

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

to be asked at a sitting of the Senate to be held on

Friday, the 5th June, 2009

1. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 30-04-2009 at 13:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of persons in BPS-15 to 22 working in the Ministry with province-wise break up?

Mr. Qamar Zaman Kaira: The number of persons in BPS-15 to BPS-22 working in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are here under:—

2. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 30-04-2009 at 13:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state the rent of rooms and suites of the PIA hotels abroad with category-wise and hotel wise details?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: PIA, owns following two hotels through its subsidiary, PIA Investments Ltd:—

1. Roosevelt Hotel, New York
2. Scribe Hotel, Paris

The average projected rates of rooms and suites for the month of March, 2009 of the said hotels are as follows:—

Roosevelt Hotel, New York

Room Type	Total Rooms	*Average Daily Rate (In US\$)
Standard	178	191
Superior	635	209
Deluxe	154	235
Deluxe Queen	15	271

Hospitality Suite	28	360
Luxury Suite	05	250
Total:	1015	

Scribe Hotel, Paris

Superior	49	570
Deluxe	112	640
Executive	44	720
Junior Suites	4	1150
Duplex	4	2420
Total:	213	

*Rates are set on the basis of seasonality and demand and thus vary from period to period.

3. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:**(Notice received on 30-04-2009 at 13:30 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state the stage of work of the new Islamabad airport and the original and revised date of completion of the project?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar:

- ❖ Phase-I of project which includes site preparatory and earth works stands completed in April, 2008.
- ❖ Work on 'Airside Infrastructure' which includes pavement works (Runway, Taxiway, Apron etc.) commenced in August 2008 with completion time of 24 months. Till date 15% work completed.
- ❖ Ground for construction of Terminal Building and allied facilities is currently being leveled / graded.
- ❖ The entire project is planning to be completed as per schedule by end 2011.

4. ***Mr. Adnan Khan:** (Notice received on 30-04-2009 at 13:32 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of compensation provided to the widows and orphans of the personnel of the Frontier Corps and the Frontier Constabulary who were martyred in the war against terror; and*
- (b) *the incentives/compensation provided to the personnel of the said forces who were injured during that war and have been declared disabled by the concerned medical boards?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik:

5. ***Mr. Adnan Khan:** (Notice received on 30-04-2009 at 13:32 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state whether any increase has been made in the salaries of Frontier Constabulary and the Frontier Corps personnel during the last six months, if so, its extent?

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: A Special Compensation Allowance amounting to Rs. 2,500 per month has been sanctioned to all ranks of Frontier Corps (NWFP) from 9th February, 2009, whereas no increase has been made in the salaries personnel of Frontier Corps (Balochistan) as well as Frontier Constabulary (NWFP) during the last six months.

6. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 02-05-2009 at 10:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to improve the railway services in the country?

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: T h e f o l l o w i n g s t e p s h a v e b e e n t a k e n t o improve the performance of Freight Business:

- Aggressive marketing.
- Doubling of track on the main corridor from Lodhran to Sher Shah and Multan to Khanewal and Raiwind.
- Improvement of Terminal Facilities.
- Induction of High Capacity/ High Speed Wagons phasing out old low speed four-wheeled stock.
- Introduction of new comfortable coaches.
- Induction of reliable locomotives;
- Joint Venture public/private partnership.
- Strict monitoring of train operation.
- Better passenger facilitation.

7. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 02-05-2009 at 11:10: a.m.)

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the names and place of domicile of officers in BPS-18 to 22 working in PTV and Radio Pakistan?

Mr. Qamar Zaman Kaira: The names and place of domicile of officers in BPS-18 to BPS-22 Working in PTV and Radio Pakistan are annexed at flags "A" & "B" respectively.

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library).

8. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 02-05-2009 at 11:15: a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state the amount spent on the repairing /maintenance of each airport in the country during the last three years?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: The expenditure incurred by CAA for repair / maintenance of its airports for the last three years is as under:—

9. ***Mr. Wasim Sajjad:** (Notice received on 02-05-2009 at 11:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of suicide bombing occurred since 1st January, 2008;

(b) the number of persons died and those injured in the said incidents; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government for the prevention of such incidents?

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: The information is being collected from the quarter concerned and will be placed on the table of the House as and when received.

