

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Friday, the 19th February, 2010

@ 19. ***Mr. Abdur Rahim Khan Mandokhail:** (Notice received on 23-01-2010 at 12:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether the Government has re-instated all the sacked employees of Intelligence Bureau in pursuance of the provisions of Sacked Employees (Re-instatement) Ordinance, 2009; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that those reinstated employees are neither being paid monthly salaries on regular basis nor they have been paid other financial benefits admissible to them under the said ordinance, if so, its reasons and the time by which the same will be paid to them?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: (a) Yes. The re-instatement of sacked employees in Intelligence Bureau has been made under Sacked Employees (Re-instatement) Ordinance, 2009.

(b) The reinstated employees in Intelligence Bureau are being paid their monthly salaries on regular basis.

It may be mentioned that in accordance with the ordinance, Intelligence Bureau reinstated the sacked employee in one scale higher of their substantive pay scales they held at the time of termination of their services. However, AGPR raised objections to the placing of reinstated employees in one scale higher and asked for the endorsement of Finance Division. Accordingly, Intelligence Bureau referred the case to Finance Division for endorsement as demanded by AGPR. Afterwards, the Finance Division while issuing instructions to AGPR to release the provisional pay of reinstated employees, advised Intelligence Bureau to refer the case to Anomaly Committee for guidance / clarification. Accordingly, the issue was referred to Anomaly Committee.

@ Deferred from 11th February, 2010.

The advice of the Anomaly Committee has been received on 19-01-2010. In the light of advice of Anomaly Committee, Intelligence Bureau has approached the Finance Division with the request to issue further necessary instructions to AGPR to pay the monthly salaries to the reinstated employees in one scale higher.

As regards the payment of other financial benefits admissible to the reinstated employees, like the arrears for three years in three equal installments the Intelligence Bureau has requested the Finance Division to release the requisite funds. The same are yet to be provided by the Finance Division. However, Intelligence Bureau is vigorously pursuing the case with concerned

authorities in Finance Division for early release of requisite funds. The due installments will be paid to the reinstated employees when the funds are received from the Finance Division.

@22. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 26-01-2010 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet. Division be pleased to state:

(a) *the losses occurred due to various fire incidents in forests on Margalla hills Islamabad from 2000 to 2008; and*

(b) *the steps taken by the Government to control such incidents in future?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: (a) The details of forest fire and damages caused due to forest fires in Margallah Hills from 2000 to 2008 are as under:—

Years	No. of Fire	Area Burnt (In Acres)	Damages Due to Forest Fire
2000	20	88	Bushes, Grass & 7 dead pine trees burnt
2001	71	131	Bushes, Grass & 1 dead pine trees burnt
2002	62	548	Bushes, Grass & 27 dead pine tree burnt
2003	09	07	Bushes, Grass & 03 dead pine trees burnt
2004	41	347	Bushes & Grass burnt
2005	37	409	Bushes, Grass & 03 dead pine trees burnt

@ Deferred from 11th February, 2010.

Years	No. of Fire	Area Burnt (In Acres)	Damages Due to Forest Fire
2006	38	345	Bushes, Grass & 13 dead pine trees burnt
2007	16	76	Bushes, Grass & 03 dead pine trees burnt
2008	14	9.25	Bushes & Grass burnt
TOTAL:	308	1960.25	

(b) To detect, prevent and control forest fire in Margallah Hills, the following steps have been taken by CDA:—

(i) Each year CDA observes forest fire season (15 April to 15 July) as an emergency duty and vacation of all the forest staff is banned.

