



YEAR BOOK 2020-21



**Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Religious Affairs
and Interfaith Harmony
Islamabad**



YEAR BOOK

2020-21

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Ministry of Religious Affairs
and Interfaith Harmony
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad**



MESSAGE

Islam is the religion of peace, tolerance, brotherhood, peaceful co-existence of mankind and its social system is based on justice, equality and negation of all types of discrimination.

The Ministry made all-out efforts to achieve Islamic ideals as laid down in the Constitution of Pakistan. The religious scholars' services were used to sensitize and mobilize the community to maintain sectarian and inter-faith harmony. Cooperation and coordination with Islamic and other countries was strengthened to project the true and soft image of Islam and wean away the Muslim Youth from the extremist groups. The crux of our untiring efforts was to pay undivided attention to:

- i) Preparation for Hajj and facilitation for Umrah *zaireen*.
- ii) Root out sectarianism/extremism and promote sectarian and interfaith harmony.
- iii) Take concrete steps for the welfare of minorities.

National and provincial level conferences were held for promoting inter and interfaith harmony. Concrete steps were taken to mainstream various segments of society and create an environment of peace and harmony. People from different schools of thought participated in National Seerat Conference where different aspects of the Seerah of Muhammad ﷺ were highlighted. In this context, further utmost efforts will be made to project the true image of Islam.

In the end, I would like to appreciate the valuable services of all functionaries of the Ministry who remained instrumental in achieving all targets/tasks of Hajj operation, inter and intra faith harmony and spreading the true spirit of Islam.

(Pir Noor-ul-Haq Qadri)
Minister for Religious Affairs
and Interfaith Harmony



PREFACE

In pursuance of Sub Rule (2) of Rule 25 of the Rules of Business, 1973, Year Book 2020-21 of this Ministry is being uploaded for information of the Cabinet and general public.

The Ministry facilitates Hajj Pilgrims and Zaireen. It helps Muslims to order their lives in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Quran and Sunnah. The Ministry spearheads/leads policy initiatives including legislation for interfaith harmony, international agreements and commitments in respect of all religious communities and implementation thereof. The Ministry holds National Seerat Conference, Qiyam ul Lail and Hifz-o-Qirat Competition, meetings of National Commission for Minorities and celebrates different religious festivals/events of non-muslims with great zeal. For the uplift of minorities, the Ministry launches small development schemes, provides financial assistance and scholarships to deserving non-Muslim students. The contribution of following officers is acknowledged for their input and valuable advice in the preparation of the Year Book: -

- | | |
|--|--|
| i. Mr. Haroon Ahmad Khan Additional Secretary | ii. Mr. Alamgir Ahmad Khan Senior Joint Secretary (Hajj) |
| iii. Mr. Amjad Ahmad Joint Secretary (A/F) | iv. Mr. Arshad Fareed Joint Secretary (IH) |
| v. Dr. Mirza Ali Mehsud Joint Secretary (D&C) | vi. Mr. Amjad Ali Joint Secretary (D&Z) |
| vii. Mr. Naseer ud Din Sarwar CF & AO | viii. Syed Mushahid Hussain Khalid Director General (R&R) |

The “Year Book” will serve as a reference to evaluate our performance in terms of achievements of targeted goals and objectives.

(Sardar Ajaz Ahmad Khan Jaffar)
Secretary
Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony

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INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Religious Affairs was created in October 1974. Prior to 1974 various Ministries had been dealing with Hajj operation. In 1976, the subjects of Minorities Affairs and Overseas Pakistanis were merged with this Ministry and the Ministry was renamed as “Ministry of Religious Affairs, Minorities Affairs and Overseas Pakistanis”; these were transferred from the Ministry in 1977 and 1992, respectively. However, the subjects of Minorities Affairs and Zakat & Ushr were again transferred to this Ministry in 1996. The Zakat & Ushr Division was again separated from this Ministry in October/November 2008. Hence, the Ministry was renamed as Ministry of Religious Affairs. After devolution of subject of Zakat & Ushr, a Zakat Cell was created in this Ministry and 2019 Zakat was transferred to Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety. In June 2013, erstwhile Ministry of National Harmony was merged with Ministry of Religious Affairs emerging as Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. The Ministry has the following Wings:

- ◆ Admin and Finance Wing
- ◆ Dawah and Ziarat Wing
- ◆ Development and Coordination Wing
- ◆ Hajj Wing
- ◆ Interfaith Harmony Wing
- ◆ Research and Reference Wing

MAIN FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND INTER-FAITH HARMONY

1. Formulation of Hajj Policy
2. Arranging the Muslim pilgrims' visits to India.
3. Ziarat and Umrah.
4. Welfare and safety of pilgrims and *Zaireen*.
5. Administration of Hajj Affairs and control of the Hajj Directorates within the country and Office of Pilgrims Affairs at Jeddah
6. Islamic studies and research including holding of seminars, conferences, etc. on related subjects to the extent of Federal Areas.
7. Training and education of *Ulema* and *Khatib* etc.
8. Error-free and exact printing and publishing of the Holy Quran in the ICT.
9. Exchange of visits of scholars of Islamic learning and education, international conferences/seminars on Islamic subjects and liaison with foreign and international bodies and institutions.
10. Ruet-e-Hilal.
11. Tabligh.
12. Observance of Islamic Moral Standards
13. Donations for religious purposes and propagation of Islamic Ideology abroad.
14. Marriage and divorce, infants and minor's adoption to the extent of ICT.
15. Auqaf in ICT.
16. Policy and legislation with regard to inter-faith Harmony.
17. International agreements and commitments in respect of all religious communities and implementation thereof.
18. Representation of Pakistan at UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination to Minorities.
19. Minorities Welfare Fund.
20. National Commission for Minorities.
21. Evacuee Trust Property Board.

ADMINISTRATION WING:

Administration Wing of the Ministry comprises of the following sections:-

- i. Administration Section.
- ii. Budget and Cash Section.
- iii. Council and Coordination Section.
- iv. General Administration Section.

ADMINISTRATION SECTION:

2. The Administration section is looking after matters relating to human resource management. Activities of Administration Section during 2020-21 are as under:-

- i. Requisition for 02 posts of Deputy Directors, 01 post of Librarian (BS-17) and 01 post of Data Base Administrator (BS-17) was sent to Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) for recruitments.
- ii. Recruitment process finalized for 21 Ministerial posts (BS 01- to 15) of Main Ministry and 10 posts of various Directorates of Hajj in Pakistan.
- iii. One child of the permanently disabled employee was appointed as LDC (BS-09) with the approval of the Prime Minister.
- iv. Sixteen cases of Educational Stipend/Fee re-imburement and 03 cases of marriage grants were finalized and forwarded to the concerned department.
- v. One hundred eighty cases regarding hiring of residential accommodation for officers/officials of the Ministry and Hajj Camps were processed.
- vi. Twelve pension cases were processed.
- vii. Ninety medical reimbursement cases of serving employees and 40 medical reimbursement cases of retired officers/officials were processed.
- viii. Forty cases of posting/transfer/provision of staff/replacement were processed.
- ix. Thirteen litigation cases were defended in FST, Islamabad on behalf of the Ministry.
- x. Three cases on the Wafaqi Mohtasib Secretariat were defended in the FST.

