

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Friday, the 12th October, 2012

(Originally Starred Question Nos. 21, 22, 26, 36, 42, 43, 118, 120, 122, 125 and 130 were set down for answer during the 45th Session)

21. ***Mrs. Shagufta Sadiq:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to refer to Starred Question No.18 replied on 9-7-2012 and to state the percentage of success gained by the Government to control the losses of Pakistan Railways during the last four years till date?

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): The percentage of success gained by the Government to control the losses of Pakistan Railways during the last four years till date cannot be determined at this stage because of the fact that the projects at hand and those in the pipeline for controlling the losses are highly capital and time extensive. These projects will take considerable time and as such no measurable answer can be given at this stage. However, following points will help in visualizing the present position of the Government towards success gained so far.

- (a) in order to improve business operation for controlling the deficit and losses, a number of agreements have been made for rehabilitation of locomotives. The project of rehabilitation and procurement of locomotives are highly time consuming and capital extensive. However, on completion of this project, PR will be in a position to increase its revenue base and cut its deficit to a considerable level. By then it will be possible to measure the degree of success gained by the Government,

- (b) PR is working on rehabilitation of 27 D.E. Locomotives for which contract has been signed on 19-7-2012 and spares will be received within 13 months from the date of effectiveness of the contract.

Pakistan Railways has also taken the following steps for increasing its revenue:

- (i) Recently commercial management of two Mail/Express trains *i.e.* Business Train and Shalimar have been outsourced to private parties *w.e.f.* 4-2-2012 and 26-2-2012 respectively.
- (ii) Three new Dry Ports are being established in Public Private sector out of which one *i.e.* Prem Nagar has been inaugurated while the other two at Aza Khel and Multan are in process.
- (iii) The initiative of extension of ECO train will further strengthen the rail business and augment the revenue generation.
- (iv) Steps are underway to outsource the commercial management of Subk Raftar and Subk Kharam Railcars running between Rawalpindi – Lahore.
- (v) P.R. is working on commercial management of new train between Lahore – Karachi *via* Faisalabad.
- (vi) Pakistan Railways is working in collaboration with Infrastructure Project Development Facility under Ministry of Finance on Track Access Regime to allow private train operators to use P.R infrastructure and idle line capacity by bringing their own locomotive and rolling stock and paying track access charges to Pakistan Railways.

22. ***Mrs. Shagufta Sadiq:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of bogies owned by Pakistan Railways at present alongwith the details thereof; and*

(b) *whether those bogies are in working condition at present; if not, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Biliour): (a)

(i) **Coaching Stock.**

Total numbers of bogie coaches owned by Pakistan Railways=1810 Nos.

Details of bogies coaches is as under:—

(1) AC Sleeper	=	31 Nos.
(2) AC Parlor Car	=	22 Nos.
(3) AC Parlor Car / Lower AC (Trailer)	=	23 Nos.
(4) AC Business	=	132 Nos.
(5) AC Lower Standard	=	67 Nos.
(6) First Sleeper	=	23 Nos.
(7) Economy Class	=	1125 Nos.
(8) Dining Car	=	41 Nos.
(9) Second Class	=	41 Nos.
(10) Suburban	=	70 Nos.
(11) Brake Vans	=	235 Nos.
<hr/>		
Total	=	1810 Nos.
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(ii) **Goods Stock**

Total numbers of bogie wagons owned by P.R. = 17545 Nos.

Details of bogie wagons is as under:—

(1) Open Top Wagons	=	4801 Nos.
(2) Covered Wagons	=	5540 Nos.
(3) Container Wagons	=	1749 Nos.
(4) Tank Wagons	=	3812 Nos.
(5) Departmental Wagons	=	632 Nos.
(6) Military Wagons	=	391 Nos.
(7) Special Wagons	=	620Nos.
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Total	=	17545 Nos.
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(b) (a) **Coaching**

- Total Number of bogies coaches = 1810 Nos.
- Working condition = 1340 Nos.
- Not working condition = 470 Nos.

At present 470 bogies coaches are ineffective being under repair in C&W Shops, Moghalpura for periodical overhauling.

(b) **Wagons**

- Total Number of bogies Wagons = 17545 Nos.
- Working condition = 15302 Nos.
- Not working condition = 2243 Nos.

At present 2243 bogies wagons are ineffective being under repair in C&W Shops, Moghalpura and Hyderabad for periodical overhauling.

26. ***Mrs. Fouzia Ejaz Khan:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps taken by the Ministry to repair the spare parts of trains and manufacture Railways Engines by Pakistan Ordnance Factory, Wah Cantt during the last four years till date; and*
- (b) *the advantage gained therefrom so far?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) Pakistan Railways has not executed any contract for manufacture of Railways Engines or parts thereof with Pakistan Ordnance Factory, Wah Cantt during the last four years. It may be pointed out that P.O.F. Wah does not have the technical expertise to manufacture railway engines. Pakistan Railways has a Locomotive Factory in Risalpur where such engines can be assembled. The Locomotive Factory can also manufacture locomotive provided that foreign manufactures share their patents and transfer technology for this purpose.

- (b) Not applicable in view of the above.

36. ***Mr. Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to acquire land to settle the families presently residing alongside the old/proposed tracks of Karachi Circular Railway;*
- (b) *if so, when it will be implemented alongwith the present status thereof?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) There is a proposal to resettle 4653 households presently occupying railway land of Karachi Circular Railway over Railway Land measuring 170 acres adjacent to Shah Latif Town Ship near Jumma Goth.

(b) The resettlement of the Project Affected Persons will be started soon after the signing of loan agreement between Government of Pakistan and the Donor agency, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), likely by December 2012. The resettlement Programme includes development of a modern township for the affected households.

42. ***Sheikh Muhammad Tariq Rasheed:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps taken by the Government to bring good governance and corruption free culture in Pakistan Railways since March, 2008 till date; and*
- (b) *the impact of such steps on Pakistan Railways?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The following steps have been taken by Pakistan Railways to bring good governance and corruption free culture in passenger business of Pakistan Railways since March, 2008:

1. Special campaigns are frequently launched at Divisional as well as HQ level to curb the menace of ticketless travelling.

