



## Newsletter Pakistan Embassy, The Hague

January—June 2014



### Prime Minister Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, attended the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) held at the Hague, The Netherlands 24-25 March 2014

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, attended the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) held at the Hague, The Netherlands on 24-25 March 2014. Leaders from 53 States, as well as heads of United Nations (UN), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), European Union (EU) and Interpol, attended the Summit, which was presided by Prime Minister Mark Rutte of The Netherlands.

Speaking at the inaugural plenary session, Prime Minister reiterated Pakistan's strong commitment to nuclear security and highlighted Pakistan's contribution to foster a nuclear security culture at the international level. The Prime Minister told Summit participants that Pakistan had been running a "safe, secure and safeguarded civil nuclear programme for more than 40 years". Pakistan's nuclear security, the Prime Minister said, is supported by "five pillars – a strong command and control system led by the National Command Authority (NCA); an integrated intelligence system; a rigorous regulatory regime; a comprehensive export control regime; and active international



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif attending the 3rd NSS at The Hague on 24 March 2014. US President Barak Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel are also visible.

cooperation". Pakistan, the Prime Minister said, pursued a policy of nuclear restraint as well as credible minimum deterrence. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif also addressed an informal plenary on the future of the NSS process as a key note speaker.

The Prime Minister attended a banquet hosted by His Majesty Willem-Alexander, King of The Netherlands and held bilateral meetings with President Francois Hollande of France and Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany. The US Secretary of State, Mr. John Kerry, also called on the Prime Minister.

At the invitation of Dutch Foreign Minister, Frans Timmermans, Syed Tariq Fatemi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister/ Minister of State,

participated in a working luncheon hosted for Foreign Ministers of NSS participating States. Mr. Fatemi made a statement on "Nuclear Risks and International Security" which was the topic for luncheon meeting.

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry was part of the Prime Minister's delegation.

The Hague Summit was the third in the series of the Nuclear Security Summits. Since 2010, when the first Summit was held in Washington DC, Pakistan's active and constructive participation in the NSS process has been widely recognized by the international community.

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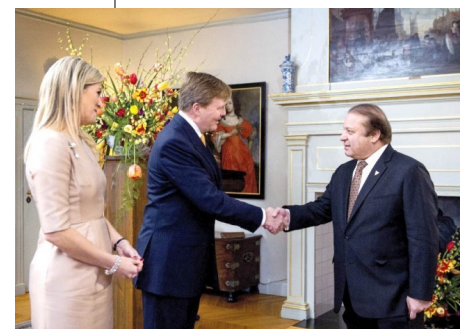
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Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in a meeting with France's President Francois Hollande on the sidelines of Nuclear Security Summit at the Hague on March 24, 2014



Prime Minister Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif being received by H.M. Willem-Alexander & H.M. Queen Maxima



***“Pakistani community has become visible through the Pakistan Festival in Rotterdam”, Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam.***



Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan and Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam

## Thousands throng Pakistan Festival 2014; Soft Image of Pakistan promoted through Culture and Cuisine

The 5th Pakistan Festival (Mela) was held in Rotterdam on 8 June 2014 by the Pakistani Dutch community with the support of the Embassy of Pakistan. The festival is a mega annual event that started in 2010 to project the soft image of Pakistan and Pakistani-Dutch community, promoting harmony and understanding, and bringing various communities closer. The festival boosted goodwill for Pakistan and the country's soft image. The festival provided an opportunity to Pakistani and other communities living in the Netherlands to intermingle and promote inter-cultural understanding through a fun-filled day of cultural performances, cuisine and music. The festival was inaugurated by Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan and Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor

of Rotterdam.

The festival had something for everyone. Games and recreational activities for children and a wide variety of Pakistani products, food and clothes for women. The cultural performance featured performance by renowned artist Megha from Pakistan and local Pakistani children, Songs by Ruby Reshma (Daughter of the late legendary singer Reshma) local Pakistani talent and Fashion show by Pakistani designers, culminating in a musical evening by the Famous Pakistani singer Amanat Ali.

The achievements of Pakistani Dutch community members were recognized through presentation of awards on recommendation of the Mela Committee, the awards were presented by Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan. The

Mela Committee presented a special award in honour of Mr. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Foreign Secretary in recognition of his initiatives and services for the community during his ambassadorial assignment in the Netherlands. The award was received on his behalf by the Ambassador.

The festival venue remained jam-packed with spectators throughout the day. Families turned out in large numbers to feast on Pakistani food, enjoy traditional and cultural performances and shop Pakistani products.

The Mela reached its climax when Amanat Ali entertained the audience with his popular numbers.



***“Over the years the event has successfully promoted the goodwill and understanding between the Pakistani community and the Dutch People”, Jacques Mulders, President KNCB.***

## Pakistani Team wins 24th Pakistan's Ambassador Cricket Cup after a thrilling match

Pakistan's Ambassador Cricket tournament was played at Voorburb Cricket Club on 30th May 2014. The Pakistani team won after a thrilling match.

All participants greatly appreciated the event, which brings Pakistani and Dutch communities closer and promotes the positive image of Pakistan.







## Pakistan Day Celebrated with Enthusiasm and Traditional hospitality at Pakistan House, The Hague

Dutch Government officials, Resident Diplomats and Pakistani-Dutch community gathered in large numbers in a Reception held at the residence of the Ambassador of Pakistan in The Hague to celebrate Pakistan Day.

This was in continuation of the flag-hoisting ceremony held at the Pakistan House

earlier on 23<sup>rd</sup> March to mark Pakistan Day. The Reception was organized on 27<sup>th</sup> March in view of the Prime Minister's Visit to attend the Nuclear Security Summit (23-25 March 2014).

