

ANNUAL REPORT

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Introduction

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development & Transparency, PILDAT (www.pildat.org) is an *independent, non-partisan* and *not-for-profit* indigenous think tank focussed on political and public policy research and legislative strengthening. As an indigenous institution, its mission is to *strengthen democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan*.

PILDAT is a premier research organization of Pakistan focusing on *democracy, governance and public policy*. Founded in 2001, the organisation focuses on producing objective, research-based analysis on policies especially under review by the Parliament and the Executive.

Our independent research, analysis, and advocacy based on it, has helped in shaping critical policies as well as broadened the public and media discourse on critical policies of democratic governance. Following are the flagship areas of PILDAT's work:

- Parliamentary Development
- Parliamentary Monitoring
- Quality of Democracy
- Electoral Reforms
- Civil-Military Relations
- Political Parties
- Quality of Governance
- Youth
- Right to Information
- Rule of Law

Leading with our independent and objective analyses and proposals for policy reform in critical areas, PILDAT is well-recognised as a serious and objective institute in policy-making circles, across legislatures, and media within Pakistan and abroad. As an organisation created and led by Pakistani citizens with a belief to strengthen Pakistan's democracy and democratic institutions, PILDAT has, as a cardinal principle, employed and upheld its independence and non-partisan approach. It has very carefully ensured that its research agenda and analyses are rooted in open-minded inquiry reflecting diverse points of view.

PILDAT is a registered non-profit entity under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, Pakistan. Its formal registration process was completed on September 19, 2002.

Further details about PILDAT's work can be obtained from its website: www.pildat.org

President's Message

In 2017, PILDAT has turned 15! Though still a young organisation, PILDAT has chartered its course and achieved many milestones towards its mission of strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

In our fifteenth year, covered in this **PILDAT Annual Report 2016-2017** from **July 01, 2016** to **June 30, 2017**, PILDAT has taken key strides towards achieving our objectives by continuing with some existing strategies and combining those with newer initiatives. During this year, we have initiated the first-ever citizen's **Assessment of the Implementation of National Action Plan**. We have launched the **Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab**, prepared and published a **Score Card on Performance of Legislators** and run specific courses for key political parties on **Political Parties and Public Policies** instituting parties' internal think tanks on public policies.

While more detailed overview of our work is given in following pages, I am glad to share some of PILDAT's key achievements and firsts in our endeavours this year:

1. PILDAT carried out **Assessment of the Quality of Democracy** based on public opinion polls, and expert analysis, in order to promote and assess democratic values and culture.
2. The PILDAT **Assessment of the Quality of Governance Score Cards** were published providing comparative analyses of Provincial governance as well as Federal governance.
3. A firm believer in democratic governance, PILDAT has worked tirelessly on the promotion of **Democratic Civil-Military Relations**. Over the course of the year, PILDAT has published monthly monitors on Civil-Military Relations, remaining a voice for a constitutional equation in civil-military relations.
4. **7 Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogues on Sharing of Experiences on Governance and Democracy** were facilitated by PILDAT.
5. The 8th **Youth Parliament Pakistan** was facilitated to train youth for leadership roles.

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. PILDAT team is committed in effective implementation of our mission for strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

We place a high emphasis on learning lessons from all aspects of our work to help us to develop stronger and more effective programmes. We also value your opinion and support, and look forward to receiving your thoughts or feedback at info@pildat.org

Ahmed Bilal Mehboob
President



September 2017

Abbreviations & Acronyms

AAP	Aam Admi Party
AI	Accountability Initiative
AJK	Azad Jammu Kashmir
ANP	Awami National Party
BHC	British High Commission
BISP	Benazir Income Support Programme
BJP	Bharatiya Janata Party
BNP-M	Balochistan National Party (Mengal)
CEC	Chief Election Commissioner
CMR	Civil-Military Relations
COAS	Chief of Army Staff
CPEC	China Pakistan Economic Corridor
CPNE	Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CTD	Counter Terrorism Department
DAG	Democracy Assessment Group
DGCMR	Dialogue Group in Civil Military Relations
DISCOs	Distribution Companies
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Area
FAP	Member Farmer Association of Pakistan
FIA	Federal Investigation Agency
GB	Gilgit Baltistan
HRCPC	Human Rights Commission Pakistan
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
IIMA	Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
INC	Indian National Congress
INLD	Indian National Lok Dal
ISPR	Inter Services Public Relations
JI	Jamaat-e-Islami
JUI-F	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Fazlur Rehman)
JUI-S	Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Samiul Haq)
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
MLA	Member of Legislative Assembly
MNA	Member of National Assembly
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoWP	Ministry of Water and Power
MP	Member of Parliament
MPA	Member of Provincial Assembly
MPDD	Management and Professional Development Department
MQM	Muttahida Quami Movement
MYP	Member Youth Parliament Pakistan
NA	National Assembly
NAP	National Action Plan
NP	National Party
NSC	National Security Committee
PIC	Punjab Information Commission
PITB	Punjab Information Technology Board
PGDM	Post Graduate Diploma in Management
PML	Pakistan Muslim League
PML-F	Pakistan Muslim League-Functional
PML-N	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PPPP	Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian
PTI	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf
PTV	Pakistan Television
RTI	Right to Information
RTIC	Right to Information Commission
RoL	Rule of Law
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SC	Supreme Court
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UMT	University of Management and Technology
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
YP	Youth Parliament

Basic Information

Name of the Organization

Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency – PILDAT

E-mail

info@pildat.org

Website

www.pildat.org

Twitter Handle

@Pildat

Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/PILDAT>

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

Nadeem Safdar & Co.
(Chartered Accountants)

Bankers

Faysal Bank Pvt. Ltd and Bank Alfalah Pvt. Ltd

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 has served as Senior Vice President / Assistant General Manager at United Gulf Bank, Bahrain. He had earlier 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 CEO, Enviro Consult, Lahore. 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.

Board of Directors

Dr. Sania Nishtar

Board Member

Dr. Sania Nishtar, SI, FRCP, PhD, is the Founder and President of the Heartfile, an NGO think tank. She has served as Federal minister in the 2013 Pakistan Caretaker government. 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 10 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's focus has been on strengthening democracy and democratic institutions and providing thought leadership on crucial issues that affect democracy and political growth in the country.



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

Assessment of the Quality of Democracy



Participants of the Pakistan-India Parliamentarians and Experts Dialogue

A key part of PILDAT's mission are its endeavours to strengthen democracy and democratic institutions. While PILDAT has focussed on strengthening democracy in a number of ways, we believe that citizens must be vigilant in the performance of democracy to ensure it delivers the required dividends. Based on that belief, PILDAT conceptualised and prepared an indigenous framework on assessment of the quality of democracy that has been used to carry out publishing and dissemination of periodic evaluation of the quality of democracy in Pakistan.

Quality of democracy is periodically gauged by PILDAT using two methodologies: public opinion polls that gather citizens' perspectives on various aspects of quality of democracy as well as an analysis and scorecard based on research. PILDAT's periodic assessments of quality of democracy are guided by the belief that objective analyses of quality of democracy in Pakistan must offer proposals for democratic reform that can strengthen democracy and democratic institutions.

PILDAT's Assessment of Quality of Democracy is primarily based on a combination of the following 2 assessment frameworks:

- a. International IDEA's Democracy Assessment Framework
- b. An indigenously developed Pakistan-Specific Framework

From July 2016 to June 2017, following major initiatives were carried out by PILDAT under this component:

1. PILDAT Public Opinion Poll on the State of Democracy in Pakistan, June 2015-May 2016 was released in September 2016. Upon the completion of the 3rd year of National and Provincial Assemblies and Governments in

office in May 2016, PILDAT carried out a country-wide, nationally representative survey to gauge public opinion across the country on quality of democracy. The nationwide poll was conducted during August 18 - September 05, 2016 with a sample size of 3610 citizens throughout Pakistan.

2. PILDAT Report on Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan 2016. The report carried PILDAT analysis of the democracy developments throughout the period through their close monitoring and quantitative assessment of the quality of democracy based on scores by PILDAT's Democracy Assessment Group (DAG). These scores were taken for the calendar year of 2016. The launch of Democracy Report generated media comments and analyses in the shape of over 20 Media Reports, including Op-eds and Electronic media discussions contributing to increased awareness among public, media and parliamentarians about the performance of democratic governance and democratic institutions and greater realization of the importance of introducing reforms to address the weaknesses in the democratic system prevalent in Pakistan.

Below is a snapshot of various public engagements, consultations and releases by PILDAT under the component:

Public Confidence in Democracy dwindles in Pakistan: PILDAT Survey

In an encouraging sign for Pakistan's fledgling democracy, 54% of respondents looked favourably upon the quality of democracy in the country, opining that they

are 'Highly Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with the quality of democracy at the end of the 3rd Year of the current Federal and Provincial Governments. However, favourable outlook with regards to democracy as a system of government saw a decline of 11 percentage points in 3 years compared to the first year.

The PILDAT Public Opinion Poll on the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan for the third Year of the Federal and Provincial Governments, June 2015-May 2016 was conducted during August 18-September 05, 2016 with a nationally representative sample size of 3610 citizens throughout Pakistan.

Public satisfaction has been reasonably consistent over the first three years of the currently elected Governments on the overall quality of democracy. The proportion of respondents who were satisfied with the existing democratic system at the end of 2nd year of elected Governments, June 2014-May 2015, stood at 58%. Moreover, at the end of 1st year of the elected Governments, June 2013-May 2014, this figure stood at 55%.

With regards to provincial breakdowns, respondents from Sindh seemed to be least satisfied with overall quality of democracy, with only 32% of the respondents looking favourably on it. This was followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at 58%, Punjab at 61% and Balochistan at 66%.

At the end 3rd Year, only 56% of the nation-wide respondents believe democracy to be the best system of Government, as compared to 67% at the end of the 1st Year and 64% at the end of the 2nd Year.

A relative minority of 28% of the respondents felt that the military is best suited to govern Pakistan. Of greater interest is that over the course of three years since General Election 2013, this proportion of respondents has risen by 9 percentage points. It stood at 19% at the end of 1st year, before rising to 20% at the end of 2nd Year.

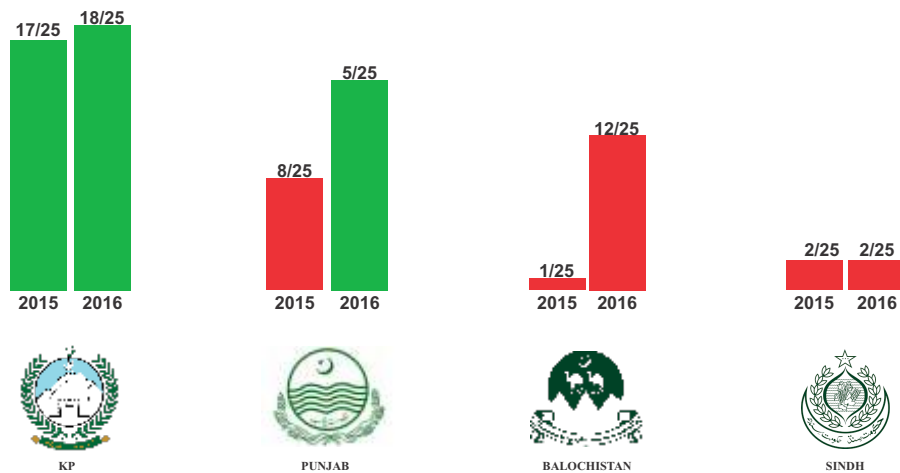
Quality of Democracy slides down by 4 percentage points, still unable to improve: PILDAT Assessment

The year 2016 has seen Pakistan's Quality of Democracy slide by 4 percentage points from 2015. Instead of a steady transition towards improvement, democracy scores in Pakistan, year after year since 2013, show a somewhat tumultuous trend – while quality of democracy was scored at its highest in 4 years at 54% in 2013; the scores slid 10 percentage points in 2014 to 44%, regained a little to 50% in 2015 to have slipped again to 46% at the end of the year 2016.

According to PILDAT's assessment, three parameters received a score of either 50% or more in 2016. These included Constitutional Framework (52%), Electoral Process and Management (53%) and Civil Society (51%). For 2015, these included Performance of the Media (50%), Constitutional Framework (50%), Electoral Process and Management (51%) and Civil Society (51%). For 2014, these included Performance of the Media (50%), Constitutional Framework (50%), Electoral Process and Management (51%) and Civil Society (51%). Therefore, Performance of the Constitutional Framework and Electoral Process and Management are two parameters that have consistently received high scores for the past three years in the context of quality of democracy.

2 parameters scored less than 40% for the democracy assessment in 2016, signifying that these areas remain a cause of concern. These include Performance of the National and Provincial Governments (30%), Democratic Oversight of the Security Sector and Rule of Law (30%). In 2015, the parameters scoring less than 40% included the National and Provincial Governments (34.9%), Institution of Local Governments (31.8%), Democratic Oversight of the Security Sector and Rule of Law (29.2%) and Human Rights (38.2%). In 2014, the parameters scoring less than 40% included Performance of National and Provincial Governments (38.3%), Institution of Local Governments (19.3%), Democratic Oversight of the Security Sector and Rule of Law (33.9%). In 2013, these low scoring parameters included Performance of the Unelected Executive/Bureaucracy (36.9%), Institution of Local Governments (16.5%), Democratic Oversight of the Security Sector and Rule of Law (31.3%) and Human Rights (25.8%). Therefore, Democratic Oversight of the Security Sector and Rule of Law remains, consistently, a major area of concern for the past four years in the context of Pakistan's democracy.

Assessment of the Quality of Governance



Assessment of the Quality of Provincial Governance 2015-2016 by PILDAT

While PILDAT continued to assess performance of many policies and institutions related to governance since 2002 while facilitating Parliamentarians, Political Parties, Governments and Media to institute required reforms in areas including health and education, national and provincial affairs, water resource management and sharing as well as foreign policy and regional relations, in 2013 PILDAT developed an indigenous framework for systematically assessing quality of governance in Pakistan's Federal and 4 Provincial Governments. The framework has included two-tier assessments – seeking and documenting of public opinion poll annually on the quality of governance in Pakistan and the performance assessment Score Cards based on obtaining published data from Federal and Provincial Governments. Based on this framework since 2013, PILDAT has carried out annual assessments of quality of governance in Federal and Provincial Governments in the shape of Score Cards. Through developing the governance assessment framework and compiling annual scorecards from 2013-2016, PILDAT's endeavour sought to understand the extent to which Pakistan's democratically elected governments have delivered to their respective citizens in terms of providing good governance.

As the PILDAT assessment of quality of governance at the Federal and Provincial levels have been carried out as collaborative efforts by seeking published data from Governments, these assessments highlight areas of strengths and potential areas that may require improvements with the objective that policymakers, Government officials and politicians, alongside citizens and media, will benefit from the perspectives highlighted in governance assessment scorecards. Not only that the Federal and 4 Provincial Governments have been forthcoming in sharing data on governance every year reflecting Pakistan's commitment to requirements of openness and transparency, but the Governments have also been very keen to receive, analyse and use the

governance assessments and scorecards annually.

Following key activities were carried out under this area during the year:

PILDAT Assessment of Performance of the Ministry of Water and Power

Following the introduction of the National Power Policy 2013, the Federal Government through the MoWP has been attempting to address the challenge of providing affordable, reliable, sustainable, and secure energy with relief from daily blackouts. Three years later, some progress has been made, but the short-term goals have seen mixed results, PILDAT's assessment of Ministry of Water and Power concluded. Highlights of the report include:

- i. Mixed progress on eliminating power outages
- ii. MoWP unable to achieve its target for increasing generation capacity for 2015-2016
- iii. Privatization of Distribution Companies (DISCOs) rolled back amid political opposition
- iv. Decrease in transmission losses and increased recovery of bills in 2015-2016
- v. Sustained solutions required for tackling the energy crisis

A highlight of the report was that, with more than eight hours of load shedding on average, the rural consumer was seen to have suffered the most from the country's energy crisis in 2015-2016. As a result of the Government's focus on the revival of the economy, private industry only saw about one to three hours of load shedding on average while the urban consumer still faced about six hours of load shedding on average, analyses PILDAT's Report on the Performance of the Ministry of Water and Power (MoWP) during the third year of the current Federal Government.

Punjab Government Front-runner in Quality of Governance with score of 65.5%; KP trailed with 63.0% score; PILDAT Public Opinion Poll on Quality of Governance in Provinces, 2016

A Nationwide Public Opinion Poll was conducted by PILDAT on Quality of Governance in Pakistan at the completion of the third year of the current Federal and Provincial Governments in office elected through the General Election 2013.

Among the provinces, Punjab leads with a score of 65.5% followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) with a score of 63.0%, Balochistan with a score of 60.5% and Sindh at 59.7% at the end of the third financial year of elected Provincial Governments in office since 2013.

The survey results were the second part of a two-part PILDAT survey covering separately Quality of Democracy and Quality of Governance. The Assessment was based on 25 Governance Parameters under 5 Pillars of Governance including Rule of Law, Management of Economy, Social Indicators, Service Delivery and Administrative Effectiveness. Parameters garnering a score of 60% and above were indicative of a significant improvement in governance from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016.

PILDAT Score Card on Federal Governance: Quality of Governance Received 51% Score for 2015-2016

Quality of Governance at the Centre slightly improved in the third year of the Federal Government. PILDAT Score Card Quality on Quality of Federal Governance in the third year highlights major governance developments during 2015-2016 through a comparative analysis of the performance against various parameters and sub-parameters between 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 to identify low and high performing indicators.

Improvements have been recorded in all five pillars of governance: Rule of Law, Management of the Economy, Social Indicators, Service Delivery and Administrative Effectiveness. Of the 25 sub-divisions of pillars of governance, above average performance was recorded in 19 parameters, while below average performance was recorded in 6 parameters.

Punjab Leads in Quality of Governance during Third Year with 65.5% Score followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at 63.0%, Balochistan at 60.5% and Sindh at 59.7%; PILDAT Comparative Provincial Score Cards on Quality of Governance 2015-2016

Quality of Governance in Pakistan's Provinces, in general, improved in third year 2015-2016, according to PILDAT Comparative Provincial Score Cards on Quality of Governance in the third year. In a comparative analysis, Punjab leads with a score of **65.5%** followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) with a score of **63.0%**, Balochistan with a score of **60.5%** and Sindh at **59.7%** at the end of the third financial year of elected Provincial Governments in office since 2013.

PILDAT's Scorecard's assessing the Quality of Governance are based on the change (marginal improvement, significant improvement, deterioration or no-change) in the quality of governance between the second (2014-2015) and the third (2015-2016) years of governance in the provinces. The Assessment is based on 25 Governance Parameters under 5 Pillars of Governance including Rule of Law, Management of Economy, Social Indicators, Service Delivery and Administrative Effectiveness. Parameters garnering a score of 60% and above are indicative of a significant improvement in governance from 2014-2015 to 2015-2016.

Provinces of Punjab and KP have received positive scores (i.e., above 50%) in all but one parameter each, while Balochistan has received positive scores in 22 out of 25 governance parameters. Sindh, consistently the last ranking province in quality of governance for 3 consecutive years, has received positive scores in 21 out of 25 parameters.

Democratic Civil-Military Relations



Members of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations during a meeting in Lahore

As a think tank committed to strengthening democracy and democratic institutions, PILDAT firmly believes that that democratic consolidation in Pakistan is only possible through a Constitutional equation of civil-military relations in Pakistan. We have, therefore, been working on the area of civil-military relations and democratic oversight of defence and national security in Pakistan since 2004.

PILDAT's work in this flagship area of our focus has ranged from undertaking research and study in issues relating to civil-military relations in Pakistan and cataloguing the best strategies and practices to improve civil-military relations in other countries which similar transitions to democracies after prolonged military rules. Facilitating the formation of a Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations, PILDAT has continued to promote and facilitate civil-military dialogue process. International Conferences and regional dialogues on the subject have also been a key plank of PILDAT's initiative. PILDAT has contributed a rich body of knowledge in the area spanning over 170 publications and growing developed through research and study, including regional and international comparative analyses, and proposals for reforms for democratic consolidation through improving civil-military relations in Pakistan.

Following key activities were carried out on the subject:

Monitors on Civil-Military Relations

Monthly Monitors on Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan are the flagship monthly publication of PILDAT that cover PILDAT's analysis on key developments affecting civil-military relations in Pakistan every month. The monitors offer succinct and concise snapshot of key issues and happenings to provide a roundup on the subject to policymakers, parliamentarians, media and citizens. The monitors are admired as a chronicle and catalogue of crucial developments in the area and present PILDAT's

proposals on reforms for the benefit of all stakeholders. The Monitors are widely covered, quoted in Parliament & Media and are cited in research.

Every month, the PILDAT Monitors also collect and present developments on the subject through key Think Tanks in countries with a similar civil-military relations experience while a section is devoted to monitoring and presenting international developments affecting civil-military relations.

During July 2016 to June 2017, PILDAT issued 9 Monitors carrying its analysis of over 55 key issues affecting civil-military relations in Pakistan.

State of Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan: June 2015-July 2016

In October 2016, PILDAT compiled a report analysing major developments that impacted civil-military relations during the first three years of the Federal Government that assumed office as a result of May 2013 General Election. The report examined some of the relevant regional and international incidents in civil-military relations.

Looking at civil-military relations in Pakistan as the Federal Government completed three years in office, PILDAT report said that it appears as if the Military leadership has established itself as the final arbiter on national security, with the Elected Government relegated to either an auxiliary role or a parallel national security regime. Although the mandate for final decisions on national security resides with the elected government, it is seen to be exercised by the Military, as Pakistan moves further away from a constitutional equation on civil-military relations.

PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations

The PILDAT DGCMR continued to provide thought leadership on critical issues affecting civil-military relations in Pakistan through issuing statements and holding meetings with relevant stakeholders. PILDAT's work on the subject through the Group continued to serve to widen and contribute to encouraging and enhancing the space for democratic discourse in the society on the hitherto taboo subject of civil-military relations. Below are some of the key positions taken by the Group during the year:

PILDAT's recommendation to make Dawn Leaks report public

A meeting was convened by PILDAT on May 5, 2017, at Lahore in the backdrop of some recent developments in Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan.