2. The printing of card ticket and the excess fare tickets have been entrusted to Postal Foundation Press and some security features have been introduced in the tickets to safeguard the revenue leakage by the commercial staff.
3. 41 Reservation offices over the system have been computerized to discourage black marketing, over charging and forgery by commercial staff.
4. Public private partnership for outsourcing commercial management of passenger trains is being resorted to on reasonable bench mark to improve railway revenue on one side and control the leakage of revenue on the other.
5. The refund policy as well as procedures have been modified to check and control the leakage of revenue due to possible malpractices of commercial staff.
6. To probe into the irregularities and corruption cases, Ministry of Railways have created a Vigilance Cell in each Division and at Headquarter Level working under Ministry of Railways.

(b) During the subject period *i.e* 2008 to upto-now, as a result of these initiatives, the menace of ticketless travelling and fraud/embezzlement cases have been curbed to considerable extent. Due to computerized reservation system the practice of over charging, forgery, reselling of tickets has been curtailed. The surprise raids conducted in special campaigns barred unauthorized hawkers & venders from working in trains.

43. ***Ms. Qudsia Arshad:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of Railway Stations in the country where all the security measures are satisfactory;*
- (b) *the names of Railway Stations in the country where the said measures are not satisfactory at present alongwith the reasons thereof; and*

- (c) *the time by which the security measures will be made satisfactory therein?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) CCTV Cameras were installed at Railway stations, Karachi, Rohri & Lahore. Two X-Ray/Scanning Machine were installed at Railway Stations Karachi & Lahore. Moreover Walk through Gates were installed at major Railway Stations, *i.e.* Peshawar Cantt. Nowshera. Attock City, Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Multan, Bahawalpur, Rohri, Nawab Shah, Karachi Cantt., Karachi City, Hyderabad, Quetta, Sibi for screening of passengers/luggage besides PRP staff is being deputed to main security at these Railway Stations.

(b) Owing to the budgetary constraints, the above equipments were not provided to the other Railway Stations. However, the PRP staff, equipped with Arms/Ammunitions and metal detectors, is performing security duties at these Railway Stations.

(c) On availability of funds the above equipments will also be purchased and installed at other Railway Stations. However, the case for purchase of Jammers for Railway Stations Lahore is under process.

118. ***Sheikh Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the main reasons of losses of Pakistan Railways at present; and*
 (b) *the steps taken by the Government to control the said losses during the last four years till date?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The following are the main reasons of losses to Pakistan Railways:—

1. Less availability of D.E. Locomotives due to deferred maintenance on account of paucity of funds, the present position of DE Loco, is as under:—

<u>Total locos</u>	<u>Out of Service</u>	<u>In service</u>
494	357	137

Above position is as on 19-07-2012.

2. Acute Shortage of locomotives has badly affected freight operations of P.R, the main source of earning.
3. Pakistan Railways is a public service /commercial entity and does not function purely on commercial lines, as it has to operate un-remunerative lines in the larger public interest.
4. Increase in salaries of Government employees, relief provided to pensioners and increasing cost of fuel and electricity etc. contributed to increase in deficit of Pakistan Railway .
5. Damages caused to Railway assets worth Rs. 7578 million in the Dec., 2007 after Shahadat of Mohtarama Benazir Bhotto.
6. Damages to Railways assets worth Rs. 6729.334 million due to flood of 2010/2011.

(b) Following steps are being taken:—

1. To overcome the present crisis situation, Railway Administration's strategy includes repair/maintenance of existing locomotives and procurement of new locomotives through revenue/PSDP budget, bank loans, as well as, private sector participation.
2. Railway is making efforts to get sufficient funds from the Government for rehabilitation of required locomotives, rolling stock, and purchase of spares and fuel etc.
3. Railway is inviting private sector to participate in different activities of P.R *i.e* rehabilitation of aging locomotives, development of Dry Ports and commercial Management of Passenger trains etc.
4. At operational level, the following steps are being taken to control the deficit:—
 - i. The initiative of ECO train has been taken to capitalize through establishing international linkages.
 - ii. New agreement with PSO for uninterrupted supply of fuel.

- iii. Two trains Shalimar, and Business Express have been outsourced and efforts are underway to outsource additional trains.
- iv. Efforts are being made to recover outstanding amounts, due from other departments/ companies.
- v. Introduction of new signaling system on the network to minimize detentions and saving in fuel expenditure.
- vi. Reaching out to the private sector to utilize idle capacity in the Railway system through the Track Access Policy.
- vii. Rail fares on both freight and passenger side have been increased, although much less than proportionately to increase in the prices of POL and POL products.

120. ***Mrs. Seema Mohiuddin Jameeli:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Ministry for debt servicing; and*
- (b) the time by which process of debt servicing will be completed?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): All public sector debt including Pakistan Railways is guaranteed by the Government of Pakistan Finance Division and approved as a charged expenditure.

(a) Two types of debts are serviced by Pakistan Railways *i.e* Domestic and Foreign Debts. All types of debt servicing are dealt with as per mechanism devised by the Government.

Following steps have been taken to ensure timely debt servicing:—

- (i) The Economic Affairs Division has been mandated to manage foreign debt servicing of Pakistan Railways within the overall debt management framework.
- (ii) With the approval of Finance Division, moratorium has been imposed upon payment of “Interest on Overdraft” till 30th June, 2013 (Domestic Debt Servicing).

(b) The process of debt servicing continues during the financial year, and the debt including principal amount and interest is repaid as per schedules mutually agreed with the donors/lenders which usually is extended over a period of years.

122. ***Ms. Shaheen Ishfaq:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the country-wise total number of new locomotives will be purchased during the year 2012-13 alongwith the rates thereof; and*
- (b) *the total number of un-serviceable locomotives at present?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) Presently the following tenders for purchase of new locomotives are under process:

- i. Procurement of 75 D.E Locomotives at a cost of US\$ 105 million. The purchase shall be subject to approval of the Cabinet and Judicial oversight.
- ii. Procurement of 150 Nos. D.E. Locomotives at an estimated PC-I cost of Rs. 55,488.000 million.
- iii. Procurement of 50 Nos. D.E. Locomotives at an estimated PC-I cost of Rs.19,406.610 million.

