

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Wednesday, the 19th April, 2017

50. ***Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**
(Deferred during 36th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No. 189 replied on 05-09-2016 and to state whether barbed wires have been installed and gate has been constructed on Pak-Iran borders?

Transferred to Interior Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

52. ***Ms. Aisha Syed:**
(Deferred during 36th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to seal 2600 kilometers Pak-Afghan Road; if so, the date of implementation thereof?

Transferred to Interior Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

3. ***Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**
(Deferred during 38th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total number of violations of the Line of Control carried out by India since 01-11-2016?

Transferred to Defence Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

147. ***Sheikh Salahuddin:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps being taken by the present Government to resolve border issues with the neighboring countries?

Transferred to Defence Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

270. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons to detain Pakistanis in Jails of Bulgaria; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to release them?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) The main reason of detention of Pakistani nationals in Bulgarian jails is illegal border crossing.

(b) Our Mission in Sofia maintains close liaison with the Bulgarian authorities and as soon as a case is reported, the Mission requests local authorities to provide consular access to the detainee. Following the consular access, the information is shared with concerned authorities in Pakistan for verification of their national status and further action regarding their repatriation. In case of destitute Pakistanis, the Mission also provides necessary legal and financial support to the prisoners.

272. ***Mr. Abdul Qahar Khan Wadan:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state:

- (a) the head-wise support funds received during the last six years with reference to terrorism;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that the FATA/Frontier Regions have suffered by terrorism;*

- (c) *the detail of funds granted to compensate persons affected by terrorism; and*
- (d) *the life and financial losses occurred by Terrorism in said Areas/ Regions during the said period alongwith the steps taken in this regard?*

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: (a) During the last six years, an amount of Rs. 3045.785 million was utilized on account of compensation (Shuhada Package) out of total released amount of Rs. 3566.124 million. Details are at **Annex-I**.

(b) Yes, it is an established fact that FATA/ Frontier Regions have suffered tremendously due to terrorism.

(c) An amount to the tune of Rs. 3480.55 million has been spent for compensating the legal heirs of 12167 dead/injured persons including Levies, Khassadars and Civilians. Details are at **Annex-II**.

(d) A total of 5740 persons including Levies, Khasadars and Civilians lost their lives. Details are at **Annex-II**. For the financial losses, under the Citizen Losses Compensation Program (CLCP), the Government is providing Rs. 400000/- for fully damaged and Rs. 160000/- for partially damaged houses. FATA Secretariat has released Rs. 6.379 Billion to Political Administrations of five agencies, where TDPs are returning, while Rs. 5.277 Billion has been disbursed amongst 15139 beneficiaries. After conducting surveys, there are an estimated 80,000 damaged houses, out of which 22,471 have been validated for compensation.

ANNEX-I

AGENCY/FR WISE DETAIL OF AMOUNT PAID IN MILLION AS COMPENSATION FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS

Agency/FR	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Khyber	10.3	116.4	120.4	198.86	122.6	33.16
Bajaur	74.65	30.35	27	38.5	41.6	20.25
Mohmand	39.95	60.5	81.1	14.7	28.5	32.45
Orakzai	84.35	6.3	6	7.5	20.2	15.4
NWA	12.6	22.15	17.3	0	0	5
SWA	6.1	14.3	10.775	3.6	32.4	0
Kurram	1024.5	33.6		55.7	93.4	286.64

FR Peshawar	0.1	0	69.3	0.6	4.8	6.2
FR Kohat	5.9	10.5	9.5	6.6	9.2	0.2
FR Tank	0	14.4	0.1	0.8	28.3	0
FR Bannu	0.2	0	5	5	5	0.2
FR Dikhan	0	0	0	0	0	0.5
FR Lakki	0	0	0.3	0	0	0
Livestock FATA	0	0	0	0	14	0
Budget position	1300	734.26	400	331.864	400	400
Utilized Expd:	1258.65	308.5	346.775	331.86	400	400

Grant total amount Released Rs. 3566.124 million

Grant total amount spent = 3045.785 million

Unspent amount = Rs. 520.339 million surrendered to Finance Department FATA.

ANNEX-II

cost of war on terror

Category	Shaheed	Amount in million	Injured	Amount in million	Total Amount in million
Levies	234	702	153	22.95	724.95
Khassadar	174	522	132	19.8	541.8
Civilian	5332	1599.6	6142	614.2	2213.8
Total	5740	2823.6	6427	656.95	3480.55

276. ***Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the sector-wise details of MOUs signed by Pakistan with other countries during the foreign visits of the Prime Minister of Pakistan that could not be converted into contracts yet alongwith the justifications thereof?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Details of MOUs signed by Pakistan with other countries during the visits of the Prime Minister of Pakistan are attached as **Annex-A**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

289. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the name of countries besides Iran, India and Gulf States where Pakistani fishermen are imprisoned at present?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Besides Iran, India and Gulf States there is no Pakistani fishermen imprisoned elsewhere.

290. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names and details of skills/vocations in which Pakistani manpower is being trained at present; and*
- (b) *whether the said skills/vocations compete international standards; if so, the name of authority that ensures the international competence of the same?*

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

119. ***Ms. Nafeesa Inayatullah Khan Khattak:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of international conventions and commitments regarding rights of Children and Women in Pakistan signed by the Government during the last five years till date alongwith the details thereof;*
- (b) *the name of said conventions/commitments in compliance of which laws have been made by the Ministry; and*
- (c) *the name of conventions/commitments in compliance of which laws have not been made so for?*

Transferred to Human Rights Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

120. ***Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No. 120 replied on 13-03-2017 and to state the countries to which Rice is being exported by Pakistan at present?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The countries to which rice is being exported by Pakistan at present is given below:

Afghanistan	Libya
Albania	Lithuania
Algeria	Macao China
Angola	Madagascar
Argentina	Malawi
Australia	Malaysia
Austria	Maldives
Azerbaijan	Malta
Bahrain	Martinique
Bangladesh	Mauritania
Belarus	Mauritius
Belgium	Mayotte
Benin	Mozambique
Botswana	Netherlands
Brazil	New Zealand
Brunei Darussalam	Nigeria
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Oman
Chile	Philippines
China	Poland
Co,te	Portugal
d,Ivoire (Fr.Iv)	Qatar

