

Government of Pakistan
BOARD OF INVESTMENT
- Media Section -

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: MEETING OF MR TARIQ IQBAL PURI, SECRETARY MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT/BOI WITH CANADIAN DELEGATION ON 26TH SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 16.00 PM , ISLAMABAD.

Islamabad, 26th September 2009: A two (02)-member delegation from Canada headed by Mr. Muhammad Naeem, Director, **M/s International Business Consultants, Canada**, visited Board of Investment and called on Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Secretary, Ministry of Investment (BOI) today to discuss the investment opportunities available in Pakistan with special reference to Unmanned Standoff Detection of Explosives in Real Time by using laser technology.

2. Secretary, Ministry of Investment (BOI) welcomed the delegation and appreciated the Group for visiting Pakistan. A detailed presentation was given by the Canadian delegation on the detection of explosives through laser sensors.

3. Mr. Muhammad Naeem, appreciated the hospitality extended by the Board of Investment. **M/s International Business Consultants, Canada** (a sister concern of PASSAT) is planning for development of sensors through laser technology (joint collaborative partnership) firstly by signing an MOU, which will be followed by formal JV agreement. The group claims that no such sensors exist in the market today which are capable of or even have the potential to detect most biochemical and explosives detection scenarios. Firstly, broad area surveillance, particularly at events with large crowds Secondly the ability to detect a suicide bomber before the bomber is able to reach its target and detonate the explosive. The key benefits to Pakistan will be to combat terrorism, elimination of suicide attacks and terrorist threats by developing this technology through Joint collaboration. The total cost of the project is around US \$ 5 million and the completion time is 12 months. The prototype will lead into the commercialization of the final product

4. Replying to a question by Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Secretary, Ministry of Investment (BOI) regarding the development of sensors Mr. Muhammad Naeem informed that the laser which produces 5-6 production lines for detection of explosives is available. The required scientific knowledge base is available in Pakistan. Canada has technology partnership agreements with China, India and some other countries. Pakistan should also be a part of this agreement. The Secretary proposed that the delegation should make a presentation to Ministry of Interior and reputable R&D institutions having the expertise to develop sensors.

5. Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Secretary, Ministry of Investment (BOI) in the end thanked the delegation and assured to extend all possible assistance required to them as and when needed.
