

(15th Group, 51st Session)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Friday, the 28th April, 2023

4. ***Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb:**
(Deferred during 50th Session)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state the steps being taken by the present Government to increase the literacy rate in the country so far?

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Rana Tanveer Hussain): The Eighteenth Constitution Amendments has introduced a number of changes in the constitutions of Pakistan 1973. It has redefined the existing nature of relationship between the federation and the federating units in Pakistan. It also has to profound impact on the legislative jurisdiction and executive in authorities at the federal and provincial levels. The changes also have financial implications and effects on the allocations of the revenue resources between the governments. Education is one of the key subjects which have been devolved to the provincial mandate. The present challenge of access, equity, and quality of education require a response at national level. According to the Economic Survey 2021-22, the present literacy rate is 62.8 percent as compared to 62.4 percent in 2018-2019.

Province /Area	2018-2019	2021-2022
Pakistan	62.4	62.8
Punjab	66.1	66.3
Sindh	61.6	61.8
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	52.4	55.1
Balochistan	53.9	54.5

At the federal level the following departments are contributing in raising the literacy level:

Federal Directorate of Education (FDE)

The mandate of the Federal Directorate of Education, Islamabad is to provide quality education to the students enrolled in its 432 educational institutions located within Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

The Federal Directorate of Education, Islamabad has taken the following steps to increase the enrolment of students in its educational institutions:

- Seven new educational institutions, including six Model Colleges, have started functioning from August 2022.
- During the exhaustive review of educational institutions by the Director General (FDE), all heads of Institutions, where enrolment was below maximum capacity, were given targets to increase their enrolment. As a result, the total enrolment of FDE institutions has increased by over 18,000 students.
- A flexible admission policy is issued to admit the maximum number of students as per the intake capacity of the institution.
- Moreover, facilitation is also provided to parents in terms of incomplete documentary evidence and provisional admission is granted on spot with directions to provide complete documents within 03 months after admission is granted.
- Age relaxation of six months in the upper age limit and three months in the lower age limit has been made for admission in Class-Prep and one.
- No tuition fee is being charged in all educational institutions from Class I to Class X.
- Free textbooks are being provided to the students from class Prep to X.
- The transport facility is also provided to students where feasible.

Basic Education Community Schools (BECS)

- A Project of Non-Formal Basic Education (NFBE) Schools renamed as Basic Education Community Schools (BECS) was launched in 1995 by Prime Minister Literacy Commission (defunct) and extended/ revised time to time till 30th June, 2021.
- Consequent upon 18th constitutional amendment and decision of the “Council of Common Interests” (CCI) in case No. CCI.3/1/2020 dated 06-08-2020 all BECS Schools and teachers of project titled “Establishment and Operation of Basic Education Community School in the Country” have been transferred to respective provincial/area governments.
- Presently, BECS is running 1225 schools directly under Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training in three areas ICT, GB and AJ&K.
- BECS is a supplement to formal education, cover the disadvantaged and under privileged segment of society, especially to bring out of schools children to schools, supportive in the eradication of illiteracy and achievement of Universal Primary Education (UPE) as envisaged by Constitution of Pakistan’s Article 25-A.
- **BECS is running 1225 Schools in Federal Areas for age group (4-9) as per following detail:**

S. No.	Area	No. of Schools	Enrollment	Girls	Boys
01.	GB	776	24,090	10,537	13,553
02.	ICT	248	7,444	3,941	3,503
03.	AJ&K	201	8,223	4,093	4,130
Total		1,225	39,757	18,571	21,186

- Started 22 Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) Centers for age group (9-16) as special initiative in ICT to enroll at least (660-1100) Out of Schools Children (OOSC) in Pilot Phase *w.e.f* 1 October 2022.
- There is an enrollment of 39,757 students in BECS.
- 437,445 students qualified 5th Class Examination (2007-2020);

BECS management intends to open more schools for age group (5-9 years) and ALP Centers for age group (9-16 years) subject to availability of funds from Government of Pakistan and any Donor Agency.

National Commission for Human Development (NCHD)

In recent years NCHD has taken following steps/initiatives to increase the literacy and education situation in Pakistan.

Community Feeder Schools in ICT, AJ&K and GB

345 Community Feeder Schools are operational in the federal areas i-e ICT, AJ&K and GB with the financial assistance of, MoFE&PT where 434 Teacher are providing education to almost 14,000 boys & girls in far flung areas.