Comoros	Republic of
Croatia	Moldova
Cyprus	Reunion
Czech Republic	Romania
D.R.of Congo	Russian
Denmark	Federation
Djibouti	Saudi Arabia
Egypt (U.A.R.)	Senegal
Estonia	Seychelles
Fiji	Singapore
Finland	Slovenia
France	Somalia
Gambia	South Africa
Georgia	South Sudan
Germany	Spain
Ghana	Sri Lanka
Greece	Sudan
Guadeloupe	Swaziland
Guinea-Bissau	Sweden
Haiti	Switzerland
Hong Kong	Syrian Arab
S.A.Re.Chi	Republic
Indonesia	Thailand
Iran (Islamic R.)	Trinidad and
Iraq	Tobago
Ireland	Tunisia
Italy	Turkey

Japan	Turkmenistan
Jordan	U.R. of Tanzania
Kazakistan	U.S. America
Kenya	Ukraine
Korea, Republic of	United Arab
Kuwait	Emirates
Latvia	United Kingdom
Lebanon	Yemen
Liberia	Zimbabwe

121. ***Begum Tahira Bukhari:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state whether the imports of the country have increased during tenure of the incumbent Government?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The increase/decrease in the imports during the tenure of the present Government is reflected in the table below:

			Value in Billion US\$
Year	Imports	% Change	
2012-2013	44.95		
2013-2014	45.07	0.27	
2014-2015	45.83	1.67	
2015-2016	44.69	-2.49	

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

122. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No.188 replied on 06-02-2017 and to state

the names of new educational institutes established by the present Government in FATA so far alongwith locations thereof?

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: During the last four years total 157 Primary. School have been established by the Directorate of Education FATA Agency and year wise deta which include names of schools is attached.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

123. ***Ms. Shahjehan Munir Mangerio:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of development works completed by the present Government in the Federal Administered Tribal Area (FATA); and*
- (b) *the year-wise budget earmarked/released/utilized in respect of FATA during the last four years?*

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: (a) The present Govt. is committed to extend all possible resources to improve the socio-economic condition of the people living in FATA and bring them at par with rest of the Country.

During the last four years, a total of **1076** schemes have reportedly been completed out of FATA ADP. Year-wise break up of these completed schemes as under:

Year	No. of schemes completed
2012-13	273
2013-14	415
2014-15	215
2015-16	173
Total:	1076

In addition, the following major projects have been initiated/undertaken by the present Government:

- o Establishment of FATA University.
- o Removal of deficiencies in Educational Institutions.
- o Up-scaling of Governor Model Schools to the quality and excellence of Cadet Colleges.
- o Creation and strengthening of Laboratories in Colleges for smooth transition to introduction of BS Program in FATA.
- o Extension of mobile health facilities in FATA.
- o Strengthening of secondary health care facilities.
- o Solarization of Drinking Water Supply Schemes and Irrigation tube wells.
- o Roads Linking Mineral & Natural Resource bearing areas in order to improve economic linkages.
- o Law Enforcement Agencies facilities.
- o Establishment of Value Chain & Market linkages.
- o Introduction of high yield and environmental friendly genetically modified crops/ seeds.
- o Introduction of Community based Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) and Fast Growing Timber (FGT) Schemes.
- o Focus on consolidating & improving Municipal Service delivery at existing Municipalities.
- o Formation of FATA Youth Assembly and Sports Clubs.

(b) The development budget for FATA Annual Development Program (ADP) is reflected in the PSDP, as one line in the SAFRON Division. This budget is further distributed amongst 7 tribal Agencies and 6 FRs as per formula approved by the competent authority.

During the last 4 years, a total of **Rs. 64107.840** million was released, out of which **Rs. 63567.103** reportedly utilized. Year-wise break-up of the Original budget, revised budget/releases and utilization is as under:

(Rs. in million)

Year	Original budget earmarked	Revised budget / Releases	Utilization
2012-13	14343.000	11823.750	11790.143
2013-14	16580.000	16577.370	16494.185
2014-15	17080.00	17080.00	16865.703
2015-16	18626.720	18626.720	18417.072
Total:	66629.720	64107.840	63567.103

124. ***Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the volume of trade between Pakistan and Russia at present?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The volume of trade between Pakistan and Russian Federation during the last few years has been as under:—

(In million US\$)

Years	Export	Imports	Total	Balance
2009-10	119.2	188.37	307.57	(-) 69.17
2010-11	183.57	163.42	346.99	(+) 20.15
2011-12	189.61	202.05	391.66	(-)182.44
2012-13	207.31	277.17	484.47	(-) 69.86
2013-14	187.04	235.08	422.12	(-) 48.04
2014-15	183.84	206.45	390.29	(-)22.61
2015-16	146.27	216.94	363.21	(-) 70 , 67

(Source FBS)

The balance of trade remained in favor of the Russian Federation due to imports of vegetables, crude rubber, ores and concentrates of iron, Petroleum, Paper and paper boards from Russia.

125. ***Ms. Mussarrat Ahmadzeb:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether merger of the Federal Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will be decided through a referendum/jirga; and*
- (b) *whether the Government has promised that one billion rupees grant will be spent in FATA annually; if so, the head-wise utilization thereof?*

Minister for States and Frontier Regions [Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch]: (a)

- i. The report of FATA Reforms Committee encapsulating its proposals, has been approved by the Federal Cabinet on 02nd March, 2017. A Summary for soliciting the approval of the Presidents under Article 247 of the Constitution has been initiated on 06th March, 2017. Further course of action and modalities could be chalked out after it is approved.
 - ii. All stake holders will be taken on board to establish a coordinated implementation frame work.
- (b) The budget has not been earmarked as yet by the Federal Government. On allocation of budget, distribution will be worked out in consultation and approval of competent for a *i.e.* FATA Development Council (FDC) & FATA Development Working Party (FDWP).

126. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total number of Indian migrants living in Pakistan at present alongwith the reasons thereof?

Transferred to Interior Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

127. ***Ms. Mussarrat Ahmadzeb:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the tenure of service of the Chief Executive of the Trade and Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) is three years; if so, the date of commencement and completion thereof;*
- (b) *the rules/acts of the TDAP therefor;*
- (c) *whether the rules and procedures have been followed therefor;*
- (d) *if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to follow the rules and procedures therefor?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): (a) Section 5 (2) of TDAP Act 2013 provides that “The tenure of the Chief Executive shall be three years extend able by the Federal Government. The Chief Executive shall, however, serve at the pleasure of the Federal Government”. As per Establishment Division’s Notification dated 12th March, 2014 Mr. S. M. Muneer was appointed Chief Executive TDAP on contract basis, with immediate effect and until further orders.

Ministry of Commerce has referred the case to Establishment Division and, Prime Minister’s Secretariat for appointment of Chief Executive, TDAP.

(b) The relevant provision of the TDAP Act with regard to the tenure of the Chief Executive, TDAP is enclosed.

(c) Yes. The rules and procedures have been duly followed.

(d) Not applicable. The rules and procedures have been duly followed.

128. ***S.A. Iqbal Qadri:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of Pakistani prisoners abroad to whom legal assistance provided by the Ministry during the last three years*

*alongwith the name of countries and nature of offences thereof;
and*

- (b) *the total amount on account of professional fee paid to advocates therefor?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) & (b) Based upon updated feedback received from our diplomatic Missions abroad, there are presently 11,764 Pakistani prisoners and detainees abroad. All our accredited Missions continue to extend all possible legal and consular assistance to these prisoners and detainees. Our respective diplomatic Missions abroad undertake regular consular visits to the prisoners and detainees. Pakistan Community Welfare & Education Fund (PCW&EF), being administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is also being utilized to extend legal assistance to Pakistanis detained abroad, including payment of lawyer's fee, fines and cost of repatriation of destitute Pakistan detainees and prisoners, upon completion of sentences or release from detention. Details of Legal Assistance provided by our Mission abroad is enclosed at **Annex-A**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

129. ***Ms. Belum Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to discuss the issues regarding implementation of the Water Accord-1991 in the Council of Common Interest;*
- (b) *if so, the details including requests/proposals submitted by the provincial Governments in this regard so far?*

Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): (a) There is no pending issues regarding the implementation of Water Accord, 1991, however, a case regarding amendment in the Indus River System Authority Act, 1992, was initiated by Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa *vide* their summary dated 7th May, 2014. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa wanted compensation for not utilising its water share, as per the Accord and also financial help from Federal Government for construction of Chashma Right Bank Canal Lift-*cum*-Gravity Project.

The CCI in its meeting dated 18-03-2015 constituted a Committee, with the Minister for Water & Power in Chair, to come up with a mutually acceptable proposal. Under the umbrella of this Committee, an MoU between Government of Pakistan and Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was signed to settle the issues. The MoU was concurred in by CCI in its meeting dated 19-02-2016. As such, the issues stand settled.

Secondly, Government of Sindh has forwarded a Summary with the request that Karachi City may be provided 1200 Cusecs (650.5 MGD) additional water in view of its population size. The same has been included in the agenda of the next CCI meeting.

(b) As above.

130. ***Mrs. Shahida Rehmani:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the year-wise total income earned from exports during the last five years?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The year-wise total income earned from exports during the last five years is indicated in the table given below:

US \$	Value in Billion	
Year	Exports of Goods	Exports of Services
2011-2012	24.72	5.01
2012-2013	24.80	6.72
2013-2014	25.08	5.35
2014-2015	24.09	5.88
2015-2016	21.97	5.46
Total	120.66	28.42

Source: State Bank of Pakistan

131. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No.193 replied on 06-02-2017 and to state the name of Games for which domestic players are available in Pakistan at present?

Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): The domestic players of following games are available in Pakistan:

1. Athletics	15. Judo	29. Softball
2. Apline (Hiking)	16. Ju-Jitsu	30. Table Tennis
3. Badminton	17. Karate	31. Taekwondo
4. Basketball	18. Kabaddi	32. Tennis
5. Billiard & Snooker	19. Polo	33. Tenpin Bowling
6. Bodybuilding	20. Netball	34. Volleyball
7. Baseball	21. Shooting	35. Weightlifting
8. Boxing	22. Rowing	36. Wrestling
9. Bridge	23. Rugby	37. Wushu
10. Chess	24. Sailing	38. Hockey
11. Cycling	25. Ski	39. Cricket
12. Equestrian	26. Squash	
13. Football	27. Swimming	
14. Golf	28. Handball	

132. ***Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the volume of trade between Pakistan and Bangladesh at present?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): The volume of trade between Pakistan and Bangladesh during the last few years has been as follows:—

US\$ (Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total trade	Balance
2004-05	205.821	61.111	266.293	(+) 144.71
2005-06	268.481	64.596	333.077	(+) 203.885
2006-07	261.947	58.326	320.273	(+) 203.621
2007-08	341.958	69.461	411.42	(+) 272.497
2008-09	383.373	78.710	462.083	(+) 104.663
2009-10	483.400	80.836	564.236	(+) 402.564
2010-11	1015.461	79.734	1095.195	(+) 935.727
2011-12	633.743	65.069	698.81	(+) 568.67
2012-13	709.770	60.759	770.529	(+) 649.011
2013-14	697.379	55.915	733.294	(+) 641.464
2014-15	697.193	62.194	759.387	(+) 634.999
2015-16	693.200	50.680	743.880	(+) 642.520

Source: PBS

133. ***Ms. Shakila Luqman:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the location-wise Sports Academies established in the country during the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16; and*
- (b) *the role played by those academies for promotion of sports during the said period?*

Reply not received.

134. ***Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the total number of Pakistani fishermen imprisoned in India at present?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Presently there are 158 Pakistani fishermen imprisoned in India. They have been arrested by the Indian authorities for allegedly unauthorized presence in the Indian waters.

