(36th Session)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

"QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES"

to be asked at a sitting of the National Assembly to be held on

Monday, the 26th September, 2016

112. ***Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan:**
(Deferred during 32nd Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether there is any monitoring and evaluation system for the private courier services in order to control terrorist activities in the country; if so, the details thereof?

Reply not Received.

124. ***Ms. Naeema Kishwar Khan:**
(Deferred during 32nd Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gold sent abroad or sold illegally during the year 2012-13;

(b) the loss suffered by country's economy due to devaluation of rupees therefrom alongwith the details thereof; and

(c) the actions taken by the Government against the responsibles thereof?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) Details of Exports of Gold/ Jewellary during the year 2012-13 as provided by Ministry of Commerce are at Annex-A.

(b) Between FY13 and FY15, on point-to-point basis, Pak rupee depreciated by 2.6 percent against US$. In the current fiscal year the rupee parity increased from Rs. 101.7 per US$ at end-June 2015 to Rs. 104.6 per US$ by May 16, 2016.

Since 2000, SBP has been following a flexible exchange rate regime in which the value of Pak rupee *vis-a-vis* other currencies is largely determined in the foreign exchange market through the market forces of supply and demand. In case, demand is higher than the supply of foreign currency exchange rate tends to depreciate and, *vice versa*.

To avoid excessive volatility in exchange rate and ensure smooth functioning of the foreign exchange market, SBP occasionally intervenes in the foreign exchange market. However, it is pertinent to highlight that SBP does not aim to keep exchange market at any pre-determined level because research and experiences of central banks suggest that allowing economic fundamentals to determine the value of exchange rate provides stability to balance of payments position.

The depreciation of rupee in the period under consideration is a reflection of overall balance of payments position of the country. During the period under consideration the external current account though remained in deficit, has been manageable. There has been a consistent improvement in current account mainly owing to increased worker's remittances and falling oil prices. At the same time, increased financial inflows from multilateral and other official sources have kept the overall balance of payments position stable. This has contributed in accumulating foreign exchange reserves, thus reflecting positively on foreign exchange market.

(c) Not required in view of (b) above.

Annex-A

Exports of Gold / Jewellary during the year 2012-13

Value in Thousand RS

Items	Unit	2012-13	
		QUANTITY	VALUE
ARTICLE OF JEWELLERY OF SILVER	GM	72331959	8221776
JEWELLERY OF GOLD	VAL	--	103863661
OTH ART OF JEWELRY-OTH PRE MTL	GM	8198815	215512

ART(JEWELRY)BASE MTL-CLD P-MTL	VAL	--	--
ART OF SILVER WARES W/N PLATED	GM	2150	256
ART OF PRE METALS W/N PLAT	GM	15251	2888
OTH WARES/PARTS OF BASE METALS	GM	--	--
CATALYST INFORM WIRE/GRIL PLAT	GM	31200	3214
OTH ART PREMET/MET CLAD P/MTL	GM	17150	1389
ART NATURAL/CULTURED PEARLS	GM	--	--
ART PRECIOUS/SEMI-PRE STONES	GM	182781	15177
OTH IMITATION JEWELLERY B/METL	VAL	--	7748
OTH IMITATION JEWEL B/METL,N.S	VAL	--	40799
Total	**GM**	**80779306**	**112372420**
Source :Pakistan Bureau of Statistics			

2. ***Mr. Iqbal Muhammad Ali Khan:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the province-wise funds under the Kisan Package distributed amongst the peasants of Rice in the country so far?

Referred to the Cabinet Division for allocation of Subject.

3. ***Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons of security lapses in the backdrop of Quetta incident;

(b) the actions taken by the Ministry against the terrorists so far; and

(c) the course of action adopted by the Government to prevent any such untoward incidents in future?

Reply not Received.

6. ***Dr. Shazia Sobia:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is the fourth most dangerous country in the world for Media;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the safety of journalists in the country?