3. The following advances were sanctioned for employees of this Ministry during financial year 2020-21:-

| S.# | Name of cases | Number |
|-----|---|--------|
| 01. | House Building Advance (HBA) | 17 |
| 02. | Motor Care Advance (MCA) | 06 |
| 03. | General Provident Fund (GPF) advance granted to employees | 45 |

BUDGET AND CASH SECTION:

4. The main functions of Budget and Cash Section are as follows:-

- i. Preparation, compilation and submission of budgetary estimates to the Finance Division.
- ii. Processing cases for re-appropriation of funds.
- iii. Dealing with cases for supplementary grants, savings and surrender of funds.
- iv. Submission of contingency bills to the AGPR and collection of cheques.
- v. Monthly reconciliation of expenditures with the AGPR,.

a. MAJOR ACTIVITIES DURING 2020-21 (IN MILLIONS)

| Total Allocation | Re Appropriation (+) | Supplementary (+) | Re Appropriation (-) | Surrender (-) | Revised Budget | Total Expenditure |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1,159.206 | 185.511 | 1,000 | 185.511 | 103.971 | 2,055.235 | 1,940.292 |

b. SUBMISSION OF CONTINGENCY BILLS:

- i. 1730 bills were submitted to the AGPR.
- ii. Reconciliation of expenditure with the AGPR was done on monthly basis.

COUNCIL AND COORDINATION SECTION

5. The Council and Coordination Section deals with following:
- i. Prepare and brief the Minister, Minister of State and Parliamentary Secretary regarding Parliamentary business of the Ministry.
 - ii. Arrangements and assistance relating to meetings of the Standing Committee.



Meeting of National Assembly Standing Committee on Religious Affairs

- iii. Coordination with other Ministries/Divisions and Departments in the official matters.
- iv. Preparation of Year Book of the Ministry.
- v. Provision of the report regarding implementation of the Cabinet Decisions.
- vi. Preparation of report on Principles of Policy in compliance with Article 9 of the Constitution of Pakistan.

GENERAL SECTION

6. The General Section is responsible for following:
- i. Look after the Security of Office building and watching incoming/outgoing visitors as well as vehicles parked in front of Office building.
 - ii. Purchase of Transport
 - iii. Purchase of furniture and fixture, Machinery & Equipment, Computers and other Assets
 - iv. Purchase of Stationery.
 - v. Purchase of Miscellaneous items
 - vi. Purchase of POL (Petroleum, Oil & Lubricants).

- vii. Payment of utilities bills i.e. Telephone/DSL Electricity/Sui Gas.
- viii. Repair of Transport (VIP vehicles) Minister/Minister of State/ Parliamentary Secretary's vehicles.
- ix. Repair of Transport (General vehicles of the Ministry).
- x. Repair of Telephones
- xi. Repair of Machinery & Equipment Computers/Printers/ACs/Electricity etc)
- xii. Photocopiers & Fax Machine.
- xiii. Arrangements of Printing of Office material i.e. File Covers, Minister's, Minister of State and Secretary's Offices material, Summary file covers and all other printings of the Ministry
- xiv. Arrangements of official meetings.
- xv. Reservation of accommodation in hotels, meal arrangements of official guests
- xvi. Dispatch of outdoor Dak i.e. Immediate / routine Dak through Courier and General Post Office.
- xvii. Distribution of indoor mail received from Couriers and General Post Office in the Ministry.

7. The General Section during year 2020-21 made efficient arrangements to ensure security measures of the office building and facilitate Hajj and Research and Reference wings to convene meetings regarding Hajj arrangements and International Seerat Conference which is evident from their success. The section provided logistic support to the Ministry by providing transport to the officers to attend meetings/court hearings/dispatch of passports to airports and drop facility to the Hajj staff during Hajj operation who sat late and attended office during public holidays for smooth execution of Ministry's work.

PRIME MINISTER DELIVERY UNIT (PMDU), MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND INTERFAITH HARMONY

8. As per the direction of Prime Minister's office, this Ministry has operationalized Prime Minister Delivery Unit (PMDU) to redressed nation-wide complaints and grievance of the citizens pertaining to M/o Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony (RA & IH). The primary objective of this unit is to provide citizen's an opportunity to seamlessly communicate with this Ministry and have their issues resolved with priority, in accordance with the vision of the Government.

9. This unit strives to assure that the registered citizens/members on Pakistan Citizen's Portal (PCP) get every possible relief from this Ministry. The citizens/members may have suggestions to put before the authorities or personal complaints and grievances or to report violations of laws by the people or to seek guidance etc. This Unit takes it as a prime responsibility to ensure that all complaints and suggestions are handled fairly and efficiently through concerned organizations. In view of the foregoing, this Unit received and resolved 238 complaints with a citizen's satisfaction of 57%. Besides, 88 suggestions were received from the citizens of Pakistan regarding different issues pertaining to this Ministry, that have been forwarded to concerned quarters for consideration and necessary action, to have improvement in the procedures and policies. The Prime Minister's office conveyed different tasks, from time to time, to this Ministry, through PMDU's portal. In this context, this Ministry effectively completed 37 tasks during this financial year.

DAWAH & ZIARAT WING:

SELECTION OF HUFFAZ FOR QIYAMUL LAIL, 2021:



Selection of Huffaz for Qiyamul Lail, 2021

10. A competition for selection of Huffaz for recitation of Holy Quran in Qiyam ul Lail 2021 was held at Dawah Academy, Faisal Masjid Islamabad on 29th March, 2021 wherein Huffaz from all over the country participated. In the said competition, 12 Huffaz were selected by the judges for Qiyam ul Lail, 2021.

QIYAM UL LAIL, 2021:

11. The Qiyam ul Lail was organized during the last five nights of Ramadan-ul-Mubarak, 1442 AH at Faisal Masjid, Islamabad wherein the selected Huffaz participated and recited the Holy Quran. The event was covered live by Pakistan Television Corporation (PTV).



Qiyam-ul-lail-1443 AH at Shah Faisal Masjid, Islamabad

NATIONAL HIFZ-O-QIRAT COMPETITION 2021:

12. The National Hifz-o-Qirat Competition was organized at Tabak hotel, Islamabad on 15th to 17th June, 2021. Huffaz/Qurra across the country recommended by the provinces including Armed forces, Gilgit Baltistan, AJK and ICT participated in the competition 30 Huffaz/Qurra were given cash prizes, certificates and shields for ten categories.



Group Photo of Prize Winners of National Hifz-o-Qirat Competition-2021 with Federal Minister

INTERNATIONAL QURAN COMPETITION 2021:

13. The position holders of the National Hifz-o-Qirat Competition 2021 were nominated for International Quran Competition organized by Bangladesh.

VISIT OF PAKISTANI ZAIREEN FOR URS IN INDIA 2020-21

14. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with India in 1974. This Ministry is mandated to arrange visits of Pakistani *Zaireen* to India on the eve of scheduled *Urs* of prominent Muslim Saints as per following quota:-

| Sr. No. | Name of Urs | Pre-determined No. of Zaireen |
|---------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Hazrat Mujadid Alf Sani (RA), Sarhand Sharif | 200 |
| 2. | Hazrat Khawaja Allauddin Ali Ahmad Sabir (RA), Kalyar Sharif | 200 |
| 3. | Hafiz Abdullah Shah (RA), Agra | 150 |
| 4. | Hazrat Khawaja Nizamuddin Aulia (RA), Delhi | 250 |
| 5. | Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Chishti (RA), Ajmair Sharif | 500 |
| 6. | Hazrat Amir Khusro (RA), Delhi | 200 |

15. In Financial Year 2020-21, all formalities to arrange these visits were completed but due to Covid-19, all of these were cancelled.