135. ***Ms. Sajida Begum:**

Will the Minister for States and Frontier Regions be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to merger the Federal Administered Tribal Areas in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa?

Minister for States and Frontier Regions (Lt. Gen (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch): The report of FATA Reforms Committee headed by Mr. Sartaj Aziz was thoroughly deliberated upon in both houses of the Parliament and has been subsequently approved by the Federal Cabinet on 02nd March, 2017. The report has proposed the merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and was endorsed by majority of the stakeholders. The report has also proposed initiation of a number of actions in the judicial, administrative, political and development sectors leading up to FATA's integration with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. The proposals contained in the FRC's report are at Annex-I.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

136. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the steps taken by the present Government to enhance trade relations with Azerbaijan?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): In order to enhance Pakistan's trade with Azerbaijan the following stops have been taken:—

- Five Year Trade Cooperation Plan to diversify and increase bilateral trade has been shared with the Azeri side for their concurrence. It is expected to get positive nod from Azerbaijan and accordingly concerted efforts will be made for trade enhancement.
- An MoU between Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Organization (AZPROMO) has been shared with the Azeri side through diplomatic channels for their comments / concurrence. Upon confirmation, it will institutionalize the trade promotion activities.

- The Prime Minister as well as Minister for Commerce visited Baku, Azerbaijan in October, 2016 and December, 2016 respectively to enhance trade and economic cooperation. The Commerce Minister was also accompanied by a business delegation from important export oriented sectors of Pakistan, On the sidelines of the Commerce Minister's visit to Baku, a Business Forum and B2B meetings were also held.
- A draft text of Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) for enhanced market access and an indicative wish list of 100 items for immediate tariff concessions by Azerbaijan have also been shared with the Azeri side.
- Furthermore, the businessmen from both the countries are being encouraged to participate in each other's Trade Fairs/ Exhibitions.
- As a result of initiatives by the Ministry of Commerce, the volume of Pakistan Azerbaijan Trade has increased from US\$ 10.323 in 2011-2012 to an Unprecedented level of US\$ 60 million in 2015-16.

137. ***Ms. Shamas Un Nisa:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state the total number of persons sent abroad for employment by the Overseas Employment Corporation during the last three years alongwith province-wise break-up thereof?

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi): A total of 3,558 persons sent abroad for employment by Overseas Employment Corporation during the last three years. Province-wise break-up is enclosed (**Annex-A**).

OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT CORPORATION**STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROVINCE-WISE NUMBER OF PERSONS SENT
FOR EMPLOYMENT ABROAD THROUGH OEC
DURING 01st January, 2014 TO 31st December, 2016**

S.#	Province	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL
1	Punjab	921	743	730	2394
2	Sindh	205	198	146	549
3	Khyber Pakhtoon Khwa	195	132	111	438
4.	Baluchistan	9	13	19	41
5.	AJ&K	14	11	12	37
6.	Gilgit Baltistan	2	3	2	7
7.	Tribal Area	14	6	2	22
8.	Federal Area	15	22	33	70
Total:-		1375	1128	1055	3558

138. ***Ms. Aasiya Nasir:**

Will the Minister for Textile Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) *the country-wise volume of cotton yarn imported during the tenure of the present Government alongwith the details thereof; and*
- (b) *the subsidies being given by the Government to local cotton cultivators/growers at present?*

Minister for Textile Industry: (a) The year-wise volume of cotton yarn imported during the tenure of the present Government is reflected in the table below:

Value in Million US\$

Year	Imports
2013-2014	143.43
2014-2015	86.85
2015-2016	90.30
2016-17 (July-Nov.)	30.71

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

Country and item-wise import volume of cotton yarn during the tenure of present Government is at Annex-I & Annex-II respectively.

- (b)* In the year 2015-16, cotton crop was severely damaged by pink boll worm, The Government announced Rs. 5000/- per acre, up to 12,5 acres of on holding farmers as a support for one time only.
- * Crop loan insurance scheme s only for lenders being offered by bank since 2008. Cost of premiums are paid by State Bank of Pakistan and Ministry of Finance reimburses that cost to State Bank from the fund reserved at Ministry of Finance for the purpose of drop loan insurance premium.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

139. ***Ms. Shagufta Jumani:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Pakistan is not able to increase its exports despite the package given to exporters; if so, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet on the summary moved by Finance Division has approved export package of PKR 180 billion which is applicable for nearly 18 months for the period from 11th January, 2017 to 30th June, 2018. Pakistan's exports decreased by 12% in the year 2015-16, however, the exports have shown decline of 3.9% only during July-February, 2017-18 (latest available data). Since the exports have shown some signs of recovery, it is expected that it would further improve by June 2017. The global scenario also is somewhat improving. Part of this deceleration, as per the industry sources, is attributable to

the Prime Minister's package. The impact of PM package is expected to be bigger in the coming days for the textile sector in particular as most of the PM package is going to the textile sector. Ministry of Commerce is trying to enlarge the scope of the PM package for non-textile sectors.

140. ***Ms. Shamas Un Nisa:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the steps taken/ being taken by the Government to enhance export of Seafood products of the country?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan): Government has taken following steps to enhance the export of Seafood products of the country:—

- Ministry of Commerce (MOC) always endeavors to remove technical barriers in sea food exports. Export Development Fund (EDF) Board on 26-11-2012 had approved PKR 178 million for “Shrimp Farming Cluster Development Project”. The project has been completed.
- On 21-06-2016, the EDF Board has approved PKR 96 million for another project “Establishment of pen fish farm of sea bass and groupers along with costal belt of Sindh”. Under the project 50 pen fish farms will be established each of 1200 sq. yards with total area of 12.5 acre.
- In the Strategic Trade Policy- Frame Work 2015-18 special initiative for fish sector are available such as Brand & Certification Development Support and Drawback of Local Taxes and Levies. To reduce the cost of doing business and increase the competitiveness of the value added non-textile selected sectors, draw-back for local taxes and levies is given to exporters on free on board (FOB) values of their enhanced exports if increased by 10% and beyond (over last year's exports) at the rate of 4% on the increase. This is an ongoing initiative announced in the Budget 2014-15 which is continued for STPF 2015-18.
- To enhance exports of seafood and meet the requirements of European Union and other countries Marine Fisheries Department has got the laboratories (microbiology and chemical) accredited from Pakistan National Accreditation Council.