10. ***Syed Javed Ali Shah:** (Notice received on 04-05-2009 at 11:18 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appointments made in PIA as steward or Air Hostess during the last three years; and

(b) the criteria adopted for those appointments?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: (a) PIAC have inducted a total number of 130 Air Hostesses & 320 Flight Stewards during the last three years. The detail is attached as **Annexure-"A"**.

(b) The criteria adopted for these appointments are as under:—

Position	Qualification	Max Age	Min Height
Flight Steward	Graduation (2nd Division)	2 5 Y e a r s	5 ' - 6 "
Air Hostess	Intermediate (2nd Division)	2 5 Y e a r s	5 ' - 2 "

Annex-A

THE NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS IN PIA AS FLT STEWARD
OR AIRHOSTESS

During the last three years - (1-5-2006 to 1-5-2009)

	2006	2007	2008-09	Grand Total
AIRHOSTESS	29	40	61	130
FLT STEWARD	164	102	54	320
Grand Total:	193	142	115	450

11. ***Syed Javed Ali Shah:** (Notice received on 04-05-2009 at 11:18 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *the expenditure incurred on decoration of PIA planes with cultural heritage during the year 2005-06 and from 2006 to 2008; and*
- (b) *the number of planes decorated so far?*

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: (a) PIA has incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 10,088,750 on tail branding of its aircraft during the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08.

(b) 37 aeroplanes have so far been decorated.

12. ***Prof. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan:** (Notice received on 04-05-2009 at 15:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of countries with which Pakistan has extradition treaties indicating also the details of those treaties;*
- (b) *the number of persons extradited to and from Pakistan under those treaties during the last ten years; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to make such treaties with China, SAARAC, European and American Countries?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: Pakistan has entered into Extradition Treaties with 30 Countries. List of the said countries along with other details is at "Annexure-A".

No person has been extradited from any other country to Pakistan However, Pakistan has extradited 5 persons in the last ten years under Extradition Treaties with the othe countries.

Pakistan has signed and ratified an Extradition Treaty with China on 3 November 2003. Amongst SAARC Countries, Pakistan has signed and ratified Extradition

Treaty with Maldives on 12 July 1984. Annexure A above includes names of European as well as American Countries with whom Pakistan has signed Extradition Treaties. Certain proposal for signing of similar Extradition Treaties with many other countries is under consideration.

13. ***Prof. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan:** (Notice received on 04-05-2009 at 15:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that special discount is given to senior citizens in the country on railway tickets, if so, its reasons;*
- (b) *whether the said facility is applicable to all trains in the country or otherwise; and*
- (c) *the steps taken by the Government to ensure provision of this facility to maximum number of senior citizens?*

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: (a) Senior Citizens (65 year of age or above) are allowed concession in rail travel at the rate of

25% in Air Conditioned Sleeper, Parlour and A.C lower class.

50% in Economy class

Railways is a Public Service Organization and owe a service obligation to the nationals of the country, hence the relief.

(b) Senior citizen can avail the concession in all Mail / Express trains except 6 non-stop/ fast trains mentioned below:—

- i. 5-Up/6-Dn (Sindh Express)
- ii. 17-Up/18-Dn (Millat Express)
- iii. 41-Up/42-Dn (Karakoram Express)
- iv. 15-Up/16-Dn (Karachi Express)
- v. 107-Up/108-Dn (Islamabad Express)
- vi. 109-Up/110-Dn (Margala Express).

(c) Separate counters have been earmarked for issuing Tickets/ Reservation to the senior citizens at busy terminals. The facility is being availed fully.

14. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 05-05-2009 at 9:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of increase made in PIA fares since January, 2008; and*

(b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to reduce those fares in view of decrease in oil prices in international market, if so, when?*

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: (a) PIA implemented the following increases in fare (International and Domestic), either through Fuel Surcharge or a direct base fare increase in 2008:—

International:

15. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 06-05-2009 at 10:40 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state the steps taken by PIA for the provision of more facilities to its passengers?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: PIA has taken following steps to provide more facilities to the Passengers:—

- (i) Induction of state of the art B-777 aircraft.
- (ii) Induction of ATR42-500 aircraft.
- (iii) Non-Stop Operation for Canada and from New York.
- (iv) Award Plus Program
- (v) Launch of Courier service *i.e.* PIA Speedex
- (vi) Senior Citizen Discount
- (vii) Blind Person Discount
- (viii) Web-Ticketing
- (ix) Start of flights to new destinations e.g. Stansted and Barcelona.
- (x) Connection of foreign destinations with small cities of Pakistan.