The meeting was attended by Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider, Former Federal Minister, Former Governor Sindh and former Corps Commander; Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan, Former Governor Punjab and Former Defence Minister; Dr. Parvez Hassan, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan; Mr. Shahid Malik, Former High Commissioner of Pakistan to India; Mr. Arif Nizami, Senior Journalist and Editor-in-Chief, Pakistan Today and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT. Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, MNA and Information Secretary PTI also attended the meeting, but he abstained from voting on the statement.

The participants agreed to release the following statement: 'We consider that the tweet of the DG ISPR that the 'notification is rejected' was inappropriate in terms of the Constitution of Pakistan and recommend that a meeting of the National Security Committee should be convened urgently to repair the damage to Civil-Military Relations and the image of the elected government and its valiant Armed Forces.

We also recommend that the full report of the 'Dawn Leaks' Inquiry Committee should be made public immediately to set at rest all doubts about the culpability of persons responsible in this matter of national security.'

Policy Brief – Revival of Military Courts in Pakistan; March 19, 2017

PILDAT released a comprehensive policy brief on the issue of revival of Military Courts, expressing grave concern over no attempts to improve the civilian criminal justice system in Pakistan. The government disappointed thoroughly, tabling the bill to revive military courts a full four months after the expiry date of the 21st amendment, said PILDAT.

Military Courts, initiated in 2015, came with a sunset clause of two years. Reform in the criminal justice system within two years was a central tenet of the National Action Plan (NAP). However, without any substantive progress on reforming the judicial system, the proposal to re-establish military courts is tantamount to Government failure. The report also pointed out that the government did not report on the achievements, objective resolution or fulfilment of purpose of the military courts, neither to the public, nor to the parliament, yet it reinstated the military courts for another two years. The report also analysed the role of the judicial review that has eclipsed the rationale behind setting up Military Courts. The report state that the procedure of appeals is not impeded by the rigmarole of the conventional criminal justice system, and as a result convictions are not unnecessarily forestalled.



Meeting of PILDAT Dialogue Group on Civil-Military Relations

PILDAT also suggested a more thorough system of review and discussion on the establishment of military in the Parliament. PILDAT proposed a joint exercise of progress review of military courts by the Standing Committees of the Senate and the National Assembly as the most effective way to undertake a review and analysis process. A clear roadmap, with timelines and concrete proposals, is also required for the Parliamentary Committees on Law and Justice to improve the criminal justice system so that there is no more need for military courts. The report concluded that such specific proposals are required for a vigilant and consistent oversight, failing which the Parliament may again be looking at instituting another stopgap arrangement.

Monitoring the National Action Plan



Public Forum on Implementation of National Action Plan

The 20-point National Action Plan adopted by All Parties Conference chaired by the Prime Minister serves as a landmark consensus blueprint for combatting terrorism, violence, and extremism in Pakistan. However, there are several issues with its implementation.

PILDAT, with a firm belief in citizen ownership of policies enacted in the country, and parallel citizen assessment for check and balance on government, initiated a National Action Plan Monitoring project. Under the project, a steering committee was established to provide strategic direction to project team, which worked closely with the Home and Information departments of provinces and federal, in to assess progress on implementation of National Action Plan.

Under this project, the following activities were carried out during the year:

Monitor on Implementation of National Action Plan to Counter Terrorism: January 2015 - December 2016

In light of the importance of the National Action Plan as a roadmap for Pakistan's Counter Terrorism efforts, and a lack of a regular monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the Plan, PILDAT undertook a citizens' initiative to monitor the progress of implementation of the NAP Pakistan. PILDAT has sought the data on implementation status from Federal and Provincial Governments. This Monitor depicted implementation status of NAP with a focus on Punjab while developments across the country are also noted. It highlights the necessity of Government's publicly sharing periodic status of implementation of the NAP in order to improve public confidence in government. PILDAT initiative aims to serve the purpose of advocacy for effective implementation.

Interim Monitor on Countrywide Progress on National Action Plan; May 16, 2017

PILDAT released an interim monitor on nationwide progress on the implementation of National Action Plan to counter terrorism for the period January 2015 - December 2016. The monitor intended to scientifically measure the progress on each of the 20 points of NAP in each of the four provinces and the country as a whole, based on collected data. The Monitor was termed 'Interim' as data on many parameters in the Monitor was incomplete, especially for provinces except Punjab. No assessment was made in this monitor, as data was incomplete. For Punjab, data received from various government agencies, including Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Punjab and FIA Lahore, was used, as well as data acquired through media monitoring and publicly shared data.

The Interim Monitor covered the first two years, 2015 and 2016, since the announcement of NAP on December 24, 2014. Notably, PILDAT used data shared by the Federal Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan in the Senate on March 10, 2017, in this monitor. The progress on NAP has been the subject of much political debate and PILDAT's initiative was an attempt to steer it towards a fact-based discourse.

PILDAT Public Forum on Implementation of National Action Plan

On May 24, 2017, PILDAT invited members of the civil society, Parliamentarians, and Media to discuss the progress made under the National Action Plan. The discussion was opened up by a presentation by Ms. Aasiya Riaz on the gains of the National Action Plan as evaluated in an interim monitor published by PILDAT, especially focused on Punjab.

Appreciating PILDAT's role as to monitor implementation of NAP from citizens' perspective, Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan, Spokesperson & Adviser to Chief Minister Punjab on Information & Culture - said that the Punjab Government was committed, not just to effective implementation of NAP, but also to reporting, on its progress which led to the Government sharing data with PILDAT on the status of implementation in the first two years. He stressed the difficult nature of modern-day terrorism and held that the Punjab Government is making strides particularly in the area of forensics and surveillance. He also brought attention to the Punjab Safe Cities Authority and highlighted its role in increasing the Government's power of surveillance. He expressed his confidence in the fight against terrorism with the launch of Operation Radd-ul-Fassad and said that intelligence sharing at the provincial level had increased since. However, Mr. Khan was of the view that revamping of the criminal justice system would take at least ten years with sustained and concerted effort.

Members of PILDAT's Steering Committee on the Implementation of National Action Plan, Dr. Noel Israel Khokhar, Mr. Tasneem Noorani, Mr. Mujeeb-ur-Rahman Shami, and Lt. Gen. Retd. Moinuddin Haider also spoke on the occasion.

Dr. Noel Israel Khokhar speaking at the occasion, thanked the Punjab Government for willingly sharing data with PILDAT and candidly participating in discussions on implementation progress of NAP. He explained that PILDAT's Monitor on Implementation of NAP to Counter Terrorism was a citizens' initiative to help Federal and Provincial Governments in assessing their performance. The Monitor should, therefore, be taken by Governments as an indicator of where the pace of progress requires improvement. Dr. Khokhar also highlighted that tangible progress on NAP would only be visible if uniform progress is achieved on all 20-NAP Points across Federal and Provincial Governments.

Mr. Tasneem Noorani, former Federal Secretary Interior, also appreciated PILDAT's methodical overview of the status of implementation of NAP while he believed that the analysis shows the overall implementation of NAP has not been satisfactory. He highlighted the case of military courts in which according to him the appeals pending before the High Courts and the Supreme Courts called to doubt their efficacy. Mr. Noorani also mentioned the case of ineffective checking of terrorist financing in which he said that committees constituted for the purpose should work on addressing the lacunas present in the area.

Mr. Mujeeb-ur-Rahman Shami, senior analyst and Editor-in-Chief Daily Pakistan, said that PILDAT's Monitor on Implementation of National Action Plan has made work easy for the Governments, Legislatures and Citizens to review progress on a crucial roadmap. He believed reforms in criminal justice system to be most crucial element in success of NAP. He also said that a clear strategy should be adopted in dealing with members of organizations that are proscribed.

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider highlighted the gains achieved through military operations particularly in establishing the writ of the Government in areas which were previously hit by terrorism. He was of the view that criminal justice system reform is essential and the re-housing of internally displaced persons was an important aspect of NAP. However, he expressed his disappointment on the status of implementation of FATA reforms and said that work on it was stopped at the eleventh hour due to the reservations of certain political leaders.

Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue



Group photo of participants of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue on Sharing Experiences in Governance and Democracy: November 2016

Since September 2004, PILDAT has been facilitating opportunities of mutual learning and interactions between Pakistani and Indian legislators at the national level with the key objectives to strengthen democracy and improve bilateral relations. It began a series of structured, theme-specific dialogues among Pakistani and Indian legislators in 2011, totalling the legislative interaction between Pakistan and India to 10 since 2004. PILDAT successfully made a foray into the State/Provincial level from the central capitals of the two countries as the Pakistan delegation visited Patna, Bihar on August 25, 2012.

In addition to this PILDAT also pioneered Dialogues between Pakistan and Afghan legislators in 2008 and at the end of 2014, had facilitated 12 Pakistan-Afghanistan MPs Dialogues. Based on the success of legislator-legislator structured dialogues facilitated by PILDAT between Pakistan and India and Pakistan and Afghanistan, PILDAT initiated the first-ever legislator dialogue between Pakistan and US legislators that took place in Washington D.C., from April 11-17, 2015.

The success of the Dialogue was not only spoken of during the hearing of the current ambassador of the United States to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. David Hale, but also initiated a channel of discussion between legislators of both countries, since the Dialogue in April 2015 the chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs has invited and continued the channel of communication with his counterpart from the House of Representatives. The dialogues also stimulated legislators involved in the event to take up the talk further by initiating a discussion in provincial parliaments, and Lok Sabhas. The concerns raised in the dialogues, therefore, reached the ears of the legislators.

In 2015-2016, PILDAT had facilitated three (3) bilateral Dialogues focussing on the sharing of experiences

between Members of the National and Provincial/ State Assemblies, Government Officials and Experts from both Pakistan and India.

In 2016-2017, 7 rounds of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue were organized by PILDAT, in Dubai, UAE. The talks focused on issues of democracy and governance and were attended by Provincial and National level legislators, experts and academics from both India and Pakistan.

A snapshot of the dialogues undertaken by PILDAT during the period include:

Effective Agriculture and Livestock Practices and Policies

The fourth round of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue was held on November 20, 2016 by PILDAT and took place in Dubai, UAE. Legislators and experts from Indian states of Punjab and Haryana and Pakistan's province of Punjab shared experiences and good practices on agriculture and livestock. This was the second round of talks on this theme.

The Dialogue focusing on sharing of agricultural practices from Indian States of Punjab and Haryana and Pakistani Punjab, experts highlighted the need to approach agricultural policies and practices holistically to benefit both the consumers and farmers while achieving food security for both India and Pakistan as the key planks of national policies of both countries. Profitability to the farmer must be an equal, if not the key consideration of reforms in policies as food security cannot be approached at the cost of keeping farmers poor.

Under the leadership of Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Former Member of the Indian Parliament; Union Minister of India, delegates from India included (in alphabetical order):



Pak-India Dialogue on technology for better governance

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Haryana Legislative Assembly, India; Members of the Haryana Legislative Assembly, India and Subject Experts/Journalists) Mr. Kanwar Pal, MLA, Speaker, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), Jagadhri (Haryana); Ms. Santosh Yadav, MLA, Deputy Speaker, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), Ateli (Haryana); Mr. Ghanshyam Dass, MLA, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), Yamuna Nagar (Haryana); Mr. Lalit Nagar, MLA, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Indian National Congress (INC), Tigaon (Haryana); Mr. Parminder Singh Dhull, MLA, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Indian National Lok Dal

(INLD) Julana (Haryana); Mr. Zakir Hussain, MLA, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Indian National Lok

Dal (INLD), Nuh (Haryana); Mr. Jyoti Kamal, Editor, CNN IBN; Senior Editor at TV 18 Broadcast (Haryana); Mr. Man Aman Singh Chhina, Assistant Editor, Indian Express (Punjab); Dr. M. J. Khan, Chairman, Indian Council of Food and Agriculture and Mr. Vijay Sardana, PGDM (IIMA), M.Sc. (Food Tech.) (CFTRI), B.Sc. (Dairy Tech.) PG Dipl. in Int'l Trade Laws & ADR (ILI), Justice (Harvard) Specialized in Bio-economy & Agribusiness Value Chains, Innovation Management, India.

With Senator Mohsin Leghari (Punjab, Independent), in the Chair, delegates from Pakistan included (Legislators in alphabetical order, followed by Subject Experts) Qazi Adnan Fareed, MPA (PP-268 (Bahawalpur-II), Punjab, PML-N); Mian Mehmood-ur-Rashid, MPA, Leader of the Opposition (PP-151 (Lahore-XV), Punjab, PTI); Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, MPA (PP-179 (Kasur-V), Punjab, PML-N); Mr. Muhammad Jahanzaib Khan Khichi, MPA (PP-239 (Vehari-VIII), Punjab, PTI); Syed Tariq Yaqoob Rizvi, MPA (PP-117 (Mandi Bahauddin-II), Punjab, PML-N); Sardar Vickas Hassan Mokhal, MPA (PP-180 (Kasur-VI), Punjab, PML); Dr. Amanullah, Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) Department of Economics and Business Management, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore; Mr. Ahmed Umair, CEO, Green Revolution Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd; Mr. Hamid Malhi, Chairman, Punjab Bio Energy Co.; Member Farmer Association of Pakistan (FAP) and Dr. Masood Rabbani, Tenured Professor of Microbiology/ Dean Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. The PILDAT Team included Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director and Ms. Shahira Khan, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

Role of Media in Improving Relations between Pakistan and India and How to Positively Take Forward the 'Fight Poverty' Agenda

The fifth round of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue was facilitated by PILDAT in Dubai, UAE, on December 11, 2016, on the topics of Role of Media in Improving Relations between Pakistan and India, and How to Positively Take Forward the 'Fight Poverty' Agenda.

The Dialogue brought together Members of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies of Punjab and Sindh alongside experts and media representatives from Pakistan who joined Members of Indian State Legislatures of Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan alongside experts, and media representatives from India.

Participants underscored that while media can play a role in positively influencing relations between the two countries, the essential responsibility to chart a course in this regard remains that of the elected leadership in both India and Pakistan. It was also noted that candid, and consistent dialogue aimed at conflict resolution could only take place when the two States recognize and address the issues such as those included in the Composite Dialogue 1997 and the Comprehensive Dialogue 2015. It was agreed that a balanced view should be promoted in news media in both countries, and sensationalism should be avoided. The participants also highlighted multiple challenges in covering the Pakistan-India relationship and felt that an enabling environment for free and fair reporting must be ensured.

In the session seeking participants' advice on How to Positively Take Forward the "Fight Poverty" Agenda, participants highlighted that South Asia has the highest incidence of poverty in the world. While each country has specific conditions behind poverty, a distinct part is played by narrow definitions of national security, which exacerbate poverty and lead to instability. Participants also believed that resolution of disputes between Pakistan and India could indeed free-up resources for poverty alleviation.



Mr. Javed Jabbar (second from left) addressing Pak-India Dialogue

The Dialogue was joined by Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Former Member of the Indian Parliament and Union Minister of India, as the chair of the Indian delegation. Delegates included: Mr. Adarsh Shastri, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Dwarka (Delhi), Aam Admi Party – AAP; Mr. Nand Kishore Maharia, MLA, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Fatehpur (Rajasthan), Indian National Congress – INC; Mr. Parminder Singh Dhull, MLA, Haryana Legislative Assembly, Julana (Haryana), Indian National Lok Dal – INLD; Mr. Vijender Garg Vijay, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Rajinder Nagar, (Delhi), AAP; Mr. Vishesh Ravi, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Karol Bagh (Delhi), AAP; Mr. A. S. Panneerselvam, *Readers' Editor, The Hindu, Chennai, India*; Mr. Jyoti Kamal, Senior Editor, CNN News 18; TV 18 Broadcast, Haryana, India; Ms. Latha Jishnu, Contributing Editor, Down to Earth & Freelance Journalist, New Delhi, India; Mr. Man Aman Chhina, Assistant Editor, Indian Express, Punjab, India; Ms. Ruby Arun, Group Editorial Adviser ETV News Network, *New Delhi, India*.

With Senator (Retd.) Javed Jabbar, Former Federal Minister for Information & Media Development, in the Chair, delegates from Pakistan included (*order of delegates in alphabetical order in the following sequence of Legislators (Senate, National Assembly of Pakistan, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and Sindh, followed by Subject Experts/Journalists*) Senator Sassui Palijo, Sindh, Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian – PPP; Dr. Arif Alvi, MNA, NA-250, Karachi-XII, Sindh, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf – PTI; Mr. Muhammad Tallal Chaudry, MNA, NA-76, Faisalabad-II, Punjab, Pakistan Muslim League- Nawaz - PML-N; Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, MNA, NA-126, Lahore-IX, Punjab, PTI; Mrs. Shaista Pervaiz, MNA, WR-NA-278, Punjab, PML-N; Mrs. Ayesha Javed, MPA, W-317, PML-N; Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, MPA, PML-N; Dr. Murad Rass, MPA, PP-152 (Lahore-XVI), PTI; Ms. Nabila Hakim Ali Khan, MPA, W-358, PTI;

Mrs. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MPA, RSW-156, Pakistan Muslim League – Functional - PML-F; Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Senior Journalist/Columnist-The News; Mr. Habib Akram, Executive Editor, Dunya TV/Columnist Dunya Newspaper; Rana Jawad, Director News, Geo News; Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Solangi, Senior Anchor/Director Public Outreach -Capital TV; Mr. Tahir Khalil, Bureau Chief-Islamabad, Daily Jang and Mr. Usman Mujib Shami, Executive Editor, Daily Pakistan. The PILDAT Team conceptualizing, supporting and facilitating the Dialogue included Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director and Ms. Shahira Khan, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

Developments in Poverty Alleviation in Pakistan and India

The ninth round of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue was facilitated by PILDAT in Dubai, UAE, on January 24, 2017. The dialogue focused on the theme of sharing of lessons on Developments in Poverty Alleviation in Pakistan and India.

The Dialogue included Members of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies of Punjab and Sindh alongside experts and media representatives from Pakistan who joined Members of the Indian Parliament, State Legislatures of Delhi and Rajasthan alongside experts and media representatives from India.

Participants highlighted that acceleration in economic growth on a sustained basis is an important policy objective for poverty reduction and for this policy and reform, the two countries must introduce reforms in institutions of governance. Participants also underscored that in order to gain greater benefits of remittances, focus must be placed on education and vocational training. Dialogue also recognised with concern the growing gap in rich and poor segments of society both in Pakistan and India, and the importance of developing microfinance

further, in order to fulfill the needs of the poor. It also highlighted the need for food security in both countries.

The dialogue was attended by Mr. Kirti Azad, MP, Lok Sabha, Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP), Darbhanga (Bihar), in the Chair. Other delegates from India included Mr. Adarsh Shastri, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Aam Admi Party (AAP), Dwarka (Delhi); Mr. Ajay Dutt, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Aam Admi Party (AAP), Ambedkar Nagar (South) (Delhi); Mr. Mahendra Jeet Singh Malviya, MLA, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Indian National Congress (INC), Bagidora (ST) (Rajasthan); Ms. Reetika Khera, Associate Professor Economics, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi.; Mr. Sanjeev Ahluwalia Advisor, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi; Mr. Vijay Sardana PGDM (IIMA), M.Sc. (Food Tech.) (CFTRI), B.Sc. (Dairy Tech.) PG Dipl. in Int'l Trade Laws & ADR (ILI), Justice (Harvard) Specialized in Bio-economy & Agribusiness Value Chains, Innovation Management; Ms. Yamini Aiyar, Senior Research Fellow & Director, Accountability Initiative (AI), New Delhi; Mr. Man Aman Chhina, Assistant Editor, Indian Express, Punjab, India; Ms. Shalini Nair, Senior Assistant Editor, The Indian Express, New Delhi and Mr. Vipin Pubby, former editor, Indian Express.

With Syed Naveed Qamar, MNA, NA-222, Hyderabad-V, Sindh, Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P) in the chair, delegates from Pakistan included (*order of delegates in alphabetical order in the following sequence of Legislators (National Assembly of Pakistan, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and Sindh, followed by Subject Experts/Journalists and PILDAT Team*); Dr. Arif Alvi, MNA, NA-250, Karachi-XII, Sindh, *Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)*; Mrs. Azma Bukhari, MPA, W-318, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N); Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, MPA, PP-179 (Kasur-V), Punjab, PML-N; Dr. Murad Rass, MPA, PP-152 (Lahore-XVI), Punjab, PTI; Mrs. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MPA, RSW-156, Sindh, Pakistan Muslim League – Functional (PML-F); Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, Former Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan; Rana Jawad, Director News, Geo TV, Islamabad; Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT; Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director, PILDAT and Ms. Shahira Khan, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

Pakistan-India Peace Process and the Sharing of Experiences on Governance and Democracy

In a panel discussion on Pakistan-India Peace Process and the Sharing of Experiences on Governance and Democracy held on February 16, 2017, with parliamentarians and civil society members in Islamabad, Mr. Sudheendra Kulkarni, *Chairman, Observer Research Foundation, India*, shared his views on the inclusion of India on CPEC. He said that the dividends of CPEC would be manifold with the inclusion of India. He said that a network connecting Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Northern India could be made, however, first Indian concerns on CPEC will have to be addressed. Kulkarni said that both countries should renew efforts to normalize relations.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, while discussing the theme, spoke about how the idea of a multilateral cooperative framework or a confederation was a pipe dream: Pakistan and India needed to engage on a bi-lateral level before any regional endeavor could be attempted. He also proposed that both nations needed to open the doors for back-channel diplomacy.

Mr. Riaz Hussain Khokhar in his remarks pointed out that the distrust between Pakistan and India currently was at an all-

time high. Any regional cooperation attempted with India could not meet the same fate as the SAARC Conferences, in which the largest member country had neutralized the multi-lateral forum by boycotting its proceedings.

Mr. Saleem Safi said that Pakistan had already taken a step forward diplomatically by engaging with India in the Heart of Asia Conferences and other smaller conferences. For India to call into question Pakistan's commitment to eradicating terrorism at the time when the country was suffering heavily and attempting to the right past wrongs in using proxies to fight its battles was unjust.