- With the assistance provided by the Government around 887 fishing boats had been modified by the private sector.
- Due to efforts of the government and cooperation of fishing community, EU has lifted its ban on import of fisheries, provided an opportunity to enhance exports with expanded market opportunities in 2013-14.

Other Measures

- With support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and in collaboration with Kansas State University, the American Soybean Association's World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (ASA/WISHH) program launched "FEEDing Pakistan" in 2011. ASA/WISHH has been implementing the multi-faceted "FEEDing Pakistan" aquaculture project in Pakistan.

141. ***Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the details of trade/ exports/imports made by Ports separately since 01-01-2016 alongwith the income earned therefrom?

Transferred to Ports and Shipping Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

142. ***Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps taken by the Government alongwith details of schemes launched to address the problems of Overseas Pakistanis since 1-1-2016; and*
- (b) *the rate of success and failure of said schemes?*

Transferred to Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Division for answer on Next Rota Day.

143. ***Ms. Aisha Syed:**

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the difficulties being faced by Pakistanis workers abroad since 01-01-2016; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to resolve their difficulties?*

Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi): (a) There are about 9.0 million Overseas Pakistanis living around the globe. The main concentration of Pakistani workers in the Middle Eastern Countries. Following are the difficulties being faced by the workers in the host countries.

- Non issuance of release letters by the employers for change of visa/ sponsorship.
- Non implementation of Foreign Service Agreement (FSA).
- Residential and work permit/ Iqama related problems.
- Substandard living and working conditions on job sites.
- Delay in issuance of NICOP, POC and Machine Readable Passport (MRP) from Pakistan Missions in different countries.
- Non/delayed payment of salaries.

In addition to that, during the period about 8,500 Pakistani workers were affected due to non-payment of wages by some of the construction companies in Saudi Arabia.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to resolve their difficulties particularly, the Pakistani workers affected by the recent crises in Saudi construction companies at **Annex - A**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

144. ***Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan's National Hockey Team has not been invited for the upcoming Sultan Azlan Shah Cup by the Malaysian Hockey Confederation;*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that salaries and traveling allowances have not been paid to employees of the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) due to non-availability of funds;*
- (c) whether it is further a fact that the annual grant is not being given to the PHF;*
- (d) whether it is also further a fact that there is a serious lack of sponsors in the PHF at present;*
- (e) if the answer to part (a) to (d) above are in the affirmative, the reasons thereof; if not, the details of funding and sponsors thereof?*

Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): (a) Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey tournament is a significant event of the Malaysian Hockey in which Pakistan Hockey has always remained a popular team. However, Pakistan Hockey has been facing a decline in the international ranking due to the deterioration of Hockey infrastructure and lack of competitiveness during the past many years. Pakistani Hockey Team faced a downfall in the international ranking and could not adapt to the fast paced environment of the Global Hockey arena because during 2013 Pakistan was not able to qualify for the world cup 2014 as well as the Rio Olympics 2016 which further damaged the reputation of the country. The teams for Azlan Shah Tournament were shortlisted by the Organizing Committee of the event. However, the higher management of the Malaysian Hockey Confederation has assured that Pakistan will be invited to participate in the next episode of the tournament.

(b) Salaries and travelling allowances are being paid to the employees of Pakistan Hockey Federation as per the PHF financial rules.

(c) The annual grant from Pakistan Sports Board for the year 2016-17 has not been paid to PHF as the Federation has not submitted audited statement

of accounts for the financial year 2015-16. As per audit point of view, all the National Sports Federations are required to submit the audited statement of account to become eligible for the next year grant.

(d) During the last ten years, lack of success in events and mismanagement had caused a deficit of trust by the corporate sector to sponsor any Hockey event. However, during the past one year, Pakistan hockey Federation has organized a number of events which has led to re-emergence of event based sponsorships for PHF from organizations.

(e) Reasons have been explained in the replies to part (a), (c) and (d) of the question.

145. ***Ms. Suraiya Jatoi:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to portray Pakistan's soft image at international level after the Zarb-e- Azb Operation and the defeat of terrorists in Pakistan?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: In this important era of globalization and emerging threats, Pakistan needs to develop and implement its “soft power” in order to get rid of most of its problems. There is no denying the fact that Pakistan has suffered badly because of its tarnished image. The armed forces of Pakistan are doing their best to tackle with the issue of terrorism with an iron fist. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs duly recognizes the importance of activities for promotion and projection of softer image of Pakistan also. To counter the narrative of our enemies who target Pakistan with their false propaganda, Pakistan has to present itself as a brand.

The comprehensive and all-out law enforcement action ‘Zarb-e-Azb’ against terrorist without distinction has yielded very positive results. The success of the law enforcement action is also attributable to strong domestic consensus and unanimity on the need for such an action. The government is aware that military action alone cannot address the threat posed by the terrorism. Pakistan has, therefore, formulated National Action Plan against terrorism. Extensive measures are being taken to develop a national narrative to counter violent extremism.

Our Missions abroad are continuously engaged in prompting and projecting soft image of Pakistan. During their interaction with the various institutions of the host government, the Missions *inter alia* underline the unprecedented sacrifices of Pakistani nation in the war against terror for regional and global peace. Our diplomatic representations across the globe maintain close linkages with academia, think tanks, NGOs, cultural institutions and civil society. This is ensured by hosting and participating in various seminars, conferences and cultural events where democratic spirit and progressive outlook of the country is highlighted. It is the aim of our Missions to underscore that Pakistan is a misunderstood country which has been victim of regional rivalries and foreign interventions.