(b) 312 D.E. Locomotives are un-serviceable due to non availability of spares at present.

125. ***Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that passengers train service plying from Samasata to Bahawalnagar/Amroka has been closed down;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that Bahawalpur Express plying between Samasata to Narowal has also been closed down;*

- (c) *whether it is further a fact that Pakistan Express plying between Samasatta to Lahore and Rohi Express plying between Khan Pur to Rawalpindi have also been closed down;*
- (d) *if the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above are in the affirmative, the reasons thereof?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The passenger train (317-Up/318-Down) plying between Samasatta - Amruka has been suspended temporarily since 15-11-2011.

(b) The (143-Up/144-Down) Bahawalpur Express plying between Samasatta - Narowal is also temporarily suspended on 15-11-2011.

(c) Pakistan Express since its start has not ran between Samasatta and Lahore. It was started between Rawalpindi -Karachi *via* Wazirabad, Faisalabad. As far as Rohi Express running between Khanpur - Rawalpindi is concerned it was also been temporarily suspended since 06-06-2012.

(d) These trains have been discontinued temporarily *w.e.f* 15-11-2011 and 06-06-2012 due to acute shortage of locomotives, which is persisting. The restroration of these trains depends on improvement of availability of locomotives.

130. ***Mrs. Nisar Tanveer:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the present status of restructuring of Pakistan Railways alongwith the stage-wise features thereof; and*
- (b) *the total amount of expenditures incurred during the last four years till date alongwith the source of funds to be arranged thereof?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The process of restructuring initiated by the Cabinet Committee on Restructuring (CCOR) has been initiated and a Restructuring Strategy for been finalized for consideration of the government. Moreover, a new Railway Board has been constituted for the improvement of Pakistan Railways.

2. The newly re-constituted Railway Board was notified on 29th March, 2012. Composition of Railway Board is as under:

Public Sector

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Federal Minister for Railways | <i>Chairman</i> |
| 2. Secretary, Ministry of Railways | <i>Member</i> |

Private Sector Member

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Dr. Hafiz Ahmed Pasha | <i>Member</i> |
| 2. Pir Muhammad Qasim Qureshi | <i>Member</i> |
| 3. Dr. Abdul Malik Kasi | <i>Member</i> |
| 4. Mr. Mohsin Aziz | <i>Member</i> |
| 5. Prof. Imran Ali | <i>Member</i> |
| 6. Mr. Shakeel Durrani, Chairman, WAPDA | <i>Member</i> |
| 7. Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb Khan, <i>ex-G.M.P.R.</i> | <i>Member</i> |
| 8. Mr. Iqbal Samad Khan,
<i>ex-G.M. Pakistan Railways.</i> | <i>Member</i> |
| 9. Ms. Nasreen Haque, Secretary, President's
Secretariat, Islamabad. | <i>Member</i> |

Ex-Officio Member

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Secretary, Privatization Commission | <i>Member</i> |
| 2. Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Pakistan Railways | <i>Member</i> |
| 3. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Member Finance | <i>Member</i> |

3. The newly constituted Railway Board has held three meetings on 09-4-2012, 29-5-2012 and 19-7-2012 to deliberate on the Re-structuring/ Revitalization Strategy of Pakistan Railways. The Strategy awaits the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises and thereafter by the Council of Common Interests and the Federal Cabinet.

(b) Pakistan Railways incurred following expenditure during the last four years till July, 2012:—

(Rs in Billion)

Financial Years	Revenue Expenditure	Development Expenditure	Total
2008-09	46,149.182	5,603.266	51,752.448
2009-10	47,094.352	15,732.116	62,826.468
2010-11	48,615.878	3,356.540	51,972.418
2011-12	45,377.104	6,185.142	51,562.246
2012-13 *	1,812.225	897.095	2,709.320
Total	189,048.741	31,774.159	220,822.900

Sources of funds are as under:—

(Rs. in Billion)

Financial Years	Revenue Receipts	Government Subsidy	Government Assistance for Development Projects	Overdraft from State Bank of Pakistan	Total
2008-09	23,181.251	9,034.110	5,366.000	9,851.217	47,432.578
2009-10	22,115.216	18,432.370	11,017.383	4,599.367	56,164.336
2010-11	17,525.325	32,642.400	3,614.535	202.733	53,984.993
2011-12	15,016.245	30,467.000	8,870.081	—	54,353.326
2012-13 *	1,346.091	2,583.000	3,319.286	—	7,248.377
Total	79,184.128	93,158.880	32,187.285	14,653.317	219,183.610

* For July, 2012.

84. ***Ms. Tasneem Siddiqui:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the name of country with which the highest volume of trade is being carried out at present; and*
- (b) *the names of departments working for the promotion of trade at present?*

Reply not received.

85. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the year-wise total value of exports and imports carried out between Pakistan and Philippine during the last five years; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government to enhance trade between said countries during the said period?*

Minister for Commerce (Makhdoom Muhammad Amin Fahim):

(a) The total value of exports and imports carried out between Pakistan and Philippines during the last five years is as under:—

(Value in US\$ million)

YEAR	EXPORTS	IMPORTS	TOTAL
2007-08	107.525	46.334	153.859
2008-09	68.318	44.867	113.185
2009-10	156.599	34.439	191.038
2010-11	102.774	37.400	140.174
2011-12	96.6	27.8	124.4
(July-April)			

(b) The following steps have been taken to enhance trade Pakistan and Philippines:

- i. Although, Pakistan has no bilateral trade agreement with Philippines at present, however, the feasibility study for Pak-ASEAN FTA has been concluded. The study has recommended that FTA would be beneficial for both sides.
- ii. A pharmaceutical delegation from Pakistan organized by Trade Development Authority of Pakistan visited Philippines in November, 2009.
- iii. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Chambers of Commerce & Industries of both countries was signed in 2006 to promote business to business cooperation.
- iv. A Joint Economic Commission between Pakistan and Philippines was established in 2009. The Economic Affairs Division, being the coordinating agency, has been requested to consider during the inaugural session of the JEC formation of a Joint Study Group to explore the possibilities of FTA between the two countries.