VISIT OF PAKISTANI ZAIREEN TO IRAN, IRAQ, SYRIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES:-



Federal Minister's visit to Iraq in connection with Zaireen Management Policy

16. To regulate, streamline and facilitate Pakistani *Zaireen*, present Government formulated first ever comprehensive "*Zaireen Management Policy*" in consultation with all stakeholders. The Policy has been approved by the Federal Cabinet on 13-04-2021. Salient features of the Policy are as under:-

- ◆ Construction of 03 service areas (*Padak, Nukandi & Dalbadin*) on Quetta-Taftan Road.
- ◆ Development, enhancing capacity and provision of better facilities at Pakistan House, Taftan and Haji Camp Quetta.
- ◆ Consideration of alternate crossing points i.e. *Mand* and *Gabd* (Balochistan).
- ◆ Registration of *Zaireen* Group Organizers (ZGOs) and signing of Service Provider Agreement (SPA) with them.
- ◆ Group/Individual visa for *Zaireen* to be regulated by signing a MoU with host countries.
- ◆ Ensure provision of better transport facilities to the *Zaireen*.
- ◆ Launching of appropriate awareness campaign to provide information, education and awareness to the intending *Zaireen*.
- ◆ Provision of mandatory health insurance to the *Zaireen* by ZGOs.
- ◆ Diversification of means of transportation, i.e. by road, air and ferry.

17. The implementation of the policy is in process and about 5-7 lakh Pakistani *Zaireen* will be benefitted annually visiting Iran, Iraq and Syria.
18. The Ministry has also performed following work in connection with Umrah:-
 - i. Attested 176 contract agreements of Umrah Tour Operators and attestation fee were deposited in relevant account.
 - ii. Processed case of yearly visit of official delegation to pay homage to the Prophet *Hazrat Muhammad Khatim un Nabiyeen* صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم at the *Roza-e-Mubarak* on behalf of people of Pakistan.



Federal Minister for Religious Affairs held a meeting with H.E Fuad Hussein Iraq's Minister of Foreign Affairs On Ziarat Management Policy

DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION WING:

19. The objective of Development & Coordination Wing is to ensure timely completion of development schemes of this Ministry through PSDP and to facilitate Hajj Wing in litigation cases exclusively pertaining to HGOs. Development & Coordination Wing has been mandated to discharge following functions:

a) PMU Section:

- i. Examining PC-I / PC-II / PC-III / PC-IV of all development schemes prepared by respective Sections / Wings of the Ministry.
- ii. Convening DDWP meetings for consideration of development schemes costing up to Rs. 2,000 million.
- iii. Coordinate and liaison with Planning Commission through Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives for authorization of funds for approved development schemes.
- iv. Release of funds from Finance Division after getting authorization from Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives for approved development schemes of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony.
- v. Processing of development schemes costing beyond Rs.2000 million for approval of CDWP / ECNEC / NEC as per competency of the said fora.
- vi. Preparation of minutes of DDWP meetings and subsequent circulation to all stakeholders and Implementing and Executing agencies.
- vii. Coordination for development schemes with all sponsoring wings of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony.



Federal Minister presiding a meeting to monitor progress of development schemes

b) Litigation Section:

- i. Looks after all legal matters in consultation with Law and Justice Division for legal opinion / directions, vetting of legal documents / replies and submission of Para-wise comments / reports in different Courts.
- ii. Monitors the litigation cases pending in various Courts and make all-out efforts for speedy disposal.
- iii. Strategizes the overall working of the Litigation Section and represents the Ministry in Courts of law and any other task assigned by the seniors.
- iv. Provides legal opinion on all cases referred to this Section and vetting all documents, petitions and reports and prepare Para-wise comments for courts and speaking orders, issued by the competent authority in compliance with Court Orders.

20. Development and Coordination Wing since its inception on 31.08.2020 has successfully achieved all targets whatever assigned. The key achievements include following:

- a) **“Construction of Pilgrims Residential Block No.3 and Allied Services in Hajj Directorate Phase-VII Hayatabad, Peshawar”** is an initiative of the Government to provide maximum residential facilities to the Hajj Pilgrims. The Residential Block No. 3 consists of pilgrims’ residential rooms. The project has been completed at a total cost of Rs. 51.050 Million.
- b) **“Construction of Training Hall at Hajj Directorate Quetta”** is a significant project for imparting Hajj training to intending pilgrims. The project has been accomplished at a total cost of Rs. 30.828 Million.

21. Following proposed projects of this Ministry are forthcoming:

i) Construction of Bridge at Zero Point – Darbar Sahib Kartarpur Project

It is iconic development scheme to provide hassle free access to Sikh Yatris by constructing a bridge at Zero Line (245.725m long) along with its approach embankments, and lighting works. The PC-I of the project has been approved by DDWP on dated 06.05.2021. The cost of the project is Rs. 452.910 million with completion period of one year.

ii) Rehabilitation of Madina-tul-Hujaj Complex, Islamabad

Madina-tul-Hujjaj is pilgrims' serving place during the Hajj season. The walls and paths of the Hajj camp are in dilapidated condition and needs immediate repair. The objective of the scheme is to provide better environment and solve security problem. DDWP of this Ministry on 27.01.2021 has approved the project at the cost of Rs. 10.591 million with completion period of six months. Currently, the Ministry is making concerted efforts to secure funding for the project.

iii) Construction of Boundary Wall along with Raising of Existing Boundary Wall at Hajj Complex, Quetta

Hajj Directorate serves *Hujjaj* travelling from across Balochistan. The project will ensure safe surroundings of Hajj Complex upraising of existing boundary wall to avoid Law & Order problem. DDWP of this Ministry on 30.03.2021 has approved the project at a total cost of Rs. 25.574 million with completion period of one year. The Ministry has secured funding for the said project and Pak-PWD, Quetta has been assigned the project for its successful implementation.

iv) PC-II of the project titled "Construction of Three Residential Blocks for Zaireen in Directorate of Hajj, Quetta"

The construction of three residential blocks is an important part of the *Zaireen* policy. The proposed construction of three blocks involves considerable complexities. Further, elaborate arrangements in terms of security as well as accommodation has to be ensured so that Zaireen may conduct the religious obligations in peace and security. DDWP of this Ministry 30.03.2021 has approved PC-II at a cost of Rs. 9.545 million with completion period of one year. Currently, the Ministry is making concerted efforts to secure funding for the project.

v) PC-II of the Construction of Hajj Complex, Lahore

The Existing Hajj Complex is operational in a rental building. It facilitates pilgrims during Hajj season. An amount of Rs.758,092/- is being paid monthly as rent from the National exchequer for a limited space. The hired premises do not have IT equipment network, video conference and Intra-net facilities. There is a security hazard for the Pilgrims as well as for the Officers/Officials as the present building is not purposely built. PC-II of the project at cost of Rs. 15.365 million has been approved by DDWP on 06.05.2021. The Ministry has secured funding for the said project and Pak-PWD, Lahore has been assigned the task of conducting feasibility study.