The Panel Discussion was attended by members of the media and civil society including: Senator Lt Gen (Retd) Abdul Qayyum, *PML-N*, Senator Jehanzeb Jamaldini, *BNP-M*, Senator Usman Khan Kakar,



Indian and Pakistani Participants at the Dialogue



Group photo of participants of Pak-India Dialogue on Technology for Better Governance

PMAP, Senator Azam Musakhel, PMAP, Ms. Aisha, MNA, JI, Ms. Amra Khan, MNA, PML-N, Ms. Aasiya Naz Tanoli, MNA, PML-N, Ms. Shakila Luqman, MNA, PML-N, Major General (Retd) Mr. Mahmud Ali Durrani, Former National Security Advisor, Mr. Ayaz Wazir, Former Ambassador, Mr. Wazir Jogezeai, Former Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, Former Ambassador, Mr. Tahir Khalil, Bureau Chief-Islamabad, Jang, Mr. Amjad Mahmood, DG-Islamabad, NIM, Dr. Muhammad Faisal, DG (South Asia and SAARC), MOFA, Mr. Avinash Kumar Singh, Second Secretary Political, IHC, Lt Gen (Retd) Mr. Talat Masood, Former Secretary Defence Production, Mr. Afrasiab Khattak, Former Senator, Mr. Javed Hafeez, Former Ambassador, Ms. Laura Dix, BHC, Mr. Murtaza Solangi, Senior Anchor/Director Public Outreach, Capital TV and Mr. Sultan Hali, Senior Anchor, PTV.

Technology for Better Governance in Pakistan and India

The tenth round of Pakistan-India Legislators and Public Officials Dialogue was facilitated by PILDAT in Dubai, UAE, on March 07, 2017. The dialogue focused on the theme of sharing of lessons on Technology for Better Governance in Pakistan and India.

The Dialogue included Members of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies of Punjab and Sindh alongside experts and media representatives from Pakistan who joined Members of the Indian Parliament from Assam, Haryana and Karnataka and State Legislatures of Delhi and Gujarat alongside experts and media representatives from India.

Participants underscored that technology has immense potential to improve governance in Pakistan and India. Participants asserted that while use of technology by Governments provided a critical platform to improve the quality of life of citizens, Governments must do so while

maintaining the security of data and privacy of citizens. Participants underscored that real changes in structures of governance to guard against corruption and other systemic ills must accompany and complement the use of technology to improve governance. Participants said that technology should also be used to receive feedback from the public, as well to engage youth in public policy.

Participants believed that tremendous opportunity for exchange and sharing of information exists between Pakistan and India on a variety of technology-enabled initiatives such as IndiaStack and PakistanStack. Of particular interest are the models of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), monitoring of immunisation programmes, Aadhaar authentication (Unique ID), e-Procurement, Smart Cities, e-Cloud for Citizens, land record management and Unified Payment Interface, etc. Setting up a knowledge portal between the two countries can be extremely useful in this regard.

Another area of priority for the two countries is to provide necessary and uniform improvements to support technological governance. Each country has good use of technology implemented in different regions which must be extended nationwide. Exchange of good practices in this area will also enable the two countries to address the challenges of digital divide in both countries.

The dialogue was joined by Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Former Member of the Indian Parliament and Union Minister of India, in the Chair, as well as delegates from India, which included: *Legislators and Subject Experts/Journalists*) Mr. Dushyant Chautala, MP, Member, Lok Sabha, Indian National Lok Dal, Hisar (Haryana); Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, MP, Member, Rajya Sabha, Indian National Congress, Karnataka; Mr. Shadi Lal Batra, MP, Member, Rajya Sabha, Indian National Congress, Haryana; Ms. Sushmita Dev, MP, Member, Lok Sabha, Indian National Congress, Silchar

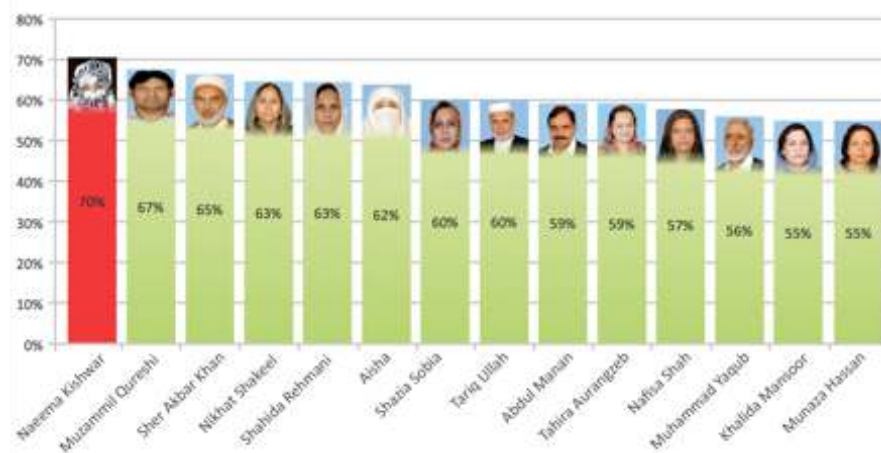


(L - R) Rana Jawad, Geo TV and Mr. Habib Akram, Dunya TV at Pak-India Dialogue on Media

(Assam); Mr. Madan Lal, MLA, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Kasturba Nagar (New Delhi); Mr. Shaktisinh Gohil, MLA, Gujarat Legislative Assembly, Former Leader of the Opposition, Indian National Congress, Abdasa (Gujarat); Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Member, Government of Delhi, IT Task Force, India; Mr. Roshan Shankar, Advisor to the Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Delhi, India; Prof. Subhash Bhatnagar, Former faculty member IIMA, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India; Mr. T.R. Raghunandan, Founder and Mentor, Avantika Foundation, India and Mr. Man Aman Chhina, Assistant Editor, Indian Express, Punjab, India.

With Mr. Muhammad Tallal Chaudry, MNA, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), NA-76, Faisalabad-II, Punjab, in the chair, delegates from Pakistan included (*order of delegates in alphabetical order in the following sequence of Legislators (National Assembly of Pakistan, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab and Sindh, followed by Subject Experts/Journalists and PILDAT Team)*) Dr. Arif Alvi, MNA, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), NA-250, Karachi-XII, Sindh; Mrs. Ayesha Javed, MPA, PML-N, W-317, Punjab; Mrs. Azma Bukhari, MPA, PML-N, W-318, Punjab; Mian Mehmood ur Rashid, MPA, Leader of the Opposition PTI, PP-151 (Lahore-XV), Punjab; Dr. Murad Raas, MPA, PTI, PP-152 (Lahore-XVI), Punjab; Ms. Nabila Hakim Ali Khan, MPA, PTI, W-358, Punjab; Mrs. Mahtab Akbar Rashdi, MPA, Pakistan Muslim League – Functional (PML-F), RSW-156, Sindh; Syeda Shehla Raza, MPA, Deputy Speaker, Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P), RSW-132, Sindh; Mr. Ali Mazhar, Joint Director, E-Stamping, PITB, Lahore, Pakistan; Dr. Umar Saif, Advisor to the Hon. Chief Minister of Punjab, Pakistan, Chairman, Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) & Vice Chancellor, Information Technology University, Lahore, Pakistan; Mr. Habib Akram, Executive Editor, Dunya TV/Columnist Dunya Newspaper, Islamabad, Pakistan; Rana Jawad, Director News, Geo TV, Islamabad, Pakistan; Mr. Tahir Khalil, Bureau Chief-Islamabad, Daily Jang, Islamabad, Pakistan; Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT; Ms. Aasiya Riaz, Joint Director, PILDAT and Ms. Shahira Khan, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

Scorecards on Performance of Legislators



Top 10 MNAs

While PILDAT has regularly carried out assessments on performance of Pakistan's Parliament and 4 Provincial Assemblies in the shape of Citizen's Reports and Scorecards, PILDAT began analysing and publishing individual assessments of the performance of Parliamentarians, including Members of the National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan.

As a Parliamentary monitoring organisation and being signatory to and supporting organisation of Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, PILDAT firmly believes that parliamentary information belongs to the public and without facilitating public to understand and have access to parliamentary performance, citizens cannot hold their public representatives and elected institutions to account.

Based on the belief that parliamentary democracy can best flourish when citizens understand parliamentary performance and hold their elected representatives to account, PILDAT developed a framework, learning from international and regional good practices, to study and develop scorecards on performance of individual legislators. In this regard, following activities were organised by PILDAT during the year:

PILDAT Consultative Session on Scorecards on Senators' Performance: 2015-2016

On July 01, 2016, PILDAT organized a consultative session on its report on Scorecards on Senators' Performance, 2015-2016 where experts stressed upon Parliamentarians to effectively discharge their responsibilities of representation, legislation and oversight.

According to PILDAT's evaluation, Senator Col (Retd.) Tahir Hussain Mashhadi (Sindh, MQM) had emerged as Senator of the Year with the highest overall score of 95%. Senator Sassui Palijo (Sindh, PPP-P) gained the 1st

position among 19 Women Senators in the Senate with an overall score of 51%. The overall average score of Senators' performance in the Senate was 41%.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT presented key findings of the Score Card and raised three key questions for debate at the conference and beyond. 1) Role and responsibilities of parliamentarians in Pakistan: How to reconcile conflicting expectations of the electorate and the constitution and the rules? 2) Has the role and performance of Pakistani parliamentarians undergone a change since 1947 or 2002? If so, what is the change? Is it a change for the better? 3) How to optimize the positive impact of citizens' assessment of parliamentarians' performance? And how to avoid the possible negative impact?

Former Speaker West Pakistan Assembly/former Senator and member of the PILDAT Steering Committee, Chaudhry Muhammad Anwer Bhinder highlighted that the roles and responsibilities of the Parliamentarians are clearly stated in the Rules of Procedure and the Constitution. A Parliamentarian's primary duty remains that of representation; at least, that is one dimension of their responsibilities that resonates closely with the electorate. This, however, does not take away from the importance of the duties of law making and acting as a bridge between the Government and the people. Mr. Bhinder stated that political parties as institutions are crucial in the training of the Parliamentarians. Media also must play a role in engaging MPs' attention towards issues of public importance.

Senior Journalist and President, CPNE, Mr. Mujib-ur-Rehman Shami, noted that successive martial laws in Pakistan disrupted the parliamentary system of government; hence, importance of constituencies increased over time. However, there is no difference between roles and responsibilities of MNAs, MPAs and

local government representatives. A crucial need in our country has arisen since the formation of local governments to draft separately their roles and responsibilities. Mr. Shami also highlighted that parliamentary parties are generally very weak and do not meet as regularly as they should.

Discussants present at the conference included Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Senior Journalist and Anchor, Mr. Yasir Pirzada, Columnist, Jang Group, Dr. Nighat Noreen, FC College, Mr. Shamshad Ahmed, Former Foreign Secretary, Mr. Khalid Mehmood Khalid, Correspondent Samaa TV, Mr. Naeemul Haq, DG NIM, Mr. Suheil Warraich, Senior Analyst, Mr. Ataur-Rehman, Group Editor, Daily Nai Baat, Mr. Irshad Ahmed Arif, Columnist, Dunya, Mr. Rauf Tahir, Columnist, Mr. Amjad Mehmood, DAWN Correspondent, Mr. Usman Naeem, Additional Secretary, MPDD, Mr. Wajahat Ali Dogar, Instructor, MPDD, Dr. Saad S. Khan, Instructor, NSPP, Mr. Rahat Ul Ain, Professor at UMT, Ms. Rabia Sultan, Director, Farmer's Association, Mr. Imran Khan, Anchor, Express News, Mr. Hafizullah Niazi, Senior Analyst, Mr. Najam U Din, Joint Director, HRCP, Dr. Murad Raas, MPA, PTI, Ms. Faiza Malik, MPA, PPP-P, Mr. Tasneem Noorani, Former Secretary Interior.

Scorecards on Honourable MNAs Performance, 2015-2016

A systematic assessment of the individual parliamentary performance of the Honourable Members of the National Assembly of Pakistan during third parliamentary year June 2015-May 2016, was carried out by PILDAT. According to the results of this assessment, the overall average performance score of the MNAs was 38% (compared to 41% of Senators). 9 out of 14 MNAs occupying the Top 10 Ranks were Women MNAs and all of them belonged to the category of Reserved Seats for Women in the National Assembly.

The performance scorecards by PILDAT focused on three main aspects of the parliamentary role of an MNA: Oversight, Legislation and Representation. All top performers of the three categories are Women parliamentarians.

The Score Card sought to provide the citizens of Pakistan with some critical information in order to empower them to monitor their elected representatives and to identify the prospective future political leadership of Pakistan.

Strengthening Political Parties



Group photo of Course with PTI

Political Parties are the building blocks of a democratic structure and as a think tank committed to strengthening democracy and democratic institutions, PILDAT has been focussed on studying and analysing structures and functions of political parties, building their capacities and providing support and facilitation in developing and articulating party policies on key areas of democratic governance in Pakistan.

From studying and analysing internal democracy of political parties and working together with decision-making circles of key political parties on developing internal structures and think tanks to developing policy pledges on a varied set of policies, PILDAT has been a trusted partner and facilitator of strengthening of political parties in Pakistan.

During this year, PILDAT focussed on the following:

1. Study and analysis of internal democracy and structures of Pakistan's key political parties to strengthen parties as key building blocks of democracy
2. Capacity building of political parties to develop internal think tanks to develop party proposals and pledges

Study and Analysis of Internal Democracy of Pakistan's key Political Parties

PILDAT monitored political parties' activities relating to internal democracy on monthly basis. This was done through careful monitoring of media and parties' official websites. Monthly monitors were published based on key developments pertaining to 8 major political parties of Pakistan (PML-N, PTI, PPP, MQM, JUI-F, JI, NP and ANP) in order to assess their internal democracy.

Third Annual Report on Internal Democracy of Major Political Parties of Pakistan: 2016

The third Annual Report on Internal Democracy of Major Political Parties of Pakistan covering the year 2016 was published in January 2017.

In the third year (2016) evaluation by PILDAT, the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) again emerged as the most democratic political party while the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) again ranked as the least democratic party.

The PILDAT Scorecard assessing internal democracy of eight political parties in Pakistan placed the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) with 80% score (No. 1), the National Party (NP) with 69% score (No. 2), Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM) with 61% (No.3), the Awami National Party (ANP) with 61% score (No. 3), the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazlur Rehman (JUI-F) with 59% (No. 4), Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf with 46% (No. 5), Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) with 42% score (No. 6), and Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz with 40% (No. 7).

Capacity Building of Political Parties to Deliberate, Analyze, and Formulate Public Policies

PILDAT conceptualised, designed and delivered three one-day Capacity Building Courses on *Public Policy and Political Parties* to leaders of Pakistan's top 3 political parties: Pakistan Peoples Party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz. Each course was delivered separately to each political party. Special focus was given to the development of the policy platform within political parties for the upcoming General Election schedules to be held by 2018.

This initiative was taken to contribute to strengthening political parties. PILDAT believes that the enhanced capacity of political parties will broaden the base of policy

formulation and strengthen democracy and democratic institutions. Key objective of this exercise was to sensitize the senior and mid-level party officials to the serious need of strengthening the role of political parties in policy formulation and consultation with party members and party structures at various levels in the process of developing party positions on public policies.

One-Day Course for Leadership of PPP

On March 14, 2017, PILDAT delivered a one-day course on the subject to the leadership of Pakistan Peoples Party.

With Syed Naveed Qamar, MNA and PPP Parliamentary Leader in the National Assembly of Pakistan, in the chair, experts included Mr. Saeed Ahmed Qureshi, Chairman, Social Policy Development Centre who presented a Civil Servant's perspective of Policy Formulation & Political Parties, Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar, who delivered a presentation on International Case Studies on Policy Development in Political Parties in his capacity of a former British MP, and Senator Sherry Rehman, Senior Leader of PPP. An Overview of the course was presented by Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT.

The course was attended by (in alphabetical order): Mr. Aurangzaib Kakar, Member PPP Balochistan Council, Ms. Malaika Raza, Member PPP, Mr. Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar, PPP Punjab Information Secretary, Ms. Nafisa Shah, MNA, Ms. Natasha Daultana, PPP South Punjab Secretary General, Mr. Saleem Haider, Member PPP, Former Minister, Mr. Samad Khan, Member PPP Balochistan Council, Senator Sehar Kamran, Mr. Shahjahan Sarfraz Raja, Member PPP and Mr. Zummrad Khan, Member PPP.

One-Day Course for Leadership of PTI

On March 21, 2017, PILDAT delivered a one-day course on Public Policy and Political Parties to the leadership of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf.

Experts who sat in the meeting included Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, MNA, PTI who presented a political perspective of Policy Formulation & Political Parties, Mr. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, Former Ambassador, who presented a civil servant's perspective of Policy Formulation & Political Parties, Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar, Senior Leader, PTI, who delivered a presentation on British Case Studies on Policy Development in Political Parties in his capacity of a former British MP and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Senior Leader of PML, who presented an academician cum practitioner's perspective on the subject. An Overview of the course was presented by Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT.

The course was attended by (in alphabetical order): Mr. Aizaz Asif Malik, Deputy Secretary General, PTI, Mr. Ali Nawaz Awan, Ms. Aliya Hamza Malik, Barrister Danish Pervez Raja, Mr. Faisal Javed Khan, Ms. Fawzia Arshad, Mr. Fayaz-ul-Hasan Chohan, Dr. Saeed Mushtafa, Ms. Seemi Ezdi, Dr. Shahzad Waseem, Mr. Shahzad Gul, Mr. Shehryar Afridi, MNA, and Mr. Sibghatullah Virk.

One-Day Course for Leadership of PML-N

On March 28, 2017, PILDAT delivered a one-day course on Public Policy and Political Parties to the leadership of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz.



Course for PML-N

Experts who joined the course included Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court who presented a political perspective of Policy Formulation & Political Parties, Mr. Mohammad Sadiq, Former Ambassador, and Mr. Zafar Mahmood, Former Chairman WAPDA, who presented a civil servant's perspective of Policy Formulation & Political Parties, Mr. Shahid Malik, Former British Minister and Member of Parliament (2005-2010), who delivered a presentation on British Case Studies on Policy Development in Political Parties and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Senior Leader of PML, who presented an academician cum practitioner's perspective on the subject. An Overview of the course was presented by Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President, PILDAT.

Youth



A View of the YPP Session

The vision of Youth Parliament Pakistan, its establishment and facilitation by PILDAT since 2007 has been part of our focus on Youth in the country. This focus has emanated from a critical requirement of Youth's awareness, education and training in the norms of politics and democracy in the country.

PILDAT believes sustainable democracy and the sustainability of sound democratic institutions in Pakistan is not possible without youth's involvement in the democratic and political processes. The idea behind facilitating a Youth Parliament Pakistan is not just to put Pakistani Youth through a mock exercise of what Parliament does and how it should work but to inculcate in the Youth of Pakistan the values and culture of democracy, tolerance, critical thinking and a rational, reason-based dialogue.

PILDAT formed the first-ever **Youth Parliament Pakistan** in the year **2007**. PILDAT successfully completed 8 batches of YPP during the period. The model of YPP was revised and hence PILDAT managed to enrol 240 young people instead of 60 per year in 5 training sessions.

Under this initiative, a snapshot of activities undertaken by PILDAT during the period include:

1. PILDAT and Youth Parliament Pakistan pay tribute to the 6 Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan who were martyred while travelling to Islamabad from Karachi to attend the concluding session of the 3rd Batch of Youth Parliament Pakistan.
2. The second session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan began on July 20, 2016 in Islamabad with a set of new 60 Members. National Security Advisor, Mr. Nasser Khan Janjua addressed the Members on the growing challenges to the National Security of Pakistan on July 22, 2016. Mr. Tehseen Ali was elected as the Leader of the House, while Mr. Salman Ahmed Khan was selected as the Leader of the Opposition. Ms. Afia Waheed Yousafzai was elected as the Deputy Speaker. All members took oath in the during the Plenary Session chaired by the Speaker YPP and former Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezi. A visit to Election Commission of Pakistan was also arranged for the members, where members called on Honourable Justice (Retd.) Sardar Muhammad Raza, who appreciated the concept of Youth Parliament Pakistan to facilitate youth's engagement in political and other issues of the country. Mr. Iftikhar Ullah Babar, Former Secretary Senate of Pakistan, explained the Members about the working of Parliament and the process of legislation. Ms. Ammara Durrani, Strategic Communication Specialist, also delivered a module on Communication Skills and Media Management for MYPs. Resolutions on resolving Kashmir issue through constructive dialogue, and reformation of Police were adopted in the session.
3. Youth Standing Committees prepared and disseminated their reports for the second session. Each Committee presented and defended their work in front of a panel of experts, including Honourable Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Dr. Shoaib Suddle and Former Senator Afrasiab Khattak in the second session of 8th YPP.
4. The third session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan started on Wednesday August 24, 2016. Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication,

Honourable Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan addressed the Members of the 3rd session on the state of E-Governance and Information Technology in Pakistan.

5. Mr. Iftikhar Ullah Babar, Former Secretary Senate of Pakistan explained Parliamentary processes and Legislative procedures in a Speaker Module on How Parliament Works tomorrow in the fourth session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan.
6. Youth Parliament Members visited the Senate of Pakistan, where Additional Secretary, Senate of Pakistan Dr. Syed Pervaiz Abbas, briefed them.
7. 13 members of Youth Parliament Pakistan were sent on a Study Visit to UK and Denmark; November 28-December 02, 2016.
8. 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan concluded its term on December 09, 2017.
9. PILDAT launched Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab on October 03, 2017.

PILDAT and Youth Parliament Pakistan Remember Young Martyrs Fondly

The 6 martyrs were remembered fondly by PILDAT and the Youth Parliament Pakistan on July 28, 2015.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the AirBlue crash on July 28, 2010, the thoughts and prayers were with the martyred souls of the 6 trained and capable future leaders of Pakistan – as well as with the parents and families of the 6 martyred members of Youth Parliament Pakistan.

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 Ahmad (YP42-SINDH05; Blue Party) Member Youth Parliament Standing Committee on Information, 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 concluding session of the 3rd batch of Youth Parliament session in Islamabad.