It gives me immense pleasure and satisfaction to mention that the Foreign office not only recognizes the importance of implementing the soft power of Pakistan, but it has been using this tool to build a positive image of Pakistan in the rest of the world. Recently, our Missions in Brussels, aslo and Geneva organized Mega Qawwali events. Such events give promotion to the softer side of our culture *i.e.* cultural heritage, music, festivities, values and resilience of our people. In March 2017, our Mission in Berlin organized a fashion show to promote soft image of Pakistan.

The Foreign Office is in close co-ordination with PTV and private channel authorities to have our classical Dramas and movies dubbed, and telecast them in the Middle Eastern countries, where there is a huge fan club of our drama industry.

Our Missions abroad have now taken up to themselves the task of celebrating Pakistan's 70th anniversary with its due festivities, pomp and show. In this regards various functions, like seminars, food festivals, music evenings, receptions etc., are underway, thus, showing our resilience in this tough time when we are courageously fighting the menace of terrorism.

In a time when Pakistan is being posed as a country unfit for religious and ethnic minorities, Pakistan Foreign Office is investing not only in printing and gifting books which show cast our rich cultural heritage of Buddhist, Christian and other relics and artifacts, but also we have planned on arranging our exhibition in East Asian countries.

In the recent past Pakistan Foreign Office has projected our calligraphic artwork to both Pakistanis and the members of Diplomatic corps based in Pakistan.

With this, masterpiece works of famous calligraphers has been compiled by the Foreign Office in a single volume named “Allamabil Qalam”. Having done all this, we realize that there is always a room for improvement and a need to do more. In this regard, we all have to join our hands in promotion of soft image of Pakistan. In this gigantic task, Pakistan Foreign Office can do only a small part, the rest lies in our sense of collective responsibility, unity and the sense of one nation which stands united in the face of adversity.

ISLAMABAD:
The 18th April, 2017

ABDUL JABBAR ALI,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”**For Wednesday, the 19th April, 2017**

58. **Dr. Fehmida Mirza:**
(Deferred during 40th Session)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of training institutions/academies working under the Ministry for capacity building of its employees at present;*
- (b) *the details of teaching faculty of said institutions alongwith their qualifications and experiences;*
- (c) *the syllabus being taught in the said institutions;*
- (d) *the institution and post-wise number of employees trained during the financial year 2015-16;*
- (e) *the institution-wise total expenditures incurred thereon; and*
- (f) *the steps being taken by the Government to improve the institutional capacity of said institutions/academies?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Destgir Khan): (a) Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development, Islamabad is an attached department of Ministry of Commerce which conducts specialized training for the probationary officer of the Commerce and Trade Group. Moreover, PITAD also imports pre-departure training to the Trade officers.

(b)

a) Name	e) Portfolio (Subject/Paper)
b) Title of Post with BS	
c) Education	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute
a) Dr. Vaqar Ahmed	International Trade Theory
b) Research Fellow, SDPI	
c) Ph. D Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 9 Years
a) Mrs. Anjum Asad Amin	International Trade Theory
b) Addl. Secretary, Economic Affairs Division	
c) PhD Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 7 Years
a) Dr. Ather Maqsood	Pakistan Economy and Foreign Trade
b) Prof. of Economics NUST Business School	
c) PhD Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 9 Years
a) Dr. Shujaat Farooq	Pakistan Economy & Foreign Trade
b) Professor, NUST	
c) PhD Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 4 Years
a) Mrs. Shaista Sohail	Multilateral Trading System
b) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industries	
c) M.A. Economics, Doctorate in International Relations	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 8 Years
a) Ms. Seema Raza Bokhari	Multilateral Trading System
b) Chief BS-18, Ministry of Industries	
c) Master in Public Administration	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 4 Years
a) Dr. Omair A. Mohsin	Regulatory Framework
b) Lawyer, Partner, OMP Advocates & Legal Consultants	
c) Doctor of Law	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 6 Years
a) Ms. Shaista Bano	Regulatory Framework
b) Director General, Competition Commission of Pakistan	

c) MBA, ACCA, PGD in Economics for Competition Law	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 4 Years
a) Ms. Tayaba Batool,	Data Analysis Techniques
b) Researcher, Ministry of Commerce	
c) Ph. D Economics (in progress)	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 4 Years
a) Mr. Mubarak Zeb Khan	Role & Use of Media in Trade Development
b) Staff Reporter in Daily Dawn	
c) Post-Graduation in Global Political Economy from University of Sussex, Brighton UK M.A Journalism	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 15 Years
a) Dr. Safder A Sohail	Regional Cooperation/CPEC
b) Joint Director, PIDE	
c) Ph. D Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 15 Years
a) Dr. Aneel Salman	Understanding International Business Environment / Dynamics of Global Trade
b) Associate Professor, COMSATS	
c) Ph. D Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 9 Years
a) Mr. Imran Zia	Trade Defense Mechanism
b) Director , NTC	
c) Master in Economics	f) Teaching Experience in Academy/Institute 9 Years

(c) Annex-I

(d) & (e)

- i. Mr. Tariq Vigar Bakshi, a BS-20 officer of PAS (Joint Secretary, Establishment Division) has been appointed as DPR/Minister (Trade), Pakistan Permanent Mission to the W.T.O, Geneva. The said officer has to undergo mandatory training at PITAD before assuming charge abroad. PITAD has arranged briefings for the said officer with concerned departments/organizations (7th -22nd September, 2015).
- ii. PITAD has organized 03 days (from 22nd , 23rd and 31 December, 2015) pre-posting training for Ministerial Staff (BS 1-5) and 02 weeks (from 22nd December, 2015 to 6th January, 2016) pre-posting training for the Ministerial Staff (B 14-16) of Ministry of Commerce.

- iii. PITAD has successfully organized a pre departure orientation training workshop for a batch of 43 trade officers selected for posting in Pakistani Embassies/Missions in the month of February, 2016.
- iv. PITAD has successfully organized a training course for conversation of official language into Urdu (use of Urdu language in drafting/noting/reporting) for officers/officials of PITAD in the month of March, 2016.
- v. An amount of Rs.13.511 million was incurred during 2015-16 on account of training related matters of Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development, Islamabad.

