

PRESENTED ON

24/2/14

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ASSISTANT REGISTRAR (WRIT)

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI.  
(Constitutional Jurisdiction)

C.P. No.D-1181/2014  
A/w C.P. No.D- 1126/2014 & CP No.D-1269/2014

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Pakistan Institute of Labour,  
and others. .... Petitioners.

Versus

Province of Sindh,  
and others. .... Respondents.

**STATEMENT**

It is respectfully stated that in compliance of order dated 25.03.2014 passed by this Honourable Court, Mr. Sanaullah Abbasi, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Hyderabad Range submits compliance report containing (22 pages), which is submitted herewith for kind perusal of this Honourable Court.

**Encl:-** As above.

Karachi,  
Dated:- /04/2014.

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ADVOCATE GENERAL SINDH.

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Subject: - Report of the Fact Finding Inquiry ordered by Chief Minister Sindh on Drought Crisis in District Tharparkar @ Mithi

### BRIEF PROFILE OF THE DISTRICT

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District Tharparkar is a major part of the great Thar Desert. Therefore, it is mostly desert-like district and consists of barren tracts of sand dunes covered with thorny shrubs. The district is spread on an area of roughly 22,000 Sq. Kms. The district houses population of above 900,000 persons according to 1998 census and it is estimated to be above 1,200,000 (in 2012 @ 3.13% growth rate).

District Tharparkar is one of the most underdeveloped districts of Pakistan since it has been ranked as the lowest among all the districts Human Development Index (HDI).

The mean maximum and minimum temperature during winter is 28°C and 9°C respectively. There are wide fluctuations in the amount of rainfall from year to year and the yearly average for some areas is as low as 100 mm. Most of the rain falls between July and September, that is, during the monsoon season.

Administratively, this district has six talukas, 44 union councils and 166 dehs. Out of these dehs, 163 are rural while 3 are urban.

With an area of about 20,000 sq. km, the district has only about 750 kilometers of good quality roads - inadequate for the area and its population.

In absence of regular irrigation system - no canal - in the district, the monsoon rains play pivotal role in the irrigation of lands. Out of the 166 dehs only 9 (5.4%) are irrigated through tube wells, whereas, 157 (94.6%) are arid where people mostly depend on rain for growing food and fodder crops. Drought is a phenomenon, which occurs after every two years when there are no rains.

Agriculture and livestock are the main source of employment for the rural population. The Agriculture Census 2000 classifies rural households under three broad categories: agricultural households (45%) that operate land as owner-cultivators or tenants; livestock owners (25.5%); and non-agricultural households (29.5%).

There are two sources of total food availability in the district, that is, Crop based food and animal based food (meat, milk, milk products). Animal based food availability is surplus in the district. However, combining both the crop based and animal based food production, district Tharparkar is extremely deficit in food production.

### RAINFALL

Pakistan Metrological Department (PMD) provides the information/data regarding the rainfall to Deputy Commissioner on regular basis. Moreover, the rain gauge meter of the PMD are installed with the Revenue Mukhtiarkars - as stated by PMD Incharge of the district Tharparkar. The district administration usually

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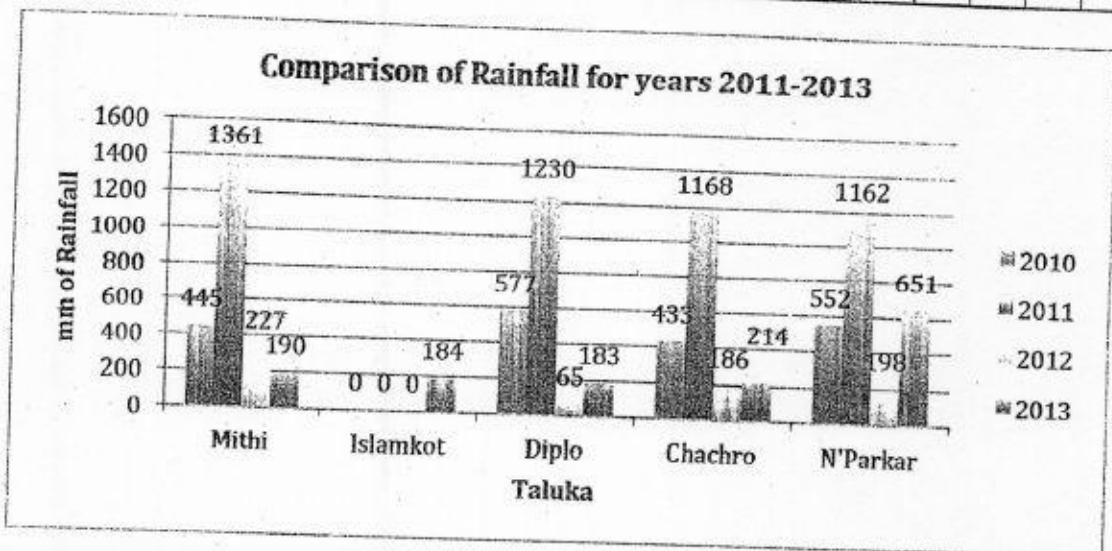
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recommends to the government for declaring those area as *Calamity Affected Area* where there has been below than normal rainfall.

The area received less than normal rainfall in the monsoon of year 2013. As per Pakistan Metrological Department during monsoon 2013, Tharparkar region received 70% of its normal rainfall in which Chhor received 94% of rainfall while Mithi received 46% of rainfall. During the year (March 2013-Feb 2014), 189 mm of rainfall has been recorded against normal of 277.2 mm in Mithi (-31.8% deficit) and 222 mm rainfall has been recorded in Chhor against normal value of 246.5 mm (-5.6% deficit). Following data of rainfall for the last four years will help in analysis and comparison.