The facilitation of the Youth Parliament Pakistan by PILDAT is a continuing tribute to the memory of the 6 youth leaders of Pakistan.

The PILDAT management and team, its board of directors, all friends of PILDAT and the Youth Parliament Steering Committee continue to mourn the untimely and tragic death of the Youth Parliament members. We are joined in this mourning by the alumni of Youth Parliament from across Pakistan as well as the various supporters of the Youth Parliament project.

8th Batch of Youth Parliament Pakistan inaugurated

The 8th batch of Youth Parliament Pakistan was inaugurated on June 01, 2016 making the initiative by PILDAT since 2007, the longest running nationally representative Youth Parliament.

The 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan (www.youthparliament.pk) will give young members a fast-paced comprehensive orientation and training on democratic and political affairs of Pakistan, legislative processes and leadership skills.



Session of Youth Parliament Pakistan

Top performing Members of Youth Parliament qualify for the 5th session

On June 05, 2016 top performing Members of the first session of 8th Youth Parliament were selected for participation in the fifth and final session of YPP after conclusion of the first session. The members were evaluated through a merit-based, transparent and multi-level evaluation process that covered various aspects of their performance over the course of the five-day session. Certificates were distributed. According to the new format, in each session top performers will be selected, and will qualify to take part in the 5th session of Youth Parliament.



L-R) Senator Afrasiyab Khattak, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed and Mr. Shoaib Suddle analysing and scoring reports by YPP Committees

Second Session of 8th YPP

On July 20, 2016, members of the Second Session of the 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan took oath during the Plenary Session chaired by the Speaker YPP and former Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Pakistan, **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogeza** at the Youth Parliament Pakistan session held in Islamabad.

Elections were held for the post of Leader of the House and Leader of the Opposition within their respective parties. **Mr. Tehseen Ali**, YP2-60-GB02 was elected as the Leader of the House and **Mr. Salman Ahmed Khan**, YP2-47-SINDH08 was elected as the Leader of the Opposition by their parties.

For the post of Deputy Speaker, out of the contesting candidates, **Ms. Afia Waheed Yousafzai**, (YP2-13-PUNJAB02) was elected as the Youth Deputy Speaker of the second session of 8th YPP.

Members of second session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan also called on the Honourable Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan (CEC), **Honourable Justice (Retd.) Sardar Muhammad Raza**, at the Election Commission on, July 21, 2017.

Welcoming the young members at the ECP, the CEC appreciated the concept of Youth Parliament Pakistan to facilitate youth's engagement in political and other issues of the country. The Honourable CEC emphasized the importance of maximum youth's engagement in understanding and participating in the election process of Pakistan, terming it critical for more transparent, fair and successful elections in the future. Justice (Retd.) Raza also hoped to receive young delegations in the future to facilitate greater communication and interaction of the ECP with the youth.

The Additional Secretary of the ECP, **Mr. Fida**

Muhammad, held an interactive session with the Members. He stressed the importance of biometric system as part of the electoral reforms and informed that the Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reforms approved the purchase of Biometric systems and electronic voting machines. The ECP, after testing these practically, would decide the implementation process. Responding to a question, Mr. Fida Muhammad said that age limitation for the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and Members have been put in place in the 22nd Amendment of the Constitution of Pakistan. The Additional Secretary also shared that the ECP officials work closely with the Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reforms and especially focus on the reformation of laws, which is the first objective of ECP's strategic plan. Mr. Fida Muhammad also commended PILDAT for its continued focus on proposing recommendations for reforms in the electoral process.

Mr. Babar Yaqoob Fateh Muhammad, Secretary Election Commission of Pakistan, was also present at the occasion.

Ms. Aimen Khan, Projects Manager PILDAT extended her gratitude on behalf of PILDAT management and Youth Parliament Pakistan Secretariat in providing an opportunity to Youth Parliament members to learn about the working of the ECP. She also thanked the Honourable Chief Election Commissioner for his time and briefing the young members of the Youth Parliament Pakistan. The elected leaders of the second session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan presented souvenir to the Honourable Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan.

Mr. Iftikhar Ullah Babar, Former Secretary Senate of Pakistan, explained to the Members, the working of Parliament and the process of legislation, during one of the sessions. **Ms. Ammara Durrani**, Strategic



YPP Office bearers presenting YPP Memento to the Guest Speaker Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nasser Janjua, NSA

Communication Specialist, also delivered a module on Communication Skills and Media Management for MYPs.

Speaking on the distorted civil-military equation in the country, renowned journalist/anchorperson, **Mr. Saleem Safi** said that there is an imbalance in Civil and Military relationship, which is detrimental for democracy. Controlled democracy has always prevailed in Pakistan. Due to continued Indian hostility against Pakistan since 1947, there has been a greater focus on national security of the country. Discussing the way forward, Mr. Safi recommended that the political leadership should be efficient and operate from as high moral ground politicians, when in power, fail to deliver on good governance.

Ambassador (Retd.) Mr. Masood Khan, Director General, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad talked about Pakistan-India Relations/CPEC & Changing Regional Dynamics. Mr. Mohammad Talha (YP2-52-Sindh13), Mr. Mohammad Hassan Khan (YP2-26-PUNJAB15) and Mr. Faras Haroon Kirmani (YP2-42-Sindh03) presented a resolution on the issue of Kashmir on the floor of the House. The Members proposed to resolve the issue through constructive dialogue. Another business in the House was about reforming the Police department. Ms. Sania Saeed, (YP2-58-AJK02), Mr. Bilawal Nasir (YP2-17-PUNJAB06) and Mr. Rashid Saleem, (YP2-34-PUNJAB23) were of the view that the Police of Pakistan should be depoliticized, selected on pure merit and hiring, promotions, transfers, salaries and allowance for the Police Officials should be revised. Both the resolutions were adopted simultaneously.

The Members also observed a one-minute silence in the House to pay tribute to Mr. Abdul Sattar Edhi (Late).

Youth Standing Committee also shared respective reports in the House to seek input finalisation. On July 22, **Lt. Gen (Retd.) Nasser Khan Janjua**, National Security Advisor, addressed the Members of the 8th Youth Parliament on the Challenges to National Security in Pakistan and Pakistan's policy perspective and later held an interactive session with young women and men. **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT shared the importance of implementation of Electoral Reforms in Pakistan before the 2018 General Elections. Emphasizing the importance of voting, Mr. Mehboob said that the youth of this country should know their rights and responsibilities to vote. He also added that the Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reforms to expeditiously complete its work. He was of the view that the 2013 General Election inquiry Commission Report should be examined in detail to introduce safeguards and Reforms. Mr. Mehboob also recommended addressing the flaws identified by the Election Tribunals Decisions.

Honourable Syed Naveed Qamar, Member National Assembly of Pakistan shared his experience on 'Entry and Advancement in Politics'. He said that there are no shortcuts to enter politics if someone has no political background. Hard work and commitment are vital to enter politics, as these are the entry points towards a sound political career. Talking to the Members of Youth Parliament, Syed Naveed Qamar stressed the importance of understanding the basic concept of politics before taking it up as a career. The youth should be have clarity on where do they see themselves in politics in future. He also added that a good politician would also be accommodating and a good listener.

Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Constitutional Expert talked about the evolution of Constitution of Pakistan. He also explained the Constitutional Amendments that have been done recently to the MYPs.

The second session concluded with members presenting their Committee Reports in front of a review panel, which consisted of **Honourable Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed**, **Dr. Shoib Suddle** and **Former Senator Afrasiab Khattak**.

Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on CPEC, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, particularly appreciated the work of Youth Standing Committee on Finance on the Committee Report topic '**China-Pakistan Economic Corridor**' and promised to share the recommendations put up by the young Members with the Parliamentary Committee Members on CPEC.



YPP Members taking Oath

The 5-day session ended with the certificate distribution ceremony. Honourable Steering Committee Members, **Ms. Nafeesa Khattak**, MNA and **Senator Karim Khawja** held an interactive session with the Members and distributed certificates among them.

Third Session of 8th YPP

In the third session of the 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan on August 24, 2016, **Mr. Osama Mehmood** (YP3-46-SINDH06), **Mr. Ammar Abdullah** (YP3-17-PUNJAB06) and **Mr. Abdur Rehman** (YP3-54-ICT01) assumed offices of Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Speaker respectively. The Elections were held through secret ballot.

Chairing the first plenary session of the third YPP session, **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezeai**, Speaker Youth Parliament Pakistan congratulated and welcomed the new set of 60 people as Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan.

Honourable Mr. Shehryar Afridi, MNA PTI addressed the Members on **Entry & Advancement in Politics** followed by an interactive Question and Answer session. **Mr. Iftikhar Ullah Babar**, Former Secretary Senate of Pakistan explained Parliamentary processes and Legislative procedures in a Speaker Module on How Parliament Works?

In a special address to the third session Members of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan, Honourable State Minister of Information Technology & Telecommunications, **Ms. Anusha Rehman Khan**, MNA, said that in order to provide internet and development opportunities to the deprived and inaccessible areas of Pakistan such as Interior Balochistan, FATA and some areas of AJK & GB, the Ministry is determined to provide affordable access to these areas by the end of 2018.

The Minister, while talking to the Members, shared that in two years in office, the ministry has been successful in introducing 3G & 4G networks on smartphones. Broadband penetration has increased from 3 per cent to 24 per cent in less than two years. She emphasized the importance of Broadband technology as it brings to the people the opportunity to connect and use technology to attain their means. In order to reach out to rural class, the IT Ministry, in collaboration with Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), is looking forward to provide smartphones to the qualified women enrolled in BISP programme. The smartphones would have applications along with Rs. 200 balance for 1 year; the qualified women would also be trained to use smartphones.

Ms. Khan, recording the achievements of the IT Ministry, also said that entrepreneurship is being introduced to train young schoolgirls, and Bait Ul Maal children in coding and computing. This effort is being done in collaboration with the Microsoft.

Talking about E-Governance, the Minister said that 7000 Federal Government employees have been trained to use technology in the best possible way and many Ministries and departments, particularly the IT Ministry, have computed their records instead of placing them in hard copies. Pakistan has become the first SAARC country to have completed and initiated the process of implementation in E-Governance.

Speaking about the Prevention of the Electronic Crimes Act 2016, Ms. Khan said that passage of the Act was possible through sustained engagement of stakeholders and due process in Parliament. The legislation is regarded as exemplary that deals with the issue of cyber security. Though there was a lot of confusion about the contents of the Act in relation to its purported 'misuse' by the State, the legislation has designed to protect the privacy and safety of individuals. She also shared that the IT Ministry has achieved 4 international recognitions

during the current term. In the end, Ms. Khan appreciated and acknowledged the efforts of PILDAT in providing a platform to young Pakistanis to get trained in the political and democratic affairs of Pakistan.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT, addressed the Members on Electoral Reforms in Pakistan and **Ms. Ammara Durrani**, Strategic Communications Expert talked to the Members on Media & Communication Skills.

On the fourth day of the third session of the 8th YPP, **Mr. Ali Singay** (YP3-61-GB01), **Mr. Shahzaib Ansari** (YP3-51-SINDH11), **Ms. Maryam Shahid** (YP3-60-AJK02) and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal** (YP3-12-PUNJAB02) put forward a resolution asking the Government to introduce quota system for the transgenders especially in the field of education and providing employment opportunities to them. This quota proposal would enable the transgender community to thrive in the society, this would help them earn their due respect as a citizen and play their role in progress and prosperity of Pakistan.

In another resolution presented, some of the Members demanded special quota for persons with disabilities in Parliament and Provincial Assemblies. They emphasised the fact that Pakistan needs to drastically improve its social structure and infrastructure to make an environment conducive for people with disabilities, to lead a successful life. This resolution was put forward by **Mr. Suleman Arshad** (YP3-55-ICT02) and **Ms. Hanna Zafar** (YP3-22-PUNJAB11).

Both the resolutions were adopted in the House.

Ambassador (Retd.) Ashraf Jehangir Qazi addressed the Members on “Foreign Policy of Pakistan with special focus on Pakistan-India, Pakistan-Afghanistan relations along with challenges and possibilities of CPEC.

Mr. Saleem Safi, Senior Analyst & Anchor Geo TV, briefed the young people on National Security issues facing Pakistan and the status of Civil-Military Relations. Senior Constitutional Expert, **Mr. Ali Zafar** was invited to address the Members on the Overview of Constitution of Pakistan with special emphasis on the 18th Amendment. All the Guest Speakers interacted with young people in the Question Answer session at the end of their respective lectures.

The third session concluded with members presenting their Committee Reports in front of a review panel, which consisted of The second session concluded with members presenting their Committee Reports in front of a review panel, which consisted of Honourable **Ms. Nafeesa InayatUllah Khattak**, MNA, PTI/Member Youth Parliament Pakistan Steering Committee and **Dr. Shoaib Suddle**, Former I .G. Pakistan.

Fourth Session of 8th YPP

In the fourth session of the Youth Parliament Pakistan beginning September 21, 2016, **Mr. Abdullah Mashood** (YP4-13-PUNJAB02) was elected as Leader of the House while **Mr. Azeem Armaghan** (YP4-54-ICT01) was elected as Leader of the Opposition. Ms. Sheeza Mughal (YP4-39-PUNJAB28) was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the fourth session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan.

Members received briefing sessions from **Mr. Iftikharullah Babar**, Former Secretary Senate of Pakistan on working of Parliament of Pakistan, from **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehbood**, on Electoral System of Pakistan, and from **Mr. Saleem Safi**, on National Security & Civil Military relations.



Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai chairing YPP Session

Mr. Khawaja M. Nadir (YP4-58-AJK01), **Mr. Muhammad Usama** (YP4-48-SINDH09) and **Mr. Rafi Ullah** (YP4-34-PUNJAB23) in a resolution presented in the House proposed to expand the Women's Protection Bill to the other provinces only after taking into account their local realities, in order to safeguard the rights of women and promote gender equality in Pakistan. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Members of Youth Parliament were taken on a tour



Mr. Shahid Hamid addressing Youth Parliament Pakistan

of the Senate. In an introductory session, the Additional Secretary, Senate of Pakistan **Dr. Syed Pervaiz Abbas**, briefed the Members in detail about the working of the Senate including the sub sections of the Senate. The Additional Secretary **Mr. Tariq Bin Waheed** Director Protocol was also present at the occasion.

The Members were also given an opportunity to visit the Gali-e-Dastoor – a gallery to document the Constitutional history of Pakistan. It is a dedicated area on the first floor of the Parliament House Building. Describing the significance of this corridor, the guide from Senate of Pakistan said that it is the first step in compiling the Constitutional history of Pakistan. He further said that this Gali-e-Dastoor is a tribute to Pakistanis who worked hard for a sustainable democratic Pakistan. The large tiles on the floor represent the space and progress available to the people while the narrow ones signify the strangulation.

Ms. Aimen Khan, Projects Manager PILDAT thanked the Senate Secretariat for always being cooperative in facilitating such visits for the Youth Parliament Pakistan Members.

In a well-connected and interactive Module session on Entry and Advancement in Politics, **Honourable Mr. Shehryar Afridi**, MNA PTI and Member Youth Parliament Pakistan Steering Committee shared his personal political journey with the young people.

Ms. Ammara Durrani, Expert Strategic Communications addressed the fourth session Members on Media Management & Communication Skills in a morning session.

In a plenary session on the fourth day of the fourth session of the Youth Parliament, Youth Standing Committees presented their reports in the House for

feedback and suggestions from the fellow Parliamentarians. The Members are all set to present and defend their reports to a Panel of Experts tomorrow in a Review Panel Session.

Dr. Tariq Hassan, Senior Constitutional Expert addressed the Members Youth Parliament Pakistan on 'An Overview of the Constitution of Pakistan'. He explained in detail about the Constitutional history of Pakistan including the latest amendments that have taken place.

Ambassador (Retd.) Riaz Muhammad Khan while talking about the Foreign Policy of Pakistan emphasized the importance of Pakistan's relations with its neighbors particularly relations with Afghanistan and India. He held an interactive session with the Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan particularly on the recent Pakistan-India tensions.

Members moved a resolution in the House on the status of Tharparkar. They proposed that the Federal Government should take responsibility for the people of the affected area in the light of the recent famine where more than 3000 children have died and almost 300 pregnant women affected. The proposers of the resolution were: **Mr. Imran Ahmed Jhakro** (YP4-43-SINDH04), **Mr. Vishal Khemani** (YP4-51-SINDH12) and **Mr. Maher Muhammad Akmal** (YP4-24-PUNJAB13).

In another resolution tabled in the House, **Syed Hussain Murtaza** (YP4-60-GB01), **Mr. Taimoor Iqbal** (YP4-61-GB02) and **Mr. Malik Haider Ali Awan** (YP4-07-KP03), **Mr. Rahum Saeed** (YP4-27- Punjab16), **Mr. Ali Hassan Shafqat** (YP4-17-PUNJAB06), **Ms. Nihal Farid** (YP4-33-PUNJAB22) and **Mr. Rafi Ullah** (YP4-34-PUNJAB23) proposed that the Government of Pakistan should give Gilgit Baltistan and Balochistan their due share in the CPEC related mega projects. It has been observed that



National Security Advisor to Prime Minister, Nasser Janjua addressing Youth Parliament Pakistan

Gilgit-Baltistan and Balochistan despite being major stakeholders are being neglected in this mega project. The growing discontentment among the people of the two provinces over CPEC should be a matter of great concern for the federation of Pakistan. The Members further reiterated that it is the need of the hour to listen to the grievances of the people and resolve this issue in timely manner for the larger interest of the country. Both the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

The fourth session also concluded with members presenting their Committee Reports in front of a review panel, which consisted of The second session concluded with members presenting their Committee Reports in front of a review panel, which consisted of Honourable **Ms. Nafeesa InayatUllah**

Khattak, MNA, PTI/Member Youth Parliament Pakistan Steering Committee and **Dr. Shoaib Suddle**, Former I.G. Pakistan.

MYPs go on a Study Visit to the UK and Denmark

On November 28, 2017, 13 members of Youth Parliament Pakistan departed on a four day study visit to Copenhagen, Denmark to learn about the democratic and Parliamentary systems, institutional measures of public accountability and transparency of Governments.

The study visit is facilitated by PILDAT and funded by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Government of Denmark.

The members were given an exclusive pre departure briefing session by the Danish Embassy, where **Mr. Jakob Rogild Jakobsen**, Deputy Head of Mission gave the delegation an overview of Pakistan-Denmark relations along with an introduction to Danish political and democratic set up. The briefing ended with an interactive question answer session. Talking to the young people, Mr. Jakobsen said that "Democracy is the cornerstone of Danish society. It has played a key role in empowering every citizen and strengthening accountability to protect citizens' rights. Democracy gives citizens the power to bring changes to their societies. Every citizen has equal opportunities to help make laws, vote for leaders and be protected by laws and rights that are in place. It is however important to continue to improve all aspects of governance if we want to provide equal opportunities for all, reduce poverty and promote sustainable development."

Mr. Jakobsen further added that "we are confident that this visit will give the young members a deeper insight into how important democracy and governance is to build fair, progressive, tolerant and peaceful societies."

Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jomezai, Speaker Youth Parliament Pakistan/Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan appreciated the efforts of DANIDA and PILDAT in supporting and facilitating a training platform for the youth of Pakistan in the political and democratic affairs. Present at the pre departure briefing, Mr. Jomezai congratulated the young Members selected for the Study Visit and hoped that they would be writing and sharing their experiences upon their return.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Secretary General Youth Parliament Pakistan & President PILDAT, speaking on the occasion, said "Study Visit is an excellent opportunity for Members of the Youth Parliament to learn about Denmark's democratic and political structure. We are happy to facilitate an opportunity of learning, interaction and exposure to the young and bright minds of Pakistan." He also added that, "The composition of the delegation is such as it represents each geographical area of Pakistan and top performing MYPs are part of this study visit. I wish them good luck and wish to see them learn and grow in every walk of life." He thanked the Government of Denmark for its continuing support to development of youth's leadership potential in Pakistan.

Members of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan who are part of the Study Visit include: **Mr. Abdur Rehman** (YP3-54-ICT01) Deputy Speaker, Third session, **Ms. Afia Waheed Khan** (YP2-13-PUNJAB02) Deputy Speaker, Second Session, **Mr. Azeem Armaghan** (YP4-53-ICT01) Leader of the Opposition, Fourth Session, **Mr. Basharat Ali** (YP1-59-GB02), **Ms. Bakhtawar Komal** (YP4-06-KP02), **Mr. Bilawal Bin Nasir** (YP2-17-PUNJAB06), **Mr. Faizan Daud** (YP1-15-



YPP Members receiving ECP memento from the Chief Election Commissioner during a YPP Visit to Election Commission of Pakistan

PUNJAB04), Leader of the House, First Session, **Mr. Iftikhar Khan** (YP4-55-FATA01), **Mr. Irtaza Haider** (YP1-18-PUNJAB07), **Mr. Masood Ur Rehman** (YP1-02-BALUCHISTAN02), **Mr. Muhammad Usama** (YP4-48-SINDH09), **Mr. Nadir Khawaja** (YP4-58-AJK01) Chairperson Youth Standing Committee on Finance, Fourth Session and **Syed Muhammad Raza Zaidi** (YP1-49-SINDH10).

PILDAT officials accompanying the Delegation include: **Ms. Aasiya Riaz**, Joint Director PILDAT and **Mr. Muhammad Saad**, Projects Manager, PILDAT.

On arrival in the UK, the 13 members of the 8th Youth Parliament of Pakistan had a rigorous day of orientation to the United Kingdom's Parliamentary system, hosted by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, United Kingdom.

The day started off with a tour of the British Parliament, where the MYPs learnt of the history of both the chambers, workings and the separation of powers between the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The members learnt that the House of Lords has more of an advisory role, whereas the members of the House of Commons largely represent the concerns of their constituencies. Most of the scrutiny takes place at the level of the Select Committees of the House of Commons and Lords, whereas the legislation is processed through set conventions, including multiple readings of a Bill. The MYPs were informed that although the procedures regarding operations of the Parliament is not completely codified, there is an attempt to make everything emanating from those procedures available. The MYPs were briefed by **Ms. Clemmie Brown**, *Clerk in the Public Office*, **Ms. Katya Cassidy**, *Clerk in the Journal Office*, and **Mr. Daniel Whitford**, *Clerk in the Committee Office*.