86. ***Ms. Shireen Arshad Khan:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the name of countries from Asia and Europe declared favourite for the trade with Pakistan at present; and*
- (b) *the benefits accrued therefrom during the year 2011-12 till date?*

Reply not received.

87. ***Mrs. Nisar Tanveer:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the indigenous capacity to manufacture locomotives in the country alongwith achievements gained therefrom field since March, 2008 till date; and*

(b) *the steps being taken to establish locomotive manufacturing factories in the country?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The indigenous capacity to manufacture locomotive in the country is 25 Diesel Electric Locomotives per annum on single shift basis with the staff strength of 1530 employees as per PC-I. However some parts are imported like, diesel engine unit, electric rotating parts etc. Pakistan Locomotive Factory achieved this target with 510 employees. The following targets have been achieved in the country since March, 2008 till date,

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| (i) Diesel Electric Locomotives newly manufactured | - 06 Nos |
| (ii) Diesel electric Locomotives Repair (Burnt/Accidental) | - 80 Nos |
| (iii) Diesel Spares manufactured for Pakistan Railways. | - Rs. 307 million |

(b) Establishment of new locomotive manufacturing factories are not under consideration.

88. ***Syed Asif Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to lay circular railways lines in Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar and other cities of the country; if so, when it will be implemented; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to allocate funds for the said purpose during the year 2013-14; if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) (i) Yes, there is a proposal for revival of Karachi Circular Railway as modern commuter system with the financial & technical assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan.

- (ii) However, no proposal is under consideration for the provision of the Circular Railways in other cities at this stage.

(b) The ECNEC has approved the proposal for revival of Karachi Circular Railway on 16th of August 2012 at the cost of US\$ 2609 million. JICA will arrange 93.5% of cost through soft loan payable in 40 years including 10 years grace period whereas remaining 6.5% will be borne by stakeholders of KUTC as per equity share PR=60%, GOS=25% and CDGK=15%. No funds have been released during the current financial years *i.e.* 2012-2013.

89. ***Mrs. Seema Mohiuddin Jameeli:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the country-wise total amount available under the head of Community Welfare Fund at present;*
- (b) *the total amount received by each mission abroad as Welfare Fund during the year 2011-12 alongwith the year-wise utilization thereof;*
- (c) *the procedure adopted for utilizing and monitoring those funds?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): (a) The country-wise amount available under the head of Pakistan Community Welfare and Education Fund is placed at Annex-A.

(b) The Government does not provide welfare fund to Missions abroad. However, the PCW & EF is collected as 10% surcharge on consular fee. Details of year-wise utilization of Missions is placed at Annex-B.

(c) The Rules, which governs utilization of PCW & E Fund, is placed at Annex-C.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

90. ***Dr. Nahid Shahid Ali:**

Will the Minister for Narcotics Control be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cultivation of poppy crop has increased during the year 2010-11 and 2011-12;*
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to eliminate the said crop?*

Minister for Narcotics Control (Haji Khuda Bux Rajar): (a) & (b) Observation is incorrect. Infact, cultivation of poppy crop during the year 2010-2011 and 2011-12 has decreased Pakistan has been acknowledged a poppy free state for the year 2011. However details of poppy cultivation and destruction during last five years is attached as Annex-A.

Annex-A

Year wise summary – Poppy Cultivation/Destruction (In Hectare)

Sr. No	Province	Reported Cultivation (In Hectare)					Destruction (In Hectare)					Balance (In Hectare)				
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1	KPK	1850	1674	1709	382	397	-	-	22	20	15	1850	1674	1687	362	382
2	Balochistan	56	105	56	1009	577	56	105	46	1009	577	-	-	10	-	-
3	Sindh	-	-	24	24	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	24	-	-
4	Total	1906	1779	1789	1415	974	56	105	68	1053	592	1850	1674	1721	362	382

91. ***Ms. Parveen Masood Bhatti:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of Pakistan's relations with Islamic countries at present; and*
- (b) *the steps taken to improve the said relations during the last four years till date?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): (a) & (b) Pakistan accords great importance to its relations with Islamic countries which are characterized by common religion, history, culture etc. The Government has taken a number of steps to further promote, diversify and strengthen bilateral relations with the Islamic countries. These are summarized as follows. For details please see Annexe.

- (i) High level political exchanges at the level of Head of State/ Government, Ministerial level as well as at working level.
- (ii) Activation of existing mechanisms such as Joint Ministerial Commission and Bilateral Political Consultations to add substance to existing ties and open new avenues of mutually beneficial cooperation between Pakistan and the Islamic countries.
- (iii) Signing of MoUs/Agreements in different fields, broadening the institutional framework and thus cementing our ties with these countries.
- (iv) Actively promoting Pakistan's case for increasing our exports and manpower to these countries.
- (v) Inviting investment from these countries in diverse fields by offering several incentives to the prospective investors.
- (vi) Enhancing people to people contacts through exchange of visits.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

92. ***Malik Shakir Bashir Awan:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to draw the attention of the World towards the oppression unleashed on the Muslims in Burma?

