. Shaukat Ali Mukadam, the Pakistan Embassy in Seoul facilitated the PILDAT delegation with utmost professional support. The East Asia and Pacific Division at the Pakistan Foreign Office, Islamabad, as well as the Republic of Korea Embassy in Islamabad also deserve our special thanks for their support and facilitation for the Study Visit.

New Challenges Emerge as Civil-Military Relations Enter New Phase: PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations Conducts Detailed Review
Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations (DGCMR) reviewed the current conditions and relevant events and developments over the past 4 months in the context of the 2008-2013 period as the people go to the polls on 11th May. The Group met in Lahore on May 09, 2013 and decided to release the following statement:

As Pakistan continues its journey towards maturation of democratic institutions, the civil military relationship, as of May 2013, provides both positive

and progressive features as well as some causes of continuing concern.

Despite a few instances when a certain degree of tension was experienced as in the episodes of Raymond Davis, the Abbottabad raid, the Kerry Lugar Bill controversy and a couple of other incidents, both the civil, political sphere and the Armed Forces have maintained coordination and cooperation to facilitate the successful completion of the tenure of the previous elected Government from March 2008 to March 2013.

As this was the first meeting of the Group since the unprecedented completion of this term of office, the Group recorded its appreciation for the demonstration of shared commitment by both the civil and the military leaderships of the country and the continued movement through the transition phase of caretaker Governments to the elections set for May 11, 2013.

The deployment of over 73,000 troops (about double the numbers deployed in the 2008 elections) to enforce security and safety in the polling phase throughout the country is yet another expression of the solidarity that is giving added resonance to the country's journey of democracy.

The Group expressed its deep respects for all those soldiers and officers of the Armed Forces, paramilitary forces and civil forces who have rendered the ultimate sacrifice of their lives to defend the nation against internal terrorism and cross-border incursions and threats. The Group conveyed its profound sympathies and support to members of the bereaved families and to all those who have also suffered injuries and other losses in the ongoing operations to defeat violent extremism and external threats.

The Group noted that the number of troops who have suffered fatalities and injuries in Pakistan from the fall-out of 9/11 now exceeds the number of losses suffered in 1971 during the war between India and Pakistan.



(L to R) Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Hamayun Bangash at Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations meeting in Lahore



(L to R) Mr. Rustam Shah Mohmand and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Arif Bangash at Dialogue Group on Civil Military Relations meeting in Lahore

Extraordinarily prolonged deployment of troops in the conflict areas requires new levels of perseverance in all ranks and, on the other hand, due attention to this facet by citizens and media.

At the same time, a few recent developments with a bearing on civil-military relations need to be addressed. For the first time, consequent to the return to Pakistan of former President Parvez Musharraf in March 2013 and his subsequent arrest in different cases, the nation has witnessed the spectacle, for the first time in its history, of a former COAS being charged with murder and with unconstitutional actions against the judiciary.

The Group reiterated that the principle of complete respect for the rule of law for every citizen, regardless of a person's past or present position, should be the cardinal factor that shapes all individual and institutional actions in this instance as in all other respects as well.

It is of vital importance to ensure that the due judicial process be strictly observed and that the defendant is able to exercise all his rights as guaranteed by the law. As in other cases before the Courts, in these cases as well, justice must not only be done, it should be seen to be done. Neither undue haste nor a hostile environment should mark Court proceeding to deprive Gen. (Retd.) Musharraf from a fair trial in each case.

The Group noted that, as an institution, the Armed Forces enjoy respect and support by the people of Pakistan. It is vital to maintain national unity and cohesion in the campaign to defeat elements which seek to demolish the structure of the State and the Constitution.

Civilized dialogue and fair, balanced debate in public discourse about the respective roles of the civil and military spheres deserve attention and should not be misconstrued as being disrespectful or divisive nor should some comments be misperceived as attempts to

hurt the high morale and dignity of our Armed Forces.

Recording its strong condemnation of the continuing terrorist attacks on political leaders of certain parties and losses of lives of other citizens in the run-up to the elections; the Group regretted the failure of outgoing federal and provincial governments to control and restrain those extremist elements that are now openly threatening the country's constitution and its democratic system, making it difficult for the caretaker governments at the Federal and Provincial level to deter such incidents.

The Group stated that it was not possible to overlook the failure of the Federal caretaker Government to appoint Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Finance and Defence during a period when the country is facing significant challenges and problems in international and regional geo-politics, economics and security.

The Group expressed its fervent hope that the polling process on May 11 will demonstrate the harmony of purpose shared by the civil and military spheres and that the results of the elections will mark the continuation, and the irrevocability of the democratic system.

Pakistan's human resource and infrastructure development priorities in education, health, governance, energy, employment and food security await urgent collective attention by all spheres.

Elections & Electoral Reforms

Achieving free, fair and credible elections in Pakistan has been a key area of PILDAT focus for the past 10 years. Through various initiatives ranging from electoral polls analysis to international and regional conferences to setting up a specialized forum of seasoned and eminent citizens of Pakistan (Citizens Group on Electoral Process in Pakistan-CGEP) to oversee the process leading up to election to proposing comprehensive electoral reforms and working in identifying structural gaps and suggesting measures to improve upon electoral processes in the country, PILDAT continues to be engaged in the field of elections and electoral reforms.

This focus has resulted in PILDAT handling a variety of projects including *Electoral Reforms in Pakistan*, *Election-related Public Opinion Polls and Dissemination*, *Regional Dialogue on Free, Fair & Credible Elections in Pakistan*, *Strengthening Electoral Processes to ensure Greater Participation in Pakistan*, *2 Day Conference on Pakistan National Election in 2007*, *Research and Election Process Observation through CGEP* and *Comprehensive Electoral Reforms in Pakistan*.

PILDAT is widely recognized and respected by key actors in electoral process as a repository of knowledge and reform proposals in Pakistan. Through the years PILDAT has published over 60 policy briefs, briefing papers, Background Papers, Case Studies and Policy Proposal papers and Reports of fact-finding missions on Elections and Electoral Reforms.

During the period, PILDAT demanded that only citizens of Pakistan must be qualified to represent the people in the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies of Pakistan. PILDAT demanded that Article 63-1-c of the 1973 Constitution to be retained in its present form. PILDAT also supported and lauded the steps undertaken by the Election Commission of Pakistan that amended the Nomination Forms for candidates to declare their status of nationality.

PILDAT's Citizens Group on Electoral Process unveiled the Unfinished Agenda on Electoral Reforms and presented it to the Chief Election Commissioner Justice (Retd.) Fakhruddin G. Ibrahim. PILDAT's CGEP recommended that Computerised Voters List should be available at the ECP website, and for a nominal fee, available in the form of CDs. Live posting of polling stations-wise (progressive) voting results on the ECP website should be uploaded.

A delegation of PILDAT Citizens Group on Electoral Process visited the Election Commission of Pakistan and interacted in detail with the Secretary and Members of the Election Commission. Members of the Commission and the Secretary acknowledged electoral reform proposals offered by the CGEP from time to time and stressed that the CGEP support, reform proposals and scrutiny of the performance of the Commission is necessary in improving the electoral fairness in the country.

PILDAT's long standing demand of the inclusion of the office of the President in the Draft Code of Conduct was included by the Election Commission of Pakistan. PILDAT appreciated and welcomed ECP's step in including the President and Governors in the list of other elected executive officials, who were asked to "combine their official visits with the election campaign". PILDAT also welcomed the decision by the ECP to make electoral candidates' data available online. In a long-standing demand, PILDAT and its Citizens Group on Electoral Process had been asking the ECP to provide public access to disclosure and declarations made by the electoral candidates.

During the period, PILDAT had re-initiated its series of Election Monitors; analysing key issues and developments that had the potential to impact the General Elections 2013 in Pakistan.

PILDAT was invited to present its perspective on the prospects of Pakistan's General Election 2013 at the European Parliament.

Post General Elections, PILDAT carried out an assessment on General Elections 2013 phases that indicated that the Quality of Election during the Pre-Poll phase was significantly better than the quality on the Polling day and Post-Poll phases. Hence, there was a relative dissatisfaction with the quality of election and arrangements on the polling day and immediately following the polling day (Post-poll phase).

Activities with its brief descriptions that PILDAT has undertaken related to Elections and Electoral Reforms during 2012-2013 are as below:

ECP directives only partly enforced in NA-151: PILDAT Citizens Group

Concluding its pre-election assessment mission in NA-151 a day before polling, PILDAT's Citizens Group on Electoral Process met in Multan on July 18, 2012. The Citizen's Group said that the new directive of the ECP relating to curtailing election spending is only partially enforced in the by-election.

Perhaps the biggest issue is the lack of clarity of the ECP staff on the ground on what constitutes election expenses. While the ECP officials were satisfied with the weekly bank statements they said they received from candidates as per new directions by the ECP, they failed to monitor election expenses incurred by candidates' supporters in holding jalsas, placing newspaper advertisements, and other promotional material. Article 49-1 of the Representation of Peoples Act 1976 states that expenses incurred on election by any person other than the candidate for "any ...item whatsoever, shall be deemed to be the election expenses incurred by the candidate himself." The elaborate monitoring system and monitoring teams put in place by the ECP failed to monetarily evaluate supporters' contributions which has resulted into candidates flouting the legal expense limit of 1.5 million.

"From newspaper reports, advertisements and witnessing jalsas of the candidates, it appears that the candidates have spent much more than the expense limit, that the ECP must take action against," recommended the Group.

Although the ECP's monitoring arrangements are praiseworthy in terms of providing transport to voters in 29 out of 245 polling stations in NA-151 where distance to polling station is more than 2 kilometers, CGEP shared its apprehensiveness in the ECP's ability to provide transport to all voters of different camps in a non- partisan manner. "This will be a cause of complaints by each candidate to the ECP," the Group felt. A more practical approach to limit the use of transport by candidates to bring voters to polling stations will be to increase the number of polling stations, the Group opined.

The Group witnessed violation of the ECP code of conduct in banners, hoardings and wall-chalking across NA-151. Even though the ECP monitoring teams have managed to remove such violations putting them on



(L to R) Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at a PILDAT Citizens Group on Electoral Process meeting in Multan



(L to R) Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Justice (Retd.) Nasira Iqbal and Senator Babar Awan at PILDAT Citizens Group on Electoral Process meeting

tape also, it has failed to bring to the book any violators of the ECP code and directive.

Non-partisanship of the local administration, technically, under the Punjab provincial government, is the key to ensuring a free and fair conduct of the polling tomorrow, the Group felt.

During the two-day fact finding mission to Multan, the Group held meetings and interactions with Mr. Abdul Qadir Gilani, PPP candidate and Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani, former Prime Minister, Mr. Sikandar Hayat Bosan, Commissioner and DCO of Multan, District Returning Officer and Returning Officer and the ECP-appointed Monitoring Teams. In addition, the Group held detailed interactions with the resident editors and representatives of major news media papers and channels. The Group also went around the constituency monitoring public meetings by the candidates.

The Citizens Group members joining the mission included **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, former Interior Minister and Governor, **Justice (Retd.) Nasira Iqbal**, former Judge, **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, senior journalist, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PIIDAT, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT and **Mr. Mamoon Bilal**, Projects Manager PILDAT.

The fact-finding mission was undertaken by PILDAT to monitor the implementation of the new ECP directives. The PILDAT initiative is part of the project to monitor the implementation of the 5- year Strategic Plan of the ECP.

CGEP announces Unfinished Agenda of Electoral Reforms; Presents Proposals to the CEC

PILDAT's Citizens Group on Electoral Process unveiled the Unfinished Agenda on Electoral Reforms and presented it to the Chief Election Commissioner **Justice (Retd.) Fakhruddin G. Ibrahim** on July 31, 2012 in Islamabad.

The Group also shared the reform proposals at the Citizens Forum on Electoral Reforms. **Mr. Tariq Malik**, Chairman NADRA, also spoke on the occasion.

Citizens Group on Electoral Process met to finalise what it called the Unfinished Agenda of Electoral Reforms. Group members who joined the meeting and the Forum included **Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani**, Chairman Gallup, Pakistan, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, former Governor Sindh, **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Senior Advocate Supreme Court, former Governor Punjab, **Senator Fasih Iqbal**, Editor-in-Chief Balochistan Times, **Justice (Retd.) Nasira Iqbal**, former Judge; **Mr. Javed Jabbar**, former Senator and Federal Minister; **Mr. Arif Nizami**, Editor-in-Chief Pakistan Today, **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, Senior Journalist, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT. The Group also welcomed the announcement of the Final Electoral Rolls by the ECP.

Addressing the Public Forum, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob said that the elected political Government, Parliament and the Election Commission of Pakistan have covered a lot of ground in instituting significant electoral reforms in 3 years such as providing for full-time members of the Election Commission; Bi-partisan process to appoint members of the election commission and Chief Election Commissioner; Making CNIC mandatory for registration as a voter and for casting the vote; Preparation of Computerised Electoral Rolls with voters pictures; Initiating the mechanism of constituency monitors; Instituting a more elaborate system of monitoring election expenses and providing for a neutral care-taker government through a bi-partisan process. This is an impressive record by any standard but a number of reforms are yet to be introduced.

Outlining the unfinished agenda of Electoral Reforms on behalf of CGEP, he said that:



(L to R) Mr Arif Nizami and Mr. Tariq Malik, Chairman NADRA at Citizens Group meeting in Islamabad



(L to R) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, Mr. Shahid Hamid and Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin at Citizens Group meeting in Islamabad

I. Final Electoral Rolls (FERs) scheduled to be printed by July 31, 2012 should be made easily accessible to political parties, civil society organizations and other stake holders so that they may scrutinize the rolls and may point out any gaps or flaws to the ECP.

- ii. The Computerised Voters List should be available at the ECP website, and for a nominal fee, available in the form of CDs.
- iii. The ECP together with the NADRA should institute a system whereby future voter registration is automatically carried out at the time of issuance of CNICs by NADRA. Provision for extra information such as the preferred location for voting may be instituted at the time of registration for CNICs. The NADRA should also be directed to ensure issuing CNIC to all eligible voters in Pakistan within a period of next six months.

Chairman NADRA, **Mr. Tariq Malik**, said that it is a moment of pride for Pakistan that a computerised electoral roll, based on the citizenship records of NADRA, has been prepared. 99% of CNIC holders are part of the Final Electoral Rolls (FERs). The Rolls do not have any duplication and one person's vote is only registered at one place. NADRA has issued 92 million CNICs to adult population of Pakistan out of which 84.36 million CNIC holders are on the FERs. 48% of the adult population in the FERs is under the age of 35 years making nearly half as young voters. He also mentioned the successful SMS campaign for the benefit of voters through which citizens can find out where they are registered to vote. NADRA, he said, has created a Voters Database as well that entails all data pertaining to the process of registration of a vote.

Mr. Javed Jabbar, who chaired the Forum, said that we must recognise and appreciate the historic electoral reforms undertaken in the past 3 years. Legislators belonging to different political parties, analysts, civil society representatives and media persons joined the Forum.

Senator Babar Awan said that elections within political party are a key requirement of democracy that is often ignored. He also appreciated the 20th amendment to the Constitution. He also said that the ECP needs to depoliticise itself. It needs to inform the public how will it induct people to conduct election to ensure fairness on the ground.

Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan, MNA, said that election rules must be prepared for the conduct of media in election also.

Syed Nasir Ali Shah, MNA said that constituency delimitation must be carried out afresh. Participants also raised questions about the process of recording of birth and deaths and how it affects the list. They were informed that through the door-to-door verification by the ECP, such things were handled for the FER 2012.

Ms. Tasneem Siddiqi, MNA, said that there are some areas where men decide whether women will vote or not. The ECP may consider declaring a poll null and void if 20 to 30% women votes are not cast in a constituency.

Ms. Anusha Rehman, MNA, said that FER 2012 is based on the Housing Census of March 2011 which the provinces and the CCI have not agreed to as yet. Why the ECP in its wisdom decide to use those Census Blocks which have not been approved, she questioned? She also questioned the reason for using 3 addresses current, permanent, and temporary, which has resulted into confusion. She also suggested that the Code of Conduct must be converted into law for uniform application. She also said questioned why the percentage of women population in the country is under-reflected in the Electoral Rolls. She also supported the use of Electronic Voting Machine.

Participants also raised questions about the expenditure by the ECP on things such as verification exercise and the new directive applied in NA-151 bye-election.



(L to R) Ms. Anusha Rehman, MNA and Ms. Tasneem Siddiqi, MNA at CGEP meeting in Islamabad



(L to R) Mr. Ishtiaq Ahmed Khan, Justice (Retd.) Riaz Kiayani and Justice (Retd.) Shahzad Akbar Khan at CGEP meeting in Islamabad

CGEP Delegation visits ECP; interacts with Secretary and Members of the ECP

A delegation of PILDAT Citizens Group on Electoral Process visited the Election Commission of Pakistan and interacted in detail with the Secretary and Members of the Election Commission in Islamabad on August 01, 2012.

Justice (Retd.) Riaz Kayani, member of the Commission from Punjab, **Justice (Retd.) Shahzad Akbar Khan**, member KP and **Mr. Ishtiaq Ahmad Khan**, Secretary ECP, alongside other ECP officials engaged with the CGEP members on a number of CGEP Electoral Reform Proposals.

CGEP members were led by **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Senior Advocate Supreme Court, former Governor Punjab, and included **Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani**, Chairman Gallup, Pakistan, **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, former Governor Sindh, **Senator Fasih Iqbal**, Editor-in-Chief Balochistan Times, **Justice (Retd.) Nasira Iqbal**, former Judge; **Senator Javed Jabbar**, former Federal Minister; **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, Senior Journalist, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT.

CGEP members appreciated the ECP for completion of the task of Final Electoral Rolls, albeit after a delay of 7 months. The Group also praised the initiatives of the ECP in instituting key electoral reforms in the country in the past 3 years, especially noting the leadership of former CEC, former acting CEC and the Secretary ECP in this regard. The real challenge is to win the public trust and confidence which will be the greatest asset of the ECP, the Group believed.

PILDAT Analysis of the Package of Amendments to the Representation of the People Act, 1976 (LXXXV of 1976) proposed by the Election Commission of Pakistan

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) prepared

a package of amendments to the *Representation of the People Act, 1976 (LXXXV of 1976)* and forwarded it to the Federal Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on January 23, 2013 for further processing through the Cabinet and the Parliament. An Analysis was carried out by PILDAT on February 07, 2013. The package consisted of 24 amendments.