While talking to the MYPs, **Mr. Andrew Tuggey**, *Chief*

Executive of CPA UK branch highlighted the well-resourced staff of the British Parliament, where there is a constructive relationship between the Parliamentarians and the Clerks. It was highlighted that there is a yearly seminar in Westminster for parliamentary practices and procedures. The main agendas commonly reside on women empowerment, human rights and environment protection, while this year's seminar was held on cyber security.

Ms. Eve Samson, *Clerk of the European Scrutiny Committee* shed light on Britain's exit from the European Union and the legal framework available to execute it. She commented that majority Members of the Parliament still maintain that the membership of the EU should be reconsidered and windows for renegotiations should be sought, however it may not be likely for MPs to overturn a public decision. She highlighted that the political elite in the majority, for a very long time, was happy with the European Union, while the section of the populace that voted in the referendum exhibited sentiments to the contrary. She also explained the unique workings of the European Scrutiny Committee, which include, taking up different proposals regarding the exit from the European Union, screening them, and then authoring reports containing recommendations for the purpose.

The **Rt. Hon. Ms. Ann Taylor**, the **Baroness Taylor of Bolton, MP**, and **Baroness Liz Barker, MP** spoke to MYPs about the role of the House of Lords in the British Parliament. It was emphasized that although the decisions emanating from the House of Commons always take precedence since its members are elected, the work of the House of Lords is important since its members can discuss any issue of public importance without taking into account interests of constituencies. This also means that members of the House of Lords represent the interests of marginalized and minority groups of the British population. They also highlighted

various reform proposals regarding membership of the House of Lords, including introduction of a retirement age, a limited tenure, or having working peers instead of permanent members of the House of Lords.

The MYPs also visited the recently established Parliamentary Education Centre. The members were told that the concept of the Parliamentary Education Centre is of a robust outreach to younger strata of the country's population, including school-going children. The Education Centre aims to reach out to at least a 100,000 people, mostly students, during the first year of its establishment. In this regard, the Speaker of the House of Commons held a Skype session every Monday morning with visitors of the Parliamentary Education Center.

The MYPs' day in the British Parliament concluded with attendance of the Question Hour of the House of Commons.

The first day in Denmark began with the Members of Youth Parliament Pakistan receiving briefings on the Danish Parliamentary System, Accountability Structures and Labour Policy.

Members of the Youth Parliament were given an introduction to the DANIDA Fellowship Centre (DFC) by **Ms. Maya Lindberg Brink**, *Capacity Development Advisor, DANIDA Fellowship Centre*. She highlighted that the organization is dedicated to investing in individuals and organizations across the world by connecting them through different training programs. An important foreign policy concern of Danish Government of '**Aid to Trade**' was also highlighted during the session, through which the Danish Government is aiming to create synergies between both these aspects of foreign policy with developing, middle-income countries in areas particularly such as sustainable energy. **Mr. Erik Bryld**, Managing Director of Tana, a development consultancy also engaged on the Study Visit, concluded the introductory session by welcoming the Delegates and sharing his views on policy development.

Following that, **Professor Flemming Juul Christensen**, currently teaching Government and Politics at the Roskilde University Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark, gave the MYPs a brief introduction to Danish democracy. Professor Flemming covered details on the unique demography of Denmark which has a population of 5.7 million, 1.3 million of which resides in the capital, Copenhagen. MYPs were informed about the fact that losing wars, especially in the 19th century was the biggest reason, which led to Denmark being a very homogenous and introverted country. He also highlighted that the three major, current issues of debate in Danish politics are the size of the public welfare sector, immigration, and taxation. Especially immigration is a dividing political issue for the Danish political system, which also figured in the recent change of Government in Denmark that took place two days ago.

A particular area of interest for the MYPs was the possibility of a political party, not having a significant majority in the Folketing, the Danish Parliament, being able to form a single-party Government. Professor Flemming highlighted that in order to form a Government in Denmark, a political party does not need to have the majority in the Parliament. Instead, it only needs to *not have the majority against it*. This was perhaps the best example of Denmark's negotiated and consensus based democracy.

Ms. Nanna Schnipper, Consultant at the Supreme Audit Institution gave the delegates a briefing on the Danish Supreme Public Accountability Institution- that is, the 'Rigsrevisionen', where she is working as an Advisor. She explained that the Rigsrevisionen audits the government accounts and examines whether the government funds are administered in accordance with the decisions of the Parliament. For the purpose, the Rigsrevisionen reports to the Danish Public Accounts Committee, but has retained a unique independence and credibility.



A member during voting process in YPP

The institution primarily audits the state accounts, regional accounts and accounts of government financed activities, included EU-funded activities. For the purpose, it conducts three types of audit, including the Financial Audit, the Compliance Audit and the Performance Audit. The Performance Audit is a unique function of the institution, where it audits the efficiency of various Government initiatives, such as analyzing the utility of the current state welfare system over the years, or suggesting



Group photo of Youth Parliament members with analyst and anchor Saleem Safi

improvements in Denmark's civil and criminal legal procedures to reduce the time for delivery of justice.

Therefore, the Rigsrevisionen grows beyond the premier public audit institution of Denmark, and actually becomes a source of constructive policy reform.

Particularly interesting for the Members of the delegation was the fact that the Rigsrevisionen also audits any and all accounts and expenditures by the Defence institutions, Law Enforcement Agencies and Intelligence Agencies in Denmark, the reports on which are made public. When asked by the MYPs that whether in a country with peculiar security concerns, unlike Denmark, there is any utility in such openness and transparency, Ms. Schnipper emphasized that this was critical, at the very least to the extent that the Parliamentarians should have access to the expenditure, and audit reports of security and defence agencies.

With regards to the anti-corruption activities of the Rigsrevisionen, she emphasized that the emphasis was on prevention, rather than criminal investigation for the institution. When asked by the MYPs that what happens when the Rigsrevisionen discovers any financial irregularities in the workings of a government department, Ms. Schnipper stated that the matter is simply reported to the police, which then leads the process under a special prosecutor. This ensures the credibility of the Rigsrevisionen amongst the Danish population and the political leadership.

Given that Denmark was the best rated country in the Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index for 2015, the MYPs were particularly surprised to know that there is not a dedicated anti-corruption watchdog in the country. Rather, the Rigsrevisionen serves the function, which in essence is an auditing institution. Drawing comparisons with Pakistan's case,

where there are dedicated organizations for the purpose, such as the National Accountability Bureau, with significant powers, the MYPs concluded that simply the creation of public institutions, and granting them overarching powers, is not the solution to the scourge of corruption. Rather, this also involves complex challenges like constituting a corruption free culture, making sure that the accountability institutions are not subject to political controversy and expediency, etc.

The last session of the day was conducted by **Mr. Rasmus Raabjerg Nielsen**, Member of Danish Confederation of Trade Unions (LO). He briefed the young people of Pakistan about the workings of the LO, which essentially is a confederation of Denmark's 18 main labour unions. Delegates learnt that there are no statutory labour laws in Denmark, including on minimum wage. The Government only legislates on the required conditions in workspaces. Instead, the system rests upon continued negotiations and consensus, and mutual recognition between the employers and the employees in this regard through dedicated organizations such as the LO. The LO's affiliated unions have about 1.1 million members, and almost 75% of the Danish workforce is represented by it.

He also informed the Members of the Delegation that collective agreements are legally binding in Denmark and can be enforced by the court.

During the session, the MYPs also tackled challenging technical concepts of the Danish labour system such as *Flexicurity* that espouses flexible regulations on hiring and firing. The MYPs were told that unemployment insurance and active labour market policy ensures that the relatively higher levels of labour replacement do not affect an individual.



Hall of Youth Parliament Pakistan

On their second day in Denmark, Members of the Youth Parliament spent the day at the Danish Parliament, known as the Folketinget, having a detailed set of interactions on various aspects of its workings, including the Parliamentary practices, the Danish Constitution, the Committee System, etc.

The delegation was welcomed by **Mr. Kenneth Finsen**, High Executive Officer of the International Development, Folketinget.

The delegation had its first meeting with **Mr. Morten Villumsen**, *Advisor to the Committee Secretariat*. He briefed the MYPs regarding the Committee System in Folketinget. The business of Folketinget is divided amongst two institutions within the Danish Folketinget; (a) the plenary of the Folketinget; and

(b) Committees. The Committees hold 600-700 meetings annually. They analyse 200-230 legislative bills and 150-200 proposals for the Folketinget resolutions in one parliamentary year.

The delegation had its second meeting with **Ms. Yildiz Akdogan, MP**, who is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. She informed that the Committee handles bills and proposals for Folketinget sessions and also undertakes continuous scrutiny of the work carried out by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. While speaking on the efficiency of the Committees, she agitated that these committees have greater power than one thinks.

The delegation had its third briefing with **Mr. Anton Hoj Jacobsen** from the Legal Services Office of the Folketinget. He told the delegation that Danish Constitution was promulgated *vide* The Constitutional Act 1953. The Constitution provides *inter alia* for the principles of separation of powers, independent courts of justice and cabinet responsibility. Further, the Constitution also provides for the basic fundamental rights for the citizens of Denmark. The fundamental rights under the Constitution are supplemented by the rights enshrined under the European Convention on Human Rights, which Denmark has ratified. It was interesting for the delegation to note that in Denmark, elections are held every 4 years but Prime Minister has discretion to call a general election at any time and in case of vacation of any seat in the Folketinget, a substitute runner-up member assumes the seat rather than by-elections. The right to vote in Denmark is extended to all citizens who are 18 or above. There is no duty to vote but generally, the voter turn out is around 80%. The prisoners may also vote and run for elections. The elections are conducted by the Ministry of Interior and there is no independent election commission as such. Soon after elections, a temporary committee of the Parliament is constituted to scrutinize the elections. The Committee listens to the complaints regarding elections and after evaluation, forward them to the Ministry of Interior which are later submitted to the Folketinget. Furthermore, he briefly explained the doctrine of ministerial responsibility, independence of MPs from their political parties and different stages of the legislative process.

The delegation had its fourth meeting with **Ms. Ane Halsboe-Jorgensen, MP**, who is a member of the Standing Committee on Finance. She informed the delegation that in Danish political and governmental system, a couple of issues are pre-settled and planned at the European level. These policy decisions are followed by the Danish Government in majority of the circumstances. At European level, the benchmarks or goals are prescribed at a broader level however the Danish Government enjoys the discretion in terms of formulating mechanisms to achieve the said benchmarks and this applies to the matters falling within the purview of the Finance Committee. The members of the Finance Committee do not necessarily need a background in finance and same applies for other Committees since they are assisted by the Secretariat staff. While engaging in a discussion on the increased role of management consultants in re-structuring or policy making of the government departments, she informed that this may not work in all of the cases and the best decisions for the people can be formulated by their elected representatives.

The delegation had its fifth meeting with **Mr. Christian Jull Lentz**, *Advisor to the Communications Department*. The meeting was focused on school elections campaign, aimed at introducing democracy and electoral process to the young students of Denmark. He informed the delegation that as per the statistics, young Danish people do not vote. For example, in Municipal elections of 2013, the stratum ranging from age 19-21 had a voter turn out of only 57.7%. He explained that strategically, the campaign is targeting two age groups; (a) first time voters; and (b) school children (8th,



MYPs during a Study Visit to the British Parliament

9th and 10th graders). The former is targeted through get out to the vote and direct mail campaigns while the latter is targeted through Nationwide School Elections and the Youth Parliament. The school elections takes place every second year. These elections are not compulsory for all schools but majority of the schools voluntarily opt for the elections. In 2015, around 42,000 young students voted in the School Elections. The Prime Minister announces the school elections along with 20 key issues and the pupils then choose three key issues. These students then run campaigns on these issues, formulate their election manifesto. The process includes interesting political debates. This inculcates political self-confidence in the Danish youth and attracts them towards voting in the general elections as well as the overall political and democratically structure of Denmark. Apart from these extra-ordinary measures, it is a tradition in Denmark to bring young persons to the voting station for achieving the above mentioned objectives. Further, the politics and society are taught as compulsory subjects at school. The atmosphere of the polling stations is identical to that of the original polling stations. At the end of the elections, there are election parties at many schools. These parties receive sufficient media and social media coverage. At the end of the meeting, the delegation presented a souvenir to Mr. Christian.

In the sixth meeting with **Ms. Iben Tybjaerg**, the delegation was informed about the Folketing's strategy and procedure for implementation and maintaining overall relationship with the European Union. She told the delegation that interestingly, around 15-20% of Danish laws originate in the EU system. The European Affairs Committee plays a pivotal role in the above. She explained that member states act as a driving force for the implementation of the EU law and there is a relationship of inter-dependency amongst both of them. In the end, the delegation was informed about the EU Information Service Program- a recently introduced

program, which aims to assist Danish citizens regarding European legislation and its practical implementation.

The last meeting of the day was with **Mr. Jorn Skovsgaard**, *Head of Section, Ministry of Children, Education and Equality*. He informed the delegation that the first step for a young student is to go to kindergarten, followed by the pre-school class and then primary and lower secondary education. After school education, they receive either general upper secondary education or vocational education and training. The general upper and secondary education is then furthered by Bachelor Programs, Professional bachelors Programs and Academy profession Programs. Students opting for vocation education and training also receive a job from Danish companies and are paid during the course of their training programs. Thereafter, the students may also pursue Masters or a Ph.D. There are no accredited textbooks in the educational system and the teachers may prescribe any textbooks in order to capacitate the children regarding the understanding on the relevant subject. The Danish Educational system also has Adult and Continuing Education and Training Institutions, which has a considerable 33.7% participation. The vocational training programs are in accordance with the needs of professionals in a field. The Danish employers also invest in the educational market so that they may have a good and professionally educated employee market. The Danish Education System employs technology based learning environment such as audio-visual programs etc. The teachers also receive pedagogical training programs.

On the third day of Study Visit to Denmark, MYPs held interactions regarding efforts for integrating ethnic minorities in Denmark, received a briefing by two Danish Pakistanis regarding what it was like for people from Pakistani origin to live and work in Denmark, and also held a short debate session with representatives of Youth

Wings of different political parties.

The Youth Parliament delegation held its first meeting with **Ms. Nadja Glavas**, *Head of Section, Office office for Inclusion and Citizenship, Ministry of Foreigners, Integration and Housing* and **Ms. Maria Birch Moller**, *Office for Inclusion and citizenship, Ministry for Foreigner, Integration and Housing*. Both ladies briefed the delegation on integration of minorities from a public perspective – with a focus on the civil society. While deliberating on integration, they explained that there is a broad spectrum of initiatives within civil society that contributes to integration. Many volunteers want to make a difference, and the municipalities are requesting more broader and stronger collaboration with civil society actors in the integration efforts. While deliberating on different civic strategies, Ms. Glavas briefed the delegation about some new projects including 'Building Bridges' and 'Baba'. The former aims at developing and testing methods and models for a stronger and more formalized cooperation between local governments and civil society organizations on the reception of refugees. The project is already implemented in five Danish municipalities across the country. *Baba* aims to strengthen ethnic minority fathers' opportunities to engage themselves in the lives of their children in a meaningful way.

The Group met with **Ms. Rushy Rashid**, *Journalist* and **Mr. Zubair Butt Hussain** *Spokesperson for Several Muslim Associations*. Both emphasised that Danish-Pakistanis, as with other immigrant communities, need to co-exist within the Danish society and be Danes. Ms Rashid shared that Freedom of Speech as well as Freedom of Press in Denmark are ensured by article 77 of the Danish Constitution. This was followed by a lively debate on what constitutes the borders of the freedom of speech debate in Denmark.

The youth parliament delegation interacted with representatives of political party youth wings on the structure of different youth wings, how these interact with the main party leadership, and what the party positions were on different issues in Denmark, including refugees, the welfare system, relations with EU, etc.

The day ended with a visit to the Hammad bin Khalifa Civilization Centre, serving as a community centre and mosque for the Sunni Muslims in Copenhagen. The MYPs learnt of the organisational structure of the Centre and the efforts being undertaken to integrate Muslims into the Danish society.

On the final day of the YPP Study Visit, the MYPs had a rigorous set of interactions regarding all tiers of the Danish Education System. This included learning about the opportunities afforded by the system and some of the major challenges faced by it.

The MYPs first visited **Skolen pa La Cours Vej**, a local public school in the Frederiksberg municipality. Upon arrival, the delegation was welcomed by **Ms. Kirsten Kristensen**, *Deputy Director of the School* and **Ms. Xenia Nielsen**, *Pedagogical Director*. The delegation received a brief introduction about the school. From there on, the delegation was divided in two groups and set out to visit classrooms from grade 0 to grade 9. The delegates interacted with students from all the grades, and got a chance to observe them in their classrooms. Following this, the MYPs saw a documentary on Danish School System.

The key takeaways from this visit were well received by the MYPs and the delegation showed keen interest in working towards implementing them in Pakistan. Small class sizes, multiculturalism, focus on uniqueness of every student, especially through extra curricular activities, frequent parent-teacher meetings and physical fitness as a core course are some of the few traits of the school that stood out for the MYPs.



Voting Process during YPP Session

The second stop for the delegation was at the Technical Education Center, **H. C. Orsteds Gymnasium**. After receiving a warm welcome by **Mr. Mogens Bagger Hansen**, *the Principal*, the MYPs were briefed about the history of Frederiksberg in general and the school in particular. Being a public-private partnership, the school takes great pride in hosting almost a quarter of the technical education pupils in Copenhagen. As discussed with the representatives, this school differs from ordinary high schools in a way that it



Group photo of YPP Members with Mr. Masood Khan

focuses mainly on the education that is relevant in the broader social context.

The MYPs then visited the Copenhagen Business School to learn about the university. The members were greeted by **Mr. Thomas Skinnerup**, *Vice President of the Student Association at CBS*. He kicked off his presentation with a brief overview of the historical role universities have played in Denmark. They were mostly used to prepare people for offices of the Church. There were restricted admissions, and only the landed gentry, elites and males were allowed to attend. After a student uprising in France in 1968, the Danish Government decided to open up the universities and make the admission process more inclusive.

The presentation then transitioned onto democracy on campus. The pre-1968 years were labelled as the 'Mightiness of Professors' where only academia had the power and ultimate discretion with regards to curriculum, hiring and firing of staff etc. In 1970s, this was reversed in an era of the students across Europe agitating for greater rights. The Ministry of Education conceded that democracy was needed on campuses and a law was passed in 1970 that mandated that the President of the university had to be elected by the academics and students based on 50% representation each. This breathing space accorded to universities was partially curbed by a 2003 law that said that more efficiency was needed and therefore professional management, along the lines of that of a corporation was hired.

Mr. Skinnerup emphasised that the student bodies still continued to have significant powers on the campus, and maintained a constructive, rather than combative relation with the university management.

The Study Visit ended with a dinner reception hosted by Honourable Ambassador of Pakistan to Denmark,

Ambassador Masroor A. Junejo, for the MYPs.

Fifth Session of 8th YPP

The fifth and final session of the Youth Parliament Pakistan was kicked off by a speech by Danish Ambassador to Pakistan, **H.E. Mr. Ole Thonke**, on December 05, 2016. He said that the fundamental idea behind DANIDA supporting Youth Parliament was to enhance the capacity of the young Pakistanis and give them an exposure to national and international knowledge. As the future of Pakistan, the youth will be taking an important part in the decision making on key issues such as developing education and health system and particularly the tax system of Pakistan.

YPP delegates who joined the Study Visit shared their experiences and learning in the session. **Mr. Wazir Ahmed Jogezi**, Speaker Youth Parliament Pakistan/Formal Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan was also present at the occasion. The session ended with an interactive Q&A session.

Members took part in the voting process to elect the two party leaders and Deputy Speaker for the 5th session. **Mr. Muhammad Moiz Hijazi** (YP5-26-PUNJAB19) was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the fifth and last session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan while **Ms. Rida Tariq** (Yp5-44-SINDH09) was elected as Leader of the Blue Party and **Ms. Shabnaz Moswali Khan** (YP5-45-SINDH10) was elected as the Leader of the Green Party.

In the second day of the fifth session, members discussed ten resolutions in the House at the first plenary session. Majority of the resolutions regarding education and health sectors along with giving the people of Gilgit-Baltistan their due identity were passed.

The first resolution presented before the House included effective implementation of Article 25A of Constitution of



Group photo of MYPs with National Security Advisor to Premier

Pakistan 1973, madrassah reforms to bring religious education into mainstream, giving monthly allowance to students belonging to underprivileged backgrounds, and increasing the education budget by 4-10%. Another resolution was regarding the acknowledgement of the need for trained career counsellors in order to streamline the youth of Pakistan and make them pursue the field they like. However, a resolution on abolishing the policy of attestation of degrees by HEC was rejected owing to the incidents of ex-Parliamentarians procuring fake degrees to stand eligible for elections.

A resolution was presented regarding celebration of Eids on a single day in Pakistan. Young Members also acknowledged the drastic effects of climatic change and passed two resolutions regarding the

use of air purifiers and banning the use of plastic bags. Alternatives and long-term plans were also suggested on the floor by several Parliamentarians. However, a proposal regarding the banning of smoking at public places was rejected.

Another important resolution accepted by the House suggested the distribution of power between the provincial and local Governments.

The second plenary session of the day was conducted to discuss policy reports being drafted by the five youth standing committees, namely that on Electoral and Political System, Finance, National Security and Foreign Affairs, Right to Information, and Performance of Local Governments. The format followed by the House, as prescribed by the Youth Deputy Speaker, was as follows: the chair of each committee was given ten minutes to brief the Parliamentarians about the committee's recommendations and dissemination plan which was followed by a ten-minute Q&A session in which several Parliamentarians gave their valuable suggestions along with criticizing some of the points on legit grounds.