- (ii) A Comprehensive SOP has been developed for efficient control of fire in MHNP?
- (iii) Fire Lines (229 K.M) and Trails/Paths (196 K.M) have been developed in MHNP and which are cleared before fire season.
- (iv) Village committees have been constituted in different village in MHNP which are involved for detection, prevention and control of forest fire.
- (v) Public awareness signage has been fixed in Margallah Hills.
- (vi) Training of supervisory and 150 fire fighters on forest fire control given with the help of Pakistan Wetland Program & Himalayan Wild life Foundation.
- (vii) 450 Forest Fire fighters deployed on 18 fire pickets round the clock in two shifts during fire season.
- (viii) Number of vehicles for patrolling, prevention and control of forest fire have been increased from 05 to 10.
- (ix) Special arrangements/coordination is made with 6 Aviation Squadron in case of big fire for aerial support.
- (x) CDA fire Brigade vehicles are deployed near Faisal Mosque and Daman-e-Koh.
- (xi) Co-ordination / liaison with NWFP & Punjab Forest Departments for control of fire occurring in their forest adjacent to Margallah Hills is made.
- (xii) For effective communication a control room equipped with base wireless station has been set up which operates round the clock during fire season. All the in-charge at the pickets provided with wireless sets.
- (xiii) Fire pump, fire beater and safety jackets are provided to the fire fighting staff.
- (xiv) Burnt area rehabilitated/planned up in the following planting season.

@23. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 26-01-2009 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of building plans of houses, plazas and shops approved by CDA from 2000-01 to 2007-08 with year-wise break up; and*
- (b) *the revenue collected by CDA in this regard?*

Reply not received.

#96. ***Mr Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 30-01-2010 at 08:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the quantity and value of food items imported during the last two years with item-wise break up indicating also the names of countries from which the same were imported?

Makhdoom Amin Fahim: (i) The total quantity and value of food items imported during the last two years item-wise break up is as under:—

@ Deferred from 11th February, 2010.

Transferred from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Value: Million US\$

Food Items	Unit	2007-2008		2008-2009	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Food Group		44,47,576	4212.0	58,25,387	4494.4
Milk	M.T	31,892	74.2	31,416	72.4
Cream Incl milk food for Infa					
Wheat	M.T.	1,820,225	860.0	3,102,634	1,078.6
unmilled					
Dry Fruit	M.T	115,894	79.5	118,068	84.0
Tea	M.T	100,391	202.0	96,932	222.6
Spices	M.T	134,191	85.1	105,358	70.7
Soyabean Oil	M.T.	108,334	103.5	91,844	87.8
Palm Oil	M.T.	1,763,944	1,616.6	1,773,580	1,390.9
Sugar	M.T.	36,692	14.8	125,743	56.3
All other food items			974.7		1,194.7

(ii) The name of the Country from which the same were imported is at a Annex-I.

#99. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 08:40 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) *the quantity and value of food items exported during the last two years with items-wise break up; and*

(b) *the names of the countries to which the said items were exported?*

Makhdoom Amin Fahim: (a) The total quantity and value of food items exported during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 is as under:—

Transferred from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Value in million US\$

Food Group	Quantity	Value
2007-2008	6,751,893	2833.0
2008-2009	6,723,547	3022.9

Source:—Federal Beauru of Statistics.

The item wise break up is at Annex-I.

(b) The list of the countries to which the said items have been exported is at Annex- II.

107. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 27-01-2010 at 09:05 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development pleased to state whether the coins of paisas 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50 are in vogue, if so; the value of the said coins issued during the last two years?

Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar: Yes. The coins of paisas 1,5, 10, 25 and 50 are in vogue.

No coin of the above values was issued during the last two years due to nil demand from the public.

108. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) *the number of persons appointed on regular, contract and daily wages basis in State Life Insurance Corporation during the last two years with province-wise break up; and*

(b) *the number of vacant posts in the said corporation with province-wise break up and the time by which these will be advertised?*

Makhdoom Amin Fahim: (a) During the last 2 years, the following recruitments are made on contract basis for a period of six months extendable to either time till the appointments of regular officers/staff after getting approval from the Board of Directors:—

OFFICERS

S. No.	Province	Total No.	Remarks
i.	NWFP / FATA	01	
ii.	Punjab	04	
iii.	Sindh (Urban)	13	
iv.	Sindh (Rural)	24	Contract of sixteen employees will expire in the month of March 2010.