16. ***Mr. Afrasiab Khattak:** (Notice received on 05-05-2009 at 11:05 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the hiring and medical facilities being provided to lower civil formation employees of Pakistan Armed Forces are not equal to those provided to other employees of Pakistan Armed Forces, if so, its reasons; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to remove this disparity?*

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: A. No. The hiring and medical facilities being provided to civilian employees of lower formations (where permissible) are equal to those provided to other employees of Pakistan Armed Forces. Details are as under:—

- (1) *Hiring Facility.*—All Federal Govt. employees are entitled to hiring of residential accommodation at six specified stations only *i.e.* Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore,

Quetta, Karachi and Peshawar. Civilians employees posted in the units/formations/located at these stations are entitled for the said facility. However, the facility is not being provided to them due to budgetary constraints.

(2) *Medical Facility.*—Presently this facility for civilian employees of lower formations of Pakistan Armed Forces is as under:—

- (i) Self — Entitled to outdoor and indoor treatment.
- (ii) Families — BPS-5 and above, entitled to outdoor treatment only.
- (iii) BPS- 1 to 3 — Not entitled for outdoor/indoor treatment. However, they can get medical treatment from Govt hospitals, less military hospitals. Treatment charges incurred by the employees are reimbursed to them without any upper limit in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Ministry of Health.

B. (1) A combined case of three services is under active process through Joint Staff Headquarters for extending the hiring facility.

(2) Case for allowing medical facility to the family members of lower formations of Armed Forces in military hospitals is under active consideration.

17. ***Mr. Wasim Sajjad:** (Notice received on 06-05-2009 at 15:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of suicide attacks occurred in the country during the last 3 years; and*
- (b) *whether any person has been arrested in connection with the said attacks, if so, the details thereof?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: The information is being collected from the quarter concerned and will be placed on the table of the House as and when received.

18. ***Mr. Wasim Sajjad:** (Notice received on 06-05-2009 at 15:10 p.m.)

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

- (a) *the names of private television channels established in Pakistan during the last 5 years indicating also the names of Managing Directors and Directors of each such channel; and*
- (b) *the number of applications pending seeking permission to establish Private T.V. channel?*

Mr. Qamar Zaman Kaira: (a) List of private television channels established during the period 2004-2009 (**Annex-I**).

- (b) List of applications under process for Satellite T.V. channels. (**Annex-II**)

19. ***Syed Javed Ali Shah:** (Notice received on 08-05-2009 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of PIA planes whose engines have been overhauled since March, 2008 indicating also the expenditure incurred thereon; and*
- (b) *the life span of those planes?*

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: (a) The details of engines overhauled since March, 2008 indicating also cost of overhauling is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

(b) PIA has three types of aircraft in its fleet. Make, model and life span of these types of aircraft is as under:—

20. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 11-05-2009 at 11:10 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names and addresses of the persons convicted for women trafficking during the last five years indicating also the punishment awarded to them; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the government to control this crime?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: Detail of persons convicted for women trafficking during last five years indicating also the punishment awarded is hercunder:—

21. ***Prof. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan:** (Notice received on 13-05-2009 at 10:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps taken by the Government to assess the casualties and losses caused to property of the residents of FATA and Malakand Division during the military operation conducted in those areas in the recent past; and*
- (b) *whether any financial assistance has been released by the federal government to compensate the affectees of the said areas, if so, the amount released for that purpose?*

Reply not received.

22. ***Mir Hasil Khan Bizenjo:** (Notice received on 18-05-2009 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state the number of Foreign visitors / delegations hosted by the Ministry of Defence since March, 2008, indicating also the date of arrival and departure, purpose of visit, the amount spent and the details of benefits achieved by Pakistan in each case?