TALUKA	Mithi				Islamkot				Diplo				Chachro				Nagarparkar				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Jan	1	11	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mar	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apr	0	0	0	13	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jun	22	0	28	40	NA	NA	NA	23	58	0	6	0	5	0	24	20	10	0	0	0	0
Jul	62	9	10	30	NA	NA	NA	21	169	32	8	24	153	6	10	40	171	60	28	141	
Aug	277	563	25	32	NA	NA	NA	35	230	624	22	61	167	562	61	117	272	446	27	209	
Sep	42	778	164	26	NA	NA	NA	47	76	574	29	50	106	600	91	25	42	656	143	190	
Oct	8	0	0	49	NA	NA	NA	58	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	55	
Nov	33	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	44	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	
Dec	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	445	1361	227	190	0	0	0	184	577	1230	65	183	433	1168	186	214	552	1162	198	651	



Taluka/Year	2010	2011	2012	2013
Mithi	445	1361	227	190
Islamkot	Data Not Available	Data Not Available	Data Not Available	184
Diplo	577	1230	65	183
Chachro	433	1168	186	214
Nagarparkar	552	1162	198	651



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The above chart shows that Mithi has received less rainfall than last year, whereas, Diplo, Chachro and Nagarparkar received more rainfall than last year. However, Mithi, Diplo and Chachro received *less than normal rainfall* in year 2012 also, therefore, another year (2013) of *less than normal rainfall* cumulated the effect.

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**DROUGHT CRISIS**

Tharparkar is hit by drought after every two or three years, which increases already existing malnutrition, poverty, disease and mortality rate of humans and livestock. Owing to food shortages, including animal products in drought times, the malnourishment increases, particularly in children. Pregnant women are particularly affected due to shortage of food. The situation of *less than normal rainfall* warrants the need for early analysis of data of rainfall and survey of maturity of crop and grass in order to make prior contingency planning and submit requirement of assistance to the government to cope with the possible emergency from possible resultant drought. A glance at the chronological order of the actions taken on the part of district administration and other provincial departments - like Relief Commissioner, Finance, Health and Food departments - will present a clear view:

- ✓ 23.09.2013 Survey report of Mukhtiarkar Diplo on the latest position of maturity of grass and crop requesting to declare the area Calamity Affected Area
- 30.09.2013 Survey report of Mukhtiarkar Islamkot on the latest position of maturity of grass and crop requesting to declare the area Calamity Affected Area
- 28.11.2013 Survey report of Mukhtiarkar Mithi on the latest position of maturity of grass and crop requesting to declare the area Calamity Affected Area
- 04.12.2013 Request to declare the area Calamity Affected Area submitted to Senior Member Board of Revenue / Relief Commissioner through Commissioner Mirpurkhas division by Deputy Commissioner Tharparkar on the basis of survey report of the latest position of maturity of grass and crop
- 13.12.2013 Meeting held by Chief Minister, Sindh wherein directions were issued
- 13.12.2013 A letter was forwarded by Deputy Commissioner, Tharparkar to Relief Commissioner requesting the requirements of wheat bags for the drought affectees at subsidized rated with reference to telephonic talk of DC with Additional Relief Commissioner.
- 17.12.2013 In continuation to request mentioned above (04.12.2013) another letter was forwarded by Deputy Commissioner, Tharparkar Relief Commissioner through Commissioner Mirpurkhas division

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- 20.12.2013 requesting for declaration of the area as *Calamity Affected Area* based on the survey of crops and rainfall.
- 23.12.2013 Request of Deputy Commissioner for declaring the area Calamity Affected Area was forwarded to Senior Member Board of Revenue / Relief Commissioner
- 23.12.2013 Relief Commissioner prepared Summary on the letter received from Commissioner Mirpurkhas division and sent it to Minister for Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation
- 30.12.2013 Minister for Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation sought input from rehabilitation department
- 02.01.2014 Secretary Rehabilitation sought input from DG PDMA
- 02.01.2014 DG PDMA submitted his input in support of the recommendation of Deputy Commissioner Tharparkar to Secretary Rehabilitation
- 05.01.2014 Secretary Rehabilitation forwarded the summary with the input to the Minister for Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation
- 20.01.2014 Minister for Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation sent the summary to CM for approval
- 20.01.2014 Summary moved by ACS food to minister Food for implementation of the directions issued by CM during meeting held on 13.12.2013 - a committee under chairmanship of Minister Food and comprising of elected representatives from the Thar was constituted to start the relief process - distribution of wheat at subsidized rate of 50%
- 20.01.2014 Minister Food endorsed the summary
- 21.01.2014 Secretary finance endorsed the relevant para and forwarded the summary to Advisor to CM for Finance
- 21.01.2014 Advisor to CM for Finance forwarded the summary
- 22.01.2014 Chief Secretary forwarded the summary to Chief Minister
- .....  
.....  
.....
- 24.01.2014 *Note by CM Sindh with expression of dismay:*  
**("My decision was taken in the meeting held on 1.12.2013. It should have been implemented without delay. People of Tharparkar might have been expecting this help long before. What should I say... para 6 should be implemented urgently")**
- 28.01.2014 Allocation of 60,000 wheat bags for distribution in affected people by Government of Sindh through Food Department and placement of such at the disposal of Relief Commissioner.
- 05.02.2014 Additional Relief Commissioner requested DC Tharparkar to start work of lifting and distribution of wheat.
- 21.02.2014 Information passed by District Food Controller (DFC) Tharparkar to DC Tharparkar regarding availability of sufficient stock of wheat (50937 bags) in godowns of the district
- Work of lifting and distribution of wheat bags, at subsidized rates, started.