STAFF

S. No.	Province	Total No.	Remarks
i.	NWFP / FATA	07	
ii.	Punjab	08	
iii.	Sindh (Urban)	07	
iv.	Sindh (Rural)	23	

(b) i. The vacancy position of officers and staff is enclosed as Annex-I. Presently the process of recruitments of officers through public advertisement is in progress. Interviews for the under mentioned posts are in process. The province-wise breakup of the posts is as under:—

S. No.	Desg	Seats	Merit	Punjab	Sind		NWFP	Balo-chistan	N.A./ FATA	A.K.
					Urban	Rural				
7.50%	50%	7.69%	11.40%	11.50%	6%	4%	2%			
i.	Mgrs	08	0.6	04	0.61	0.91	0.92	0.48	0.32	0.16
ii.	Dy Mgrs	25	1.9	12.5	1.9	2.9	2.9	1.5	1.0	0.5
iii.	Asst Mgrs	46	3.5	23.0	3.5	5.2	5.3	2.76	1.8	0.9
iv.	EOs	25	1.9	12.5	1.9	2.9	2.9	1.5	1.0	0.5

ii. The Board of Directors have not yet approved the segregation of the vacancies mentioned regarding staff *i.e.* for direct recruitments or promotion. As the Board of Directors approve the segregation, the Province-wise quota will be made and the same shall be advertised accordingly.

109. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) *the quantity of sugar and wheat off loaded at each port of the country during the last two years; and*

(b) *the names of contractors who were awarded contracts for transportation of the said items with province-wise break up?*

Makhdoom Amin Fahim: (a) Trading Corporation of Pakistan has informed that the following quantity of sugar and wheat was off loaded at different ports during the period 2008-09 and 2009-10:—

Sugar

Place	2008-09 (Quantity in MT)	2009-10 (Quantity in MT)
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Karachi Port	Nil	99,205.00
Port Qasim	Nil	129,383.55
Total:		228,588.55

Wheat

Place	2008-09 (Quantity in MT)	2009-10 (Quantity in MT)
Karachi Port	695,464.271	Nil
Port Qasim	1,068,961.494	Nil
Gwadar Port	896,001.375	Nil
Total:	2,660,427.140	

(b) The list showing names of contractors who were awarded contracts for transportation of the aforesaid items may kindly be seen at Annex-I and province-wise break up at Annex-II.

110. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 09:10 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the date of appointment of incumbent President of National Bank of Pakistan indicating also the period of his initial appointment; and*
- (b) *the period of extension in appointment granted, if any, to him and the procedure adopted for granting the extension?*

Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar: (a) Mr. S. Ali Raza was appointed as President, National Bank of Pakistan on 1st July, 2000 initially for a period of three years. He was re-appointed for second and third terms of three years *w.e.f.* 1st July, 2003 and 1st July, 2006. Lastly, he was reappointed for fourth terms of one year *w.e.f.* 1st July, 2009.

(b) The appointment and extension in the period of President is made in consultation with SBP in terms of Section 11(3)(a) and (d) of Banks; (Nationalization) Act, 1974, with approval of the Prime Minister.

111. ***Haji Ghulam Ali:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 12:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to grant bank loans on reduced mark-up rates to the industrialists and traders of NWFP, FATA and PATA, if so, its details?

Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar: To rehabilitate the economic and business activities in NWFP, FATA and PATA, the Prime Minister has announced a relief package. This package, *inter-alia*, provides that banks would charge maximum rate of mark-up upto KIBOR +1% for next two years on all outstanding business loans (Corporate / SME, Agriculture) of NWFP, FATA, PATA excluding Cigarette, Cement, Sugar and Beverages Sectors, wherein borrowers would pay 7.5%. The difference would be borne by the Government as subsidy. The total financial impact of the relief package would be about Rs.7.51 billion for two years.