Transferred to Information and Broadcasting Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

18. ***Dr. Arif Alvi:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federal Board of Revenue, State Bank of Pakistan and Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan have sent notices to those 600 Pakistanis whose names have surfaced in Panama Papers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the wealth which was deposited/ invested in offshore shell companies was accumulated through lawful means and not through kickbacks, commission, over/ under invoicing, tax evasion or other forms of corruption;

(c) whether it is further a fact that money was taken out of Pakistan in a legitimate manner after taking/obtaining necessary statutory permissions from the relevant authorities following the relevant laws;

(d) whether the said money was disclosed in their wealth and tax returns;

(e) whether legitimately due tax was paid on those amounts;

(f) if no notices have been sent, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) No notices were issued by the SECP. The SECP has initiated investigation into the offshore companies. In this context, the details are:

(i) No direct investment has been made in offshore companies given in Panama Papers, registered in Pakistan relating to identified persons.

(ii) *Prima facie,* the investments mentioned in the Panama Papers were made by the persons in their individual capacity and same has not been routed through the company's account.

(iii) Certain companies have entered into transactions with companies registered in foreign jurisdictions, which is not prohibited in terms of Companies Ordinance, 1984. The SECP has initiated correspondence with such companies. The instances where non-compliance would be observed, necessary legal proceedings shall be initiated in accordance with relevant provision of the law.

(iv) In order to handle such matters on immediate basis, special provisions pertaining to maintenance of record of foreign investment in shape of Companies' Global Register of Beneficial Ownership has been introduced in Draft Companies Bill, 2016.

(v) Further enhanced disclosures have been proposed in the financial statements in the proposed Companies Bill, 2016 in respect of investments in foreign companies.

(b) This part relates to SBP, FBR, FIA or NAB.

(c) This part relates to SBP.

(d) This part relates to FBR.

(e) This part relates to FBR.

(f) As explained in para (a) above, no notice was required to be issued.

20. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is facing a serious trade deficit during the current financial year; if so, the percentage of said deficit for the last three years; and

(b) the causes of the said deficit?

Transferred to Commerce Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

57. ***Ms. Shagufta Jumani:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that refunds have not been given to the exporters timely during the financial year 2015-16; if so, the reasons thereof; and

(b) the total number of exporters affected thereby?

Reply not Received.

1. ***Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to promote the Small and Medium Enterprises in the country?

Transferred to Industries and Production Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

2. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the re-verification process of Computerized National Identity Cards has been completed in the country?

Reply not received.

3. ***Mr. Jamshed Ahmad Dasti:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the actions which were due to be taken by the Ministry and departments come under the administrative control of it in response to the resolutions passed by the National Assembly and Senate since 01-01-2013; and

(b) the details of all those actions which have been taken by the said departments in response to each resolution thereof?

Admissibility is being reconsidered.

4. ***Ms. Sajida Begum:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office be pleased to state the total discretionary funds of the Prime Minister at present?

Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office: The Annual Budget allocation of Prime Minister's discretionary grant is Rs. 1.00 Million.

5. ***Shazia Marri:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the total number of religious organizations banned due to their links/involvement in terrorist activities during the last one year in the country?

Reply not Received.

6. ***Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the external economic assistance from foreign governments and organizations obtained by the present Government alongwith the purposes thereof, separately;

(b) the utilization of said assistance; and

(c) whether the said assistance is being utilized for its actual purposes; if not, the justifications thereof?

Reply not received.

7. ***Ms. Suraiya Jatoi:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the total number of active tax payers during the financial year 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): Following is the detail of active taxpayers who have filed Income Tax returns during the Financial Year 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16:

Financial Year	**2013-14**	**2014-15**	**2015-16**
Active Taxpayers	9,27,293	10,64,232	10,78,112

8. ***Ms. Naseema Hafeez Panezai:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) the goals/targets set for alleviation of poverty in the Pakistan Vision 2025;

(b) the steps taken by the Federal Government in collaboration with the provinces in respect of achievement of the said targets so far; and

(c) the steps to be taken in future by the Government in this regard?

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform (Mr. Ahsan Iqbal): (a) Pakistan Vision 2025 sets the target of reducing the multidimensional poverty by half from the headcount of 40.8% witnessed in 2012-13.

(b) The government has taken various steps to reduce the incidence of poverty and bridge the income inequality gap between various income groups including;

(i) Extensive negotiations with provincial governments on preparation of national framework on Social protection.

(ii) Negotiations with provincial governments and intelligentsia in provincial headquarters on estimation of Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by putting right kind of indicators.

(iii) Making economic growth more inclusive and sustained.

(iv) The outreach of social safety nets is extended to over 5 million people which represents over 16 percent of the population.