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24.02.2014

Relief Commissioner / Senior Member Board of Revenue sent the summary to Additional Relief Commissioner

28.02.2014

Notification issued by Relief Commissioner Sindh declaring the area as *Calamity Affected Area*.

06.03.2014

Free distribution of wheat bags started.

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✓ **Findings on Declaration of Drought**

1. The request forwarded by Deputy Commissioner, Tharparkar to Commissioner Mirpurkhas requesting for declaration of the area as *Calamity Affected Area* was delayed. Two out of three Mukhtiarkars, who had submitted the survey for declaring the area as calamity affected, had submitted their report to DC Tharparkar by the end of September, whereas, the third submitted his report on 28.11.2013 - which is almost two months delay. But the office of the deputy commissioner also did not direct him to submit report if there was any emergency. Thus the request for declaring the district calamity affected area was delayed at the district level by more than two months. The government usually declares a state of drought in Thar by September or October when there is less than normal rainfall. Moreover, the red tape in Secretariat took the summary a period of three months to translate into action. The note written by Chief Minister, Sindh is very important and highlights this point. Relief Department could easily have got the summary approved on war footing basis in such important matter by taking personal attention. From floating of the summary on 23.12.2013 to issuance of the notification on 28.02.2104 - declaring Tharparkar as Calamity Affected Area - it took two months and eight days.
2. As far as the issue of liabilities of the transportation charges hindering the process of distribution of wheat bags is concerned, the statements recorded by some of the transporters clearly show that the transporters were ready to undertake the work despite non-payment of their dues. Their logic was quite convincing that the work of distribution through transportation starts whenever tenders/bidding is made for the contracts of transportation of wheat. The transporters participated in the tenders/bidding process, won the contracts and started their work. However, district administration wrote many letter to Relief Commissioner for clearing of the liabilities over a long period but in vain. Besides finance department owes responsibility / explanation for delay in clearing the liabilities despite repeated references by the district administration. Even the liabilities of the procurement of wheat were also an issue.
3. However, it is a fact that though liabilities were not cleared but due to the goodwill the relief work has been started on credit.

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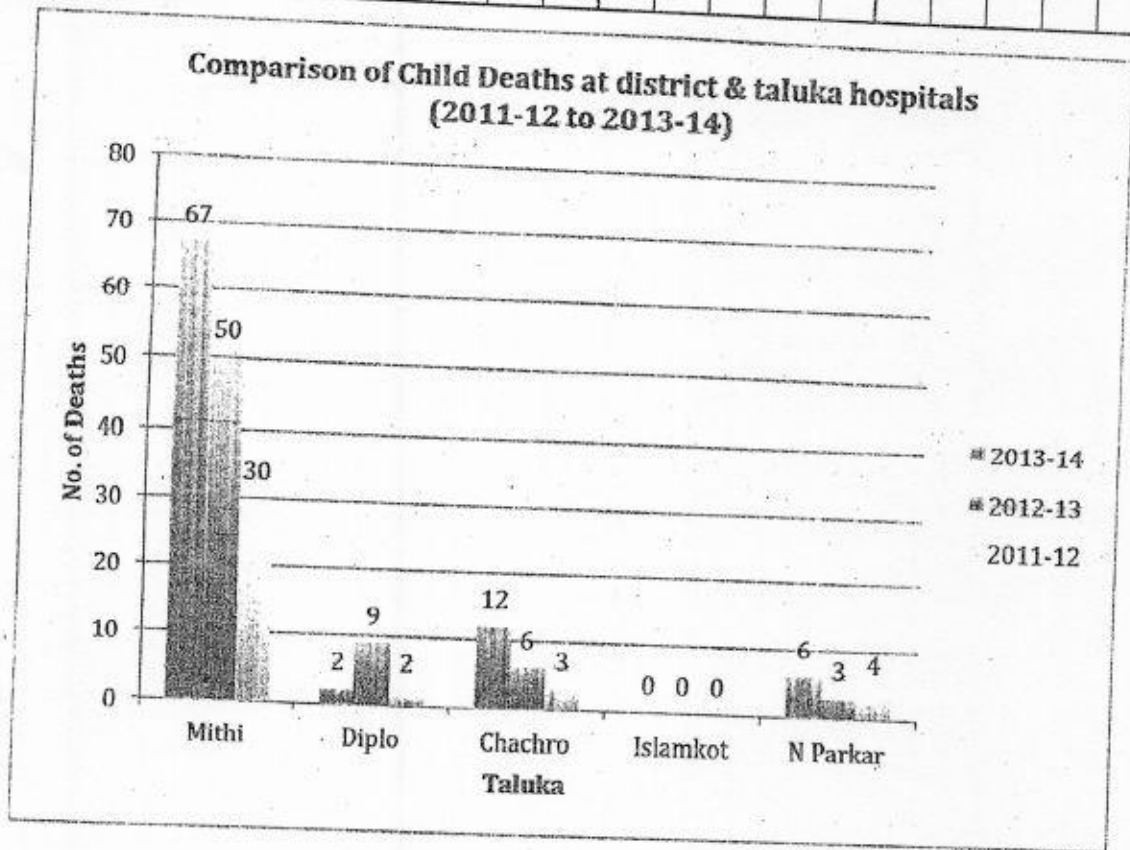
### DEATHS OF CHILDREN

The following charts regarding the deaths of children in district Tharparkar need to be glanced in order to reach at some conclusions.

