



SENATE OF PAKISTAN

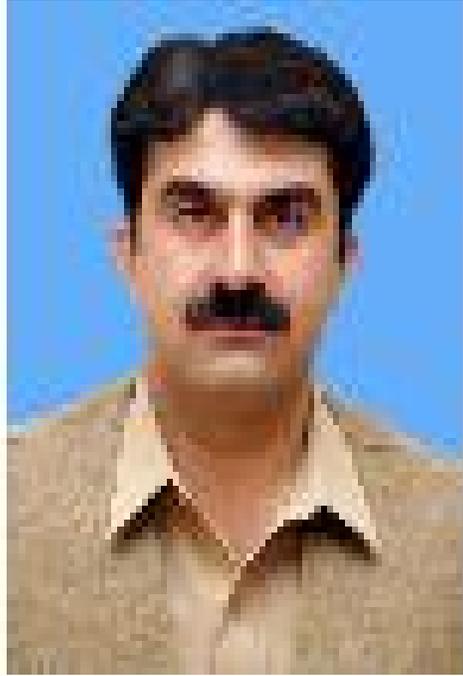


REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES

**FOR THE PERIOD
FROM FEBRUARY 2014 TO FEBRUARY 2015**

Presented by
SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI
Chairman

Ghulam Murtaza
Joint Secretary/Secretary Committee



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI
Honourable Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Communications & Postal Services

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PREFACE

I have the honour to present 2nd report of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications & Postal Services. During the period under report, the Committee has so far held twenty one meetings and deliberated upon various matters of public importance relating to the Ministries of Communications and Postal Services Divisions. Visits of the roads were also conducted by the Committee.

The honourable Members of this Committee deserve appreciation and gratitude for their cooperation coupled with active participation in the meetings and sharing their valuable wisdom in highlighting the real issues being faced by the Ministry & the Public. Furthermore resolve of the Honourable Members of the Committee to provide their assistance towards resolution of various issues relating to the Ministry concerned is also praiseworthy. I acknowledge their contribution and calibre through which the Committee has successfully played the supervisory and effective role through recommendations for bringing improvement in the remaining grey areas which could not be touched during the previous report (June 2012 – February 2014) for various reasons.

I have no other option but to acknowledge services of Mr. Ghulam Murtaza, Secretary Committee, my personal staff and all others, for providing input in holding of the Committee meetings in an amicable manner. Mr.Sanaullah Khan, Director Staff also deserves admiration for his valuable contribution to make the second report presentable.

I am sure circulation of this report will certainly prove more beneficial for the Committee System of the Senate of Pakistan in the larger interest of the country as also the public and usher in new vistas for further improving working and performance of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications and Postal Services.

The cooperation of the Ministry of Communications and officials of NHA, Motorways Police and Postal Services to implement the recommendations forwarded by the Committee for strict compliance has also been cordial during the period under report. It is hoped that the Ministry concerned will follow the recommendations of the Committee in letter and spirit to overcome the deficiencies as brought to light during this period in the best interest of the public in future also.

(SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI)
Chairman Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is considered view that the performance of every system has to be watched through some viable modes and on the basis of that analogy, in democracy; committees have their vital role to play. Generally investigation, scrutiny and supervision of the affairs & cases of concerned ministries as well as divisions are the ambit of the Committee. In addition, mechanism for the legislation process is a prime task of the Committees.

The Senate Standing Committee for Communication and Postal Services which has been headed by the Honorable Senator Mr. Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai Advocate since 2012, according to Schedule 1, Rule 3(1) which deals with issues relating to the Ministry of Communication. This Ministry plays an important role in the national economy by ensuring safe and smooth journey on highways and motorways; researching road engineering, building management and expanding national road networks throughout the country with provision of postal service in consonance with the modern day requirements. The Ministry concerned takes steps by prioritizing development projects and operational activities according to national needs for boosting the economy by improving monitoring and implementation policy.

The Senate Standing Committee on Communication and Postal Services held several meetings during the period from Feb 2014 to Feb 2015. Likewise the previous period, the Committee touched various sensitive issues as laid down in Rule 140(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Senate, 1988 and formulated recommendations in the light of views as advanced by the Honourable Members of the Committee.

The Committee has observed with concern that despite efforts and recommendations of the Committee, the Ministry has tried to maintain status quo resulting in misuse of power for vested interests brushing aside the public interest. The Committee, therefore, mainly stuck to its supervisory role in order to disentangle such state of affairs and minimise misuse of the excessive power resulting in temptation to corruption. The Committee asserted to avoid abuse of powers and checked functions of the Ministry in its meeting to stop violations and negligence apparent in its institutions. Consequently this attitude hurts the interests of the people. Therefore it is imperative that the State Institutions should play their role as enshrined in the Constitution and according to the rule of law. The Committee has further emphasized relevant ministry to execute its functions in stipulated framework and develop a foolproof and fault-free mechanism.

The Committee endeavored to point out alleged mal-practices, financial bungs and undue delay in projects of strategic and public welfare nature from time to time. It further kept on stressing transparency and rule of law in entities in the domain of Ministry of Communication & Postal services which may prove helpful to mitigate the problems of the public to a great extent.

Highlighted below are the Important issues taken up Standing Committee on Communications & Postal Services and the recommendations by it

National Highway Authority (NHA)

Important Recommendations of the Committee are:-

- The Committee sent proposals for the proposed Pakistan China Economic Corridor and asserted that it should touch backwards areas of KPK and Balochistan for providing job and business opportunities to the locals.
- Appointments in NHA on deputation discouraged and stressed to hire services of deputationists only on extreme need basis.
- Promotion of Members B-20 to B-21 remained main topic of various meetings and it is hoped that it will be resolved soon through sincere efforts by the Committee.
- The Committee gave priority to make NHA an institution which may provide relief to public at least through safe and smooth road infrastructure throughout the country
- The Committee appreciated the efforts made by the NHA to commence projects on BOT basis which will surely allay the burden on national exchequer.
- Maintenance work either periodical or routine, has been directed to be completed keeping in mind the quality of work for the safety of roads.
- With the efforts of Committee, a General Manager NHA has been assigned the duties to execute the jobs at provincial level without delay thereby easing the work load on HQs.
- The Committee took notice of NHA road network especially in Balochistan and recommended early execution of N-85 and M-8
- It watched foreign funded projects like N-25(through USAID) N-50 and N-70 (through ADB), so that these roads may be completed/repared at the earliest for public interest
- The Committee remained in constant touch with removal of illegal encroachments in the service area of River Indus.
- Escalation charges as allowed by the Planning & Dev but later on withdrawn, were recovered from the contractors.
- P&D and Finance division were advised to release the appropriate funds on priority basis for timely completion of ongoing projects in time.
- The Committee appreciated new projects like M-9, Lahore-Karachi motorways etc

- As a result of efforts of the Committee, Lowari Tunnel project caught pace and it has been recommended that the same may be completed at the earliest to avoid further increase in cost.
- Overloading which causes deterioration of roads, thoroughly discussed and measures proposed for the safety of roads network in the country.
- Toll plazas remained an important issue during the period under report and it was directed to auction toll plazas through open bids and success is visible in this direction
- Recruitments in Motorways Police have been recommended especially in Balochistan to control traffic violation. It has further been advised to observe quota for recruitment strictly.
- Since almost all major projects are being executed through FWO, therefore, security problem has minimized in the province.
- E-Tagging system at toll some plaza (s) has been started and it hoped that it will be operational soon throughout the country. It has further been recommended that loopholes in E-Tag may be removed on urgent basis.
- The Committee has been able in giving a comprehensive and uniform policy regarding award of access to the Housing Societies on Motorways.
- Visits have been carried out in Interior Sindh and KPK roads with Takhtbai Bridge to take stock of the on-ground position. The Committee recommendations to this effect.

Postal Services

- The Committee advised the Postal Department to make it entity profitable and able to compete with other private couriers in the presence of a large of human resource.
- Despite Committee's recommendations, Postal Services Department has only been able to provide only 4 services out of 7 necessary services in 83 GPOs for the up gradation. Furthermore computerization of 3000 post offices throughout the country has not yet been achieved but hoped it may become profitable by June 2015.
- Proposals were floated by the Committee for fixation of rents for properties owned by the Pakistan Post which may prove a source additional income for the Department.
- New recruitments in Postal Service have been examined during the period under report and regularization process of Daily wages/contract/contingent/deceased quota also checked. Pakistan Post directed to follow the quota as also merit during the whole process of recruitment and regularization.
- Recruitment of 171 posts under Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e –Balochistan remained key agenda item of many meetings and it is hoped that these posts will be filled soon on merit.
- Issues of Postal Life Insurance and the Post Foundation caught attention of the Committee and fruitful proposal were advanced by the Committee for the increase of income from PLI. Pakistan post foundation was advised to make it profitable entity for increase in the income of Pakistan Post on permanent basis.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS & POSTAL SERVICES (COMPOSITION)

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai | Chairman |
| 2. Senator Islamuddin Shaikh | Member |
| 3. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| 4. Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel | Member |
| 5. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | Member |
| 6. Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri | Member |
| 7. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar | Member |
| 8. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| 9. Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| 10. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz | Member |
| 11. Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan | Member |
| 12. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini | Member |
| 13. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqub Khan Nasir | Member |
| 14. Mr.Ghulam Murtaza, | Secretary Committee |

PROFILE OF THE SENATORS

Advocate Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai



Name	Advocate Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai
Tenure	March 2012 to March 2018
Province	Balochistan
Party	Awami National Party (ANP)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator
Oath -Taking Date	12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name	Ghulam Sarwar Khan Pir Ali Zai
Contact Detail	0519223964/9022664 Cell 03008380345 Fax 0519223975
Home Number	081-2843116
Fax Number	081-2843116
Gender	Male
Local Address	109-J, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	H.No.A-1, Sahib Banglows, Tufail Road, Quetta Cantt.

Political Career

Has been associated with politics since student life and affiliated with ANP since start of his political career. Worked in various capacities for his Party and presently watching party affairs as Provincial Secretary General, ANP Balochistan.

Committee (s)

[Communications and Postal Services \(Chairperson Committee\)](#)
[Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage \(Member\)](#)
[Law and Justice \(Member\)](#)
[Defence Production \(Member\)](#)

Islamuddin Shaikh (Chief Whip)



Name	Islamuddin Shaikh
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Sindh
Party	Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Ex-Chief Whip

Personal Information

Contact Detail	0519201491/9022505
Home Number	021-5840150 , 071-5623878
Mobile Number	0300-8222406/03338222406
Email	islamuddin.shaikh@senate.gov.pk
Gender	Male
Local Address	H.No.613, St-30, G-10/2, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	H.No.C-416/2, Upper Queens Road, Sukkur House, Sukkur.

Committee (s)

[Rules of Procedures and Privileges \(Member\)](#)
[Communications & Postal Services \(Member\)](#)
[Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs Statistics and Privatization \(Member\)](#)
[Commerce](#)
[Finance Committee \(Member\)](#)

Muhammad Zahid Khan



Name Muhammad Zahid Khan
Tenure March 2009 to March 2015
Province Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Party Awami National Party (ANP)
Seat Description General
Designation Senator

Personal Information

Office Number 051-5472730
Home Number 0945-883866
Mobile Number 0300-5223387
Email muhammad.zahid.khan@senate.gov.pk
Gender Male
Local Address F-410, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address Village Wadigram Lower Dir, Distt. Lower Dir.

Political Career

Has been affiliated with ANP and presently overseeing party affairs as Secretary Information ANP

Committee (s)

[Water and Power \(Chairperson Committee\)](#)
[Communications \(Member\)](#)
[Information Technology and Telecommunication \(Member\)](#)
[Parliamentary Affairs \(Member\)](#)

Engr. Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel



Name	Engr. Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Balochistan
Party	Independent (IND)
Seat Description	Technocrats Including Ulema
Designation	Senator

Personal Information

Contact Detail

Home Number	021-34542072-74
Mobile Number	0345-9133333
Email	hamayun.khan.mandokhel@senate.gov.pk
Gender	Male
Local Address	Room No. 21, 2nd Floor, Former US-Aid Building, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	i.H.No.40, Lane 26, Opp:Khayaban-e-Jame, Phase VII, DHA Karachi. ii.47-D, 48th Street, Block-6, PECHS, Karachi.

Committee (s)

[Cabinet Secretariat \(Member\)](#)

[Communications \(Member\)](#)

[Water and Power \(Member\)](#)

[Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization \(Member\)](#)

Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo



Name	Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Balochistan
Party	National Party (NP)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator

Personal Information

Contact Detail

Mobile Number	0300-9231347
Email	hasil.khan.bizenjo@senate.gov.pk
Gender	Male
Local Address	E-207, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	Tehsil Nal, District Khuzdar.

Committee (s)

[Communications \(Member\)](#)
[Ports and Shipping \(Member\)](#)
[States and Frontier Regions \(Member\)](#)
[Senate House Committee \(Member\)](#)
[Defence Production \(Member\)](#)

Academic Career

Qualification	M.A
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Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri



Name	Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Balochistan
Party	Jamiatul-Ulema-e-Islam (F)
Seat Description	Technocrats Including Ulema
Designation	Senator

Personal Information

Contact Detail

Office Number	051-9202881
Home Number	051-9222434,084-4210209, 081-2822233
Mobile Number	0300-5247488,0300-5083277
Email	abdul.ghafoor.haideri@senate.gov.pk
Gender	Male
Local Address	211-G, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	Jamia Islamia Shah Waliullah, Kalat, Balochistan. ii. Jamia Masjid, Postal Colony, Quetta.

Committee (s)

[Foreign Affairs](#)(Member)
[Communications & Postal Services](#) (Member)
[Water and Power](#) (Member)
[Finance Committee](#) (Member)

Academic Career

Qualification	M.A (Islamiyat)
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Rozi Khan Kakar



Name Rozi Khan Kakar
Tenure March 2012 to March 2018
Province Balochistan
Party Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P)
Seat Description Technocrats Including Ulema
Designation Senator
Oath Taking Date 12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name Haji Sulaiman Khan
Mobile Number 0300-8382707
Email rozikhankakar@yahoo.com
Gender Male
Local Address Suit # A-309, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address H.No 513/115 Sirki Road Quetta .

Committee (s)

[Communications & Postal Services \(Member\)](#)
[Petroleum and Natural Resources \(Member\)](#)
[Education, Training & Standards in Higher Education \(Member\)](#)
[Functional Committee on Problems of Less Developed Areas \(Member\)](#)

Academic Career

Qualification MA, LLb

Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari



Name	Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari
Tenure	March 2012 to March 2018
Province	Punjab
Party	Independent (IND)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator
Oath Taking Date	12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name	Sardar Rafique Ahmad Khan Leghari
Home Number	042--35894256
Mobile Number	0300-8454445
Gender	Male
Local Address	C-308, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	345-Z, Phase-III, DHA, Lahore Cantt.

Committee (s)

[Communications & Postal Services \(Member\)](#)
[Information Technology and Telecommunication \(Member\)](#)
[Water and Power \(Member\)](#)
[Functional Committee on Human Rights \(Member\)](#)

Qualification

Certification in Financial Markets from Securities Institute of Australia.
Post graduate Diploma in Applied Economics from University of the Punjab.

Kamil Ali Agha



Name	Kamil Ali Agha
Tenure	March 2012 to March 2018
Province	Punjab
Party	Pakistan Muslim League (PML)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator
Oath Taking Date	12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name	Agha Ahmed Ali Khan
Home Number	042-37147922
Mobile Number	0300 & 0321-9445119
Fax Number	042-37147924
Gender	Male
Local Address	G-204, Parliament House Islamabad.
Permanent Address	10, Humanyoun Street-1, Bilal Gunj, Lahore.

Committee (s)

[Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage \(Chairperson Committee\)](#)
[Cabinet Secretariat \(Member\)](#)
[Communications \(Member\)](#)
[Railways \(Member\)](#)

Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz



Name Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz
Tenure March 2012 to March 2018
Province Sindh
Party Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P)
Seat Description General
Designation Senator
Oath Taking Date 12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name Ghulam Haider Dhamrah
Mobile Number 03032456615, 03333414372, 03345177267, 03125777300
Gender Male
Local Address A-03, Block 'A' Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address Dhaamrah Manzil, Jamia Masjid Usmania, P/O: Shapur Chakar, Tlauka
Shadapur, District Sanghar.

Committee (s)

[Communications & Postal Services \(Member\)](#)
[Railways \(Member\)](#)
[Interior and Narcotics Control \(Member\)](#)
[Inter-Provincial Coordination \(Member\)](#)
[Senate House Committee \(Member\)](#)

Nisar Muhammad Khan



Name	Nisar Muhammad
Tenure	March 2012 to March 2018
Province	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Party	Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator
Oath Taking Date	12-03-2012

Personal Information

Father's Name	Awdal Muhammad
Home Number	091-5841799
Mobile Number	0331-9311188, 0333-9311188,0332-9991113
Gender	Male
Local Address	J-208, Parliament Lodges, Islamabad.
Permanent Address	Office No-I, 3rd Floor Jawad University Road, Peshawar.

Committee (s)

[Communications & Postal Services \(Member\)](#)
[Water and Power \(Member\)](#)
[Functional Committee on Problems of Less Developed Areas \(Member\)](#)
[Planning and Development \(Member\)](#)

Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini



Name	Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Balochistan
Party	Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarian (PPP-P)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator
In Vice Of	Mir Wali Muhammad Badini

Personal Information

Office phone	0519223972/9022672 Cell # 03008381677 Fax 0519223975
Gender	Male
Permanent Address	C-63 Railway Housing Society, Quetta.

