

YEAR BOOK

2016-2017





**MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
AND INTERFAITH HARMONY**

2016-2017

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and Interfaith Harmony
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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:

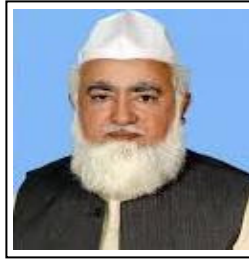
- i) Facilitate the pilgrims for Hajj and Umrah.
- ii) Root out sectarianism/extremism and promote sectarian and interfaith harmony.
- iii) Take concrete steps for the welfare of minorities.

National and provincial level conferences were held for promoting inter and intra faith harmony. Concrete steps were taken to mainstream various segments of society and create an environment of peace and harmony. National Commission for Minorities has been re-notified on 04-05-2015 to represent all segments and ensure effective participation of minorities in all walks of life. The consensus of all religious scholars on unified timing of *Azan and Salat* in Islamabad is a milestone towards unity and fraternity. People from different schools of thought participated in National *Seerat* Conference where different aspects of the *Seerah* of Muhammad (SAW) were highlighted. In this context, further utmost efforts will be made to project the true image of Islam. The policy and plan for *Hajj* 2016 has been carried out successfully and to the full satisfaction of *Hujjaj*.

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

(Sardar Muhammad Yousaf)
Minister for Religious Affairs
and Interfaith Harmony

(ii)



MESSAGE

With the grace of Allah,

It is a matter of great pleasure for me that ministry has completed another year of achievements and accomplishments. Being the Federal Authority for regulating Religious Affairs, we stand committed to creation of religious harmony and peace in the country. The Government has already taken some concrete and effective steps to ensure peace and tolerance among all religious communities. We intend to strengthen these efforts.

It is our national and moral duty to promote Islamic Moral Standards and way of living in society. I reaffirm my pledge to promote religious harmony and tolerance among all the segments of society so that our citizens live in peaceful environment and grow as optimistic and patriotic nationals.

Being cognizant of the situation of sectarian violence in Pakistan, we are continuously making administrative reforms to cope with the multi pronged challenges ahead. The Ministry is making all-out efforts to curb sectarianism, and has also established the Ulema and Mashaikh Council to come up with some tangible strategies on which all sects could be gathered. To facilitate people during Hajj, we have also improved our hajj policy and have made better arrangements this year.

The Year Book of the Ministry of Religious Affairs for the fiscal year 2016-17 contains authentic details of all our efforts and achievements. I welcome everyone to have a glance at this book to know us better. May Allah bless us in this noble cause, Ameen.

(Pir Muhammad Amin Ul Hasnat Shah)
Minister of State for Religious Affairs
and Inter-Faith Harmony



PREFACE

In pursuance of Sub Rule (2) of Rule 25 of the Rules of Business, 1973, Year Book 2016-17 of this Ministry is being published for information of the Cabinet as well as 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, *Mehfil-e-Shabeena* 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. Muhammad Khan Khichi
Additional Secretary
- ii) Mr. Ilyas Khan
Sr. Joint Secretary (A/F)
- iii) Mr. Noor Zaman
Joint Secretary (D&Z)
- iv) Mr. Muhammad Farooq
Joint Secretary (Hajj)
- v) Mr. Niaz Muhammad Khan
Joint Secretary (D&Z)
- vi) Mr. Noor Salam Shah
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.

(Khalid Masood Chaudhary)
Secretary
Ministry of Religious Affairs
& Interfaith Harmony

INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Religious Affairs was created in October, 1974. Prior to 1974 various Ministries had been dealing with Hajj operations. 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”. They were separated from the Ministry in 1977 and 1992, respectively. However, the subjects of Minorities Affairs and Zakat & Ushr were merged with this Ministry in 1996. The Zakat & Ushr Division was again separated from this Ministry in October/November, 2008 and the Ministry was renamed as Ministry of Religious Affairs. After devolution of the subject of Zakat & Ushr in 2011, a Zakat Cell was created in the Ministry. In June, 2013, erstwhile Ministry of National Harmony was merged with Ministry of Religious Affairs and the ministry was renamed as Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. Now the Ministry has the following Wings:

- Hajj
- Dawah and Ziarat
- Research and Reference
- Zakat and Umrah
- Interfaith Harmony
- Admin and Finance

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

1. Formulation of Hajj Policy
2. Arranging 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 the Hajj Directorate 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 Ulemas and Khatibs, etc.
8. Error-free and correct 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. Collection of Zakat and Ushr, disbursement of Zakat and Ushr to the Provinces and other areas as per formula approved by Council of Common Interests.
17. Policy and legislation with regard to inter-faith Harmony.
18. International agreements and commitments in respect of all religious communities and implementation thereof.
19. Representation of Pakistan at UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination to Minorities.
20. Minorities Welfare Fund.
21. National Commission for Minorities.
22. Evacuee Trust Property Board.

Hajj Wing:

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony took necessary steps for bringing improvements in the facilities for Hajj – 2016. In this regard, Hajj Wing played key role in conducting the Hajj operation in consultation with all the stakeholders including Ministries/organizations of Saudi and Pakistani Governments, Banks, Airlines, Hajj Group Organizers, Scholars, prominent figures and Parliamentarians.

2. The Policy and Plan for Hajj 2016 was approved by the Cabinet/Prime Minister of Pakistan and implemented in letter and spirit. However, to induct the Parliamentary role in Hajj management, the Hajj Policy had a provision of Hajj Advisory Committee to advise on Policy with the following composition:-

S.No.	Name	Position
i.	Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony	Chairman
ii.	Minister of State, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony	Member
iii.	Chairman, Senate Standing Committee on Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony	Member
iv.	Chairman, National Assembly Standing Committee of Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony	Member
v.	Ambassador of Pakistan to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Member
vi.	Director General (Hajj), Jeddah	Member
vii.	Secretary Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony	Member
viii.	Mr. Shahid Khan, Ex-Director General (Hajj)	Member
ix.	Syed Abu Ahmed Aakif, Ex-Director General (Hajj)	Member
x.	Chairman, Hajj Organizers' Association of Pakistan (HOAP)	Member

3. Hajj quota of 179,210 was allocated in Hajj 2011 by the Ministry of Hajj, KSA with the ratio of 1000 pilgrims per one million Muslim inhabitants, in accordance with the decision taken in the meeting of Foreign Ministers of Organization of Islamic Conference in the year 1987. This quota was, however, reduced by twenty percent (20%) in Hajj 2013 due to expansion plan of Haram Sharif and was accordingly fixed at 143,368. As per agreement concluded between Pakistan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 29-01-2015 at Jeddah, the Hajj quota for Pakistan was fixed as 143,368. As per agreement concluded between Pakistan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 18.02.2016 at Jeddah, the Hajj quota for Pakistan remained fixed at 143,368 pilgrims for Hajj-2016.

4. Out of the total Hajj quota of 143,368, 60% was allocated to Government Hajj Scheme which provides an economic package with reasonable facilities for the pilgrims while balance 40% was allocated to Private Scheme i.e. Hajj Group Organizers (HGOs) on the concept of 'public-private partnership' to provide choice and competition in the market. The bifurcation of quota for hajj 2016 was as under:-

Government Hajj Scheme:	86,201
Hajj Group Organizers Scheme:	<u>57,347</u>
Total: -	143,368

5. Hajj applications for Hajj 2016 were received through eight (08) scheduled banks (NBP, HBL, UBL, MCB, ABL, Bank Alfalah, Bank of Punjab & Meezan Bank). In response, 280,617 Hajj applications under the Government Hajj Scheme were received through these Banks and selection of Hujjaj was made through "Balloting" conducted by Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB), Lahore.