(v) Reduced incidence of indirect taxation and broaden the base of income tax.

(vi) Enhanced the allocations for PSDP to improve distributional mechanism.

(vii) Widen the access to quality services like endowment fund for education, upscaling nutrition etc.

(viii) Prime Minister's Health Insurance scheme to extend the coverage of health services with the help of provinces to entire Pakistan.

(ix) Ensure equality of opportunities for all segments of society through merit based recruitment system.

(x) Making technology cheaper and deepening its penetration.

(xi) Making development more inclusive and participatory

(c) The government is planning to take economic growth to beyond 7% in the medium-term and make it more exclusive. CPEC will provide an opportunity for provision of affordable energy to all and upgrade connectivity around the country which will create more opportunities for all. The government is planning to establish enough social protection for all marginalized and vulnerable segments of the society. National framework with the help of provinces has recently cleared from technical advisory committee.

9. ***Ms. Belum Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) the total development funds allocated for construction of small dams and ponds projects especially in flood affected areas of the country during the last four years; and

(b) the mode of utilization of said funds?

Reply not Received.

10. ***Ms. Naseema Hafeez Panezai:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to ply Metro Bus in Balochistan particularly in Quetta;

(b) if so, the details; if not, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform (Mr. Ahsan Iqbal): The mass transit system is an urban subject, which is supposed to be taken up by the concerned provincial governments.

In case, Government of Balochistan intends to undertake the proposed system in any potential city of Balochistan, a feasibility study may be carried out before taking up the proposed system.

11. ***Mr. Siraj Muhammad Khan:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the prescribed criteria of the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) to provide employments to unemployed children/spouse of employees who have deceased/ incapacitated during their services;

(b) the total number of persons alongwith their designations, date of invalidation and names of children to whom employments provided during the last five years till date by NADRA?

Reply not Received.

12. ***Dr. Shazia Sobia:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to computerize the records of all the Federal Police stations to enhance cooperation among them?

Reply not received.

13. ***Ms. Sajida Begum:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the President Secretariat be pleased to state the total discretionary funds of the President at present?

Reply not received.

14. ***Begum Tahira Bukhari:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the rangers deputed on borders of the country have failed to control smuggling; if so, the reasons thereof?

Reply not received.

15. ***Mr. Sher Akbar Khan:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are large quantity of Uranium deposits in the mountains of District Bunir;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to utilize those deposits?

Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office: (a) Pakistan Atomic energy Commission (PAEC) has conducted geological and radiometric surveys in Buner area. No signs of presence of sizable Uranium deposits were found.

(b) As the area does not have potential for large Uranium deposits, the professionals of the PAEC think that no further work on exploration is required.

16. ***Dr. Shazia Sobia:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government borrowing more from commercial banks as compared to previous years; if so, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): The Government borrowed less from commercial banks during Fiscal Year 2015-16 as compared to borrowing from commercial banks during Fiscal Year 2014-15. The comparison of net Government borrowing from commercial banks during FY 2014-15 & FY 2015-16 is as under:—

Net Government Borrowing from Commercial Banks:

(Rs. in billion)

Fiscal Year	**Borrowing from Commercial Banks**
2014-15	1,326.366
2015-16	1,262.030
Decrease:	**64.336**

17. ***Dr. Nafisa Shah:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) the names of power projects included in the China Pakistan Economic Corridor alongwith their dates of completion and how they are being financed; and

(b) whether the money is being raised from the private sector therefor; if so, the terms and conditions thereof?

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform (Mr. Ahsan Iqbal): (a) Approximately, an investment of US$ 35 billion will come to Pakistan in the energy sector. All power projects are in IPP mode. Detail is at Annex-I.

(b) Since the power projects are in IPP mode, therefore, investment is coming from private sector of both China and Pakistan. These will be governed by the terms and conditions as per the government's power policy.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

18. ***Ms. Shakila Luqman:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons filed tax returns during the last two fiscal years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to make tax regime people friendly?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) The total number of persons who have filed tax returns during the last two years is as under:—

TY-2015	TY-2014
10,78,112	10,64,232

(b) 1. The Federal Government has undertaken many measures to make the tax laws people-friendly and to simplify the systems so that people are encouraged to comply the tax Law.