The Representation of the People Act is probably the most important and comprehensive law among the election-related laws of Pakistan. The Act comprises 119 Sections. The proposed package of amendments seeks to amend 31 sections, omit two (2) and insert three (3) new sections in the Act.

Some of the proposed amendments are purely procedural and technical with no substantive impact. Some of such proposed amendments seek to refine the language of the law. The remaining proposed amendments can be categorized as follows:

- i. Amendments meant to further empower the ECP
- ii. Amendments aimed at increasing the amounts of fines for certain offences
- iii. Amendments meant to further empower the District Returning Officers (DROs) and Returning Officers (ROs)
- iv. Amendments proposing increase in the Amounts of Deposits by the candidates for the membership of National and Provincial Assemblies and increasing the threshold of votes at which the forfeiture of deposit can be avoided
- v. Amendments to provide legal cover to the appointment of election monitors by the ECP
- vi. Amendment aimed at increasing the period of scrutiny of nomination papers filed by candidates
- vii. Amendment meant to make the violation of Code of Conduct a punishable offense

Out of the above categories of the proposed amendments, the last three (from 5 to 7) are probably the most substantive.

PILDAT welcomes ECP Decision to Provide Online Public access to Disclosure and Declarations by Candidates

On February 21, 2013, PILDAT welcomed the decision by the ECP to make electoral candidates' data available online. In a long-standing demand, PILDAT and its Citizens Group on Electoral Process had been asking the ECP to provide public access to disclosure and declarations made by the electoral candidates.

Ahead of every election, the ECP obtains key information through nomination papers that each candidate has to submit, including declaration of information such as educational qualification, list of criminal cases, amount of income tax, land revenue paid, statement of assets and liabilities of the candidate, and candidate's status of nationality, etc. However, despite getting all this information, the ECP did not publicise it for the voters' knowledge and information. Even though Nomination Papers are considered a public document, a bureaucratic and time-consuming procedure has been in place to access these disclosures. PILDAT, therefore, had been maintaining that:

- i. The ECP should make arrangements to upload all disclosures received through Nomination Papers for each constituency on the ECP website before every Election and within 24 hours of filing of the nomination forms.
- ii. The availability of this information at ECP website be publicised for public knowledge.ⁱⁱⁱ

Welcoming the ECP decision on its long-standing demand, PILDAT has said that the ECP must now ensure that comprehensive information of candidates is available in a timely manner online.

Gallup-PILDAT release Political Weather Forecast: February 2013

PILDAT and Gallup Pakistan jointly released the analysis on Political Weather Forecast, February 2013, based on the results of a latest public opinion survey



Meeting of Citizens Group on Electoral Process

and the electoral results of the past 20 years on March 04, 2012.

The Forecast was released at a gathering of a select group of analysts and media persons with the objective to share analysis and seek input on how to organise a trustworthy political weather forecasting mechanism based on scientific information and analysis for the General Election.

The discussion was led by the noted pollster and political scientist of Pakistan, **Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani** and President PILDAT, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**.

PILDAT Presents its Perspective on Forthcoming General Election at the European Parliament

PILDAT perspective on General Election in Pakistan was presented at the European Parliament at Brussels on March 07, 2013 at a seminar organised by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe titled Challenges facing Pakistan in the run-up to General Election.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT, presented the PILDAT perspective on prospects and challenges of General Election 2013 at the seminar.

The seminar was co-hosted by **Mr. Phil Bennion**, MEP and **Mr. Alexander Lambsdorff**, MEP.

CGEP Warns Against Pre-Election Rigging; Demands Strict Action

The Citizens Group on Electoral Process (CGEP), facilitated by PILDAT, demanded strict action by the ECP against efforts of pre-electoral rigging in Pakistan in Islamabad on March 20, 2013.

Terming it as pre-election rigging, the Group expressed serious concern at the actions taken by the Federal and Provincial Governments in relation to mass regularization of contract employees, transfer and



(L to R) Mr. Omer Khan Afridi and Mr. Zubyr Soomro at Citizens Group meeting in Islamabad



Justice (Retd.) Saeed Uz Zaman Siddiqui speaking at Citizens Group meeting on Electoral Process in Islamabad

postings of federal and provincial employees and increase in perks and privileges of functionaries, etc. The CGEP has asked the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to take note of these actions and declare these null and void.

The CGEP also requested the forthcoming Caretaker Governments in the centre and provinces to review such actions by outgoing Governments and reverse these.

The CGEP demanded strict action against individuals threatening to disturb the electoral process and polling on the day of polling through agitation and other means.

The CGEP also expressed concern on the news that some Speakers of the National and Provincial Assemblies reportedly got hefty packages of perks and privileges approved for themselves for lifetime just before the expiry of the term of Assemblies.

With **Justice (Rtd.) Saeed uz Zaman Siddiqui**, former Chief Justice of Pakistan, in the chair, the CGEP members who joined the meeting included **Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin**, Renowned Journalist; **Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider**, Fomer Governor Sindh and Interior Minister; **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**, Renowned Journalist; **Justice (Rtd.) Nasira Iqbal**, Former Judge Lahore High Court; **Mr. Omer Khan Afridi**, Former Federal Minister; **Mr. Shahid Hamid**, Former Governor Punjab; **Syed Fasih Iqbal**, Editor Balochistan Times and former Senator; **Mr. Zubyr Soomro**, Former Banker; **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT and **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT.

CGEP Reviewed Quality of Electoral Process and Performance of Caretaker Governments; Expressed Concern at ECP's Ineffective Scrutiny of Nomination Papers

The CGEP, convened by PILDAT, held its 31st meeting at Lahore on May 07, 2013. Ahead of the May 11, 2013

poll, the Group reviewed factors and conditions shaping the electoral process across the country in different sectors. These sectors included the process of scrutiny of nomination forms filed by candidates; the disqualification for life of former President Pervez Musharraf; the ongoing wave of violence and terrorism; the performance of the Caretaker Governments at the Federal and Provincial levels and the over-all quality of the electoral process.

The Group recorded its appreciation for the unprecedented, historic transition that is imminent from the completed tenure of elected Governments to the inception of the next elected Governments. The Group saw this as a momentous step towards strengthening democratic institutions and embedding democratic values and practices in the body politic of Pakistan.

At the same time, the Group expressed its deep concern at certain aspects of the electoral process. In view of the fact that virtually no prominent candidate, including some whose association with questionable and controversial episodes are widely alleged, have not been subjected to a comprehensive test of eligibility by Returning Officers and the Courts with reference to Articles 62 and 63, it is obligatory for the new Parliament that will come into being post- May 2013 to review and, where necessary, substantially amend the said Articles in order to make them enforceable in practice.

Taking note of the exceptional speed, accuracy and efficiency with which every voter is able to obtain information on the location of the polling station where his or her vote can be cast, the Group said that in a country where mis-governance is prevalent, this example of excellence achieved under the supervision of ECP is a source of pride for the whole nation. The Group noted that several other countries are requesting advice and assistance from Pakistan to introduce similar arrangements for their own electoral systems.

While acknowledging that the appointment of the Caretaker Governments reflects the positive dimension of observing the due Constitutional process, the Group recorded its distress and disappointment at the inability of the Caretaker Governments to ensure protection of the lives of candidates and citizens, especially in the three smaller Provinces of Sindh, Khyber Pakhtun Khawa and Baluchistan. Whereas it is fortunate that Punjab has not witnessed the same level of violence and terrorism, in a Federation as unique as Pakistan, the people of the three smaller Provinces should not see this dis-similarity in suffering as yet another manifestation of victimization.

The Group condemned the targeting of three political parties i.e; ANP, MQM, PPP which hold particular view-points on national and ideological issues. The use of terrorism and violence to intimidate and coerce parties and voters should not be allowed to succeed. There is an urgent need for law-enforcement authorities and intelligence agencies to pre-empt and prevent such destructive actions.

During a period of significant geo-political, economic and security challenges, the Group recorded its deep regrets that the Federal Government has been functioning since its inception without Ministers of Foreign affairs, Finance and Defence.

With reference to the on-going intensity and volume of paid-for advertising being conducted by certain political parties in all mass media, the Group regretted that the Election Commission of Pakistan failed to announce limits on expenditures by political parties. Further, the Group noted that, despite the Supreme Court having asked ECP to take note of, and implement major recommendations by the SC-appointed Media Commission, no mechanism has been established by ECP to track, in real time, the actual expenditures of political parties in media advertising. Thus, there is no information on whether a level playing-field has been provided to all parties and candidates because the costs



Citizens Group on Electoral Process meeting in Lahore

of advertising remain shrouded and unknown.

With reference to the verdict rendered recently by the Peshawar High Court, through which a disqualification for life from eligibility to be elected to Parliament has been rendered on former President Pervez Musharraf, the Group noted that there is no precedent for such a ban. The Group reposed its respect in the judicial process to ensure that justice is done without bias.

The Group welcomed the publication by PILDAT “**The First 10 General Elections of Pakistan**” co-authored by **Dr. Hassan-Askari Rizvi** and **Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani**. The Group observed that this comprehensive and incisive survey of 9 elections and factors relevant to the 10th election to be held on 11th May represented a panoramic study which is essential reading for all those interested in the democratic history and in a stable democratic future for Pakistan.

Democracy and Legislative Performance Assessment

As an organisation focussed on promotion of democracy and legislative strengthening, while PILDAT has helped build public representatives capabilities towards better understanding and discharge of their functions in a country like Pakistan where democratic institutions have been weak due to disruptions in democracy, PILDAT has also pioneered monitoring and assessing the quality of democracy and legislatures' performance from citizens perspective.

Its democracy watch programme involves preparation and dissemination of State of Democracy Reports. From the first 100 days of democracy after October 2002 General Election to quarterly and annual Democracy Reports, PILDAT continues to prepare these sought-after analyses on performance of democracy in Pakistan. From indigenous criteria of evaluating democracy, PILDAT now uses an internationally developed criteria by Democratic Audit, UK of assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan.

Media seeks PILDAT's monitoring results and widely publishes which creates a greater public interest in performance monitoring. Since PILDAT also involves a multi-party representative group in each legislature to score their performance against this criteria. As a result, the initiative not just results in availability of performance monitoring widely disseminated to and covered by media, it also sets-in a reform process which is taken up by these multi-party legislators' groups involved in annual monitoring. PILDAT continues to build on the momentum of required reform in each legislature through this effort as well.

During the years, PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group-DAG is transformed into an important citizen centric interest group, which has created a new



(L to R) Mr. Cyril Almeida, and Mr. Riaz Khokhar at Democracy Assessment Group meeting in Islamabad



(L to R) Mr. Qaiser Bengali and S.M. Zafar at DAG meeting in Islamabad

constituency among the civil society organisations, institutions, academia and political circles.

Joined by its Democracy Assessment Group, PILDAT undertook the annual Assessment of the Quality of Democracy for the year 2012. In a bid to compare the elite assessment of quality of democracy, PILDAT also undertook a survey, based on a nationally representative sample of Pakistani citizens to gauge citizen's perspective on the performance of 5 years of democracy in the shape of **Public Verdict on Democracy 2008-2013**.

As an independent Pakistani organisation, PILDAT, alongside providing legislative strengthening support to the successive Provincial Assemblies of the Punjab, has also been monitoring the performance of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab. While democratic and legislative reform continues even in developed democracies, the case for required reform is considered to be much stronger in Pakistan owing to almost regular disruption of democracy throughout the past 6 decades.

Activities, with their brief descriptions, during the reporting period are as below:

Democracy Assessment Group Reviews Indigenous Framework to Evaluate Quality of Democracy in Pakistan

PILDAT's Democracy Assessment Group met in Islamabad on September 25, 2012 and reviewed an indigenous framework to evaluate the quality of democracy in Pakistan as proposed by PILDAT.

The Group brainstormed over the indigenous framework to measure quality of democracy in Pakistan. The Group provided its input on the proposed draft, in addition to reviewing PILDT's analyses covered under various Democracy Monitors issued since January 2012.

Starting in January 2012, PILDAT has been monitoring, on a periodic basis, events in the country

that have had an impact on the quality of democracy in Pakistan. This monitoring has been converted into Democracy Monitors. *Democracy Monitor 1* covers the period from January 1 – April 30, 2012; *Democracy Monitor 2* covers the period from May 1 to August 6, 2012 and *Democracy Monitor 3* covers the period from August 7 to September 6, 2012.

Continuity of Democratic Process a Positive Sign; Governance Failure a Major Concern: PILDAT Workshop

A national workshop on “Assesment of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan, 2012” was organised by PILDAT on December 06, 2012 in Islamabad. The key view held by members of PILDAT's Democracy Assessment Group was that while processes that strengthen democracy have been effectively put into work, the ultimate performance of the democracy as it affects the people has not been satisfactory during the year 2012. The Government's completion of five years term is a milestone in the country's political history but there is more that needs to be done on the governance front.

The National Workshop was attended by various representatives of different sections of society – such as political parties, MPs, Youth, Labour, Academia, etc. to share their views on the quality of democracy in Pakistan in Year 2012.

Spokesperson of the President and representative of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), **Senator Farhatullah Babar**, said that one of the key parameters of measuring democracy in the country is to assess whether or not the federation has weakened. On that scale, he argued, democracy has improved as pillars of federation have increased over the time. Moreover, he reminded, there has been a massive shift of economic and political power at the lower level. He attributed the past political upheavals to what he termed as the “Manipulated Power Transfer” (MPT) and emphasized



(L to R) Justice (Retd.) Saeed Uz Zaman Siddiqui and Mr. Illahi Bux Soomro at PILDAT workshop on Assessment of Quality of Democracy in Islamabad



(L to R) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider and Ms. Huma Baqai at PILDAT workshop in Islamabad

that this mere fact that the system was not allowed to destabilize despite the disqualification of one Prime Minister speaks of how strong democracy has evolved in the country. He also brought to attention the positive role of Parliamentary Committees including the Senate Standing Committee on Defence and Defence Productions and National Assembly Standing Committee on Human Rights, which have been at the forefront of suggesting recommendations to the Parliament and Executive.

Representing Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) and Secretary General of the party, **Mr. Iqbal Zafar Jhagra**, said that the “worst form of democracy is better than the best form of autocracy” – a view which was repeatedly endorsed by participants of the workshop. He lamented that people are frustrated and disappointed but these disappointments will hopefully wash away with continuity in the democratic process.

Mr. Haider Abbas Rizvi, representative of the Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM), said that we must appreciate that the democratic process was never derailed in the country in the current setup. He said that he would award the Parliament a total of 6.5 out of 10 marks. He also reminded the judiciary is presently powerful in the country.

Starting off the discussion of the workshop, **Dr. Hasan-Askari Rizvi**, a renowned academic, said that while continuity of the system for five years, among other processes, that strengthen democracy needs to be appreciated, the issue of social fragmentation in the country needs to be taken into account. He also underlined that the Supreme Court's assertive role has both positive and negative sides on the impact of democracy in the country. He recommended that the “system should not be distorted, it should be supported.”

Mr. Shahid Hamid, Former Governor Punjab, said that good governance is the most vital thing on

assessing democracy. He agreed that whereas the implementation of SC's judgment enhances the institution's moral authority, it is hoped that it doesn't erode with the Court's assertive role.

Speaking on the issue of media in the country, Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, columnist, said that one of the key trends in the country has been the rise of social media or what is termed as citizen journalism. He reminded that media's freedom needs to be ensured in the country which has become a dangerous place for journalists. He agreed that the intellectual and cultural environment of media including the speech and style is a matter of concern, proposing that media needs to “kick start a rationale debate” in the country.

Dr. Huma Baqai, a renowned academic, said that “politics of consensus has become politics of compromise.” She appreciated that it is good that the Pakistan's democracy is moving beyond the “2-and-a-half-year hitch”, but reminded though that the problems are still solved on the streets instead of in the assemblies.

Sharing the role of political parties in strengthening democracy, **Mir Hasil Bizenjo**, Senior Vice-President, National Party Pakistan, said that political parties have played a key role in establishing democratic setup in the country, reminding that in the past “thousands of workers were lashed” to ensure installation of a democratic setup. He urged that due place should be granted to political parties who, in the past, helped remove the military rulers out of the power.

Taking part in the discussion, Chairman NADRA, **Mr. Tariq Malik** appreciated the role of Parliamentarians for agreeing to use NADRA database for drawing voters list, reminding that so far 84 million voters have been registered.

Participating in the discussion, **Mr. Arif Azhar**,



(L to R) Ms. Anisa Zeb Tahirkheli and Mrs. Meiraj Hamayun Khan of Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) at PILDAT National workshop in Islamabad



(L to R) Senator Mir Hasil Bizenjo and Justice (Retd.) Saeed Uz Zaman Siddiqui at PILDAT National workshop in Islamabad

President of the Punjab chapter of Awami National Party, said that it was due to political parties that military was being taken out of power.

Mr. Ameer ul Azeem from Jamaat Islami lamented that democracy is taken as a business in the country, urging that performance needs to be improved.

Ms. Shabnam Rukhsana from Pakistan Muslim League said that the worsening law and order situation, inflation, lack of power supply, and foreign policy are all issues which negatively affect democracy in the country.

Ms. Malaika Raza from Pakistan Tehreek Insaf (PTI) recalled that parties in Pakistan are mostly hereditary-based or draw their vote on ethnic lines. This, she said, needs to be shunned.

Ms. Meraj Khan of the Qaumi Watan Party commended the new Voters List and the Code of Conduct for the General Elections, 2013, but added that there is “fear, violence, trafficking, and corruption” in the country.

Mr. Saleem Safi, a noted journalist, said that it is a positive sign that both opposition and Government are tolerating each other. However, the way ideology has withered away from political parties is a cause of concern for democracy, he said. It has been an observation during 2012, he said, that a single person switched from one party to another.

Lt. General (Retd.) Abdul Qayyum said that last five years was a travel on a “bumpy road”, as the country suffered economic disaster and law and order issues.

Lt. General (Retd.) Talat Hussain stated that despite the fact that key political parties in Karachi namely MQM, ANP and PPP are all part of the Government; no effective solution to the violence in the city has been found by the parties who are also stakeholders to the worsening issue in the metropolis. A participant also

shared that democracy in the country should be assessed over its performance on economic end.