6. To facilitate the pilgrims, Hajj operation was carried out at Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Multan, Faisalabad, Sukkur, Sialkot and Rahim Yar Khan gateways during Hajj Operation 2016. To ensure optimum facilitation through instant assistance and effective service delivery to the intending Hujjaj, various operational facilitation counters at all the Hajj Directorates in Pakistan operated round the clock during the Hajj season.

HAJJ DUES:

7. The Hajj package for Hajj-2016 was as under:-

Package	North Region	South Region
Total Package without Qurbani	Rs. 270,941/-	261,941/-
Total Package including Qurbani (optional)	Rs. 284,281/-	275,281/-

PERSONAL EXCHANGE QUOTA:

8. Due to liberalization of foreign exchange regime in the country, Saudi Riyals were available in the open market through scheduled banks and foreign exchange companies and the Hujjaj under the Government Hajj Scheme arranged adequate foreign exchange, by their own, from the open market.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:

9. In pursuance of the Revised Air Services Agreement (ASA) between Government of Pakistan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed in 2011, hujjaj of the government scheme were airlifted by the designated airlines i.e. Pakistan International Airline (PIA), Shaheen Air International, Air Blue and Saudi Airline.

ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS:

10. The accommodation arrangements for Hujjaj 2016 were made by the following committee approved for the purpose in Hajj Policy 2016:-

S. No.	Name and Designation	Position
1)	Director General Hajj, Jeddah	Convener
2)	Two representatives of the Ambassador of Pakistan to KSA.	Members
3)	Director Hajj, Jeddah.	Member
4)	Deputy Director Hajj, Madina Munawwarah	Member

11. In 2016, the hiring committee hired 143 buildings for the accommodation of hujjaj of government Hajj scheme. The Committee kept in view the following provisions of Hajj Policy, 2016 before finalization of accommodation arrangements for the Hujjaj:-

- The maximum rent of accommodation for Makkah Mukarrammah was charged @ SR. 2000/- per pilgrim including transport facility.
- The determination of rent in Makkah Mukarrammah was based upon services available in buildings, availability of transport and distance from Haram Sharif.
- Accommodation in Madinah Munawwarah was hired @.SR.700/- per pilgrim per cycle and 80% accommodation was provided in the area of Markazia in Madinah Munawwarah.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS:

12. The General Transport Syndicate, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is responsible for provision of transport to the Hujjaj reaching Saudi Arabia for performance of Hajj from all over the world. The Transport Syndicate performed efficiently and provided air-conditioned buses to Pakistani Hujjaj from Jeddah Airport to Makkah Mukarrammah, Makkah Mukarrammah to Madinah Munawwarah and back to Makkah Mukarrammah. Train facility at Mashaair was provided to the Pakistani Hujjaj. Besides, Pakistan Hajj Mission arranged Salwat Transport for its Hujjaj.

PROVISION OF TRAIN FACILITY:

13. In the meeting of Pakistan Hajj Office with Moassassah Mutawify Hujjaj South Asia in February, 2016, it was agreed, in principle, that maximum Hujjaj of Government Scheme would get the facility of transportation through train in Mashaair. However, provision of train facility could not be guaranteed to 100% of the pilgrims and due to non-availability of train facility, buses were provided to them for transportation in Mashaair.

PROVISION OF FOOD TO HUIJAJ:

14. In 2016, the government of KSA made it mandatory to provide meals to Hujjaj at their buildings. The Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony, through Directorate General of Hajj, Jeddah arranged to provide meals three times a day to hujjaj with a standard menu all across Makkah, which was generally well appreciated.

FUNCTIONS OF HAJJ DIRECTORATES IN PAKISTAN

15. The eight Hajj Directorates performed multifarious Hajj operational duties like conducting of training of Bank Officers, Master Trainers, Group Leaders and intending Hajj pilgrims for awareness and guidance, etc.

16.. The following tasks were accomplished:-

- i) Arrangements for transportation of intending pilgrims from Hajj Directorates to concerned Airports.
- ii) Arrangements for airlifting of intending pilgrims.
- iii) The intending pilgrims vaccinated against meningitis/anti-flu vaccine and they were also given polio drops.
- iv) Hajj application forms of Private Hajj Group Organizers were received and updated.
- v) Departmental meetings with different agencies and all stakeholders i.e. Airlines, Banks, Civil Aviation Authority, Custom, Boy Scouts Association, NADRA, Health Departments and Security agencies etc, were held.
- vi) Collected Passports for Government and Private Schemes and got hajj visas endorsed from Saudi Embassy and dispatched to concerned Haji Camps.
- vii) Supervised performance of private tour operators regarding provision of facilities to the intending pilgrims.
- viii) Made foolproof security arrangements for safety of the intending pilgrims at Hajj Complexes.
- ix) Provided accommodation facilities to the intending pilgrims in the respective Haji Camps during Hajj season.
- x) Established booths of the scheduled banks at Haji Camps and controlled all functions, matters of Hujjaj like issuance of Personal Exchange Quota (PEQ).
- xi) Established offices of PIA/Saudi Airlines at Hajj Complexes for provision of better facilities to Hujjaj.
- xii) Compiled Hajj accounts with airlines and banks.
- xiii) Provided round the clock medical coverage to Hujjaj during their stay at Hajj Complexes.

DAWAH & ZIARAT WING:

PAKISTAN MADRASSAH EDUCATION BOARD (PMEB)

17. PMEB was established on 8th September, 2001 under Pakistan Madrassah Education (Establishment and Affiliation of Model Dini Madaris) Board Ordinance, 2001 promulgated on 18th of August, 2001. The Status of PMEB as per stipulation in Ordinance is that of a “Body Corporate” and the employees of the Board are not Government Servants. They are assigned the status of public servants for limited purpose of application of section 21 of the Pakistan Penal Code. Main functions of Pakistan Madrassah Education Board as envisaged in the Ordinance are as under:-

- a) To establish such Model Madaris and Model Dar-ul-Ulooms in which Islamic Education is the main component and includes courses and curricula of the general education system as may be prescribed.
- b) To approve the curricula, courses of study and conditions for holding of examinations in the Model Dini Madaris in line with the recommendations of the Academic Council.
- c) To organize teachers training programmes for the teachers of the Model Dini Madaris and Dar-ul-Ulooms in various social sciences and religious courses.
- d) To grant affiliation, to lay down the regulations and to approve conditions for affiliation of existing Madaris.
- e) To suggest ways and means to bridge the existing gulf between the general education system and Dini Madaris by revising and improving curricula of Madaris and general education programs.
- f) To promote co-operation and co-ordination amongst existing Dini Madaris and their organizations.
- g) To approve equivalence of Degrees, Diplomas, Asnads and Certificates where curricula includes subjects of general education system.