Committee (s)

[Functional Committee on Problems of Less Developed Areas \(Chairperson Committee\)](#)

[Cabinet Secretariat \(Member\)](#)

[Communications \(Member\)](#)

[Planning and Development \(Member\)](#)

Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir



Name	Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir
Tenure	March 2009 to March 2015
Province	Balochistan
Party	Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)
Seat Description	General
Designation	Senator

Personal Information

Gender	Male
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<u>Committee (s)</u>	Communications & Postal Services (Member) Ports and Shipping (Member) States and Frontier Regions (Member) Commerce and Textile Industry (Member)
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Secretary Committee

Ghulam Murtaza



Designation / Post: Joint Secretary

Gender: Male

Home Phone: 9258863

Office Phone: 9212636

Mobile Phone: 03335137037

- Experience/ Courses:**
- Obtained Training Certificate in Human Resource Management in 2008, National Institute of Management (NIM), Karachi.
 - Got many trainings/courses from various institutions. Attended 8th Senior Management Course at NIPA, Lahore.
 - Served in almost all branches of the Senate in various capacities. Attended international seminars / conferences along-with Parliamentary delegations. Served as Secretary of Standing/Functional Committees on Labour and Manpower, Religious Affairs, Zakat & Usher, Population Welfare, Sports & Tourism, Less Development Areas, etc.
 - Presently serving as Secretary Committees of the Standing Committees on Communications, Cabinet Secretariat, Information and Broadcasting & National Heritage and Specially Functional Committee on Human Rights.
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**Meetings of the Senate Standing Committee
On Communications & Postal Services (Pictorial
View)**



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON FEBRUARY 06, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON FEBRUARY 14, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON FEBRUARY 20, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON FEBRUARY 28, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON MARCH 14, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON MARCH 31, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON APRIL 10, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON MAY 2, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON MAY 28, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON JUNE 23, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS & POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON JULY 11, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON JULY 21, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON AUGUST 04, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTAL SERVICES, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON OCTOBER 10, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON NOVEMBER 21, 2014.



SENATOR MUHAMMAD DAUD KHAN ACHAKZAI, ADVOCATE, CHAIRMAN SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, PRESIDING OVER A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON DECEMBER 08, 2014.

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS.

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held on 14th February, 2014, at 02.00 p.m. in Committee Room No.1, Parliament House, Islamabad. The meeting was presided by Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate, Chairman of the Committee.

The following members attended the meeting: -

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| 2. | Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| 3. | Mr. Shaikh Aftab Ahmed,
Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs /
Minister in-charge for Postal Services. | Ex-Officio Member |

The agenda before the Committee was as under: -

- (i) *Seniority list of employees of postal services (BS-16 and above) with names, grade and date of appointment.*
- (ii) *Details of OSD staff (names/scales and duration and reasons).*
- (iii) *Zakat distribution by the Postal Services Department and Payments of BISP during the last three years.*
- (iv) *Receipts and payments under the postal life insurance during the last three years.*

The meeting started with recitation from the Holy Quran by Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari.

At the outset, Chairman Committee Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate, welcomed the members of the Committee and officials from the Ministry of Communications, and Pakistan Post Office Department. Thereafter, he invited Additional Director General, Pakistan Post Office Department to brief the Committee on the agenda items.

(Agenda-i & ii). The Additional Director General, while giving briefing informed that the total strength of employees of Pakistan Post in BS-16 to 22 was 431 out of which there was

only one post of Chairman / D.G. in BS-22. He also shared the details of number of posts in BS-16 to 21. He informed that there was no OSD in Pakistan Postal Services.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate, Chairman Standing Committee showed reservations over the seniority lists of officers of BS-20 and 21 provided to the Committee by the Post Office Department and stated that while making postings of officers in Balochistan merit was not observed which is discrimination and violation of rules / policy.

Responding to a query raised by Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan regarding period of posting of Post Master General, Balochistan the Committee was informed that the said post was vacant since long and a newly promoted officer has recently been posted and will assume charge. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan also inquired about the promotions of Officers in BS-20 and 21. It was informed that Promotion Board dropped promotions of the officers of the said grades due to various reasons.

(Agenda-iii). The D.G. Postal Services briefed the Committee on the collection of Zakat by the Postal Services Department through Savings Bank Accounts and stated that an amount of Rs.820.954 millions was collected during the last three years i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13. He informed the Committee that the Postal Services Department does not distribute Zakat. He further told the Committee about the details of distribution of an amount of Rs.60.432 billion on account of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Money Orders during the said period.

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Responding to a query of Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari regarding commission being paid to the Postal Services Department on account of distribution of BISP money orders, the Additional D.G. Postal Services informed the Committee that the routine money order fees was Rs.50/-. But it was decided to charge Rs.40/- from BISP out of which Rs.30/- were paid to the department while Rs.10/- were given as an incentive to the Postmen. He also shared that an amount of Rs.4 billion on account of BISP Money Orders was paid during the last three years out of which Rs.703.9 million were received as commission of the Department. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari inquired about the purpose of incentive being paid by the department and the fate of unpaid amount of Rs.4 billion. The Committee was informed that the incentive was being paid to the Postmen for rendering services and unpaid amount is adjustable in the next installment of BISP. He further informed that reconciliation of accounts had been carried out with BISP upto 2013. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari inquired as to whether the said amount was lying with the department or deposited in the savings bank account or otherwise. It was informed to the Committee that the said amount was deposited in the treasury account created by the Controller General of Accounts. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan asked whether any

profit was earned by the department on the said account. It was informed that the said account was a treasury account with no profit.

(Agenda-iv). The D.G. Postal Services gave briefing on the receipts and payments of Postal Life Insurance during the last three years and stated that an amount of Rs.19.476 billion was received and Rs.8.517 billion were paid during that period.

Responding to a query raised by Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan regarding losses suffered by the Postal Life Insurance so far, the Committee was informed that presently, the department was in surplus of Rs.32 billion whereas loss of Rs. 4 to 5 billion was occurred because the Government decreased the profit rates on deposits from 1.5 to 0.5 percent which resulted drastic decrease of Rs.2 to 2.5 billion in the profit. It was further informed that the profit goes to the Federal Consolidated Fund and 70% expenses directly goes to Pay and Pension and for the last 3 to 4 years expenses were become double. The loss however, caused no effect as the income is better. The rates of profit have not been increased since 2009. In this regard a case has been sent to the Cabinet Secretariat for approval which is still awaited. The Minister Incharge for Postal Services assured the Committee to pursue the matter with Cabinet Division in this regard.

(Agenda-v any other item). (i) The Chairman Committee inquired status of filling of vacant posts under the Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package. It was informed to the Committee that the said posts were advertised but due to ban imposed by the Government the process of appointments could not be completed. The Establishment Division was requested to advise in the matter. It was intimated by that Division that the said recruitments could not be made due to ban. The Minister Incharge of the Postal Services, however, assured the Committee that he will send a summary to the Prime Minister for waiver of ban on recruitments under Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package.

(ii) Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan was of the view that a G.P.O may be established in Timargara, District Lower Dir. He further added that he has been raising the issue for last two years but the issue has not been resolved despite of the fact that he had arranged meeting between the Post Office Department and the concerned DCO who was agreed to provide 3 kanals of government land for the purpose. D.G, Pakistan Post Office informed the Committee that he had personally visited Timargara and observed that either the cost of land was very high or the land was not even available. He further informed that at present, post office in the area is functional in a Provincial Government's building which can be made as a General Post Office provided the Provincial Government transfer the ownership of said building to the Pakistan

Postal Department. For this purpose the Post Master General wrote to the Provincial Government but the title has not been transferred to them. Shaikh Aftab Ahmed, Minister Incharge of the Postal Services directed the Post Office Department to prepare its feasibility report, thereafter, he would personally take up the issue with the Provincial Government.

(iii) Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan also raised the issue of non-delivery of a Registry booked under Bar Code ID.ec000153721pk for Manchester, London from Rawalpindi G.P.O on 23rd January, 2014, by his daughter. The Committee was informed that the brief will be provided in this regard.

(iv) Additional D.G. Post Office Department shared that due share of promotion to the Postal Group Officers from BS-21 to 22 from the Secretariat Group quota was not being given as per law and suggested the Committee that the Establishment Division may be advised to look into the matter. After discussion, the Committee agreed to the suggestion.

(v) The Chairman inquired about the details of computerization of Post Offices in the country. It was suggested by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Communications that the Committee should convene a separate meeting on 26th or 27th February, 2014, at Parliament House, Islamabad, to discuss the said issue as a single item. After discussion, the Committee agreed to the suggestion.

After detailed discussions the committee made the following recommendations:-

- (i) Ministry of Communications should ensure to provide comprehensive seniority lists of officers in BS-20 to 21 of Postal Services mentioning exact date of appointments, promotions alongwith place of present postings in the next meeting.
- (ii) Ministry of Communications in coordination with Postal Services Department should ensure to inquire posting of officers beyond three years tenure in the Province of Balochistan and submit a report in this regard to the Committee.
- (iii) Ministry of Communications should ensure to implement Government's policy of postings / transfers of the employees of Postal Services Department, after every three years.
- (iv) Ministry of Communications should ensure to take necessary steps to fill vacant posts of Postal Services under the Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package.

- (v) Ministry of Communications should ensure to take all necessary steps to establish G.P.O at Timargara, District Lower Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- (vi) Postal Services Department should conduct an inquiry into the matter of non-delivery of a Registry booked for Manchester, U.K. on 23rd January, 2014, by the daughter of Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan from G.P.O. Rawalpindi and submit a report to the Committee.
- (vii) Ministry of Communications should ensure to pursue the issue of promotions of Postal Group Officers from BS-21 to 22 with the Establishment Division in order to give them due share as per law and submit a report to the Committee.
- (viii) The issue of computerization of Post Offices in the country would be discussed in the next meeting of the Committee to be convened on 26th or 27th February, 2014, at Parliament House in which representatives of Ministries of Information Technology and Telecom, Finance and Planning Commission would also be invited.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY, 2014 IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.4, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, ISLAMABAD.

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held on 20th February, 2014 at 02:00 p.m. in Committee Room No.4, Parliament House, Islamabad. **Senator Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate** was in the Chair.

The Following members attended the meeting:-

i. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
ii. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
iii. Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
iv. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz	Member
v. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
vi. Senator Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member
vii. Senator Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member
viii. Sheikh Aftab Ahmed	Ex-officio Member
ix. Federal Minister	

The agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- (i) Action taken by Motorway Police on the recommendations of the Standing Committee regarding road safety.
- (ii) Detail of appointments made during last 2 years in the Motorway Police.
- (iii) Detail of action taken on the recommendation of the Standing Committee regarding awarding tool plazas through open bidding and vacation of tool plazas from FWO/NLC alongwith amount collected from this source for the last three years throughout the country.
- (iv) Update of position of contraction work of N-50, N-70 and N-25 funded by ADB/USAID.
- (v) Implementation status of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

The meeting started with recitation from the Holy Quran by Senator Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari.

The Committee decided to defer (**Agenda-1 & II**) for the next meeting scheduled to be held on 28th February, 2014. It was observed that I.G Motorway police showed disinterest by not appearing in the meeting. Therefore, out of sheer inattention on his part, the Committee unanimously agreed to defer the above mentioned agenda items for the next meeting wherein I.G Motorway Police would brief the

Committee and also give reasons for his absence. The Members took serious notice of the non-serious attitude of senior officials especially Secretary MOC and Chairman NHA.

(Agenda –III)

Regarding awarding of toll plazas through open bidding and vacation of toll plazas from FWO/NLC, the Committee was briefed by the Member Finance, NHA that in 2008 total 44 toll plazas were under the control of NLC/FWO. Out of 44, NLC had 24 and FWO got 20. Since the Standing Committee recommended following of such lines i.e. 25% of toll plazas should be privatized initially and in the later stage should get privatized and bidding be open. Thereafter, in 2009, procurement of the toll plazas was being carried out through competitive bidding. Presently, M/S NLC is running 28x toll plazas (8x toll plazas already in their possession and 20x toll plazas which they are not willing to handover to private highest bidders. In this connection a series of meetings were held at different levels followed by meeting between the Chairman NHA and NLC held on 13th February, 2014. It was added that most likely the issue get resolved with absolute consensus from both sides, soon. It was added that FWO is operating toll plazas of motorways (M-1, M-2 & M-3). While replying the query of Senator Hasil Khan Bizenjo on the issue of counter check of toll plazas, assessment of the toll plazas is the only thing which is being done in routine to get the prices fixed for the next auction. Additionally, rates are also being revised on regular terms on the basis of income generated by the toll plazas. At this juncture, Senator Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari pointed out that creation of different committees is not the solution, issues needed to get resolved. According Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan, NHA is a weak organization. What needed to resolve the on going issues is the will and commitment. The Chairman Committee said that whenever all stake holders were called in the meeting, the impression given to the Committee was that all were in the settlement mode. But when they are invited separately they give altogether a different picture. The Chair stated that if in the new bidding, NLS would not come up to the conditions, it should be considered as barred from participating in the bidding process. At this juncture Senator Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari mentioned that he has gone through the prequalification notice relating to the toll plazas and according to as per conditions applied for the bidding, the NLC apparently does not stand eligible to apply in the bidding. Regarding settlement between NHA and NLC, it was directed that updates/progress on the meeting held on 13 February, 2014 between the two organizations be presented in the next meeting of 28th February, 2014. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan was of the view that matters related to NHA, NLC/FWO have been pending since long, therefore the Prime Minister should intervene and address the issues at his own.

The Committee was informed that FWO has vacated 20 toll plazas. The revenue generated from the toll of the plazas is sent to a pool. Thereafter, the money is distributed amongst the entire network.

According to Senator Mohammad Mohsin Khan Leghari M-2 is in a bad condition and maintenance work on M-2 should be done on priority. While replying the query of Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan about the lifespan of motorway, it was informed that it had a life of ten year i.e.1997 to 2007. However, after passage of 16 years, overlay is due which requires sufficient funding.

Regarding pool of money the Committee Members strongly expressed their reservations. They were of the view that it is ethically, ideally and legally binding on the authority that revenue generated from the motorway should be spent on it. It was viewed that the maintenance work should have done on regular basis. Financial constraints are another reason for delay in achieving the desired objectives. It was informed that the resurrection of motorway is urgently needed. Overlay should be done on regular basis otherwise in the rehabilitation mode it would turn into a capital expense which is in a given situation unaffordable. It was recommended that the money gathered from motorway should be spent on motorway. It was further recommended that if FWO wanted to be in the loop then it should come through open bidding. Regarding revenue generated from the Motorways (M-1, M-2, M-3) since its creation, it was decided that it would be more beneficial, practical and practicable if an independent audit work be done. In this regard the Ministry should come up with a report where in a detailed work of expenses being incurred on each segment since 1997 and money generated from every segment and how much money from each quarter be clearly mentioned and covered. According to the Members audit is the ultimate end.

It was said products at the services area are being sold on high prices doubled than the original price. Price hike also tantamounts to corruption and should be dealt with seriousness and cautiousness. Meanwhile the Minister assured the Committee that those matters need special attention and if needed b they would be placed in front of the Prime Minister also. The Committee also pointed out that expansion besides the services area is another step which needed to be curtailed with resolute commitment and sincerity.

(Agenda IV)

Before moving on to the said agenda item, the Chair again pointed out the absence of D.G FWO. He said that nothing constructive has been done for the completion of projects namely N70, N50 and N25. Despite the fact the ADB and USAID are involved in sharing financial expenses. The longer we delay these projects the lesser help we would have from International companies. Before June 2014, the projects should get started to make the in hand money safe for the purpose. The Committee was informed that N70, Waigum Bud-Khajoori total 132 km. Out of 132, 64 km is with FWO. 5-6 km is left for carpeting and it will be completed by the end of March 2014. However, the Members were not satisfied with the quality of the road and recommended to repair it immediately but up to the mark. It

was told that they are waiting for conducive weather, thereafter; speedy repair work would be started. However, NLC's work on 68 km was strongly criticized. It was told that NLC would rectify the problems at its own and no money would be given to them. It was further added that a sum of Rs. 20 crore are on hold for the last two years due to NLC unsatisfactory performance. The Committee recommended early completion of the project to get sufficient assistance from international companies which are already on board.

Regarding repair work it was informed that a meeting between Chairman NHA and DG NLC would be held on 25th February 2014, therefore, the Committee decided that a report in this regard would be presented in the meeting of 28th February 2014. Time frame should also be given for the completion of N-70 in the next meeting. It was informed that for Qila Saifullah-Wagum Rud project loan would be released in the end of this year by the ADB. However, advance procurement process would be going on but release could not get materialized till the end of the year. The Chair said that for sustainability of projects/policies transfers of concerned officials should be stopped till the projects get executed completely. Regarding construction of Loralai bypass, the committee members hoped that the project would again come under consideration soon. It was informed that NHA has to recover around Rs. 80 million from contractors covering Khad Kucha-Quetta - Qila Abdullah.

(Agenda- V)

While discussing encroachments on Provincial Government land, it was told that immediate demarcation would be done as the land falls under Tehsil Hazro. Mr. Khattak was also advised to consult DCO and DPO to resolve the issue. It was recommended that the Province should take stand in the form of STAY on the encroachment issue. It was informed that AWT is closed. The junction on M-1, M-2 is closed but Committee objected that the closure was done through blocks whereas it should have been done through proper fencing. It was recommended that gate on motorways should be removed and replaced with proper fencing so that people should not have a chance of misusing it. Buildings near fence should be demolished. On the issue of housing scheme, it was told that inquiry committee has been formed to probe in areas such as: who issued the NOC, which rules and regulations were followed and what would be the policy. It was also added that draft policy has been formed, inquiry work done and soon things would get streamlined.

Regarding promotion to all the Posts of BS 17 to 21 in NHA (cadre-wise) status-quo is maintained because of the Court Orders. Similarly, Mr. Altamash Khan has also filed a writ petition before Islamabad High Court and his promotion case is also sub-judice. The petitioner has also filed an application before the honorable Islamabad High Court to restrain NHA from conducting fresh proceedings regarding subject promotion till final disposal of his petition. NHA legal bureau has

obtained the legal opinion by M/s AMIR & ROY that “in light of the foregoing facts, and the documents perused, that NHA cannot by law, and should not keeping in view the rules of propriety and respect for Court hold or conduct any proceedings of DPC, for promotion of members from BS-20 to 21. The Chair was of the view that NHA lawyer seemed reluctant in uplifting of Court Stay. The Committee was of the view that early hearings of the cases and uplifting of Stay order could help the affectees to get timely relief otherwise they would retire without perks and privileges which they deserve.