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1. Comparison of Child Deaths at district and taluka hospital of the district during for period of months, that is, Dec, Jan and Feb of years 2011 to 2014.

Month	Dec					Jan					Feb					Total				
	Y/T	Mithi	Diplo	Chachro	Islamkot	N Parkar	Mithi	Diplo	Chachro	Islamkot	N Parkar	Mithi	Diplo	Chachro	Islamkot	N Parkar	Mithi	Diplo	Chachro	Islamkot
2013-14	26	0	6	0	3	18	2	5	0	2	23	0	1	0	1	67	2	12	0	6
2012-13	22	5	1	0	2	20	3	4	0	1	8	1	1	0	0	50	9	6	0	3
2011-12	12	0	0	0	0	9	0	1	0	2	9	2	2	0	2	30	2	3	0	4



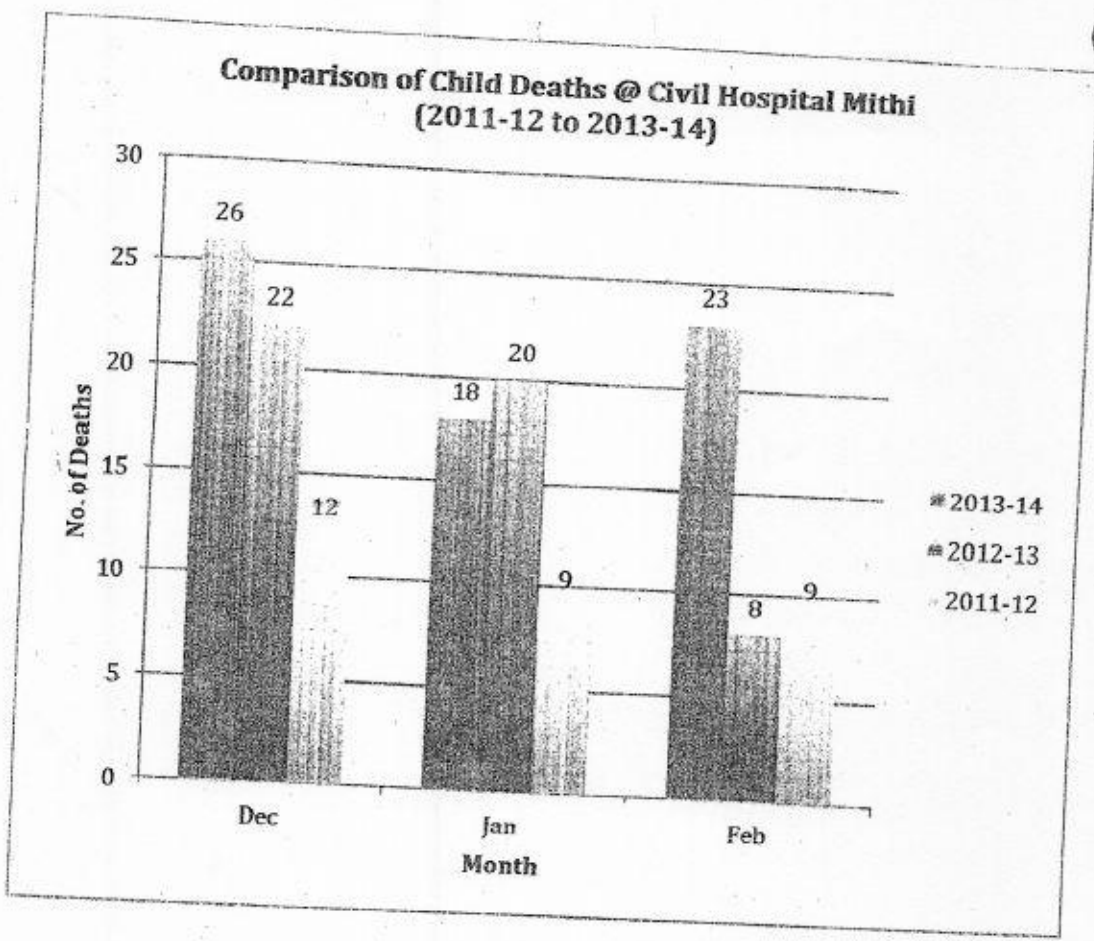


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The chart shows that there is general trend of increase in deaths in Mithi and Chachro talukas for the months Dec, Jan and Feb over a period of three years. The trend in Nagarparkar can also be assumed be linear increase since it decreased by 1 only and then increased by 3 in the third year, whereas, Diplo has uneven or no trend. Therefore, it can be derived from the data given above that generally there is an increasing trend of child deaths in the district.

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The data shows that there has been a linear increase in child deaths in Civil Hospital Mithi in last three years during the months of December and February especially. December 2013 has registered increase of 4 as compared to December 2012 and February 2014 has registered increase of 15 as compared to February 2013. There is an abrupt increase in number of deaths in February 2014. It was revealed, during discussion with District Health Officer on this abrupt increase, that 12 out of 23 deaths in the month of February 2014 were caused due to Malnutrition, that is, weak child born due to malnourished mother and malnourished child.