18. Though all objectives of the establishment of the Board could not be materialized so far due to non-participation of the Wafaqs of Dini Madaris representing Madrassahs, yet the goal of establishing Model Dini Madaris was achieved and three such Madaris were established and are functioning at Islamabad (for Girls), Karachi and Sukkur (for Boys). The salient features of these Madaris are:-

- a) Students are the children of Mustahikeen-e-Zakat and are admitted on production of Istehqaq certificates issued by the Local Zakat Committee.
- b) Free Boarding/lodging is provided to the students.
- c) Contemporary education is being imparted alongwith selective religious education.
- d) Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education Islamabad accorded affiliation to three Model Dini Madaris at Islamabad, Karachi and Sukkur.
- e) Pakistan Madrassah Education Board in collaboration with International Islamic University Islamabad conducts annual examinations for Darja Sanvia Aamah and Sanvia Khasa.

19. Both contemporary and religious education is being imparted to the Students in these Model Dini Madaris as detailed below:-

- a) Syllabus & Courses of Studies Prescribed by Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad.
 - i) English
 - ii) Mathematics
 - iii) General Science
 - iv) Economics
 - v) Urdu
 - vi) Social Studies
 - vii) Political Science
 - viii) Computer
 - ix) Physics
 - x) Chemistry

xi) Biology

b) Religious Subjects being taught in addition to the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Syllabus are:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| i) The Holy Quran | ii) Life and Sayings of the Holy Prophet |
| iii) Arabic Grammar | iv) Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence |
| v) Logic (i.e. Mantiq) | vi) Arabic Language |

20. The number of students presently studying in these Model Dini Madaris is:-

Name of Institution	No. of Students
Model Dini Madrassah (for Girls), Islamabad	450
Model Dini Madrassah (for Boys), Sukkur	197
Model Dini Madrassah (for Boys), Karachi	171
Total	818

21. In Order to run these three Model Dini Madaris located at Islamabad for Girls, Sukkur and Karachi for Boys, administrative and teaching staff has been engaged on regular as well as on contract basis.

22. The status of Staff of Dini Madaris is as under:-

S.#	Name of Institution	Regular	Contract	Total Staff
01.	Pakistan Madrassah Education Board	12	11	23
02.	Model Dini Madrassah, Islamabad	15	36	51
03.	Model Dini Madrassah, Sukkur	06	27	33
02.	Model Dini Madrassah, Karachi	18	07	25
Total:-		51	81	132

23. For salaries and utilities, allocation is received from Federal Government budget. The total allocation of budget for financial year 2016-2017 was Rs.53.00 million. The major chunk of this allocation is used for payment of salaries and allowances to the teaching staff and remaining for utilities. However, free boarding and lodging to the students is being arranged through grants received from Zakat fund as per following rates:-

24. **Scholarship/Mess & Food**

Scholarship to mustahiq students up to Matriculation	Scholarship	Mess/Food charges
	Rs.500/-	Rs.1000/-
Scholarship to mustahiq students above Matriculation.	Rs.1125/-	Rs.1000/-

MADRASSAH REFORMS SCHEME
(Teaching of formal subjects in Deeni Madaris)

25. Consequent upon devolution of Ministry of Education in pursuance of 18th Constitutional Amendment, the administrative control of Madrassah Reforms Scheme (MRS) (Teaching of formal subjects in Deeni Madaris) has been transferred to Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony from 1st July, 2011.

26. The scheme under reference has a network of 432 Deeni Madaris throughout the country. The aim of the scheme is to facilitate the registered Madaris wherein 2199 teachers are working from Primary to Secondary and Higher Secondary levels to integrate religious education with the contemporary education.

27. The break-up of 432 Madaris is as under:-

S. No.	Province /Area	Total Madaris	No. of teachers
1	Punjab	52	503
2	Sindh	46	379
3	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	78	388
4	Balochistan	49	202
5	FATA	102	354
6	GB	21	51
7	ICT	11	57
8	AJK	73	265
	Total:	432	2199

28. Ministry of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony is disbursing the salaries to the 2199 teachers in the name of Madaris through crossed cheques @ Rs.3000/-, Rs.4000/- and Rs.5000/- per month to the Primary, Secondary and High Secondary level respectively. Under the Scheme Rs.41.00 million were allocated during the financial year 2016-17.

SELECTION OF HUFFAZ FOR NATIONAL MEHFIL-E-SHABINA, 2016-17

29. A competition for selection of Huffaz for National Mehfil-e-Shabina, 2016 was held on 30-05-2016 at Dawah Academy Islamabad wherein 52 Huffaz from all over the country participated. In the said competition, 14 Huffaz were selected by the Judges. The list of selected huffaz is as under:-

Hafiz Muhammad Akram S/o Haji Muhammad
Hafiz Muhammad Azam S/o Muhammad Ali
Hafiz Muhammad Hassan S/o Muhammad Haroon
Hafiz Shakeel Ahmad S/o Fazal Hussain
Hafiz Bashir Raza S/o Abdul Aziz
Hafiz Yasir Jamal S/o Jamaluddin
Hafiz Aftab Khan S/o Muhammad Zaman Khan
Hafiz Mahboob Ahmad S/o Fazal Karim
Hafiz Muhammad Azam S/o Muhammad Lal
Hafiz Amanullah S/o Hameed Ullah
Hafiz Atta Ullah S/o Abdul Khaliq
Hafiz Basharat Hussain S/o Muhammad Afzal
Hafiz Muhammad Azam S/o Sher Dad
Hafiz Muhammad Idrees S/o Ali Akbar

NATIONAL MEHFIL-E-SHABINA, 2016-17:

30. The National Mehfil-e-Shabina was organized on the nights of 26th-29th Ramadan-ul-Mubarak, 1433 AH (i.e. 1st to 4th July, 2017) at Faisal Masjid, Islamabad wherein 14 selected Huffaz participated and recited the Holy Quran.

NATIONAL HIFZ-O-QIRAT COMPETITION 2016-17

31. The National Hifz-o-Qirat competition was organized on 10th-11th May, 2017 at Hotel Regalia, Islamabad. 63 Huffaz/Qurrah across the country recommended by the Provinces including Gilgit1-Baltistan, AJK and ICT participated in the competition. 24 Huffaz/Qurrah were selected by the Judges for the Category (I to VIII). Besides, Cash Prizes, the position holders were nominated for International Competitions which were held in various Islamic countries. The list of position holders Huffaz/Qurrah is as under:-

S.No.	Category	Name of Position Holders		
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd
1.	Hifz Cat – I Para 1-30	Hafiz M. Athar S/o Saleemullah (Punjab)	Hafiz Muhammad Sabir S/o Murad Khan	Hafiz Muhammad Suffiyan S/o Muhammad Akhtar
2.	Hifz Cat– II Para 1-20	Hafiz Muhammad Sudais S/o Rashidullah (KPK)	Hafiz Muhammad Mubashir S/o Mobeen Khan (Sindh)	Hafiz Muhammad Usman S/o Muhammad Farooq (Punjab)
3.	Hifz Cat – III Para 1-10	Hafiz Muhammad Idrees S/o Ali Akbar (ICT)	Hafiz Muhammad Amjad S/o Muhammad Pervaiz (Sindh)	Hafiz Muhammad Ahmad S/o Muhammad Aslam (Punjab)
4.	Hifz Cat – IV Para 1-5	Hafiz Abdullah Azam S/o Muhammad Azam (ICT)	Hafiz Muhammad Musab S/o Muhammad Farooq (Sindh)	Hafiz Muhammad Asadullah S/o Hassan Mehmood (Punjab)
5.	Cat– V (Qari Above 16 Years)	Qari Abdul Basit S/o Muhammad Aslam (Punjab)	Qari Abdul Rasheed S/o Abdul Razzaq (KPK)	Qari Yasir Jamal S/o Jamaluddin (Sindh)
6.	Cat – VI (Qariah Above 16 Years)	QARIAH MINHAJ D/O ABDUL RAUF (ICT)	Qariah Asma W/o Muhammad Zahid (KPK)	Qariah Tayyaba Nasreen D/o Malik Khuda Baksh
7.	Cat – VII (Qari Below 16 Years)	Qari Muhammad Usman S/o Muhammad Mushtaq (Punjab)	Qari Abdul Basit S/o Khawas Khan (KPK)	Qari Talha Ahmad S/o Manzoor Ahmad (Sindh)
8.	Cat – VIII (Qariah Below 16 Years)	Qarih Maria Liaqat (KPK)	Qariah Fassaha Faiyaz D/o Muhammad Faiyaz (Punjab)	Qaria Zohra D/o Muhammad Nadeem (Sindh)