The guests were entertained with delicious Pakistani dishes and sweets.



## Enthralling Performance by Famous Pakistani Sufi Singer Abida Parveen at the Holland Festival

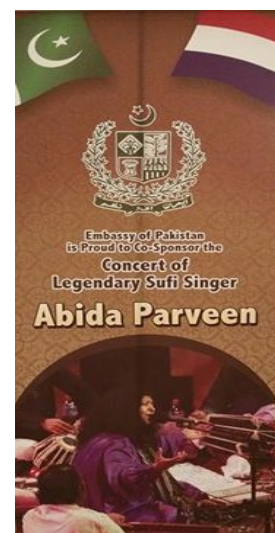


Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan, Abida Parveen (C) & Justice Madam Khalida Rashid Khan, ICTY.

The renowned Pakistani classical singer Abida Parveen performed at the Holland Festival on 6 June 2014. The event was being organized by the Holland Festival with the support of the Embassy of Pakistan, the Hague. The theme of the event was Sufism.

The event was attended by a large number of Pakistani-Dutch community and Dutch nationals. The most amazing

aspect of the performance was the enthusiasm displayed by the Dutch nationals who danced animatedly to the sufi songs proving that music has a universal language.



## Pakistan at Private Label Manufacturers Association (PLMA)



Pakistan Pavilion at Private Label Manufacturers Association (PLMA) trade fair,

held in Amsterdam May 20-21, 2014, received positive response from the European buyers in the Netherlands.

The Pakistan pavilion was set up by the Commercial Wing, Embassy of Pakistan in collaboration with Trade Development Authority of Pakistan.

## Pakistani Sports Products attract interest of Dutch importers

The Commercial Wing of the Pakistan Embassy established a stall of Pakistani Sports goods at the Embassy Hockey Tournament held on 29 May 2014 in The Hague.

Information brochures and presentations about the Pakistan's sports goods were arranged at the stall. The stall attracted the participants of the tournament and Dutch importers of sports goods.







## Embassy of Pakistan, The Hague

### Malala Yousafzai awarded prestigious International Children's Peace Prize



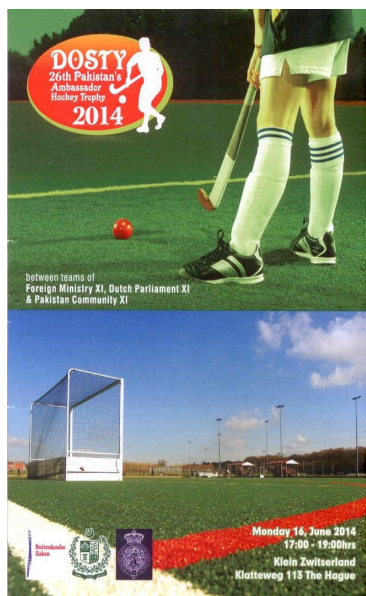
Malala Yousafzai was awarded prestigious International Children's Peace Prize by Dutch KidRight Foundation at a ceremony in the Hague. The ceremony was attended by over 400 guests, including Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte. Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan also attended the ceremony.



### Dosty 26th Pakistan's Ambassador Hockey Trophy

The Embassy, in cooperation with Dutch Parliament, Dutch Foreign Ministry, and Pakistan -Dutch community, organized DOSTY 26th Pakistan's Ambassador Hockey Cup on 16 June 2014 in The Hague. The tournament was played between the teams of Dutch Parliament, Dutch Foreign Office and the Pakistan Community. Many Parliamentarians and senior Foreign Office officials played the tournament, which was won this year by the Parliament XI.

President of the House of Representatives of the States General Ms. Anouchka van Miltenburg and Secretary General Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ms. Renee Jones Bos sent messages for the Tournament which were also included in the impressive booklet published to mark the event.



Dutch Parliament was represented by Mr. Bart De Liefde, Member of Parliament from VVD, who also led his team and displayed wonderful hockey. The Parliament XI won the trophy.



### Pakistani Community Interacts with the Foreign Secretary : 19th Embassy Community Quarterly Meeting held

During the Foreign Secretary's visit to the Netherlands to attend the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) held in The Hague, the 19th Embassy Community Quarterly Meeting was held at the Embassy Residence on 26 March 2014. The meeting, chaired by the Foreign Secretary, was attended by Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan and representatives of various Pakistani-Dutch community organizations.

The Foreign Secretary briefed the Pakistani Community regarding the Foreign Policy priorities and steps being taken to promote the welfare of overseas Pakistanis.



### Inauguration of MRP Facility in the Embassy

Ambassador Moazzam Ahmad Khan inaugurated the facility of Machine Readable Passport at the Embassy of Pakistan, The Hague on 23rd June 2014. Prominent members of the Pakistani Community in the Netherlands attended the ceremony.



### Pakistani Mangoes Exhibition In the Hague

11th annual exhibition of Pakistani Mangoes was held in Hilton Hotel, The Hague on June 23rd, 2014. The exhibition, organised by the Commercial Wing of Embassy, in collaboration with the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, offered a unique opportunity to Dutch nationals and resident diplomats for tasting more than ten varieties of Pakistani mangoes.



### PLAIN holds charity event

Pakistan Ladies Association in the Netherlands (PLAIN) held a charity event at the Embassy residence on March 2, 2014. The event was organized to support a Pakistan based non-profit organization named Family Educational Services Foundation, working in the area of disability- deaf education, advocacy, youth leadership, capacity building and teacher training. PLAIN donated Euros 5,000 during the event to the Educational Services Foundation.