22. During FY 2020-21, sixteen court cases were decided in the favor of this Ministry by the Supreme Court of Pakistan, High Courts and Civil Courts/ Lower Courts. The significant milestone was achieved through review petition in the Supreme Court of Pakistan, by getting its verdict in formulation of long-term Hajj Policy instead of annual Hajj Policy. It will ensure cost effective Hajj package to facilitate low income Pakistani Muslims to perform Hajj.

HAJJ WING:

23. The Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony has the mandate to frame policy and make arrangements for Hajj. The Annual Hajj Agreement between the Ministry and Ministry of Hajj & Umrah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) was signed in December 2019 for Hajj-2020.



Federal Minister's visit to Madina Munawarah, KSA

HAJJ POLICY& PLAN: -

24. The Ministry took necessary steps for bringing improvements in the facilities for Hajj – 2020. In this regard, Hajj Wing played an important role in conducting the Hajj operation after debriefing meeting, consultative workshops in consultation with all the stakeholders including various Ministries/organizations of Saudi and Pakistani Governments, Banks, Airlines, Hajj Group Organizers.

25. The Policy and Plan for Hajj 2020 was approved by the Federal Cabinet on



Federal Secretary RA&IH presiding Hajj Consultative meeting

11th February, 2020. Hajj applications for Hajj 2020 were received through (13) scheduled banks (NBP, HBL, UBL, MCB, ABL, Bank Alfalah, Bank of Punjab, ZTBL, Habib Metropolitan Bank, Meezan Bank, Faysal Bank, Bank Al Habib & Askari Bank. In response, 149,295 Hajj applications under the Govt. Hajj Scheme were received through these Banks and selection of Hujjaj was made through “Balloting” conducted by Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB), Lahore.

26. Saudi Government cancelled Hajj-2020 for the International pilgrims in wake of COVID-19 pandemic. Upon cancellation of Hajj-2020 by the KSA Government, this Ministry refunded entire Hajj dues to all applicants of Hajj-2020 without any deduction through their respective banks/branches.

INTERFAITH HARMONY WING:

INTERFAITH HARMONY POLICY:

27. Interfaith Harmony Wing has been assigned the task of Policy and Legislation with regard to Interfaith Harmony. Draft “**National Interfaith Harmony Policy**” has been prepared and circulated to all stakeholders for their views/inputs/comments as part of its finalization.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES

28. National Commission for Minorities (NCM) was established through Resolution as a result of Federal Cabinet Decision vide Case No. 194/15/90 dated 02.07.1990. The Commission gives recommendations to this Ministry on Policy matters and recommendations regarding NOCs for sale/purchase/transfer/gift of communal properties of minority communities. With approval of the Federal Cabinet, the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has been reconstituted and notified on 11.05.2020.



Chairman National Commission for Minorities (NCM) along with Federal Secretary RA&IH presiding NCM meeting

29. The important feature of the newly constituted National Commission for Minorities (NCM) is that the composition of previous NCM was five (05) official and Eleven (11) non-official members (07 Non-Muslims members) with Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony as Chairman. Whereas, the new NCM consists of six (06) official and Twelve (12) Non-Official members (10 Non-Muslims members) with Mr. Chela Ram Kewlani as its Chairman. The newly constituted NCM not only consists of majority of its membership from Minority communities but its Chairman has also been appointed from minority community. The composition of NCM is as under:-

| Mr. Chela Ram Kewlani (Hindu) | | Chairman |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Sr. | Official members | Status |
| 1 | Representative from Ministry of Interior (not below the rank of BS-20 officer) | Member |
| 2 | Representative from Ministry of Law and Justice (not below the rank of BS-20 officer) | Member |
| 3 | Representative from Ministry of Human Rights (not below the rank of BS-20 officer) | Member |
| 4 | Representative from Federal Education and Professional Training Division (not below the rank of BS-20 officer) | Member |
| 5 | Chairman, Council of Islamic Ideology | Member |
| 6 | Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony | Member |
| Non-Official members | | |
| 1 | Moulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad (Muslim) | |
| 2 | Mufti Gulzar Ahmed Naeemi (Muslim) | |
| 3 | Mr. JaipalChhabria (Hindu) | |
| 4 | Mr. Vishno Raja Qavi (Hindu) | |
| 5 | Mr. Chela Ram Kewlani (Hindu) | |
| 6 | Dr. Sarah Safdar (Christian) | |
| 7 | Archbishop Sebastian Francis Shaw (Christian) | |
| 8 | Mr. Albert David MBE (Christian) | |
| 9 | Dr. Mimpal Singh (Sikh) | |
| 10 | Mr. Saroop Singh (Sikh) | |
| 11 | Ms. Roshan KhurshedBharucha (Parsi) | |
| 12 | Mr. Dawood Shah (Kalash) | |

30. Following are the Terms of Reference (TORs) of National Commission for Minorities:

- i. Formulate proposals for development of a National Policy on Inter-faith Harmony with regard to peace and interfaith harmony in the country.
- ii. Formulate proposals for amending laws/policies which are reported to be discriminatory towards the Minorities.
- iii. Recommend to the Government such steps as shall ensure fuller and effective participation by the members of Minority communities in all aspects of national life.
- iv. Ensure effective participation and association of Minority communities in their religious and cultural festivals and celebrations.
- v. Look into the grievances and representations made by the members of any Minority community to the Government of Pakistan and, after examination of such grievances, make suitable recommendations to the Government of Pakistan;
- vi. Ensure that places of worship of the Minority communities are preserved and well-kept.
- vii. The Commission with consensus may set additional objectives for itself and if required may consult legal and constitutional experts.
- viii. Consider the cases of NOCs for the sale/purchase/transfer of communal properties of minorities as provided under the Protection of Communal Properties of Minorities Ordinance, 2001, notified vide No. F.2 (1)/2002-Pub dated 22nd January, 2002.

31. So far 10 meetings of the NCM were held in which all members stressed to make NCM active and effective through legislation. The TORs of the NCM empower it to play an effective role for realization of minorities' rights. The NCM and One-Man Commission has jointly prepared the "**National Commission for Interfaith Harmony Bill**". Further the NCM Bill has been circulated to all stakeholders for their views/comments before its finalization. The NCM also deliberated on the "**National Interfaith Harmony Policy**" and it has also been circulated for comments of the stakeholders.

DISTRICT INTERFAITH HARMONY COMMITTEES (DIHCs):

32. In the 10th meeting of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM), the Commission called upon the provincial governments to make all out efforts for activation of these committees. The Secretary Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony impressed upon the members of the Commission to play a proactive role in reaching

out to the provincial authorities and develop effective networking with the DIHCs in their respective area/province for a meaningful coordination/collaboration in the matters related to uplift of minorities and interfaith harmony. Representative of provinces including ICT has been informed about the formation of these committees. It was also decided in the meeting that the provinces may take necessary steps to functionalize all the committees at the earliest.