INTERNATIONAL QURAN COMPETITION, 2016-17:

32. The following position holders of the National Hifz-o-Qirat Competition were nominated to participate in the International Quran Competition held in various countries:-

Sr. No.	Name	Country where competition held
1	Hafiz Muhammad Athar	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
2	Hafiz Muhammad Sabir	
3	Qari Abdul Basir	Malaysia
4	Qariah Minhaj	
5	Qari Abdul Rasheed	Jordan

DISTRIBUTION OF ISLAMIC BOOKS FOR PROPAGATION OF ISLAM ABROAD 2016-17:

33. The Ministry of Religious Affairs distributes, free of cost, copies of the Holy Quran and other Islamic Books through Pakistan Missions abroad to individuals/organizations of foreign countries on their requests.

EXCHANGE OF SCHOLARS:

34. Ministry nominated the following Scholars to attend the 35th International Session to explain the contents of the Amman message held on 19th to 26th March, 2017 at Amman Jordan:-

Sr. No.	Name and Address
1	Maulana Abdul Majeed Hazarvi, Imam & Khateeb Jamia Masjid Usman Faizabad Road, Sector H-8/2, Islamabad
2	Mr. Amir Hasan, Lecturer Dawah Academy, International Islamic University, Islamabad

VISIT OF PAKISTANI ZAIREEN FOR URSES IN INDIA 2016-17

35. The Ministry managed the visit of Pakistani Zaireen to India on the eve of scheduled Urses of prominent Muslim Saints as detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Name of Urs	No. of Zaireen	Date of Urses		Actually Traveled
			Lunar	Party Duration	
1.	Hazrat Amir Khusro (RA), Delhi	200	18 Shawal	21 st to 28 th July, 2016	140
2.	Hazrat Mujadid Alf Sani (RA) Sarhand Sharif	200	28 Saffar	24 th Nov to 1 st Dec, 2016	126
3.	Hazrat Khawaja Allauddin Ali Ahmad Sabir (RA), Kalyar Sharif	200	13 Rabiul Awwal	8 th to 15 th Dec, 2016	148
4.	Hafiz Abdullah Shah (RA), Agra	150	4 Rabi us Sani	29 th Dec to 5 th Jan, 2017	Cancelled
5.	Hazrat Khawaja Nizamuddin Aulia (RA) Delhi	250	16 Rabi us Sani	12 th to 19 th Jan, 2017	114
6.	Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Chishti (RA) Ajmeer Sharif	500	6 Rajab	30 th Mar to 10 th Apr, 2017	402

RESEARCH AND REFERENCE WING:

QURAN COMMITTEE:

36. A Committee has been constituted in this Ministry in pursuance of Section 4 of the publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing and Recording Errors) Act, 1973 on the following terms of reference:-

- i) Authenticate a copy of the Holy Quran for keeping in the archives for safe custody and
- ii) Look after the proper disposal system of the damaged Holy Pages and copies of the Holy Quran.

ERROR FREE PRINTING OF THE HOLY QURAN:

37. In order to ensure error free printing of the text of Holy Quran and its Ayaat in other books/literature, Research and Reference Wing examines copies of the Holy Quran and other literature which contains Quranic Ayaat under the publication of Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing and Recording Errors) Act, 1973. Various meetings were held with all the provincial departments regarding enforcement of Quran Act on the pattern of the Punjab government in all provinces. In response, Quran Acts have been enforced at Federal and Provincial level separately. Moreover, in order to ensure error free printing and proper disposal of the damaged papers of Holy Quran, Quran Boards/Committees have been constituted for keeping their supervision and formulating their recommendations, so as to streamline the functioning of the system smoothly.

STANDARD COPY OF HOLY QURAN:

38. To ensure error free printing of the Holy Quran, an edition of the Holy Quran published by the Anjuman Himayat-e-Islam in April, 2016 has been declared as Standard Copy for the whole country in consultation with all Quran Boards/Committees of Provinces/ICT.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MOON SIGHTING:

39. To avoid differences on the occasions of celebration of Islamic festivals and start of Islamic months, meetings of Central, Zonal and District Ruet-e-Hilal Committees were held regularly for sighting the moon on 29th of each Lunar month. The Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee met on four important occasions to sight the moon of Muharram, Ramzan, Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Azha which are of great public importance. For rest of the year, its members joined the meetings of Provincial/District Ruet-e-Hilal Committees at their respective places. Various meetings were held pertaining to Ruet-e-Hilal in the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, wherein Provincial Ministers and Secretaries for Auqaf and Religious Affairs participated. Inter alia, it was decided that a law regarding Ruet-e-Hilal may be made for the whole of country to avoid differences on the occasions of celebration of Islamic festivals. For the said purpose, law regarding Ruet-e-Hilal in consultation with all provincial governments was formulated and finalized in the light of the observations of Law and Justice Division.

OFFICIAL BILLS PROCESSED:

40.

Detail of Bills	Year 2016-17
Official Bill regarding Ruet-e-Hilal	A bill regarding Ruet-e-Hilal has been prepared in consultation with all provincial governments and finalized in the light of the observations of Law and Justice Division and recommendations of Senate Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony.
Official Bill	The publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing and Recording Errors) Amendment Bill, 2017 was prepared and comments on the bill were obtained from all stakeholders including Law & Justice Division. Thereafter, the said bill was sent to the Federal Cabinet for approval and subsequently to lay it before the Parliament.

INTERNATIONAL SEERAT CONFERENCE-2016/1438 AH

41. The Ministry organizes National/International Seerat Conference every year on the occasion of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal, wherein prominent Ulema, Mashaikh, Religious Scholars/Professors and people from different schools of thought and walks of life participate from all over the country and abroad. Seerat Books, Naat and Seerat Articles competitions on the notified theme of the conference are also held. Cash Prizes are awarded to the writers of the best books and articles. The President of Pakistan and Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony expressed their feelings on the theme of conference.

42. In the year 2016/1438 AH, a two-day International Seerat Conference was held on 11th to 12th December, 2016 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Lahore. More than 1000 participants from all walks of life including diplomats, politicians and other dignitaries attended the conference. The Prime Minister of Pakistan chaired the inaugural session of the conference. Concluding session was chaired by the Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. 55 prizes were conferred by the Federal Minister amongst the prize winners of Seerat Books Competition 1438 AH. In the category of books, 19 prizes while in the category of Maqalat-e-Seerat 36 prizes were conferred.

43. Mufti of Istanbul, Turkey and Minister for Religious Affairs, Maldives also participated in the conference and expressed their feelings about the occasion of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal and friendship of Pakistan with their respective countries.