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): · The Government has taken following steps to draw attention of the world towards the incident of killings of Muslims in Myanmar:

- The OIC Working Group on Human Rights and Humanitarian issues in Geneva under the chairmanship of Pakistan's Representative in Geneva met in July, 2012. It proposed that a fact finding mission be allowed to visit the affected areas, letters be sent to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and recommended that the issue be placed on the agenda for OIC Extraordinary Summit in Mecca, in August, 2012.
- The National Assembly passed a resolution on massacre of Muslims in Myanmar on July 03, 2012.
- The Senate of Pakistan and Senate Standing Committee on foreign Affairs, Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit - Baltistan, passed resolutions on August 2, and August 29, 2012 respectively.
- Pakistan made a statement at the OIC Executive Committee Meeting of the Permanent Representatives to consider Rohingya Muslims issue on August 5, 2012.
- The President wrote a detailed letter, August 7, 2012, to the President of Myanmar expressing deep concern over the plight of Rohingya Muslims and requested that all resources be utilized to hasten the process of rehabilitation of Rohingya Muslims so that they can return to their homes and lead a safe and secure life.
- Pakistan played an active role at the OIC Summit, in Mecca, in August, 2012. The President of Pakistan in his statement at the OIC Summit said that the large scale killing of Muslims in Myanmar was a matter of deep concern for Pakistan. He said that he had addressed a personal letter to the President of Myanmar urging him to take

necessary steps to end the bloodshed. The president called upon OIC to use its good offices for promoting a process of protecting the life and property of the Muslims of Myanmar. (During the Summit, OIC passed a resolution condemning “the continued recourse to violence by the Myanmar authorities against the member of this minority and their refusal to recognize their right to citizenship”).

- Earlier, the Myanmar Ambassador was called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to express Government of Pakistan’s concern on the plight of Rohingya Muslims and urged the Government of Myanmar to take steps for their rehabilitation.
- Our Mission in Yangon raised the issue with the Myanmar Government at various levels. Our Ambassador to Myanmar also paid a visit to the affected areas. He also raised the issue with Special Rapporteur of the Secretary General of the United Nations, during his visit to Rakhine.
- The Government of Pakistan has used every possible forum to raise its voice against the persecution of Rohingya Muslims and for their early rehabilitation. The Government of Pakistan would continue to express itself on the issue as long as required.

93. ***Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the country-wise Pakistani Schools/Colleges functioning abroad at present; and*
- (b) *the disciplines/subjects being taught in those Schools/Colleges?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): (a) & (b)

The details are mentioned in the **Annex- “A”**.

Annexure-“A”

There are 20 Pakistani Schools/ Colleges functioning abroad. There are as under:-			
Sl. NO	COUNTRY	SCHOOL NAME	SUBJECTS / DISCIPLINES BEING TAUGHT
1.	UAE	Abu Dhabi: Pakistan Embassy School Abu Dhabi Dubai: Pakistani School/ Colleges in UAE.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.
2.	Turkey	Pakistan Embassy International study Group (PEISG), Ankara.	Upto 8 th grade (English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, Computer, Social Studies, Islamiat, Urdu & Turkish) Upto O & A Level (English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Business Studies & Sociology) In addition, the school offers French, Urdu and Turkish language classes with a modern language laboratory facility.
3.	Bahrain	i) Pakistan School. ii) Pakistan Urdu School.	Class I to IV (Cambridge Curriculum) Class V to VIII (Punjab Text Book Board) SSC & HSSC- Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.) Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.
4.	China	Pakistan Embassy College, Beijing.	HSSC (Cambridge Curriculum)
5.	Egypt	Pakistan International School Cairo.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus. Desirous Pakistani Student can opt. the course of Cambridge University.
6.	Syria	Pakistani School/ Colleges in UAE.	Cambridge Curriculum/ Islamic Studies & Urdu for Pakistani Students only)
7.	Qatar	Pakistan Education Center, Doha.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.
8.	Saudi Arabia	Jeddah: i. Pakistan International School (Al Azizia) ii. Pakistan International School Al-Tauf.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus. Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.

		iii. Pakistan International School (English Section, Jeddah) Riyadh: i. Pakistan International School (Urdu Section), Nasiriyah. ii. Pakistan International School (English Section) Sulemaniya	Cambridge Curriculum Affiliated with Federal Board Cambridge Curriculum
9.	Kuwait	Pakistan Embassy School Kuwait	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.
10.	Oman	Pakistani School, Muscat.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus. Desirous Pakistani Student can opt. the course of Cambridge University.
11.	Libya	Tripoli: Pakistani School, Tripoli. Benghazi: Pakistani School, Benghazi.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.
12.	Yemen	Pakistan School Sana'a	Local Curriculum Federal Board Syllabus Cambridge Curriculum
13.	Iran	Pakistan International School & College Tehran.	Affiliated with Federal Board. Subjects to be followed according to the Federal Board Syllabus.

94. ***Dr. Muhammad Ayub Sheikh:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to allow private sector to ply more trains in the country; if so, when it will be implemented?

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): At present Pakistan Railways has outsourced the commercial management and passengers facilitation of three trains *i.e* Business Express, Shalimar Express and (Chaman passengers. Outsourcing of another passenger Train Shalimar-II is expected shortly.

In freight sector, the Pakistan Railways has invited private sector through Infrastructure Project Development Facility (IPDF) to bring in their own locomotives and rolling stock and operate their trains on Pakistan Railways track on payment of track access Charges. This process will take another 6 to 12 months to materialize.

95. ***Dr. Muhammad Ayub Sheikh:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) *the names of items being made more profitable after the value addition to increase our export; and*

(b) *the names of countries whom those items are being exported?*

Minister for Commerce (Makhdoom Muhammad Amin Fahim):

(a) The names of items being made more profitable after the value addition to increase our exports are cotton cloth, ready-made garments, made up articles of textiles, synthetic textile, knitwear, tents, canvas and tarpaulin, finished leather, leather manufactures, sports goods, surgical goods, chemicals & pharma and gems & jewellery etc.

(b) Pakistan exports these items mainly to Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Egypt, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Portugal, USA, Turkey, Vietnam, Algeria, Australia, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, France, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, UAE, Colombia, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Philippines, Denmark, Kuwait, Sudan, Canada, Chilli, Ireland, Norway etc.

96. ***Mr. Muhammad Riaz Malik:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether special steps have been taken for Improving relations on equality basis with Afghanistan and USA keeping in view the present international political scenario;*
- (b) if so, the details thereof?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): (a) & (b)

USA

Parliamentary recommendations will continue to guide the future course of the relationship with the United States (US). Both countries are working for greater engagements at political, economic and military planes. It would help to revive our mutual confidence, comfort and cordiality to move forward.