DECLARATION OF 11TH AUGUST AS MINORITIES' DAY

33. The Government has declared 11th August as Minorities Day since June-2009 in Pakistan to promote understanding and harmony among all segments of society. The official function of Minorities Day is celebrated at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad each year. This day is celebrated in line with the recognition of minorities by Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah during his speech to the first Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on 11th August 1947.

“You are free, you are free to go to your mosques or other places of worship in this state of Pakistan. You may belong to any religion or caste or creed that has nothing to do with the business of the state. We are starting in the day when there is no discrimination, no distinction between one caste, creed and colour. We are starting with this fundamental principle that we are all citizens and equal citizens of the State.”



Main event of National Minority Day-2021 being celebrated at Aiwan-e-Sadr



Federal Minister RA&IH hosted a high level Buddhist delegation in ministry

- i) **Minorities Day-2020** celebrations were arranged at official level on 11th July, 2020 at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

ACTIVITIES ABOUT RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS OF MINORITIES

34. To promote the religious activities of minority communities and on the directive of President of Pakistan, this Ministry has marked ten important religious festivals of Minority Communities to be celebrated officially. These festivals include Christmas and Easter for Christians, Holi and Diwali for Hindus, Baisakhi and Birthday of Guru Nanak for Sikhs,

Nauroze for Zoroastrian, Eid-e-Ridvan for Bahai's, Festival of Lights for Buddhist Community and Chelum Jusht for Kalash people. Following festivals have been celebrated during 2020-21:-

- i. **Dewali-2020** of Hindu Community was celebrated at official level on 21st November, 2020 at National Sailing Club Karachi.
- ii. The festivals of **Holi-2021, Easter-2021, Eid-e-Ridvan-2021 and Chelum Jusht-2021** were not celebrated at official level in pursuance of measures adopted by the Federal Government to prevent spread of "Novel Corona Virus" among the public.

WELFARE OF MINORITIES - A BRIEF OVERVIEW

35. Minorities Welfare Fund (Non-Lapsable) is operative in IH Wing under a Cabinet Decision dated 05.06.1985 for execution of **Small Development Schemes** for the repair/maintenance of the religious / worship places of minorities, for grant of **Financial Assistance** to the poor segments of minorities & grant of **Scholarships** to minorities students on merit basis. During the FY-2020-21 following funds were sanctioned:-

Funds sanctioned for Small Development Schemes:

| Fin. Year | Funds Allocated | Schemes Sanctioned | Amount Sanctioned in Million |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | Rs. 38.5 M | 19 | Rs. 26.005 |

Funds sanctioned for Financial Assistance:-

| Fin. Year | Funds Allocated | Persons / Beneficiaries | Amount Sanctioned in Million |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | Rs. 16.50 M | 3719 | Rs. 13-498 |

Funds sanctioned under Minorities Scholarships:-

| Fin. Year | Funds Allocated | Students | Amount Sanctioned in Million |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | Rs. 37.00 M | 2866 | Rs. 37.00 |

EVACUEE TRUST PROPOERTY BOARD:

36. Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) is a corporate body, functions under (Management and Disposal) Act, 1975 (Act No. XIII of 1975) under the administrative control of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony (Interfaith Harmony wing). The Board is self-financed generating corporate body of the Ministry and is responsible for:

- ♦ Management of Evacuee Trust properties on behalf of Federal Government.
- ♦ Buy out surplus income, if any with the approval of Federal Government for augmenting the resources of ETP Board.
- ♦ Disposal / transfer of Trust properties with Federal Government's approval.

- ♦ Leasing and renting of ET Properties.
- ♦ Maintenance of Hindu and Sikh Trust Shrines.
- ♦ Facilities for Yatrees (Pilgrims).
- ♦ Grants-in-Aid for Social Welfare, Educational and Health purposes Development Projects on Trust properties.
- ♦ Development Projects on Evacuee Trust Property.
- ♦ To manage religious places of Sikhs and Hindus who migrated to India at the time of independence and facilitate organization of various religious functions / rites.

CONSTITUTION OF EVACUEE TRUST PROPERTY BOARD:

37. The Board is constituted for a period of three years on such terms and conditions, as the Federal Government may determine under Section 3 (5) of Evacuee Trust Properties (Management & Disposal) Act No.XIII of 1975. The present Board has been constituted / notified on 19-04-2019 for a term of three years.

CONSTITUTION OF PAKISTAN SIKH GURDWARA PARBANDHAK COMMITTEE (PSGPC)

38. Minorities affairs are being run through their respective committees. New PSGPC has been constituted in June, 2019 after lapse of one and half year as the previous PSGPC completed its tenure on 31st October, 2017. Up till 1998, all functions in Pakistani Gurdawara s were managed by *Shiromani* Gurdawara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), India. A large number of expatriate Sikhs also used to participate from Europe, North America and some South Asian countries. SCPSC used to take all the donations to India made by the Yatrees during the festivals. AS per Sikh religion, donations to India made at a particular Gurdawara could neither be spent on any other Gurdawara nor taken away. In addition to this, during all these years SGPC followed a policy of neglect towards the Pakistani Gurdawara and never spent a penny on any Gurdawara. This state of Gurdawara in Pakistan was very much resented by the Sikh Yatrees from India/all over the world and on every occasion they requested the Pakistani Government to hand over the control and management of Gurdawara to Sikhs of Pakistan. In response to these repeated requests by the Sikhs from all over the world, the Government of Pakistan decided to establish Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara *Parbandhak* Committee (PSGPC) in 1999.

CATEGORIES OF TRUST PROPERTIES:

39. a. Shrines /Worship Places.
b. Agriculture lands.

- c. Urban properties.
- d. Properties Purchased / acquired with trust money.
- e. Sale proceeds of trust properties.
- f. Profit / income from trust properties (cash invested).
- g. Lease /rent money from trust properties.
- h. Evacuee trust property exchanged with any other properties / land.

DISPOSAL OF REVISION PETITIONS ON ETP CASES BY SECRETARY

40. Secretary (RA&IH) and Joint Secretary (IFH) are empowered under section 17 of Evacuee Trust Properties (Management and Disposal) Act, 1975 to adjudicate against the orders of Chairman, Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) and Administrators



Federal Secretary (RA&IH) hearing revision petitions of ETPB cases in his office

respectively. Against the orders of Chairman, ETPB and Administrators, revision petitions are filed by the aggrieved parties. After hearing the parties and their counsels, revision petitions are decided. After filing the revision petitions by the parties, these were kept pending for several years and illegal occupants / petitioners were enjoying the possession of ETPB properties under the grab of stay. During the Year-2020, 538 revision petitions were adjudicated which were pending since 1993. Comprehensive detail of disposal of revision petitions are tabulated below:-

| No. of cases decided | Property retrieved (area) | Monetary Benefits to ETPB |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 538 | 1263-Acres, 15-Marlas and 180 Sq.ft | 7658.72 Million (approx) |

SUBSIDIARY ORGANIZATIONS WITH ETPB.

41. ETPB runs the following welfare organizations to contribute in education and health sectors:

- a. Dyal Singh Trust Library, Lahore.
- b. Dr. Ambedkar Society for South Asia.
- c. Sir Ganga Raam Foundation.
- d. Five Health Centers:
 - i. Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore
 - ii. Agarwal Ashram, Lahore
 - iii. Staff Colony, Lahore
 - iv. Gurdwara Janamasthan, Nankana Sahib
 - v. Gurdwara Punja Sahib, Hassanabdal
- e. Nawaz Sharif Girls High School, Lahore.
- f. Trust Model Public School for Boys, Lahore.
- g. Hazrat Ayesha Siddiqa Degree College for Women, Lahore.
- h. Janki Devi Hospital, Lahore

MINORITIES SHRINES.