NCHD is running Accelerated Learning Program and 100 Madaris have been established across Pakistan (16 districts of Pakistan) where almost 2,600 students of Deeni Madaris of under privileged areas are studying contemporary education along with their religious studies. (Donors / another organization PHDF (NCHD)).

NCHD and BISP inked an agreement for the enrolment of 3 million out of school children of BISP beneficiary families. During the said NCHD mobilized BISP beneficiary families and communities for enrolment. Under the Program, NCHD's field teams across Pakistan enrolled 1.7 Million Out of School children. Further to this NCHD enrolled 2.6 Million from the date of inking agreement

NCHD established 1510 Adult Literacy Centers (ALCs) in 117 Districts in all Provinces/Areas of Pakistan. In these ALCs 37,750 illiterates have been enrolled.

National Education Foundation (NEF).

National Education Foundation has been contributing in education sector since 1998, The Foundation established more than 800 community schools in ICT, GB, AJK and FATA since its establishment. Moreover, the foundation has also under taken many PSDP projects.

Presently the Foundation has been running the following programs to improve the literacy rate of the country:-

- i. 45 Community Model Schools in far-flung areas of Muzaffarabad, Hattian Bala and Bagh with about 4000 enrollment at primary level from the disadvantaged group.
- ii. NEF has been running a school support program under which it is assisting two schools in Islamabad Capital Territory with 430 students who are being provided free quality education.
- iii. NEF has also been running 5 schools Accelerated Learning Program for Out of school children of ICT. There are about 310 students are enrolled.

124. ***Ms. Saira Bano**
(Deferred on 13-04-2023)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total Government vehicles available in the Ministry, Division including the departments functioning under its administrative control by any arrangements;*
- (b) *details of the use of each vehicle at present alongwith full details of officers to whom each vehicle is provided;*
- (c) *the total monthly fuel and other expenses of the vehicle fleet of each of the above departments;*
- (d) *whether the use of such vehicles has been assessed by following the austerity measures announced by the Prime Minister;*

- (e) *if so, the details thereof, and savings expected in coming months; and*
- (f) *what further corrective measures are being taken by the Government to avoid the misuse of vehicles and ensure savings in public interest?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Rana Tanveer Hussain): (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f) Reply of the Ministry including the departments functioning under its administrative control in requisite format is as under:-

S.#	Department	Reply
1	M/o FE&PT	Annex 'I'
2	BECS	Annex 'II'
3	DGRE	Annex 'III'
4	FBISE	Annex 'IV'
5	FCE	Annex 'V'
6	GPIW	Annex 'VI'
7	IBCC	Annex 'VII'
8	NAVTTTC	Annex 'VIII'
9	NBF	Annex 'IX'
10	NCA	Annex 'X'
11	NCC	Annex 'XI'
12	NCHD	Annex 'XII'
13	NEF	Annex 'XIII'
14	NFC-Multan	Annex 'XIV'
15	NRA	Annex 'XV'
16	NTU-Faisalabad	Annex 'XVI'
17	PBSA	Annex 'XVII'
18	PEIRA	Annex 'XVIII'
19	PIE	Annex 'XIX'
20	PIFD	Annex 'XX'
21	HEC	Annex 'XXI'
22	FDE	Annex 'XXII'
23	PNCU	Annex 'XXIII'
24	NFC-IE&FR	Annex 'XXIV'
25	NSU	Annex 'XXV'
26	PGGA	Annex 'XXVI'

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

155. ***Mr. Sikandar Ali Rahoupoto:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is possibility to promote and develop tourism in the country including Islamabad so far in recent regime; and*
- (b) *the steps are being taken by the Government to promote tourism in Pakistan?*

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: (a) The Government of Pakistan has assigned top priority to the tourism sector as an engine of economic growth and employment generation. In this connection, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) is playing an effective role in promoting tourism in the country and at international level.