A number of engagements and visits are taking place to revive confidence and cooperative spirit and to work on convergences. US Special Representative to Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Marc Grossman, visited Pakistan on 14-15 September 2012 to prepare grounds for bilateral visit of Foreign Minister to Washington on substantial issues.

Our Foreign Minister paid official visit to Washington from 18-22 September 2012. During the visit, she held bilateral meetings with US Secretary of State, US Trade Representative, USAID Administrator and important Congressmen. It was decided that Working Group meetings on Energy and Water issues, Law Enforcement and Counter-terrorism, and Defence will be held before the end of this year.

US recently signed an agreement for providing funding of US\$ 67 million for up-gradation of Peshawar-Torkham Highway. USAID has also announced a multi-year Pakistan Private Initiative based on public private partnership with up to US\$ 80 million of funding. This will encourage entrepreneurship for promising Pakistani companies.

In 2011-12, US continued to be largest trade partner of Pakistan. Pakistan's bilateral trade with the US during 2011 increased to US\$ 5.78 billion which meant a growth of 7.8% from last year. US accounts for nearly 16% of Pakistan's total exports, which amounts to \$ 3.81 billion.

In future, Pakistan along with US will be building on an architecture of cooperation which will take these relations to be sustainable and predictable. The relations will be based on mutual respect and mutual understanding in pursuit of our national goals and objectives.

Afghanistan

Pakistan has taken a number of steps for improving relations with Afghanistan on equality basis. The details are given below.

- Signed Joint Declaration on directions of Bilateral Cooperation (2009) and joint declaration on next steps in Pakistan-Afghanistan comprehensive cooperation 2010.
- Frequent interaction between political leadership and exchange visit of parliamentarians of the two countries (8 visits of parliamentarians during 2011-2012).
- In support of peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan, a two tier Joint Commission co-chaired by Prime Minister of Pakistan and President of Afghanistan was established (June 2011).
- Pakistan initiated and actively remained engaged in several trilateral and quadrilateral forums as well as various regional and international forums aimed at peace and stability in Afghanistan.
- Pakistan has been able to establish good relations with all communities/ leaders in Afghanistan.
- Pakistan has pledged over US\$ 300 million for reconstruction and development in Afghanistan and has been working on various projects in the field of health, education and infrastructure.
- Pakistan has pledged US\$ 20 million for Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) at Chicago Summit (May 2012).

- 3000 fully funded scholarships for Afghan students are being offered.
- Afghanistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) was signed in 2010 and became operational in 2011.
- Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Economic Commission was revived and its meeting was held in Islamabad (January 2012).
- Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce was established (March 2011).
- Media exchange visits are being arranged on regular basis.
- Pakistan Embassy's Vocational Training Institute in Kabul runs classes for teaching English language and computer with approximately 300 students every quarter.

97. ***Mr. Sajid Ahmed:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the country and year-wise total number of vehicles imported during the last four years till date alongwith the details thereof?

Reply not received.

98. ***Malik Abrar Ahmed:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether any study has been conducted to evaluate revenue leakage due to mal-administration, bad governance and mal practices in Railways since March, 2008 till date;*
- (b) *if so, the year-wise loss suffered to Pakistan Railways during the said period alongwith details thereof; and*
- (c) *the steps being taken to improve the financial management in Pakistan Railways?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) No specific study has been conducted in Pakistan Railways to evaluate revenue leakage due to mal-administration, bad governance and mal practices in Railways since 2008. However, a forensic audit is currently being conducted to analyse all these aspects.

(b) An evaluation of losses incurred will be made during the forensic audit.

(c) A project Financial Information & Management Information System (FIS/MIS) of Pakistan Railways commenced May-2009 & is being funded by the World Bank through the National Trade Corridor Management Unit (NTCMU) Planning Commission, Islamabad.

Presently, the process of hiring software consultants to customize the software is in hand. On its completion hardware for the system will be procured. There after phase-I of the project will be completed.

In Phase-II, implementation of the newly designed system will be taken in hand which is expected to be completed before June-2014. This is a key initiative and forms part of the Railway organization restructuring.

The project is aimed at:—

- i. Upgrading the Railway's capability to take timely and informed decision.
- ii. Cost conscious management and profit driven decision-making.
- iii. Separate costs and revenues for all of its relevant functions, services and activities and adopt lines of business approach.
- iv. Provide appropriate pricing policies to be adopted between Pakistan Railways core and non-core activities for goods and services and would increase both freight traffic and passenger revenue yield.
- v. Minimize inefficiencies in the system, reduce the cost of doing business and consequently enhance productivity, facilitating informed business decision making.

99. ***Rana Mahmood -ul- Hassan:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that each division of Pakistan Railways has spent more than allocated amount during the year, 2011-12; if so, the division-wise details thereof; and*
- (b) *the head-wise utilization of the said amount?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) Division-wise details of excess expenditure incurred by the Divisions of Pakistan Railways is given as under:—

Divisions	Budget	Expenditure	Excess/ Saving (-)
Lahore	4823.971	5959.485	1135.514
Multan	3978.721	3843.606	-135.115
Rawalpindi	4136.030	4037.554	-98.476
Peshawar	2093.544	2064.093	-29.451
Karachi	5491.654	6254.100	762.446
Quetta	1647.088	1705.528	58.440
Sukkur	3142.462	3244.882	102.420
Workshops	4243.838	4183.505	-60.333
Headquarters	3973.166	3790.741	-182.425
Others	8008.918	9127.402	1118.484
Total	41539.392	44210.896	2671.504

The above allocation does not include the budget allotment for Debt Servicing.

- (b) Head-wise utilization of excess expenditure is given as under:—

Head of A/C.	Budget	Expenditure	Excess/ Saving (-)
Salary	18113.957	17960.335	-153.622
T.A/DA	210.655	173.115	-37.540
Medicines	40.000	40.508	0.508
Stores (Repair)	2368.520	3563.356	1194.836
Operation Fuel	7200.000	8338.895	1138.895

Head of A/C.	Budget	Expenditure	Excess / Saving (-)
Electricity	1091.813	711.748	-380.065
Pension	10692.256	11734.371	1042.115
Others	1822.191	1688.568	-133.623
Total	41539.392	44210.896	2671.504

Finance Division curtailed the allocation in Revised Budget for 2011-12 under the heads Stores (Repair), Operation Fuel and others. While funds for Pension were not provided in accordance with the requirements of Pakistan Railways. Resultantly, excess expenditure registered under the above mentioned heads of accounts.