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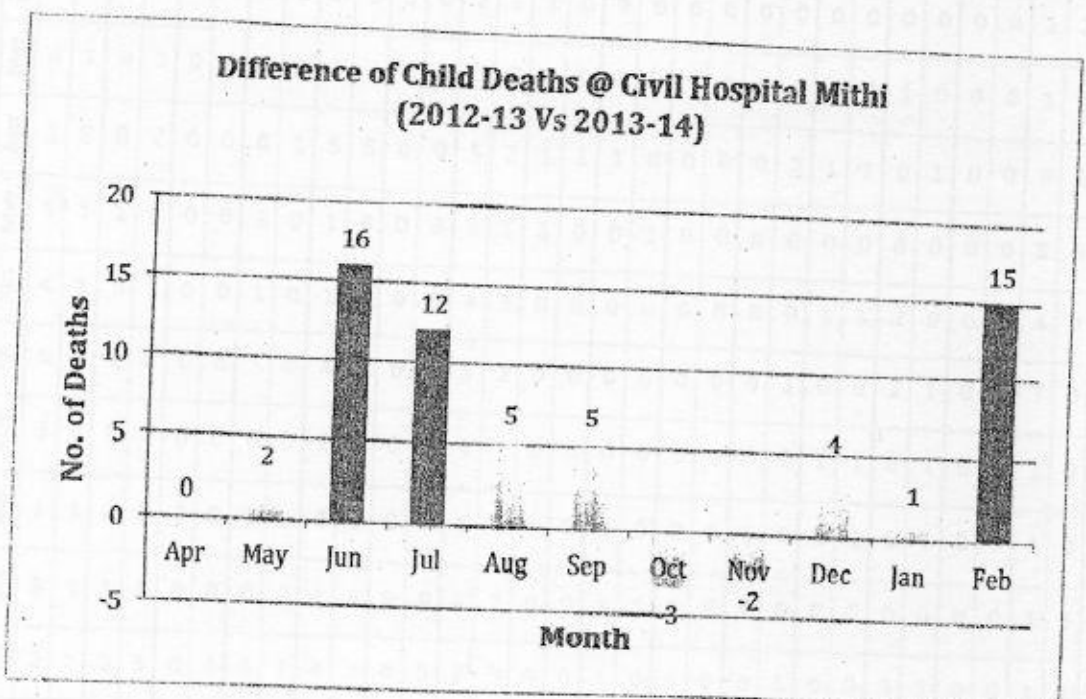
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2. Difference (Increase/Decrease) of Child Deaths @ Civil Hospital Mithi during period Apr-Feb 2012-13 Vs 2012-14

Year	2013-14	2012-13	Difference
Apr	17	17	0
May	13	11	2
Jun	23	7	16
Jul	24	12	12
Aug	10	5	5
Sep	15	10	5
Oct	10	13	-3
Nov	14	16	-2
Dec	26	22	4
Jan	21	20	1
Feb	23	8	15
Total	196	141	55

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This data shows that there is a sharp increase in no. of deaths during the months June, July and February - the bars shown in red above - in year 2013-2014 as compared to the year 2012-2013.

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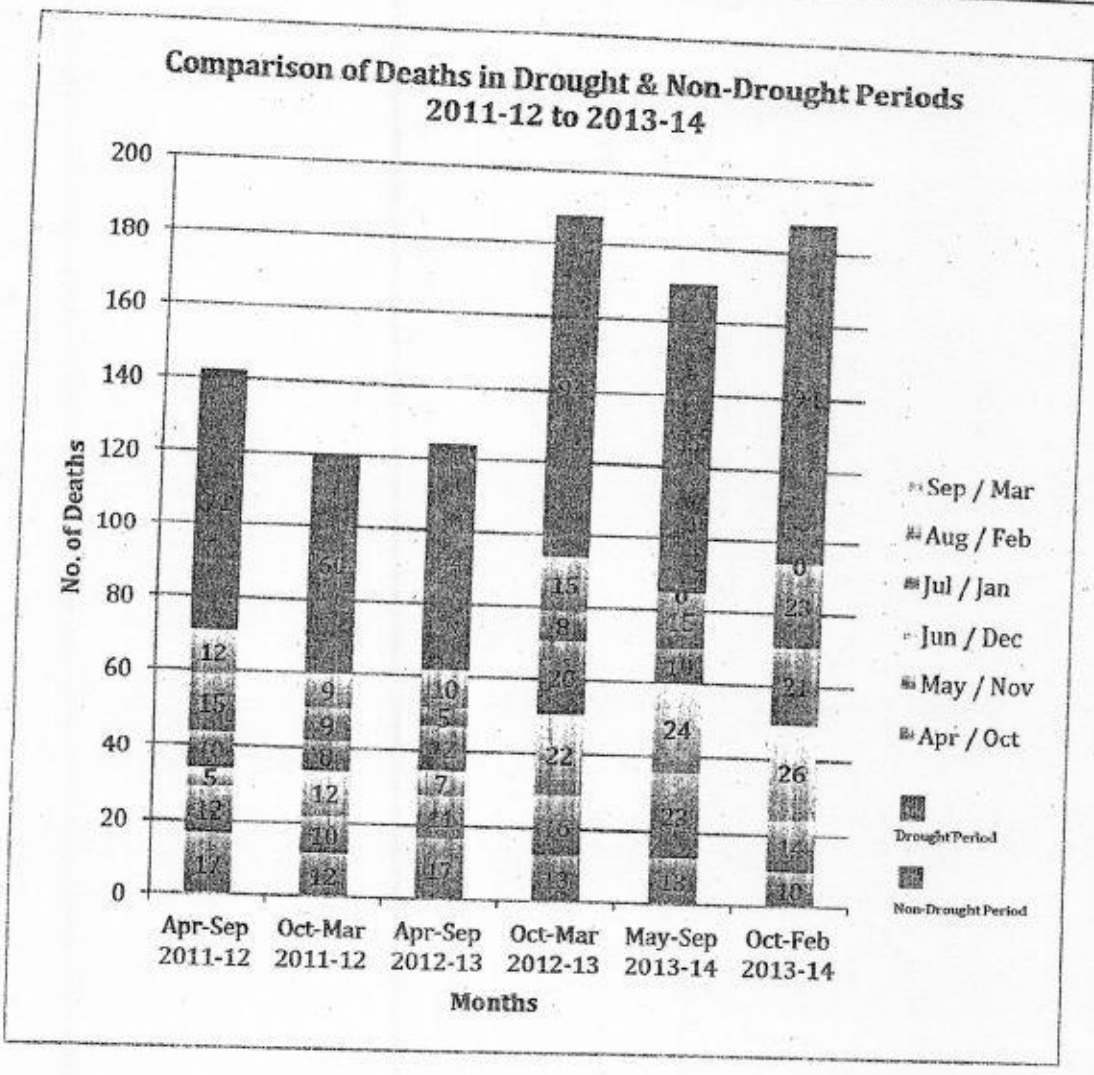
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4. Co-relation between Drought and Deaths