- PTDC is now working on various initiatives to promote tourism in Pakistan in collaboration with the provincial tourism departments.
- The Prime Minister of Pakistan has approved the Annual Business Plan 2022-2023 for participation of Pakistan in 4 International events namely; WTM London 2022, New York Travel & Adventure Show 2023, ITB Berlin 2023 and ATM Dubai, 2023 to promote Pakistan as one the best tourism destinations and to create soft image of Pakistan at global level.
- PTDC has successfully participated in 3 events after a lapse of almost 14 years and is ready to participate in the ATM Dubai, 2023 to boost the influx of inbound tourism in the country. The Advisor to Prime Minister on Tourism and Sports/ Chairman PTDC, recently held a meeting with the Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) for collaboration to promote tourism in Islamabad Capital Territory and to make the federal capital – a hub of tourism.
- PTDC has also submitted the proposal for two flagship development projects *i.e.*, Aiwan-e- siyahat in sector F-5 and PTDC glamping Resorts in Garden Avenue.

(b) PTDC has taken some concrete steps to project the true image of the country and strengthen the tourism industry, such as:

1. PTDC in collaboration with STFP, COTHM, PATO, and DTS has launched National Tour Guides Training Program to train 1000 tour guides all over Pakistan through a standard two weeks' entry level extensive training program. The first training workshop was held from 18 – 31 March 2023 at Islamabad in which 25 participants from different parts of Pakistan were trained.
2. PTDC has collaborated and supported COTHM in **Pakistan International Culinary Championship**. The **Pakistan International Culinary Championship** is a prestigious event in the culinary world, attracting chefs and food enthusiasts from all corners of the world.
3. Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and the World Bank (WB) has jointly organized a workshop in Islamabad on National Tourism Competitiveness Index (NTCI) for Pakistan. The workshop was attended by relevant federal and provincial stakeholders, private sector, industry experts and the academia.
4. Pakistan had made a significant improvement on International Travel and Tourism Development index. Pakistan has made a big jump on International Travel and Tourism Development Index by moving up six places as per the latest report released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
5. Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) in collaboration with Alpine Club of Pakistan, and other partner organizations organized a oneday conference on Sustainable Mountain Tourism on 10 December, 2022.
6. Two-day activities of International Tourism Day 2022 included National Tourism Conference, photography competition, photo and painting exhibition, display of tourism stalls, heritage crafts exhibition, and Islamabad sightseeing tour for students and youth at PNCA from 26-27 September 2022. The purpose of all these activities was to highlight the importance of tourism for boosting economy and to create awareness among the people especially young generation for

supporting and promoting the tourism industry and project soft image of the country.

7. “The Festival of North Gojal Chapter” was jointly organized by Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and Small Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) in the wake of recent floods and the decline of tourist activity in the area. The four-day festival was arranged by SMEDA and PTDC to support and promote small and medium businesses in the area and for promotion of tourism in Autumn Season which is usually considered as offseason in the region.
8. PTDC has also collaborated with AJK Winter Sports Federation to organize First AJK Grass Ski Circuit & 2nd National Grass Ski Championship held on September 30, 2022 at Toli Pir, AJK and the closing ceremony held on October 01, 2022.
9. Expedition Indus, Pakistan’s first ever river-rafting voyage along the entire course of the Indus River in Pakistan culminated in the Arabian Sea in collaboration with Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC).
10. PTDC setup tourism stall at Lok Mela 2022 at Lok Virsa Islamabad for promotion and publicity of Islamabad as tourist destination.
11. PTDC has engaged with foreign investors to invest in the tourism sector in Pakistan. So far, meetings with Austrian and British Pakistan Forum have been held.
12. PTDC has collaborated in 3-day conference on SDGs and Sustainable Tourism in Pakistan which was held from 17th—19th June, 2022.
13. Vesak Day festival was celebrated at the Taxila Museum and Mohra Murado Stupa on May 17, 2022 to mark the birth, enlightenment and passing of Buddha,
14. National Tourism Strategy has been formulated to drive growth in tourism sector for the year (2020-30) along with a 05-year action plan. National Minimum Standards have been developed to bring tourism products of Pakistan at par with

international best practices. To promote religious tourism in Pakistan, publications on Buddhist Heritage Trail and Pakistan's Sikh Heritage Trail has also been developed by PTDC.