The workshop was introduced by PILDAT's President, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, who shared that in Pakistan, democracy can be looked at through two aspects: processes and performances. While process refers to the institutions and rules that make the system work, the performance refers to the output of the processes in the country. Enlisting the positive trends impacting quality of democracy in the country during 2012, he said that the uninterrupted Parliamentary process, smooth transfer of power from one PM to other, resolution of NRO implementation case, legislation for neutral caretaker governments, timely conduct of the Senate election, greater role of Parliament in national security and foreign policy decisions, internal elections in Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) among other issues needs to be appreciated. He lamented that the assessment of democracy on the performance front has been poor. He shared that the Parliament failed to pass a comprehensive Anti-Terrorism Law and effective law for the Accountability of public officials. He also recalled that the Chairmanship of the Public Accounts Committee has been returned to the ruling party and that the President continues to hold the co-chairmanship of his political party and hosts party activities within the Presidency. Moreover, the rise of sectarian violence, insurgency in Balochistan and target killing in Karachi, poor performance of the economy, corruption and weak rule of law continue to undermine democratic setup, he added.

Summing up the discussion, **Justice (Retd.) Saeed-uz-Zaman Siddiqui**, Former Chief Justice of Pakistan, said that although there are many laws in the country, they are not implemented across the board. Our guiding principle should be equitable treatment to all, he concluded.



(L to R) Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Mr. Naveed Qamar on Assessment of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan



Mr. Riaz Khokhar, Former Foreign Secretary speaking on Assessment of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan in Islamabad

PILDAT Launches Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan

Let us judge the processes and principles of democracy, put in place by the coalition Government in 5 years, through the upcoming election, said **Syed Naveed Qamar**, MNA, Federal Minister for Defence while addressing the Launch Roundtable of PILDAT Report on the Assessment of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan held on January 30, 2013 in Islamabad.

Nominated from the Prime Minister of Pakistan to represent the Government at the Launch Roundtable, Syed Naveed Qamar congratulated PILDAT for what he termed as serving as a watchdog on democracy and said that we are grateful for PILDAT's independent, non-partisan view on processes and democracy that it has been providing over the years.

He said that regardless of results of public opinion polls, the most important test of democracy will be through free and fair election, the biggest and actual poll which will be held in a few months' time. For the first time in Pakistan, democratic governments in the centre and in provinces will be voted in or out based on their performance in office. He said that the ranking of democracy in Pakistan will get a boost there. More than at any time in the history of Pakistan, steps have been taken to put in place electoral reforms to allow for a level-playing field.

Syed Naveed Qamar said that it is an unfair comment that Prime Minister is a figure-head compared to the President. He explained that President, in the current dispensation is drawing his power from party chairpersonship. When ruling coalition would not belong to the same party after Election, this equation will also change. He also said that no President who was committed to a non-political philosophy would have allowed devolution of power from Presidency to the Parliament. He also said that the test of holding power is not just its display as in the shape of guns and tanks but with how much restraint the power has been

used – as has been displayed by the PPPP Government in the past 5 years.

He said that let this system and the Election Commission be supported for the conduct of free and fair election. There is no dearth of constitutional and legal powers available to the ECP and its real test will be how effectively ECP uses these powers in the conduct of a fair poll.

Chairing the session, Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate Supreme Court, presented the consensus scores of the Democracy Assessment Group. He said that in five (5) years since 2008 while the processes of democracy have improved considerably, the performance of democracy or its product, the democratic governments, has been poor. He mentioned that the Executive Summary of the report carries aggregate scores.

Presenting findings from *Public Opinion Survey* conducted to gauge public opinion on quality of democracy in the past 5 years, Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani, Chairman Gallup Pakistan, said that Media, Judiciary and Provincial Autonomy have appeared as Gainers; whereas, in the public opinion, Parliament, Respect for Human Rights, Cabinet, Law Observance Executive Proprietary, increased Foreign encroachment on national decision making and Democratic Control over Military are Losers. Prospects of Free and Fair Election reflected through independence of Election Commission of Pakistan have not improved in the past 5 years in the public opinion.

Earlier, presenting the summary of PILDAT analysis, Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director PILDAT said that strengthening of democratic processes in 5 years has received the score of 44.2% as compared to Performance of Democracy which is rated at a low 20.9% by the Democracy Assessment Group. The aggregate score of all the questions amounted to



(L to R) Lt. Gen (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, Senator Mir Hasil Bizenjo and Ms. Aasiya Riaz at Assessment of Democracy meeting in Islamabad



(L to R) Ms. Farzana Bari and Ms. Nasim Zehra on Assessment of Quality of Democracy in Pakistan

37.9%; the over-arching question on “*how good is the quality of democracy in the country*” received a score of 45%, below even the 50% mark. Explaining the scores, she said that Strong pillars of democracy have been evaluated to be Media with a 50.1% score, strengthening of constitutional framework with 57.7% score, Electoral Process and Management at 58.5% while Weak pillars include Local Government with a score of 21.4%, Public Spending at 21.7% and Service Delivery at 22.5%.

She said that factors contributing positively to the quality of democracy in Pakistan have included smooth transfer of power from one head of Government to another; Parliament of Pakistan beginning to play a role in influencing national security and foreign policy decisions of the country; constitution of a full-time 5-member Election Commission including the Chief Election Commissioner through a bi-partisan process; Judiciary aggressively following the case of missing persons especially in Balochistan and concluding the 17-year old Asghar Khan case, etc.

Factors that have contributed negatively to quality of democracy are analysed by the Group to be lack of initiatives on good governance; State's declining capacity in containing terrorism and militancy; Parliament's failure to develop across-the-board political consensus on providing a comprehensive framework dealing with terrorism and accountability; poor performance of economy; failure of Provincial Governments to hold Local Government elections and a partisan President visibly taking the lead in major policy and decision-making functions reducing the Prime Minister to a figurehead.

Highlighting future concerns for democracy, she said that Assertion of Judiciary at the cost of encroaching upon Executive's domain, lack of effective democratic control on defence and national security, neutrality and integrity of the caretaker Governments, continuation of a highly partisan President and almost equally partisan

provincial Governors during the upcoming election and the inability of the ECP in taking timely and effective action on issues impacting upcoming election.

Members of Parliament, Political Parties, Business community, youth representatives, media and analysts joined the launch Roundtable and appreciated and supported the conclusions drawn by PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group on the quality of democracy in Pakistan.

Public Verdict on Democracy a mixture of “Applause,” “Appreciation” and “Reprimand”: PILDAT Public Opinion Survey

Public's verdict on quality of democratic governance in Pakistan in the past 5 years is a mixture of “applause,” “appreciation” and “reprimand,” as the PILDAT nationwide public opinion survey revealed on February 21, 2013 in Islamabad.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, said that as the present Government and Parliament complete five-year term in 2013, PILDAT joined hands with Gallup Pakistan to hold a popular jury of the average Pakistani citizens, the voters, to give their verdict on the performance of Pakistan's first democratic experience which lasted for 5 years.

The report titled **Public Verdict on Democracy 2008-2013** unveiled at the seminar, presents analysis of the results of a nationally representative survey on performance of democracy in Pakistan during the past 5 years. To provide comparative analysis of the popular survey result, the report also compares these with the opinions of the expert jury, consisting of PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group (DAG) on the performance of democracy in Pakistan during the period.

Explaining the comparison on the verdicts of the two



(L to R) Mr. Ijaz Shafi Gillani and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at Public Forum in Islamabad



(L to R) Justice (Retd.) Ms Nasira Iqbal and Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin at DAG meeting in Islamabad

Jurys, namely the popular jury and the jury of eminent persons or experts, Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani, Chairman Gallup Pakistan, said that while the popular jury is less critical on the whole about the quality of democratic governance during the past 5 years - its overall verdict has a score of -22%; while the overall score given by the Expert Jury is -30%.

Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate Supreme Court, former Governor Punjab, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, former Governor Sindh, Justice (Retd.) Nasira Iqbal, Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Analyst and Dr. Hasan-Askari Rizvi, Defence and Political Analyst, also spoke on the occasion.

Ghazi Advises Youth to Take a Considered Position in the On-Going Battle of Ideas. 'Don't Just Sit on the Margins'

PILDAT Democracy Assessment Group met at a roundtable discussion on “Youth and Democracy” with the members of the 5th batch of the Youth Parliament of Pakistan on February 28, 2013 in Islamabad.

What does it mean to be young in Pakistan?” This was the question posed by Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Senior Analyst and Member, PILDAT's Democracy Assessment Group, while concluding his speech in an interactive and candid roundtable discussion on “Youth and Democracy”, with members of the 5th batch of the Youth Parliament Pakistan.

Mr. Salahuddin said that Youth Parliament's members, who are privileged enough to have been enrolled for undergraduate studies in a country where tertiary-level enrolment is below 10%, need to identify who they are and what their country is about. They need to visit various places of Pakistan, meet the people, explore the country's problems and suggest remedies for addressing those.

He encouraged the members to draw a fact sheet on Pakistan, enlisting both its highs and lows. For

instance, Pakistan is the seventh most populous country in the world, which, he said, can go either way. He also advised that youth, irrespective of their professional and academic background, must read fiction, and inform themselves with a correct sense of history of the world and its ideas, including democracy, around which the roundtable was organized.

Speaking about the barriers to democracy, Mr. Salahuddin said that the greatest barriers on the way towards democracy are those items which we identify with feudalism or tribalism. "It is for you to make Pakistan safe for democracy," he reminded the members of Youth Parliament drawn from across the country.

Pakistan belongs to you and you belong to Pakistan, no matter which image the country has. "One word which the youth needs to understand is: empathy," he said.

Members of the Youth Parliament actively took part in the discussion. They shared that there is a confusion on the definition and identification of culture of the country, to which Mr. Salahuddin said that it is wrong to consider one's culture as inferior, but it is equally incorrect to consider it as superior.

Earlier, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, shared that PILDAT had carried out an assessment of the quality of democracy in the country. The idea, he shared, was to know as to how democracy and democratic institutions have been performing in the country.

Mr. Ismail Khan, Projects Manager PILDAT, in his presentation on the report on quality of democracy in the country, shared that whereas democratic processes have strengthened in Pakistan over the past 5 years, their ultimate effect on the performance of democracy is far from satisfactory.

PILDAT Citizens' Forum on Performance of the



MPAs of Provincial Assembly of Punjab at PILDAT Citizens Forum in Lahore



(L to R) Rana Muhammad Iqbal, Speaker Punjab Assembly and Senator Mohammed Mohsin Leghari at Citizens Forum in Lahore

15th Provincial Assembly & Recommendations of Reforms

Appreciating PILDAT contribution to strengthening the role of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, Honourable Speaker of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, **Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan**, MPA, said that the performance of the outgoing Punjab Assembly improved due to PILDAT's contribution.

He was addressing the PILDAT Citizens Forum on Performance of the 15th Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and Recommendations for Reform to Strengthen the Assembly that was held at Lahore on June 27, 2013.

Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari, **Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami**, Senior Analyst, and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, spoke at the Forum. MPAs belonging to different political parties, analysts and media persons joined the Forum in large numbers.

The Forum was held in the light of PILDAT Citizens Report on the *5-Year Performance of the 15th Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and Recommendations for Reform to Strengthen the Assembly*. The report can be accessed in Urdu and in English languages online.

Speaking at the Forum, Senator Mohsin Leghari said that the members should have an in depth knowledge of the rules and must use the point of order properly. Point of order is generally misused and becomes point of disorder. He also stressed the need for making the committees more effective and called for an enhanced role of the committees in the provincial budget process.

Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, Senior Analyst, said that the role of the committees is imperative in the oversight of the government and should be further strengthened. He demanded that the Chief Minister should be part of daily Question Hour. He also supported PILDAT's

proposal of introducing weekly CM Question Hour.

Presenting PILDAT's analysis, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, said that as per broad indicators of Punjab Assembly's performance, in its 5-year term the Assembly met for 414 days in 45 sessions. However, these days are calculated by taking into account up to two non-working days. The actual number of work days for the 15th Provincial Assembly remained only 302 days in 5 years, or on the average about 60 days per year. If compared with the 14th Provincial Assembly of the Punjab (Nov 25 2002 – Nov 18, 2007) in which the Assembly had met for a total of 321 days in 31 sessions with the number of actual sittings being 227, the 15th Provincial Assembly of the Punjab shows an improvement of 24.8% in the number of days actually worked.

Legislative Reforms: Strengthening and Enhancing Legislative Budget Process and Capacities

As an organisation that places a major emphasis on strengthening of democracy and democratic institutions for a more prosperous Pakistan, legislative reforms remain high on agenda of PILDAT. PILDAT continues to engage with multi-party public representatives, political parties and elected legislative leadership on required legislative reform.

Parliamentary Control of the purse strings or the budget is one of the most crucial powers of any legislature. As the representative of the people, a legislature is the appropriate place to ensure that the Budget best matches the nation's needs with available resources. Such an exercise demands detailed engagement of the Parliament with the Budget Process.

Pakistan's current budgetary process has, for various historical reasons, attracted little input from Parliamentarians, 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 Processes more inclusive and to strengthen the channels and practices of Parliamentary input, scrutiny and oversight of the national budget.

Through PILDAT's initiative spanning over many years, nearly every legislator from across political spectrum is aware of the deficiency of current budget process. MPs raise these deficiencies regularly in the Houses, especially during budget sessions and share reform proposals developed together with PILDAT. Committees have begun to demand departmentally-related budget and demands for grants and slowly have started receiving these ahead of budget session. There are private member motions and changes on rules submitted in the National Assembly of Pakistan in this regard.



(L to R) Mr. Ashraf Sohna, MPA and Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Khan, MPA at Briefing Session on Rules of Business of the Government of Punjab

Through the sensitisation efforts and advocacy of PILDAT over the years, Punjab Assembly has institutionalised Pre-Budget Sessions for MPAs to make input into provincial budget while Parliament seems poised to make the required reforms in near future.

One of PILDAT's long-standing demands for reform was fulfilled in January 2013 when the National Assembly passed an amendment in its rules to empower Standing Committees to scrutinize their respective Ministry's Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year before the same is sent to the Ministry of Finance for inclusion in the Federal Budget.²

During the reporting period, PILDAT organised a special briefing and orientation for the newly elected Parliamentarians on Federal Budget Process. Apart from this, PILDAT laid special emphasis on the Parliamentary Budget Reforms in Pakistan and facilitated the Parliamentarians on various issues by involving senior economic analysts. Activities related to effectiveness of the Parliamentary Budget Process in Pakistan during the reporting period are as below:

MPAs should have a role in framing Punjab Government Rules of Business

Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab met with Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Khan, MPA (PP-151, Lahore-XV, PML-N) in the chair to discuss the Rules of Business of the Government of the Punjab at a Briefing

2. On an amendment moved by a private member of the then-opposition belonging to the PML-N, Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan, MNA, the 13th National Assembly passed the following amendment in its rules on January 29, 2013:
"Amendment in rule 201:- That in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007, in rule 201, after sub-rule (5), the following new sub-rule (6), shall be added, namely:-
 "(6) Each Standing Committee shall scrutinize and suggest amendments, if necessary, and recommend Ministry's Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year before the same is sent to the Ministry of Finance for inclusion in the Federal Budget for the next financial year. Each Ministry shall submit its budgetary proposals relating to Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next financial year to the relevant Standing Committee not later than the 31st January of preceding financial year and the Standing Committee shall make recommendations thereon not later than the 1st March of the preceding financial year:
 Provided that where such recommendations are not made by the 1st March, the same shall be deemed to have been endorsed by the Standing Committee."

Session organized by PILDAT in Lahore on September 04, 2012. The MPAs demanded that the rules of business of the Government of the Punjab should help in solving the problems of the masses and should be implemented uniformly and should not be politically motivated.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT highlighted that the Government has to be run under certain set of rules and regulations and the MPAs need to have a role in the formulation and amendment of these rules.

Mr. Rahat Ul Ain, Former Dean, National College of Public Policy, in his presentation put forward a comparison of the rules of business of different countries and highlighted the importance of the Rules of Business of the government. He also shed light on the Procedure of Framing rules in other democracies and the role of Legislature in framing, amending or approving these rules. Mr. Rahat Ul Ain also put forward five recommendations for the consideration of the MPAs for making the rules of business of the government more people friendly.

Dr. Nazir Saeed, Chief Member Judicial, in his talk stressed that the Provincial Government works to provide facilities to the public and the rules should be made to remove all hurdles. He said that there is a need for capacity building of the members of the Provincial Assembly as well as the government officials to develop efficient rules of the business. Rules of the business should be made and implemented at all levels so that everyone can follow and understand these rules.

Mr. Ehsan ul Haq Naulatia, MPA, (PP-153, Muzaffargrah III, PPP) while talking on the occasion termed the session as very useful for MPAs and declared it as an opportunity to learn about the rules of procedures of the Government of the Punjab. He emphasized the need of making the Standing Committees of the Punjab Assembly more effective so



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Dr. Nazir Saeed at Briefing Session on Rules of Business of the Government of Punjab



MPAs of Punjab Assembly at Briefing Session on Rules of Business of the Government of Punjab

that the Assembly can play its role of oversight. He also suggested that any amendments to the rules should be made according to the will of the people as it is the MPAs who represent the people. He also demanded that the provincial legislators should be granted role in the subordinate legislation as the case in the neighboring India.

Mr. Ijaz Ahmed Khan, MPA (PP-151, Lahore-XV, PML-N), in his concluding remarks said that these rules are framed by the government for its running and the members of the Provincial Assembly do not have any role in the formulation of these rules. He was of the opinion that the members can amend these rules by passing a resolution in the House. He was however, of the opinion that a greater role should be given to the MPAs as well as a greater role should be played by the MPAs to debate these rules.

The Briefing Session was attended by Members of the Punjab Assembly, senior bureaucrats and officials of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

Legislation Should be the Prime Responsibility of the Public Representatives

Members of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab met with Honourable Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Speaker Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, in the chair on September 28, 2012 in Lahore to discuss and find the ways to create a balance between the constituency and legislative responsibilities. The MPAs demanded that the local Governments should be put in place so that the MPAs can concentrate on their role job of legislation.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob President, PILDAT highlighted that it was a tough job for the members to keep a balance between the legislative and the constituency responsibilities.

Syed Fakhr Imam, Former Speaker of the National Assembly and former Federal Minister, in his address stressed the need for setting up caucuses of the

researchers within the legislature to facilitate the legislators. He said that the capacity of the legislators to legislate has increased but at the same time the set of problems needing legislation has also increased.

Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gillani, Chairman Gallup Pakistan, was of the opinion that in our system the Constituency work is rated as one of the biggest factors for getting elected to the legislature. If the legislators confine themselves only to the legislation it will be very difficult for them to get elected.

Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal, MNA and Chairman Public Accounts Committee National Assembly of Pakistan, said that system of developing policy expertise is missing in the political parties. He was of the opinion that the voters are now more curious about the performance of the MPAs and MNAs of their constituencies in the provincial and National assemblies. To create a balance between the constituency and legislative responsibilities he suggested that an elected member should spend at least 3 days in their constituencies. He also stressed the need of having local governments so that undue pressures on the MPAs and MNAs can be reduced.

Mr. Ijaz Ahmed Khan, MPA (PP-151, Lahore-XV, PML-N), while addressing the gathering stressed the need for educating the voter. He was of the opinion that the systems should be developed and made strong so that the elected member does not have to get unnecessarily involved in personal problems of the voters. He also stressed the need for building the capacity of the institutions.

Honourable Speaker, Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, MPA (PP-184, Kasur -X, PML-N), while addressing the gathering thanked PILDAT and termed the briefing session as very useful and stressed that legislation and constituency politics should go hand in hand and the elected members should not lose contact with their voters. He paid tribute to PILDAT for taking up



(L to R) Mr. Fakhar Imam and Rana Mohammad Iqbal at Discussion Forum in Lahore



(L to R) Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal, MNA and Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gillani at Discussion Forum in Lahore

different issues and said that the deliberations facilitated by PILDAT are taken very seriously by the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab. The Assembly strives to implement the suggestions put forward in PILDAT workshops also.

PILDAT Series on Parliamentary Budget Reforms in Pakistan: Oversight on Public Finances Prime Responsibility of Elected Legislators

Oversight on public finances and budget is the prime responsibility of elected legislators at the centre and provinces and they must assert themselves to effectively discharge their responsibilities. This remained the key theme at the series of Roundtable Discussions organized by PILDAT on **Parliamentary Budget Reforms in Pakistan** on February 20, 2013 in Islamabad.

In his introductory remarks, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob** said that the roundtables are organised so as to celebrate a huge milestone on the road to democracy: through an amendment, moved by PML-N MNA, Ms. Anusha Rahman, and passed unanimously in the Rules of Procedures in the National Assembly of Pakistan on January 29, 2013, Standing Committees can now review departmental PSDP proposals before these are submitted to the Ministry of Finance. He said that PILDAT, which has been working to institute budget process reforms to strengthen Parliament's role, feels more reforms are needed while there are challenges towards operationalising existing reforms.

Mr. Mehboob introduced the two speakers from India, especially invited by PILDAT to present Indian Lok Sabha and Indian State Legislatures' best practices.

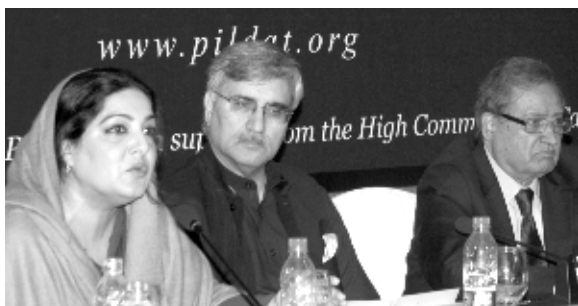
He said that budget has a special significance in Parliamentary powers. While in principal and as per the statutes, budget is passed by the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies, the exercise is only just in the name. He shared that National Assembly has, on the average in the past 10 years, spent just 12 days debating

and passing the most important policy document – compared to over 75-days long budget process in the Lok Sabha in neighbouring India. While ordinarily a law is referred to a Standing Committee, the Finance Bill is not one of those. He said that Budget is not a document which can be understood casually in a plenary debate and it needs a committee to analyse and debate it in-depth.

Thanking the Canadian High Commission for its support to PILDAT for keeping this important debate alive, also acknowledged the support of **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly, **Syed Naveed Qamar**, MNA, **Syed Khurshid Shah**, MNA, **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, **Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry**, MNA, in addition to **Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan**, MNA, and **Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan**, MNA, for striving to make reforms in the Parliamentary budget process in the National Assembly.

Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan, MNA (PML-N) shared problems she had to overcome for getting the amendment passed. She said that the amendment is just a beginning and much more reform is needed to put in place effective mechanism for MPs to carry out scrutiny and oversight on public finances. She added that though MPs can now put their recommendations in PSDP through Standing Committees of the National Assembly but Standing Committees still lack powers as it is only the Ministry of Finance, which is in a position either to accept or reject the recommendations in the yearly Budget. She proposed that National Assembly needs an overall reforms, particularly research associates for support of Parliamentarians.

Sharing his views, **Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry**, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Rules and Privileges, acknowledged PILDAT's reform proposals and initiatives in strengthening Parliamentary budget process. He spoke



(L to R) Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan, MNA Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Chaudhry, MNA at Roundtable Discussion on Parliamentary Budget Reforms in Islamabad



(L to R) Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, MNA and Mr. Amitabh Mukhopahyay speaking at Roundtable discussion held in Islamabad

in detail about the process the committee adopted in the passage of the amendment and shared that due to very strong opposition from the Law and Finance Ministries, the amendment had to be revised but is a welcome first step towards reforms.

Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, MNA, Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce, traced back the history of the recently passed amendment sharing that he was the mover behind the first amendment. For an empowered Parliament, public representatives have to be able to question non-development budget as well. The culture in which bureaucracy thinks that elected legislators are a passing phenomenon and cannot be entrusted with details of statecraft and state policies must change now.

Speaking at the occasion, **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee said that the recent amendment in the Rule of Procedure and conduct of Business in National Assembly provide powers, although a very minimum level, to the Parliamentarians to give suggestions in PSDP. The rules need more amendments to empower the Parliamentarians for an effective role on the budget.

Mr. Amitabh Mukhopahyay, Former Joint Secretary, Parliament of India / Former DG, Comptroller and Auditor General India explained the budget process in the Indian Parliament. He was of the view that we need innovations in our parliamentary systems as the Westminster Model of democracy provides adequately for the legislative oversight.

The Roundtable Discussion was attended by a large number of Parliamentarians from different political parties, Civil Society Representatives, Media representatives and Parliamentary Staff. PILDAT prepared a Background paper on the reforming Parliamentary Budget Process in Pakistan.

Newly-elected MNAs briefed on Federal Budget Process in Pakistan

In a special PILDAT Briefing & Orientation in Islamabad on June 04, 2013, newly-elected Members of the 14th National Assembly were briefed by veteran MNAs including **Syed Naveed Qamar**, former Finance Minister, **Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi**, former Foreign Minister and **Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, expert on Public Finance.

The orientation titled **Federal Budget Process in the National Assembly of Pakistan: How can MPs Optimise Contribution to Budget Debate** mostly brought together first-time elected MNAs who engaged in a constructive interaction with the panel of speakers.

Explaining the Federal Budget Process, Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq said that as per article 80 of the Constitution, the Federal Government presents an annual budget statement to the National Assembly. Walking MNAs through budget books, Nohman emphasised that in order to understand budget, it is essential to first understand policy, which is made possible through Federal Medium Term Budget Estimates for Service Delivery. Explaining the Federal Budget Process, he added that a budget call circular is issued by the Ministry of Finance to all ministries. The Government also presents a Budget Strategy Paper to the cabinet. However, he emphasised that Parliamentary committees, which are supposed to be part of the loop of budget are generally not allowed to play a role in Pakistan.

Briefing MNAs on how they can effectively use the tools available in rules of Assembly to scrutinise budget and effectively contribute in budget debate, **Syed Naveed Qamar**, MNA, said that it is important for MNAs to utilise the time of budget debate effectively.



(L to R) Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, MNA and Mr. Naveed Qamar, MNA at Orientation Session of Newly Elected MNAs on Federal Budget in Islamabad



(L to R) Ms. Aasiya Riaz and Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq at a briefing on Federal Budget in Islamabad

MNAs should be prepared for budget debates in the start of the session to use maximum time. Parliamentary parties should divide topics among their members to allow for a focussed debate.

Coordinating the discussion, **Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi**, MNA, said that it is important for MNAs across parties to join hands for necessary Parliamentary and constitutional reforms to strengthen budget scrutiny and oversight by Parliament.

Earlier, welcoming newly-elected MNAs, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT, said that passing the budget is one of the most important powers and responsibilities of elected representatives of the people. She highlighted that PILDAT has been working very closely with the Parliament and Parliamentarians to bring in needed reforms to the budget process in Pakistan to ensure parliamentary assent to the budget moves beyond its symbolic value at present. Outlining key areas requiring reform of the budget process according to PILDAT, she said that there should be an effective mechanism to invite and receive Pre-Budget proposals from the Parliament and its Committees; the period between the presentation of the Budget in the Parliament and its passage should be extended to at least 60 days allowing Parliamentary Standing Committees a key role in budget review. She also introduced the key PILDAT publications shared with MNAs on Federal Budget Process.

PILDAT Exclusive Briefing Session on Analysis of the Federal Budget 2013-2014 for PTI MPs

PILDAT, together with the Parliamentary leadership of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Parliamentary Party in the National Assembly of Pakistan, organised a Briefing Session on Budget 2013-2014 on June 14, 2013 in Islamabad.

Mr. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, MNA; Deputy Parliamentary Leader PTI in National Assembly, chaired the session. **Mr. Nohman Ishtiaq**, Public

Financial Management Specialist, briefed PTI MNAs on *Budget 2013-2014 Numbers and Policy* while **Mr. Asad Umar**, PTI Team Leader on Budget, addressed the parliamentary party on analysis of the budget from the party's perspective.

Earlier welcoming the PTI MNAs at the Briefing Session, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT, said that as a non-partisan institute, PILDAT is happy to provide assistance to all parties represented in the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies. She also said that while control over the Federal purse strings is one of the most crucial powers of the National Assembly, it remains an exercise in motion only. She urged MPs to focus on key reforms in strengthening Parliamentary budget process including instituting provisions in rules of National Assembly on pre-budget session and allowing a role for Standing Committees in reviewing draft demands for grants after the presentation of budget.

Regional Parliamentary Dialogues

Countries of South Asia in general share numerous commonalities like culture, standard of living, challenges in the economic, social and political fields. This offers a great potential of learning from each other and cooperating on resolving common issues.

In order to promote better understanding between Pakistani, Afghan and Indian legislators on cooperation regarding cross-border issues such as security, trade, Control of Narcotics and water and refugees, etc., recommendations of the PILDAT Parliamentary Dialogues of Pakistani Parliamentarians with Afghan and Indian Parliamentarians separately were adopted by the respective authorities on both sides.

Since 2008 alone, PILDAT has managed to bring Parliamentarians of Pakistan and Afghanistan and Pakistan and India on the dialogue table for seven and four times respectively. These dialogues have successfully built a momentum through which Parliamentarians from all three countries are keen to continue the engagement to:

- i. Monitor how the respective Governments are carrying forward bilateral relations
- ii. Lead, in the respective Parliaments for their respective governments, the agendas for the improvement of bilateral relations

These Parliamentarians Dialogues, being a pioneering effort, have started to receive serious attention from decision-makers of India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. MPs are better informed about each other's position on potential areas of conflict and concern and therefore in a better position to help in resolution of conflicts and formulation of better policies for better relations.

Many widespread misgivings are being addressed by face-to-face contacts and feelings of bitterness are being reduced considerably.

The 4th round of Pak-India MPs Dialogue was facilitated by PILDAT in New Delhi on August 23-24, 2012 where Parliamentarians from India and Pakistan re-affirmed their belief that there is consensus between the people of the two countries to build on peace and improved relations. They noted with satisfaction that the previous 3 rounds of Parliamentarians Dialogues, held in Islamabad and New Delhi since January 2011, have contributed to a positive milieu within which the two Governments have been able to initiate and sustain the resumed dialogue.

The Parliamentarians deeply appreciated the warm welcome accorded to the Pakistan delegation by the Honourable Speaker Lok Sabha, **Ms. Meira Kumar**, at the Parliament of India. They also welcomed and shared the Honourable Speaker's sentiment that frequent exchange of Parliamentary delegations is indicative of the resolve of the people of the two countries to peacefully resolve all issues of mutual concern and interest.

With the successful conclusion of Chief Minister Bihar's visit to Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore from November 09-16, 2012, PILDAT's vision behind facilitating this visit stood fulfilled. *Peace and Friendship for Good Governance*, as PILDAT envisioned a year earlier and extended invitation to Chief Minister Bihar to visit Pakistan, are the way forward for improving deepening Pak-India relations. While PILDAT has and continues to facilitate a Parliamentary Dialogue between Pakistan and India on issues including Kashmir, Siachen, River Water, Tourism and Trade, among others, we envisaged that beyond the countries' capitals, the conversation must also include experience sharing on good governance and on basic public issues including Education, Health, Poverty Eradication, and Right to Services. After the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan, it was logical that experience sharing on Good Governance must take place at the Provincial level, reservoir of power in Pakistan.

During the reporting period, PILDAT also facilitated Parliamentarians from Afghanistan and Pakistan to meet in Islamabad, Pakistan, on December 11-12, 2012, for Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentarians Dialogue-VII. The Dialogue was co-hosted with the Pak-Afghan Parliamentary Friendship Group in the National Assembly of Pakistan. On the sidelines of the Dialogue, the 18-member Afghan Parliamentary Delegation also met with the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Separate set of recommendations from all Dialogues have emerged as outputs of the dialogues between Pakistani and Indian Parliamentarians and Pakistan and Afghanistan Parliamentarians. These recommendations are the major issues that have been highlighted by the Parliamentarians, which affect the relationship between Pakistan and its two neighbouring countries. Many of these recommendations have been adopted by the respective Governments.

Activities undertaken during 2012-2013 are as below:

India-Pakistan Parliamentarians Dialogue-IV held in New Delhi: Parliamentarians called for early liberalisation of visa regime between Pakistan and India

India Pakistan Parliamentary Dialogue was held on August 23-24, 2012 in New Delhi. Parliamentarians from the two countries called for early liberalisation of visa regime between Pakistan and India.

The Parliamentarians also urged that through the liberal visa regime, citizens of both Pakistan and India should be given visas exempted from police reporting to avoid undue harassment. They also underlined that health-related travel and religious tourism in both countries must be facilitated as a priority by both countries. Exchange of artists and media persons must also be accelerated by the two sides. The Parliamentarians emphasised that educationists and senior citizens from the two countries must be allowed visa-free access. The two sides must also swiftly move towards allowing citizens to travel across the border in their own vehicles.

For the future dialogues, Parliamentarians agreed to focus on sectoral issues such as agriculture and irrigation, energy (including renewable energy) and information technology, etc. as also general issues such as strengthening democracy and promoting accountability in public life.

The Dialogue Co-Chair India **Honourable Mr. Yashwant Sinha**, Member, Lok Sabha (Hazaribagh, Jharkhand, BJP); former Union Minister and Dialogue Co-Chairs Pakistan **Honourable Senator Muhammad Jehangir Bader**, Leader of the House, Senate of Pakistan; **Honourable Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan**, MNA, Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce (NA-96, Gujranwala-II, Punjab, PML-N) addressed a press conference upon the conclusion of the dialogue.

The Pakistan delegation included **Honourable Senator Sabir Ali Baloch**, Deputy Chairman, Senate of Pakistan (Balochistan, PPPP); **Honourable Senator Haji Muhammad Adeel**, Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ANP); **Honourable Senator Dr. Saeeda Iqbal**, Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change (Islamabad Capital Territory, PPPP); **Honourable Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, MNA, Chairman Public Accounts Committee, (NA-64, Sargodha-I, Punjab, PPPP); **Honourable Mr. Zahid Hamid**, MNA, (NA-114, Sialkot-V, Punjab, PML-N); **Honourable Syed Tayyab Hussain**, MNA, (NA-219, Hyderabad-II, Sindh, MQM); **Honourable Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan**, MNA, (NA-288, Punjab-XVI, Punjab, PML-N); **Honourable Mir Amer Ali Khan Magsi**, MNA, (NA-206, Larkana-III, Sindh, PPPP); **Honourable Mian Abdus Sattar**, MNA, Parliamentary Secretary, Planning and Development Commission (NA-193, R.Y.Khan-II, Punjab, PPPP), and **Honourable Dr. Nafisa Shah**, MNA, Chairperson, National Commission for Human Development (NA-309, Sindh-II, Sindh, PPPP). **Mr. Iftikharullah Babar**, Secretary Senate of Pakistan, **Malik Kamran Azam Khan Rajar**, Staff Officer to the Speaker; Deputy Secretary, National Assembly of Pakistan; in-charge of all Parliamentary Friendship Groups in the National Assembly, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT, **Mr. Faheem Ahmed Khan**, Projects Manager PILDAT, **Mr. Hammal Dostain**, Projects Manager PILDAT and **Mr. Hamza Rehman Malik**, Reporter, Associated Press of Pakistan are also part of the delegation.

Indian Parliamentarians who joined the dialogue from the Rajya Sabha included **Honourable Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar**, (Member, Rajya Sabha (Nominated, INC); **Honourable Mr. Ali Anwar Ansari**, Member (Rajya Sabha , Bihar, JDU); **Honourable Dr.**



Pakistan-India Dialogue - IV held in New Delhi, India

Bhalchandra Mungekar, Member, Rajya Sabha (Nominated, INC); **Honourable Dr. E. M. Sudarsana Natchiappan**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Tamil Nadu, INC); **Honourable Mrs. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Tamil Nadu, DMK); **Honourable Mr. M. S. Gill**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Punjab, INC); **Honourable Mr. N. K. Singh**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Bihar, JDU); **Honourable Mr. Naresh Gujral**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Punjab, SAD); **Honourable Prof. Saifuddin Soz**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Jammu & Kashmir, INC); **Honourable Mr. Satyavrat Chaturvedi**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Madhya Pradesh, INC) and **Honourable Mr. Shivanand Tiwari**, Member, Rajya Sabha (Bihar, JDU). The Lok Sabha members who joined the dialogue included **Honourable Mr. Asaduddin Owaisi**, Member, Lok Sabha (Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, AIMIM); **Honourable Mr. Baijayant Jay Panda**, Member Lok Sabha, (Kendrapara, Orissa, BJD); **Honourable Mr. Bhartruhari Mahtab**, Member Lok Sabha (Cuttack, Orissa, BJD); **Honourable Mr. Jaswant Singh**, Member, Lok Sabha (Darjeeling, West Bengal, BJP); **Honourable Mr. Kirti (Jha) Azad**, Member, Lok Sabha (Darbhanga, Bihar, BJP); **Honourable Mr. Uday Singh**, Member, Lok Sabha (Purnia, Bihar, BJP) and **Honourable Ms. Supriya Sadanand Sule**, Member, Lok Sabha (Baramati, Maharashtra, NCP).