After detailed deliberations the Committee made following recommendations:

- In the new bidding if NLS would not come up to the conditions, it should be considered as barred from participating in the bidding process. Likewise, FWO if wanted to remain in the loop then it should come through open bidding.
- In connection with expected settlement between NHA and NLC, updated progress report of the meeting held on 13 February, should be presented in the next committee meeting scheduled to be held on 28th February, 2014.
- It was recommended that the money gathered from motorway should be spent on motorway.
- Regarding revenue generated from the Motorways (M-1, M-2, M-3) since its creation, the Committee decided that an independent audit work be done. In this regard the Ministry should come up with a report where in a detailed work of expenses being incurred on each segment since 1997 and money generated from every segment and how much money from each quarter be clearly mentioned and covered.
- The Committee recommended early completion of the project (N-50, N-70, N-25) to get sufficient assistance from international companies which are already on board.
- The NHA would brief the Committee in detail on N-50, N-70 and time frame for completion of the projects should also be given in the next meeting.
- The IG Motorways should submit explanation for misleading the media by saying that he passed orders for stopping of construction of additional interchanges on M-2.
- I.G Motorways, Chairman NHA and D.G FWO should ensure their presence in the next Committee meeting.
- The release of Rs. 3 billion out of the annual PSDP allocated (Rs 12 billion, 2013, 14) for Balochistan would not serve the purpose. It was recommended that for completion of approved projects in Balochistan, the release of remaining amount should be done soon.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 14th March, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

(i)	Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
(ii)	Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
(iii)	Senator Islammuddin Shaikh	Member
(iv)	Senator Muhammad Hummayoun Khan Mandokhel	Member
(v)	Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
(vi)	Senator Zahid Khan	Member
(vii)	Senator Mukhtiar Ahmad Damrah	Member
(viii)	Senator Osman Saifullah	Special Invitee

3. Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- I. Action taken by Motorways Police on the recommendations of the Standing Committee regarding road safety.**
- II. Detail of appointments made during last 2 years in the Motorways Police.**
- III. Recommendations of the Standing Committee held on 20-02-2014.**
- IV. Report/update position on the escalation charges paid by the NHA to contractors.**
- V. Economic Corridor (Gawadar-Kashghar Route) with reference to recommendations of the Committee meeting held on 6th February, 2014.**

The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcoming all the participants, Senator Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee highlighted the significance of the road safety at motorways and advised NH & MP officials to inform the steps being taken in compliance of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Mr. Zubair Ahmed Hashmi, DIG NH & MP briefing the Committee about the measures being taken to ensure the road safety at highways and motorways informed that all possible steps are being taken to ensure safe and secure travelling on highways and motorways. He further told that various steps are being taken in this regard, such as comprehensive awareness campaign, briefing of the commuters at toll plazas, strict enforcement of law, focusing on black spots, improving road infrastructure to minimize the chances of road accidents, installation of LEDs at exit/entry points at toll plazas showing the messages regarding the road safety, conducting various seminars and workshops in educational industries, companies etc. He further submitted that due to these measures, there is a

significant decline of 21% in the fatal accidents. He further indicated that motorcyclists are major victims in these fatal accidents, therefore, no motorcyclist is allowed to travel on the motorways without helmet.

The Chairman Standing Committee Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Acahkzai appreciating the efforts of the NH & MP for ensuring safe and secure highways, suggested for increasing the patrolling at the roads especially in Balochistan. Senator Zahid Khan enquired about the actions taken against the pedestrians crossing the motorways. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmad Damrah also enquired about the actions taken against the beggars, standing at various corners of motorways/highways and toll plazas, as it may result the fatal accidents. Senator Muhammad Humamyun Khan Mandokhel appreciating the efforts of the NH & M Police suggested to take initiatives for ensuring safe and secure travelling at the Karachi-Hyderabad section of the National Highways, as there are serious violations being observed which are becoming the causes of the casualties.

Answering the queries asked by honourable Senators, the official of NH & MP informed that the fine tickets are being issued on the violations; in addition fencing is also being fixed alongside the motorways to stop the exit/ entry of the pedestrians. DIG Motorways Police suggested for the construction of the pedestrian bridges over the motorways/ highways in order to facilitate the peoples, whose lands are located on the other side of the roads. However, IG NH & MP assured that all possible steps would be taken to ensure safe and secure journey at motorways/ highways including KHI-HYD section. The Chairman NHA informed that highest number of the vehicles ply on the KHI-HYD, therefore there is a plan to start work on the KHI-HYD section during this year, which will ultimately result in control the flow of the traffic.

Senator Osman Saifullah pointed out that there is no prescribed/ defined policy for the construction of the intersections on Motorways. He suggested that there should be a clear policy in this regard. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel also suggested that the new policy may be implemented in future, but the existing housing societies may be provided interchanges as these societies have made a lot of investments of the common peoples and they have started work for interchanges with prior approval of NHA authorities. However, the Chairman NHA informed that the policy in this regard has been placed before the NHA Board for its appraoval.

On the agenda item of the appointments made in the NH & MP in last two years, the Committee was informed taht not a single appointment has been made in the said period. The Inspector General, NH & MP however requested the Committee to recommend relaxation in making appointments in NH & MP to perform more effectively and efficiently, as presently the scope of the organisation has been broadened to a great extent but on the other hand there is acute shortage of the staff to meet its

requirements. A summary in this regard has already been forwarded to the Ministry of Finance for their consent. He also informed that separate appointments would be made for the peoples of Balochistan to control the road network of the province. The Committee recommended for increase in the pay packages of the staff of NH & MP. The Committee was unanimous in endorsing that Ministry of Finance and Establishment may be advised to give necessary approval for the summary moved by NH & MP for the 1000 appointments in the Motorways police. The Committee also gave its consent that only people of Balochistan may be appointed in NH & MP in Balochistan.

The issue of the promotion of various posts including members in NHA from BS-20 to BS-21 was discussed in detail and the Committee members were of the view that instead of several directions of the committee, no progress has been made so far in this regard. Additional Secretary Ministry of Communication and Postal Services informed that Honourable Islamabad High Court has asked the Minister In-charge for Communication to submit his comments by 04.04.2014. Senator Kamil Ali Agha showing observations on the stances of the NHA officials regarding promotion of the members of NHA and the interchange policy commented that this is clear cut violation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. He vehemently argued that NHA should comply with the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Committee advised that a compliance report may be submitted before the next meeting of the Standing Committee regarding promotion of all cadres including cases of officials / officers who had retired within last 2 years because their cases could not be considered for promotion, due to non convening the meeting of the promotional board/DPC.

The Chairman Standing Committee Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai showing his observations over non compliance of the axle load pointed out that it is damaging the Highways and it is one of the reason for the fatal accidents. He therefore advised to ensure the prescribed axle load limit.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarr, Chairman NHA endorsing the views of the Chairman Standing Committee informed that the proposal of the integrated mechanism is under consideration, in which all the relevant provincial as well as federal entities along with the Goods carriers/ transportators would be taken on board. He also told that there must be warehouses for keeping the unloaded excessive load to control the axle load. Besides, the IG, NH & MP informed that the directions are being issued to weigh the vehicles during their entry on Highways/ Motorways, so that the vehicles with excessive load may not be able to enter the Highways. He also suggested for the revision of the prevailing fine rates/charges, which are being imposed since 1997.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing committee suggested for the development and implementation of an integrated mechanism for the unloading of the excessive

load, besides on the costs of the transportors. He also advised to submit proposal for enhancing the fine in this regard.

Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan was not satisfied with the format of the data presented about the escalation charges. He therefore advised that a complete information about the payment made on account of all type of the escalation charges at various levels including at the stage of PC-I, at mid stage and on the completion of the projects.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai enquired about the present status of Gawadar-Kashgar Economic Corridor. Senator Muhammad Hummayoun Khan Mandokhel indicated that the proposed route for the Gawadar-Kashgar is long and passing through the turbulent areas. He therefore showing his observations suggested to design the route by using the existing sections of highways of Balochistan as there would be less cost as well as time effective. Besides it will cover more areas of the province of Balochistan. He therefore, suggested that due consideration may be given to the route of Islamabad-Balkasar Interchange-Dera Ismail Khan-Zhob-Quetta-Mastung-Kalat-Surab-Basima-Panjgur-Hoshab-Turbat-Gawadar.

The Cairman NHA informed the Committee, that this project is in initial phase and several MoU(s) / agreements have been signed for completion of the corridor by utilising the existing sections of highways/ motorways in order to minimize the cost and and the early completion of the route. Mr. Aftab Ahmed Shaikh, Minister Incharge assured that the route recommended by Standing Committee would be placed before the concerned authorities including Prime Minister.

Subject: **MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION HELD ON 21ST MARCH, 2014 AT PRESS CLUB, TKHAT BAE, MARDAN**

The committee paid a visit to monitor progress of work on Takhat Bhai Flyover and to see the latest position of Service Area at River Indus on M-I on 21st March, 2014.

Following Members of the Committee were present:-

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| i) | Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai | Chairman |
| ii) | Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| iii) | Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| iv) | Senator Nisar Muhammad | Member |
| v) | Senator Mohsin Khan Laghari | Member |

Mr. Yousaf Ali Khan, Member (Construction) and GM KPK briefed the Committee, about the present status of work at Takhat Bhae Flyover. GM KPK informed that the presents length of the bridge is about 225 meters and the width is 9.3 meters. He informed that the cost of the bridge is about Rs.485 million and the present progress of work is 13/% against 60%. He informed that there are various reasons for the delay in the construction work especially non availability of possession of the land to NHA by the Pakistan Railway for the said project. There are some problems from encroachers and local traders as they are demanding for change in the design of the bridge because there is lot of traffic jam during the working hours. Some representatives of local traders also gave their suggestions for change in the design of the project. Mr. Irshad Ali Sodhar, Assistant Commissioner, Tkhat Bae, assured that a proper diversion would be constructed by the NHA on the site of the project and all encroachments would be removed which were creating problems in the execution of the project.

All the committee members were of the view that due consideration may be given to the suggestions of the local residents regarding change in the design of the bridge. They also advised that in the meanwhile a good and smooth alternative diversion may be provided for the facilitation of the commuters.

GM KPK informed that he is not competent to make any change in the design of Takhat Bhai Flyover and in case of change of design, the length of the project would be increased from 225 meters to 425 meters resulting the ultimate increase in the cost of the project. He, however, assured that all proposals would be brought into the notice of the competent authority for making necessary changes in the design of the project if possible. The Committee advised that all necessary changes may be brought into the notice of the committee in its next meeting and the local traders' representatives and local administration may also be advised to attend the meeting for giving their suggestions to the Committee.

On way back, the committee noted that nominal progress has been seen for the removal of the constructed material of the encroachment from the Service Area at River Indus M-I. The committee advised that all illegal construction may be removed within 10 days and the contractor may also be advised strictly to remain in its authorized domain in future. The Committee advised that NHA officials to formulate its policy for giving access to various Housing Societies on Motorways according to international standards.

Subject: - **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES**

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 31st March, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

i)	Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
ii)	Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel	Member
iii)	Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
iv)	Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member
v)	Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqub Khan Nasir	Member
vi)	Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
vii)	Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- i. Status of the recommendations of Standing Committee.**
- ii. Illegal appointments of 08 Assistant Superintendent against five vacant posts in Balochistan.**
- iii. Functions of Pakistan Postal Foundation.**
- iv. Report/update position on the escalation charges paid by the NHA to contractors.**
- v. Deposit of PLI to the tune of Rs. 32 billion and their utilization by Pakistan Postal Department for investment purposes.**

The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran.

After welcoming the participants, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee asked the General Manager, Pakistan Post to brief the Committee about the implementation status on the recommendations of Standing Committee regarding Pakistan Post.

DG Pakistan Post briefing about the implementation status on the recommendations of the Standing Committee gave following information:

- The undisputed seniority list of BS-20 to 21 including/ mentioning the complete information/ details has been provided.

- None of officerS had held his/ her office more than prescribed tenure of three years in Province of Balochistan.
- All the appointments, transfers and promotions are being made as per rule.
- A summary for granting the relaxation of the ban on the recruitment under Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package has been moved.
- The Postmaster General KPK has taken initiative for transferring the title of the land in the name of Pakistan Post in order to establish G.P.O at Timargrah, District Lower Dir, KPK.
- The grievances of the complainant, regarding non-delivery of dak at destination has been settled and the complainant has been compensated.
- The case for the promotion of the Postal Groups Officers from BS-21 to BS-22 has been forwarded to the Establishment Division, for consideration in the meeting of the High Powered Selection Board. However, no date of its meeting has been scheduled till date.
- In order to computerization of all 3080 Post Offices throughout the country, a PC-I would be sent very soon to Planning Commission for its approval.
- APNS has lifted ban on the advertisements of Pakistan Post.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai pointed out that despite the completion of the prescribed tenure; many Postmasters General (PMGs) have been holding their offices in Balochistan. On the other hand they are being frequently rotated/ transferred prior to completion of their prescribed tenures in other provinces. He recommended for providing the complete detail of the Postmaster General (PMGs) including their date of the joining in the existing offices throughout the country. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari informed that due to technical limitations as indicated by the Department in previous meeting, any software cannot be merged with any other software; therefore, he raised his query on the proposed integration of the existing software of Pakistan Post with the one which was being proposed to be considered to develop for the department. He also insisted for the development of the mechanism for accountability, in order to check the irregularities such as committed in non-delivery of the dak at destination and suggested action against the responsible officers/officials to avoid such irregularities/ incidents in future which ultimately damage the credibility of the entity. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan endorsing the views of Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari suggested to conduct departmental inquiry for identifying as to whether the missing documents/items were sent to destination or not. Besides, he offered his support in the establishment of G.P.O at Timargrah, District Lower Dir for the welfare of the residents of that area.

Additional Secretary M/o of Communication and Postal Services informed that the services of a consultant would be hired in order to facilitate the process of computerization of Pakistan Post and also to help remove all the technical discrepancies, a PC-I would be sent for the provision of funds in this regard. Director IT, Pakistan Post stated that the limited human resource of in IT department may hinder provision of the all financial as well as postal services to the customers

efficiently and effectively. He, therefore, urged the Committee to recommend for hiring more IT professionals in Pakistan Post in order to ensure the provision of all the services smoothly and without any interruption. The Additional Secretary M/o Communications and Postal Services also favoured for outsourcing of technical experts which may be helpful in this regard. However, the Director IT of Pakistan Post told that due to higher cost and dealing with sensitive information, outsource may not be effective in long-term. The Committee was also informed that steps were being taken to identify the responsible persons involved in the irregularities in Pakistan Post. Besides, the Committee was briefed that the process for the establishment of G.P.O at Timargrah District Lower Dir KPK would be expedited in the light of recommendations of the Committee.

Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari showing disapproval to the stance taken by the Pakistan Post for the provision of the services in the Post Offices as above, opined that in the previously held meeting, it was informed that a Consultant had been hired. The Members also showing their serious reservations over the version of the Pakistan Post for the information provided regarding its computerization process, stated that the same information was being provided repeatedly for a period of over an year long period, while no remarkable developments has been seen on the ground. The Committee therefore, recommended to provide the details of the previously hired consultant including the agreement signed along with terms of reference (TOR). The Committee also recommended to ensure the provision of the all financial and postal services at G.P.O as early as possible. Besides, the Committee also recommended to furnish report regarding a comparative analysis of the outsourcing and the permanently hired staff with reference to cost, as its findings may help to recommend solution for the constraint of human resource in IT department of the Pakistan Post. The Committee showing concerns over the incomplete information provided for the land of Pakistan Post, suggested to provide the detail of the total lands including covered, owned as well as rented and in its utilization.

On the agenda item of illegal appointments in Pakistan Post with reference to recruitment of Assistant Superintendent in Balochistan, Post Master General Balochistan informed about the appointment of 5 Assistant Superintends (existing posts) who were appointed on the merit. Regarding other three appointments of the same cadre, the officer told that **they were appointment from the waiting list on the directions of the then Minister for Postal Services.** However, Chairman Standing Committee and the members were not satisfied with the reply and suggested provision of completed information in this regard.

MD Pakistan Post Foundation (PPF) briefing the Committee about this wing of the Postal Department, informed that it was established in 1981 for the welfare of the serving as well as the retired employees of Pakistan Post. He further informed about the aims, objectives, strategic plan and scope of

its services, which comprised of the various commercial projects like printing press, furniture workshop, mail motor service, textile sector, bus service, post information technology, post foundation shield services and different housing schemes etc. Besides, he informed that a Board consisted of ex-officio members too, has been formulated to execute the affairs of the foundation.

Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari enquired about the current status of the ongoing projects of PPF. Senator Humayun Khan Mandokhel raised query regarding the financial detail of the foundation in order to gauge the performance of its commercial activities. The Committee unanimously recommended to furnish a report about the total land in use of PPF, commercial activities being carried out along with their returns and the financial detail of the foundation for the last five years. However, MD PPF assured for the earlier submission of the required information.

On the deposits of PLI amounting Rs.32 billion, the Committee was informed that this was policy holders' money, which was being collected through Pakistan Post as agent of Ministry of Finance on the very nominal charges and the amount so collected is in the kitty of Govt and the Postal Department has nothing to do with this collection.

The Committee being not satisfied with the reply of Postal Department recommended to provide the detail of deposits of Postal Life Insurance holders at Finance Division as well as the detail of principal amount up-to-date along with actual return on it to the Postal Department for collection of this amount.

Subject: - **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES**

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 10th April, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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| • Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| • Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| • Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan | Member |
| • Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| • Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Nasir | Member |
| • Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- **Follow up on the recommendations of the Standing Committee.**
- **Up-date status of work on M-9 project**
- **Progress of the work on northern by-pass Peshawar particularly with reference to detail of total land acquired, payment made, outstanding amount and cost of land per Kanal/ Marla etc**

The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee welcomed all the participants including Mr. Zamruk Khan Achakzai, MPA and Deputy Opposition Leader of Balochistan Assembly as a special invitee. He asked the NHA officials to brief the Committee about the agenda items incorporated for discussion in the meeting.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Chairman NHA while briefing on the implementation status of the recommendations of Standing Committee informed that:

- The detail of the escalation charges paid by the NHA has been submitted.

- The stays awarded by the Court against the promotions of BS-17, 18 & 19 have recently been vacated, and the seniority list of officers of NHA would be prepared for their promotion. However, promotion of the retired persons may be considered on case-to-case basis as per rules. Besides, the comments for the promotion of BS-21 has been submitted on the directions of Court.
- The recommended alignment of the roads for the economic corridor Gawadar to Kashgar by Standing Committee has been presented to the competent authority but no response received as yet.