15. Pakistan Tourism Development Endowment Fund (PTDEF) has been created with seed money of Rs. 1.00 billion.
 16. E-Visa facility for over 190 countries and visa on arrival for 50 countries.
 17. Tourism police has been introduced in different provinces to provide security to the domestic and foreign tourists. Tourism Toll free helpline 1422 has been developed to facilitate and provide information to the tourists.
 18. Upgradation and refurbishment of Tourist information Center (TIC) PTDC at F6 Sector, Islamabad, has been completed to facilitate tourist.
 19. PTDC and Ministry of Health Services Regulation & Coordination are working jointly to promote medical tourism in the selected markets abroad. A dedicated web portal <https://mtp.nhsrc.gov.pk> has also been launched to provide all the information about medical tourism in Pakistan.
156. ***Mr. Sikandar Ali Rahoupoto:**

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total land owned by the Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad;*
- (b) *the land out of the above is illegally occupied by the occupants at present; and*
- (c) *the action being taken by the Government in this regard?*

Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training (Rana Tanveer Hussain): (a) An area of 1709 Acres, 4 Kanals and 12 Marlas was allotted to QAU in 1967-72 but on-ground demarcation and vacant possession of the land was not given by CDA to the University.

(b) As per Survey of Pakistan report, on ground land of QAU is 1557 Acres. Hence, there is a shortfall of 152-Acres in University allotted land. Moreover, about 298-Acres has been occupied by the occupants/encroachers. Thus, there is a total shortfall of 450-Acres in University allotted land.

(c) The Government started an operation on 05/01/2019 through CDA/Local administration to retrieve the QAU encroached land but said operation was suspended on the directives of the Ministerial Committee, to frame evacuation plan for the occupants/settlers. Since then, no further practical action has been taken so far.

157. ***Mr. Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state details of the names of the Chairmen and members of the FPSC served since 2010, along with their Degree like BA, division, year and name of the university?

Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division: (a) Details regarding names of Chairmen and Members serving FPSC since 2010 are at **Annex-I & Annex-II** respectively.

(b) The Chairman (and Members) FPSC are retired persons who are appointed by the President of Pakistan in terms of Section 3 of the FPSC Ordinance, 1977. In terms of Section 3(4) of FPSC Ordinance, 1977, all such appointments are made from amongst retired Civil Servants of BS-21 and above, retired Judges from Higher Judiciary and retired officers of Armed Forces not below the rank of Major General /equivalent. Therefore, details of their Educational Degrees/Credential etc. are not maintained as not required.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

158. ***Mr. Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state the details of passing results of English, Urdu, Pak studies, Islamiyat through FPSC examinations during the last 3 years?

Minister In-charge of the Establishment Division: Written part of CSS Competitive Examination includes, among others, following subjects:

i. **Compulsory**

- a. English Essay (100 Marks)
- b. English (Précis & Composition) (100 Marks)
- c. Pakistan Affairs (100 Marks)
- d. Islamic Studies (100 Marks)

ii. **Optional**

Urdu Literature (100 Marks)

2. The details of passing results in the subjects mentioned above is as under:

Year of CSS	Subject	Appeared	Failed	Passed	% age
2019	Essay	14205	13328	877	6
	English	14205	10440	3765	27
	Pakistan Affairs	14205	5275	8930	63
	Islamiat	14205	2526	11679	82
	Urdu Literature	335	100	235	70
2020	Essay	18387	17735	652	4
	English	18387	7244	11143	61
	Pakistan Affairs	18387	12999	5388	29
	Islamiat	18387	9350	9037	49
	Urdu Literature	470	279	191	41
2021	Essay	16887	14760	2127	13
	English	16887	15457	1430	8
	Pakistan Affairs	16887	7709	9178	54
	Islamiat	16887	13694	3193	19
	Urdu Literature	332	241	91	27

Note * Final Results of CSS-2022 is not yet announced.

159. ***Ms. Nasiba Channa:**

Will the Minister for Aviation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the deficit of PIA is declining gradually?

Minister for Aviation (Khawaja Saad Rafique): • Following table shows the deficit/ loss of PIA during the year 2017-2022:

Year	Net Losses Rupees in 'Million' Un-audited)
2022	88,000
2021	50,101
2020	34,643
2019	52,602
2018	67,328
2017	51,007

- PIA's losses decrease during 2020 and 2021 mainly due to Covid outbreak into limited flight operation during 2020 as well as significant steps taken on cost cutting measures including voluntary reduction in employees salaries, rationalization capacity and greater focus on cargo/charter operations during COVID-19. The process of decrease in losses could have continued but due to increase in fuel prices and USD fluctuation to higher side, increase in KIBOR/ interest rate, the costs increased resultantly suffering the airline into high operational cost and ultimately increased the losses.