ISLAMABAD:
The 11th October, 2012.

KARAMAT HUSSAIN NIAZI,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”****For Friday, the 12th October, 2012***(Originally Unstarred Question Nos. 86 and 87 were set down for answer during the 45th Session)***86. Ms. Qudsia Arshad:***Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the names of Railway Stations in the country where scanners and security cameras have been installed during the last four years till date; and*
- (b) *the year-wise total expenditures incurred thereupon alongwith the department of the Ministry which is responsible to watch those security cameras?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) CCTV cameras have been installed at Karachi Cantt., Lahore, and Rohri Railway Stations.

Scanner machines have been installed at Karachi Cantt and Lahore Railway Stations.

(b) Year-wise expenditure regarding purchase/ maintenance is as under:—

S #	Year	Expenditure
1.	2007-08	6.4 million (Purchase of CCTV cameras)
2.	2008-09	6.0 million (Purchase of scanner)

S #	Year	Expenditure
3.	2009-10	Nil
4.	2010-11	Nil
5.	2011-12	Nil
6.	2012-13	0.084 million (Repair of CCTV cameras)

Railway Divisional Superintendent and Superintendent of Railway Police concerned are responsible to monitor these cameras.

87. Ms. Qudsia Arshad:

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the names and designations of those officers of BPS-17 and above working in the Ministry and its attached departments and sub offices who or their spouses have dual nationality at present alongwith the names of the countries?

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): According to the information provided by the officers as of 3rd September 2012 the spouses of following officers of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BPS-17 and above) hold dual nationality.

S. No.	Name of the officer, Designation & Grade/BS	Dual nationality	
		Self	Spouse
1.	Mr. Masood Khalid, High Commissioner for Pakistan to Malaysia (BS-22)	—	Australian and Pakistani
2.	Mr. Abdul Basit, Ambassador of Pakistan to Berlin (BS-21)	—	Pakistani and British
3.	Mr. Masroor A. Junejo, Additional Secretary, MOFA (BS-21)	—	Pakistani and British

S. No.	Name of the officer, Designation & Grade/BS	Dual nationality	
		Self	Spouse
4.	Mr. Rab Nawaz Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan, Bucharest. (BS-21)	—	Pakistani and British
5.	Mr. Zaheer Aslam Janjua, Director General, MOFA (BS-20)	—	American and Pakistani
6.	Mr. Ahmad Hussain Dayo, Minister, Embassy of Pakistan Dublin (BS-20)	—	Dutch and Pakistani
7.	Mr. Rahim Hayat Qureshi, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Pakistan, Rome (BS-19)	—	Pakistani and British
8.	Mr. Khalid Majid, Counsellor, High Commissioner for Pakistan London. (BS-19)	—	Pakistani and British
9.	Mr. Qasim Mohiuddin, Second Secretary, Embassy of Pakistan, Tehran (BS-18)	—	Pakistani and American

69. **Ms. Khalida Mansoor:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the country-wise monthly rent being paid for each building of Pakistani Embassies abroad at present alongwith the names of owners of those buildings; and*
- (b) *the year-wise total amount spent under the head of rent during the last five years?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): (a) & (b)
Information received from most of our Missions is enclosed as **Annexure-“A”**.

(Annexure has been placed in the National Assembly Library)

70. **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is ban on the import of prohibited and non-prohibited arms; if so, when this ban was imposed; and*
- (b) whether said ban is being implemented?*

Reply not received.

71. **Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that changes have been made in the policy for import of old vehicles from Japan during the last four years alongwith the decrease and increase resulted in the prices of local made vehicles thereby; and*
- (b) the benefits achieved therefrom?*

Reply not received.

72. **Ms. Qudsia Arshad:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the meeting of Board of Directors of Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company (PHDEC) has not been held for the last one and a half year; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that audit of the said company has not been conducted during the said period; if so, the action taken against responsible thereof?*

Reply not received.

73. **Syed Asif Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total land of Pakistan Railways given on contract in Karachi during the last four years till date;*
- (b) *the total land of Pakistan Railways sold in Karachi during the said period; and*
- (c) *the location-wise land of Pakistan Railways illegally occupied in Karachi during the said period alongwith the value thereof?*

Reply not received.

74. **Syed Asif Hasnain:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the year-wise additional amount provided to Pakistan Railways during the last four years till date?

Reply not received.

75. **Mrs. Seema Mohiuddin Jameeli:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of the fake claims of insurance surfaced in the State Life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan and National Insurance Company Limited during the year 2011-12 till date alongwith the total amount thereof; and*
- (b) *the names, addresses and designations of the persons involved in those cases alongwith the action taken against the responsables so far?*

Reply not received.

76. **Shaikh Rohale Asghar:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the route-wise trains/goods trains are plying in private sector in the country at present alongwith names thereof;*
- (b) *the total monthly income earned during the last five years till date therefrom; and*
- (c) *the facilities provided in those trains by Pakistan Railways?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) Following express trains are plying in collaboration with private sector in the country:—

- i. 27Up/28-Dn (Shalimar Express) running between Lahore-Karachi Gantt *via* Faisalabad – Shorkot-Khanewal and Rohri.
- ii. 303Up/304-Dn (Business Express) running between Lahore Karachi *via* Sahiwal- Khanewal and Rohri.
- iii. 349Up/350Dn (Chaman passenger) running between Quetta–Chaman.
- iv. No goods train is plying in private sector over Pakistan Railways.