NATIONAL SEERAT COMPETITION:

44. The Ministry holds a Seerat Book Competition every year for writing of Articles, Books and Journals on Seerat-e-Tayyaba, Naat-e-Rasool (SAWS) and other Islamic topics. There are nine categories of this competition, for which prizes are distributed to the winners on the occasion of 12th Rabi-u-Awwal in National/International Seerat Conference. This year 55 winners in all these categories won the prizes. Prizes were given in the form of cash, certificates and the souvenirs.

PRINTING OF MAQALAT-E-SEERAT 2016/1438 AH:

45. 200 copies of Maqalat-e-Seerat of 2016/1438AH were printed during the financial year 2016-17.

DISTRIBUTION OF MAQALAT-E-SEERAT:

46. 900 copies of Maqalat-e-Seerat of 2016/1438 AH were distributed amongst prominent libraries/institutions and desiring persons/institutions.

UPLOADING OF MAQALAT-E-SEERAT ON WEBSITE:

47. Maqalat-e-Seerat for the year 2016/1438AH have been uploaded on the website of the Ministry for the propagation of Seerat of Holy Prophet (PBUH)) in the society and the study by researchers.

DRAFTING OF MESSAGES:

48. Messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were drafted on the following six (06) specified occasions for issuance on behalf of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan during the period:-

1. Beginning of Hijra year
2. 10th of Muharram-ul-Haram (Yum-e-Ashur)
3. 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal
4. Beginning of Ramzan-ul-Mubarik
5. Eid-ul-Fitr.
6. Eid-ul-Azha

DRAFTING OF SPEECHES:

49. Speeches of the President, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Federal Minister and other dignitaries were also drafted on different occasions like International Seerat Conference and other important occasions during this year.

DRAFTING OF SCRIPT FOR STAGE SECRETARY:

50. Scripts for the stage Secretary were also drafted on various occasions like International Seerat Conference which was held on 11th and 12th December, 2016 at Lahore.

RECYCLING PLANT:

51. Every year thousands of tonnes of Quran Papers become Shaheed and ready for disposal, and create difficulties for common man how to dispose of the said Shaheed/Sacred Papers of Quran. It has also been observed that a lay man puts blasphemous allegations against the disposer. In order to provide proper forum for disposing of the said Holy shaheed papers in proper and respectable manner and to avoid blasphemous allegations/faults, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony intends to establish a recycling plant to facilitate the government sectors as well as general public to dispose of the said Shaheed/Sacred Papers of the Quran. In this regard, a summary for the Prime Minister through Capital Administration and Development Division (CADD) was initiated for allotment of land measuring 10 Kanals on 11.12.2017. The project is under process.

CIVIL AWARDS:

52. Every year, this Ministry recommends renowned personalities and scholars having tangible contribution in the field of Qirat and Naat Khawani to the Cabinet Division for Civil Awards. Three persons were recommended for Civil Awards 2016-17.

IMPLEMENTATION AND REVISION OF LAWS:

i) The Ehtaram-e-Ramzan Ordinance, 1981:

The Federal Government had promulgated Ehtaram-e-Ramzan Ordinance, 1981 which prohibits eating and serving eatables at public places, prescribes closure of cinema houses, theaters and other establishments and taking of steps for observing due sanctity of the holy month of Ramzan ul Mubarak. Each year, the concerned quarters are requested to implement the said ordinance to maintain sanctity of the Holy month of Ramzan-ul-Mubarak.

ii) Dowry and Bridal Gift (Restriction) Act, 1976:

In Pakistan, due to the menace of dowry, thousands of girls either remain unmarried or become the victim of acid attacks and physical violence. The government of Pakistan enforced this act to restrict the value of dowry, bridal gifts and presents given on marriages and to restrict the total expenditure on marriage. The section 9(1) of the Act prescribes punishment for those who violate its provisions. An official bill to make amendments in the said law is in process of consultation.

iii) The Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961:

The said ordinance covers the Family Law of Pakistan i.e. procedure of registration of marriage, talaq, polygamy, succession, maintenance and dower. An official bill to make amendments in the said law is in process of consultation with relevant stakeholders.

iv) The Marriage Functions (Prohibition of Ostentatious Displays and Wasteful Expenses) Ordinance, 2000:

54. This law provides restrictions on wasteful expenses (serving of multiple meals or other edibles to the invitees of marriage) and prohibits ostentatious celebrations (decoration of houses, streets, building/unnecessary illumination/display of fireworks/exploding firecrackers and firing) on marriages. The section 6 of the said act provides punishment to those who violate its provisions. An official bill to amend the said ordinance has been processed and a summary has also been sent to Cabinet Committee for disposal of legislative cases.

NATIONAL ULEMA AND MASHAIKH COUNCIL:

55. National Ulema and Masaikh Council was constituted on 21st April, 2016. The main objective of the Council was to control sectarianism and to promote religious harmony in the country. TORs of the Council are as under:-

- i. To review existing recommendations to contain fanatical attitudes and prejudices, to suggest ways and means for its effective implementation.
- ii. To suggest a code of ethics for Ulema, scholars and leaders of politico-religious parties, as well as the Press and to avert possible threats to inter-communal/inter-sectarian harmony and national solidarity.
- iii. To suitably amend its TORs so as to ensure achieving the overall goal of interfaith/sectarian harmony.

56. The Council has representatives from all Wifaqs, all schools of thought and all provinces including Religious Affairs and Auqaf Ministers from the Provinces. Masaikh have also been given representation in the Council.

57. Two Committees have been established under the Council: Steering Committee and Curriculum Committee. The TORs of the Steering Committee are as under:-

- i. To suggest practical steps for the promotion of sectarian harmony and peace in the country in the light of recommendations of the Council and action plan given in the working paper for the meeting held on 26th May, 2016 and follow-up of the decisions of the Council.

58. TORs of the Curriculum Committee are following:-

1. To suggest ways and means for eradication of hate literature from the syllabus of Madaris.
2. To recommend changes and improvements in the curriculum of Madaris.

59. More than 55 recommendations have been made by the Council so far. Most importantly, the curriculum of the Madaris has been reviewed by the Curriculum Committee of the Council so that any hate material therein may be eliminated. The implementation of the recommendations of the Council is in progress, however, the following achievements have been made so far:-

- i. The curriculum of the Madaris has been reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and recommendations have been made in this regard.
- ii. It has been recommended that training of Ulema/Khutaba may be arranged. In this connection the syllabus of Dawah Academy has been reviewed and recommendations have been made.
- iii. Establishment of Mutahidda Ulema Board at Federal Level is under process. Similarly, all provinces have been requested to constitute similar boards. These boards will monitor hate literature and forward recommendations to concerned quarters for its elimination.
- iv. All provinces have been requested to constitute Provincial and District Ulema and Masaikh Councils to trickle down the impact of the decisions of National Ulema and Masaikh Council to the grassroots level and to ensure a uniform strategy to combat extremism and intolerance in the country. Several meetings for the purpose have been held with the provincial counterparts.

COMPILATION OF HAJJ MATERIAL:

60. Hajj material for intending pilgrims containing guidelines is prepared in R&R Wing. This material is printed and distributed among pilgrims for their education. Each year the printed material is reviewed by a committee in the light of suggestions received from different people/institutions and is updated accordingly.