Months	No. of Deaths					
	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
	Apr-Sep 2011-12	Oct-Mar 2011-12	Apr-Sep 2012-13	Oct-Mar 2012-13	May-Sep 2013-14	Oct-Feb 2013-14
Apr / Oct	17	12	17	13	13	10
May / Nov	12	10	11	16	23	14
Jun / Dec	5	12	7	22	24	26
Jul / Jan	10	8	12	20	10	21
Aug / Feb	15	9	5	8	15	23
Sep / Mar	12	9	10	15	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>94</b>



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The above chart shows a comparison of no. of deaths between drought and non-drought period. As a rule of thumb six monthly period - April to September is taken as non-drought period and October to March is taken as drought period. The analysis of data reveals that except for year 2011-12 both years, that is, 2012-13 and 2013-14 have registered increase in number of deaths in drought period than in non-drought periods. During year 2011-12 death in non-drought period were 71 and this no. decreased to 60 in drought period. In the year 2012-13, deaths in non-drought period were 62, which rose to 94 in drought period. Finally, in the year 2013-14, deaths in non-drought period were 85, which have increased to 94 in drought period.

5. Data of the Health Care Facilities available in the district

✓ (253)

a. Data of filled & vacant posts in specialist and general cadre in the entire district as On 29.01.2014:

Cadre	Sanctioned Posts	Filled Posts	Vacant Posts	Vacancy %age
Specialist	34	7	27	79%
General	251	88	163	65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>67%</b>

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b. Vacancy Position in Specialist Cadre:

S. No.	Post	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacancy
1.	Sr. Pediatrician	1	0	1
2.	Anesthetist	3	1	2
3.	Chest Specialist	4	2	2
4.	ENT Specialist	3	0	3
5.	Eye Specialist	3	0	3
6.	Gynecologist	3	0	3
7.	Ophthalmologist	2	2	0
8.	Pediatrician	4	0	4
9.	Pathologist	3	0	3
10.	Physician	3	1	2
11.	Radiologist	2	0	2
12.	Skin Specialist	3	1	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>

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The situation is very alarming since 79% of the posts in the specialist cadre and 65% posts in the general cadre are lying vacant in the district health facilities. Deaths of children due to various causes can be attributed to unavailability of Pediatricians (BPS 18 - all 04 posts vacant) and Senior Pediatrician (BPS 19 - 01 post vacant)



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c. Posts of Women Medical Officers in BPS 17:

S. No.	Health Facility	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
1.	Maternity Home Diplo .	1	0	1
2.	RHC Islankot	1	0	1
3.	RHC Kheensar	1	0	1
4.	TH Diplo	4	0	4
5.	TH Chachro	3	0	3
6.	TH Nagarparkar	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>

d. Data of all the Health Facilities in the district:

SN	Health Facility	Category	Total Number	Sanctioned General Practitioners	Sanctioned Specialists	Vacant General Practitioners	Vacant Specialists
1	Civil Hospital Mithi	Secondary	1	36	14	7	8
2	THQ Chachro	Secondary	1	17	1	9	0
3	THQ Diplo	Secondary	1	25	11	13	11
4	THQ Nagarparkar	Secondary	1	23	10	20	10
5	BHUs, FAMC, GD, DC, MM	Primary	178	135	0	101	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>182</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>29</b>

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**Findings on Deaths of Children**

It is a fact that there has been increase in no. of deaths of children in current drought. It would be more rational to put it this way that there has been linear increase in no. of deaths of children in district Tharparkar over the years (at least past three years on basis of available / referred data). Therefore, the increase in no. of deaths can be attributed various factors like:

1. The trend of increase in death was not noticed and hence no strategy was devised to deal with the incoming emergency. The trend of increase should have been noticed and analyzed by the Health department and the District administration and the matter should have been brought into the notice of higher authorities for devising policies to cope with the situation. ✓
2. Inadequate health care facilities in the district are evident from number of vacant posts of general practitioners, specialists and lady doctors. Correspondence had been made by district health office with their higher authorities in this regard but there had been no response. Moreover, on 24.01.2014 a letter was moved by Deputy Commissioner to the Commissioner Mirpurkhas Division requesting for posting of Surgeons and Lady Doctors at District and Taluka Headquarter hospitals while underlining the fact that no lady doctor is posted in all four Taluka Headquarter hospitals. However, this was also a delayed action since the emergency had already hit the district. ✓
3. It is important to mention that in his input, at para 9 on the summary for declaring the district calamity affected area, DG PDMA mentioned about concrete proposals/plans by Health and Livestock departments for provision of medical and veterinary services at para 9 but there are no comments/input from these departments in the summary. There should have been proper contingency planning on the part of the concerned departments to deal with Health and Livestock emergencies resulting from drought. ✓
4. Admission of children in secondary health care hospitals (District and Taluka hospital) at stage where the chances of cure are very minimal is testimony to the fact that primary health care facilities (RHCs, BHUs and other) are not delivering. ✓
5. All can be summed up under the weak or negligent planning on the part of district administration and lukewarm response on the part of Relief, Finance, Health and Food departments. ✓