2. Taxpayer Facilitation Division (TFD) has been established in every Regional Tax Office (RTO) and Large Taxpayers Unit (LTU) which facilitates and educates the taxpayers on various tax issues. These TFDs are controlled by the Facilitation and Taxpayer Facilitation (FATE) Wing of FBR. It conducts various seminars; arrange workshops for the taxpayer facilitation and education across the country. It publishes different brochures and reviews for taxpayer guidance. Any person can file representation to the FATE Wing of FBR on any issue related to FBR or its workings.

3. A new online automated system has been launched with the name of IRIS whereby the taxpayer is provided with online facility of filing returns/ statement besides taxpayers has also been provided with the facility to apply for exemptions through this online system.

4. Another major step taken by the Government to make the tax regime people – friendly is introduction of differential tax rates for filers and non-filers of Income Tax Returns. The taxpayers who regularly file their returns are liable for reduced rate of Withholding Taxes applicable on different economic transactions.Active taxpayer list is made available for the above referred purpose on FBR website, which is regularly updated.

5. In the recent Finance Bill, the Government has focused on providing relief to the people by allowing many tax credits. As per Income Tax ordinance, 2001 the following tax credits are available to the taxpayers:—

(i) Tax credit for investment is shares and insurance u/s 62.

(ii) Tax credit for Investment in health Insurance introduced through Finance Act, 2016.

(iii) The limit of deductible allowance for the amount of any profit/ interest or share in rent and share in appreciation for value of house paid on a loan for construction or acquisition has been enhanced to two million from one million under section 64A.

(iv) Section 64AB provides that the individuals having income less than one million rupees are entitled for deductible allowance in respect of tuition fees/education expenses of their children.

(v) Section 64B was introduced to provide tax credit for employment generation by Manufacturing units to encourage employment.

19. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether all relevant powers have been given/delegated to Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation?

Reply not received.

20. ***Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) the benchmarks upon which Pakistan Vision 2015 has been designed;

(b) whether the Provincial Governments have been consulted while designing the said Vision, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details upon which recommendations of provinces have been incorporated in the said Vision; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement the said Vision with reference to poor execution of earlier such visions and poor economic condition of the country?

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform (Mr. Ahsan Iqbal): (a) Pakistan Vision 2025 has been launched on 11th August, 2014 wherein the benchmark year used to develop the said Vision was 2012-13. The economic and social conditions prevailing in 2012-13 of the Pakistan and rest of the world were considered. Furthermore, the past performance of the economy and impact of Annual and Five Year Plans were also taken into account.

(b) Vision 2025 was drawn up after consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including parliamentarians, representatives of political parties, federal ministries, provincial governments, business leaders, international institutions, universities, think tanks, NGOs, and independent experts. In this regard 1000+ Consultative meeting was also convened. Seminars on Vision 2025 in Provincial headquarters including AJK were held during the preparation process. Further, the draft of Vision 2025 was also shared with provinces before finalization.

(c) Vision 2025 is a consensus document in which all the Provinces were individually consulted on all pillars of the Vision. Vision 2025 was launched in a ceremony chaired by Prime Minister of Pakistan in the presence of all the Chief Ministers.

(d) The operational and strategic aspects of the Vision 2025 are manifested in the 11th Five Year Plan 2013-18 and Annual Plans. During first Year, after the launch of Vision 2025, meetings with Ministries were held to ensure timely implementation of Vision 2025. Further a project has been initiated namely 'Support and Monitoring of High Impact New Initiatives (HINT) of Vision 2025' to monitor and support implementation of the said Vision.

21. ***Ms. Aliya Kamran:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of officers of BPS-19 of the Federal Government/Constitutional Bodies who are drawing their salaries from the Accountant General Pakistan Revenue (AGPR), Islamabad at present; and

(b) the names of officers out of said who have been drawing their salaries from AGPR from the last 21 years in same scale alongwith their designations?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) At present following BPS-19 officers are working in Finance Division and drawing salaries from AGPR, Islamabad:

S. #	Name Designation & BPS of officer	Remarks
1.	Syed Pervaiz Abbas Naqvi, Director (BC) (BS-19)	He is a regular officer of Finance Division
2.	Mrs. Naheed Ishaq, Deputy Economic Adviser (Bs-19)	She belongs to Economist Group administered by M/O Planning Development & reforms and working in Finance Division on deputation basis.
3.	Mr. Absar Hassan Siddique, Deputy Economic Adviser (BS-19)	He blongs to Economist Group administerd by M/O Planning Development & reforms and working in Finance Division on deputation basis.
4.	Mr. Ahmed Khan, Deputy Financial Analyst (BS-19)	He blongs to Economist Group administerd by M/O Planning Development & reforms and working in Finance Division on deputation basis.