The Honourable Chairman Standing Committee pointed out that the majority of the escalation charges have been reported in the foreign funded projects. Besides, he revealed that the escalation charges have been mostly shown in the projects of one province under NHIP. Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan while endorsing the views of Honourable Chairman Standing Committee asked that according to the details regarding escalation charges, as to why NHA is solely liable for escalation charges of ongoing projects and the contractor is absolved from any liability throwing all onus on the Department only to get escalation charges which may raise questions over the effectiveness as well as efficiency of NHA. He therefore urged to take steps for analyzing and rectifying the flaws prevailing in the Department for enhancing its performance. He suggested for carrying out proper planning and feasibility prior to the commencing of any project. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari enquired about the reasons which caused higher escalation charges of any project and in some cases according to him, escalation charges are 70 % of the original cost of PC-I.

The Chairman NHA answering the queries raised by the Senators informed that there are two prime factors which influence in determining the escalation charges. Firstly, insufficient allocation of the funds in PC-I as well as partial release thereof and; secondly any major change in the design of a project, which resultantly increase cost as well as the time framework of any project. However, he informed that there is a comprehensive, flawless and tight mechanism of foreign donors regarding cost rationalization and evaluation; hence approval of escalation charges for any foreign funded project is given after following a very transparent and justifiable manner.

The Committee unanimously recommended that there should be comprehensively discussion on escalation charges leaving no doubt in mind that those charges are being paid by the NHA in an unjustifiable manner. It was further recommended that appropriate steps may be taken by the NHA for avoiding these additional charges (escalation charges) to the contractors at exorbitant rates thereby saving precious funds of the State.

Senator Zahid Khan showing his reservations over the appointment of junior officers of Grade-18 as GM and on posting of certain officers of two steps above which, according to him, is violation of NHA rules. He quoted certain examples of such positings in NHA.

The Chairman NHA endorsing the views of Senator Zahid Khan regarding the legality of two grades above appointment in NHA, assured that all such officers would be reverted back even if even those had been done in the past tenures. He however, informed that as per NHA Rules, any officer of Grade-18 can hold the office of GM. He also informed that in case of promotion of an officer in any Department including NHA, apart from seniority, certain other factors like competence, output and calibre of the officer, are also kept in mind while giving him elevation.

Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan raised a query that information provided by NHA regarding the land acquired by it for the construction of Peshawar Northern Bypass was insufficient and therefore, asked for the provision of detailed information comprising of the price of the land per Marla/Kanal in the vicinity.

GM NHA KPK while briefing about the specifications of Takhtbhai Flyover informed that the work commenced on the flyover in February 2013 and at present 15% of the work has been completed. He also informed that existing total length of the said project is 1210 meter with the cost of Rs.582 million. It was told that the bride is 225 meter whereas the rest is ramp on both sides. He further informed that on the recommendations of the Standing Committee and to address the grievances of the local traders as well as commuters, the change in the design and length of the flyover has been proposed which is about 200 meters and may incur the additional cost of Rs.175 million. Besides it will cause delay in the completion of the project upto a period of 10 months, he added.

Senator Nisar Muhammad showed serious concern over the slow progress on the project and stressed to execute the work in time. The Committee appreciated the proposed extension of the Takhtbhai Flyover and suggested to take steps in close coordination of local administration of Mardan District for ensuring uninterrupted and smooth flow of the traffic for the facilitation of the public during the construction activity of the flyover. Chairman NHA assured the same.

On the update status of work on M-9 Project, the Committee was informed that the proposal submitted by M/s FWO on BOT basis against the tender floated for the construction of M-9 by converting Super Highway into 6 lanes, has been finalized amongst the three bidders. It was also told that a Letter of Intent (LOI) has been issued to the successful bidder. However the cost rationalization and financial evaluation of the project is under process. It was further stated that the proposal of NLC has also been kept in waiting till the final agreement signed with M/s FWO for execution of this Project. Regarding the point raised by the Chair with respect to claims of M/S Binapuri, a Malasian firm previously involved in M-9 Project, the Chairman NHA replied that the said firm is in arbitration for its basic claims.

Honourable Chairman Standing Committee Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakazai observed that despite allocation of fund during the last year for Quetta Airport Road, non-commencement of the construction work on Quetta Airport Road is not understandable. He also enquired about the present status of the N-25 with specific reference to payments outstanding to petty contractors.

The Chairman NHA while replying the query raised by Chairman Standing Committee regarding Quetta Airport Road stressed the NHA Officers to complete the formalities for this project as early as possible. He also informed that after the approval of the preliminary design of the Quetta Airport Road by CM Balochistan, the work would be commenced on priority basis. He further told that for N-25 (Quetta- Chaman Road) Rs.173 millions have been released to the contractor of the road i.e. M/s FWO against its claims while the rest of the amount would be disbursed after the approval of the revised PC-I. However, M/s FWO has been fully mobilized on the site now.

Honourable Chairman Standing Committee disclosed that a portion of newly constructed N-70 was in deteriorating condition and stated that it required immediate repair by the concerned contractor being its responsibility.

The Chairman NHA while replying to issue regarding N-70 told that the contractor has been repeatedly asked to carry out the said repair as early as possible. However, he stated that the NHA would carry out the same at the risk and cost of the contractor by utilizing its security deposit amounting Rs.200 million on failure of the original contractor/company to fulfill its liability

After detailed deliberations, following recommendations were made:

- The audit report of expenditure and receipts from M-I & M-II may be furnished since operational date of both these Motorways.
- Feasibility report about the establishment/construction of Lora Lai Bypass may be submitted by the NHA in public interest.
- All the appointments, transfers and promotions within NHA may be made on the merit by following the prescribed rules in this regard.
- Detail of the projects incurring heavy escalation charges be provided along with its tendering/ PC-I and completion documents.
- A departmental inquiry may be conducted to identify the officials responsible for the slow progress of Takhtbhai flyover and punitive action be taken against them in order to avoid such irregularities in future.
- Steps may be taken to ensure the uninterrupted flow of the traffic during the construction of Takhtbhai Flyover for the facilitation of the commuters.
- The officials from P& D and Finance Division should attend the next meeting of Senate Standing Committee to brief about the status of PC-I sent for the approval of the proposed extension of the Takhatbhai Flyover along with allocation of the funds.
- The construction work on Quetta Airport Road be initiated on priority basis.
- Steps may be taken to ensure transparency in all the projects executed by NHA.
- Detail of the Toll Plaza(s) retrieved from FWO/NLC be provided.
- Details of the land acquired for the construction of Peshawar Northern Bypass along with the price paid per Marla/Kanal by the NHA, be furnished.
- The policy for grant of access to the housing societies located at Motorways may be formulated on priority basis and it must be in consonance with the international standards in this regard.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 2nd May, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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| • Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| • Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| • Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz | Member |
| • Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| • Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir | Member |
| • Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- **Details of total land in use, rented being used for marketing purposes and land without use by the Pakistan Post.**
- **Detail of action taken on the various recommendations of the Standing Committee regarding Postal Departments.**

The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman, Senate Standing Committee welcomed all the participants. At the outset, the Chairman Standing Committee showing his serious reservations over the late submission of the working paper on almost every meeting, stated that despite repeated reminders to the officials of Postal Services for the submission of the working paper at least 4 to 5 days prior to the meeting, no progress has been seen in this regard. All the other Members of the Committee were of the view that it is impossible for the Honourable Members to go through the agenda items and properly study the replies offered by the Department in detail. Honourable Members emphasized that steps may be taken to ensure the submission of the working paper well before the proposed date of meeting. Mr. Aftab Ahmed Sheikh, Minister In-charge, however, assured that the concerned officials would be directed to deliver the working paper well in time in future.

Giving briefing on the affairs of Pakistan Post, the Committee was informed that the Pakistan Post earned Rs. 62.31 million rental income from 20 buildings, owned by it located in various

parts of country and also the details of physical assets including official buildings, residential buildings and vacant pieces of land owned by Pakistan Post were also submitted.

Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel showing his deep concerns over the detail provided about the land and other physical assets of Pakistan Post, pointed out that it was incomplete information. Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari seconding Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel indicated that the low rent is being charged by the Department for its buildings. He, therefore enquired about the criterion for fixing of rent for buildings of Post Department as normally rent is charged on the basis of per square foot covered area. The Chairman Standing Committee also asked for the detail of the occupants along with the duration of lease/tenancy agreement and the amount of rent in each building throughout Pakistan.

Mr. Mashaal Khan, Acting DG, Postal Services while answering to the queries raised by the members, informed that the standard rent rates of PWD are being charged by Pakistan Post and the Postal Life Insurance is a major tenant of buildings of Pakistan Post. Mr. Aurangzeb Haque, Additional Secretary, M/O Communication apprised the Committee that it has been commonly noted that subsidized rent is charged for governmental buildings and other assets as compared to private properties.

Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari pointed out that the rental income earned from the PLI has been mentioned twice, i.e. separately as well as accumulative which created doubts about the authenticity of the details provided by the Department. The Committee expressed its serious reservations over the details of land as well as other assets of Pakistan Post and advised to furnish complete report in which all the above mentioned observations must be addressed. The Minister, In-charge and other officials assured to do the needful as per recommendations of the Committee.

Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari referring to the agreement signed for the software purchased regarding the provision of electronic services stated that it is a high cost project and raised query as to whether the capabilities and deficiencies of consultant firm were analyzed before awarding the contract. Besides he asked about the present status of the said services which were being provided in all GPOs of the country. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel sought detail of targets achieved in this behalf alongwith the completion period of the project.

Mr. Fazle Sattar Khan while replying to queries on behalf of Postal Services Department regarding provision of seven services in 83 GPOs throughout the country, informed that four out of seven modules i.e Electronic Money Order (EMO), Utility Bills Collection, Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) and Child Support Program (CSP) have been extended. However two more modules i.e Military Pensions Payments (PMP) & Saving Bank have been extended to Murree and Islamabad GPOs while rest of the three modules would be implemented positively throughout the country upto 2015. He further informed that due to migration of huge data, at present, 60 % of progress has been achieved and it would be completed within specified time. The Additional Secretary M/o Communications informed that before commencement of this project, a powerful Committee of 11 members thoroughly analyzed the presentations of the 22 companies and then the Terms of Reference (TOR) were framed & bids invited. Besides, he apprised that all the required formalities including financial evaluation were fulfilled before finalizing the consultant.

Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan suggested that it must be ensured that qualifications and experiences of the engineers, working on the said project must be according to the agreement. Senator Kamil Ali Agha suggested to develop internal contingency plan to execute the project during any unpredictable scenario. He further proposed that a wing may be established in the Post Department to inject fresh graduates holding degrees in the relevant field. He also suggested for conducting training programmes of the employees to enhance their capabilities which will ultimately result in better performance of the Pakistan Post. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel suggested that steps may be taken to monitor the project after its completion. Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari suggested that for the better service of the utility bill collection, this facility of service may be integrated with the concerned utility service providers. The Chairman Standing Committee stressed that steps may be taken to ensure that consultant must fulfill contractual provisions of agreement.

Mr. Farrukh Bashir, Director IT, Pakistan Post informed that the consultant is bound to train the IT personnel of Pakistan Post under the agreement. The Additional Secretary M/o Communications assured the Committee that all necessary strides would be taken to take over the

project after its completion. Besides, he informed that proposals regarding the integration of the utility bills collections services offered by utility service providers, are also under consideration.

The Chairman Standing Committee showing his serious reservations regarding details presented by the Postal Services Department about the appointment of ASPOs stated that serious violation of the prescribed rules have been committed. In this context, he gave a precedent of one candidate who captured first position in the departmental test conducted for recruitment of these posts but his candidature was rejected without any justifiable reason. He insisted to ensure transparency in all the recruitments/promotions of the employees in Pakistan Post by adhering to the prescribed rules and regulations in this regard. However, the Additional Secretary endorsing the stance of the Chairman Standing Committee assured for compliance on the recommendations.

After detailed deliberations, following recommendations were made:

- Detail of the land owned by the Post Department in use and rented out by it along with the criterion of fixing of rent; rent of each building and the period of lease/lease agreement may be furnished.
- For enhancing the efficiency of the employees of Pakistan Post, the training courses may be conducted for them in the relevant field.
- In order to improve the utility service delivery, Pakistan Post may take steps to integrate the utility bill collection with the concerned utility service providers.
- An internal integrated contingency plan may be developed to ensure uninterrupted provision of the financial and postal services during any unfavourable conditions.
- Efforts may be done for the taking over the project after the expiry of the agreement.
- Steps may be taken to ensure the transparency in the recruitments/promotions of the employees in Pakistan Post by adhering to the rules and regulations of the Department strictly.
- Action may be taken against responsible involved in the irregularities committed for the recruitment/ appointment of ASPOs in Balochistan.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, on 28th May, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

• Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
• Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan	Member
• Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
• Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member
• Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
• Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel	Member
• Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini	Member

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- **Update position on the construction/realignment of Gwadar-Kashghar route.**
- **Actions taken on the change of design of Takht-bai Flyover, as recommended by Standing Committee**
- **Details of maintenance work under periodical and routine throughout the country during the year 2012-13 and 2013-14 with specific reference to Indus Highway**
- **Details about Jamali Bypass falling on Dera Allah Yar – Jacobabad Road**
- **Details of action taken on the various recommendations of the Standing Committee during the previous meetings on NHA related issues**
- **Additional agenda items**
 - **Progress of work on Peshawar Notheren Bypass.**
 - **Progress of work on Loralai Bypass (Balochistan)**

The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee welcoming all the participants, stated that Gawadar-Kashgar Economic Corridor is economically very important for the people of Balochistan. The Members were of the view that the major sections of the alignment of the roads from Gwadar to Kashgar should be through Balochistan, as this province is economically very backward as compared to other federating units. Senator Muhammad Hmayun Khan Mandokhel informed that the Balochistan Assembly has also passed a resolution in this regard. Senator Kamil Ali Agha pointed out that wrong alignment of the roads may incur higher fuel expenses to the travellers. He therefore, suggested that this factor must also be considered during designing process of any road. The Chairman Standing Committee stressed that the matter must be discussed with the Chinese counterparts and the interests of the country must be protected when any endeavor is initiated with the foreign investors.

Mr. Ashraf Tarar, Chairman NHA while addressing the observations and queries raised by the Senators informed that a summary regarding realignment of roads as recommended by Standing Committee is in the process and it would be forwarded to Prime Minister within a week. He also apprised of the Committee that the matter has been discussed with the Chinese and the observations were communicated to them. They will now submit their report along with recommendations to Government of China after which the final route would be decided with consultation of both the countries. He informed that the preference of Chinese, initially, is to utilize the existing road infrastructure in order to make the corridor functional in lesser time with lower cost. However, the Committee advised to submit the summary to PM as soon as possible with the information to the Committee.

The Chairman NHA, while briefing about the update position of the Takht- Bai Flyover in the wake of recommended change by the Committee in its design, informed that the summary regarding revised change in the design is in the process. He informed that all possible steps will be taken for the allocation of the funds during the year 2014-15. He also assured that the steps were being taken for timely completion of the project.

Commenting on slow pace of construction work on the Takht-bai Flyover, Senator Zahid Khan pointed out that people were suffering very badly due to undue delay in this project. He therefore, suggested that the work may be completed as early as possible. Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan emphasized that the NHA should clear the outstanding amount to the contractors, who have fulfilled all their obligations.

The Committee was briefed about the periodical as well as the routine maintenance work on the highways carried out in the country during the year 2012-13 while technical evaluation of the periodical maintenance work for the year 2013-14 has been approved. It was further told that the proposals of the financial evaluation were being opened very soon. It was further informed on behalf of the NHA that all the quoted bid offers, even below the estimated cost, would be accepted.

Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel pointed out that it is usually observed that the contractors, who offer low bids, neither maintain the quality of work nor complete the work in time. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini seconding Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhel stated, that below bid rates are not workable, which are offered with the connivance of the NHA engineers and other relevant staffs for serving their vested interests. The Chairman Standing Committee was of the view that the condition of almost all the roads in Balochistan is very worst which

is always prone to the higher risk of the fatal accidents. He advised to take necessary steps in this regard. He further stated that despite the categorical recommendations of the Standing Committee regarding the early completion of incomplete roads in Balochistan, no significant progress has been reported on these roads so far and directed to take necessary steps in this regard.

The Chairman NHA agreeing with the observations of the Chairman Standing Committee regarding the deteriorating physical status of the roads in Balochistan, assured that steps were being taken for the maintenance and improvement of the roads. He further informed that initiatives were being taken to ensure the proper utilization of maintenance budget resultantly the remarkable improvement in the condition of all the roads of the country would be witnessed within next few months. Besides, he assured that all the quoted bid offers, which were below 15 % of the estimated costs, would be dealt with separately. While briefing about the resumption of works on the incomplete roads in Balochistan, he informed the Committee that steps have been taken for the early completion of incomplete roads. He apprised of the Committee that works on N-35 & N-70 have been restarted and FWO, the contractor, has been mobilized on the sites. It was further informed that the construction work on the Quetta-Chamman road has already been commenced by the FWO. However, he informed, that the work on the Quetta Airport Road would be started after the approval of the design by CM Balochistan, which has already been moved.

Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir stated that all the required conditions regarding land acquisition for the construction of the Loralai Bypass have been fulfilled but no construction work has begun as yet. He emphasized to start the work on this Bypass as early as possible. However, the Chairman NHA assured that arrangements would be made for this purpose.

Senator Zahid Khan pointed out that the rates of land purchased for the construction of Peshawar Northern Bypass were higher than actually paid to the land owners. He, therefore, suggested a visit of the site to meet the land owners from whom the land was acquired. The Committee endorsing the proposal of Senator Zahid Khan recommended for the visit of the site of the Northern Bypass and also suggested that no further payment may be made to land owners till the outcome of the said visit.

The Chairman NHA briefing regarding the handling as well as management of the toll plazas informed, that after the vacation of the toll plazas by NLC tentatively by 30th June 2014, those would be auctioned and integrated software of ETM would be installed therein.