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**LIABILITIES**

There were two major issues of liabilities that hindered / delayed the process of relief:

1. Liabilities on account of transportation charges of subsidized wheat
2. Liabilities for the year 2012-13 for procurement of 237,980 wheat bags

**Liabilities on Account of Transportation Charges**

Following is the breakup of past liabilities on account of transportation charges for wheat in district Tharparkar as requested by Deputy Commissioner Tharparkar:

S. No.	Item	Amount
1.	Transportation of subsidized wheat for 2008-09	Rs. 10.226 m
2.	Rain / flood relief operations 2011 expenses	Rs. 10.700 m
3.	Transportation of subsidized wheat for 2012-13	Rs. 40.000 m
4.	Transportation of subsidized wheat for 2013-14	Rs. 03.000 m
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 63.926 m</b>

Relief Commissioner floated summary for sanction of amount Rs. 53.226 m on account of transportation charges (liabilities + current), that is, excluding item at serial no. 2. The trail of summary is listed below:

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Date	Action by Office	Days
28.01.2014	Summary floated by Relief Commissioner	-
29.01.2014	Query by Minister for Relief & Revenue	01
03.02.2013	Clarification by Relief Commissioner	05
24.02.2014	Forwarded by Minister for Relief & Revenue	21
28.02.2014	Remarks by Secretary Finance	4
03.03.2014	Forwarded by Advisor to Chief Minister, Sindh on Finance	4
04.03.2014	Forwarded by Chief Secretary, Sindh	1
06.03.2014	Put up by Principal Secretary to Chief Minister	2
07.03.2014	Approval by Chief Minister, Sindh ("I have received the file today. Why this... important (matter) was delayed. The responsible should explain. In the meantime para 5 is approved. The amount however be released immediately and defaulters should be brought to...")	1

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On basis of perusal of the documents provided by Relief, Food and Finance departments following points need to be highlighted:

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1. Liabilities of past three years had yet to be cleared, that is, years 2008-09, 2011 and 2012-13. Liabilities pending since 2008-09 were not cleared in part even.
2. It took one month and ten days for approval of the summary
3. Remarks of Relief Commissioner at para 3 of the summary: "the issue of clearance of previous liabilities has been raised by DC Tharparkar from time to time".
4. Relief Department floated the fresh summary as per directives of the Honorable Chief Minister, Sindh (during the meeting held on 13.12.2013) on 28.01.2013 proposing for the sanction of Rs. 53.226 million on account of transportation charges of district Tharparkar outside budget grant during the current financial year 2013-14<sup>1</sup>.
5. District administration had many options at their disposal even in case of shortage of funds. The transportation of wheat in Thar district could have been managed by using own field force and the Police, without waiting for the formal approvals in case of crisis<sup>2</sup>.
6. Following heads of budget and funds allocated reveal the fact<sup>3</sup>.

Detail	Head	Final Budget
A03806	Transpiration of Goods	50,000
A03807	POL Charges A. Planes H. Copters S. Cars	2,500,000
A03904	Hire of Vehicles	200,000
A03919	Payment to other for services rendered	6,000,000
A03940	Unforeseen expenditure	1,000,000
A03970	Others	8,000,000

**Liabilities for the Year 2012-13 on Account of Wheat**

During the drought of 2012 in Tharparkar district it was decided to provide 237,980 wheat bags to the affectees at 50% subsidized rate while the remaining 50% had to be borne by Relief Department. Out of the total approved quantity, 223,898 wheat bags were provided till April 2013, whereas, depot-keepers had deposited cost of all the 237,980 bags. Moreover, the 50% share cost to be shared by Relief department had also not been paid yet. Therefore, a summary for decision on either supply of remaining 14,082 bags or refund of the 50% cost deposited and payment of 50% share

<sup>1</sup> Para 9 of comments by Finance Department, Government of Sindh

<sup>2</sup> Para 12 of comments by Finance Department, Government of Sindh

<sup>3</sup> Budget copy of MT4146 Deputy Commissioner Thar at Mithi provided by Finance Department



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by Relief department (liabilities) - amounting to Rs. 421.014 million - was moved by ACS Food Department.

Following is the trail of the summary mentioned above:

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Date	Action by Office	Days
05.09.2013	Summary floated by ACS Food Department	-
26.09.2013	Endorsed by Minister Food	19
03.10.2013	Note of unavailability of funds by SMBR	7
10.10.2013	Forwarded by Minister for Revenue & Relief	7
13.11.2013	Partial endorsement by Secretary Finance	3
13.11.2013	Forwarded by Advisor to Chief Minister, Sindh on Finance	0
23.11.2013	Forwarded by Chief Secretary, Sindh	10
07.12.2013	Meeting called by Chief Minister, Sindh ("Call relief commissioner, finance secretary and food secretary and reconcile the amount")	14
09.12.2013	PS CM	2
12.12.2013	DS Co-ord.	3
13.12.2013	Meeting held under chairmanship of Chief Minister	1
13.12.2013	Principal Secretary to Chief Minister	0
15.12.2013	Query by Chief Minister, Sindh	2
20.12.2013	Clarification by Principal Secretary to Chief Minister	5
03.01.2014	Orders of CM, Sindh to provide wheat ("Provide wheat to Thar at the earliest... different accounts are concerned F.S may discuss with Secy Food...")	14
09.01.2014	Put up by ACS Food	6
09.01.2014	Endorsed by Secretary Finance	0
10.01.2014	Forwarded by Advisor to Chief Minister, Sindh on Finance	1
16.01.2014	Forwarded by Chief Secretary, Sindh	6
20.01.2014	Note by Chief Minister, Sindh ("Food Minister was made incharge of distribution of wheat in drought affected Tharparkar this year in the last meeting... there should have (been) no delay")	4
21.01.2014	Forwarded by Principal Secretary to Chief Minister	1
04.02.2014	Presumed approved the summary was forwarded by SMBR to Secretary Finance	14