Peace and Friendship for Good Governance: Visit of Chief Minister of Bihar to Pakistan

The Chief Minister of Bihar visited Pakistan on November 16-19, 2012. With the successful conclusion of Chief Minister Bihar's visit to Karachi, Islamabad and PILDAT's vision behind facilitating this visit stands fulfilled. Peace and Friendship for Good Governance, as PILDAT envisioned a year earlier and extended invitation to Chief Minister Bihar to visit Pakistan, are the way forward for improving deepening Pak-India relations.

While PILDAT has and continues to facilitate a Parliamentary Dialogue between Pakistan and India on issues including Kashmir, Siachin, River Water, Tourism and Trade, among others, we envisaged that beyond the countries' capitals, the conversation must also include experience sharing on good governance and on basic public issues including Education, Health, Poverty Eradication, and Right to Services. After the 18th Amendment to the Constitution of Pakistan, it was logical that experience sharing on Good Governance must take place at the Provincial level, reservoir of power in Pakistan.

Based on this idea, PILDAT began working with the Provincial Governments of Punjab and Sindh in Pakistan to initiate experience sharing on Good Governance with India by inviting Mr. Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Bihar. The "Bihar Miracle" of growth, the successful initiatives of Nitish Kumar in introducing Right to Public Services and Right to Information, and impressive results in compound annual growth rate of Bihar, all were the reasons why PILDAT believed experience sharing on providing equitable growth and services to citizens must begin between Bihar in India and Pakistan's provinces.

As a prelude to Nitish Kumar's visit, PILDAT facilitated a 12 member Parliamentary delegation of Pakistan to visit Patna, Bihar, to interact with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on August 25, 2012. Thus PILDAT initiated experience sharing on Governance outside the national capitals of Pakistan and India when Pakistan India Parliamentary interactions went beyond National to State Levels and Pakistan-India Parliamentary Dialogues, facilitated by PILDAT since January 2011, successfully made a foray into the Provincial level from the National capitals of the two countries.

Governance, Governance and Governance, the motto



Chief Minister of Bihar, Mr. Nitish Kumar meets CM Sindh Syed Qaim Ali Shah in Karachi

of Nitish Kumar when he took over the reins of power in Bihar in November 2005 (after serving his first 5-year term as CM, he was swept back to power in Bihar in 2010 with a record four-fifth majority), remained the key theme of interactions between Nitish Kumar and his counterparts in Sindh, Syed Qaim Ali Shah, and Punjab, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, during his visit. Hosted in Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore by Sindh, Federal and Punjab Governments respectively, Nitish Kumar and his delegation shared experiences of governance models at the Chief Minister House, Karachi, with the Sindh CM and at the Government College, Lahore with Mr. Shahbaz Sharif, thus taking the experience sharing to audiences outside the Government sphere as well. In his dialogue with Mr. Imran Khan, Chairman of PTI, and his conversation with MQM, Pakistan-India relations were, for the first time, discussed in the context of the welfare of the people, rights of the citizens and the responsibilities of those elected to govern them on pledges of good governance.

With the opportunity of experience sharing on governance issues, a new paradigm has thus been introduced in Pakistan-India relations which, based on the rights of citizens, has a direct relevance to people's lives, equitable growth and good governance in the region. It is hoped that this inter-action at the provincial level will provide the much-needed depth to Pakistan-India relations and hopefully protect the relationship against any future accidents. PILDAT also believes that this Experience Sharing aimed at improving Governance also needs to further expand both at the national and increasingly at the Provincial and Political Parties' Levels both in Pakistan and India.

Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentarians Dialogue Round VII; December 11-12, 2012; Islamabad, Pakistan

Parliamentarians from Afghanistan and Pakistan met in Islamabad, Pakistan, on December 11-12, 2012, for

Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentarians Dialogue-VII.

Parliamentarians supported the necessity of a candid and continued dialogue on critical issues of concern. Both sides, however, agreed that dialogue and diplomacy should be conducted through diplomatic and Parliamentary channels and not through media.

MPs recognised and appreciated the diplomatic initiatives undertaken by the two countries in the recent past to improve relations. They stressed that difficulties and trust-deficit in the relationship must be overcome through mutual dialogue. MPs underscored that stability in Pakistan is in the interest of Afghanistan while stability in Afghanistan is in the interest of Pakistan. They agreed that the two countries must emphasise on finding political solutions to the issues at hand.

Parliamentarians agreed that prospects of exit of US/NATO combat troops from Afghanistan pose both opportunities and challenges for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The two countries need to work together to convert challenges into opportunities. Parliamentarians also stressed on the continuation and acceleration of talks on peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan.

MPs highlighted that terrorism poses the greatest challenge to both countries and their mutual relationship. Both countries must work together to thwart and uproot the "common enemy." Anyone in Afghanistan and in Pakistan, who is responsible for a terrorist incident in Afghanistan and Pakistan must be stopped by the Afghan and Pakistan Governments respectively. Both sides emphasized that the Public representatives from both countries must lead efforts to promote relationship, highlighting that Parliamentarians from Afghanistan and Pakistan should assess the performance of their respective Parliaments.



Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentarians Dialogue-VII held in Islamabad, Pakistan

Parliamentarians suggested that the future dialogue may focus on issues including effects of the withdrawal of NATO/US combat troops from Afghanistan, progress on peace talks on peace and reconciliation efforts in Afghanistan, Trade Promotion and Formalisation, Education, signing of Water Treaty between Pakistan and Afghanistan, agreement on an Extradition Treaty and Joint Patrolling of Borders, etc.

Co-Chaired by **Honourable Senator Abdulwali Raji**, Member of the Meshrano Jirga, and **Honourable Mr. Mirwais Yasini**, Member of the Wolesi Jirga, Afghan MPs who joined the dialogue included **Senator Nisar Ahmad Haress**, **Senator Ahmad Mawen**, **Senator Mohammad Amin Safi**, **Senator Bahramkhan Samkani**, **Senator Baz Mohammad Zormati**, **Sayed Ishaq Gailani**, **Mr. Mahmood Khan Sulaiman Khail**, **Mr. Sakhi Mshwani**, **Mr. Abdul Latif Pedram**, **Mr. Abdul Ghaffar Qael**, **Mr. Amir Mohammad Yar** and **Mr. Qudratullah Zaki**.

Pakistani MPs belonging to different parties participated in the dialogue including **Honourable Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly and convener of the Pakistan-Afghanistan Parliamentary Friendship Group, **Senator Muhammad Jehangir Bader**, Leader of the House, Senate of Pakistan, **Senator Raja Zafar ul Haq**, Chairman PML-N, chairman Senate Standing Committee on Industries and Production, **Senator Haji Muhammad Adeel**, Senior Vice President of Awami National Party-ANP and Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, **Senator Farhatullah Babar**, (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, PPP), **Senator Abdul Nabi Bangash**, (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ANP), **Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo**, (Balochistan, NP), **Senator Amar Jeet**, (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ANP), **Senator Najma Hameed**, (Punjab, PML-N), **Senator Najam ul Hassan** (FATA, Ind.), **Senator Saeeda Iqbal**, (Islamabad Capital Territory, PPP), **Senator Muhammad Saleh Shah Qureshi**, (FATA, Ind.),



(L to R) Senator Abdul Wali Raji and Senator Raja Mohammad Zafar Ul Haq at Pak-Afghan Parliamentary Exchange in Islamabad, Pakistan

Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, (Punjab, PML-N), **Ms. Qudsia Arshad**, MNA (NA-275, Women, Punjab, PML-N), **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb**, MNA (NA-276, Punjab, PML-N), **Mr. Naseer Bhutta**, MNA (NA-127, Lahore-X, Punjab, PML-N), **Mr. Riaz Fatiana**, MNA (NA-94, Tobatek Singh-III, Punjab, PML), **Ms. Jamila Gillani**, MNA(NA-323, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ANP), **Mr. Abdul Rasheed Godil**, MNA (NA-252, Karachi-XIV, Sindh, MQM), **Mr. Muhammad Rehan Hashmi**, MNA (NA-245, Karachi-VII, Sindh, MQM), **Mr. Asif Husnain**, MNA (NA-255, Karachi-XVII, Sindh, MQM), **Ms. Seema Jameeli**, MNA (NA-277, Punjab, PML-N), **Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan**, MNA (NA-94, Gujranwala-II, Punjab, PML-N), **Mr. Iqbal Muhammad Ali Khan**, MNA (NA-256, Karachi-XVIII, Sindh, MQM), **Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan**, MNA (NA-283, Punjab, PML-N), **Mr. Abdul Qadir Khanzada**, MNA (NA-242, Karachi-IV, Sindh, MQM), **Ms. Shagufta Sadiq**, MNA (NA-319, Sindh, MQM), **Ms. Imrana Saeed**, MNA (NA-318, Sindh, MQM), **Dr. Muhammad Ayub Shaikh**, MNA (NA-254, Karachi-XVI, Sindh, MQM), **Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui**, MNA (NA-285, Punjab, PML-N), and **Ms. Saira Afzal Tarar**, MNA (NA-102, Hafizabad-I, Punjab, PML-N).



Parliamentarians from Afghanistan participating in the Pakistan Afghanistan Parliamentary Dialogue in Islamabad

Polio Awareness among Parliamentarians

PILDAT has been working together with Pakistani MPs to facilitate an oversight role on eradication of polio from Pakistan. Since 2009, PILDAT has been carrying out efforts to raise awareness among Federal and Provincial legislators on immunization in Pakistan. PILDAT endeavours to enhance the awareness of elected legislators to act proactively to urge the Government to address the issues in the immunization programme in Pakistan.

Pakistan is among one of the three Polio-endemic countries in the world along with Nigeria and Afghanistan. To engage the Parliamentarians for helping to eradicate Polio from Pakistan and making it a Polio Free country, PILDAT, continued, during 2012-2013, to facilitate a number of Workshops and Briefing Sessions with the Federal as well as the Provincial legislators on Raising Awareness among Parliamentarians to Enhance the Effectiveness of Anti-Polio.

During the period, an All Parties Conference was facilitated by PILDAT involving 13 major political parties of Pakistan. The parties considered Polio disease as a national security threat and reiterated their commitment to make Polio Eradication a part of their manifestoes. Political Parties unanimously agreed to the right of all children in Pakistan to vaccination and the duty of the Government to ensure no child is left unimmunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. They agreed to stand ready to support Government at all levels to achieve goal of polio eradication from the country.

Separate Briefing Sessions with major political parties of Pakistan were also held to ensure that Polio Eradication be included in every political party's manifesto. As a result of the advocacy meetings, parties including the PML-N, the PPP, the PTI, the MQM, the



(L to R) Ms. Karen Allan and Dr. Guido Sabatinelli at All Parties Conference on Polio eradication in Islamabad

PML-F, and the QWP addressed polio eradication as a critical plank of their pledges on health.

Activities undertaken during 2012-2013 are as below:

National and Provincial Legislators to Work in Harmony to Eradicate Polio: Kundi

National and Provincial Legislators from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province need to work in harmony to eradicate Polio from the province. This was reiterated at a Briefing Session for KP MPs on **Polio Eradication A National Emergency in Pakistan**, organized by PILDAT on December 13, 2012 in Islamabad.

Members of Parliament from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa belonging to different major political parties met with Deputy Speaker National Assembly **Honourable Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA in the chair and **Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali**, MNA and Chairperson Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell.

Welcoming the members, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, said that the elected representatives can play a very effective role in the specific context of eliminating Polio. It is their responsibility to see that universal coverage against polio is effectively provided across the province.

Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly, said that the national and provincial legislators should work in harmony to eradicate polio. He was of the opinion that elected representatives should participate actively in the polio campaigns and should be seen working in the field so that the people are motivated and encouraged.

Parliamentarians in the discussion highlighted that for the eradication of polio, work needs to be done at the Union Council Level. The emphasis was that local government system is the key for implementing an effective polio eradication strategy at the grassroots level.



(L to R) Ms. Shehnaz Wazir Ali, MNA, Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, MNA and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at a Session on Polio Awareness among Parliamentarians in Islamabad

In her closing remarks, Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali, MNA and Chairperson Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell said that maintaining the cold chain is the basic need to eradicate polio from the province. She said that local administration should involve elected representatives of the area in polio campaigns and also should invite them to meetings of local committees to monitor the outcome of the polio campaigns. She thanked PILDAT and hoped that members of the Parliament from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will work in harmony to show that they have the political will and resolve to address the menace of polio in the province.

MPs from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa who participated in the briefing session included **Senator Farah Aqil**, **Senator A.N. Bangash**, **Engr. Usman Khan**, MNA, **Senator Shahi Syed**, **Senator Farhat Abbas**, **Mr. Humayun Saif Ullah Khan**, MNA, **Senator Ahmed Hassan**, **Senator Haji Ghulam Ali**, **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, **Ms. Shahnaz Wazir Ali**, MNA and **Mr. Azmat Khan**, MNA.

APC on Polio Develops Political Consensus; Declares Polio a National Security Threat

13 political parties of Pakistan, across the political spectrum, met on December 19, 2012 in Islamabad to declare polio as a national emergency. Political leaders strongly condemned all forms of attacks against polio workers teams and offered their undeterred political support for polio eradication. Reading out a unanimous condemnation, the forum said that:

"Participants of the APC, convened by PILDAT, in Islamabad unanimously condemn the killing of polio health workers and consider this as an attack on the future of Pakistani children and youth. Such crimes against humanity are unacceptable. The Pakistani nation is united in the vision for a Polio-free Pakistan."

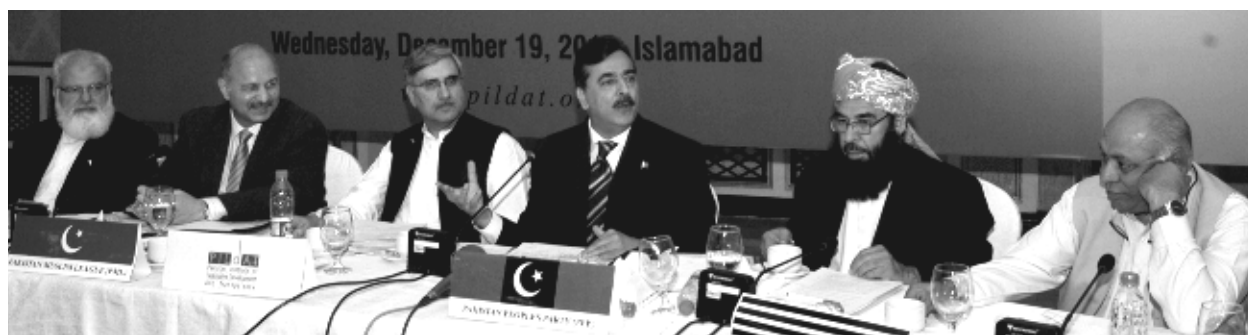
13 Parties joining the APC were represented by **Senator Shahi Syed**, Provincial President, Sindh,

Awami National Party (ANP), **Dr. Jahanzeb Jamaldini**, Acting President, Balochistan National Party - Mengal (BNP-M), **Mr. Liaquat Baloch**, Secretary General, Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan (JIP), **Senator Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri**, Central Secretary General, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam – Fazlur Rehman (JUI-F), **Maulana Asmat Ullah**, Ameer, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam – Nizriati (JUI-N), **Maulana Hamid Ul Haq Haqqani**, Vice President, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam - Samiulhaq (JUI-S), **Mr. Sufyan Yusuf**, MNA, Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM), **Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bezinjo**, Secretary General, National Party (NP), **Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, Secretary General, Pakistan Muslim League (PML), **Barrister Sultan Mahmood Khan**, Senior Vice President, Pakistan Muslim League - Functional (PML-F), **Senator Rafiq Rajwana**, Member of Senate of Pakistan, Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N), **Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani**, Senior Vice Chairman, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), **Senator Muhammad Jehangir Bader**, Secretary General, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and **Mrs. Meraj Humayun**, Member Central Executive Committee, Qaumi Watan Party (QWP). **Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi** of Pakistan Ulema Council, also volunteered to sign the Joint Declaration. He joined the APC as an observer.

Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani, former Prime Minister, said that he undertook the initiative of establishing a Prime Minister's Cell on Polio to ensure monitoring at the highest level. He thanked PILDAT for facilitating a political consensus.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed said that polio threatens human security it should be declared a threat to national security in Pakistan. He said that PILDAT should put together one paragraph that all political parties must include in their upcoming election manifestoes.

Mr. Liaquat Baloch was joined by other religious



All Parties Conference on Polio Eradication in Islamabad

parties at the podium in stressing that religion is not obstructing polio eradication in Pakistan.

Party leaders especially asked the Government to provide security to Polio Workers Teams. Some leaders also suggested that political representatives of an area may also join Polio Teams across communities.

Opening the APC, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, said that given the emergency scenario in the spread of polio in Pakistan, PILDAT has convened the APC to facilitate political consensus.

Earlier, **Dr. Shahnaz Wazirali**, Focal Person and **Dr. Altaf Bosan**, National Coordinator of Prime Minister's Polio Monitoring Cell spoke on the occasion followed by Polio partners, **Ms. Karen Allan**, Deputy Country Representative, UNICEF, **Dr. Waqar Ajmal**, Senior Programme Manager, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, **Dr. Guido Sabatinelli**, Country Representative WHO.

Political Ownership of Polio Eradication: Punjab MPA Caucus to Eradicate Polio in High Risk Areas formed under the Patronage of Speaker Punjab Assembly

Members of the Punjab Assembly representing major political parties met in Lahore on January 09, 2013 and formed a multi-party Caucus to eradicate Polio from the High Risk Areas of the Punjab under the patronage of **Honourable Rana Iqbal Ahmed Khan**, MPA; Speaker, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

The Caucus, facilitated by PILDAT, will work to promote ways and means to eradicate polio in the high risk areas of the Punjab. PILDAT had also facilitated the formation of a Caucus on Extended Programme of Immunization Provincial Assembly of Punjab in 2010.

Addressing the Briefing, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT said that Pakistan is ranked in the only three countries of the world that still have polio.



(L to R) Dr. Tanwir Ahmed and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at meeting with MPAs of Punjab Assembly in Lahore



Participants at the briefing session on Polio in Lahore

He highlighted that Polio cases may be on the decline compared to previous year but the disease and its alarming spread poses a huge challenge for Pakistan. It is, therefore, imperative that elected representatives oversee the polio eradication efforts in their constituencies and routinely monitor the progress towards achieving the goal of polio eradication across the province and the country.