112. ***Haji Ghulam Ali:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 12:25 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to grant concessions in various duties and taxes to the industrial and commerce sectors in NWFP, FATA and PATA, if so, its details?

Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar: Federal Government has announced following relief package to rehabilitate economic life in NWFP, FATA and PATA:—

- (i) The Federal Government has decided that the registered persons/importers or any other business entities owing any amount due to the government in form of customs duty, sales tax or excise duty and income tax will be allowed waiver of the entire amount of penalty and default surcharge if the principal amount is paid by 30-06-2010. This treatment has been extended both to the most as well as moderately affected areas of NWFP, FATA and PATA.
- (ii) Sales tax on the electricity consumed by the manufacturing units operating in the most and moderately affected areas whether registered or unregistered for the purposes of sales tax is being exempted. This will give a major boost to the marble, cosmetics and silk industries.
- (iii) Income tax payable alongwith electricity bills of commercial and industrial consumers located in the most and moderately affected areas is being fully exempted.
- (iv) Drawback of sales tax admissible on exports originating from the most affected and moderately affected areas will be paid within 3 days.
- (v) Exports originating from most and moderately affected areas are being exempted from income tax leviable on exports. This exemption will be allowed till the end of the next financial year.
- (vi) Federal Excise Duty on goods produced and services rendered is being reduced from 1st January, 2010 to 30th June, 2010 as follows:—

- (a) FATA & PATA Zero% (total exemption)
 - (b) Most affected areas and Zero% (total exemption)
 - (c) Moderately affected Areas 50% of the leviabale rate
- (vii) The rate of domestic sales tax on goods manufactured and supplies made in the most and moderately affected districts is being reduced by 50% of leviabale rate.
- (viii) Recovery of the outstanding arrears of income tax, sales tax and excise duty etc. will be allowed through easy installments over a period of 3 years on case to case basis and on the agreeable terms and conditions.
- (ix) The above concessions will not be applicable to the manufacturers and suppliers of cement, sugar, beverage and cigarettes.

113. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 30-01-2010 at 08:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names, educational qualifications, .experience, place of domicile and name of parent departments of the persons posted abroad as commercial attaches since January, 2009;*
- (b) *the procedure adopted for selection of the said persons?*

Makhdoom Amin Fahim:

114. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 30-01-2010 at 08:50 a.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to refer to the Senate unstarred question Nos.9 and 6 replied on 9th May, 2007 and 29th April, 2009 respectively and state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the work on overhead pedestrian bridge on Islamabad Expressway near Gangal has not been started so far, if so, its reasons; and*
- (b) *the time by which the said bridge will be started and completed?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: (a) CDA has already installed 05 Nos. pedestrian bridges on Islamabad Expressway at points of busiest road crossings. Overall 09 Nos. pedestrian bridges are planned on Islamabad Expressway including the bridge at Gangal. CDA is presently facing severe financial crunch and it has now been decided that the subject work shall be carried out on B.O.T. basis. Accordingly, the tender documents are being processed.

(b) The subject work is likely to start by July 2010 after fulfillment of codal formalities and is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

116. ***Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of persons working on regular, contract and daily wages basis in the National Insurance Company Limited with grade wise and province wise break up;*
- (b) *the names and date of appointment of the persons whose services have been regularized in the said Company since 1st January, 2008; and*
- (c) *the amount presently invested by that company in schemes within and out side the country?*

Makhdoom Amin Fahim: (a) List of workforce is enclosed as Annexure-A.

(b) No such regularization has been finalized so far.

(c) Details of investments is enclosed as Annexure-B

117. ***Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen:** (Notice received on 03-02-2010 at 12:20 p.m.).

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state the names and dates of posting of the persons working in the branches of Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited in Bahrain and U.K.?

Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar: No employee has been posted in the branches of Zarai. Taraqiati Bank. Ltd. (ZTBL) in Behrain and U.K. as the Bank does not have any Branch in foreign countries.

*Islamabad :
The 18th February, 2010.*

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.