List of DSs/ DFAs is attached. The information relating to FBR, EAD Statistics, Division & Privatizations Div. is annexed .

(b) Nil.

List of Ds/DFAs in the Finance Divisior

S. No.	Name of the officer	Designation
1.	Mr. Nadeem Abbas	Deputy Secretary
2.	Mr. lzhar Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
3.	Mir Afzal Khan	Deputy Secretary
4.	Mr. Liaquat Ali	Deputy Secretary
5.	Mr. Ghulam Farooq	Deputy Secretary
6.	Mr. Muhammad Saleem	Deputy Secretary
7.	Mr.Umar Nawaz Khan	Deputy Secretary
8.	Syed Kazim Hussain	Deputy Secretary

S. No.	Name of the officer	Designation
9.	Mr. Muhammad Shahid Ahmed Ch.	Deputy Secretary
10.	Mr. Ghazanfar Ali	Deputy Secretary
11.	Mr. Tahir Mahmood Khokhar	Deputy Secretary
12.	Mr. Khan Hafeez	Deputy Secretary
13.	Mr. Shafique Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
14.	Mr. Nyyar Nadeem	Deputy Secretary
15.	Mr. Muhammad Liaqat Ch.	Deputy Secretary
16.	Mr. Abdul Malik Balghari	Deputy Secretary
17.	Mr. Mumtaz Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
18.	Mr. Imran Ullah Khan	Deputy Secretary
19.	Mr. Tassadaq Hussain	Deputy Secretary
20.	Mr. Amir Mohyuddin	Deputy Secretary
21.	Mr. Javed lqbal	Deputy Secretary
22.	Mr. Suhbat Ali Talpur	Deputy Secretary
23.	Mr. Rauf Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
24.	Mr. Azmat Hussain Khan	Deputy Secretary
25.	Mr. Mahmood Ahmad Hashmi	Deputy Secretary
26.	Syed Ahmad Raza Asif	Deputy Secretary
27.	Syed Irfan Abbas Shah	Deputy Secretary
28.	Mr. Muhammad Ikram	Deputy Secretary
29.	Mr. Badr-ul-Arifeen	Deputy Secretary
30.	Ch. Mehboob Illahi	Deputy Secretary
31.	Mr. Shahzad Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
32.	Mrs. Fozia Abid	Deputy Secretary
33.	Sahibzada Muhammad Junaid	Deputy Secretary
34.	Mr. Rashid Ali Zuberi	Deputy Secretary
35.	Mr. Muhammad Riaz	Deputy Secretary
36.	Mr. Muhammad Afzaal Ajiz	Deputy Secretary
37.	Mr. Abdul Waheed Mangrio	Deputy Secretary

S. No.	Name of the officer	Designation
38.	Mr. Muhammad Pervaiz Alam	Deputy Secretary
39.	Mr. Irshad Ahmed	Deputy Secretary
40.	Mr. Muzaffar Ali Burki	Deputy Secretary
41.	Mr. Athar Sag Khan	Deputy Secretary
42.	Syed Muhammad Ali	Deputy Secretary
43.	Mr. Malik Aman	Deputy Secretary
44.	Mr.Mazhar-ul-Hassan Shah	Deputy Secretary
45.	Raja Ejaz Mehdi	Deputy Secretary
46.	Mr. Muhammad Shafi Awan	Deputy Secretary
47.	Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad Janjua	Deputy Secretary
48.	Raja M. Akhtar lqbal	Deputy Secretary
49.	Mr. Iftikhar Amjad	Deputy Secretary
50.	Mrs. Saira Najeeb Ahmed	Deputy Secretary

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

22. ***Shazia Marri:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs.45 millions for agriculture project in Sindh is lying with the Government/Economic Affairs Division and is not being transferred to said province; if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to transfer the said amount to said province at the earliest?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) The Government of Pakistan has created Japanese Grant Counter Fund against which allocations are made for

the approved projects of the provincial governments. The Total share of the Sindh Government is Rs. 540,229,661 out of which a sum of Rs. 494,776661 has already been released to the Government Sindh to date. The balance amount of Rs.45.00 million is being reflected for the last 03 years in the Federal Government budget. However as the Government of Sindh has not submitted any duly approved project, these funds could not be released and lapsed. These funds have been allocated in the budget estimates of the current Financial Year 2016-17 which will be released as and when the Sindh Government submits their approved development projects.