The members of the Punjab Assembly who attended the briefing session and became members of the caucus include the following: **Mian Muhammad Rafique**, MPA (PP-90, Toba Tek Singh VII, PML-N), **Engr. Qamar Ul Islam Raja**, MPA (PP-5, Rawalpindi V, PML), **Mr. Ehsan Ul Haq Ahsan Noulatia**, MPA (PP-253, Muzzafragrah III, PPP), **Mr. Ijaz Ahmed Khan**, MPA (PP-151, Lahore XV, PML-N), **Ms. Afshan Farooq**, MPA (W-302, PML-N), **Sardar Malik Jahanzeb Waran**, MPA (PP-269, Bahawalpur III, PML-N), **Ms. Shameela Aslam**, MPA (W-308, PML-N), **Ms. Anjum Safdar**, MPA (W-304, PML-N), **Ms. Ayesha Javed**, MPA (W-335, PML), **Dr. Ghazala Raza Rana**, MPA (W-316, PML-N), **Chaudhry Javed Ahmed, Advocate**, MPA (PP-228, Pakpattan II, PML-N) and **Senator Mr. Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari**, (Punjab, Independent). The Briefing Session was chaired by **Honourable Mr. Rana Iqbal Ahmed Khan**, MPA; Speaker, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

Dr. Mushtaq Rana, Immunization Officer UNICEF, **Dr. Asif Chaudhry**, Coordinator WHO and **Dr. Tanwir Ahmed**, Director EPI Punjab appraised the members of the Punjab Assembly about the current situation of Polio in the Punjab and said that only two cases out of the 58 reported in 2012 in Pakistan have been reported from Punjab. During the course of the discussion, it was pointed out by the Punjab MPAs that the DCOs do not give enough notice to the elected Members to participate in the polio campaigns. MPAs are not consulted and that leads to lack of political ownership. Stress was also laid on the training of the

Polio workers. Religious Clerics should also be included in the Polio Campaigns, advised MPAs.

Honourable Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Speaker Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, said that members of the Punjab Assembly are working actively for eradication of the polio and the Punjab Assembly has also passed a unanimous resolution in support of the Polio workers who have been martyred while performing their duties.

Youth of Pakistan should support efforts of polio Eradication: Youth Parliament Pakistan briefed

The support of youth of Pakistan is critical for eradicating Polio from Pakistan, said Dr. Shamsher Khan, Coordinator High-Risk Districts, UNICEF, while addressing the Youth Parliament of Pakistan at a briefing session in Islamabad on February 27, 2013.

Dr. Shamsher Khan was addressing the newly-inducted 5th batch of Youth Parliament Pakistan 2013 on the importance of understanding and support of youth on the challenges of polio eradication in Pakistan.

Youth Parliament Pakistan (www.youthparliament.pk) is a **PILDAT** initiative. It is patterned after the National Assembly of Pakistan and its selected members, 60 in total, engage in Parliamentary business including debate on important national issues, legislation, and overseeing and scrutinising key national policies from the youth's perspective. **PILDAT** formed the first-ever **Youth Parliament Pakistan** in the year **2007**. After the successful completion of the four batches of Youth Parliament in **2007, 2008, 2009** and **2012**, the 5th batch of the Youth Parliament Pakistan has been selected from across the country and began its first session on February 25, 2013. Youth Parliament Steering Committee comprises veteran and young members of Pakistan's Parliament including **Senator S. M. Zafar** as chairman, while the other members include



(L to R) Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai, Former Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan and Dr. Shamsher Khan, Coordinator High-Risk Districts, UNICEF at briefing session for Youth Parliament Pakistan on Polio Eradication



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi, MNA at briefing on Polio Eradication in Islamabad

Honourable **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**, MNA, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan as Patron Youth Parliament Pakistan; **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai**, Former Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan; **Engr. Khuram Dastgir Khan**, MNA, Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee on Commerce; **Ms. Anusha Rahman Khan**, MNA, Member, National Assembly Standing Committee on Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Secretary Young Parliamentarians Forum; **Mr. Nadeem Afzal Gondal**, Chairman Public Accounts Committee and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT.

A briefing on Polio Eradication in Pakistan was facilitated by PILDAT to orient young members to the challenges of polio eradication in Pakistan.

Dr. Shamsher Khan said that since the start of the programme in 1994, number of polio cases have markedly decreased in Pakistan. A house to house strategy was adopted in the year 2000 for reaching young infants and additional technical support at the district level was provided in the same year to ensure a certification standard surveillance system. This resulted in a fruitful progress and a decrease in cases. He added that 2002-03 saw a leveling-off of progress which was addressed by the introduction of intensified and targeted activities in high risk communities and areas identified through surveillance system. Since then there is further reduction in cases every year indicating continued progress.

Depicting the current scenario, he stated that globally, there has been a decline in polio cases over the years. In Pakistan, as of 2013, two cases have been reported from all over the country so far. In the Federally-Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), despite significant proportion of total number of cases, there has been reduction of cases by 66% compared to 2012. Cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) have increased by 17% compared to 2011 due to a major outbreak (that included FATA) during the second half of the year. A

total of 58 polio cases were reported in 2012. 47 (81%) of cases were reported from KP (46%) and FATA (35%) whereas Balochistan, Sindh, and Punjab had significant reduction in the number of cases in 2012 compared to 2011 (95%, 88%, and 78% respectively).

While answering the questions of Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan, Dr. Shamsher Khan said that the key strategies for the eradication of polio in 2013 include Short Interval Additional Doses; Focus on Priority underserved Pashtun, migrant and transit populations; All missed children to be tracked and vaccinated after each campaign; Effective and integrated control rooms at all levels; Strengthening Pre & intra campaign monitoring; Zero tolerance for misreporting & financial misappropriation; Direct Disbursement Mechanism – 225,000 polio workers and Improving vaccine management.

Addressing the Roundtable, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, said that PILDAT organized the Briefing Session to facilitate an understanding among the young members on the need to tackle the menace of polio.

PTI Committed to Eradication of Polio from Pakistan

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is committed to eradication of polio from Pakistan. It is also committed to negotiating with opponents of Polio-Vaccination Programme in Waziristan through their local office bearers, once elected after the Intra-party Elections, said Chairman of the Manifesto Committee of the PTI, **Mr. Firdous Shamim Naqvi** at the briefing session organized by PILDAT on March 01, 2013 in Islamabad.

Polio eradication will be a part of the election Manifesto of the PTI as a National Priority Programme, said Mr. Naqvi. PTI is committed that they will remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their own children and will



Dr. Hamayun Khan Mohmand, Mr. Qasim Khan Suri and Mr. Firdous Shamim Naqvi at briefing on Polio eradication to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf in Islamabad



Participants at Polio Eradication Briefing Session held in Islamabad

highlight the negative impact of Polio on population at private and public gatherings, talk shows and other interactions.

He shared that his party is also committed to supporting legislation for universal access to necessary routine immunization programmes, primary health and oversee its implementation and persuade the political leadership and the Government to increase health budget while monitor polio eradication campaigns and share feedback with officials concerned, once elected to form the government.

Earlier, **Dr. Pervaiz Yousaf**, Federal Surveillance Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) briefed the PTI Members on the Status of “How Political Parties Oversee the operations of Expanded Programme of Immunization. He said that Political Oversight includes National Task Force for Polio Eradication, National Steering Committee, President's Polio Oversight Committee, PM Polio monitoring & coordination cell, Provincial Task Force / Steering Committee (PSC) and District Polio Eradication Committee (DPEC).

The Briefing session with PTI is a follow-up meeting of the “All Parties Conference” on Polio Eradication-A National Emergency in Pakistan held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in Islamabad where 14 major political parties signed a Joint Declaration while committing that Eradication of Polio will be carried out by the Political Parties in their coming Election Manifestos.

Members of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) who participated in the Briefing Session included **Mr. Firdous Shamim Naqvi**, Chairman, Manifesto Committee, PTI, **Dr. M. Humayun Mohmand**, Member Central Executive Committee and Spokesperson Health, PTI, **Mr. Qasim Khan Suri**, President Balochistan, PTI, **Ms. Malaika Raza**, Member Manifesto Committee, PTI, **Ms. Sakina**

Abdullah, Former President Women Wing Balochistan, PTI, **Ms. Nafeesa Khattak**, Member, **Dr. Seema Zaidi**, Member and **Ms. Naureen Ibrahim**, Member.

From UNICEF, **Mr. Michael Coleman**, External Communications Specialist, **Ms. Huma Arif Khan**, Communications for Development officer, while from WHO **Dr. Pervaiz Yousaf**, Federal Surveillance Officer and **Mr. Andreas Hasman**, Partnerships Officer participated in the meeting.

PML Committed to Eradication of Polio from Pakistan

Pakistan Muslim League (PML) is committed to eradication of polio from Pakistan, said **Syed Faqir Hussain Bukhari**, Central Senior Vice President of the Party at the briefing session organized by PILDAT on **Enhancing the Effectiveness of Anti-Polio Vaccination Programme** in Islamabad March 06, 2013. He said PML is committed that they will remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their own children and will highlight the negative impact of Polio on population at private and public gatherings, talk shows and other interactions. He said that his party is also committed to supporting legislation for universal access to necessary routine immunization programmes, primary health and oversee its implementation and persuade the political leadership and the Government to increase health budget while monitor polio eradication campaigns and share feedback with officials concerned.

Earlier, **Dr. Pervaiz Yousaf**, Federal Surveillance Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) briefed the PML Members on the Status of "How Political Parties Oversee the operations of Expanded Programme of Immunization. He said that Political Oversight includes National Task Force for Polio Eradication, National Steering Committee, President's Polio Oversight Committee, PM Polio monitoring & coordination cell, Provincial Task Force / Steering



Participants at Polio Eradication Briefing for Pakistan Muslim League in Islamabad



Women Participants at Polio Eradication Briefing in Islamabad

Committee (PSC) and District Polio Eradication Committee (DPEC).

Emphasizing on role of political parties **Mr. Azamat Abbas**, Communication Specialist, UNICEF said that political parties can ensure polio is a part of their party's manifesto and lobby for commitment from their party's leadership for continuity during the coming election period and beyond. He said that political parties can remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their children. He said that parties can report cases of official lethargy, negligence and issues that affect Polio campaigns. He added that parties should nominate a polio focal person within the party leadership who may coordinate for polio campaign.

Members of the Pakistan Muslim League (PML) who participated in the Briefing Session included **Syed Faqir Hussain Bukhari**, Central Senior Vice President, **Mrs. Amina Khanam**, Vice President Central Women Wing, **Mrs. Shabnam Rukhsana**, Vice President PML Main Stream, **PML, Mrs. Sultan Gull**, Vice President Culture Wing, **PML, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Malik**, Central Deputy Secretary Information, PML, **Mrs. Shakira Anwar**, President, PML, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Mrs. Rifat Sarwar**, President, PML, Federal Capital, **Mrs. Fouzia Naz**, Secretary General, Central Women Wing, PML, **Mrs. Saheen Rasul**, Senior Vice President, Cultural Wing, PML, **Babu Ghulam Sarwar Siyal**, Secretary General, Sindh, PML, **Mrs. Khalida Ali**, Information Secretary, Islamabad, PML and **Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Malik**, Central Deputy Secretary Information, PML.

The meeting was also attended by **Mr. Azmat Abbas**, Communications Specialist, UNICEF, **Ms. Huma Arif Khan**, Communications for Development Officer, **Dr. Pervaiz Yousaf**, Federal Surveillance Officer, WHO, **Dr. Altaf Bosan**, National Coordinator, Prime Minister Polio Cell and **Ms. Wajiha Kanwal**, Advocacy

Coordinator Prime Minister Polio Cell.

JUI-S Committed to Eradication of Polio from Pakistan

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Samiul Haq-(JUI-S) is committed to eradication of polio from Pakistan, said **Maulana Irfan ul Haq Haqqani**, Vice President of the Party at the briefing session organized by PILDAT on **Enhancing the Effectiveness of Anti-Polio Vaccination Programme** in Islamabad on March 13, 2013. He said JUI-S is committed that they will remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their own children and will highlight the negative impact of Polio on population at private and public gatherings, talk shows and other interactions. He said that a system of vaccination cards of Polio should be introduced in the country so cases can be monitored properly. He added that cultural differences should be considered in Waziristan during polio vaccination campaigns by polio teams.

He suggested that in order to reduce resistance against polio campaigns in Waziristan, World Health Organization-WHO and United National Children's Fund-UNICEF should condemn US drone attacks in WANA and issue statements in media against illegal strikes.

Earlier, **Dr. Pervaiz Yousaf**, Federal Surveillance Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) briefed the JUI-S Members on the Status of "How Political Parties Oversee the operations of Expended Programme of Immunization. He said that Political Oversight includes National Task Force for Polio Eradication, National Steering Committee, President's Polio Oversight Committee, PM Polio monitoring & coordination cell, Provincial Task Force / Steering Committee (PSC) and District Polio Eradication Committee (DPEC).

Emphasizing on role of political parties **Dr. Shamsher**



(L to R) Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Maulana Irfan ul Haq Haqqani, Vice President JUI-S at Polio Eradication Briefing Session in Islamabad



Participants at a Briefing Session on Polio Eradication in Islamabad

Khan, High Risk Coordinator, UNICEF said that political parties can ensure polio is a part of their party's manifesto and lobby for commitment from their party's leadership for continuity during the coming election period and beyond. He said that political parties may remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their children. He said that parties can report cases of official lethargy, negligence and issues that affect Polio campaigns. He added that parties may nominate a polio focal person within the party leadership who may coordinate for polio campaign.

Members of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Samiul Haq-(JUI-S) who participated in the Briefing Session included **Maulana Irfan ul Haq Haqqani**, Vice President of the JUI-S, **Molana Asim Makhdoom**, Central, Information Secretary, JUI-S, **Mufti Saifuddin Saif**, Senior Member, JUI-S, Islamabad, **Maulana Attaur-Rehman Leghari**, Senior Member, JUI-S, Islamabad, **Maulana M. Siddiquie**, Joint Secretary, JUI-S, Akora Khattak, **Mulana Shah Hussain**, Chief, Al-Haq Trust, , JUI-S and **Muhammad Israr Madni**, P.S. to President, JUI-S, Peshawar.

Addressing the Briefing Session, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, said that PILDAT organised the Briefing Session to facilitate an understanding among senior members of JUI-S on the need to tackle the menace of polio.

Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Committed to eradication of Polio from Pakistan

Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan is committed to eradication of polio from Pakistan, said **Mr. Liaqat Baloch**, Secretary General of the Party at the briefing session organized by PILDAT on **Enhancing the Effectiveness of Anti-Polio Vaccination Programme** in Lahore on March 15, 2013.

He said that JI is committed for the complete

eradication of Polio from Pakistan. Speaking at the occasion he said that JI will be very happy to work alongside with WHO and UNICEF during the anti polio campaigns. He said that the presence of JI leadership at the meeting is a testimony to the fact that JI takes this problem very seriously and is prepared to go the extra mile for its eradication. JI has added eradication of Polio extensively in its manifesto, he informed. He further said that the involvement of a polio worker in the Abbottabad incident has adversely affected the Polio campaign and the misconception of American money being used for the purchase of the Polio Vaccine has to be dispelled for the Polio campaigns to succeed in KP and FATA. He also said that the huge network of the political parties should be engaged at grass roots level for Polio eradication drives.

Mr. Ehsan Ullah Waqas, former MPA Punjab and Vice President Alkhidmat Foundation Pakistan also offered the help of Alkhidmat Foundation network to support the Polio campaigns. He emphasised that WHO and UNICEF may chalk out a programme in collaboration with the foundation and they will help in every way as this is a humanitarian issue.

Mr. Farid Ahmed Piracha, Deputy Secretary General, JI, while speaking on the occasion, said that the awareness about eradication of Polio should be included in the curriculum, and network of schools should be taken on board to make additions to the curricula. He suggested that in order to reduce resistance against polio campaigns in KP, World Health Organization-WHO and United National Children's Fund-UNICEF should condemn US drone attacks and issue statements in media against illegal strikes.

Hafiz Sajjid Anwar, Deputy Secretary JI, said that the mosques should be used for organizing, educating and administration of Polio Campaigns. He further said that the Madrassas can play a very effective role in the areas of low literacy rate for raising awareness and demand



(L to R) Mr. Liaquat Baloch, Secretary General JI and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob at Briefing session on Polio Eradication in Lahore



(L to R) Hafiz Sajjid Anwar, Deputy Secretary JI and Ehsan Ullah Waqas, Former MPA at session in Lahore

for vaccination against polio. Ittehad Madrasa Al Dunya may be approached for spreading the anti polio messages.

Earlier, **Dr. Asif Chaudhry**, Area Coordinator, World Health Organization (WHO) briefed the JI Members on the Status of "How Political Parties Oversee the operations of Expanded Programme of Immunization. He said that Political Oversight includes National Task Force for Polio Eradication, National Steering Committee, President's Polio Oversight Committee, PM Polio monitoring & coordination cell, Provincial Task Force / Steering Committee (PSC) and District Polio Eradication Committee (DPEC).

Emphasizing on role of political parties **Dr. Naeem Ullah**, Health officer, UNICEF said that political parties can ensure polio is a part of their party's manifesto and lobby for commitment from their party's leadership for continuity during the coming election period and beyond. He said that political parties may remove negative perception of polio vaccine by publically giving polio drops to their children. He said that parties can report cases of official lethargy, negligence and issues that affect Polio campaigns. He added that parties may nominate a polio focal person within the party leadership who may coordinate for polio campaign.

The Briefing session with JI is a follow-up meeting of the "All Parties Conference" on Polio Eradication-A National Emergency in Pakistan held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in Islamabad where 14 major political parties signed a Joint Declaration while committing that Eradication of Polio will be carried out by the Political Parties in their coming Election Manifestos.

Members of the Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan who attended the briefing session included: **Liaquat Baloch** Secretary General, **Dr. Farid Ahmed Piracha** – Deputy Secretary, **Hafiz Sajjid Anwar** – Deputy

Secretary, **Syed Waqas Jaffery** – Deputy Secretary, **Mr. Ameer Ul Azeem** – Naib Ameer (Punjab), **Mr. Nazir Ahmed Janjua** – Secretary General (Punjab), **Mian Maqsood Ahmed** – Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (Lahore), **Dr. Hafeez Ur Rehman** – President Alkhidmat Foundation, **Syed Ahsan Ullah Waqas** – Vice President AlKhidmat Foundation, **Mr. Shahid Warsi** - PRO

Addressing the Briefing Session, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT, said that PILDAT organized the Briefing Session to facilitate an understanding among senior members of JI on the need to tackle the menace of polio.