(b) 27Up/28-Dn (Shalimar Express) was out sourced with effect from 26-02-2012. The monthly earning of the train is as under:—

Month	Earnings (Rs.)
February - 2012	5695664
March - 2012	44141396
April - 2012	42717480
May - 2012	44141396
June - 2012	42717480
July - 2012	44141396
August - 2012	44141396
September - 2012	42717480

303Up/ 304-Dn (Business Express) was out sourced with effect from 04-02-2012. The monthly earning of the train deposited with Railways is as under:—

Month	Earnings (Rs.)
February - 2012	48000000
March - 2012	64000000
April - 2012	62000000
May - 2012	62000000
June - 2012	93637675
July - 2012	94646661
August - 2012	75000000
September - 2012	32000000

349Up/350 Dn (Chaman Passenger) was out sourced with effect from 11-11 -2011. The monthly earnings of the train is as under:—

Month	Earnings (Rs.)
November - 2011	2164580
December - 2011	3355099
January - 2012	3440650
February - 2012	3363710
February - 2012	3076600
March - 2012	3076600
April - 2012	3970410
May - 2012	3970410
July - 2012	1985205
August - 2012	4199040
September - 2012	4199040

(c) The passengers facilitation in these trains is the responsibility of the Joint Venture partner and following facilities are provided.

- i. Monitoring of passenger safety in control room of train through security cameras provided in coaches.
- ii. LCD- Televisions have been provided in AC class and dining car for the entertainment of the travelling passengers.
- iii. Internet facility provided in AC coaches of train.
- iv. Evening tea, lunch, dinner and soft drinks are provided to passenger in the Business Express alongwith Newspapers and bedding.

77. **Dr. Muhammad Ayub Sheikh:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total amount of income earned per month by the Pakistan Railways from the business trains during the year, 2012-13; and*
- (b) *the terms and conditions of the agreement made with the company running the business train at present?*

Minister for Railways (Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour): (a) The Business Express was contracted out with effect from 04-02-2012 the month wise earning of the train is as under:—

<u>Month</u>	<u>Earning (Rs)</u>
Feb 2012	48000000
Mar 2012	64000000
Apr 2012	62000000
May 2012	62000000
June 2012	93637675
July 2012	9464661
Aug 2012	75000000
Sep 2012	32000000

(b) • Party is responsible for booking of passengers, parcel and luggage on the Business Train at stopping stations and en-route.

- The contractor will pay an amount equal to 88% of total filling capacity of Business Train.
- The party has undertaken to invest Rs. 225786 million as value addition for uplifting the passenger coaches, waiting hall and other facilities related to passengers, Value addition is and 225786 million as value addition for uplifting the passenger coaches, waiting hall and other facilities related to passengers, Value addition is an integral part of the agreement.
- Initially, the agreement is for a period of five years.
- The contractor is bound to pay settled amount on daily basis with Railway exchequer before commencement of train journey, after this it will entail an additional penalty of 5% of the settled amount. However, if no amount is deposited till the 6th day, Pakistan Railways is entitled to suspended train operation.
- P.R will ensure prescribed composition of the train.
- P.R will ensure safety of the Business Train operation and provide fit locomotives and properly maintain rakes of Business Train.
- Rakes of the train will be placed 45 minutes before schedule departure of train.
- In case of cancellation of a train to unavoidable circumstances, no amount will be recovered/paid by either party. However, if the contractor cancels the train without any cogent reasons, unacceptable to Railway, the Contractor is bound to pay the full amount.

78. **Sheikh Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that millions of rupees have been misused by a number of Ambassadors of Pakistani Missions abroad during the years 2004-05 and 2006-07; if so, the action taken against those Ambassadors?

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): The above stated assertion is factually incorrect. The Public Accounts Committee has already discussed the accounts of this Ministry for the financial years 2004-05 and 2006-07 and pointed out some financial irregularities by our Ambassadors. In fact, these are, procedural lapses and do not amount to misuse of public money.

Such situations arise due to difficulties in some countries (a case in point is difficulty of Banking System in Afghanistan, Central Asian Republics and Western African Republics) which make it difficult for the Head of Missions to follow the financial procedures in letter and spirit in the performance of their duties. To avoid such irregularities in future, the Ministry has already taken up the matter for amendment in financial procedures with the Ministry of Finance.

79. **Mr. Sajid Ahmed:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the facilities and fringe benefits admissible to the Chairman and members of Pakistan Railways Board, at present?

Reply not received.

80. **Mr. Sajid Ahmed:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the year-wise expenditures spent by the Ministry and its attached departments/sub-offices/corporations during the last five years alongwith head-wise details thereof; and*
- (b) *the steps taken/being taken by the Government to curtail the said expenditures alongwith the results achieved therefrom during the said period?*

Reply not received.

81. **Mr. Mohammad Usman Advocate:**

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of Commercial Attaches posted in foreign Missions during the last four years till date alongwith the justification thereof; and*

- (b) *whether quota has been observed in the said postings; if so, the details thereof?*

Reply not received.

82. **Mr. Himayatullah Mayar:**

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that appointments in BPS 1 to 16 are being made by the Ministry instead of FPSC; if so, the criteria and procedure adopted thereof?

Minister for Foreign Affairs (Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar): Appointments in BPS 01 to 15 are made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as per the criteria laid down by the Establishment Division under “Civil Servants, Appointment, Promotion and Transfer Rules 1973” as amended from time to time.

The appointments in BPS 16 and above are, however, made by the Federal Public Service Commission.

Important steps pertaining to recruitment / appointment process:

- Vacant posts are advertised in the newspapers giving all the details pertaining to criteria / requirements, and applications are invited.
- Written examination is held followed by interview of the qualified candidates by the Departmental Selection Committee.
- Based on the written examination, the interview and quota, final merit list is prepared and “Offer Letters” to concerned candidates are issued.
- A short (2/3 weeks) training programme is organized in coordination with the Secretariat Training Institute (STI)

83. **Rana Nazir Ahmed Khan:**

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total number of Signal Operators of Pakistan Railways who have been retired from Dadu and Sukkur Railway Stations during the period from 1-6-2012 till date;*

- (b) *whether it is a fact that the amount of pension has not been released to those operators so far; if so, the names alongwith the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *the time by which pension will be released to those retired employees?*

Reply not received.

KARAMAT HUSSAIN NIAZI,
Secretary.

ISLAMABAD:
The 11th October, 2012.