42. ETPB is responsible for the conduct of rituals in Sikh and Hindu functional shrines rituals as per bilateral protocol between India and Pakistan - 1974 and provides facilities to the yatrees, who visit Pakistan to perform yatra and attend their religious rituals. Most of the important and historical shrines particularly of Sikh Community are located in Pakistan. Due to some untiring efforts, a remarkable success has been achieved in uplifting the image of Pakistan as minorities' friendly country. All major Gurdwara and Mandirs have been renovated including the provision of modern facilities for the pilgrims. Role of ETPB in the uplift of Hindu and Sikh communities especially the restoration / preservation of Gurdwaras and Mandirs has been acknowledged by local and International Sikh community as evident but the recent visit of UN Secretary General to Kartarpur Corridor.



Federal Minister for RA&IH addressing to guests at Interfaith Harmony Conference Karachi, 2021

FACILITIES PROVIDED TO THE YATREES.

43. Following facilities were provided to Yatrees as per tradition:-

- a. **Reception.** Sikh and Hindu yatrees from India were received at Joint Check Post (JCP) and Railway station, Wagha by the PSGPC members, ETPB officers/staff. Special arrangements are made for the yatrees to facilitate them which includes helping and facilitating desks.
- b. **Langar.** Provision of langar on arrival / departure and throughout the stay of Sikh and Hindu yatrees in Pakistan is ensured by ETPB and PSGPC.
- c. **Travel Arrangements.** Shrine Branch makes all arrangements for the travel of Indian Sikh and Hindu yatrees throughout their stay and visit in Pakistan. It includes coordination and arrangements of special trains and

buses for Sikh / Hindu yatrees to make sure their comfortable visit all major Gurdwaras / Mandirs.

- d. **Customs and Immigration**. Liaison with Customs and Immigration departments and Rangers authorities for speedy immigration process is also made by ETPB for the facilitation of yatrees.
- e. **Security**. Adequate security arrangements are made in coordination with concerned Government departments for the protection yatrees and Gurdwaras/ Mandirs. Security Staff of ETP Board is also deployed for the protection of yatrees throughout their inland traveling in Pakistan.
- f. **Facilitation Desks**. ETPB establish facilitation desks to help yatrees by issuing them cards and collecting their bio data.
- g. **Accommodation**. ETPB ensures comfortable boarding and lodging arrangements for yatrees within the premises of major Gurdwaras / Mandirs throughout the year. In this regard, temporary tent arrangements are made in all the Gurdwaras for local/Indian yatrees.
- h. **Rituals**. ETPB has employed Sikh and Hindu Sewadars, Granthis and Pujaris in Gurdwaras and Mandirs respectively to ensure holding of religious ceremonies in shrines as per traditions of Sikh & Hindu religions.
- i. **Currency Exchange**. Arrangements for money exchange according to market rates of National Bank of Pakistan/ Habib Bank Limited are established at Wahga Railway station and in all major Gurdwaras.
- j. **Telephone Facilities**. In order to facilitate yatrees to keep in touch with their families back home PTCL telephone booths facilities in all main Gurdwaras.
- k. **Health Cover**. ETPB provides complete health cover round the clock with availability of Doctors / Para Medical Staff for yatrees during their travel and stay in Pakistan. In case of death of yatrees making all arrangements for returning of dead bodies are also made.

SIKH COMMUNITY

44. **Development Projects**. Excellent level of communication has been maintained with Sikh and Hindu Communities. They are being facilitated financially and administratively in all their local events which has further increased their confidence on ETPB. Details of the major development works carried out for Sikh community during the tenure of incumbent Chairman ETPB are as under:-

a. **Historic Event of 550th Birthday Celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev Ji – November 2019.**



Federal Minister (RA&IH) addressing on the eve of Birthday of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Sikh community celebrated 550th Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji from 05th to 14th November 2019 in Pakistan with religious zeal. Sikh yatrees from all over the world, as well as Pakistani Sikh/Hindu devotees and Nanak Nam Lewa participated in the event. Main function of the event was celebrated at Gurdwara Janam Asthan, Nankana Sahib on 12th November 2019, which was graced by Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Honorable Governor of Punjab, as a Chief Guest. Initially to kick start the celebrations of historic event of 550th Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, a special permission was granted to Nagar Kirtan (religious procession) of Indian Sikh yatrees to visit different Gurdwaras of Pakistan from 31st October to 07th November 2019. 550th Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji has a great religious significance for the Sikh community. Arrival of Sikhs in large numbers to Pakistan has proved that the Sikh community is satisfied with the upkeep of Gurdwaras in Pakistan and provision of other facilities to the Sikh community. The said festival was celebrated with religious zeal and in a very cordial atmosphere as all the events were held in a peaceful manner. The Sikh yatrees departed from Pakistan with good memories about the country and its people. This event has helped in projecting Pakistan's image at international level as a safe country for the foreign nationals where minorities are enjoying complete freedom to perform their religious rituals.

b. **Gurdwara Janam Asthan, Nankana Sahib**

- i. **The construction of Dispensary / Administrative Block.** Construction of dispensary / administrative block at Gurdwara Janam Asthan Nankana Sahib for the facilitation of visiting Sikh yatrees from India and world over.

- ii. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore.** Renovation/uplifting work of Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore has been completed.
- iii. **Installation of State of the Art Laser Fountain at Nankana Sahib.** A state of the art laser fountain has been installed at Gurdwara Janam Asthan Nankana Sahib. Inauguration ceremony was held on 10 Oct 2019.
- iv. **Up-gradation of Langer Hall of Gurdwara Janam Asthan.** Langer hall of Gurdwara Janam Asthan has been completely upgraded and its capacity has been increased to host the yatrees for langar.
- c. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Balila Sahib, Nankana Sahib.** Renovation/uplifting of Gurdwara Balila Sahib has been completed in November 2019.
- d. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Tamboo Sahib at Nankana Sahib.** Renovation/uplifting of Gurdwara Tamboo Sahib at Nankana Sahib is in progress.
- e. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Malji Sahib at Nankana Sahib.** Renovation/uplifting of Gurdwara Malji Sahib has been completed.
- f. **Scholarships for Deserving Sikh Students.** Scholarship system for the deserving Sikh/Hindu students has been started to encourage the community to get higher education.
- g. **International Sikh Convention. ETPB and Governor House Punjab** successfully conducted an International Sikh Convention in Lahore which sent very positive message to the World.
- h. **Memorial Coin and Postal Stamp. Rupees 550 Memorial coin and postal stamp** were issued on the 550th Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, November 2019 with the efforts and under the patronage of ETPB. This initiative was momentously appreciated by the Sikh Community across the globe.
- i. **Opening of Kartarpur Corridor. Kartarpur Corridor was inaugurated on 09 Nov 2019 by Prime Minister Imran Khan** and was appreciated by the international community especially Sikh Diaspora. It is worth mentioning here that new departments have been raised with man powers and budgetary support since its inauguration i.e Rangers Wing, Global Nobel, Custom department, FIA staff, Anti-Narcotics departments etc. However, ETPB is managing the affairs from its own resources since its inauguration and have not claimed any financial support from federal Government. ETPB has successfully conducted number of Sikh events since last two years including Nagar Keertan which helped in



