**PRESS RELEASE**

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

**Office of Deputy Director Media**

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On the invitation of Lt. General Selcuk BAYRAKTAROGHLU, Deputy Chief of Turkish General Staff, Republic of Turkey, Lt. Gen (Retd) Mian Muhammad Hilal Hussain, Secretary Defence, alongwith delegation visited Turkey for attending 15th Round of Turkey-Pakistan High Level Military Dialogue Group (HLMDG) meeting from 20-24 December 2020.

Pakistan delegation first visited the mausoleum of great Turkish leader Mustafa Kamal Ataturk and laid the floral wreath. Later, Secretary Defence held meetings with Mr. Huslusi AKAR, Minister for National Defence, Gen Yasar Guler, Chief of Turkish General Staff, Lt. Gen Selcuk, Deputy Chief of Turkish General Staff, Prof Ismail Demir, President SSB (Presidency of Defence Industries) and  Dr. Temil Kotel, Head of Turkish Aerospace Industry (TAI). During the meetings, both sides discussed matters of mutual interest, particularly in defence and training cooperation. It was agreed that cooperation between Pakistan and Turkey in all spheres of interest shall continue for the benefit of both brotherly countries.

This meeting started with opening addresses by Lt. General Selcuk BAYRAKTAROGHLU, Deputy Chief of Turkish General Staff and Lt. Gen (Retd) Mian Muhammad Hilal Hussain, Secretary Defence. In this session, both leaders took stock of the progress that has been made since last HLMDG meeting held in Pakistan in April 2019. Two Working Groups functioning under Ministry of Defence Production and Joint Staff Headquarters on Defence Industry and Military Training Cooperation presented their respective progress and agenda points.

Later, Lt. Gen (Retd) Mian Muhammad Hilal Hussain visited Turkish Ministry of National Defense and Defence Industrial Units, like Baykar (UAV OEM), ASELSAN, HAVELSAN  and TAI etc.

In the concluding session, both sides agreed that High Level Military Dialogue achieved its objectives and next meeting will be convened in Pakistan on mutually convenient dates in 2021.

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