(b) Government of Pakistan (EAD) is regularly requesting the Government of Sindh to provide the detail of the approved projects which is still awaited. Last reminder has been sent on 1st August 2016. The Government of Sindh (Planning Department) has responded that they have asked their respective departments to furnish the detail of the projects for submission to EAD which is still awaited.

23. ***Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office be pleased to state the total strength of employees in the Prime Minister's Office at present?

Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Office: The Prime Minister's Office comprises two parts *i.e.* PM's Office (Public) and PM's Office (Internal). Public side is headed by Secretary to the PM and Internal side by Military Secretary to the PM. Both have separate budget allocation / PAOs and running their administration independently. The detail of total strength of employees in the PM's Office is as under:

PM's Office (Public)	242
PM's Office (Internal)	488

24. ***Ms. Musarat Rafique Mahesar:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise women police stations in Islamabad Capital Territory at present; and

(b) the total number of FIRs registered in the said police stations during the last three years alongwith the category and month-wise break-up thereof?

Reply not received.

25. ***Sheikh Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a number of inquiries are pending in NADRA for fake/double CNICs and passports; if so, the steps being taken by the Government to control such crimes?

Reply not received.

26. ***Mr. Waseem Akhtar Shaikh:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no record of registration of public and private sectors vehicles is available with the National Database and Registration Authority; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that sale and purchase of those vehicles is going on at large scale in Islamabad having bogus number plates; if so, the steps being taken by the Government to stop the sale and purchase of such vehicles?

Reply not received.

27. ***Mrs. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state the names of projects initiated and completed so far under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Project?

Minister for Planning, Development and Reform (Mr. Ahsan Iqbal): CPEC is a long term project. Early harvest projects are expected to be completed by 2017 while rest of the projects will be completed in short term period 2020, medium term period 2025 and long term period 2030 respectively.

Till date two project, namely Digital Terrestrial Multimedia Broadcast (DTMB) and Quaid-e-Azam 100 MW Solar Park, projects have been completed. Completion schedule for the rest of the projects is placed at Annex-I.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

28. ***Begum Tahira Bukhari:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government has decided not to take loans from International Monetary Fund in future?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): As of now, the government has no plans of taking new loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

29. ***Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to control monopoly, cartelization and poverty reduction in the country;

(b) whether targets have been set by the present Government therefor; if so, the details thereof?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar): (a) The Government/Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has taken numerous steps, consistently and proactively to enforce the competition principles for the benefit of consumers, businesses and the economy, details of which are:

- CCP has taken a proactive role in ensuring that undertakings whose actions prevent, restrict or distort competition are identified and penalized to guarantee a level playing field to all competing entities. The effect of these actions has been three-fold:

  (i) there is a direct benefit to consumers,

  (ii) there is a positive effect on productivity and

  (iii) there is a deterrent effect on potential violators.

- Collusion and abuse of dominance has been identified and penalized in numerous sectors including sugar, cement, banking, media, automobiles, power, telecommunications, and securities, etc. leading to an increase in consumer welfare.

- Deceptive marketing practices have been curtailed in numerous sectors, especially in the fast moving consumer goods industry, thereby strengthening consumer and business protection.

- CCP has organized and conducted workshops, seminars and conferences (domestic and international) across Pakistan on the benefits of free competition. The success of these efforts is reflected in the growing awareness of competitive practices in the market as a whole.

- Businesses are becoming more alert to the possibility of penal consequences in response to collusive, abusive, or deceptive practices and are, therefore, becoming more accustomed to fair competition.

- CCP has issued policy notes and opinions on matters affecting competition in various sectors of the economy including telecom, oil and gas, insurance, securities and exchange, and public procurement etc. to the government and sector regulators, and a majority of the recommendations have been implemented leading to the provision of a level playing field to businesses.