UN Secretary General's visit to Kartarpur Corridor

shifting the perception in Pakistan's favor as a minorities' friendly country. From Nov 2019 to March 2020, 63000 yatrees from Indian side and 422000 locals from Pakistani side have visited Kartarpur Corridor who have been provided all necessary facilities by ETPB from its own budget.

j. United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) Report- 2020. Pakistan has been appreciated in the year 2020 report of United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) for opening of Kartarpur Corridor and ShivalaTeja Mandir in Sialkot.

k. UN Secretary General Visit to Kartarpur Corridor. On 18 Feb 2020, Mr. Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General visited Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, Narowal. He was received by Mr. Noor ul Haq Qadri, Federal Minister Religious Affairs, Dr. Aamer Ahmed Chairman ETPB, Sardar Satwant Singh President PSGPC. UN Secretary General termed the project as a beautiful example of this interfaith Harmony where the Sikhs, Muslims, Hindus and Christians are visiting this great place of worship.

I. Sikh Tourism Trail in Jhelum.

Restoration work on Gurdwara Choa Sahib Jhelum is in progress and likely to complete in November 2021. While repair / renovation of Bhai Karam Singh Haveli/Gurdwara and Mata Sahib Kaur Gurdwara will be started after completion of work of Gurdwara Choa Sahib Jhelum. Dr. Aamer Ahmed, Chairman ETPB has made comprehensive plan for Sikh tourism trail at Jhelum.

m. **Restoration of Gurdwara Singh Sabha, Quetta.**

The important Singh Sabah Gurdwara in Quetta was in the possession of APWA School. The matter was take up with Education Department Government of Balochistan (GOB) to hand over its possession for necessary restoration and opening for Parkash of Garanth Sahib after due approval from PSGPC. Now the Gurdwara is fully restored and repair / maintenance works are under process.

n. **Opening of Gurdwara SachKhand Sahib, Shikarpur, Sindh.**

It is first time in the history of ETPB that a historical Gurdwara is being restored and renovated in Sindh for Sikh and Nanak Namleva Sangat. Repair and renovation of Gurdwara is in progress and work will be completed in November 2021.

o. **Kartarpur Corridor Website.**

Website for Kartarpur Corridor has been launched and duly updated with pictures of the events, documentaries/video clips and publications/books relating to functional Sikh Gurdwaras.

p. **Launching Book “Historical Gurdwaras in Pakistan”.**

ETPB has launched a new book “Historical Gurdwaras in Pakistan” with the active support of Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (PSGPC) to project the rich heritage of Pakistan, the initiatives of Pakistan’s Government for the wellbeing of Sikh Community and their



UN Secretary General Antonio H.E Guterres having Langar at Kartarpur Corridor

shrines. The book has officially been launched by Dr. Noor ul Haq Qadri, Honorable Federal Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony in the ceremony held at Lahore on 18th September 2020.

q. **Conduct of Birthday of Baba Guru Nanak in November 2020.**

In November 2020, ETPB successfully conducted Birthday celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak by allowing the Indian yatrees under COVID-19 environment.

r. **Conduct of Baisakhi Festival in April 2021.**

In April 2021, ETPB successfully conducted Baisakhi Festival by allowing the Indian yatrees under COVID-19 environment.

45. **HINDU SHRINES**

- i. **Opening of Shivala Teja Singh Mandir, Sialkot.** Inauguration of Shiwala Teja Singh Mandir, Silakot on 27th October 2019 for Hindu Community. The initiative was widely appreciated locally and internationally.
- ii. **Katas Raj Mandir.** ETPB has taken over Katas Raj Mandirs from Archeology Department Govt of Punjab on 29 April 2021. Efforts are in hand for its repair / renovation by hiring the services of consultant.
- iii. **ShamshanGhat, Lahore.** Inauguration of Shamshan Ghat, Lahore for Sikh & Hindu community on 14 Jan 2021. This initiative was taken on the long standing demand of Sikh and Hindu communities who have to travel either Nankana Sahib or Attock previously for the cremation of their deceased members.
- iv. **Restoration of Samadhi Sir Ganga Ram, Lahore.** In order to pay tribute to the services of Sir Ganga Ram, ETPB has completely restored Samadhi of Sir Ganga Ram. The repair and restoration work has been completed and it will be inaugurated soon. This initiative has been widely appreciated at local and international level.
- v. **Ratan Talao Mandir, Karachi.** Efforts are being made for the opening and restoration of the Mandir. ETPB has taken up the matter with the local administration for security clearance.
- vi. **Punch Tirath Mandir, Peshawar.** As per demand of the local Hindu community efforts are being made for the opening of the Mandir.
- vii. **Balmiki Mandir, Lahore.** Efforts are in hand for taken over the control and management of the Mandir.

- viii. **Darya Lal Mandir, Karachi.** Efforts are being made for the opening / restoration of the Mandir.
- ix. **Parhalad Puri Mandir, Multan.** For the restoration / reconstruction of the Mandir services of consultant are being hired as well. Efforts are in hand for security clearance from the local administration.

46. **DEVELOPMENT WORK IN YEAR 2020-21.**

- i. Construction of room verandah shed at Sikh & Hindu Shamshan Ghat at Babu-Sabu, Lahore.
- ii. An amount of Rs.18.053 has been spent on shrines, Gurdwaras, Mandirs all over the Pakistan for repair & maintenance and up gradation.
- iii. 4-Nos lifts installation in Evacuee Trust Complex and Green Trust Tower, Islamabad is under process and 70% work has been completed.

47. **FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- ◆ Revenue of the department has been enhanced by Rs.297.150 million in this year, which is 12% enhancement as compared to last year 2019-20.
- ◆ An amount of Rs.490.204 million has been recovered on account of arrears of revenue from leases / tenant of the department while, an amount of Rs.92.806 million has been recovered on account of arrears from the Nankana Sahib in the light of the Cabinet decision.
- ◆ Savings of Rs.999.193 million by adopting austerity measures for FY: 2020-21.
- ◆ Expenditures have been curtailed and Budget utilization (Revenue vs Expenditure) is 64% of the total revenue income.
- ◆ Investment of ETP Board has been increased from Rs.4453.376 million to Rs.5741.606 million, which is 29% higher as compared to last year.
- ◆ Implementation on Internal/External Audit Reports (Years 2009-21).
- ◆ Total 156-Hidden ET properties has been traced out in two years worth Rs.1300 million.
- ◆ Resolution of important cases with Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony, Islamabad.
- ◆ Vigilant recovery of arrears and removal of illegal occupations /encroachments.
- ◆ Due to anti-encroachment drive by ETP Board, Fisheries department has paid Rs.63.700 million on account of arrears of rent.

