

FOI 0391-17

**i. SUBMISSION TO PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY ON FCO OFFICIALS' VISIT TO TEHRAN, 6 JANUARY 2014**

Jack Straw and Ben Wallace MP (co-chairs of Iran APPG), Lord Lamont and Jeremy Corbyn MP will also be in Tehran on a Parliamentary visit between 7-10 January. This will be the first visit by a UK Parliamentary delegation since the Embassy closed in November 2011. Ajay Sharma will facilitate a tour of the Embassy Ferdowsi compound for Straw and his party on 8 January so they can see the extent of the damage following the November 2011 attack.

**ii. DETAILS OF MOBILE PHONES STORED IN TEHRAN (CORPORATE SERVICES SECTION), JANUARY 2014**

Handset number	Telephone number (add '0098' when dialling from UK)	IMEI number	Currently loaned to:
4			Mr Jack Straw
5			Mr Ben Wallace
6			Mr Ben Wallace
7			Mr Jeremy Corbyn.

**iii. IRAN TIMELINE, JANUARY 2014**

<b>7-10 January 2014</b>	All Party Parliamentary Group on Iran visit Iran (Jack Straw, Ben Wallace, Lord Lamont, Jeremy Corbyn)
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**iv. LEADER OF THE HOUSE BUSINESS QUESTIONS BRIEFING, JANUARY 2014**

Parliamentary Background and Process

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, with other Iran APPG members, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP. On his return, Jack Straw wrote an article in the Independent that said the West should rethink its relationship with Iran. Other MPs may also push for improving relations more quickly.

Facts and Background

- **Did Ajay Sharma travel with the APPG parliamentarians (Jack Straw etc) on 7-10 January 2014?**  
No. As non-resident Chargé to Iran, Mr Sharma intends to visit Iran regularly. His latest visit coincided with the visit of the All Party Parliamentary Group.
- **Did Ajay meet with the group?**  
Yes, at the British Embassy compound.

**v. FOREIGN SECRETARY STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS, 13 JANUARY 2014**

## **Bilateral**

**1. Did Ajay Sharma travel with the parliamentarians?**

No. As non-resident Chargé to Iran, Mr Sharma intends to regularly visit Iran. His latest visit coincided with the visit of the All Party Parliamentary Group.

**2. Did Ajay meet with the group?**

Yes, at the British Embassy compound

**3. Were you aware of Jack Straw's visit to Iran?**

We were aware that the co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

**4. Details of visit, what happened and when?**

You'll need to speak to the APPG on Iran for details.

**5. Did you facilitate Jack Straw's visit?**

It is normal for the FCO to provide a level of support for an MP visiting an overseas country.

**6. Did the FCO fund the Jack Straw/APPG visit?**

No.

## **vi. FOREIGN SECRETARY BRIEFING FOR ANDREW MARR SHOW, JANUARY 2014**

### **Bilateral relations timeline**

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

## **Q&A**

**Did Ajay Sharma travel with the APPG parliamentarians (Jack Straw etc) on 7-10 January 2014?**

No. As non-resident Chargé to Iran, Mr Sharma intends to regularly visit Iran. His latest visit coincided with the visit of the All Party Parliamentary Group.

**Did Ajay meet with the group?**

Yes, at the British Embassy compound.

**Were you aware of Jack Straw's visit to Iran (7-10 January 2014)?**

We were aware that the co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, were travelling to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

**Did you facilitate Jack Straw's visit?**

It is normal for the FCO to provide a level of support for an MP visiting an overseas country.

**Did the FCO fund Jack Straw/APPG visit?**

No.

## **vii. IRAN DEPARTMENT CORE PRESS SCRIPT, February 2014**

### Bilateral relations timeline

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

### Q&A

- **Did Ajay Sharma travel with the APPG parliamentarians (Jack Straw etc) on 7-10 January 2014?**  
No. As non-resident Chargé to Iran, Mr Sharma intends to regularly visit Iran. His latest visit coincided with the visit of the All Party Parliamentary Group.
- **Did Ajay meet with the group?**  
Yes, at the British Embassy compound.
- **Were you aware of Jack Straw's visit to Iran (7-10 January 2014)?**  
We were aware that the co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, were travelling to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont and Jeremy Corbyn MP.
- **Details of visit, what happened and when?**  
You'll need to speak to the APPG on Iran for details.
- **Did you facilitate Jack Straw's visit?**  
It is normal for the FCO to provide a level of support for an MP visiting an overseas country.

## **viii. WESTMINSTER HALL DEBATE BRIEFING FOR MR ROBERTSON, FEBRUARY 2014**

### Background Facts – For use in the debate

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

## **ix. IRAN Q&A FOR FOREIGN SECRETARY'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL EVIDENCE, MARCH 2014**

### **Bilateral timeline since President Rouhani's election**

- 7-10 January - Co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

## **x. IRAN DEPARTMENT CORE PRESS SCRIPT, May 2014**

### Bilateral relations timeline

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

#### Q&A

#### APPG Iran

#### **If raised:**

- We are aware of reports that Jack Straw has invited the UK British/Iran Parliamentary Friendship Group to the UK, during his recent visit to Iran. Jack Straw visited on 7-10 January with other members of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, after being invited by the British/Iran Parliamentary Friendship Group.

#### **xi. PARLIAMENTARY DATABASE, MAY 2014**

##### **Parliamentarians interested in Iran (in priority order)**

Name	Party	FAC	APPG Iran	APPG Christians	APPG Baha'i	CFI	Previous Engagement	Interests/Comments	Contact details
Jeremy Corbyn	Lab	No	No	No	No		Foreign Secretary meeting on Tuesday 14 January to discuss Tehran visit	Jan 14 visit to Tehran	

#### **xii. EUROPEAN VISITS TO/FROM TEHRAN, JUNE 2014**

- 7-10 January 2014. Jack Straw MP, Lord Lamont, Ben Wallace MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP. Met Zarif, Ravanchi, Kharrazi (Khatami former FM), Nematzadeh (Industry Minister), Shafei (Head Chamber of Commerce), Nahavandian (Rouhani Chief of Staff), Boroujerdi MP (Head Majles FAC), Mansouri-Arani MP (Head UK Group)

#### **xiii. FCO ORALS Q&A, JULY 2014**

##### **Bilateral timeline since President Rouhani's election**

- 7-10 January - Co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

#### **xiv. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE EVIDENCE SESSION, SEPTEMBER 2014**

##### **UK-IRAN BILATERAL RELATIONS TIMELINE**

**7-10 January** Co-chairs of the APPG (Jack Straw and Ben Wallace) visit Iran, along with Lord Lamont and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

**xv. BACKBENCH BUSINESS DEBATE ON IRAN, SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS FOR MR ELLWOOD,  
NOVEMBER 2013**

**Bilateral relations timeline**

- On 7-10 January co-chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, Jack Straw and Ben Wallace, travelled to Iran, along with another APPG Iran member, Lord Lamont, and Jeremy Corbyn MP.

**APPG Iran**

**If raised:**

We are aware of reports that Jack Straw has invited the UK British/Iran Parliamentary Friendship Group to the UK. Jack Straw visited on 7-10 January with other members of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Iran, after being invited by the British/Iran Parliamentary Friendship Group.