The Chairman NHA while replying the query regarding multi charges to one officer of NHA informed that for enhancing the performance of the organization, the multi charges are given to the competent officials. While giving detail of the promotions in NHA, he informed the Committee that DPC would be convened very soon wherein promotions process for BS-17 to BS-19 would be completed whereas promotions for BS-19 to BS-20 was the domain of the M/o of Communications. He further mentioned that the promotions of the persons, who retired in last two years but could not be promoted due to non-convening of DPC, would be made according as per law.

Mr. Mashal Khan, DG Pakistan Post while replying the query raised by the Chairman Standing Committee regarding the present status of the pieces of land owned by Pakistan Post informed that these are located in 17 different places in big cities, which have been allocated for the establishment of new post offices. However, the Chairman Standing Committee suggested to take initiatives for the proper utilization of this land in order to enhance the income of the Pakistan post. Besides, he recommended that detailed report regarding the proposals for the proper utilization of the land of the Pakistan Post may be prepared and report in this regard may be furnished.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, on 23rd June, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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| 1. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar | Member |
| 2. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| 3. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz | Member |
| 4. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini | Member |
| 5. Senator Nisar Muhammad | Member |
| 6. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | Member |
| 7. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| 8. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- (1) Province-wise breakup of budgetary allocation for the different projects of NHA in the next PSDP (for the year 2014-2015).
- (2) Update position on the promotion to the posts of Members in NHA.
- (3) Policy of giving access to the Housing/commercial Projects on the Motorways along-with prescribed distance between two interchanges on Motorways.
- (4) Action taken on the recommendations made in the various meetings of the Standing Committee.
- (5) Recruitment of 8 ASPO in Balochistan against 5 sanctioned posts as discussed in the last meeting.
- (6) Detail of recruitments of 171 employees in Postal Services under Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee welcomed Mr. Abdul Hakeem Baloch, Minister of State for Communications and hoped that new the Minister In-charge

would ensure for implementation on the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Minister of State for Communications was reciprocal in expressing the same sentiments and assured for utmost cooperation to the Committee.

At the outset Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan pointed out that the Asian Development Bank (ADB) had given loan for the construction of Kalam Road after floods in 2010 but there is no progress of work on the said road till today. Mr. Jaffar Shah, MPA, KPK who had attended the meeting as a special invitee, pointed out that this area is famous for tourism and there are hundreds of hotels and restaurants operating in here. The tourists who come to see the scenic beauty of the area, have to face too many problems due to non-construction of this road. He also told that the tenders were called for the some portions of this road but there is no progress visible on ground. He informed that due to worst condition of road, accidents are very often here resulting in loss of lives of innocent tourists. He therefore urged to start the work on Kalam road on priority basis as no proper work has been done on this road since 1992.

Senator Farah Aqil Shah who attended the meeting as special invitee also ratified the above version that due to worst condition of road network in the area, the hotel industry which was a thriving industry in the area, is at the verge of collapse. As a result of this deteriorating condition of the road, people attached with this business have become pauper. She further told that the development work on this road has not been done for the last 15 years. She, therefore, urged to start work on this road on the priority basis.

Answering the points raised by the Honourable Parliamentarians, Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Chairman NHA informed the Committee that negotiations are in progress with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the construction of this road. He assured that development work would be started by the 10th July, 2014. He however informed that NHA can not identify new projects and cannot keep money in the PSDP for those projects as NHA is only an executing agency and not policy maker. Besides, he apprised that NHA is only allowed to spend money generated from its sources for only maintenance purposes.

While discussing the agenda item regarding province-wise breakup budgetary allocation for the development projects of NHA in the next PSDP i.e. 2014-15 the Committee decided that detailed discussion on this agenda would be held in separate meetings of the Standing Committee on province basis. All the members were of the view that for the allocation of amount in the PSDP, the Planning Division may also be asked to attend the meeting on the said agenda item.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee however, advised that the information regarding percentage-wise allocation with regard to PSDP and foreign funding (aid or loan) may also be furnished in the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari inquired about the Rakhni Gaj-Bewata (N-70) and Dualization of Multan- Muzaffargarh – D.G. Khan Section of N-70. The Chairman NHA informed that work on these projects would be completed very soon in coordination with JICA. The Chairman NHA informed the Committee that NHA is trying to start and complete the projects on BOT basis instead of completing through loans or by government funding. He informed that Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway and maintenance work on M-2 (from Islamabad to Lahore) are being initiated on BOT basis.

On the update position regarding the promotion of Officers of the NHA to the posts of Members, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee informed that the members of the NHA had informed the Committee that according to the earlier case approved by the Ex-Federal Minister for Communication (the then Chairman National Highway Council), promotion may be given to the four members of the NHA and as soon as the Ministry implemented the said decision of the Ex-Federal Minister for Communications, the case would be withdrawn from the court.

The Committee advised that Secretary Communications after implementing the decision of the Ex-Chairman National Highway Council, may send a compliance report in this regard for the information of the Committee within a week.

The Committee members were of the view that Balochistan is less developed and neglected federating unit and the officers of this province may be given due respect. It was further observed that they may also be posted according to their cadre and calibre so that they are able to play their pivotal role in the development of the province as well as the country.

The Committee also noticed that some appointments of the officers in the NHA have been given against their cadre and experience. The Committee, therefore, advised that no appointment/posting may be made out of cadre of any officer for proper utilization of his services.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee inquired from NHA authorities about the status of proposed policy for giving access on Motorways. He further asked for details about international standards in this regard. The Chairman NHA informed that a draft of the policy has been prepared wherein minimum distance of 10 k.m between the two interchanges in the major cities has been suggested. He also informed that this access would be a through-fare and would not be allowed to specific housing society.

At this point of time, the Chairman Committee invited all the honourable Members of the Committee to table their suggestions regarding access on Motorways. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo proposed that the access may not be given to any housing scheme and it should not be allowed for new settlements also. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar also endorsed the suggestion of Senator Hasil Bizenjo that the access may not be given to any housing society at all. Senator Sardar Yaqoob Khan Nasir was of the view that before giving permission for new interchange, the volume of the population and proper distance may also be kept in mind. Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan also recommended that access may not be given to any housing society on Motorways. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini floated a suggestion that NHA should construct the interchanges with the funds of the private housing societies and the maintenance expenditure may also be charged from these societies. He however, recommended that instead of distance between two interchanges, it should be allowed on the need basis for the public facilitation. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz was of the opinion that the Committee should not take decision in haste as according to him, its implications may affect our future planning. He, therefore, suggested that before jumping on to a final conclusion, there must be proper discussion on this issue. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan recommended that the access may be given only to the densely populated areas. Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari, also recommended that permission for interchanges may be given after a proper study and there should be at least a distance of 10 km between two interchanges by considering the heavy traffic flow also.

Raja Nowsherwan, Member (Planning), NHA however, submitted that that the interchanges are made for the public welfare and no policy may be made in isolation. He therefore requested that the interchanges may be allowed for the public benefits as and where need arises.

After detailed discussion on the subject, the Committee recommended that the access may be allowed through a proper forum after detailed study of the area. The Committee however recommended that no access may be given to a housing society only as the access from Motorways is used for the publicity of said housing scheme resulting in making huge profit by fleecing the poor people.

On the issue of the recruitment of 08 ASPO in Balochistan against 05 sanctioned posts, Mr. Mashal Khan, DG Pakistan Post candidly admitted that an irregularity was committed during the departmental promotion process of these posts. He elaborated that these three posts were reserved for the direct appointment but were filled by promoting the departmental candidates. He however assured that that no irregularity or violation of rules would be made in future while filling the vacant posts meant for direct appointment. He further submitted that since the persons involved in this case have retired, therefore, no disciplinary action have been taken against them.

The Committee recommended to conduct an inquiry into matter so that such violations may be avoided in future and the details about its findings be laid before the Committee. It was also decided that the opinion of Law & Justice Department may be sought in respect of punitive action against the Officers/officials of Pakistan Post directly involved in this case even though they may have retired from service.

On the agenda of the recruitments of 171 employees in Postal Services under Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan, the Committee was informed that a summary in this regard has already been forwarded to M/o Communications for giving relaxation in the appointments against Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package but nothing has received from there in this regard as yet. However, the Chairman Committee asked for a copy of the summary sent to the Ministry of Communications for filling these posts immediately by relaxing temporary ban imposed by the Govt.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 11th July, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

1. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
2. Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
3. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz	Member
4. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini	Member
5. Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
6. Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
7. Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel	Member
8. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member
9. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

1. Province-wise break-up of budgetary allocation for the different projects of NHA in the next PSDP (for the year 2014-15) in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan.
2. Formulation/ implementation of policy regarding giving access/ interchanges on motorways in accordance with the discussion made in the last meeting of the Standing Committee.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the recitation from the Holy Quran. At the outset almost all the members of the Committee present in the meeting expressed their concerns that despite an important issue of allocation of the funds in the PSDP under discussion, the representation of the Ministry of Finance and Planning Divisions is at the very low level. Besides the Chairman NHA was also not present because as per statement of the NHA, he was on an official visit to China. The Committee members were of the view that Government was not giving due importance to the Parliamentary Committees. It was therefore, decided that the matter should be brought in to the notice of the Prime Minister of Pakistan as well as the Chairman Senate, as the agenda item relates to the development and welfare of the general public and would consequently result in allaying the sense of deprivation of the common people. It was, therefore, stressed that the entire stakeholder should play their due role in this regard.

The Committee, therefore, decided to postpone the meeting till 21st July, 2014 with the direction that the representation of the Finance Division and Planning Division should be at higher level so that the decisions may be taken at the spot. Besides, they should also brief the Committee about the

criteria for the allocation of funds in the PSDP as in some cases very meagre amounts have been allocated for the huge approved project cost.

The Committee also advised the NHA to formulate a comprehensive policy for giving access to the private Housing societies from motorways keeping in view the international standard and also on need basis. The Committee members were also of the view that some of the societies are operational very near to the funnel area of the new Islamabad Airport which may be a serious threat to the airport in future. The Honourable Members of the Committee, therefore, advised that it was high time to make policy as early as possible. The Committee therefore advised that final draft of the policy may be placed before the Committee on 21st July, 2014 for deliberation for necessary approval thereof from the concerned quarters.

Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan pointed out that the political pressure is being kept on GM, KPK for inauguration of the projects. The Committee advised that no political pressure may be put on any officer of NHA in the discharge of his official responsibilities. He further suggested that in the case of any issue with the NHA, the political personalities should consult NHA Headquarters instead of putting pressure on any individual officer of that Department.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, on 21st July, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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|--|--------|
| 1. Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| 2. Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz | Member |
| 3. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousuf Badini | Member |
| 4. Senator Nisar Muhammad | Member |
| 5. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar | Member |
| 6. Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel | Member |
| 7. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| 8. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

1. Province-wise breakup of budgetary allocation for the different projects of NHA in the next PSDP (for the year 2014-15) in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan.
2. Formulation/ implementation of policy regarding giving access/ interchanges on motorways in accordance with the discussion made in the last meeting of the Standing Committee.

The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcoming remarks Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee on Communications advised Mr. Noor Alam Khan (Ex-MNA and Special Invitee) to explain his problems. Mr. Noor Alam informed that there is corruption on large scale in the Award of land for Peshawar Northern Bypass as the land is being purchased through brokers. The Chairman NHA assured that if any corruption case came into his notice, severe disciplinary action would be taken against the involved officials. The Chairman Standing Committee advised Mr. Noor Alam Khan to hand over the documentary evidence of corruption (if any) to a sub-Committee of the Functional Committee on Less Developed Area for further probing into the matter.

While starting discussion on the agenda item, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai and Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan enquired from the Secretary Planning, Development & Reforms

about the criteria being adopted for the allocation of funds in the PSDP for various projects as according to them, in some cases very nominal amount is allocated against the demand, resultantly, the cost of the project increases tremendously and the projects do not complete in time. But on the other hand in some cases, heavy amount is allocated against un-approved projects which is always used for favouritism. Senator Hamayun Khan Mandokhel proposed that sufficient funds should also be kept for social sector for the uplift of undeveloped areas. He also urged that there should be equitable development of each area of the country for reducing the sense of deprivation of the peoples of the undeveloped areas.

The Secretary Planning, Development & Reforms threw light on the criteria fixed for the allocation of amount in PSDP. He informed the Committee that amount is kept in PSDP for a project after passing through a long process including final approval of the National Economic Council (NEC) on need basis and also keeping in view the backwardness of the area. However, majority of the members of the Committee did not agree with the criteria of allocating funds in the PSDP for different projects because as according to them, heavy loss is caused to national exchequer because sufficient funds are not earmarked for the projects and the completion of projects in time is delayed which creates problem for people of the area as also for the government. The members quoted some examples in this regard like N-40, Quetta-Chamman Road, Gharo-Kati Bandar project, Lyari Expressway etc.

Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari suggested that provinces should also be taken on board in this regard and the Federal Government should also cooperate with the provincial Governments in completion of their important mega projects. The Secretary, Planning and Reforms submitted before the Committee that the Commission has always consulted and cooperated with the Provinces on all projects but no such consultation or cooperation has ever been witnessed from the Provinces from the Planning Commission.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Chairman NHA informed, the Committee that during the current financial year, an unprecedented allocation of Rs.25 billion has been earmarked for the projects of Balochistan. On the points raised by Senator Muhammad Yousaf Badini and Senator Yaqoob Khan Nasir, the Chairman NHA assured to review the amount allocated for the maintenance of N-40 and completion of Loralai Road. On a query of Senator Mukhtiar Ahmad Dhamarah, the Chairman NHA assured for taking all possible steps to complete the repair/ maintenance work along with remaining work on the National Highway(Karachi to Sukkur) , M9 & Gharo-Ketti Bandar Road. The Chairman NHA offered the Committee to witness the work on spot.

After listening to the officials of Planning Division and NHA, the Committee recommended following steps for the allocation of amounts in PSDP.

- I. There should be no block of allocation at all.

- II. For the early completion of the projects, amount should be kept according to requirements.
- III. Priority should be given to the projects near completion.
- IV. There should be reasonable rational in the requirement and allocation of the funds.
- V. There should be specific reason for less allocation against demand.
- VI. No heavy amount should be kept against un-approved schemes.
- VII. There should be proper coordination between the Planning Division and National Highway Authority in the allocation of amount for any project and Planning Davison should keep close liaison in this regard.
- VIII. The project of Lyari Express Way may be completed as soon as possible, as sufficient time has already been passed and huge escalation charges have already been added to the cost of the project.
- IX. The Committee will pay visit to witness the work on Lyari Express Way project and National Highway in due course of time.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha pointed out that the NHA has recently increased the rates for Toll Tax on Motorway and Highways which is an extra burden on the common people. He was of the view that there should be some rationale for increase in the toll tax and it should be increased in accordance with prescribed rules and regulation. The Chairman NHA informed that NHA is awarding concession on BOT basis to private investors and toll tax is the main source of their revenues. He further stated that it has to reduce burden on the National exchequer, He stated that for this reason, increase in the toll has been made and the amount would be spent on the maintenance for the motorways and highways. The Committee however asked for the complete detail including prescribed rules and regulations for increasing the rate of toll may be provided to the Committee.

The Committee also decided that the left over agenda will be discussed in the next meeting.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 4th August, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

1.Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
2.Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz	Member
3.Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
4.Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
5.Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel	Member
6.Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- (I) Breakup of budgetary allocation for different projects of NHA in the next PSDP (for the year 2014-15) in the provinces of Punjab, KPK, Gilgit Baltistan and AJK.
- (II) Update position of the promotion cases of members of the NHA as recommended by the Standing Committee.

The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcoming remarks, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee on Communications remarked that it was very simple case of promotions of the Members of NHA but the same has been delayed on procedural interpretations. The Chairman NHA narrated the impediments restricting holding of DPC. He further stated that in the presence of restrained order of Islamabad High Court, no proceedings regarding subject promotion cases can be taken up. The Chairman Standing Committee observed that due to pendency of petition and the restriction of stay order on holding DPC, other eligible officers are also being deprived of their legitimate right of promotion. The Chairman also showed concern that when the Prime Minister Office is involved, the matter will be agitated before the Supreme Court if adverse findings against the government are received. The Chairman NHA however informed that about one month earlier the comments were filed on behalf of the government and assured the Committee that he will convene a meeting with the petitioner on his arrival from Saudi Arabia in presence of all other stakeholders. He was hopeful that the matter will be sorted out of the Court. Accordingly the Committee deferred the matter till submission of report by the Chairman NHA.

At the outset, the Chairman Standing Committee remarked that some settled formula needs to be chalked out to minimize the resentment amongst the provinces in the allocation of their share in PSDP. He, therefore, urged for formation of a defined policy regarding fixing criteria to allocate funds for the provinces in PSDP for the roads by NHA in consultation with Planning Division & M/o Finance. The Chairman Committee further observed that the ground realities should not be ignored as there is a state of deprivation amongst the stakeholders in absence of viable modus-operandi about funds distribution as these are not honouring on merit. Senator Nisar Muhammad pointed out that no funds have been allocated for the schemes approved by ECNEC even in the years 2011, 2012 and 2013. Senator Kamil Ali Agha suggested that leaving aside pick and choose policy, government should formulate a rational formula. He suggested that the important national projects should be segregated from the allocated funds in PSDP for provincial projects for road sector. He further observed that the tendency of token allocation against the mega projects should also be discouraged. Mr. Asif Sheikh, Planning Commission principally agreeing with the suggestion stated that 70% of the PSDP is preferred to the on-going schemes. He desired that there should be some guiding principles for minimizing the concerns of the stakeholders. He, however, asserted that the schemes involving foreign aid are given preference. All the members were agreed that all the projects of national importance should not be included in share of PSDP of the provinces to prevail a sense of confidence as well as parity. On this point, Chairman NHA informed that against his demand of Rs.128 Billion, a low allocation would result in completion of only 43 on-going schemes, whereas, if the requisitioned amount would have allocated, then all the 63 on-going schemes could easily been completed. He also agreed with the observation of Senator Nisar Muhammad that many approved schemes by ECNEC have not been included in the

financial year 2014-15. He further stated that some rational formula for assigning priority to the schemes may be evolved.

