## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

## PRESS RELEASE

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE MEETS TODAY

Islamabad, 31st March, 2015: A meeting of National Assembly Standing Committee on Defence met today in Committee Room No.7, Fourth Floor, Parliament House, Islamabad, under the Chairmanship of Shaikh Rohale Asghar, MNA. The Committee discussed the issue of acute shortage of water in the areas under the control of Cantonment Board, Karachi and Compliance report on the recommendations made by the Committee in its meeting held on 29th to 31st May, 2014 at Karchi, Ormara and Gwadar.

- 2. Rear Admiral Mukhtar Khan, AS-III, M/o Defence while giving briefing on the compliance report of the recommendations informed that the National Security Committee (NSC) has approved, in principle the project to acquire eight Chinese submarines. Financial negotiations for the same are in advance stages. He further said that Pakistan Navy requirement of special funds (US\$ 294 Million) to upgrade/induct ATRs has been approved by Ministry of Defence in consultation with Fin Div (Mily). Summary has been submitted for approval of National Security Committee. To a question, the Committee was informed that Pakistan Navy is also participating in the operation to bring the Pakistani Nationals from Yeman and for this purpose one ship of Pakistan Navy has already been moved towards Yeman.
- 3. Director General Military land and Cantonment M/o Defence also briefed the Committee on the issue of acute shortage of water in the areas under the control of Cantonment Board, Karachi in detail. He informed that shortage of drinking water is faced throughout Karachi and Karachi Cantt. He further informed that every effort is made to regulate the available water supply efficiently and reduce line loss to the maximum. In this respect a comprehensive strategy should be evolved in collaboration with the Provencal Government to resolve the water issue in Karachi.
- 4. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Isphanyar M. Bhandara, Mir Dostain Domki, Ms Surriya Asghar, Ms. Suraiya Jatoi, Ms. Mussarat Ahmad Zeb, Mr. Sanjay Perwani, Ms. Kishwer Zehra, Mr. Mahmood Khan Achakzai, Muhammad Junaid Anwar, Lt. Col. (Retd) Ghulam Rasul Sahi, and Mr. Saeed Ahmed Manais MNAs and Officers/Officials of the Ministry.

(Walayat Khan Bhettani) 31/3/15 Secretary Committee