

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

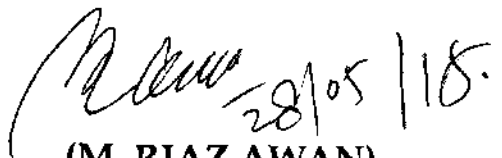
PRESS RELEASE

Islamabad, 28th May, 2015: The Standing Committee on Government Assurances met today in Parliament House, Islamabad under the Chairmanship of Mr. Muhammad Afzal Khokhar, MNA to consider the following agenda:-

- i) To discuss the assurance given, on behalf of Minister for Foreign Affairs, by Engineer Khurram Dastagir Khan, Minister for Commerce on the floor of the House on 16th August, 2013 whereby in response to a supplementary question asked by Engineer Usman Khan Tarakai, MNA under starred question No. 41, the House was assured that the Pakistani Schools situated abroad will be upgraded so that Pakistani students especially girls are facilitated "for their admissions in graduation/bachelor classes."
- ii) Any other item with permission of the Chair.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs briefed that there are 38 Pakistan International Schools abroad: Saudi Arabia 10, UAE 7, Turkey 1, Syria, Qatar 1, Egypt 1, China 1, Iran 1, Libya 1, Kuwait 5, Oman 6, Bahrain 2 and Yemen 1, which is currently closed due to security situation at there. The Ministry informed that two Pakistani schools operating in Bahrain are managed by their own independent board of management without any administrative control of the Pakistan Embassy. He further informed that the Pakistan International School of Cairo is offering classes from Nursery to IGCSE O and A level keeping in view demand of Pakistanis residing in Egypt. The school will consider up-gradation to graduation / bachelor level depending upon demand. In addition, there are ten Pakistani schools in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which are functioning according to the policy guidelines of the local ministry of Education. Its affairs are looked after by the School Management Council comprising parents of the respective schools. Their up-gradation to graduation level is currently is not possible as the local Government rules do not permit graduation level education by the Foreign Communities schools in Saudi Arabia. Therefore, the Pakistan Embassy conducts B.A and M.A level examination of various Pakistani universities for the Private Pakistani Students. He added that the Pakistan International School of Damascus at Syria conducts classes for IGCSE, O & A level to cater for the education of Pakistani students including diplomatic representative of 54 countries. During the last five years many Pakistanis have migrated from Syria due to security situation. Currently, only 48 Pakistani students are studying in the Pakistan Embassy school.

3. MNAs Syed Sajid Mehdi and Malik Ibrar Ahmed were present in the meeting.


(M. RIAZ AWAN)
Deputy Secretary (C-II)