While discussion on the various projects in Punjab, he informed that **Scheme No.67 (Faisalabad – Khanewal Expressway) of Punjab province** will be completed during the current financial year and even he was expecting inauguration in September, 2014. Regarding **Scheme No.75 (Khanewal - Multan Inter District Road)**, Chairman NHA informed that it will be completed by March, 2015 with the foreign aid of Islamic Development Bank. For **Schemes No.80 (M-4/N-70 Motorway, 8 km) and Scheme No.81 (M-4 Motorway 57 km), Scheme No.83 (Multan Inner Ring Road Including Six Interchanges), Scheme No.86 (N-70/M-4 Link Interchange)**, Chairman NHA informed that these schemes will be completed during the current financial year. Regarding **Scheme No.89 (Rakhni-Gaj-Bewata N-70)**, it was informed that the Japanese are still not satisfied with security situation of the area therefore NHA is negotiating with them. Against **Scheme No.98 (Rehabilitation/Up-gradation of Tri District Link)**, Chairman NHA informed, that phase-I and II are 100 percent completed, whereas the Phase-III is half way and the requisite funds are available for its completion within the current financial year. He informed that most of the schemes will be started on BOT Basis in future.

While discussing **scheme No.108 (construction of bridge between Chishtian and Burewala on River Sutlej)**, it was informed that this amount of Rs.20 million is only for study purpose as all others schemes were newly included in PSDP allocation 2014-15.

While discussing **Scheme No.60 (Hassanabdal-Havelian Expressway) of Khyber Pakhtunkhawa**, it was informed that the technical evaluation has been passed on to the Chinese but the work has yet to be started. The substantial completion of **Scheme No.63 (CRBC Crossing – Sara-e-Gambila N-55)** was appreciated by the Committee. Regarding **Scheme No.69 (Hassanabdal–Havelian–Manshera Expressway)** it was informed that land Acquisition work is almost completed. Regarding **Scheme No.70 (Improvement of 78.2 km Nowshera-Dir-Chitral Road)**, it was informed that due to some observation by Railways in spite of payment of Rs.45 million by NHA, no work is being allowed by Railways. However the Chairman NHA assured the Committee that the matter will be sorted out with Railways and also informed that he has given the approval of the new design and presently, no other hindrance is visible. He, however, promised to commence the work at site w.e.f. 10.08.2014. The Chairman NHA informed that work on **Scheme No.76 (Khushal Garh Bridge over River Indus, N-80)** has been almost completed and will be inaugurated very soon. Regarding **Scheme No.77 (Lowari Tunnel & Access Roads)** the Committee appreciated for provision of sufficient funds for completion of this important project. Regarding **Scheme No.82 (Mansehra-Naran-Jalkhad Road)**, Chairman NHA informed that it stood completed whereas about **Scheme No.85 (N-55 Khyber Pakhtunkhawa RD & SC project)**, he informed that although substantial work has been completed yet he is not satisfied with the quality of work and an inquiry has been initiated. The Chairman NHA promised to furnish the findings of the inquiry before the Committee. Regarding **Scheme No.88 (Peshawar Northern Bypass)**, the Chairman NHA informed that a sub-committee is also working on the issue of compensation on account of land acquisition and the matter is vigorously under consideration. Regarding **Scheme No.93 (Rehabilitation & Widening of Earthquake Affected Areas)**, Chairman informed that it will be completed within the current financial year positively. It was

informed about **Scheme No.104 (Raikot–Havelian-Islamabad Section)** that initial feasibility has been completed but to cut down the cost of the project some rational process is under consideration and hopefully the matter will be resolved shortly.

The other schemes of national importance to Gilgit Baltistan were also discussed and the Committee was assured by the Planning Division that required funding would be made available for these projects which will be beneficial for the whole country.

In nutshell, the Committee expressed satisfaction on the present working and funding of the NHA projects but it was reiterated that some workable formula should be evolved for segregating the projects of national importance and the projects beneficial for the particular province only.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 23rd September, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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| • Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| • Senator Mohsin Khan Leghari | Member |
| • Senator Mukhar Ahmed Damrah Aajiz | Member |
| • Senator Zahid Khan | Member |
| • Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo | Member |
| • Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan | Member |
| • Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- **Progress report on the recommendations of Standing Committee regarding promotion cases of Members (From BS-20 to BS-21) in the NHA.**
- **Presentation of report on the policy of giving access to various Housing Schemes from Motorways.**
- **Update position/ progress of work on the following projects:**
 - **Khushal Garh Bridge.**
 - **Northern Bypass Peshawar.**
 - **Chitral-Nowshera (N-45).**
 - **Chakdara-Kalam (N-95).**
 - **Lowari Tunnel.**
 - **Express Way (E-35).**

The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee welcomed all the participants. At the outset, the Chairman Standing Committee informed Honourable Members and the NHA officers that the it has never restricted the Department to award any land for any project and its subsequent payments. However, the Committee had recommended NHA to give award by ensuring the transparency.

The Members of the Committee showing their deep concern over the non-promotions of the NHA Members from BPS-20 to BPS-21, pointed out that the Committee had, on many occasions, recommended conducting DPC and promoting the officers who have been performing their duties on their existing grade since long but no progress has been seen in this regard. The Chairman Standing Committee enquired from the Officers of Ministry of Communication (MoC) about the reasons for non-compliance of recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Mr. Aurangzeb Haque, Additional Secretary MoC agreeing with the concerns of the Members of the Committee regarding non-conducting DPC and consequential non-promotion of the senior officers of NHA, informed that the matter is sub judice which has resulted in unnecessary delay in promotions. He, however, assured that the MoC is committed to promote its officers which he termed as their due right. Mr. Altamish, Member NHA, who is also a petitioner in the said case, briefing about the history of the issue, informed that the promotions were made according to revised Rules of the MoC which empowered the Chairman NHA Council/Ex-Officio Minister to promote an officer bypassing DPC and these rules had not been challenged for two years. He, therefore, contended that these promotions were legally made by following the prevailing rules of NHA. However, Additional Secretary MoC apprised that the Court has directed that the promotion of the officers of Grade 20 and above, must be made by following the defined procedure rather than giving promotions just to favour some officers by using discretionary powers by the competent authority.

Senator Mukhtar Ahmed Damrah suggested that the Secretary M/o Law, Justice & Human Rights may be asked to attend the next meeting of the Standing Committee and give legal opinion on this matter. The Committee unanimously endorsed this proposal and recommended that the Ministry of Law should ensure its representation in the next meeting of the Committee to offer legal opinion on the issue.

The policy for giving access to various housing Schemes from Motorways was thoroughly deliberated upon by the Standing Committee. Raja Nowsherwan, Member NHA updating the Committee about the status of the said policy, informed that its initial draft has been submitted to the NHA Executive Board, which has sent it to NESPAK for further consideration and their input. After following this process, it would be presented in the meeting of the NHA Board for its approval. However, the Chairman NHA, Mr. Ashraf Tarr informed that the amendments floated by honourable Members of the Committee would also be incorporated in it before its final approval by the competent authority.

The salient features of the said policy are as under:

- Except where required by GoP for reasons of National Interest, NHA shall not allow an interchange or access to Motorways within less than 10 km of an existing interchange on either side of the proposed access in case of the rural area and within 5 km in case of the urban area.
- The request for allowing the accesses for the commercial and residential purposes would be dealt with separately.
- Any request for the construction of interchange whereby the applicants are willing to bear the cost, shall be made in writing.

- NHA shall scrutinize the application and confirm that :
- There is no conflict with strategic and other interests of GoP as well as Provincial Government.
- In case of access to residential areas, there is sufficient existing population (min 30,000 housing units) in the areas, where interchanges is being proposed.
- The access shall be open to public and shall not be restricted.
- NHA shall operate or cause to operate the toll plazas.
- The applicant shall not have any right to carry out any commercial activity on the premises of the interchange.
- NHA reserves the right to close the interchange if any requirements arise in due course of time. However, NHA shall not do so unless, there is cogent reason such as expansion of requirement, GoP directives, defaults of applicant, etc.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha appreciated the said policy but at the same time, he sought assurance from the NHA that the policy would not be misused to serve the vested interests of the housing societies. However, the members of the committee lauding the efforts of NHA regarding the formation of this policy, suggested that the purposes of the businesses may be also elaborated in the policy, i.e. sports, technology, furniture etc. Besides, the Committee approved the said policy. However, the Chairman NHA assured the Standing Committee that this amendment would be incorporated in the policy prior to its presentation before the Executive Board for its approval.

The Committee was briefed about the update position of the following project.

a. **Khushal Garh Bridge**

The project has been completed and at present, it is operational. However, some flaws in the design of one of the approach road along-with other petty issues have been identified and steps are being taken for its rectification. Furthermore, an inquiry is under process to identify the responsible persons for this fault.

b. **Northern Bypass, Peshawar**

The said project is consisted of three packages, out of which Package-I has been completed while construction on one of the portion of Package –IIIA is in the process. Moreover, an amount of Rs. 600 million has been allocated for the Package-II and its procurement has been completed so the work will start very soon. It was further informed that few irregularities have been reported; consequently, some of the officials have been suspended. On the slow progress of the project, it was told that this delay is being caused due to the delay in allocation of the funds.

c. **Chitral-Nowshera (N-45)**

At present, the condition of the road is not satisfactory, while the Korean experts have thoroughly investigated the road and in the light of their findings, the feasibility for the maintenance works of the said project would be prepared. In addition, due to redesigning of three bridges, the cost has surged to \$277 million against the original cost of \$90 million and at present, the redesigning as well as the geometry of these bridges have been approved. There are issues of the site clearance, therefore, the Koreans, the financier of this project, have asked for the 100 % security and the site clearance before commencement of the work. However, NHA has proposed to start work in phases. The officials of the NHA suggested the Committee for recommending this proposal regarding the construction of the project in phases.

d. **Chakdara-Kalam (N-95)**

Maintenance work on some portions of this road has been started and at present, 35% of the progress has been achieved. In addition, the technical analysis of remaining portions has been done and the work would be started very soon. Moreover, this project is being executed through the grant of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, therefore, efforts are being made to seek this grant. Besides, it was informed on behalf of NHA that the foreign funded projects are intensively scrutinized by the donors, resultantly; the delay is caused in the completion of such projects.

e. **Lowari Tunnel**

It is a huge project and its profile has been modified to cater to the changing requirements by widening the tunnel in Oct-2012. At present, 58 % of the widening progress has been ascertained. There are various reasons for the delay in its completion i.e. revision of “Building Code of Pakistan “ due to earthquake of 2005, heavy floods in 2006 & 2010, suspension of the work for ten months due to the Swat operation, change of the scope of purpose from Lowari Tunnel into Road Tunnel, termination of the contract and availability of the funds etc.

f. **Hassanabdal-Havelian Expressway (E-45)**

The bid procedure has been completed and after the approval of ADB, the financial bid will be opened. Then the successful contractor will mobilize at site within 15 days while all the awards have been completed.

On a point raised by Senator Nisar Muhamamd Khan regarding present status of Takht Bai Flyover, the Committee was informed that the design has been revised but due to shortage of the funds, the progress of the work is quite slow. It was further submitted that out of 52 piles, 24 have been completed. However some impediments have been observed by NHA such as NOC from the Pakistan Railways, allocation of the funds etc. which have hampered the progress of the work. However, all possible steps are being taken to do away with all these obstacles for smooth flow of work on this

project. The Chairman NHA assured that he would personally visit the site and efforts would be made for sufficient allocation of the funds.

Senator Zahid Khan highlighting the significance of the Lowari Tunnel project suggested that a GM may be deputed for this project who may be directly responsible to report to the Chairman NHA about its progress. The Committee stressed that the construction work on all aforementioned projects must be expedited in order to ensure timely completion of these projects and all the issues being confronted by the NHA at the moment, may be resolved immediately.

Senator Zahid Khan expressing his reservation over the functioning of E-Tagging on NHA toll plazas, stated that it was installed for the facilitation of the commuters for ensuring the smooth flow of the traffic but it has not been able to achieve its objectives so far. As a result, according to his view, long queues of the vehicles at E-Tagging installed toll plaza (s) can be seen which raises a question mark on its performance. He, therefore, emphasized that the all the hurdles in its way, may be removed immediately.

Col. Taimur Rathore, an Officer from NADRA throwing light on the observations of the Senator Zahid Khan, submitted before the Committee that due to some technical issues coupled with the non serious as well as non caring attitude and un-awareness of the drivers, such impediments have been witnessed. He, however, assured that efforts would be made to resolve such issues in order to make E-Tagging more effective.

Senator Mukhtar Ahmed Dhamrah enquired about the latest status of the Ketu Bunder-Gharo Road, maintenance work of Sukkur-Hyderabad Road and M-9 Project. Besides, he suggested a visit of the Committee to witness the progress of Ketu Bunder Road as well as other major ongoing projects of NHA in Province of Sindh. The Committee endorsing the proposal of the visit, recommended that it would take place soon after the Eid ul Azha.

The Chairman NHA replying to the queries raised by Senator Mukhtar Ahmed Damrah regarding the latest status of various ongoing NHA projects in the Province of Sindh, informed that the State Minister for Communications Mr. Abdul Hakeem Baloch has recently visited the Ketu Bunder-Gharo road and directed to initiate its construction and maintenance work on priority basis. He further brought to the notice of the Committee that meetings with the Project Directors (PDs) & Consultant of Sukkur-Hyderabad Road have been held and they have been directed to repair the damaged portions of the said road immediately. Besides, he informed that the concession for BOT has been signed with the successful contractor, i.e. FWO, which has been assured by the local commercial banks regarding the provision of loan. He further mentioned that at present FWO is engaged on M-II and would commence the construction work on M-9 in October 2014.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 30th September, 2014, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

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| • Senator Kamil Ali Agha | Member |
| • Senator Islamuddin Sheikh | Member |
| • Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan | Member |
| • Senator Zahid Khan | Member |
| • Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir | Member |
| • Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini | Member |

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- **Implementation status on the recommendations, made in the meeting of the Standing Committee held on 2nd May, 2014.**
- **Update position of the computerization of 300 Post Offices and provision of seven services in all GPOs throughout country.**
- **Latest position of the appointment of 171 persons under the Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan Package in Postal Services.**
- **Any other item with permission of the Chair.**

The proceeding of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee welcomed all the participants. At the outset, the Chairman Standing Committee congratulated on the behalf of the members of the Committee, stated that the Minister himself has remained the member of the Committee and has better understanding of the issues of his ministry. He, therefore, hoped that honourable Minister would co-operate with the Committee in resolving the longstanding issues of the Ministry. Honourable Minister for Communications thanked the members of the committee and assured his cooperation in this regard.

The Chairman Standing Committee asked the officials of the Pakistan Post to update the Committee about the implementation status of recommendations regarding Pakistan Post, made in its meeting held on 2nd May, 2014.

While briefing about the implementation status of the recommendations of the Committee by the Pakistan Post it was informed that:-

- Pakistan Post sub-leases its buildings to PLI, Pakistan Post Foundation and common public/civilians, while the later one is given buildings on rent through the advertisement. Total 270 buildings with the covered area of 5,744,655 sq, located throughout the country, have been rented out. Pakistan Post has earned Rs. 188.65 million last year including the arrears of Rs.119.71 million from Postal Life Insurance (PLI), which has been charged after the revision of the 2008 rental rate in the compliance of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.
- There are 78 vacant plots with the area of 60,844 sft.
- There are 4,140 buildings (official & residential) with the covered area of 5,023,065 sft in use of Pakistan Post.
- For enhancing the capacity of officers as well as other staffs, extensive training is being provided to them. The officers are being trained in ECO Postal Staff College ,Islamabad , while the other staff get training in circle wise postal training centres located in the capitals of all the provinces.
- For the integration of the utility bills collection, the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is being developed with the coordination of the utility services providers and a meeting in this regard with the concerned entities has also been conducted.

The Chairman Standing Committee showing his observations over the rate being charged as rental income by Pakistan Post, suggested that there must be minimum base prescribed in advertisement is published for renting of its building and shops. Senator Kamil Ali Agha seconding Chairman Standing Committee urged that there must be a defined rental policy in accordance with the existing market dynamics and tenancy law, in which a proper mechanism must be mentioned, which would also ensure transparency. He also indicated that despite the recommendations of the Standing Committee regarding the capacity building of the staff of Pakistan Post, no remarkable improvement in their performance has been seen. He, therefore, asserted that all possible steps must be taken to enhance the performance of the employees of Pakistan Post, in order to make it a profitable entity. Besides, the members of the Committee were of the view that there must be a mechanism for revision of existing rent, in order to enhance the rental income of Pakistan Post. However, Mr. Aurengzeb Haque, Additional Secretary MoC informed that the rates are being charged as per notified Government Policy. He however, agreed that there is need of revision in rents of postal buildings. Besides, he proposed that a departmental committee may be formed which may randomly check and compare the existing rental rates of Pakistan Post with the prevailing market rates. He further stated that the rental rates may be developed in the light of findings of the said committee. Moreover, Minister for MoC also assured that the prevailing rates of tenants of Pakistan Post would be revised in the light of the findings of the said committee,

The Committee approving the proposal recommended providing the complete report of the findings of the departmental committee along with detail of agreements made by the Pakistan Post during last three years including notified rates of PWD during the same tenure.

On the issue of the computerization of 3000 post offices along with the provision of the seven services in all 83 GPOs throughout the country, official of Pakistan Post informed that the 5th module of seven services, Military pension has been extended to 33 GPOs. It was further informed that it would be fully implemented throughout the country till December 2014. Moreover, Additional Secretary indicated that it is a huge project but due to availability of meagre resources, progress of the said project is very slow. He however, informed that on the directions of Minister for MoC a PC-I has been sent to M/o Finance for the allocation of required funds in PSDP, for ensuring all services within defined time-frame for the public facilitation. Honourable Minister pointed out that this is a project of national importance and it is critical for the survival of Pakistan Post in order to compete with its competitors possessing advance technology. He also suggested to recommend enhancement in the return of 0.5% on Saving Bank which may increase the revenue of Rs. 4-5 billion of Pakistan Post per year.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha indicated that the Committee has on many occasions, recommended for increasing the return on Saving Bank for Pakistan Post. The Committee stressed that all possible measures must be taken to improve the performance of Pakistan Post which is not upto the mark now.

On the latest position of the recruitment of 171 persons under Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan the Committee was updated that the ban on the recruitment has recently been lifted by the Establishment Division. It was further stated that the process for filling of these posts would be initiated as soon as the approval of Finance Division is received by the department. He indicated that since these vacancies were not retained after 2012-13, therefore it is necessary to solicit the retention of those vacancies by the concerned department for filling in the year 2013-14 & 2014-15 and it has been taken up with the Finance Department.