(b) The main targets given by Government and laid down in the Competition Act, 2010 are to protect consumers from anticompetitive behaviour *i.e.* inhibit cartels, abuse of dominant position, deceptive marketing practices. scrutinize mergers and acquisitions to check their effects and promote competition. CCP is putting all out efforts to achieve the above mentioned targets and have succeeded to a large extend in minimizing cartelization in the markets/ economy of the country. The CCP has made the following achievements upto June. 2016:

Type of Cases	**Number of cases**
Show Cause Notices Issued to various companies/undertakings	526

Type of Cases	Number of cases
Inquiries conducted	60
Orders passed	84
Policy Notes issued to organizations	23
Opinion given to Government organizations	04
Exemption granted to different undertakings/ companies	631
The Penalties amounting to PKR 8.715 billion imposed for abuse of dominant position	06
The Penalties amounting to PKR 7.5 billion imposed for cartelization	152
The Penalties amounting to PKR 22.5 million imposed for deceptive marketing	05

30. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Offices of the National Database and Registration Authority have been established in all tehsils in the country?

Reply not received.

ISLAMABAD:
The 25th September, 2016

ABDUL JABBAR ALI,
Secretary.

PCPPI—2349(2016) NA—25 -09-2016—650.

(36th Session)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

"UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES"

For Monday, the 26th September, 2016

5. **Ms. Belum Hasnain:**
(Deferred during 24th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that blasphemy law is being mis-used at present and affecting the innocent minorities in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to control the said mis-utilization?

Reply not received.

31. **Aijaz Hussain Jakhrani:**
(Deferred during 27th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Flour Mills in Islamabad at present;

(b) whether monthly quotas have been prescribed by the Government for the said Flour Mills; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the month-wise quota received by said Mills separately during the years 2010 to 2015?

Reply not received.

62. **Ms. Shagufta Jumani:**
(Deferred during 27th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the province-wise total number of registered and un-registered Non Governmental Organizations working in Pakistan at present?

Reply not received.

66. **Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**
(Deferred during 27th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the city-wise refugees residing in the country at present?

Reply not received.

117. **Dr. Shazia Sobia:**
(Deferred during 28th Session)

Will the Minister In-charge of the Prime Minister's Offices be pleased to state the average per day expenses of the Prime Minister's House during the last two years?

Reply not received.

27. **Ms. Musarat Rafique Mahesar:**
(Deferred during 29th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the details of land regained in the rural areas of Islamabad by the Ministry during the tenure of the present Government?

Reply not received.

34. **Mr. Ramesh Lal:**
(Deferred during 29th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the names and father names of those persons to whom licences

of bear and wine have been issued since 01-01-2013 alongwith the details thereof?

Reply not received.

57. **Mr. Sajid Ahmed:**
(Deferred during 30th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the records of the lands in Islamabad have not been computerized so far?

Reply not received.

46. **Ms. Sajida Begum:**
(Deferred during 32nd Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the seniority list of officers working on contract basis in Machine Readable Passport project is being maintained;

*(b) whether there is any legal status of maintaining the seniority list of contract employees; if not, the seniority list maintained through which foreign posting is being made under the prescribed code of seniority-*cum*-fitness; and*

(c) whether it is also a fact that the employees of said project are being promoted through a fake seniority list; if so, the names and designations thereof?

Reply not received.

56. **Ms. Sabiha Nazir:**
(Deferred during 32nd Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fake currency is being smuggled to UAE from Pakistan;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to control printing of fake currency?

Reply not received.

3. **Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise names, designations and domiciles of officers who have been appointed in the National Database and Registration Authority's Office, Jhelum since 01-06-2013;

(b) whether each of the aforesaid post was advertised; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applicants appeared in test/interview for said posts separately;

(d) whether approval for said appointments was taken by the Ministry; if so, the details; if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) whether merit has not been followed in letter and spirit while making such appointments; if so, whether Ministry has taken notice of it; if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps are being taken to streamline the affairs of such appointments?

Reply not received.

46. **Ms. Sajida Begum:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) *whether it is a fact that the State Guest House (SGH) is being constructed in Islamabad; and*

(b) *the time by which the construction work of the said SGH will be started and completed?*

Transferred to Foreign Affairs Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

48. **Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) *the time by which the Islamabad Administration carries out vaccination of the staff of hotels and restaurants in Islamabad; and*

(b) *whether the record of said vaccination is being maintained?*

Reply not received.

