



AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN
3517 International Court, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008
Tel: (202) 243-6500

No.Pol-1/30/2010

12 July 2010

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter of 2 July 2010. It is evident that you have not read my letter of 4 June 2010 to which you refer. Nowhere in that letter have I stated that "the declaration of contract agreement on PPRA website of the lobbyist is against the public interest".

I hope the present letter will receive a more diligent reading in accordance with Transparency International Pakistan's obvious interest in the matter. I take the liberty to reproduce below paragraph 3 of my earlier letter from which you have drawn the above erroneous and incomprehensible conclusion.

"Documentation pertaining to the contract is available with the Ministry. A determination whether or not disclosure of this documentation will be against the public interest is the purview of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and not of this embassy. The only lobbyist currently engaged by the Government of Pakistan to work with this embassy is M/s. Lockelord Bissell whose appointment was recommended by my predecessor. Information about the contract with them may please be sought from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which alone can decide to share or withhold the requisite information".

Without seeking to undermine the objective of transparency and accountability in government procurement, I would not go so far as to interpret the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Ordinance as requiring Government Ministries and Departments to seek "approval of the PPRA which is mandatory for each and every procurement". In any case it was for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the organization responsible for the matter to have sought the approval if at all required. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs had the final authority to decide whether to hire the firm or not. I would therefore request you to kindly approach the Ministry on this count.

Transparency International-Pakistan need not emphasize that it is for "Rule of Law only". All of us, citizens and functionaries of the Government of Pakistan, are for rule of law and none of us can presume to question the other's commitment to this principle.

with regards.

Yours sincerely,

Husain H - 95 -

(Husain Haqqani)

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