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: Ministry of Defence hosted eight delegations of different friendly countries from Bosnia, UK, Germany, Turkey, Sri Lanka and Canada during March 2008 to May 2009. An amount of **Rs. 34,49,183/-** was incurred on hosting these visits. Details are as under:—

23. ***Eng. Malik Rashid Ahmed Khan:** (Notice received on 20-05-2009 at 09:22 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state names of officers in B-17 and B-18 of Provincial Governments working in the offices of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) indicating also their date of deputation from Provincial Government and period of deputation?

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: Requisite detail *i.e.* names of officers, date of joining ICT Administration on deputation basis and the period of deputation, in respect of the officers of BPS-17 and 18, presently working in various offices/departments of ICT Administration, from Provincial Governments is at **Annexure-A**.

24. ***Eng. Malik Rashid Ahmed Khan:** (Notice received on 20-05-2009 at 09:22 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state the details of development projects launched in the rural areas of Islamabad by the Local Government Department of Islamabad Capital Territory during the last five years, indicating also the amount spent on each project so far; whether project completed, if not, its reasons?

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: It is submitted that 236 rural development schemes have been launched in the rural area of Islamabad during last five years by the local Government and Rural Development Department. Expenditure of Rs. 2597 Million has been incurred on these 236 schemes (**Details are attached at Annex-I**). 193 schemes have been completed, whereas 36 schemes are on-going and 07 have not been started. These 36 on-going schemes could not be completed due to the following reasons:—

- Less allocation of funds for development schemes from Planning and Development and Finance Division.
- Non release of funds by Finance Division as per approved work/cash plan.
- Delay in release of funds by Finance Division.

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library).

25. ***Haji Mohammad Adeel:** (Notice received on 20-05-2009 at 10:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of PIA flights being operated weekly on Peshawar-Lahore sector; and*
- (b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to operate daily flights on that sector, if not, its reasons?*

Ch. Ahmad Mukhtar: (a) PIA is operating 04 weekly flights on Peshawar – Lahore sector.

(b) Keeping in view the average seat factor archived during March to May, 2009 on Peshawar — Lahore and Lahore-Peshawar sector which is 53.3% and 40.1% respectively, there is no proposal under consideration to increase the number of flights.

26. ***Haji Mohammad Adeel:** (Notice received on 20-05-2009 at 10:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the details of advertisements issued by PID to the national, provincial and local newspapers during the tenure of the present Government indicating also the charges of those advertisements, the amount paid and to be paid to each newspaper for the same?

Mr. Qamar Zaman Kaira: The details of Government advertisements released through the Press Information Department to the different newspapers / periodicals from April, 2008 to April, 2009, are placed at Annexure-I.

All public sector advertisements are released through APNS-accredited advertising agencies. As per prevailing practice, the departments/organizations release their advertisements through their appointed advertising agencies. The client organizations select the newspapers while PID ensures 25% quota of regional publications and arrange; publication of advertisements according to their client's specifications. Later, the advertising agencies get the advertisement bills verified from PID for arranging payments by the respective client departments accordingly. The Advertising Agencies are bound to arrange payments to the newspapers within 90 days of the publication of advertisement. During this period the concerned/ respective Government departments arrange payment to the advertising agency through AGPR. The autonomous bodies make payments directly through their account sections. The charges of each publication differ from the other according to their advertisement rates.

During the period April, 2008 till April, 2009, PID has verified and has forwarded/sent bills to the tune of Rs. 2,38,66,20,556/- to AGPR and the autonomous bodies for payment by the respective organizations. Complete details of payments by respective organizations would be available a month after the closing of current financial year.

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library).

ISLAMABAD :
The 4th June, 2009.

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“UN-STARRED QUESTION AND ITS REPLY”

For Friday, the 5th June, 2009

1. **Mr. Naeem Hussain Chattha:** (Notice received on 09-05-2009 at 14:50 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of Escort Vehicles purchased by the Islamabad Police from 1st January, 2007 to 30th March, 2009;*
- (b) *the dignitaries/persons/officials for whom those vehicles were purchased; and*
- (c) *whether the vehicles are being used for the purpose for which the same were purchased?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: (a) 31 vehicles (Single Cabin Pick ups) were purchased for escort duty from 1st January, 2007 to 30th March, 2009.

(b) All the vehicles were purchased for escort duty with the Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

(c) These vehicles are being used for the purpose for which the same were purchased.

ISLAMABAD :
The 4th June, 2009.

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.