160. ***Mr. James Iqbal:**

Will the Minister for Climate Change be pleased to state:

- the air pollution spread due to the use of cigarettes every year in Pakistan,*
- whether any step has been taken by the Government to curtail the said pollution;*

(c) *if so, the city-wise detail thereof?*

Minister for Climate Change (Ms. Sherry Rehman): (a) Globally, Cigarettes contribute 0.2% of pollution. Cigarettes make up more than one-third nearly 38 percent of all collected litter.

No data is available in Pakistan vis-a-vis Pollution from Cigarettes. However, since Pakistan's overall contribution to GHG emissions is less than 1%, therefore, air pollution caused by cigarettes will be minuscule.

(b) The Ministry of climate change's mandate is limited to devising plans, policies, and interventions for climate change. The implementation of all climate-related endeavors lies with the concerned provincial/municipal departments. However, the Ministry of Climate Change has initiated the following, steps to curb the issue of air pollution in Pakistan overall;

- i. **National Clean Air Policy** has been recently approved by the cabinet to tackle the increasing challenge of air pollution and recurring smog issues in major cities of Pakistan with the following objectives:
 - Framework for improving air quality
 - improve the health of citizens
 - Reduce annual deaths due to air pollution
 - Reduce transboundary pollution
 - improve food security
 - Expand economic activity

2. MoCC is also **facilitating collaboration between the Government of Panjab and China to curb the smog issue** in pursuance of the directive of the Lahore High Court. The working paper for the proposed collaboration has already been shared with the Chinese side and china has shown a willingness to help Pakistan to cater to the issues in line with the best practices being followed in Shanghai and Beijing.

3. One of the major causes of air pollution is vehicular emissions. To curb vehicular emissions, the Pakistan Environment

Protection Agency has notified National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) for motor vehicles vide S.R.O No. 72(KE)/2009 titled, National Environmental Quality Standards for vehicular emission standards under (NEQS for motor exhaust and noise), 2009. Through this S.R.O, all imported and locally manufactured vehicles are bound to be equipped with pollution control devices or other equipment or use of such fuels or undergo such maintenance or testing of a motor vehicle that complies with NEQS.

(c) The mandate of ministry of climate change is limited to the ICT jurisdiction only after the 18th amendment therefore MoCC has no role in formulation of provincial/city wise policies or steps to curb air pollution.

ISLAMABAD:
The 27th April, 2023.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”

For Friday, the 28th April, 2023

30. **Mr. Salahuddin:**
(Deferred on 13-4-2023)

Will the Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) officials who used official cars for private use on payments during the months of October, November and December, 2022 alongwith details like their names, designations, kilometers and total payments received in this regard; and*
- (b) *total fuel consumed during the said period alongwith officers/officials names who need the vehicles for official purpose?*

Minister In-charge of the Cabinet Division: (a) Detail at **Annex-I**. All OGRA’s fleet cars are meant for general pool and being used for operational, protocol, enforcement, court cases & for other general nature of day to day duties of the Authority. No officer or Member including Chairman is entitled/allocated with any of official vehicle of the Authority.

It is further submitted that the Authority has extended the facility for private use of its pool vehicles occasionally on need basis in respect of its officers @ Rs.10/- per km on payment basis as & when required by its officers. Apart from this, the facility of hiring of pool vehicles for private use on payment basis @ Rs. 3/- per km has also been extended to the Members/Chairman of Authority in accordance with Cabinet Division’s Staff Car Rules 1980 [Rule-5(7)] (Government of Pakistan). Moreover, to keep the record straight and to avoid any audit objection, Log Books of these vehicles are also being maintained properly.

(b) Detail at **Annex-II**.

(Annexures have been placed in the National Assembly Library)

35. **Mr. Salahuddin:**

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the petitions filed in the Information Commission of Pakistan;

(b) the directions given to the departments;

(c) action taken against the responsible functionaries for non-provision of information; and

(d) non implementation of the orders of Information Commission during the last two years?

Reply not received.

ISLAMABAD:
The 27th April, 2023.

TAHIR HUSSAIN,
Secretary.