Youth

Youth and the development of its leadership potential in Pakistan is another area of focus of PILDAT. To engage youth in Pakistan in healthy discourse and expose them to the democratic process and practices, PILDAT has launched the project of **Youth Parliament Pakistan**.

The first-ever Youth Parliament Pakistan was launched in 2007 by PILDAT. Establishment and facilitation of the Youth Parliament Pakistan is part of PILDAT's focus on Youth in the country and Youth's awareness education and training in the norms of politics and democracy in the country. The specific objectives of Youth Parliament Pakistan are to educate Pakistani Youth about politics and democracy and to demonstrate to them how Parliaments are able to Legislate, represent their constituents and oversee the Executive and debate matters of national and international and influence policies. In addition Youth parliament Pakistan serves as a useful forum to voice views of the Youth about a range of national and international issues. The debates in the Youth Parliament Pakistan are meant to not only help the young members in their personal development as a useful citizen, these also serve the purpose of articulating views of the youth on vital issues facing the nation and conveying these to the Government. PILDAT has launched and facilitated successfully 4 batches of Youth Parliament Pakistan from 2007 to 2011.

Patterned after the National Assembly of Pakistan, the **Youth Parliament** model consists of up to 60 young men and women representing 4 provinces, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) roughly in proportion to the population of these units. The Youth Parliament follows its own **two-Party System**, an elected Leader of the House or **Youth Prime Minister**, **Leader of the Opposition**, a **Youth Cabinet**, a **Shadow Cabinet** and

Standing Committees

PILDAT also focuses to conduct lectures and interactions for Youth Parliament Pakistan from international and national leaders such as successive **President of Pakistan**, successive **Prime Ministers of Pakistan**, **Chairman Senate**, **Chief Justice of Pakistan**, former **British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs**, **Federal Ministers**, a number of **dignitaries** and **political leaders**

The Youth Parliament helped the youth to develop a rational thinking in a dysfunctional, fragmented and disintegrated society. The Youth understood that now is the time to make positive changes in the society for the generations to come, if some hope of future development and prosperity is to be seen in the country. This can be regarded as the biggest achievement of Youth Parliament Pakistan, deepening the roots of democracy by stressing on the need for tolerance and dialogue to resolve conflicts, especially for youth. The project has helped the youth to develop a rational thinking in a dysfunctional, fragmented and disintegrated society.

The well-researched and objective perspectives of the Youth Parliament Pakistan to various state and governmental policies, that each batch offers to various Ministries and relevant Parliamentary Committees from time to time, was recognized at the highest policy level when the Prime Minister of Pakistan **Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani**, invited two Youth Parliament representatives through PILDAT to present their views on draft **National Education Policy** in the **Federal Cabinet** meeting held on September 09, 2009.

During the period, PILDAT launched the first-ever **Youth Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (YPA-KP)** focused only at the youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. After successfully running the



PILDAT marked the 2nd Anniversary of Youth Parliament Pakistan's Martyrs

Youth Parliament Pakistan on the national basis since 2007, PILDAT provided an opportunity for the Youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to interact with decision makers and provincial legislators.

Activities undertaken during 2012-2013 are as below:

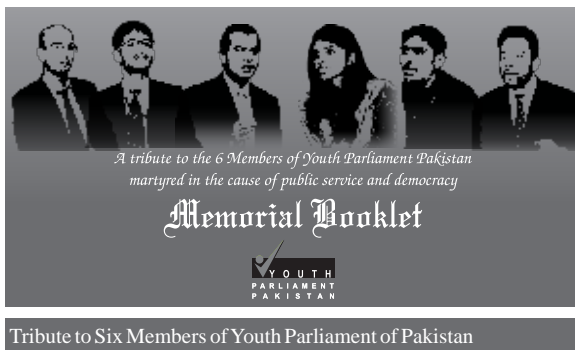
PILDAT marked the 2nd Anniversary of Youth Parliament Pakistan's Martyrs with a Memorial Booklet

On July 27, 2012, PILDAT paid rich tribute to the 6 members of the Youth Parliament Pakistan who were martyred in the cause of public service and democracy on the 2nd anniversary of the plane crash.

July 28, 2010 was the fateful day when six members of Youth Parliament Pakistan lost their lives alongside other passengers in an Airblue flight crash. The 6 members of Youth Parliament on board the flight were travelling from Karachi to join the Youth Parliament session in Islamabad, a PILDAT statement said.

The Youth Parliament Pakistan Secretariat & Steering Committee published a Memorial Booklet on the anniversary that is dedicated to 6 trained and capable young leaders of Pakistan as well as the parents and families of these 6 martyred members of Youth Parliament Pakistan whose irreparable loss and void can never be expressed in words.

The 6 martyred Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan included Mr. Hassan Javed Khan (YP39-SINDH02; Blue Party) Youth Prime Minister; Syeda Rabab Zehra Naqvi (YP41-SINDH04; Blue Party) Youth Information Minister; Mr. Prem Chand (YP38-SINDH01; Blue Party) Youth Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs; Mr. Bilal Nasir Jamaee (YP44-SINDH07; Green Party) Youth Shadow Minister for Information; Mr. Owais Bin Laiq (YP45-SINDH08; Green Party) Former Youth Shadow Minister for Information; Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information and Syed Arsalan



Nawabzada Malik Amad Khan at the Session of Youth Parliament Pakistan

Ahmad (YP42-SINDH05; Blue Party) Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information.

The Memorial Booklet pays tribute to the 6 martyred members of Youth Parliament Pakistan through putting together their profiles and parliamentary work during their tenure as members and office bearers of the Youth Parliament Pakistan.

4th Session of Youth Parliament Pakistan- August 27-31, 2012

Youth Parliament Pakistan called upon its 4th session from August 27 – 31, 2012. The session was called on to discuss the Pakistan India Relations. The Members also discussed the Role of Media and Media Reforms in Pakistan.

Youth Parliament Pakistan's 4th session proceedings in the house were initiated with a resolution expressing solidarity with the Muslims of Myanmar. Youth Parliament Pakistan started its 4th Parliamentary session in Islamabad with the discussion on Burma killings. The Parliamentarians urged the Government of Pakistan to utilize diplomatic channels in order to deal with the unjustified bloodshed of the Muslims.

On the second day of the session; in an interactive session on the topic of Pak-India Relations **Honourable Nawabzada Malik Amaad Khan**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, shared his analysis with the Youth Parliament Pakistan on the Pak-India Relations and the way forward. He stressed upon the dire need of setting aside the perpetual hawkish attitude by the political leadership of both the nuclear armed neighbours. He expressed appreciation for the intellectual capacity possessed by the youth parliamentarians regarding the issues of national and international concern.

Third day proceedings of the house were initiated by the originally starred and un-starred questions. In response to a question, Mr. Muhammad Umar Riaz

(YP36-PUNJAB16), Youth Minister for Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights said, "National Accountability Bureau, being an anti-corruption organization is charged with the responsibility of elimination of corruption through holistic approach of awareness, prevention and enforcement. The Bureau's operational functions are enumerated in section 9 of the National Accountability Ordinance (NAB) Ordinance 1999." Ms. Shaheera Jalil Albasit (YP56-SINDH08), Youth Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defense explained the agreement existing between Government and USA through which Pakistan agreed to open NATO supplies.

Addressing Youth Parliament Pakistan on the fourth day of the session, **Mr. Shafqat Abbasi**, Chairman Press Council of Pakistan, laid stress on the need of introducing reforms for the unprejudiced coverage by media personals. He illuminated the multidimensional aspects of accountability, democratic practices and capacity building of regulatory bodies. Youth Parliament Pakistan's second guest, Political Show Host Mr. Matiullah Jan was of the view that the legal prosecution should be institutionalized in order to deal with the prevalent malpractices in the diverse field of journalism. The manoeuvring of corporate sector in media is exploiting its outreach and effects.

The last day of the fourth session of Youth Parliament was initiated by the Government bills introduced by the concerned Youth Ministers for Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights Mr. Muhammad Umar Riaz (YP36-PUNJAB16), Youth Minister for Interior, Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and FATA, Mr. Muhammad Aamir Khan Khichi (YP30-PUNJAB10) and Youth Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Mr. Gohar Zaman (YP25-PUNJAB05). Mr. Najeeb Abid Baloch (YP05-BALUCHISTAN03) moved a motion to discuss the parameters of state institutions in perspective of ongoing disturbances between the executive and the

apex court of the state. Mr. Muhammad Sohail (YP34-PUNJAB14) said that there is dire need to deal with the lack of coordination between the industries and technical institutions to improve the technical and practical skills of the masses.

5th Session of Youth Parliament Pakistan-September 19-23, 2012

Youth Parliament Pakistan called upon its 5th session from 19 - 23 September 2012. The session was called on to discuss the Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan, Role of Youth in Elections and Talibanization in Pakistan.

Youth Parliament Pakistan, on the first day of the fifth session unanimously passed a resolution condemning the blasphemous US movie. The sacrilegious film, the Youth Parliamentarians said, was a conspiracy to distress the Muslims all over the world. They called for efforts to forge unity among the Muslims to foil the conspiracies of the anti-Islam forces.

"Corrupt democratic rule has always resulted in the emergence and dominance of the military intervention in political milieu, thus making Military the only key decision-maker not only in charge of defence of Pakistan but also in the other national sectors like domestic, foreign and security", Mr. Muhammad Umar Riaz (YP36-PUNJAB16), Youth Minister for Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights said, He was of the view that it was the need of the hour to make internal policies based on accountability to counter corruption and drastic reforms need to be initiated in this regard.

Second day of the fifth session, the Members of the Youth Parliament met with the Deputy Speaker National Assembly **Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi**.

"The provinces have been empowered in the real sense through greater provincial autonomy and devolution of



4th Session of the Youth Parliament of Pakistan

powers to them and today they enjoy unprecedented freedom in decision-making, administrative operations as well as financial matters. Under 18th and 19th Amendments the provinces of Pakistan are more empowered than ever.” Mr. Faisal Karim Kundi said.

The Honourable Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Mr. Faisal Kareem Kundi was addressing the 4th batch of the Youth Parliament Pakistan that visited the National Assembly. The Honourable Speaker shed light on the systematic proceedings of the National Assembly.

On the third day, Youth Parliament Pakistan condemned the policy of fanning hatred which is showing disrespect for a personality whose reputation is noted and is being celebrated for the last 1,400 years of history not only by Muslims but by non-Muslims too. The Youth Parliamentarians commended the Government of Pakistan of marking September 21 (Friday) a national holiday in honour of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

On fourth day, in an interactive session on the topic of “Civil-Military Relations” **Senator Razza Rabbani**, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on National Security, shared with the Youth Parliament Pakistan his analysis on the issue and the way forward. In his view, the military has played a role of pivotal importance in the national security of the country but the military intervention in the politics and Parliamentary system should not be backed at all. He said, “The foundation stone of civil military relations has been laid by the present government. Civil and military relations have improved, yet the balance continues to elude.” He was of the opinion that the Military should be answerable to the Parliament and Parliamentary committees.

The last and final sitting of the 2012 batch of Youth Parliament was followed by elections to the Youth Parliament Pakistan Alumni Association 2012. Mr.

Touseef Ahmed Abbasi (YP02-AJK02) has been elected as the President of the YPP Alumni Association 2012, while Mr. Saleem Khan (YP07-BALUCHISTAN05) has been elected as the Vice President Balochistan and AJK; Mr. Hafiz Ullah Wazir (YP09-FATA02) elected as the Vice President Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, ICT & FATA; Ms. Rabiya Shamim (YP53-SINDH05) Vice President Sindh; and Mr. Atiq ur Rehman (YP24-PUNJAB04) has been elected as the Vice President Punjab. The office of the General Secretary YPPAA 2012 has been filled by Mr. Gulfam Mustafa (YP26-PUNJAB06) while Mr. Kashif Yousaf Badar (YP27-PUNJAB07) has been elected as the Finance Secretary.

Youth Parliament Pakistan Study Visit to Sweden

A delegation of Youth Parliamentarians from Pakistan visited Stockholm, the capital of Sweden for a 1-week Study Trip to meet Representatives from the Swedish Government, Political circles and the Civil Society. The Study Visit began on November 25, 2012 and concluded on December 01, 2012.

The purpose of this Study Visit was to explore the initiative that the Sweden has taken over the years to strengthen the roots of democracy and Governance. For this, the 12 member delegation of the Youth Parliament visited the key and historic institutes in Stockholm which included **Riksdagen, The Parliamentary Ombudsmen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nobel Museum, National Audit Office, Municipality, Swedish Institute, Ministry of Education, Liberal Youth Party Office, Hammarby Sjöstad and National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU).**

The Study Visit, facilitated by the Swedish Embassy, Islamabad and supported by the Swedish Institute (SI), Stockholm, underwent to provide an opportunity to selected Youth Parliament members to understand the Swedish political and Parliamentary system and



Youth Parliament Pakistan Delegation on Study Visit to Sweden

engage in a meaningful dialogue with Swedish youth counterparts on issues of mutual interest and concern.

Youth Provincial Assembly, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa – Inaugural Session: January 23-26, 2013

The first batch of Youth Provincial Assembly - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa held its First Session at Peshawar from January 23-26, 2013. As a model Provincial Assembly for young people, the Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is patterned after the Provincial Assembly- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and has 40 members from all 25 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

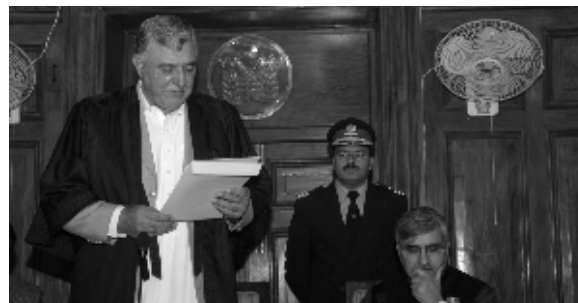
The 40 Members of Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa consists of 25 Members who joined the Blue Party (liberals) and 15 joined Green Party (traditional). Gender ratio is based on selection on open merit. In Youth Provincial Assembly, Female representation is 10% compared to 90% male representation. The meetings of the Green and the Blue Party also took place on the first day. The Members were guided about the election process and the need for mutual cooperation and understanding amongst the parties. The party members applied for different slots within the party for the Party Leader, General Secretary, Deputy Speaker and Chief Party Whip.

Second day, Youth Provincial Assembly- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa culminated in the completion of the ascertainment process for the Leader of the House as well as election for the Deputy Speaker Youth Provincial Assembly – Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

A democratic process was adopted, same as in the Provincial Assembly of KP, for the selection of the member who commanded the confidence of the majority of the members. Mr. Nauman Ul Haq (YPAKP18-LOWERDIR01; Blue Party) emerged as Youth Leader of the House. He obtained 21 votes out of 34 MYPA-KPs who had been administered oath. In his address after he took oath as the Youth Chief Minister, Nauman said that he will take the House forward with



Mian Iftikhar Hussain, Former Provincial Information Minister speaking at Youth Parliament KP session in Peshawar



Mr. Kiramat Ullah Khan, Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at the inauguration ceremony of the Youth Provincial Assembly-KP

the consensus of both parties and he shall make the best use of his office to take the platform of Youth Provincial Assembly- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa forward.

The Youth Provincial Assembly- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was inaugurated on its third day in Peshawar by by **Mr. Kiramat Ullah Khan**, (PK-7 Peshawar-7) MPA, Speaker of the Provincial Assembly of KP and the Patron of the Youth Provincial Assembly – Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He called upon the members of the Youth Assembly to take maximum benefit from this unique platform and contribute in the policy making process. He stressed that an educated citizen can be a good citizen which is the ultimate goal.

Earlier, Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President-PILDAT formally thanked the Honourable Speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for taking this initiative by offering the Old Assembly Hall of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly for the Youth Provincial Assembly sessions. He said that the concept of YPA-KP emerged as a way for young people to “learn by doing,” through taking part in Youth Assembly.

On Fourth Day and last day of Youth Provincial Assembly- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's first session, a Motion was moved by Mr. Aqeel Bangash (YPAKP15-KOHAT01) to discuss the law and order situation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He was of the view that Pakistan's terrorism policy should be completely independent.

Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Second Session: March 28-31, 2013

Youth Provincial Assembly - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (YPA-KP) a PILDAT initiative, held its second session starting from Thursday, March 28, 2013 to Sunday, March, 31 2013. The session took place at Peshawar. On the first day, while discussing key topics such as Ant-Polio Campaign and Significance and Prospects of Free and Fair Elections in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On second day, in an interactive session on the topic of "Significance and Prospects of Free and Fair Election in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" **Mian Iftikhar Hussain**, Former Provincial Information Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, shared with the Youth Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa his analysis on the significance of Fair and Free elections and the way forward.

He said that the social and economic development of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is in the sole hands of democracy which is the Parliament. Democratic system has played a role of pivotal importance in the security of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and ultimately it is the best system which gives the right to the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to choose the leadership in the upcoming elections. The brave and outspoken former Minister said that the terror will not shun the voices of the people; it is time that people come out of their houses on the day of election and dismiss the extremist and terrorist threats. Dismissing personal threats that he faces by the Taliban, he said that he has lost his only son but for the prosperity of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he is willing to sacrifice everything.

On third day, in a briefing on Anti Polio Campaign in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, members of the Youth Provincial Assembly resolved that polio free Pakistan is a necessity, not a luxury anymore.

In an interactive session on the topic of "Anti-Polio Campaign in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa", **Dr. Imtiaz Ali Shah**, Technical Focal Person for Polio Eradication from the Health Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, shared his analysis on eradication of polio in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with the young members.

On the last day of the second session, the Members discussed the law and order situation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by moving an adjournment motion. The members asked for a formation of powerful and non-partisan caretaker Government of Khyber



Mr. Muhammad Feyyaz, renowned writer, speaking at Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Session in Peshawar

Pakhtunkhwa to hold free, fair and peaceful elections.

Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Third Session: May 22-25, 2013

On the first day of the four day session, Members of the Youth Provincial Assembly-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa stressed on the need for new Government to hold dialogue with Taliban, terming it the only non-violent solution to end extremism and terrorism in the Pakistan.

The House was of the opinion that the dialogue has to be carried out through political consensus across the country.

Youth Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (YPA-KP), a PILDAT initiative, began its third session in Peshawar. On the agenda of the YPA-KP are discussion on the Post-Election Scenario in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the Energy Crisis.

The third session began with election of the new Leader of the House, resulting Mr. Danish Farid (YPAKP22-MANSEHRA02) securing 68% votes of the House and elected as the Youth Chief Minister, YPA-KP.