The Committee emphasized that the process for filling of these posts must be initiated on priority basis and the advertisement in this regard may also be published in the famous newspaper of the regional and local languages.

An official of Pakistan Post while briefing about the detail of the appointments have been made in Pakistan post since 13th May 2013 informed that total of 111 employees (BPS-01 to BPS-14) out of which 31 employees on regular basis, 79 on the contractual basis, while 1 (one) on the deputation basis have been appointed during the aforementioned period. He further apprised that the employees were regularized in the light of the decision of a Cabinet Committee on the regularization constituted by the previous Government. It was further told that the contractual employees have been appointed against the deceased quota after the fulfillment of all necessary formalities in this regard.

Senator Zahid Khan indicated that significance number of the contractual employees against the deceased quota have been appointed by PMG Lahore. He deplored that on the other hand, only one appointment has been made against this quota from KPK & Balochistan provinces each, which has raised question mark about the transparency and fairness of the provided information. The Committee showing its serious reservations over the provided information recommended supply of the complete detail of contractual employees mentioning the detail of blood relation against whose quota they have been appointed along with the copy of notification for the regularization of the employees within two weeks.

After detailed deliberations, following recommendations were made:

- A departmental committee may be formed, which may examine and compare the rents being charged by Pakistan Post and the existing market rates as also a proper policy may be developed regarding rent of buildings and shops of Post Department.
- All possible steps may be taken to enhance the rental income of Pakistan Post to make it a profitable concern.
- Efforts may be made for the computerization of all post offices along with the provision of seven services in all GPOs throughout the country.
- A detailed report regarding the contractual as well as regular employees, with the copies of notifications of the regularization of the employees along with the detail of the deceased quota may be furnished within 15 days.
- Recruitment process for the appointment of 171 persons under Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e Balochistan Package may be initiated fast track basis and all the discrepancies in this regard may be removed.
- Advertisement for filling of these posts may also be published in famous newspaper of the regional and local language.

Senator Zahid Khan appreciating the efforts of the Committee regarding the establishment/ inauguration of GPO at Temargrah, KPK apprised that it would be inaugurated very soon. Besides, he appreciated the cooperation of DG Pakistan Post in this regard.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS HELD ON 10TH OCTOBER, 2014 IN COMMITTEE ROOM NO.1, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, ISLAMABAD.

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held on 10th October, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. in Committee Room No.1, Parliament House, Islamabad. **Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate** was in the Chair.

The Following members attended the meeting:-

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| i. Senator Islamuddin Shaikh | Member |
| ii. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan | Member |
| iii. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhail | Member |
| iv. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Laghari | Member |

The agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- (i) Legal Opinion of Law Department regarding promotion criteria of NHA Members (BS-20 to BS-21) according to MoC Rules.
- (ii) Briefing about present status of the proposed Lahore - Karachi Motorway Project.

After recitation by Senator Mohsin Khan Laghari the meeting was formally started.

AGENDA ITEM-I

Regarding Agenda item I the Committee members expressed their reservations on the absence of Secretary Law. They said Deputy Draftsman was not the appropriate person who could brief the Committee on the said agenda. It was decided that the same agenda would be discussed in the next meeting in the presence of Secretary Law. However the Law Ministry representative Mr. Muhammad Israr said that the matter was subjudice. The Committee should abstain itself from any further discussion till the arrival of a formal court order. At this point the Chairman Committee categorically stated that the Committee was not going against the court but actual facts should be presented properly. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan clearly stated that the standing Committee had its own jurisdiction. Moreover, for the last three years the case was under discussion in the Committee. The said case should have been moved to the court but with the recommendations of the standing committee. It was decided that the Secretary Law would present the case in the next meeting along with all relevant documents.

AGENDA ITEM II

While discussing the proposed Lahore-Karachi motorway project, Senator Islamuddin Shaikh expressed his reservations on the alignment of the said project. According to him, from the existing alignment a large portion of his land is at stake including his sugar mill. The Chairman NHA informed the members that if the alignment gets changed, the price would be higher. However, if Senator Islamuddin Shaikh would come up with some alternate proposal regarding alignment, it would certainly be shared with relevant Authorities.

Regarding China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the Chairman Committee along with other members impressed upon including major cities of Balochistan and KPK. The Chairman Committee stated that in his province, Balochistan deprivation was at its verge and it demanded special attention to the people of Balochistan where separatist forces were on the rise. The Committee had clearly forwarded its suggestions on CPEC issue to the government but not a single one was implemented. The Communication Ministry and National Highway Authority (NHA) excluded Balochistan from CPEC through different excuses. He demanded that main cities of Balochistan should be included in the project so that economic activities get momentum there, which would ultimately be beneficial for the public.

The Committee was told that the said project would meet economic requirements. Pakistan would not compromise on its national interest. Likewise, the Chinese would certainly not be dictated too. Both Pakistan and China consider the CPEC as the most important project in boosting economic solidarity. Under the scheme, around Rs. 350 billion investment would be in the form of public private partnership. The agreed cost after negotiations with the Chinese firm was reduced from \$ 9 billion to \$ 2.9 billion. He added, while considering economic advantages, the alignment was set on the basis of lesser time and space for goods transportation from Xinjiang to Karachi. According to the available alignment, the estimated time is 36 hours instead of 10 days previously. Regarding N-5, it was informed that it has become completely urbanized and there was a need to have a separate route which could boost the economy. For the M-9 (Karachi – Hyderabad) FWO has given a letter of support after bidding. A six lane conversion is being done on super highway project. The FWO's concessional agreement is under consideration. By the upgradation of the existing super highway, the government of Pakistan would be benefited to the tune of Rs.145 billion. Through BOT, the Islamabad – Lahore motorway would be able to get benefit of Rs. 206 billion. The Takht-Bahi overhead bridge would be functional till January, 2015. The survey of Chakdara Timargara is completed. Hassan Abdal – Mansehra motorway would be extended to four lane. For this project approval of Rs.200 million has been given by the Prime Minister and foundation ceremony of E-35 would be held on 1st November, 2014 by his Excellency Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Senator Mohsin Khan Laghari stressed on giving chance to companies other than Chinese. The Committee was informed that considering the current law and order situation, investors hardly show willingness to work in Pakistan. On the basis of need assessment of the project was given to the Chinese company. However, it was assured that there would be no compromise on our national interests. The NHA is pursuing actively to achieve the purpose.

Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan totally opposed the CPEC alignment. According to him the project is in national interest but the concerns of the Balochistan and KPK people should be considered. He said if their demands were not considered, Senators of both provinces would walk out from the session. According to him, Quetta and Dera Ismail Khan should be included in CPEC. He said that the protest could be registered in front of the Chinese Embassy until their genuine demands are not accepted. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhail seconded him.

Before concluding the meeting, the members expressed their serious reservations on the absence of Minister Communications. They said that his absence shows lack of interest in the committee proceedings which is certainly hindering the smooth working relationship between the ministry and the standing committee. However, at this point the Secretary Ministry of Communications assured honorable members that their reservations would be forwarded to the minister.

After detailed deliberations the Committee made following recommendations:

- The Committee recommended that the Secretary Law would present the case regarding promotion criteria of NHA Members (BS-20 to BS-21) according to MoC Rules in the next meeting along with all relevant documents.
- While discussing the implications of existing alignment and concerns of Senator Islamuddin Shaikh the Committee opined that an alternate proposal if submitted to the concerned authorities by Senator Islamuddin Shaikh would likely make things move positively.
- Main cities of Balochistan and KPK should be included in the CPEC project.
- The concerns of the people of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa must be considered in the said project.

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS HELD ON 21ST NOVEMBER, 2014

The meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held on 21st November, 2014 at 10:30 a.m in Committee Room No.4, Parliament House Islamabad under the chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakazai, Advocate.

The following Members of the Committee attended the meeting;

- 1) Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan Member.
- 2) Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo. Member.
- 3) Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari Member.
- 4) Senator Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri Member.
- 5) Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir Member.

The Agenda before the meeting was as under:

- i. Update position of 171 recruitments under Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e Balochistan as recommended by the Committee.
- ii. Complete details of 111 employees, recruited by postal Department as discussed in the meeting held on 30-09-2014.
- iii. Total strength of officers (Grade-wise) in Motorway Police including deputationists (province-wise) with detail of parent department with date.
- iv. Province-wise appointments in Motorway Police during the years 2013 & 2014 and criteria for allocation of newly created posts.

The meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran by Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari. The Hon'ble Chairman Committee welcomed all the participants of the meeting. Thereafter the Committee considered agenda of the meeting item wise to make its recommendations;

ITEM NO.1: Update position of 171 recruitments under Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan as recommended by the Committee

The Secretary Communications intimated the committee that due to ban on the recruitment these posts could not be fulfilled so far. Now, the Establishment Division has lifted the ban on filling of 171 vacancies created under the Aaghaz-e-Haqooq-e Balochistan. Since these vacancies have not been retained after 2012-2013 therefore, it needs further retention / approval of the Finance Division for the years 2013-2014 & 2014-2015. The case on the subject matter has been submitted to the Finance Division. The recruitment process would be started soon after receipt of retention / approval from that Division. The Hon'ble

Chairman Committee advised the Secretary Communications to peruse the matter vigorously with the Finance Division for approval under intimation to the Committee.

ITEM NO.2: Complete details of 111 employees, recruited by postal Department as discussed in the meeting held on 30-09-2014.

The Chairman Committee asked the DG, Pakistan Post to apprise / provide the break up of 111 employees of Pakistan Post appointed on regular, contract and against deceased quota. The detail of the same as provided by them is reproduced below;

SR. NO.	NAME OF OFFICE	DAILY WAGERS REGULARIZED	CONTRACT APPOINTMENTS	DEPUTATIONS	TOTAL
01.	Dt-General PPO, Islamabad.	---	01	01	02
02.	Post Staff College, Islamabad	---	---	-	---
03	GM, PLI, Lahore.	---	---	-	---
04	GM, KPK, Peshawar	09	01	-	01
05.	PMG, Islamabad.	03	01	-	04
06.	PMG Rawalpindi.	07	05	-	12
07.	PMG Lahore.	01	13	-	14
08.	PMG Multan.	05	20	-	25
09.	MPG Hyderabad.	---	14	-	14
10.	PMG Karachi.	02	06	-	08
11.	PMG Baluchistan.	---	15	-	15
12.		04	03	-	07
	Total.	31	79	01	111

Sr#	Circle	Name	Date of Birth	Design.	BPS	Qualification	Date of appointment	Date of regularization	Place of posting
1.	PMG LHR.	Allah Dita	15-5-70	Driver	4	Middle	31-7-12	31-7-12	LHR Dvn.
2.	PMG, KPK	Qasmi Manzoor	17-9-94	Postman	7	Matric	20-12-13	20-12-13	Mansehra Div.
3.	PMG, LHR	H.M. Umair	1-9-89	Mail Peon	2	Matric	17-1-14	17-1-14	West Dvn. LHR
4.	PMG, KPK	Ghulam Mustafa	20-5-87	Clerk	9	FA	11-07-13	11-07-13	Malakand Dvn
5.	PMG KPK	Khalid Ahmed	27-6-91	Clerk	9	FA	11-07-13	11-07-13	Malakand Dvn.
6.	PMG, Quetta.	Muhammad Hanif	21-11-91	Postman	7	Matric	01-12-13	01-12-13	Quetta GPO

After perusal the detail of 31 officials initially appointed on daily wages basis and later on regularized on 13-05-2013, the Hon'ble Chairman Committee asked the DG (Pakistan Post) that **as to why the following 06 officials were regularized on the date of their initial appointment as daily wagers?**

Upon the query of Chairman Committee the DG Pakistan Post intimated that all daily wagers were regularized after completion of at least one year continuous service till 15-03-2013. Since the dates of regularization of the above six officials was a typographical mistake therefore, it is highly regretted.

The Chairman Committee remarked that a number of persons from Balochistan Province approached him personally who were appointed in Pakistan Post on contract basis and even after rendering 2 or 3 years continuous service they were terminated without assigning any reason. Whereas pursuant to a decision of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, they should had to be regularized as they were fulfilling the required criteria. The Secretary Communications assured the committee that he will see this issue personally and strict disciplinary action against the responsible officers would be taken under intimation to the committee and will try his best to facilitate / accommodate all the affecties as required under the rules.

Responding to a query pertaining to quota of deceased employees, the Secretary Communications apprised the committee that there is no prescribed quota for all those employees who die in service. But in terms of Establishment Division O.M.No.7/40/2005-E-2 dated 13-06-2006 as amended time to time, titled *“Assistance Package for families of government employees who die in service”*, inter-alea provides that *“Employment of widow /widower, one son or daughter to the posts BS-01 to BS-15, on regular basis without advertisement against the post criteria of which the applicant fulfills”*. The Pakistan Post recruited these 111 officials after observing the prescribed criteria.

Coming to the appointment of Mr. Waqar Ahmed, Copy Holder BS-07 NA Secretariat, on deputation basis initially for three years in the Ministry of Postal Service as LDC BS-07 w.e.f. 28-07-2011, grant of 545 days EOL from 24-12-2012 to 21-06-2014 and extension of his deputation period up to 27-07-2016, the Chairman Committee asked the DG Pakistan Post to explain the rules position in this respect, but he could not satisfy the committee. All the Members of Committee as well as Secretary Communications expressed their resentment on this issue that as to why the respective official was given undue favour by violating the rules. The Secretary Communications assured the committee that he will himself probe the matter and report in this respect would be submitted to the committee in its ensuing meeting.

ITEM NO.3: Total strength of officers (Grade-wise) in Motorways Police including deputationsts (province-wise) with detail of parent department with date

Coming to this agenda item the DIG Hqs NH & MP intimated the committee that at present the total strength of NH & Motorways uniformed employees including the deputationists is 3812. Province-wise breakup is as under:

Sr.#	Rank	Present Strength													Grand Total (Col-2+ Col-15)	
		Perma nent	Deputationsts													
			A r m y	Punjab Police	Sindh Police	KPk Poli ce	Baloch istan Police	FATA Police	AJK Poli ce	ISD Police	Railwa y Police	Jail Police	NPA	Total Dep. (Col-4 to Col-14)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	DSP/C PO	65	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	69
2	IP/SP O (BS-	760	1	123	64	1	30	1	4	1	4	0	0	229	989	
3	SI/PO (BS- 14)	783	0	148	214	32	129	3	4	9	4	0	0	543	1326	
4	HC/AP O (BS-	586	2	30	61	47	87	4	4	0	0	0	0	235	821	
5	C/JPO (BS- 05)	347	0	60	51	62	43	1	16	18	6	1	2	260	607	
G.Total		2541	3	361	392	142	291	9	28	6	14	1	2	1271	3812	

He further intimated that 13 Civilians deputationists in BS-14, 16, 17, 18 & 19 are rendering their services in NA & MP and dealing with various administrative and financial matters. There is no prescribed quota for deputationists in all ranks of uniformed/civilian employees. All such deputationists do not affect direct recruitment and promotion quota.

Under the Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan quota 122 uniformed / civilian officials were required to be recruited. Out of which 116 persons have been appointed and 06 posts are left vacant which will be filled in as per prescribed rules. Recently 727 posts of C/JPO (BS-05) have been advertised for recruitment exclusively from Balochistan province through NTS which is under process w.e.f.07-11-2014.

Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo, was of the view that maximum efforts may be made for appointment of Baloch & Pashtoon candidates against the advertised vacancies and in order to make vast participation of candidates from all over the Balochistan. The NTS may be held at least at Divisional Hqrs. in the province. Besides, officers of Motorways Police may visit the educational

institutions of the province to motivate the youngsters to join the NH & Motorways Police. While responding the suggestions of the Hon'ble Senator, the DIG (NA&MP) intimated the committee that such exercises have already been carried out by the department. However, in future this practice would remain continue to facilitate the youngsters residing in far flung areas of Balochistan. Subsequently he apprised the committee that in order to meet the requirement of Karachi – Guwadar and costle highways, a proposal for creation of 3000 vacancies of various categories has been submitted to the Federal Government exclusively for Balochistan province. He has requested the Members of Committee to help them to get the proposal approved from the PM Office enabling the NA & Motorways Police to improve its efficiency and provide opportunities of jobs to the eligible youngsters of the province as well. The committee appreciated these efforts and also asked the Secretary Communications to utilize his good offices for the approval of these posts from the proper forum as early as possible.

ITEM NO.4: Province-wise appointments in Motorway Police during the years 2013 & 2014 and criteria for allocation of newly created posts

It was intimated to the Committee that on 13-12-2013 one Assistant Director BS-17 from Sindh (R) was appointed in NH & Motorways Police through Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC). The newly created posts are filled in accordance with provincial / regional quota approved and notified by the Federal Government. On the analogy of other Ministries / Divisions 6% quota for Balochistan Province is being observed strictly by the Ministry of Communications Islamabad as well.

After detailed discussion and deliberations the committee offered its recommendations as follows:

- i. The committee advised the Secretary Communications that efforts may be made to get the 171 vacancies of Pakistan Post (reserved for the Balochistan Province) approved from the Finance Division as early as possible.
- ii. The matter for termination of services of all those postal employees who had rendered two or three years continuous service on contract basis in Balochistan may be probed and the report there of should be placed before the committee in its next meeting.
- iii. Appointment of one each daughter OR son of 111 deceased employees of Pakistan Post in terms of “Assistance package for the families of Government employees who die in service” was appreciated by the committee.
- iv. The Secretary Communications was directed to investigate the matter of Mr. Waqar Ahmed, copy holder BS-07, NA Secretariat regarding utilization of his services as LDC BS-07 on deputation basis w.e.f. 28-07-2011 by the Ministry of Postal Service, grant of 545 days EOL from 24-12-2012 to 21-06-2014 and extension of his deputation period till 27-07-2016 and submit report to the committee in its next meeting.
- v. The committee emphasized upon the DIG (NA&MP) that against the recently advertised posts of C/JPO (BS-05), Baloch & Pashtoon candidates should be appointed and NTS may be held at Divisional Hqrs of the Province. Besides,

officers of NA & MP may visit the educational institutions of the province to motivate the youngsters to join the NA&MP and also relaxation in the appointment rules/terms & conditions may also be exercised, if possible.

vi. It was unanimously agreed / recommended by the committee that the Secretary Communications may approach the proper forum of Federal Government / PM Office to get the proposal approved for creation of 3000 posts in NA&MP for Balochistan Province exclusively and in this respect the Members of committee will play their effective role to assist the Ministry of Communications.

vii. The committee appreciated to follow / observe 6% quota of employment for Balochistan Province in all Ministries/Divisions including the Ministry of Communications.