51. **Mr. Tariq Christopher Qaiser:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state the names and religions of persons to whom licenses for sale of liquor have been issued by the present Government separately alongwith the terms and conditions thereof?

Reply not received.

78. **Ms. Nighat Parveen Mir:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the total number of employees working on deputation at present in the Benazir Income Support Programme?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar): A total of 265 employees are working on deputation in BISP.

Detail of BISP employees in employees in enclosed as Annex-A.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYEES AS ON 17-8-2016 ANNEX-A

S. #	CATEGORY	EMPLOYEES	%OF EMPLOYEES
1.	BISP EMPLOYEES	1818	76.35
2.	BISP EMPLOYEES CONTINGENT	298	12.52
3.	DEPUTATIONISTS	265	11.13
	TOTAL EMPLOYEES	**2381**	**100.00**

1. **Mr. Isphanyar M. Bhandara:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some armed persons entered from Nooristani area of Afghan border in Chitral;

(b) whether it is also a fact that said persons have killed two shepherds and taken away with them about 400 sheep and goats from the grazing ground of the said area;

(c) if the answers to part (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, the action taken by the Government including the persons arrested therefrom?

Reply not received.

3. **Ms. Aliya Kamran:**
(Deferred during 35th Session)

Will the Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Town, Korang Town, FBR Town Doctors Town, Media Town, Pak. PWD Colony, Sohan Garden, Jinnah Garden and National Police Foundation/ Housing Society are located in Islamabad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that boundaries of said towns/housing societies are linked by one another; and

(c) whether it is further a fact that offices of the National Database and Registration Authority have not been established in said towns/housing societies so far; if so, the reasons thereof?

Reply not received.

1. **Ch. Muhammad Shahbaz Babar:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the total domestic and foreign loans obtained by the Government during the last five years alongwith the period in which those loans will be repaid; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to avoid from obtaining more loans in future?

Reply not received.

2. **Ch. Muhammad Shahbaz Babar:**

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state:

(a) the names of development projects approved by the Government during the last five years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to complete the said projects timely as per estimated cost thereof?

Reply not received.

3. **Ms. Surriya Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the funds received from doners for education in Pakistan during the tenure of the present Government?

Transferred to Federal Education and Professional Training Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

4. **Mr. Isphanyar M. Bhandara:**

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the National Tax Numbers Holders paying electricity bill of more than Rs. 500,000/- per annum are not being checked in order to increase the tax base in Pakistan; if so, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization (Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar):

- All NTN holders are bound to file Income Tax returns (section 114 of the Income Tax Ordinance 2001) copy attached.

- Persons, holding commercial or industrial electricity connection and whose annual electricity bill exceeds rupees five hundred thousand, shall file an Income Tax return under section 114 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001. For the purpose of Broadening of Tax Base, information was called from the electricity supply companies. The commercial / industrial electricity subscribers who were paying electricity bill in excess of Rs. 500,000 per annum but were not on NTN roll were identified and 512 such cases brought on tax roll.

  (a) Additionally withholding provisions work as transactions based check if the person paying electricity bill is carrying on

commercial / industrial activities then a withholding tax is deducted on the monthly bill of Rs. 400 and above (Annual bill of electricity Rs. 4800) with different slabs' rates. Hence in the case of commercial or industrial activities the assertion is not correct.

(b) Regarding a domestic consumers a new section (Section 235A) was inserted in the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 *vide* Finance Act 2014 whereby a deduction at the rate of 7.5% was to be made on the monthly bill of Rs. 100,000 & above (Annual bill Rs. 1200,000/-). Through further amendment *vide* Finance Act 2016, the monthly bill amount was reduced from 100,000 to Rs. 75000 (Annual Rs. 900,000/-)

- Similarly, for sales tax purposes, unregistered persons are subjected to extra taxation in order to force them to get registered. Under SRO 509(I)/2013, all unregistered persons holding industrial / commercial connections are subject to extra tax at 5% of bill amount if they are not registered and their electricity / gas bill exceeds Rs. 15000/- per month.

- Hence all persons (NTN holders & Non NTN holders) are properly monitored under the existing provisions of the tax laws.

ISLAMABAD:
The 25th September, 2016.

ABDUL JABBAR ALI,
Secretary.

PCPPI—2349(2016) NA—25-09-2016—650.