SECTARIAN HARMONY MEETINGS:

61. A meeting of Ulema from all schools of thought is convened before the commencement of the month of Muharram in order to ensure peace and harmony in the Holy month. Provincial governments are also requested to arrange such meetings at provincial and district level. These meetings play a vital role in maintaining sectarian harmony during this month.

ZAKAT AND UMRAH WING:

62. During the financial year 2016-17 an amount of Rs.7570.910 million was collected throughout the country and released to Provinces/Federal Areas for all Zakat programmes. The Province-wise detail of Zakat funds allocated and released during the financial year 2016-17 remained as under:-

(Rs. in millions)		
Province/Federal Areas	% Share	Allocated Budget 2016-17
Federal Areas	7% of total Zakat Collection has been distributed amongst Federal Areas	
ICT	35.14% of 7%	186.230
Gilgit Baltistan	18.57% of 7%	98.414
FATA	46.29% of 7%	245.320
Total:		529.964
Share of Provinces after deduction of above payment		
Punjab	57.36% of 93%	4038.687
Sindh	23.71% of 93%	1669.408
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	13.82% of 93%	973.059
Balochistan	5.11% of 93%	359.792
Total:		7040.946
Grand Total:		7570.910

ALLOTMENT OF CODE TO NEW COMPANIES:

63. During the financial year 2016-17, **76** codes were allotted to new companies for deposit of Zakat in the Central Zakat Fund Account CZ-08. At present there are total **2362** companies which have been allotted Zakat deduction code.

DECLARATION OF ZAKAT NISAB

64. An amount of **Rs. 38,406/-** was declared as Zakat Nisab for the year 1438 AH, with approval of the Secretary / Administrator General Zakat, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony.

INTERFAITH HARMONY WING:-

65. In the wake of 18th Constitutional amendment, Ministry of Minorities was devolved on 30.06.2011 and a new Ministry of National Harmony was established on 29.07.2011. The said ministry was subsequently merged with Ministry of Religious Affairs and renamed as Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. As per amended Rules of Business 1973, Interfaith Harmony Wing has been assigned the following functions:-

- a) Policy and legislation with regard to interfaith harmony.
- b) International agreements and commitments in respect of all religious communities and implementation thereof.
- c) Representation of Pakistan at UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination to Minorities.
- d) Minorities Welfare Fund.
- e) National Commission for Minorities.
- f) Evacuee Trust Property Board.

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES - A BRIEF OVERVIEW:-

66. Pakistan has taken measures to safeguard and promote rights of minorities, as highlighted hereunder:-

- (i) The Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan-1973 guarantees fundamental rights to all citizens irrespective of religion, race, caste, colour or creed. The Articles 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 36 of the Constitution provide full protection and equal rights to all citizens including Minorities of Pakistan without any discrimination of colour, creed, cult, language or gender to freely profess and practice their religion and culture.
- (ii) Article-20 of the Constitution gives right to every citizen to profess, practice or propagate his/her religion and that every religious denomination and every sect thereof shall have the right to establish, maintain and manage its religious institutions and perform their religious customs as per their beliefs.
- (iii) The Pakistan Penal Code-1860 provides a complete chapter i.e Chapter XV containing offences relating to the religion.
- (iv) The system of separate electorate for minorities was abolished in favour of universal adult suffrage on the demand of the minorities.
- (v) There are 10 reserved seats for minorities in National Assembly and 04 in the Senate, besides reserved seats in all provincial assemblies.

INTERFAITH HARMONY POLICY:-

67. 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 discussed by the Council of Common Interests (CCI) under Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination, for its clearance by all provinces so that it has the ownership of all provinces. However, due to some reservations of the provincial governments, Council of Common Interests (CCI) decided that Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony should review the Policy in consultation with provincial governments and submit the revised Policy before Council of Common Interests. Draft Interfaith Harmony Policy was again sent to Provincial Governments for views/comments. Comments are being received and compiled and soon will be placed before Council of Common Interests for reconsideration.

DISTRICT INTERFAITH HARMONY COMMITTEES:-

68. On the directions of this Ministry, provincial governments as well as Governments of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJ&K), and Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and ICT administration have established/reactivated and notified “**District Interfaith Harmony Committees**”, comprising members from all religions and presided by a high level government official, so that these Committees may take immediate action to address any incident at initial level and work as a **task force**.

INTERFAITH HARMONY CONFERENCES / MEETINGS:-

- i. **Interfaith Harmony Conferences** titled “**Deen ka Hussan, Aman-Bardasht aur Sabr-u-Tahamul**” were arranged on 2nd February, 2017 at Islamabad and on 28.03.2017 at Muzaffarabad, AJK to promote interfaith culture in the country.
- ii. **Youth Interfaith Harmony Conference** was arranged on 05.11.2016 at Quetta.
- iii. **Interfaith Harmony Conference** was arranged on 06.05.2017 at Darbar Hall, Quetta.
- iv. **Interfaith Harmony Seminar** in collaboration with Fire Communication was arranged on 23.05.2017 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad.

DECLARATION OF 11TH AUGUST AS MINORITIES’ DAY.

69. 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.”

ACTIVITIES ABOUT RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS OF MINORITIES

70. To promote the religious activities of minority communities and on the directive of President of Pakistan, this Ministry has marked ten (10) 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, Chelum Jhust for Kalash people. The following festivals were celebrated during the Financial Year 2016-17:

- i. **Dewali-2016** of Hindu Community was celebrated at official level on 29th November, 2016 at Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad.
- ii. **Christmas-2016** of Christian Community was celebrated at official level on 23.12.2016 at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.
- iii. **Holi-2017** of Hindu community was celebrated at official level on 24th March, 2017 at Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad.
- iv. **Easter-2017** of Christian community was celebrated at official level on 18th April, 2017 at Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad.
- v. **Eid-e-Ridvan-2017** of Bahai's community was celebrated at official level on 28th April, 2017 at Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad.

WELFARE OF MINORITIES - A BRIEF OVERVIEW

71. 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 Financial Year 2016-17, the following funds were sanctioned:-

Funds sanctioned for Small Development Schemes:-

Financial Year	Funds Allocated	Schemes Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned in Million
2016-17	Rs. 35 Million	41	Rs. 32.55 Million

Funds sanctioned for Financial Assistance:-

Financial Year	Funds Allocated	Persons / Beneficiaries	Amount Sanctioned in Million
2016-17	Rs. 15 Million	4509	Rs. 22.24 Million

Funds sanctioned under Minorities Scholarships:-

Financial Year	Funds Allocated	Students	Amount Sanctioned in Million
2016-17	Rs. 30 Million	1430	Rs. 30 Million

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES

72. 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. In compliance with Cabinet's Decision vide Case No. 194/15/90 dated 02.07.1990, a high-powered National Commission for Minorities under Chairmanship of Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony has been established to protect and safeguard religious, social and cultural rights of the minorities in Pakistan. It gives necessary input/advice to this Ministry in Policy matters and recommendations regarding NOCs for sale/purchase/transfer/gift of communal properties of minority communities. The present National Commission for Minorities (NCM) alongwith revised composition and TORs has been approved and notified on 16.07.2014 and re-notified on 04.05.2015 as under:-

Sr. No.	Official members	Status
1	Federal Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony, Islamabad.	Ex-Officio Chairman
2	Representative from Ministry of Interior (not below the rank of BS-20 officer)	Member
3	Representative from Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights (not below the rank of BS-20 officer)	Member
4	Representative from Capital Administration and Development Division (not below the rank of BS-20 officer)	Member
5	Representative from Council of Islamic Ideology	Member
6	Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony	Member