On the last day of the 5th session of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan, Members held Youth Parliament Alumni Elections and elected **Ms. Aminah Suhail Queshi** (YP5-15-PUNJAB08) as President YPAA, **Mr. Abdul Rehman Memon** (YP5-36-SINDH01) as General Secretary and **Mr. Saad Saeed Qureshi** as Finance Secretary (YP5-47-SINDH12).

Reports of Youth Standing Committee Meetings were evaluated based on the recommendations and input of each Committee. The two-member panel that reviewed the reports of the young Members was **Dr. Shoaib Suddle**, Former DG FIA and Former Federal Tax Ombudsman and **Mr. Danyal Hassan**, Advocate and Former Member Youth Parliament Pakistan.

Youth Standing Committee on Right to Information was declared as the best committee and scored top position among 5 Youth Standing Committees.

Members also had a chance to visit Senate of Pakistan. They were briefed by **Dr. Syed Pervaiz Abbas**, Additional Secretary about the Parliamentary history of Pakistan and working of the Senate of Pakistan. The young Members were also given an overview of the newly constructed Gali e Dastoor through a video report and were later taken to the gallery. It is a dedicated area on the first floor of the Parliament House Building. Describing the significance of this corridor, the guide from Senate of Pakistan said that it is the first step in compiling the Constitutional history of Pakistan. He further said that this Gali-e-Dastoor is a tribute to Pakistanis who worked hard for a sustainable democratic Pakistan. The large tiles on the floor represent the space and progress available to the people while the narrow ones signify the strangulation. On December 08, 2016, MYPS observed moment of silence for the martyrs of Flight PK-661.

Following this, in the plenary session, **Ms. Afia Waheed Khan** (YP5-11-PUNJAB04), **Ms. Saira Baig** (YP5-59-GB02), **Mr. Ghulam Abbas** (YP5-37-SINDH02), **Mr. Deepak Kumar** (YP5-02-BALUCHISTAN02), **Ms. Abeera Ashfaq** (YP5-09-PUNJAB02) and **Ms. Aminah Qureshi** (YP5-15-PUNJAB08) presented a resolution on the forced conversion of minorities. The Members suggested that this issue should be brought at the national level and should be implemented as done in Sindh.



Mr. Masood Khan addressing YPP

In another resolution on providing 1 per cent quota for the special people at the National and Provincial Assemblies, **Ms. Aminah Qureshi** (YP5-15-PUNJAB08), **Mr. Masood Ur Rehman** (YP5-03-BALUCHISTAN02), **Mr. Muhammad Ahmed** (YP5-14-PUNJAB07) and **Ms. Zubaida Abbasi** (YP5-40-SINDH05) said that the name of special people should be changed to differently abled people instead of disabled.

Mr. Abdul Qayyum Achakzai (YP5-01-BALUCHISTAN01), **Mr. Umer Shafique** (YP5-34-PUNJAB27), **Mr. Muhammad Talha** (YP5-49-SINDH14) and **Mr. Ahmed Bilal** (YP5-12-PUNJAB05) presented a resolution maintaining and practicing transparency in CPEC project and making it public to the citizens of Pakistan. They also were of the view that grievances of the people belonging to comparatively under developed areas of Pakistan should be addressed at the earliest in order to ensure unity and harmony among the provinces of Pakistan. The resolutions were adopted simultaneously.

The House proceedings were followed by a cultural night and a farewell dinner for the outgoing batch of 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan.

During session 5, MYPs had the opportunity to interact with *Former Pakistan's High Commissioner to India*, **Mr. Salman Bashir**. He addressed the Members on **"Improving Pakistan-India Relations"** and said that a reset of Pakistan-India relations is the most important step towards stabilizing the security of the South Asian region. Pakistan's policy of economic development, regionally as well, should be pursued. He expressed the need to explore focus on humanitarian issues as well as easy Visa processes. He further added that for dispute resolutions of geography, especially on Kashmir, this is not the appropriate time to look for a 'Final Solution'. Focus should be directed at confidence building

measures and common issues.

Ambassador (Retd.) Ashraf Jehangir Qazi addressed the young members of the Youth Parliament Pakistan on the topic of **"Post Obama Pak-US relations & Regional Security"**. He called Pakistan the United States of America's most allied ally. While deliberating on the current US-Pakistani political scenario, he commented that Obama considered Pakistan to be selectively helpful. Estimating Trump's policies, he commented that Trump is influenced more by personal relationships rather than concrete evidence. For this reason, Pakistan should capitalize on the first opportunity to invite Trump to Pakistan and give him a warm welcome.

The last session of the 8th Youth Parliament Pakistan concluded on December 09, 2016.

Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab

The Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab (YPAP) is a new PILDAT initiative patterned after the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab. Its membership, 40 in total, is drawn from across districts of Punjab. The specific objectives of the YPAP are to groom the leadership potential of the youth from Punjab to help them articulate their views on national and provincial policies in an informed and structured manner through dialogue and debates. The initiative was launched by PILDAT by inviting Expressions of Interest from young people from across all districts of Punjab on October 3, 2016.

PILDAT launched the first batch of Youth Provincial Assembly on November 11, 2016. The session spanned from November 11-13, 2016.

Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab was officially inaugurated by Honourable Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan, MPA, Provincial Minister for Education /Former Deputy Speaker, Punjab Assembly.

Providing an orientation to members on how the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab works, Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak, DG Parliamentary Research, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, addressed the Members of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab. Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Constitutional Expert, addressed young women and men on Overview of the Constitution of Pakistan while Mr. Zafar Mahmood, Former Chairman WAPDA, addressed the House on Agriculture & Water Resources. Members also went through training on Countering Violent Extremism.

In the 3-day session, Members went through the Election process to elect office bearers. The Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab had its own 2-party system, Deputy Speaker, Leader of the House and Opposition, as well as an augmented system of Committees.

The first batch of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab formed following Youth Standing Committees focused on review of critical policy areas:

- i. Youth Standing Committee on Rule of Law
- ii. Youth Standing Committee on Information
- iii. Youth Standing Committee on Youth Affairs
- iv. Youth Standing Committee on Education

The objective behind conceptualizing a dedicated Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab was to engage youth from the province to help inform, guide and rationalize their thought process about extremism and build their capacity to act as catalyst and initiate constructive change in their communities.

An independent Steering Committee of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab oversees the selection process and the effective functioning of YPAP. The Members of the Steering Committee include Mr. Shahid Hamid, Former Governor Punjab, Former Federal Minister, Senior Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan; Mr. Mujib ur Rehman Shami, Senior Journalist and Columnist; Ms. Faiza Ahmed Malik, MPA; Mr. Murad Rass, MPA (PTI, PP-152, Lahore-XVI); Qazi Adnan Farid, MPA (PML-N, PP-268, Bahawalpur-II); Ms. Tahmina Habib, Deputy Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs, Government of Punjab; Mr. Khalid Mahmood, Deputy Secretary Legislation, Provincial Assembly of the Punjab; Ms. Khushboo Ejaz, Lecturer, Kinnaird College for Women Lahore; Syed Ali Raza Shah, Lawyer, Former Member of Youth Parliament Pakistan and Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, Secretary General Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab, President, PILDAT.

First Session of the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab

At the inauguration ceremony of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab, **Honourable Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan**, Education Minister Punjab/Formal Deputy Speaker Provincial Assembly Punjab stressed that community participation is necessary for successful countries. Welcoming and Congratulating the Members, he said that since all 36 districts of Punjab are being represented in the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab, therefore Members should make efforts to identify key issues facing their districts and assist the Government of Punjab to help achieve a successful Punjab. He further said that all great men around the world were fortunate because they took people along and didn't focus on themselves, therefore involving the community especially the youth of Pakistan would be a great source of guidance for the Government.



Syed Naveed Qamar, MNA, addressing Youth Parliament

He also praised PILDAT's efforts in training youth at the national level and now at the provincial level. The Honourable chief guest was also of the view that PILDAT has always helped and assisted the Governments in capacity building particularly of the Members of Parliament and appreciated this new initiative of PILDAT to train particularly the youth of Punjab province.

The Honourable Steering Committee Members also participated in the inauguration ceremony. **Ms. Faiza Malik**, MPA and **Ms. Khusboo Ejaz**, congratulated the Members and extended their support to help the Members achieve their objectives. **Syed Raza Ali Shah**, Lawyer and Former Member Youth Parliament Pakistan shared



Group photo of MYPs with Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Anwar Zaheer Jamali

his personal experience as Member of YPP and said that apart from building networks, Members achieve recognition at the higher level and after getting training in the democratic affairs get well versed in every walk of life.

In the welcome remarks, **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT and Secretary General Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab thanked the Honourable guests for their participation in the inaugural ceremony of YPAP. In his opening remarks, Mr. Mehboob said that the objective behind conceptualizing a dedicated Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab was to engage youth from the province to help inform, guide and rationalize their thought process about extremism and build their capacity to act as catalyst and initiate constructive change in their communities. YPAP is expected to provide an opportunity to the target youth to form a network and provide a platform for them to discuss their ideas directly with Punjab's legislators and policy makers as well as activating them in their communities. The effort is intended to also assist young members in understanding extremism and conflict and understand peace building through mediation, negotiation, and dialogue.

Mr. Inayat Ullah Lak, D.G. Parliamentary Research, Provincial Assembly of Punjab addressed the Members on **How Provincial Assembly Works?**

Elections were held on the first day of the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab session. **Mr. Mudassar Shahbaz** (YPAP-06-CHINIOT01) was elected as the Leader of the House through secret ballot held within the Blue Party while **Mr. Abdul Ahad** (YPAP-24-MULTAN01) was elected as the Leader of the Opposition within the Green Party. **Ms. Nimra Farooq** (YPAP-19-LAHORE03) was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab.

On the second day of the first session of the YPAP, The

Honourable Speaker, **Rana Muhammad Iqbal Khan** invited Members of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab to observe Assembly proceedings. He emphasised that the future leaders of Pakistan should be well versed about the Assembly proceedings, the legislation process. He highly encouraged to hold different sessions of the YPAP Members with the legislators of Punjab Assembly, which would be a good source of learning for both sides. He also encouraged the young people to work hard in their districts and identify key issues of their areas and the Punjab Government would work hand in hand with the youth of Punjab. Furthermore, the Honourable Speaker commended the efforts of PILDAT in involving youth in the democratic and political affairs training at the national as well as provincial levels.

The Members of the YPAP called on the Honourable Speaker November 12, 2016 at the Chief Minister's House in Lahore.

Honourable Provincial Minister of Youth Affairs Punjab, **Mr. Asif Saeed Manais**, MPA PML-N (PP-238, Vehari-VII) was also present at the occasion.

Talking about the youth policies introduced by the current Government in Punjab, he said that Punjab Youth Commission has been instituted with a vision to empower the youth in accordance with the provisions of the 2012 Punjab Youth Policy. Apart from this Youth Commission, the Punjab Government has also introduced small projects like Distribution of laptops on merit, Youth Internship Programme, E-Rozgar Scheme etc. that would equip the youth in the education and employment areas. Mr. Manais also appreciated PILDAT's initiative for providing a platform to the youth in making them understand the political setup of Pakistan. He said that forums like YPAP are generally more formalized and a sophisticated way to educate the youth instead of establishment of student unions in the educational



Oath of Deputy Speaker Youth Parliament

system.

Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehoob, President PILDAT/Secretary General Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab thanked the Honourable Speaker and Provincial Minister for giving an opportunity to the young members to interact with them.

During an early morning visit to the Planning and Development department of the Government of Punjab, Members had the opportunity to meet the Secretary P&D Department, **Mr. Iftikhar Ali Sahoo**. The Secretary briefed the Members about the Policy and implementation focus of the department. Emphasizing the importance of the vision of the department to see Punjab as a secure, economically vibrant, industrialized province

together with every citizen to lead a fulfilling life, he marked the achievements of the department during 3-years time. Talking specifically about the security of Punjab, he stressed that immense importance was being focussed on National Action Plan against terrorism and extremism, a specialized Counter Terrorism Force was established by the Punjab Government which is a separate entity from Police. There has been a continuous focus on comprehensive legislation for enforcement and prosecution and special emphasis is being laid on implementing institutional reforms in Punjab Police, Intelligence, Courts and prisons.

Later the P&D Department facilitated a visit of the Members to the Lahore Museum and briefed them about the historical significance of the place.

Mr. Shahid Hamid, Senior Constitutional Expert addressed the members on “An Overview of the Constitution of Pakistan with special emphasis on the 18th Amendment during a Module Speaker session. In another Speaker session, **Mr. Zafar Mahmood**, Former Chairman WAPDA briefed the Members on Water Resources & Agriculture.

The last day of the first session and first batch of YPAP will be held tomorrow concluding with a media briefing of the elected leaders of YPAP highlighting their learning and interactions during the 3-day session.

On the last day of the first session of Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab, a senior research fellow at the Centre for Governance and Policy, **Mr. Raheem Ul Haque** conducted an exclusive workshop on Countering Violent Extremism. The workshop explored the various dimensions of radicalization and extremism. In an extremely interactive session, Mr. Haque gave an insightful presentation backed by research and factual data on the causes of radicalization of youth in Pakistan generally, and Punjab especially.

In his discussion with the young Members, Mr. Haque traced the definition of extremism, moved to the types and kinds of extremism prevalent in the society, discussed the implications of each kind and the consequences. Furthermore, he differentiated between extremism of thought and action, and similarly the freedom of expression and freedom of action.

With various examples from contemporary world he explained the reasons behind Pakistan being one of the hotbeds of extremism and terrorism in the 21st century by delving into various social and historical perspectives. During the training session, Mr. Raheem Ul Haque compelled the young people to think and question, and encouraged them to disagree with him. He also identified the loss of identity in Punjabi youth especially as one of the leading causes of extremism. He said that the marginalization of Punjab identity and language is creating a void in the psychology of youth that is compelling them to seek refuge in extremist identity narratives. Mr. Haque ended the participatory session with the solutions for de-radicalization namely to engage with people of different identities, to celebrate the local identity and culture, to cultivate acceptance for different opinions, and to respect the dissent of others.

The first session of YPAP ended November 13, 2016 with an interaction with the media in the form of media talk. The elected leaders along with the Chairperson, Youth Standing Committee on Information were present at the media briefing session. **Mr. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob**, President PILDAT/Secretary General YPAP and **Mr. Faheem Ahmed Khan**, Senior Projects Manager were also part of the briefing session. They briefed the media about the major highlights of the



Mr. Saleem Safi addressing Youth Parliament Pakistan

session and the Members interaction with the Honourable Speaker, Punjab Assembly along with visits to the public offices.

The Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab met for its second session on November 23, 2016, where Youth Provincial Assembly Standing Committees on Law, Education, Information and Youth Affairs met with Committee Chairs and Members of the Provincial Assembly Punjab's Standing Committees on Education, Information and Law. Engineer. Qamar ul Islam Raja, Chairman Standing Committee on Education; Dr. Murad Rass, Member Standing Committee on Education; Mr. Akbar Hayat Hiraj, Member Standing Committee on Information and Culture, and Ms. Azma Zahid Bukhari, Member Standing Committee on Law were part of the interactive sessions. The YPAP Committee members discussed their reform proposals with Punjab MPAs and sought their input.

The YPAP Standing Committee on Information held a comprehensive discussion on the implementation of Punjab Right to Information Act 2013. Different aspects of the law were analyzed to suggest improvements public awareness among on active and effective use of their right to information. Similarly, the YPAP Standing Committee on Rule of Law discussed merits and demerits of Madressah reforms in the light of the National Action Plan in addition its implementation status in view of sectarian killings. Discussion on 21st Amendment also took place in the Committee meeting. The YPAP Youth Affairs Committee deliberated on Youth Affairs Policy 2010 as framed by UNESCO. The Committee discussed UNDP report in relevance to extremism along with Punjab Youth Affairs Policy. The YPAP Education Committee discussed different forms of governing bodies for madressas and their respective teaching induction methods. They also contemplated ways to achieve maximum result of school enrolment and

discussed practical reforms in budget allocation, in this regard.

Mr. Zafar Mehmood, former Secretary Education, addressed YPAP plenary on the subject of State of Education in Punjab. While discussing the situation of government schools and colleges in 21st century especially in remote areas of Punjab, he stressed the need to improve infrastructure of schools/Colleges, to ensure the merit base selection of teachers in government schools and to increase the qualification requirement for application for teachers in government schools. He further stressed upon the need to bridge the gap between level of education imparted in blue chip private schools and government schools. He also briefed the members on the current initiatives taken by the Punjab Government to improve the state of education in Punjab. He shared that the present Government has increased the budget spending on education and geo tagging of schools has also been done. The Government is also taking special measures to provide missing facilities in schools and the district levels. The session was followed by an intense question and answer session.

In order to engage the youth of Punjab to learn and experience the political and democratic setup of the Punjab province, PILDAT along with the Honourable Speaker's office facilitated a visit to the Punjab Assembly on November 24, 2016. Members were divided into groups to observe the proceeding of the on-going 25th session of the Provincial Assembly of the Punjab.

Mr. Zulfikar Ahmad Ghumman, Director General Sports Board of Punjab and **Mr. Muhammad Anees**, Director Administration, Sports Board of Punjab met with the young Members and briefed them about the working of the Punjab Sports Board. They also shared the initiatives by the Punjab Government and Punjab Sports Board of Youth's involvement in extracurricular activities.



MYPs during a meeting at ECP

Members of the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab interacted with the Punjab Sports Board D.G during a visit to the Sports Board.

The Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab Information Commission, **Mr. Mazhar Hussain Minhas** addressed the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab session. In this exclusive speaker session on Status of Right to Information in Punjab, Mr. Minhas discussed the RTI law and the process of implementation. He also gave a comparative analysis of KP and Punjab RTI laws. The Speaker Session ended with an interactive discussion on RTI.

In a plenary session, Members discussed and presented business on the floor of the House on

subjects including Reforms in the Education Sector, Madrasah and agricultural Reforms.

The 3rd and last day of the second session of YPAP will be held on November 25, 2016 in Lahore. The 3rd day will end with an exclusive workshop arranged for the young people on Countering Violent Extremism in Punjab.

Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly, Mian Mahmood ur Rasheed, MPA, addressed the Youth Provincial Assembly Punjab on November 25, 2017. He spoke to young members about the constructive role of the opposition and that of the Opposition Leader in the effective functioning of legislatures.

On the concluding day of the second session of YPAP, the Members underwent second session of the Workshop on countering violent extremism. Mr. Raheem UI Haque, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Public Policy & Governance at FC College University, shared with members the detailed contours of the National Action Plan and the role and responsibility of the Punjab province in its implementation. He pointed that the implementation of the NAP has been a major source of contention between the Military and the elected Government, with both trading barbs over who has done more in this regard. He shared that out of the 20 points of NAP, 15 are to be implemented at the provincial level, and with regards to these, Government of the Punjab has shared nearly negligible information in the public domain, which needs to change.

Speaking on the subject, Mr. Raheem UI Haque said that on January 09, 2015, Provincial Apex Committees were formed for better coordination at the provincial level with regards to implementation of the NAP. The Provincial Apex Committee of the Punjab has met 16 times to-date. On January 06, 2016, three Military Courts were formed in Punjab after the passage of the 21st Constitutional Amendment. Out of the 134 people sentenced by Military Courts, 37 people are from Punjab. With regards to curbing hate speech, Punjab has passed various laws such as the Punjab Sound System Regulation Ordinance, 2015. By June 2015, Punjab had also established a 2,000 strong Counter Terrorism Force, trained by the Army. Mr. Raheem UI Haque also addressed various points relating to madarassah reforms initiative by the Government of the Punjab.

PILDAT's Take on Key Issues

In addition to its work in various fields relating to strengthening of democracy and democratic institutions, PILDAT plays special focus on dissemination of its analysis through news media. While PILDAT perspective is covered through our analysis in news media in the shape of news stories, media analysis and talk shows, PILDAT publishes write op-eds on key issues. A list and synopsis of published news paper articles in this period is showcased below:

PILDAT expresses concern on delayed and flawed appointment of EC Members

Recognizing the importance of a robust electoral system, PILDAT expressed concern over the delay and legal discrepancy in the appointment of ECP members on July 27, 2016. According to PILDAT, the lethargy displayed by the Federal Government and the Speaker of the National Assembly in creating a parliamentary committee to appoint ECP members was disappointing and resulted in the ECP being dysfunctional for a full 43 days, thereby stalling all election related activities. PILDAT also pointed out that the appointment of the ECP members, once done, was also not in accordance with the constitution, as the parliamentary committee had not carried out any hearings, thereby not fulfilling all legal requirements. The same lapse had also occurred in 2011, when Syed Khurshid Shah - the then chair of the Parliamentary Committee – had acknowledged that this had been an oversight on part of the parliamentary committee. According to PILDAT, that such an oversight occurs yet again goes to show the lack of seriousness with which parliamentarians take their responsibility in delivering a free and fair election of the people.

PILDAT welcomes Supreme Court's landmark Judgment on Powers of the Cabinet

On August 19, 2016, PILDAT issued a statement commending Supreme Court's decision, which restored the Cabinet's 'pristine position' at being the heart of the Executive and the Constitutional Import of collective decision-making. The judgment specifically declared Rule 16 (2) of the Rules of Business of the Federal Government (giving the Prime Minister the power to bypass the Cabinet) as *ultra vires*, thereby preventing the country from the trap of falling into a Prime Ministerial dictatorship.

According to PILDAT, this was an immensely important step, as the Federal Cabinet has remained dormant and ineffective, driven only by the thrust of the PM office, meeting only 12% of the times it should've met. PILDAT believes that a trend has been set in political parties, which spill over into the government, where no meaningful consultation takes place.

AJK, President, Government & MLAs should 'lobby for Kashmir Cause' instead of Parliamentary Special Envoys: PILDAT

Concerned about the bout of humanitarian crises in Kashmir, PILDAT suggested that the best recourse for raising a voice on the Kashmir issue would be to utilize the newly elected government of AJK, as opposed to Pakistani parliamentarians. The GOP had constituted a special envoy of 20 parliamentarians for the matter, when there already existed a Special Commission on Kashmir, which has representation from 8 major political parties in Pakistan, and is headed by Maulana Fazlur Rahman, who is granted the same status as a Federal Minister. According to PILDAT, it would've been a far better use of resources to have reinvigorated the Special Commission, as opposed to creating a new envoy. PILDAT also pointed out that the special envoy created was even less representative than the Special Committee, which at least had representation from every party. This special envoy had 80% membership belonging to PMLN, with no representative from Balochistan at all.