(f)

- i. Meetings were held in August, 2015 with LUMS, Lahore and IBA, Karachi to train the Commerce and Trade Group Officers and to devise the training module for the training.
- ii. A meeting was held on 26th November, 2015 with Regional Trade and Policy Advisor, USAID-PREIA, Islamabad at PITAD to discuss the training related issues of PITAD for Joint venture with USAID-PREIA & PITAD.
- iii. A meeting was held at PITAD on 25th April, 2016 with the Head of CBI Mission for Pakistan to discuss the CBI activities at Pakistan.
- iv. The Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Finance has conveyed the approval of the Finance Minister for including PITAD in the list of training courses under short term component of PTAP. A two weeks training workshop would be organized for 10 Afghan Commerce officers.
- v. The Institute is paying faculty fee @ Rs.750/- per lecture to engage quality resource person. The Ministry of Commerce has been requested to approach Finance Division for enhancement of lecture fee upto proposed rates. The reply is still awaited.
- vi. Ministry of Commerce has been requested to approach Finance Division for allowing free messing @ Rs.400 per head per day to the Probationary Officers of STP of this Institute. Reply is still awaited.

- vii. This Institute has newly constructed its building including academic and Hostel Blocks to facilitate to Probationary Officers.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

24. **Ms. Sabiha Nazir:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the name of the countries with whom Pakistan has the highest export at present alongwith the terms and conditions thereof;*
- (b) *the total amount involved in the said export; and*
- (c) *the facilities being given to the exporters to enhance their export?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Destgir Khan): (a) The name of the countries with whom Pakistan has the highest export at present are as under:

Top Fifteen Export Destinations of Pakistan				
(IN THOUSANDS DOLLARS)				
	COUNTRY / COM	2015-16	July-Nov, 2015-16	July-Nov, 2016-17
1	U. S. America	3501	1,497,409	1,396,825
2	China	1670	751,562	661,075
3	United Kingdom	1580	655,093	635,087
4	Afghanistan	1437	581,250	498,211
5	Germany	1131	445,316	480,390
6	Spain	808	303,068	334,299
7	United Arab Emirates	821	342,173	293,605
8	Bangladesh	693	296,281	276,214
9	Belgium	608	238,782	275,301
10	Netherlands	640	263,236	265,862
11	Italy	649	237,732	247,406
12	India	304	133,936	178,146
13	France	345	138,248	151,545
14	Saudi Arabia	417	166,045	131,816
15	Viet Nam	251	120,529	119,588

The export to different countries is regulated by their individual trade regulations; however, Pakistan has concluded the following FTAs, PTAs and other agreements for preferential market access:

- i. Pakistan- China Free Trade Agreements with China.
- ii. Pakistan-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreements.
- iii. Pakistan-Malaysia Free Trade Agreements.
- iv. Preferential Trade Arrangement with Iran.
- v. Preferential Trading Arrangement with Mauritius.
- vi. Preferential Trading Arrangement with Indonesia.
- vii. South Asian Free Trade Agreement.
- viii. GSP Plus Scheme with European Union.

(b) The total amount involved in the said export (top 15 exporting countries) at present (July-Nov FY 2017) is 5.94 billion USD, whereas for FY 2016 the total amount involved for the same countries is 14.85 billion USD.

(c) The following measures have been taken to by the Government to facilitate the exporters to enhance their export:

1. Prime Minister of Pakistan has announced the export package of PKR 180 billion for exporting business community, which is applicable for nearly 18 months for the period from 16th January, 2017 to 30th June, 2018. The incentive for 2017-18 would be available to those who would achieve an increase of 10% in annual exports. Out of the total annual allocation, an amount of PKR 107.5 billion has been allocated to textiles sector (PKR 87.5 billion for Draw Backs and PKR 20 billion for withdrawal of duties/taxes on import of cotton and machinery), whereas an amount of PKR 12.5 billion is annual allocation for Draw Backs on export of non-textiles (other value added sectors).

Sr. No.	Description	Specified rates
A.	Textile	
1	Garments	7%
2	Made-ups	6%
3	Processed fibre	5%
4	Yarn and greige Fabric	4%
5	Carpets and Rugs	6%
B.	Non-Textile	
1.	Gloves	7%
2.	Footballs and Other sports goods	7%
3.	Leather garments including articles of leather and manufactures thereof	7%
4.	Other Leather manufactures	7%
5.	Foot wear	7%
6.	Leather tanned	5%
7.	Surgical goods/medical instruments	5%
8.	Cutlery	5%

2. Under Strategic Trade Policy Framework (STPF), 2015-18, a total of Rs. 6 billion is allocated for current year spent on the development. The initiatives *inter-alia* include:

- **Technology Up-gradation.**—An incentive for technology up-gradation in the shape of investment support of 20% and mark-up support of 50% upto a maximum of Rs. 1 (one) Million per annum per company for import of new plant and machinery.
- **Product Development.**—Matching grant upto a maximum of Rs. 5 (five) Million for specified plant and machinery or specified items to improve product design and encourage innovation in SMEs and export sectors of leather, pharmaceutical and fisheries.
- **Branding & Certification Development Support.**— Matching grant to facilitate the branding and certification for faster growth of the SME and export sector in Pakistan's economy through Intellectual Property Registration (including trade and service marks), Certification and Accreditation.