- ◆ Almost 99% directives of PAC / DAC have been complied with true letter and spirit. Consequently an amount of Rs.1136.190 million has been recovered and got verified arrears of Rs. 63.139 million
- ◆ Renting out of space (Ramna Building) Islamabad (Rs.88.800 Million)
- ◆ Enhancement of rental rates as per market rent at ET Complex & GT Tower Islamabad.
- ◆ ETPB is income tax compliant and is on active tax payer list.
- ◆ The tender for hiring of Income Tax consultant has been initiated.
- ◆ Pension fund for the employees of ETPB has been established.
- ◆ Geo Tagging Phase-I has been completed and 25% of agreed amount has been paid as per contract agreement with SoP (Survey of Pakistan). Total 46206 sub-units 95% of urban properties have been surveyed.
- ◆ Agricultural lots (90%) of agricultural land have been surveyed. Properties / land of 35 districts out of 54 districts have been digitized on Geo-Portal.
- ◆ Geo-Portal and Android application have been developed, tender for purchase of Data Center was published and civil work of Data Center has been completed.
- ◆ 17 recommendations of the task Force have been completed, 22 have been completed partially and 5 are still to be implemented.
- ◆ **The ETPB Act has been substantially amended to restructure the Board on the model of modern corporate body providing an effective mechanism of check and balance between the Board and the management. After approval of the Federal Cabinet, the amendment Bill has been forwarded to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for its placement before the Parliament.**
- ◆ 775 acres, 3 kanal, 8 marla ET land has been retrieved from illegal occupants.
- ◆ The idle ET land of 466 Acres, 3 kanal,13 Marla has been utilized for welfare purpose.

RESEARCH AND REFERENCE WING: REHMAT-UL-LIL-AALMEEN CONFERENCE:



President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing Seerat Conference, 2020

48. Rehmat-ul-lil-Aalameen Conference was held on the occasion of 12th Rabi ul Awwal in (2020/1442 A.D) to project the life, Seerah and teaching of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad Khatam-un-Nabiyeen ﷺ. Diplomats, politicians and other prominent personalities participated in the conference. Honorable President of Pakistan was the Chief guest of inaugural session and the Prime Minister of Pakistan was the Chief guest of concluding session of the conference

ماحولیاتی آلودگی اور ہماری ذمہ داریاں سیرت النبی ﷺ کی روشنی میں

SEERAT BOOK COMPETITION

49. Seerat book competition was organized on the above mentioned topic. Authors of the books/articles who secured top positions in the competition were awarded cash prizes, souvenirs and certificates. Prizes were distributed by the President and Prime Minister of during the conference.

PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS

50. Besides festivals of non-Muslim religious groups, the Ministry celebrated Milad-ul-Nabi ﷺ in the month of Rabi ul Awwal each year. Comprehensive program was chalked out and shared with all Federal and Provincial governments/organizations to celebrate Milad ul Nabi ﷺ in a befitting manner.

CELEBRATION OF THE WEEK OF LOVE AND AFFECTION FOR HOLY PROPHET ﷺ

51. In wake of the recent wave of Islamophobia and publication of blasphemous caricatures mocking Holy Prophet Muhammad Rasool Ullah Khatam ul Nabiyeen ﷺ in France, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony in pursuance of the directives of the Prime Minister of Pakistan announced the country-wide celebrations on “The week of love and affection for the Holy Prophet Muhammad Rasool Ullah Khatam Ul Nabiyeen ﷺ” from 12th Rabi ul Awwal 1442 AH till 18th Rabi ul Awwal 1442 AH. A comprehensive program in respect of the said celebration was prepared and all Federal and Provincial Ministries/ Divisions/Departments were directed to arrange events, conferences, seminars, activities and functions in the organization/departments under their administrative control as per the program.

RECONSTITUTION OF CENTRAL RUET-E-HILAL COMMITTEE:

52. Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee was reconstituted. All zonal Ruet-e-Hilal Committees are being reconstituted in consultation with the Provincial Governments.

MEETINGS OF RUET-E- HILAL COMMITTEE

53. The meetings of Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee were held during the year on the four specific months i.e. Muharram ul Haram, Ramzan ul Mubarak, Shawwal ul Mukarram and Zul Hajj, whereas, the meetings of zonal Ruet-e-Hilal Committees at provincial level including ICT and District Committees meetings are held on each 29th of lunar month to announce and declare new Islamic month.



Meeting of Central Rute-E-Hilal Committee for Moon Sighting

ULEMA & MASHAIKH COUNCIL

54. The Ministry is actively working for promotion of Intra-faith Harmony and for developing peace and tolerance among different sects. For this purpose, National Ulema and Mashaikh Council was constituted. Recommendation made by the Council played role in eliminating the sectarian violence from the society.



Ulema & Mashaikh Conference Held at Serena Hotel Islamabad

WEB EVALUATION CELL:

55. Web Evaluation Cell (WEC) has been actively working for evaluation and examination of blasphemous, sectarian and pornographic web contents. The WEC provided its opinion/recommendations in the said content to PTA for blocking or otherwise. So far, 51520 links have been evaluated by the cell and 28404 links have been reported to PTA for appropriate action.

| S. No. | Total Evaluated links | 51520 |
|--------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Irrelevant | 23116 |
| 2 | Links being reported to PTA | 28404 |
| | i. Blasphemous | 27186 |
| | ii. Sectarian links | 1030 |
| | iii. Vulgur | 46 |
| | iv. Anti-Islam propaganda | 8 |
| | v. Others Links | 134 |

56. In order to evaluate controversial web contents, an apex committee comprising of religious scholars from all school of thoughts has also been formulated.

ROLE OF THE MINISTRY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

57. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony has been actively working on the religious front against the spread of the disease. Covid-19 SOPs for gatherings in Masajid/Imam Bargah for prayers, Traweeh, Eid-ul-Fitr, Eid-ul-Azha, animal handling, qurbani management and for Ashura activities etc were finalized in consultation with all stake holders and



President Dr. Arif Alvi presiding a Meeting regarding Role of Ministry during COVID-19

respective departments were made responsible for effective implementation of these SOPs. A Booklet titled **ڪرونا وائرس اور اسلامي** was published highlighting Islamic teachings on pandemics and SOPs finalized by the Government.

58. During 2nd and 3rd wave of the pandemic, the Ministry engaged Ulema on different occasions and sought their insight for policy formulation and decision.

LEGISLATIONS

a) OFFICIAL BILL:

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Muslim Family Laws (Amendment) Bill 2020 | The bill was approved by Federal Cabinet and has been introduced in the Parliament. At present, it is under consideration of National Assembly Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. |
| 2 | The Publication of Holy Quran (Amendment) Bill, 2020 | To ensure error free printing of the Holy Quran, an official Bill was initiated for amendments in the existing Holy Quran Act, 1973. The Bill after approval by the Cabinet has been introduced in the National assembly. At present, it is under consideration of National Assembly Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. |
| 3 | Ruet-e-Hilal Bill, 2020 | To bring harmony and uniformity on religious festivals in the country, Ruet-e-Hilal Bill 2020 was prepared in consultation with all stake holders. The bill has been approved by the Cabinet to proceed further according to decision of CCLC. |

b) PRIVATE BILL:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Muslim Family Laws (Amendment) Bill 2021 | The Bill by Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi has been approved by the Senate Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony which has recommended the Chairman Senate for passing of the Bill. |
| 2 | Guardian and Wards (Amendment) Bill, 2021 | The Bill by Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi has been approved by the Senate Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony which has recommended the Chairman Senate for passing of the bill. |