Sr. No.	Non-Official members
1	Qari Roohullah Madni, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
2	Shahzada Jamal Nazir, Former Caretaker Minister for National Harmony, Punjab.
3	Allama Muhammad Khan Askari, Islamabad.
4	Ali Muhammad Abu Turab, Baluchistan.
5	Mr. Bhawan Das, MNA/PML(N) (Hindu Community)
6	Mr. Ramesh Lal, MNA/PPP (Hindu Community)
7	Mrs. Asiya Nasir, MNA/JUI-F. (Christian Community)
8	Rev. Irfan Jamil, Bishop of Lahore. (Christian Community)
9	Sardar Ajeet Singh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. (Sikh Community)
10	Prof. Mehرداد Yousaf (Bahai Community)
11	Mr. Asphanyar M. Bhandara, MNA. (Parsi Community)

73. Terms of Reference of National Commission for Minorities (NCM) are as under:-

- i. Develop a National Policy on Inter-faith Harmony, to explore the avenues for peace and security.
- ii. To consider such laws, executive instructions, orders of procedural practices of the Government or Government Agencies, Autonomous and semi-autonomous bodies; and agencies which are reported to be discriminatory towards the Minorities.
- iii. To 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. To ensure their full and effective participation and association with their religious and cultural festivals and celebrations.
- v. To look into the grievances and representations made by the members of any Minority community to the Government of Pakistan and, after examination such grievances, to make suitable recommendations to the Government of Pakistan.
- vi. To ensure that the Churches, Shrines, Temples, Gurdwaras and other places of worships of the Minority communities are preserved and well-kept in a functional condition.
- vii. The Commission with consensus may set additional objectives for itself and if required may consult legal and constitutional experts.
- viii. To 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.

- The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has prepared draft Interfaith Harmony Policy and circulated it for seeking comments/proposals from Provincial Governments.
- Efforts are also being made to draft a law for making the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) an independent and legal body through an Act of Parliament.
- During the Financial Year 2016-17, one meeting of National Commission for Minorities (NCM) was held on 26.01.2017.

EVACUEE TRUST PROPERTY BOARD (ETPB):

74. Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB), a self-financing corporate body established under Evacuee Trust Properties (Management and Disposal) Act, 1975 (Act No.XIII of 1975) functions under the control of Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony (Interfaith Harmony Wing).

75. 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.
 - Buying property with the approval of Investment Advisory Committee 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 belonging to Sikh 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:

76. 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 Board constituted vide notification dated 07-07-2015 has completed its tenure on 06-07-2018. Constitution of the new Board is under Process.

THE TRUST PROPERTIES HAVE BEEN CATEGORIZED AS UNDER:

- Shrines /Worship Places.
- Agriculture trust lands.
- Urban trust properties.
- Properties Purchased / acquired with trust money.
- Sale proceeds of trust properties.
- Profit / income from trust properties (Cash invested).
- Lease /Rent money from trust properties.
- Evacuee trust property exchanged with any other properties /land.

SUBSIDIARIES OF ETPB

77. ETPB runs the following institutions:

- Dyal Singh Trust Library, Lahore.
- Five Health Centers:
 - i. Gurdwara Dera Sahib
 - ii. Staff Colony
 - iii. Gurdwara Punja Sahib, Hassanabdal
 - iv. Agarwal Ashram
 - v. Gurdwara Janamasthan, Nankana Sahib
 - vi. Nawaz Sharif Girls High School, Lahore
- Trust Model Public School for Boys, Lahore
- Janki Devi Hospital, Lahore
- Hazrat Ayesha Siddiqi Degree College for Women, Lahore

78. Following functional Sikh/Hindu shrines are under the control & management of ETP Board where rituals are performed by the respective community:-

S. No	Gurdwaras	Location
1	Gurdwara Janam Asthan	Nankana Sahib
2	Gurdwara Patti Sahib	Nankana Sahib
3	Gurdwara Tambo Sahib	Nankana Sahib
4	Gurdwara Balila Sahib	Nankana Sahib
5	Gurdwara Panj vi Chatti Patshahi	Nankana Sahib
6	Gurdwara Malji Sahib	Nankana Sahib
7	Gurdwara Kiara Sahib	Nankana Sahib
8	Gurdwara Sacha Sauda	Farooqabad
9	Gurdwara Rorri Sahib	Eminabad, Gujranwala
10	Gurdwara Dera Sahib	Lahore
11	Gurdwara Shaheed Ganj Singh Singhnian	Lahore
12	Gurdwara Guru Ram Das	Lahore
13	Gurdwara Babay Nanki	Lahore
14	Gurdwara Darbar Sahib	Narowal
15	Gurdwara Panja Sahib	Hassanabdal
16	Gurdwara Bhai Joga Singh	Peshawar
17	Gurdwara Bahi Beba Singh	Peshawar
18	Gurdwara Babay Di Bairee	Sialkot

S. No	Mandirs	Location
1	Krishna Mandir	Lahore
2	Krishna Mandir	Rawalpindi
3	Shiv Mandir	Mansehra
4	Kali Bari Mandir	Peshawar
5	Katas Raj Mandir	Chakwal
6	Sadhu Bela Mandir	Sukkur
7	Jhulay Lal Mandir	Karachi
8	Sant Bhagat Ram Mandir	Dadu
9	Sant Thanwar Das Mandir	Mahar
10	Guru Gurpat Nanak Mandir	Hyderabad
11	Mandir Khairpur Nathan Shah	Khairpur
12	Balmik Mandir	Lahore
13	Gurdas Ram Mandir	Mahar, Dadu

79. Following is the detail of development projects being carried out for Sikh Community regularly:-

a. **OPENING OF HISTORICAL GURDWARAS FOR PARKASH.**

(i) **Gurdwara Bhai Beeba Singh, Peshawar.** After complete repair/renovation, Gurdwara Bhai Beeba Singh, Peshawar was opened after 70 years and handed over to local Sikh Community on 30th March, 2016.

(ii) **Gurdwara Chatti Patshahi, Nankana Sahib.** On the occasion of Baisakhi Festival 2015, Gurdwara Chatti Patshahi at Nankana Sahib was opened on 16th April 2016 after about 68 years in the presence of international Sikh community.

(iii) **Gurdwara Kiara Sahib, Nankana Sahib.** On the 548th Birthday of Baba Guru Nanak DevJee Gurdwara Kiara Sahib was opened on 13 November, 2016 in the presence of international Sikh community for Parkash. Its complete repair and renovation is under progress.

b. **Shamshan Ghat at Hassanabdal.** A plot measuring 2000 square yards at Hassanabdal was handed over to local Sikh community for Shamshan Ghat on 30th March, 2016.

c. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore.** Renovation/uplifting, reconstruction of Main Temple area, reconstruction of Langar Hall etc works of Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore are in final stage of completion.

d. **Renovation/Uplifting of Gurdwara Tamboo Sahib at Nankana Sahib.** Renovation/uplifting of Gurdwara Tamboo Sahib at Nankana Sahib is in progress. On 13 November 2016, during a formal ceremony, construction work has been started.

e. **Construction of Bhai Mardana Monument, Nanakana Sahib.** On 13 November 2016, on the occasion of 548th Birthday of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Jee, inauguration ceremony of construction of monument dedicated to Bhai Mardana Sahib was held at Nankana Sahib, in the presence of international Sikh community.

f. **Construction of Angetha Sahib, Kartarpur, Narowal.** In the record period of 25 days, the Fabrication of electric “Angeetah Sahib” and construction of building for its installation was completed. On 19 November 2016, inauguration ceremony was held at Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur in the presence of international Sikh community. After the inauguration ceremony, “Panj Pairay Sahiban” from India performed the Saskar of Berad Saroop of Guru Granth Sahib in the said Angetha Sahib. This historical initiative was taken to avoid the desecration of Guru Granth Sahib which were earlier taken to India for Saskar.

g. **Upgradation of Sewadars and Pujaris from BPS-7 to Granthis in BPS-14.** Keeping in view the services of Sewadars and Pujaris of all the functional Gurdwaras / Mandirs of Pakistan, for the first time in the history of Pakistan, they have been upgraded from (BPS-7) to (BPS-14).

h. **Scholarships for Deserving Sikh Students.** Scholarship system for the deserving Sikh students has been started to encourage the community to get higher education.