- **Draw-back for local taxes and levies (DLTL).**—DLTL is being given to exporters on free on board (FOB) values of their enhanced exports if increased by 10% and beyond (over last year's exports) at the rate of 4% on the increased exports.
 - **Short-term export enhancement measures.**—Under short-term export enhancement measures, the four product categories *i.e.* Basmati rice, horticulture, meat and meat products, and jewellery, are being focused with the parallel focus on the following markets: (i) Iran, (ii) Afghanistan, (iii) China, and (iv) European Union.
3. In Textile Policy 2014-2019, Rs. 6 billion has been allocated every fiscal year to facilitate exporters.
 4. The miscellaneous measures that the Government has under taken to enhance exports are as under:
 - i. The sales tax zero-rating regime for five export oriented sectors, *i.e.*, textile, leather, carpets, surgical and sports goods has been introduced with effect from July 1, 2016.
 - ii. In order to counter the import surge through unfair trade and strengthen trade defence mechanisms, National Tariff Commission Act has been revamped and approved by the Parliament in 2015.
 - iii. In order to promote exports to new markets, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan is undertaking various export promotional activities through trade exhibitions and delegations.
 - iv. The State Bank of Pakistan has further reduced the discount rate to 5.75%. Similarly, the Export Finance Rate is currently at 3%, which is the lowest in a decade.
 - v. Exim Bank is being established to facilitate export credit and for reducing the cost of borrowing for exporting sectors on a long term basis. This will also reduce their risks through export credit guarantees and insurance facilities. The Board of Directors of the Bank has been appointed and it will be functional soon after completing the technical formalities.

- vi. The Ministry is undertaking consistent efforts for getting additional market access for Pakistani products in the potential markets. In this regard, FTA negotiations with Turkey and Thailand are at an advanced stage, negotiations with Iran on FTA are being initiated, and joint research study to assess the potential for a preferential arrangement with Korea is underway.

25. **Mr. Muhammad Muzammil Qureshi:**

Will the Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to create a space for the people of Gilgit-Baltistan in the Federal Political Institutions;*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to declare Gilgit-Baltistan as a province of Pakistan;*
- (c) *if so, the details; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan (Mr. Muhammad Barjees Tahir): (a), (b) & (c) Government of Pakistan passed the Gilgit-Baltistan (Empowerment and Self-Governance) Order, 2009 for providing greater political empowerment and better governance to the people while **keeping in the view the special status of the area and the international commitments of the Government of Pakistan.** Since 2009, Gilgit-Baltistan is governed under the said Order.

However, for further constitutional and administrative reforms for Gilgit-Baltistan, the honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan constituted a **Reform Committee** under the Convenership of Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Ministry of Foreign Affairs notified ToRs of the Committee on 3rd November, 2015.

Several meetings have been held of the said Committee and an initial report in this regard has been submitted to the Prime Minister's Office.

26. **Syed Waseem Hussain:**

Will the Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Pakistan National Hockey Team has failed to participate in the international events;*
- (b) *if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to promote Hockey as national game?*

Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada): (a) Pakistan Hockey has been facing decline in the international ranking due to the deterioration of Hockey infrastructure and lack of competitiveness during the past many years. Pakistani Hockey Team faced a downfall in the international ranking and could not adapt to the fast paced environment of the Global Hockey landscape. In 2013 Pakistan was not able to qualify for the World Cup 2014 as well as the Rio Olympics 2016.

(b) In order to deal with this alarming situation, Pakistan Hockey Federation devised a comprehensive strategic plan Vision 2020 whereby, in 2016 Pakistan Hockey once again began to participate at international events. Parallel to this, Pakistan Hockey Federation brought the international Hockey back into Pakistan by organizing the PAK OMAN International Hockey test series in September 2016. Then onwards, Pakistan has continuously participated at international events including the participation of Pakistan Women's Hockey Team at AHF Cup 2016 after four long years. Presently Pakistan Hockey team has returned after participating in two test series with Australia and New Zealand after which the team is set to participate in international matches in Europe. For this purpose, PHF has developed close coordination with the Ministry of IPC and Pakistan Sports Board for channelizing bi-lateral coordination with various other countries to organize quality Hockey events with Pakistan.

27. **Syed Waseem Hussain:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of employees of the Ministry performing their duties to promote trade abroad since 01-01-2013 alongwith the name of countries thereof; and*

(b) *the name of employees alongwith domiciles thereof?*

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Destgir Khan): (a) Total number of Officers (BS 18-21) and Officials (BS 01-16), posted in Trade Missions abroad for promotion of Pakistan's trade since 01-01-2013 is 96 and 49 respectively. Out of 96 officers, 48 were appointed in Trade Missions in February 2013 and 43 officers completed their tenure in June 2016 and returned whereas 05 will complete tenure in June 2017. New officers have been posted in their place and in new stations.

(b) The names of employees of BS 18-21 and BS 01-16; alongwith their domicile are at **Annex-I**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

28. **Sahibzada Muhammad Yaqub:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the level of bilateral trade relations between Pakistan and India at present?

Minister for Commerce (Engr. Khurram Destgir Khan): Following table shows the level & bilateral trade between India and Pakistan:—

Million US\$				
Years	Exports	Imports	Total Trade	Balance
2003-04	93.680	382,367	476.05	(-) 288.69
2004-03	288.134	547.458	835.60	(-) 259.33
2005-06	293.31	802.002	1095.32	(-) 508.70
2006-07	342.918	1235.889	1578.81	(-) 892.98
2007-08	254.858	1701.445	1956.303	(-) 1446.587
2008-09	319.619	1194.605	1514.224	(-) 874.986
2009-10	268.332	1225.567	1493.899	(-) 937.235

Years	Exports	Imports	Total Trade	Balance
2010-11	264.3	1743.2	2007.5	(-) 1478.9
2011-12	338.517	1507.328	1845.845	(-) 1168.811
2012-13	327.496	1809.867	2137.363	(-) 1482.371
2013-14	408.365	2049.382	2457.747	(-) 1641.017
2014-15	358.082	1,699.65	2057.736	(-) 1,341.572
2015-16	303.58	1779.60	2083.18	(-)1476.02

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

The level/status of bilateral trade relations between India & Pakistan depends on the following factors

- The continuity of **Composite Dialogue Process (CDP)** which has been suspended since 2012 due to various reasons. This Dialogue process was started in 1998 and consequently seven (7) rounds have been held. As a result of these negotiations Pakistan moved from the Positive list approach to the Negative List approach, for trade with India.
- The second factor in determining the level of trade relations is the holding of meetings between business communities which are not affected by political tensions. The last meeting of the Pakistan India Joint Business Forum (PIJBF) was held on 2nd May, 2016 in India

ISLAMABAD:
The 18th April, 2017.

ABDUL JABBAR ALI,
Secretary.