PILDAT demands immediate removal of Mr. Cyril Almeida's name from ECL

On October 13, 2017, PILDAT issued a statement objecting strongly to Cyril Almeida's placement on the ECL, on grounds of such measures only being pressure tactics to coerce Almeida to reveal his sources. Almeida does not fall into any category (member proscribed organizations, accused drug trafficker, spy) introduced in new rules for the ECL in 2016 by Ch. Nisar Ali Khan, and PILDAT believes there should be serious investigation into the matter, as the breach puts a dent on official secrecy and trust between institutions. The Leaks Issue also highlights an entrenched divergence between civil-military leadership on how to conduct the affairs of the State with regards to our foreign policy (especially vis-à-vis India) and security policy.

Rising number of legislators fail to submit statements of assets and liabilities

337 out of 1174 (29%) Federal and Provincial Legislators defaulted on submission of statements of assets and liabilities by October 15 in 2016. The number surpasses percentage of defaulters in previous years. KP Assembly has the most defaulters this year, at 39%, closely followed by Punjab at 37%, then Sindh at 39%, and Balochistan at 21%. National Assembly fared slightly better at 19%. PILDAT called on leaders of political parties to hold their members accountable for this omission. The ECP also suspends membership of defaulting members.

Candidates should declare Foreign Residential Status when contesting election

On February 10, 2017, PILDAT commended work of Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reforms, but added a few proposals. A key proposal was a requirement for declaration of foreign residential status, as being a parliamentarian requires presence in Pakistan, and undivided attention. PILDAT opposed giving exemption to contributions of less than Rs. 100,000 from disclosing particulars of contributors, and called for greater transparency for political finance. PILDAT supported giving powers to ECP to scrutinize financial documents of candidate and opposed to airing of political adds on television channels, as that will make election campaigns expensive. ECP should further be allowed to make rules without approval of government, and rules for political parties should be streamlined. The proposed bill only gives 7 days for review of nomination papers to ECP, which is not enough. Importantly, Section 9 of the proposed bill, which stipulates a minimum percentage of the female vote cast for the election to be declared valid may be revisited. Rather, the elections bill should list as an offence to compel any person to vote or refrain from voting, directly or indirectly, through an agreement or otherwise, as originally stipulated under Section 81 of Representation of People Act, 1976. In addition, strong measures should be taken to enforce this.

PILDAT Honours Outgoing Information Commissioner

On April 28, 2017, PILDAT hosted a dinner in the honour of Information Commissioner of the Punjab Information Commission (PIC) Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Ali. The Punjab Transparency and Right to Information Act (PTRTIA) was passed in 2013, but implementation was a challenging task. PILDAT worked closely with Mr. Mukhtar, who was an important part of the movement, to improve access to information.

Continued low ranking of Pakistan in World Rule of Law index

On May 05, 2017, PILDAT issued a statement saying Pakistan ranked 106th amongst 113 countries in a World Rule of Law Index in 2016, which is a negligible improvement from 2015. PILDAT was concerned that Pakistan ranked the lowest amongst 6 SAARC countries on various parameters, including likelihood of prosecution of high-ranking officials for corruption. 78% Pakistanis would pay a bribe to process government permits, and that most people don't take action in case of dispute, and 72% of those who decide to take action, chose to take their issue to traditional, customary or local leader such as a Jirga, Biraderi or mullah instead of going to a court of law for resolution. In a pioneering effort, PILDAT also did a provincial Rule of Law Index on the format of WJP in 2016.

Articles Written by Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, President PILDAT

President PILDAT, Ahmed Bilal Mehboob writes regularly on political issues in Dawn. Following are his articles published in Dawn in the reporting period:

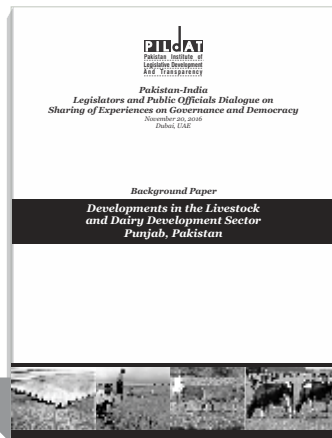
No.	Newspaper	Article Name	Date Published
1.	The Dawn	Is a commission enough?	July 04, 2016
2.	The Dawn	'Parliaments inertia on NAP	August 30, 2016
3.	The Dawn	Remember electoral reforms?	September 19, 2016
4.	The Dawn	Running the political engine	October 10, 2016
5.	The Dawn	One after another	October 16, 2016
6.	The Dawn	'Womens legislative performance	November 07, 2016
7.	The Dawn	How many ministers?	December 07, 2016
8.	The Dawn	Give LGs a chance	December 27, 2016
9.	The Dawn	Where are the women voters?	January 10, 2017
10.	The Dawn	Who pays for the brawls?	February 07, 2017
11.	The Dawn	Owning the fight	June 21, 2017
12.	The Dawn	The case of EVMs	April 17, 2017
13.	The Dawn	Voting from abroad	May 27, 2017
14.	The Dawn	Law to regulate budget	June 20, 2017



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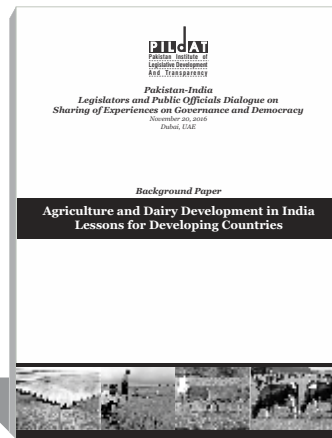
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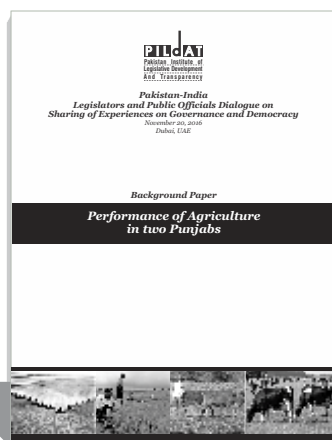
Development in the Livestock and Dairy Development Sector Punjab, Pakistan.

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English



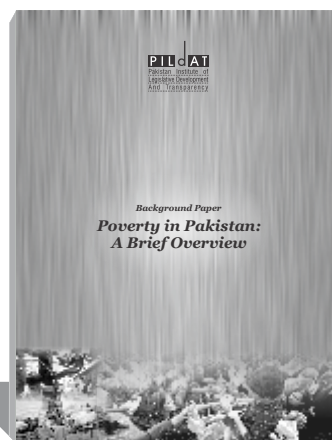
Agriculture and Dairy Development in India: Lessons for Developing Countries.

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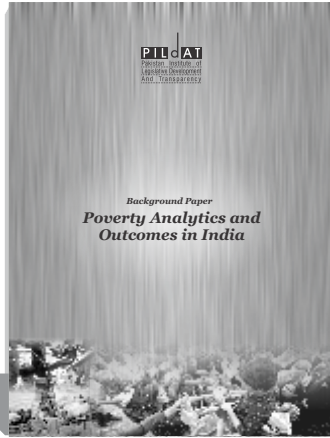
Performance of Agriculture in two Punjab

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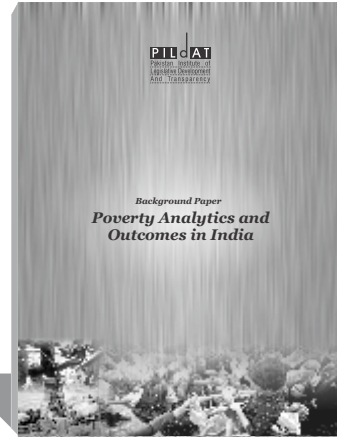
Poverty and Agriculture Development in India.

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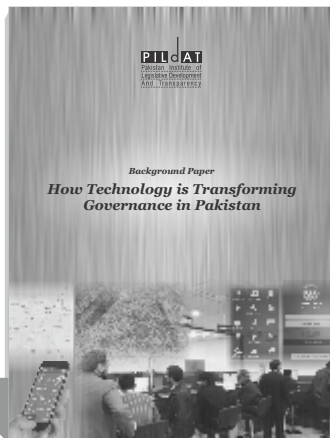
Poverty Analytics and outcomes in India

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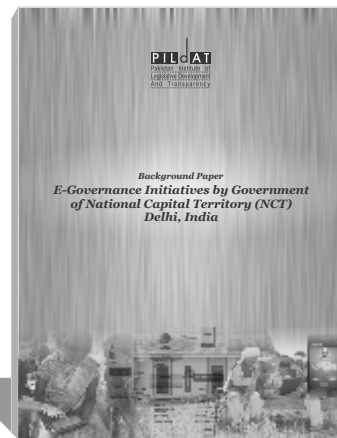
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How Technology is Transforming Governance in Pakistan.

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E-Governance Initiatives by Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) Delhi, India.

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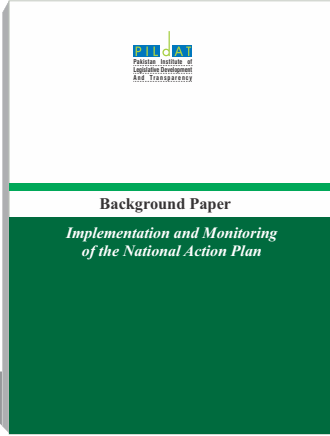


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And Transparency

Background Paper
**Harnessing Technology for
Better Governance:
The Indian Experience**

Harnessing Technology for Better
Governance: The Indian Experience.

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of the National Action Plan*

Implementation and Monitoring of the
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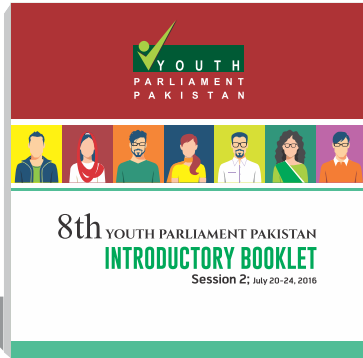
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اور ٹرانسپیرینسی

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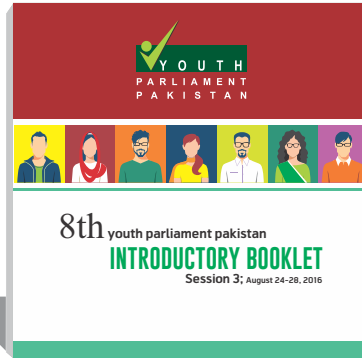
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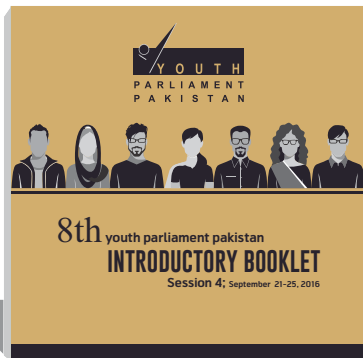
8th Youth Parliament Pakistan: Introductory Booklet. (Session-2, July 20-24, 2016)

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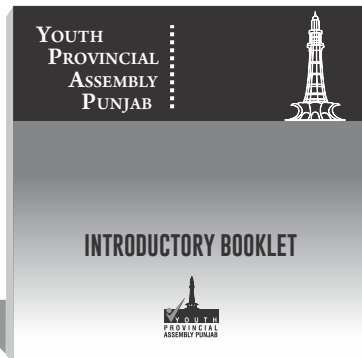
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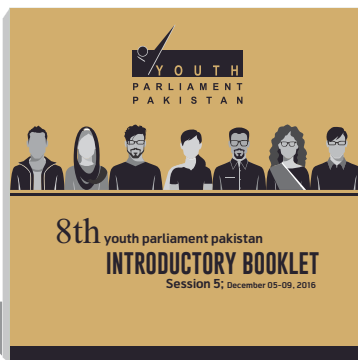
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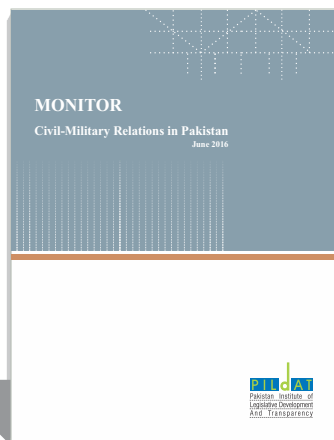
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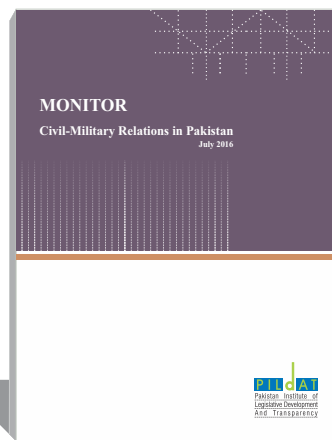
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Monitors



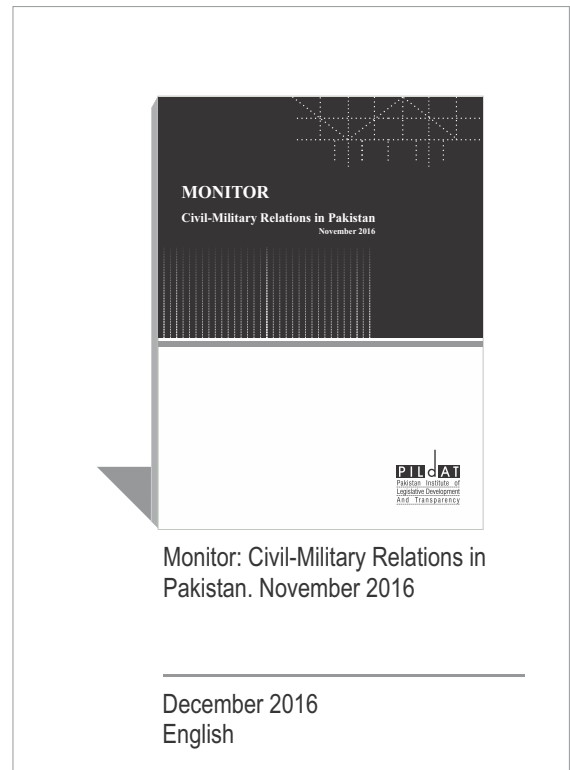
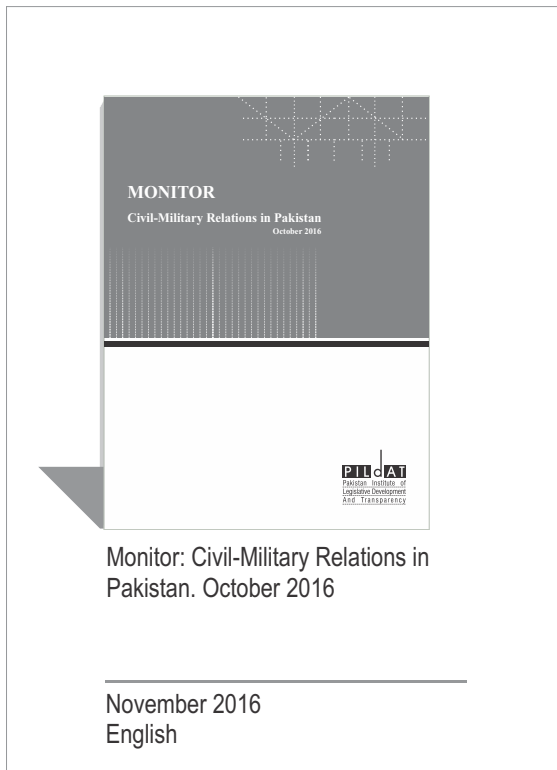
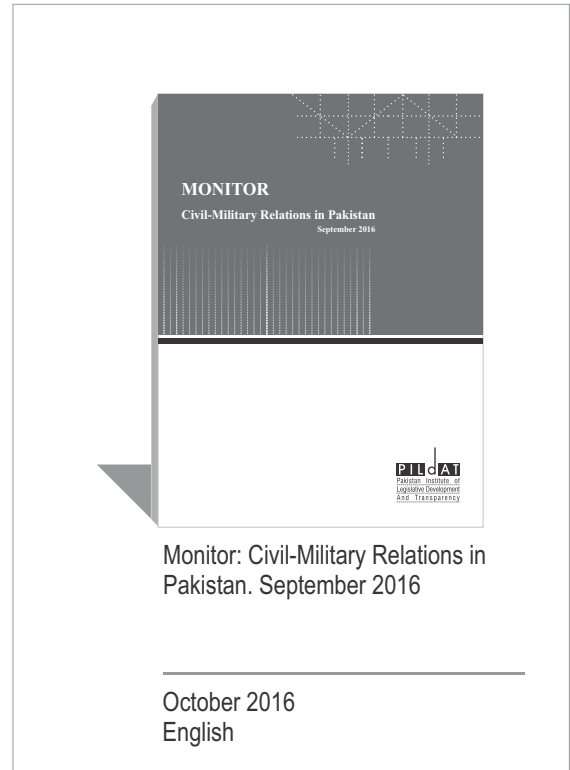
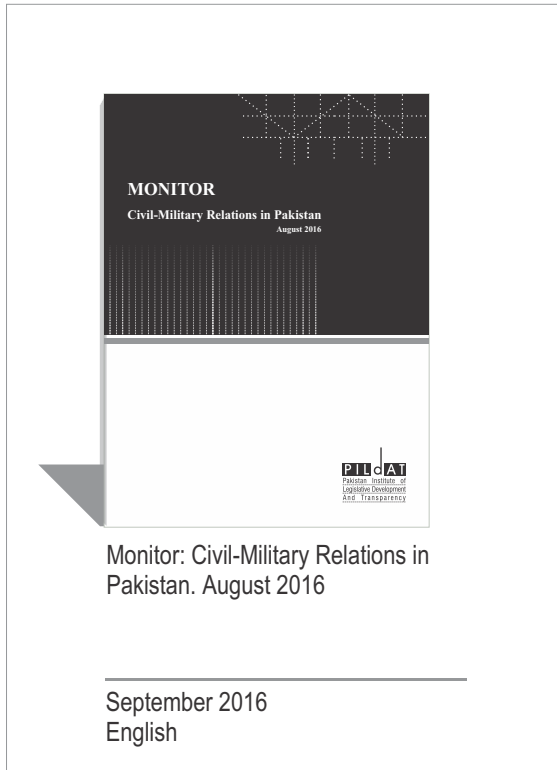
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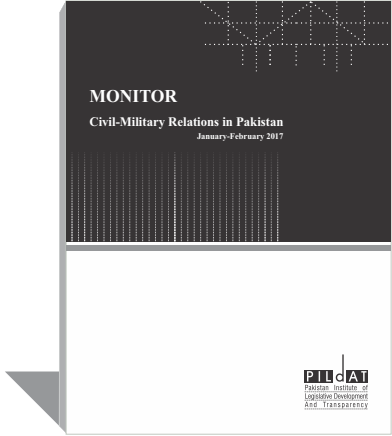


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جنوری-فروری 2017

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March 2017
Urdu

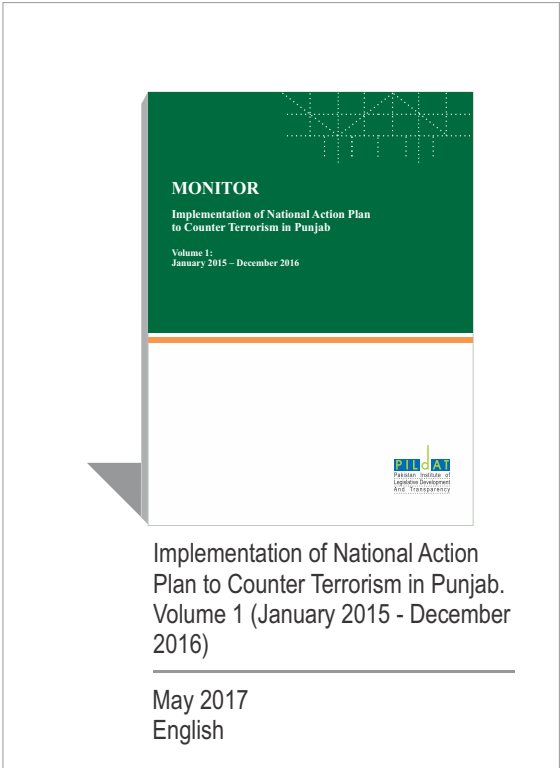
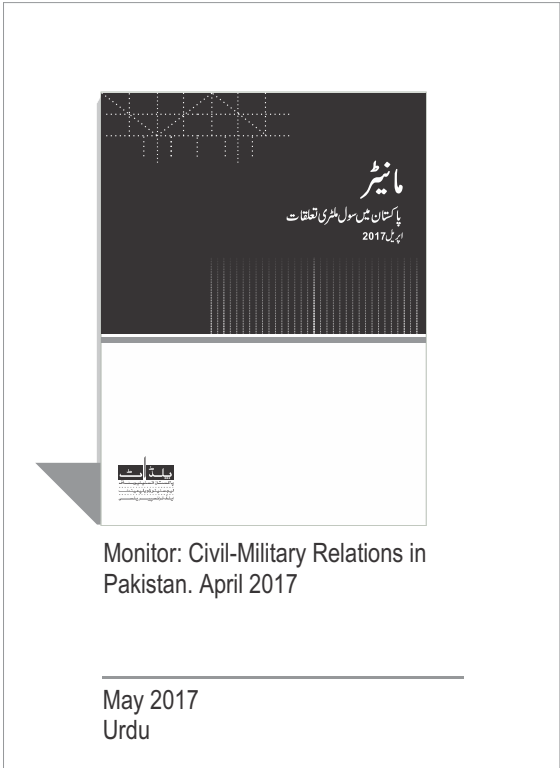
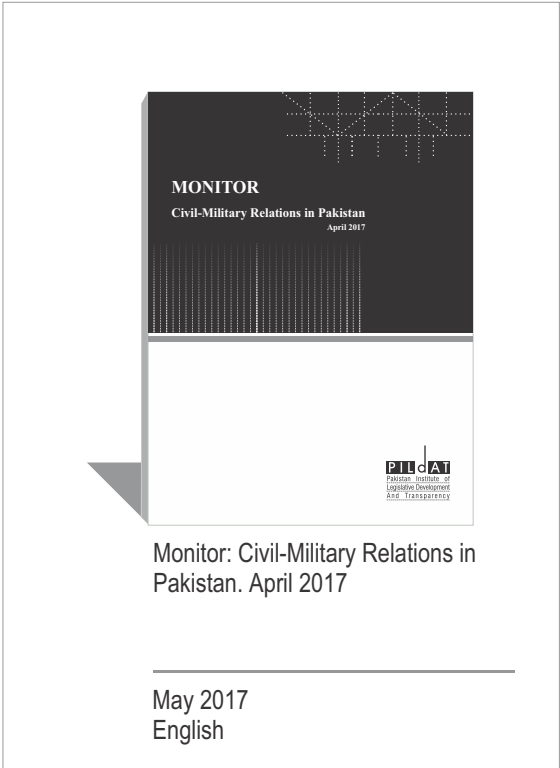
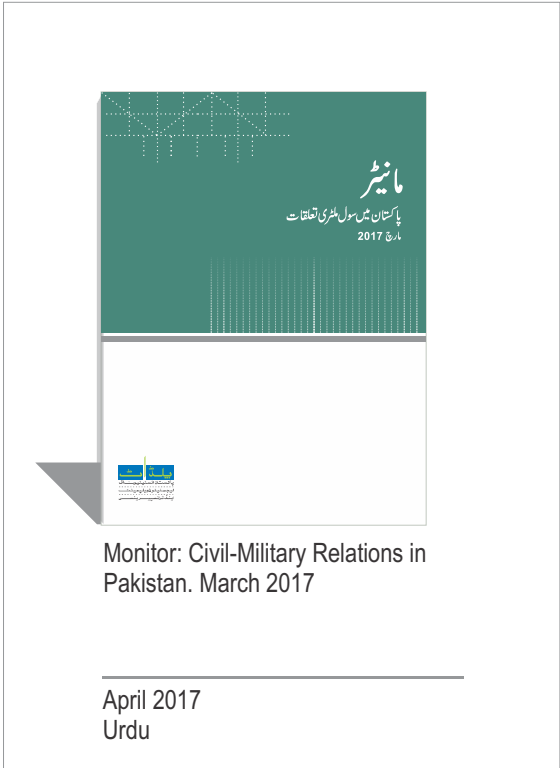