- i. **Starting of Hindi / Gurmukhi Classes for Sikh/Hindu students.** Hindi / Gurmukhi classes for Sikh/Hindu students have been started at Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed School, Lahore.
- j. **Construction of New Lavatories for Yatrees.** 30 new lavatories were constructed at Gurdwara JamanAsthana within 17 days in November 2014, i.e before Birthday Celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Jee for facilitation of aged people and patients.
- k. **Renovation of 156 Rooms at Gurdwara Panja Sahib.** The renovation of 156 rooms with modern facilities (Bannu Block) worth Rupees Twenty Millions (approx), at Gurdwara Panja Sahib was completed within 40 days, before the commencement of Baisakhi Festival, 2015.
- l. **Registration of Tour Operators for facilitation of Yatrees.** In order to facilitate the Sikh yatrees from across the world (except India) 04 tour operators have been registered who will facilitate the intending yatrees for their yatra of Gurdwaras in Pakistan. Indian yatrees come to Pakistan under bilateral protocol between Pakistan and India.
- m. **Establishment of Baba Guru Nanak International University.** The work on Establishment of Baba Guru Nanak International University has also been started. Advisory Committee consisting of Vice Chancellors of well reputed universities has been constituted and spade work is being carried out at fast track. The university is considered as game changer for the whole area.
- n. **The construction of 100 rooms.** The construction of 100 rooms (attached bath) for various Gurdwaras has been proposed for the facilitation of visiting Sikh yatrees from India and world over. The work on this project is likely to start very soon.
- o. **Opening of Karsewa Account to Ensure Transparency.** Karsewa Account has been opened at Habib Bank Limited, Civil Line Branch, Lahore, Pakistan. **Account number is 01277901520103.**
- p. **Construction of 50,000 Water Gallons Tank.** 50,000 Gallons RCC overhead water tank has been constructed at Gurdwara JanamAsthana, Nankana Sahib.
- q. On the occasion of each festival, Evacuee Trust Property Board provides best available facilities to the Yatrees, in coordination with other government departments for their comfortable stay in Pakistan. Emphasis is made to improve these facilities in order to project Pakistan as a minorities' friendly country. Facilities include the following:-
 1. **Reception / Langar**
 - Reception at Wagha Railway Station.
 - Provision of Langar on arrival / departure and throughout their stay in Pakistan.
 2. **Travel Arrangements**
 - Arrangements of special trains for Sikh/ Hindu Yatrees to all major Gurdwaras/ Mandirs.
 3. **Customs and Immigration**
 - Liaison with Customs and Immigration/ Rangers authorities for speedy immigration process for the Yatrees.
 4. **Security**
 - Adequate security arrangements in coordination with concerned Government Departments for the protection of Gurdwaras/ Mandirs and Yatrees.

- Provision of Security Staff of ETP Board to help Special Branch at Wagah Border for Bio-data form filling of Yatrees.
 - Security Staff of ETP Board is detailed with Yatrees throughout their inland traveling in Pakistan.
- 5. Accommodation**
- Comfortable boarding and lodging arrangements for Yatrees within the premises of major Gurdwaras/ Mandirs.
 - Various stalls, including Utility Store, Handicraft and Tourism are also established to facilitate the Yatrees.
- 6. Rituals**
- To ensure holding of religious ceremonies in Gurdwaras/ Mandirs as per traditions of Sikh & Hindu religions.
- 7. Currency Exchange**
- Arrangements for money exchange counters of National Bank of Pakistan/ Habib Bank Limited at Wagah Railway station and in all major Gurdwaras.
- 8. Telephone Facilities**
- PTC telephone booths with NWD/ ISD facilities in all main Gurdwaras.
 - Provision of Mobile SIMs for the Yatrees at all the major Gurdwaras.
- 9. Health Cover.**
- Round the clock availability of Doctors / Para Medical Staff for Yatrees during the travel of Yatrees and their stay at Gurdwaras/ Mandirs.

80. Following is the detail of development projects for Hindu Community:-

Katas Raj Temples

Katas Raj Temple District Chakwal is one of the most sacred places of Hindu community. According to the Hindu religion Bagwan “Bholay Nat G” (Shiv Shankar) passed over Katas Raj Temple cling to his wife “Mata Satti” and in the antonym of his wife, his one tear dropped in Katas Raj which is known as AmarkandJheel and the other tear dropped in Pushk Raj (India Ajmeer Sharif). Hence in Hindu mythology they consider AmarkandJheel as a Holy water. Keeping in view the religious importance of this temple, Evacuee Trust Property Board makes all arrangements for the pilgrims who visit this religious place from all over the world like boarding, lodging, travelling, food, medical care and other facilities etc. **Following are the details of different works which have been completed in Katas Raj Temple, Chakwal by the ETPB:-**

- a. Jungle clearance/ construction of path way, Construction/ preparation of pathway towards historical and religious caves where Pandoos spent last 02 years during their 14 years exile period.
- b. Construction of wooden bridge.
- c. Passage with stone in front of caves.
- d. Restoration/revival of old well.
- e. Construction of broken boundary walls with old material.
- f. Construction of cages and Shelters for birds.
- g. Construction of walking track.
- h. Leveling and Landscaping Works.
- i. Plantation of about three thousands plants.
- j. Planning of Wild Life Park of about 634 Kanals at Katas Raj.
- k. Construction of 36 rooms alongwith dining hall is in progress for visiting Hindu yatrees from India and all over the world.
- l. Fixation of Kals at Temples of Katas Raj.

Miscellaneous developmental works completed / proposed for Hindu Shrines:

- The annual grant of of Sadhu Bella Mandir, Sukkur has been increased from Rs.1 Million to 2 Million.
- Grant of Rs. 2 million has been approved for the purchase of new fiber boat for Sadhu Bella Mandir Sukkur.
- Rs. 1.5 million was given to Pakistan Hindu Council, Sindh for purchase of a bus for funeral services on 22nd January, 2016.
- Rs.0.5 million was given to Pakistan Hindu Council, Sindh for combined marriage ceremony of poor Hindu families on 22nd January, 2016.
- Complete repair/renovation of all the functional Mandirs falling under the control and management of ETPB is under progress.
- Complete repair/renovation of Shiv Mandir, Mansehra has been proposed. The work will start very soon.
- Development of Agarwall Ashram, Lahore has been proposed.
- Estimates are being prepared for renovation of Shamshan Ghat at Lahore and Rawalpindi.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