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate on 28th November, 2014 at 1030 hours in the Committee Room No.4, Parliament House, Islamabad.

The following members attended the meeting:-

i. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
ii. Senator Islamuddin Shaikh	Member
iii. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
iv. Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
v. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini	Member
vi. Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
vii. Senator Muhammad Humayun Khan Mandokhail	Member
viii. Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Laghari	Member
ix. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member
x.	

The agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- (i) Implementation status on the recommendations of the Standing Committee made in its meeting held on 10-10-2014.
- (ii) Legal opinion of the Law Division on the promotion of NHA Officers (BS-20 to 21) as discussed in the previous meeting.
- (iii) Further discussions on economic corridor.
- (iv) Status of on-going Foreign Funded Road Projects throughout Pakistan.

The meeting started with recitation of Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee after welcoming all the participants inquired from the Ministry of Communications/NHA and Secretary, Law, Justice & Human Rights to provide update position in the case of promotion of the officers of NHA from BS-20 to BS-21.

Justice(R) M. Raza Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights informed the Committee, that there are several types of discrepancies in the case from each side. He further informed that the matter is lying in the court therefore Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights cannot give its opinion. However, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee inquired about the status of decision made by the then Chairman, National Highway Council (NHC) in this case. Secretary, Law, Justice & Human Rights assured that he will provide detail in this regard in the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

The Committee decided to discuss on all the remaining agenda items in the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan pointed out that no proper maintenance work is being carried out on the different roads in the province of KPK, therefore the maintenance work on these projects may be completed immediately. Mr.Sohaib Ahmad Khan, Member (Finance), NHA assured that funds for maintenance work will be released within two weeks.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha, Senator Nisar Muhammad, Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan pointed out, that the contract of Phase-2 of Northern Bypass, Peshawar has not been signed, but the work has been awarded. They also stated that payment to the farmers (whose land is falling in the project) is not being paid. The NHA officials informed, that the process of making payment to the affectees of the Northern Bypass Project has been started and the construction work will also be started very soon.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee advised to provide the detail of amount incurred on the National Highway near Sukkur, in which about 65 people were killed. Mr.Aurangzeb Haque, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Communications informed, that report in this regard is in final stage, and it will be presented to the Committee very soon.

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

A meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Communications was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate on 8th December, 2014 at 1400 hours in the Committee Room No.4, Parliament House, Islamabad.

The following members attended the meeting:-

i. Senator Daud Khan Achakzai, Advocate	Chairman
ii. Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
iii. Senator Islamuddin Shaikh	Member
iv. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
v. Senator Kamil Ali Agha	Member
vi. Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini	Member
vii. Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
viii. Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel	Member

The agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- a) **Recommendations of the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 10.10.2014.**
- b) **Legal opinion of the Law Division on the promotion of NHA officers (BS-20 to 21) as discussed in the previous meeting.**
- c) **Further discussion on economic corridor.**

The meeting started with recitation of Holy Quran. Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee after welcoming all the participants advised Secretary Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights for opinion of the Ministry on the pending case for promotion of NHA officers in the Islamabad High Court.

Mr. Justice @ Raza Khan, Secretary, Law, Justice and Human Rights after giving full background of the case informed the Committee that although the then Federal Minister for Communications had given the approval to the promotion of Members of the NHA from BS-20 to 21, however this was not countersigned by the then Federal Secretary for Communication and Chairman NHA, so the approval of the Ex-Minister is not in order. He however informed that after discussion with all the stake holders, there are two solutions of this case:

- 1) In case Mr. Al-Tamash Khan withdraws his petition from the Islamabad High Court the, cases of promotion of all the Members can be considered in the DPC.

- 2) In case he does not withdraw the case from the Court, the DPC will consider the cases of promotion of other remaining officers.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Secretary Communication/ Chairman NHA seconding the comments of Secretary Law, Justice & Human Rights assured, that summary in this regard will be moved within 10 days. The Committee advised that no undue adverse action may be attributed against the petitioner as his matter is in the court and the promotion cases of all the eligible officers including petitioner may be considered in the DPC/Board. The Committee advised that promotion to the eligible officers of BPS-19 may also be given from BS-19 to 20.

While discussion on the recommendations of the Members of the Committee given on the economic corridor route almost, all the Members expressed their concern for not implementing on their proposals. The Committee advised that no change may be made in the route of economic corridor on any political pressure, but it should be adopted only in the public interest.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee and Senator Hamayun Khan Mandokhel strongly recommended, that preference for the route may be given from Gwadar – Khuzdar- Quetta- Zoab- D.I.Khan and onwards. Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan pointed out that Expressway is already being constructed with the cooperation of Asian Development Bank (ADB) therefore there is no need to construct a duplicate road from Havalian to Islamabad for this corridor. He recommended that Hassanabdal- Havalian route can be used for this purpose, as this route is being constructed through ADB with the lesser expenditures. The Committee was of the view that economic corridor is only due to Gwadar Port, therefore special incentives may be given to the people of Balochistan by including more parts of the province on the route.

Chairman NHA informed about re-organization of NHA. He informed that according to re-organization plan a Member will be the in-charge of a province, and all the construction / development maintenance work will be routed through him, which will help to reduce the budgetary expenditure of the NHA so that the decisions could be taken up at provincial level.

The Committee appreciated the efforts taken by the Chairman NHA for the re-organization and making independent zones of the authority at provincial level for proper and immediate actions on all the matters relating to the concerned province. The Committee also appreciated the NHA for implementing on the recommendations of the Standing Committee on the giving access to various schemes from Motorways. The Committee however advised that, implementation on this policy may be started immediately.

The Committee also advised that the cases of regularization of low paid employees serving on consultant's strength considering on humanitarian grounds the services of said employees may be regularized to avoid court issues which can reduce the financial implications for both i.e. NHA as well of the low paid employees.

The Chairman NHA further informed the Committee, that instead of spending huge government expenditures on the construction of roads the new projects are being started on BOT basis and all the contracts are being given in minus. He informed that there is no mentioned in any contract, that NHA will give 30% profit to the Chinese companies.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha recommended that in the bidding process all the local contractors may also be given equal chance and no special preference may be given to any foreign company.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee advised that the concerned provincial member may also be advised to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee.

The Committee advised that in the long term planning of the projects feasibility of projects may be included only in the public interest.

On a query asked by Senator Kamil Ali Agha, Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan, Senator Nisar Muhammad Khan, Chairman NHA informed, that work on Takhtbai flyover is in progress. The members advised that work may be completed with latest machinery / technology.

The Committee advised that detail of officers working in BS-17 and above along with their posting during the last 10 years be given for the information of the Standing Committee. The Committee also advised that detail of officials taken on deputation may also be provided.

The Committee advised that the promotion cases of 213 officials may be finalized immediately.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha recommended that no government department should sign any MOU un-necessarily, and all the information of the MOU should be provided to the nation in true spirit, and all the government machinery should watch the national interest only, instead of interest of any individual.

Senator Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee, pointed out that some junior most GM have been given the charge of Member, resultantly there is resentment in amongst the senior officers. He therefore advised that by rectifying this situation the charge may be given to senior officers.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 12th January, 2015, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

(i) Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
(ii) Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
(iii) Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz	Member
(iv) Senator Mir Muhammad Yousaf Badini	Member
(v) Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
(vi) Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
(vii) Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel	Member
(viii) Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member
(ix) Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member

Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- I. Details of officers of BPS-17 and above in the NHA posted against the various posts specifically who remained posted on the same post during the last 5 years.**
- II. Details of maintenance work, carried out during the last 5 years throughout Pakistan.**
- III. Progress of work on N-25 being funded by the USAID.**
- IV. Up date position of the recommendations of the Standing Committee including promotion cases of the officers of the NHA as recommended by the Committee during the last meeting held on 8th December, 2014.**

The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcoming remarks, Senator Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee and Senator Rozi Khan Kakar inquired about the officers of BPS-17 and above in the NHA against the various posts specifically who remained posted on the same post during the last 5 years.

Mr. Usman Akhtar Bajwa, Member (Admn) NHA informed the Committee that the posting/charge of each officer is rotated after three years under the policy of National Highway Authority. He clarified that some officers are on the same posts due to their technical/Financial expertise and these are not field posts.

Senator Nisar Muhammad also indicated that being Assistant Director, Deputy Director and even as Director, they are serving on higher posts which is injustice to other officers.

The Committee recommended that as a routine matter no officer should be posted on the same post for more than three years and all officers must be rotated as a routine matter

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary M/O Communication/Chairman National Highway Authority assured the Committee that the reservations of the Committee will be considered. He also assured the committee that remaining officers who are still working on the same posts for the last several years, will also be rotated to different places.

While discussing agenda item No. II regarding the maintenance work carried out during the last five years, almost all the members showed grave concern on the quality of maintenance work. Senator Muhammad Hamayun Khan Mandokhel inquiring about the billions of rupees being incurred on the maintenance work said, that a comprehensive report may be furnished to ensure the committee whether the huge amount has been spent rightly.

Senator Zahid Khan criticizing on the deficiency of maintenance work informed that on N-45 road is in worse condition as no vehicle can cross the bridge situated on the said road due to which several accidents occur almost everyday. He said NHA should take steps to save the precious lives of innocent citizens. Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir was also of the view and said that due to lack of maintenance work on the patchy roads roundabout 8 to 10 kilometer in Balochistan, the people have to face huge traffic problems.

Senator Nisar Muhammad said that NHA does not discriminate in emergency fund and in routine maintenance work. He said that emergency fund should not be utilized as routine funds.

Senator Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz expressing his grave concern on the issue, said that several precious lives are being lost due to the delapidated roads of NHA in Sindh.

The Committee recommended that maintenance work in all the required areas of NHA may be completed without any delay. The committee also recommended to furnish a comprehensive report of expenditure allocated for the said purpose. The Committee also agreed to visit Sukkar and Haiderabad to review its roads condition.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary M/O Communication/Chairman National Highway Authority assured the Committee that maintenance work will expeditiously be completed. He informed that NHA has increased accountability of officials by posting Member in all the provinces for early completion/disposal of maintenance work at local level.

While disssing agenda item No. III regarding the progress of work on N-25 being funded by the USAID, all the members recommended that the task may be completed without any delay.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary M/O Communication/Chairman National Highway Authority, assured the committee that NHA would possibly complete work and its report will also be submitted for information of the Standing Committee.

The committee inquired about the promotion case of Members of NHA, as recommended by the Standing Committee in its previous meetings.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee enquired that despite repeated recommendations made by Senate Standing Committee in its meetings, mostly employees working against PC-1 have not been promoted by ignoring their eligibility as they have completed their length of service and have beeng waiting for promotion for the last 15 years. Senator Rozi Khan kakar also expressed his concern that it is injustice towards regular employees of NHA as Senate Standing Committee on Communications, has already made recommendations in its meeting held on 18th February 2013, that employees working on acting charge against PC-1 will be promoted against available positions approved by NHC.

Mr. Usman Akhtar Bajwa, Member (Admn), informed the Committee that some officers appointed against PC-1 post have alrerady been given promotion and remaining eligible officers will also be given promotion in the next meeting of the DPC.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary M/O Communication/Chairman National Highway Authority, informed the committee that there are only 14 deputationist out of 3800 employees of NHA. He also assured the committee that the case of promotion of Members of NHA, will also be finalized within 2 days.

After detailed discussion on the issue the committee recommended that individuals appointed on acting charge basis on PC-1 vacancies should be promoted against available positions as approved by NHC and may be given seniority from the date of DPC as three officers have been suffering since long. Besides this, promotion cases of officers from BS-19 to BS-20 may also be taken into consideration at the earliest.

The Committee advised that as early recommended, no official may be taken on deputation basis under political pressure. The Committee further advised that as already recommended, the cases of regularization of employees serving on consultant's strength may be regularized and a complaince report may be furnished to the Committee.

Subject: - MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications (Communications and Postal Services) was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai on 19th January, 2015, in the Parliament House Islamabad.

Following Members of the Committee also attended:-

1.	Senator Rozi Khan Kakar	Member
2.	Senator Muhammad Zahid Khan	Member
3.	Senator Muhammad Yousuf Badini	Member
4.	Senator Nisar Muhammad	Member
5.	Senator Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo	Member
6.	Senator Muhammad Mohsin Khan Leghari	Member
7.	Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir	Member

The Agenda before the Committee was as under:-

- 1. Implementation status of recommendation of the previous meeting of the Committee.**
- 2. Compellation of projects (if any) during the year 2013-2014 and new projects of the Postal Department in 2014-2015.**

The proceedings of the meeting started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcoming remarks, Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee advised to brief on the update status of 171 vacancies of Pakistan Post, reserved for the Balochistan Province under Aghaz-e-Haqoq Balochistan Package.

Mr. Aziz Ullah, Dy. Director General, Postal Department informed the Committee that Finance Division has given approval for this year to establish 27 post offices out of 57 which will be established in the next year. He said that according to the approval 81 vacancies (including 27 Postal Clerks BS-09) out of 171 vacancies will be filled in the current financial year while the establishment of remaining 30 post offices and 90 vacancies will be finalized in the upcoming financial year 2015-2016. He said that 30 Postal Clerks BS-09, 30 Postman B-S-07 and 30 Mail Peon BS-2 will be included in 90 posts. He added that the said post offices will be established where there is huge mail traffic.

Senator Mohsin Khan Laghari inquired about the progress of buildings establishment. Senator Yaqoob Khan Nasir advised that the opinion of the Committee as well as public representatives should also be taken to select proper location for buildings.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary Communication said that opinion by public representatives will support Postal Department in finding adequate places. Mr. Aziz Ullah, Postal Department, informed the Committee about the construction work place which is in progress.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee inquired about the termination of services of all those Postal employees who had rendered two or three year's continuous services on contract basis in Balochistan.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary Communication informed the Committee, that according to the report of PMG Quetta, no contract Postal employee who had rendered two or three years continuous services on contract basis in Balochistan Postal Circle has been terminated.

Senator Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai, Chairman Standing Committee inquired about the six contractual employees of Postal Department who have been announced as regularized.

The Committee recommended that the brother of Late Muhammad Hanif may be appointed at any post according to his qualification on philanthropic grounds.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary Communication assured the Committee that the brother of Late Muhammad Hanif will shortly be appointed and his report will also be submitted for information of the Standing Committee.

While discussion on agenda item no 2, Mr. Aziz Ullah, Dy. DG Post Office, informed the committee regarding projects completed during the year 2013-2014 and also about the new projects in 2014-2015.

Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarrar, Secretary Communication informed that 4 work services have been completed out of seven. He added that the service of IT will stop corruption in Postal Department. He assured that the remaining works will also be completed by June 2015.

After detailed discussion, the Committee recommended that:-

1. The Postal Department should retrieve its reliability,
2. Revising the Postal Department Act 1989,
3. Service charges may be increased according to market rate.
4. Service charges of Postal Banks may be increased.

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION AND POSTAL SERVICES 26TH JANUARY, 2015, AT CAMP OFFICE NHA, SUPER HIGHWAY HALA.

A meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Communications and Postal Services was held under the Chairmanship of Senator Daud Khan Achakzai (Advocate) held on 26th January, 2015 at camp office NHA, Super Highway from Karachi to Hala, Sindh.

Following Members attended the meeting:-

- | | | |
|------|--|--------|
| (i) | Senator Mukhtiar Ahmad Dhamrah @ Aajiz | Member |
| (ii) | Senator Rozi Khan Kakar | Member |

The Senate Standing Committee on Communication paid a visit to the Super Highway from Karachi to Hala. The Committee was given a briefing at Camp Office NHA, Hala. After recitation from the Holy Quran, the Committee offered requiem (Fatiha) for the people killed in the Theri accident near Sukkar. Senate Mukhtar Ahmad Dhamrah pointed out that due to worst road condition in the province of Sindh, frequent accidents are occurring on the Highways. However, the NHA official informed the Committee that this incident occurred due to overloading and over speeding of passenger coach. The Committee advised NHA officials and motorway police to keep check on the over speeding of vehicles on National Highway, so that such type of incidents could be avoided in future.

The NHA officials briefed the Committee regarding various projects started in the province of Sindh. The Project Director of NHA informed the Committee that work on South Bound of Hala/Moro section has been almost completed; and the work on North Bond section will be completed in a period of one year with the Chinese grant.

The NHA officials also gave briefing on the other projects started in the province of Sindh. Mr. Majeed Qader, Member NHA Sindh, informed that Larkana package will be completed very shortly as funds have already been allocated for the project. He also indicated that the section of Highway from Ranipur to Bublów will be completed at the end of April 2015, while work on Pannuakal/Gotki will also be completed by March, 2015. He also informed the committee that the construction work of both sides bridge at Qazi Ahmad Bridge has also been completed.

Senator Mukhtar Ahmad Dhamrah inquired about the affairs of Eco-west Company, which stopped construction work in 1996 in spite of receiving heavy amount from the NHA. Member

NHA assured that the requisite information will be furnished to the Committee at the earliest. The Committee however, advised that no contract should be given to such blacklisted companies.

Senator Mukhtiar Ahmad Dhamrah further recommended that ground breaking ceremony of M-9 should be started as soon as possible, and the Prime Minister may be requested to announce the date for laying foundation stone of the M-9 Project. He also inquired about the progress of work of Kete Bunder/Garo Section. The NHA officials informed that work will be completed in the mid of March 2015; however work on some portion of the project has not been completed due to shortage of funds. The Committee directed that an amount of Rs.500 millions required for the project may be released for the said project and similarly an amount of Rs.600 millions may be released for remaining work of Larkana Package.

The Committee advised the NHA officials to solve the problems of contractors, regarding payments etc especially for those, who have completed their task. In the end, the committee appreciated the NHA officials for good quality of work on some projects especially that for south Bound of Hala/Moro section.