Initiating the discussion, members congratulated the incoming PTI Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, welcoming its heavy public mandate. Young Members also reminded the incoming Government that public mandate placed a huge responsibility on the shoulders of PTI which it must fulfill. Members also offered all possible support and assistance to the new Government from the platform of YPA-KP.

On the second day of the session, Youth Provincial Assembly - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa demanded the audit of thumb impressions on ballots where there is a huge cry of rigging. A resolution was moved in the House by Mr. Fahad Sohrab (YPAKP20-MALAKAND01) which demanded that the Election Commission



Members of Youth Parliament Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at an Oath taking ceremony in Peshawar

immediately carry out an audit of thump impression in all those constituencies across the country where a complaint of rigging has been made in the May 11 General Election. The members were of the opinion that the ECP should have a firm and unbiased attitude towards all the complaints so all parties of Pakistan can be satisfied. Mr. Saddam Ullah (YPAKP03-BANNU01), Youth Provincial Minister of Law and Parliamentary affairs said that though it would be impossible to audit each and every ballot hence a fair sample of ballots should tested for audition.

On the third day of the session, to enhance understanding of the members of Youth Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on what constitutes extremism and how to practically address it, an exclusive workshop on Countering-Extremism was carried out during the Third session of Youth Provincial Assembly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

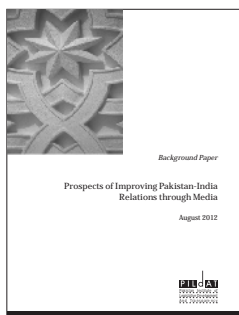
Spanning over 2 days, the workshop focused on identifying various facets of extremism in the society followed by exercises on developing objectives, long and short term goals, strategies and recommendations.

On the last day, Member's stressed on the need of holding the local Government election urgently in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The members were of the view that the local infrastructure of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa badly needs a revival which includes roads, schools and hospitals.

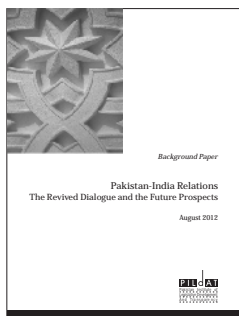


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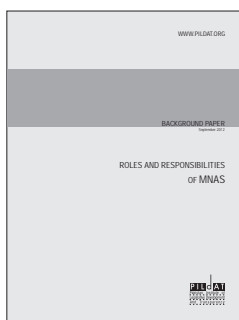
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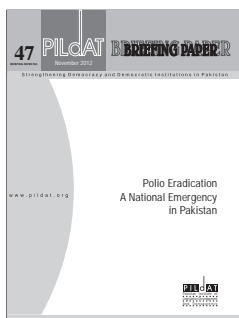
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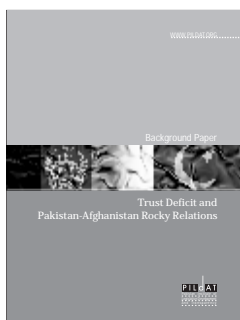
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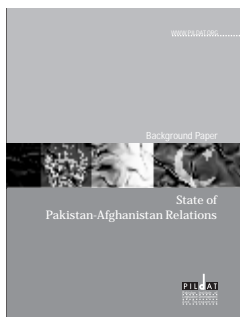
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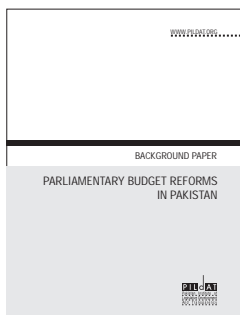
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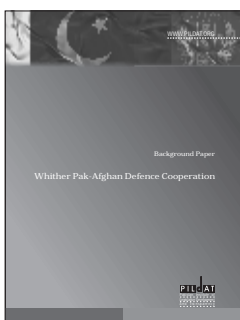
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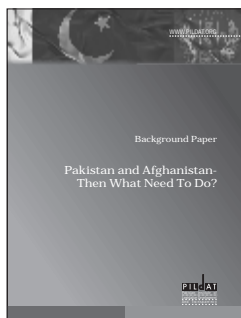
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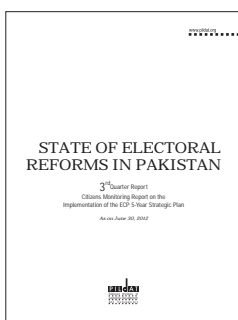


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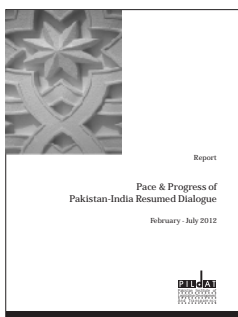


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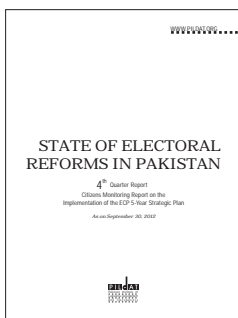
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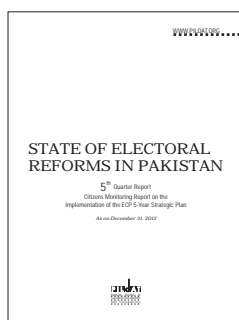
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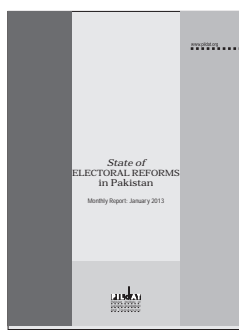
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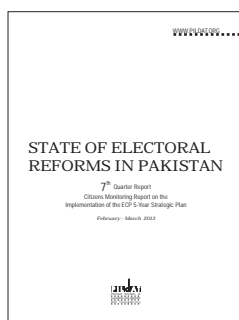
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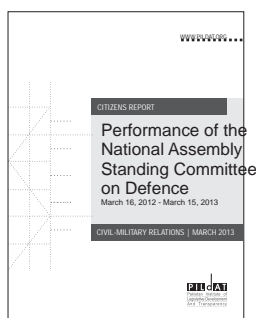


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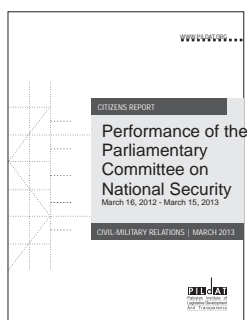


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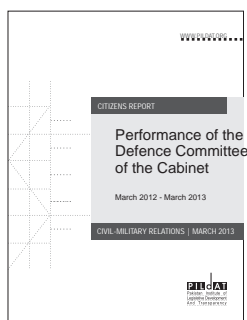
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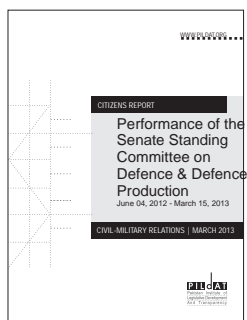
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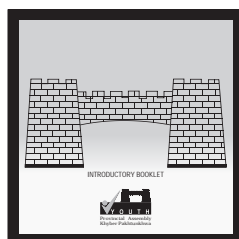


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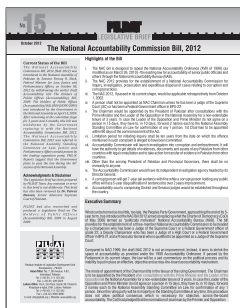
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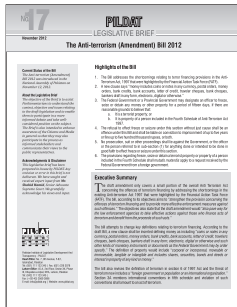
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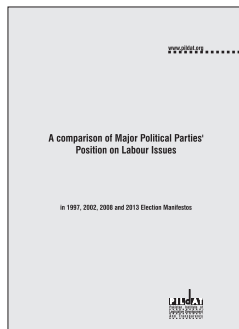


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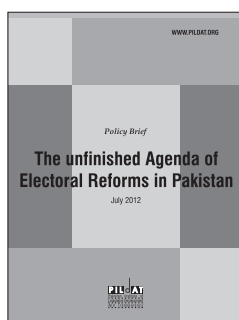
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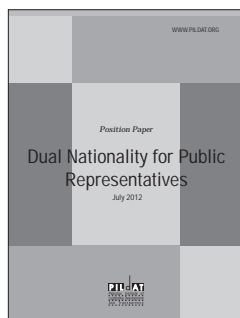
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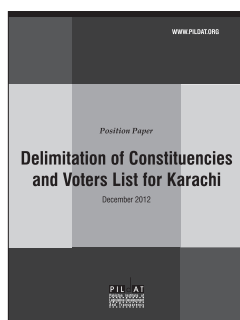
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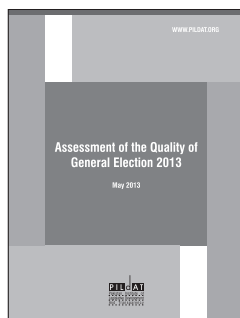
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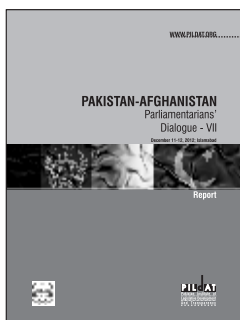


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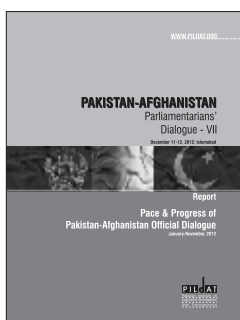
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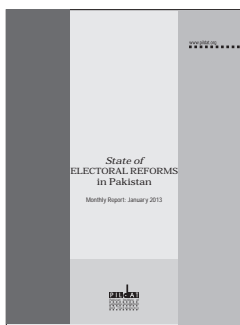
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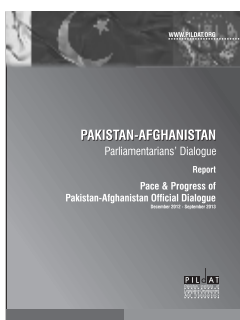
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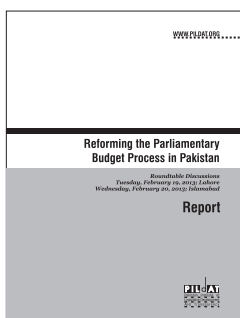
Report: **Pace & Progress of Pakistan-Afghanistan Official Dialogue (January 2012-November 2012), December 2012**, English: 30 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad.



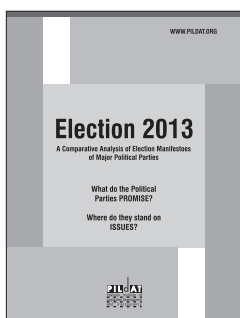
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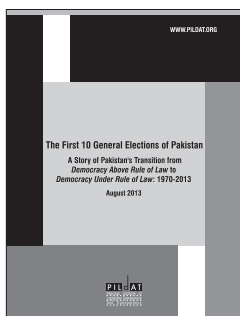
Report: **Pace & Progress of Pakistan Afghanistan Official Dialogue (December 2012-March 2013), March 2013**, English: 30 Pages, Dari: 30, Pashto: 34. Supported by the British High Commission, Islamabad



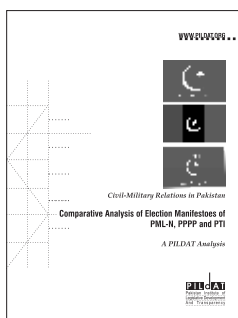
Report: **Performing the Parliamentary Budget Process in Pakistan: Roundtable Discussion, March 2013**, English: 30 Pages, Urdu: 36 Pages. Supported by the Canadian High Commission, Islamabad.



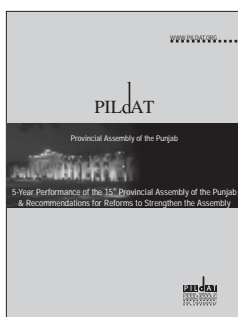
Report: **Election 2013: A Comparative Analysis of Election Manifestoes of Major Political Parties: What do the Political Parties promise? Where do they stand on Issues? April 2013**, English: 42 Pages. Supported by the Danish International Development Agency – DANIDA



Report: **The First 10-General Elections of Pakistan: A Story of Pakistan's Transition from Democracy above Rule of Law to Democracy under Rule of Law: 1970-2013, May 2013**, English: 82 Pages. Supported by the Danish International Development Agency – DANIDA

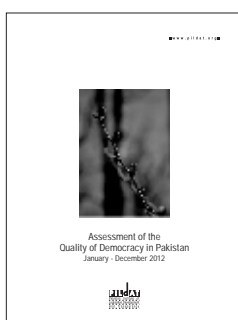


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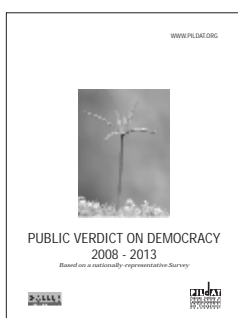


Report: **Provincial Assembly of the Punjab: 5-Year Performance of the 15th Provincial Assembly of the Punjab & Recommendations for Reforms to strengthen the Assembly, June 2013**, English: 46 Pages, Urdu: 50 Pages. Supported by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)

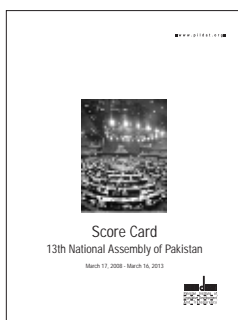
SCORE CARDS



Score Card on the **Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan (Year-2012), January, 2012**, English: 88 Pages, Urdu: 88 Pages. Supported by the Danish International Development Agency- DANIDA.

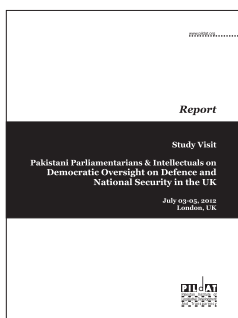


Score Card on **Public Verdict on Democracy 2008-2013, February 2013**, English: 26 Pages. Supported by the Danish International Development Agency – DANIDA

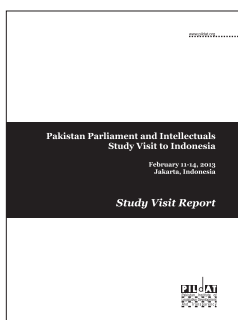


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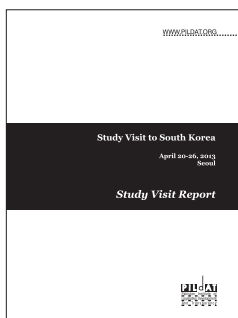
STUDY VISIT REPORT



Study Visit Report: **Pakistan Parliamentarians & Intellectuals on Democratic Insight on Defence and National Security in the UK, July 3-5, 2012, August 2012**, English: 38 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission.



Study Visit Report: **Pakistan Parliament and Intellectuals' Study Visit to Indonesia, February 11-14, 2013, March 2013**, English: 42 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission.



Study Visit Report: **Visit to South Korea April 20-26, 2013, Seoul, June 2013**, English: 46 Pages. Supported by the British High Commission.



Auditors Report and Financial Statements

Deloitte.

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www.myscodeoitte.com

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, 2013 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, 2013 and of its surplus, cash flows and changes in accumulated fund for the year then ended in accordance with the approved accounting standards as applicable in Pakistan.

Date: 07 FEB 2014
Islamabad


Chartered Accountants
(Engagement Partner: Mohammad Saleem)

Member of
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited

PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT JUNE 30, 2013

	Note	2013 ----- (Rupees)	2012 -----
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment	5	36,491,553	33,872,746
Intangible assets	6	70,985	415,781
		<u>36,562,538</u>	<u>34,288,527</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Advances, deposits and prepayments	7	5,139,835	4,677,764
Cash and bank balances	8	59,635,918	67,549,498
Receivable from donors	10	2,386,855	-
		<u>67,162,608</u>	<u>72,227,262</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	9	797,915	310,984
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>66,364,693</u>	<u>71,916,258</u>
		<u>102,927,231</u>	<u>106,204,785</u>
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred grants	10	-	16,229,776
NET ASSETS		<u>102,927,231</u>	<u>89,975,009</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
Accumulated fund		<u>102,927,231</u>	<u>89,975,009</u>
		<u>102,927,231</u>	<u>89,975,009</u>
CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS	11		

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
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

	Note	2013	2012
		----- (Rupees) -----	
Income	12	135,855,234	104,176,574
Expenditure			
Workshop and seminar expenses	13	73,825,566	52,625,569
Operational support service and administrative expenses	14	49,817,593	44,694,281
Finance costs	15	59,853	312,963
		122,903,012	97,632,813
Surplus for the year		12,952,222	6,543,761
Opening balance brought forward		89,975,009	83,431,248
Closing balance carried to balance sheet		102,927,231	89,975,009

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

M. Yousuf



Secretary General

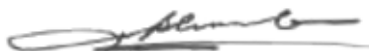


Chairman

PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Note	2013	2012
	(Rupees)	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Surplus for the year	12,952,222	6,543,761
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	2,099,889	1,672,306
Amortization of intangible	344,796	318,644
(Gain) on disposal of property and equipment	(560,755)	(706,780)
Finance costs	59,853	312,963
	1,943,783	1,597,133
Cash generated from operations before working capital changes	14,896,005	8,140,894
Working capital changes		
(Increase) in advances, deposits and prepayments	(264,091)	(2,392,976)
(Increase)/Decrease in receivables from donors	(2,386,855)	5,600,584
Increase in accrued expenses and other liabilities	486,931	42,389
	(2,164,015)	3,249,997
Cash generated from operations	12,731,990	11,390,891
Finance costs paid	(59,853)	(312,963)
Net cash from operating activities	12,672,137	11,077,928
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Additions to property and equipment	(5,933,941)	(4,995,626)
Addition to intangible asset	-	(134,500)
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment	1,578,000	1,020,000
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,355,941)	(4,110,126)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
(Decrease)/Increase in deferred grant	(16,229,776)	16,229,776
Net cash (used in)/from financing activities	(16,229,776)	16,229,776
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(7,913,580)	23,197,578
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	67,549,498	44,351,920
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	59,635,918	67,549,498

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, 2013**

	(Rupees)
Balance as at June 30, 2011	83,431,248
Surplus for the year	6,543,761
Balance as at June 30, 2012	89,975,009
Surplus for the year	12,952,222
Balance as at June 30, 2013	102,927,231

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




Secretary General



Chairman



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