MONITOR
Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan
March 2017

PILDAT
Pakistan Institute of
Legislative Development
And Transparency

Monitor: Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. March 2017


April 2017
English






Implementation of National Action Plan to Counter Terrorism in Punjab. Volume 1 (January 2015 - December 2016)

May 2017
Urdu



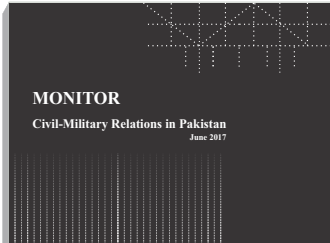
Monitor: Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. May 2017

June 2017
English



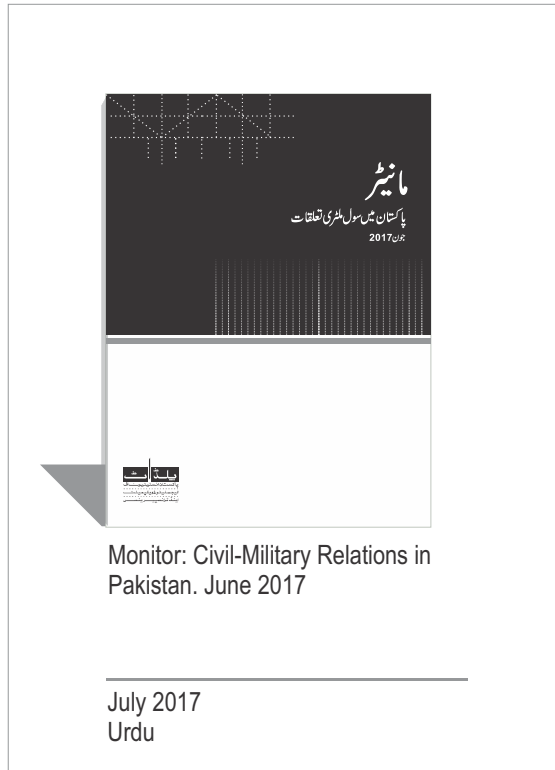
Monitor: Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. May 2017

June 2017
Urdu

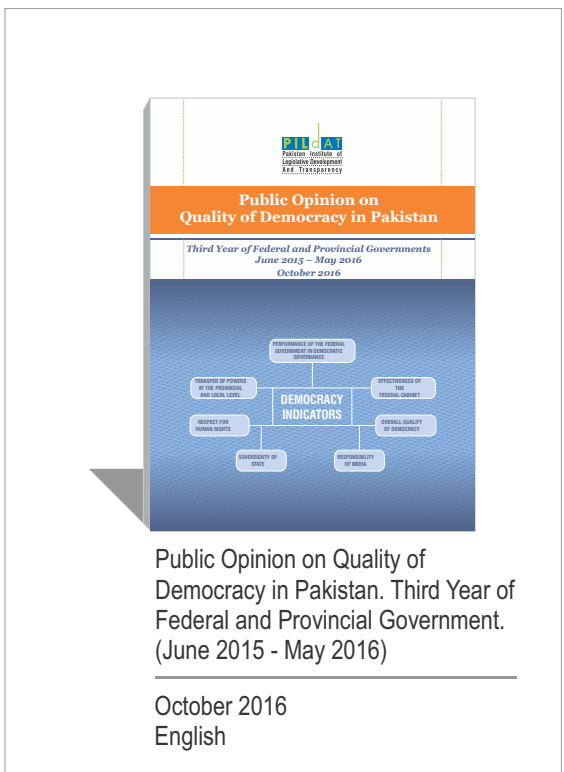
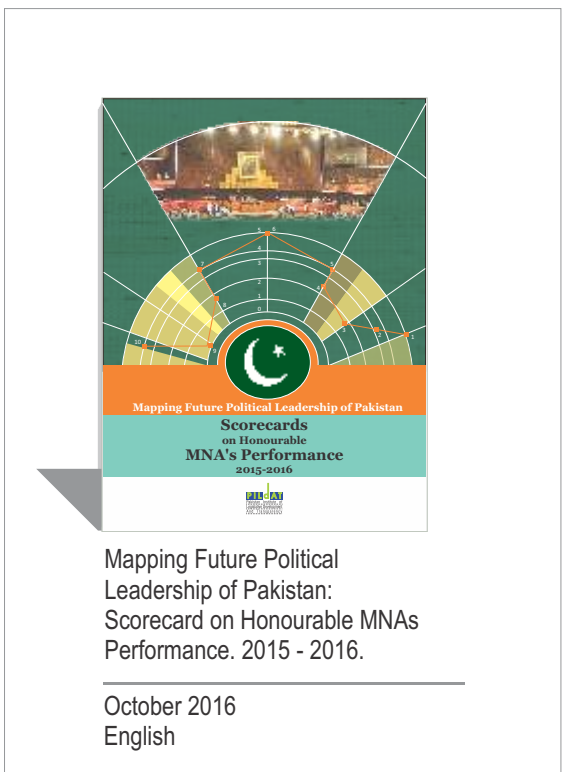



Monitor: Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. June 2017

July 2017
English



Report

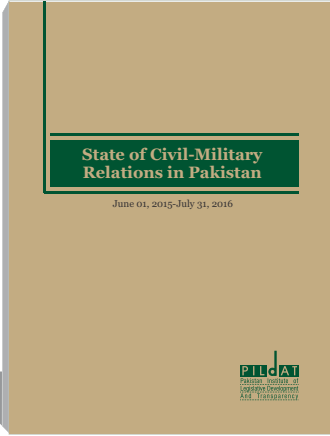




Public Opinion on Quality of Governance in Pakistan
 Third Year of Federal and Provincial Governments
 June 2015 - May 2016
 October 2016

Public Opinion on Quality of Governance in Pakistan. Third Year of Federal and Provincial Governments. (June 2015- May 2016) October 2016

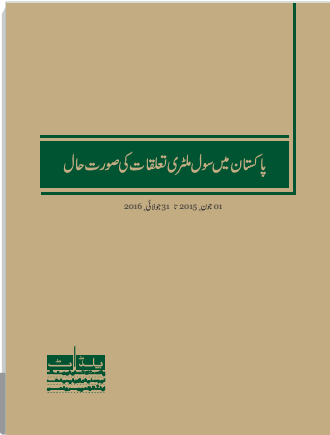
October 2016
 English



State of Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan
 June 01, 2015-July 31, 2016

State of Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. (June 01, 2015 - July 31, 2016)

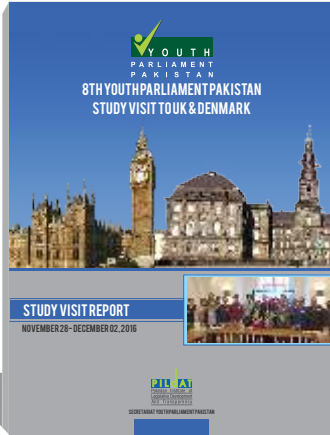
October 2016
 English



پاکستان میں سول ملٹری تعلقات کی صورت حال
 2015ء جولائی - 2016ء جولائی

State of Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan. (June 01, 2015 - July 31, 2016)

October 2016
 Urdu

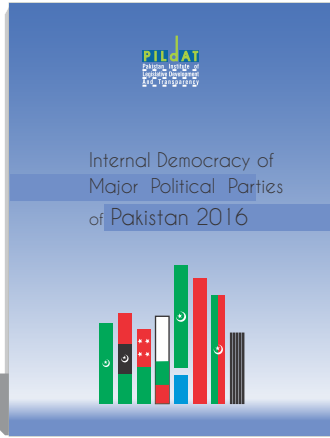


YOUTH PARLIAMENT PAKISTAN
 8TH YOUTH PARLIAMENT PAKISTAN
 STUDY VISIT TO UK & DENMARK

STUDY VISIT REPORT
 NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 02, 2016

8th Youth Parliament Pakistan Study Visit to UK & Denmark. (Study Visit Report November 28 - Dec 02, 2016)

January 2017
 English



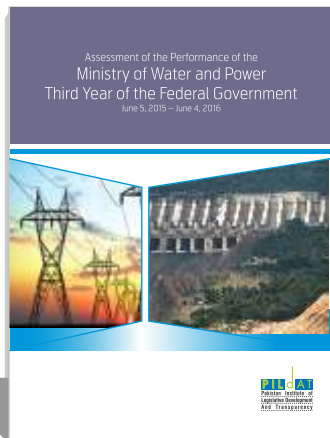
Internal Democracy of Major Political Parties of Pakistan: 2016.

January 2017
English



Assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan: 2016

January 2017
English



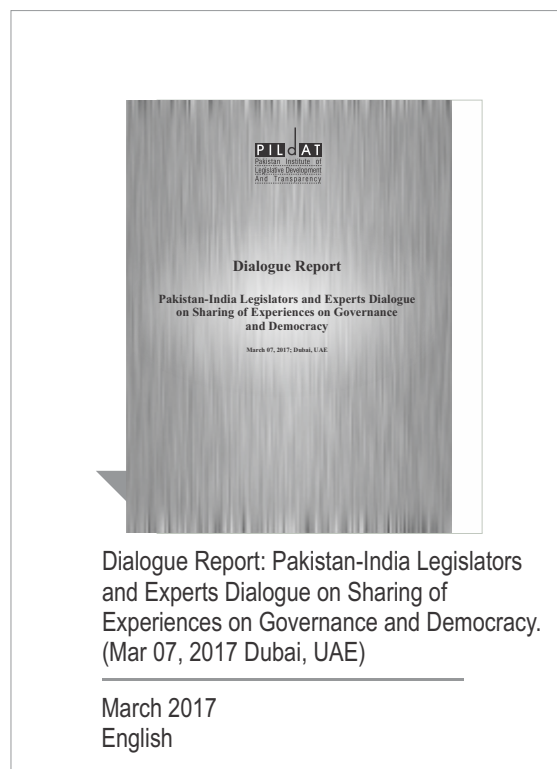
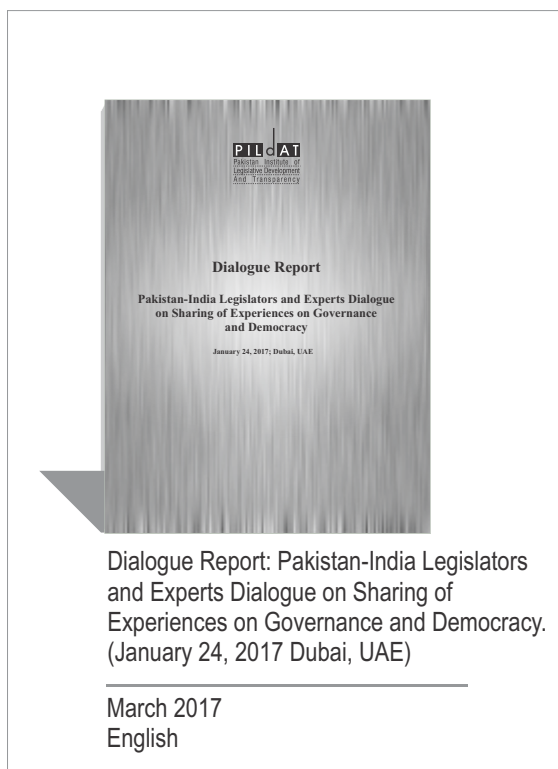
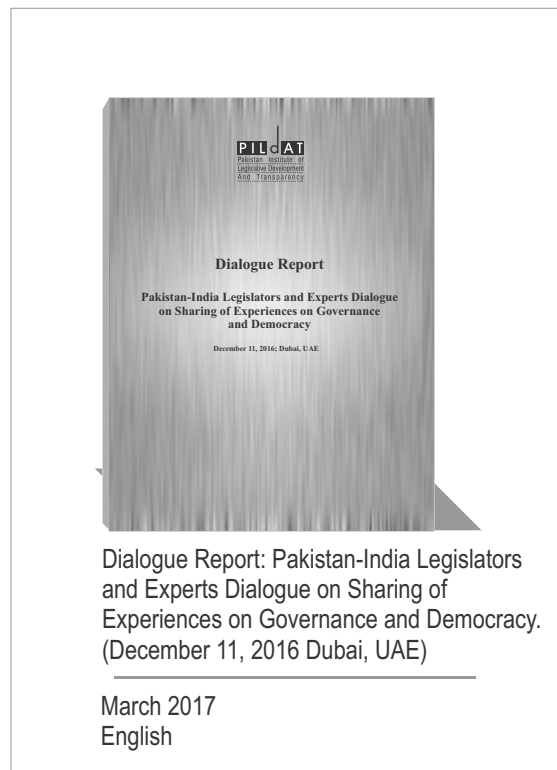
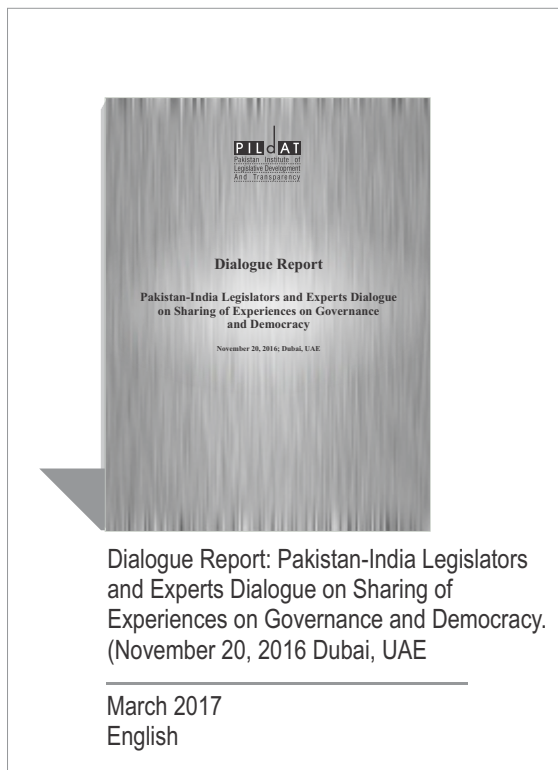
Assessment of the Performance of the Ministry of Water and Power: Third Year of the Federal Government. (June 5, 2015 - June 4, 2016)

February 2017
English



Assessment of the Performance of the Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination. (2014 - 2015)

February 2017
English





Public Policy and Political Parties:
One-day Capacity-Building Courses for
3-Major Political Parties of Pakistan:
PPP, PTI and PML-N.


June 2017
English



Public Policy and Political Parties:
One-day Capacity-Building Courses for
3-Major Political Parties of
Pakistan: PPP, PTI and PML-N.

June 2017
Urdu

Scorecards



Scorecard Assessment of the Quality of Governance Federal.
(Third Year of Governance 2015 - 2016)

February 2017
English



Scorecard Assessment of the Quality of Governance Balochistan.
(Third Year of Governance 2015 - 2016)

February 2017
English




Scorecard Assessment of the Quality of Governance Punjab. (Third Year of Governance 2015 - 2016)

February 2017
English



Scorecard Assessment of the Quality of Governance Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. (Third Year of Governance 2015 - 2016)

February 2017
English



Scorecard Assessment of the Quality of Governance Sindh. (Third Year of Governance 2015 - 2016)

February 2017
English



Auditors Report and Financial Statements

Nadeem Safdar & Co. **Chartered Accountants**

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Vip Square, I-8 Markaz
Islamabad, Pakistan
Direct: +92 (51) 8431604
Ph: +92 (51) 8431609
Email: nsafdar66@gmail.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency ("the Society"), which comprise of the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2017 and the income and expenditure account, statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in accumulated fund for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency as at June 30, 2017 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) issued by International Accounting Standard Board (IASB) as notified by the SECP.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the international Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibility of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

The management is responsible for the presentation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) issued by International Accounting Standard Board (IASB) as notified by the SECP, and for such internal control as the management determine is necessary to enable the presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operation, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with Governance are responsible for overseeing the Society as appropriate financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of Financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exist. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if,

Nadeem Safdar & Co. Chartered Accountants

individually or in the aggregated, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decision of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risk, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit In order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimate and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statement or, if such disclosure are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to date of our auditor's report. However, future events or condition may cause the Society's to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transaction and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Nadeem Safdar & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Engagement Partner: Nadeem Safdar


Date: **16 FEB 2019**
Islamabad

PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT JUNE 30, 2017

	Note	2017 (Rupees)	2016
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment	5	111,625,765	116,518,116
Intangible assets	6	1	33,691
		111,625,766	116,551,807
CURRENT ASSETS			
Loans and advances	7	1,579,051	267,682
Deposit and short term prepayments	8	1,141,259	1,368,581
Advance tax		1,134,000	7,414,519
Receivable from donors		-	2,873,733
Cash and bank balances	9	6,830,668	631,618
		10,684,978	12,556,133
TOTAL ASSETS		122,310,744	129,107,940
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
FUND			
Accumulated fund		69,862,026	85,160,200
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred grants	10	4,033,765	-
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payable	11	48,414,953	43,947,740
		48,414,953	43,947,740
TOTAL LIABILITIES		52,448,718	43,947,740
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		122,310,744	129,107,940
CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS	12		

The annexed notes from 1 to 20 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, 2017**

	Note	2017 (Rupees)	2016
Income	13	114,612,381	227,786,744
Expenditure			
Workshop and seminar expenses	14	60,520,200	149,670,187
Operational support service and administrative expenses	15	69,323,552	92,586,314
Finance costs	16	66,803	148,616
		129,910,555	242,405,117
(Deficit) for the year		(15,298,174)	(14,618,373)

The annexed notes from 1 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Secretary General

PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		(Rupees)	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
(Deficit) for the year		(15,298,174)	(14,618,373)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		6,990,247	5,953,433
Amortization of intangible		33,690	96,280
Loss on disposal of property and equipment		183,979	137,370
Finance costs		66,803	148,616
		<u>7,274,719</u>	<u>6,335,699</u>
Cash used in operations before working capital changes		(8,023,455)	(8,282,674)
Working capital changes:			
Decrease in loans and advances		(1,311,369)	7,112,092
Decrease/(increase) in deposits and short term prepayments		227,322	(26,467)
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables from donors		2,873,733	(2,873,733)
Increase in trade and other payable		4,467,213	28,993,758
		<u>6,256,899</u>	<u>33,205,650</u>
Cash (used in)/generated from operations		(1,766,556)	24,922,976
Finance costs paid		(66,803)	(148,616)
Income tax paid		(1,134,000)	-
Adjustment against advance tax		7,414,519	82,745
Net cash from operating activities		<u>4,447,160</u>	<u>24,857,105</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Additions to property and equipment		(6,356,375)	(81,929,498)
#REF!		-	47,848,665
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment		4,074,500	136,000
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(2,281,875)	(33,944,833)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Increase/(decrease)in deferred grant		4,033,765	(8,684,454)
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities		<u>4,033,765</u>	<u>(8,684,454)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		6,199,050	(17,772,182)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		631,618	18,403,800
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	9	<u>6,830,668</u>	<u>631,618</u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Secretary General

Closing Cash and Cash equivalents


Difference

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPARENCY
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

	(Rupees)
Balance as at July 01, 2015 - as restated	99,778,573
Deficit for the year	(14,618,373)
Balance as at June 30, 2016	<u>85,160,200</u>
Balance as at July 01, 2016	85,160,200
Deficit for the year	(15,298,174)
Balance as at June 30, 2017	<u><u>69,862,026</u></u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.


Secretary General


Chairman



Islamabad Office:

P. O. Box 278, F-8, Postal Code: 44220, Islamabad, Pakistan

Lahore Office:

P. O. Box 11098, L.C.C.H.S, Postal Code: 54792, Lahore, Pakistan

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