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According to Finance department, the summary and the minutes of the meeting held on 09.01.2014 at Chief Minister House, Karachi did not reflect any decision pertaining to the release of funds of Rs. 421.014 million. However, the payment of Rs.

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421.014 million was not an impediment in supply of wheat to Tharparkar during current drought since the Food Department has transported 60,000 wheat bags to Tharparkar on 23.01.2014, that is, despite the non-payment of these dues. Moreover, Finance department is of the view that Food Account-II had healthy balance to deal with any emergency situation<sup>4</sup>. Expenditures relating to retirement of principal amount to commercial banks borrowed during wheat procurement, mark-up charges, rents of transportation charges, cost of jute bags, payment of fumigation charges, godowns and others are to be met by Food Account II. The principal and markup charges are to be paid through issuing authority and the charges for transportation, jute, fumigation, rent and others is be paid through concerned Deputy Director Food /District Food Controller Food.

Food department is of the view that during the meeting held on 13.12.2103, it was decided to provide subsidized wheat to Tharparkar for current drought and a summary to this effect was to be floated by Senior Member BOR. The summary was initiated on 23.12.2013 and approved on 18.02.2014. Food department contends that it had allocated 60,000 wheat bags for the current drought on 23.01.2014 before approval of the summary mentioned above.

On basis of perusal of the documents provided by Relief, Food and Finance departments following points need to be highlighted:

1. Summary for liabilities of wheat for year 2012-13 was floated on 05.09.2013 but it could not reach any logical conclusion until the crisis struck. Departments to explain.
2. Liabilities were not cleared in part even. Departments to explain.
3. The notes by Chief Minister, Sindh on 03.01.2014 and 20.01.2014 clearly show his frustration and annoyance over delay in the process of relief.

Following transfers / postings were made in Relief, Health and District Administration<sup>5</sup>:

**Senior Member, BOR Sindh**

S. No.	Name of Officer	From	To	Period
1.	Mr. Shahid Gulzar Shaikh (BS-21) (Additional Charge)	25.07.2013	28.11.2013	126 days
2.	Mr. Ahmed Bux Narjo (BS-20)	28.11.2013	03.02.2014	67 days
3.	Mr. Fazlur Rehman (BS-20)	03.02.2014	12.03.2012	37 days

<sup>4</sup> Para 6 & 8 of comments by Finance Department, Government of Sindh  
<sup>5</sup> Data provided by Services, General Administration & Coordination Department, Government of Sindh

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4.	Mr. Alam Din Bullo (BS-20)	12.03.2014	Till date	
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**Secretary, Health Department**

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S. No.	Name of Officer	From	To	Period
4.	Mr. Inamullah Dharejo (BS-20)	12.06.2013	02.12.2013	173 days
5.	Mr. Iqbal Hussain Durrani (BS-20)	02.12.2013	Till date	

**Deputy Commissioner, Tharparkar at Mithi**

S. No.	Name of Officer	From	To	Period
1.	Mr. M Bachal Rahupota (BS-19)	28.03.2013	05.12.2013	252 days
2.	Makhdoom Aqeel-uz-Zaman (BS-18)	05.12.2013	07.03.2014	93 days
3.	Mr. Asif Ikram (BS-180)	08.03.2014	Till date	

**Findings on Liabilities**

1. Delayed process in submission of files / summaries in government procedures coupled with frequent transfers were important factors / causes of this crisis. Three important summaries related to the drought situation in Tharparkar bear testimony to the fact, that is:

SN	Summary	Period
1.	<u>Summary for Clearance of Liabilities on Account of Transportation Charges</u>	28.01.2014 to 07.03.2014 (38 days)
2.	<u>Summary for declaring Tharparkar Calamity Affected Area</u>	23.12.2013 to 28.02.2014 (67 days)
3.	<u>Summary for Clearance of Past Liabilities on Account of Wheat for Year 2012-13</u>	05.09.2013 to 04.02.2014 (152)

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*Above situation is depicted in the notes by Chief minister showing his frustration and annoyance over the delay in the process of implementation of his orders on relief and rehabilitation issued in the meeting dated 13.12.2013.*

4. Vacancy of Health positions.

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2. Though liabilities were an issue but the need of the hour in emergency situation demanded all the local and line department to utilize options available with them to take immediate action. These could have included post facto approvals, utilization of funds available in various heads discussed above and above all personal attention in getting approvals sensing approaching calamity.

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Sanaullah  
27/3

(Dr. Sanaullah Abbasi) PSP, QPM, PPM  
Dy: Inspector General of Police  
Hyderabad Range

Sarfr  
27/3

(Sarfranz Nawaz) PSP,  
Sr. Superintendent of Police,  
Badin  
(Member of the Inquiry Committee)

Asif  
27/3/14

(Asif Amin Awan) PSP,  
Assistant Superintendent of Police  
Qazi Ahmed, SBA  
(Member of the Inquiry Committee)