

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Wednesday, the 13th May, 2015

DEFERRED QUESTIONS

- (i) *Questions Nos. 158 and 50 Deferred on 6th March, 2015 (112th Session)*
- (ii) *1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 were deferred on 5th May, 2015 (Current Session)*

***Question No. 158 (Def.). Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan :**

(Notice received on 28-08-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of deposits raised from the public by scheduled banking institutions from 1st July, 2013 to 30th June, 2014 with province-wise breakup; and*
- (b) *the details of loans advanced / provided by the said institutions during that period with province-wise breakup?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The details of deposits raised from the public by scheduled banking institutions from 1st July, 2013 to 30th June, 2014 with province-wise breakup is as under:—

(Million Rupees)

Province/Regions	Deposits
1. Punjab	330,121.0
2. Sindh	221,866.4

Province/Regions	Deposits
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	47.446.7

4. Balochistan	13,823.8
5. Islamabad	84,927.4
6. Gilgit-Baltistan	3,672.0
7. F A T A	1,709.6
8. Azad Jammu & Kashmir	12,899.4
Over All	716,466.3

(b) The details of loans advanced/provided by the said institutions during that period with province-wise breakup is as under:—

(Million Rupees)

Province/Regions	Advances
1. Punjab	161,355.0
2. Sindh	138,289.9
3. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	1,501.0
4. Balochistan	1,726.4
5. Islamabad	9,510.0
6. Gilgit-Baltistan	610.4
7. F A T A	230.9
8. Azad Jammu & Kashmir	772.4
Over All	313,995.9

***Question No. 50 (Def.) Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 18-11-2014 at 10:40 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the details of aid received by the present Government from foreign countries for the flood affectees in the country and details of its utilization / disbursement?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: Government of China provided two cash grants of US \$ 1.5 million and US \$ 1.00 million for flood affectees of 2013 and 2014 respectively. Finance Division made releases/disbursements of Rs. 253 million & Rs. 106 million to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) during 2013-14 & 2014-15 for undertaking relief activities.

***Question No. 1 (Def.) Mr. Farhatullah Babar:**

(Notice received on 12-03-2015 at 07:40 p.m.)

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

- (a) *the details of different multiple routes in the proposed China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) linking Gawadar with Khunjerab indicating also the alignment, length and estimated cost of each route and the names of cities / towns through which the same will pass;*
- (b) *the orders of priority in which each of said routes is planned to be executed indicating also the names of the routes on which work has already been commenced;*
- (c) *whether the issue of prioritization of those routes has been taken up in the Council of Common Interests (CCI), if so, the date on which the same was taken up and the decision taken thereon, if not, whether the same will be taken up in that Council, if so, when;*
- (d) *the details and cost of the missing infrastructural projects in each of the said routes indicating also the details and cost of such projects which have already been included in the PSDP;*
- (e) *the number and location of the Economic zones proposed to be setup along each of those routes; and*
- (f) *whether work has been started on any of the said zones, if so, the names and locations thereof?*

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal: (a) In fact China Pakistan Economic Corridor is not route but a comprehensive package of cooperative initiatives and projects which covers the key areas of connectivity such as information network, infrastructure, energy cooperation, industries and industrial parks, agricultural development and poverty alleviation, tourism, financial cooperation as well as livelihood improvement including municipal infrastructure, education, public health and people-to-people communication.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor would connect the nodes of existing and potential growth centers between Western China and Pakistan to enhance connectivity in all these spheres. The currently identified significant nodes along the corridor include Kashgar, Taxkorgan, Khunjerab, Peshawar Islamabad, Lahore, D.I. Khan, Multan, Sukkur, Quetta, Karachi and Gwadar etc. and such other nodes/growth centers which may fall within the CPEC in future. These will also be connected with trade facilitation corridors, dedicated freight corridors, energy corridors, trade logistics corridor, telecommunications corridor, industrial corridors etc. These include all the major existing and potential growth centers of all the provinces and the long-term benefits would also accrue to all the provinces Both sides are committed that the fruits of the development of this corridor should benefit all areas/provinces of Pakistan consistent with scientific planning parameters.

(b) In the CPEC context, it is very important to make the Gwadar Port fully operational first and provision of its linkage with Khunjerab. It is equally important to establish the

connectivity between significant nodes identified under CPEC and their linkage with Gwadar Port, Ports in Karachi in the South and Khunjerab in the North.

To achieve the above objective, construction of 18.981 Km East bay Expressway has been taken up as a priority project which links Gwadar Port with National highways and motorways network through M-8 & N-85 national highways. Work on M-8 & N-85 being fully funded by the Federal Govt. has been put on fast track basis. Work on M-8 Gwadar-Turbat-Hoshab Section (192 Km) and N-85 Hoshab-Panjgur-Nag-Basima –Sorab (454 Km) has been targeted for completion by June 2016 which will provide connectivity of Gwadar Port with Quetta, D.I.Khan and Peshawar *via* N-25, N-50 and N-55 on the western side. To provide the connectivity of Gwadar Port with the highways and motorways network on the eastern side, work on Khuzdar-Ratodero section of M-8 has been planned for completion during this year.

To provide the onward connection with Khunjerab through KKH, multiple existing as well as under construction alignments are available such as N-5 Grand Trunk Road starting from Karachi up to Peshawar, N-55 Indus Highway from Kotri to Peshawar, N-25 linking Karachi with Quetta and onwards up to Chaman border with Afghanistan, then N-50 Linking Quetta with D.I.Khan through Qilla Saifullah, Zhob and Mughalkot up to Peshawar through N-55. The current year PSDP portfolio of Ministry of Communications/NHA include rehabilitation/upgradation projects for the above mentioned national highways. Construction work for improvement of 81 Km Zhob - Mughalkot section of N-50 has been taken up by National Highway Authority. Also NHA is undertaking a feasibility study of a 4-lane highway to connect D.I.Khan with Peshawar-Islamabad Motorway M1.

There also exist a network of Motorways such as M-1 (155 Km), a 6 lane motorway from Peshawar to Islamabad and M-2 (354 Km), a 6 lane motorway from Islamabad to Lahore. M-3 has also been constructed which starts from Pindi Bhattian at M-2 and terminates at Faisalabad. Work on Motorway from Faisalabad to Multan is in progress and its first completed section up to Gojra has been recently inaugurated by the Prime Minister. The remaining sections of Peshawar-Islamabad-Lahore-Karachi Motorway such as Multan-Sukkur and Sukkur – Hyderabad are also planned for execution. Construction of 136 Km Hyderabad - Karachi section has been awarded to FWO on BOT basis which is the first highway project on BOT basis at this scale in Pakistan. Rehabilitation work of M-2 has also been awarded to FWO on BOT basis.

Work has also started on Hazara Motorway which connects Havelian with Burhan at M-1 and will link Karakoram Highway (KKH) with national highways and motorways network. An alternate existing link is also available from Hassan Abdal on N-5 to KKH.

KKH from Raikot to Khunjerab has been completed in phase I and work will soon start on the 120 Km long Thakot-Havelian section under Phase II.

So the Government of Pakistan is working not on a single route or highway but on multiple sections to provide connection between significant nodes identified under CPEC with Gwadar & Karachi in the South and Khunjerab in the North for development of China Pak Economic Corridor through the existing/planned networks which pass through all the provinces.

Once fruits of initial development of CPEC become available, long term plan envisages construction of new alignments which cannot be taken up at this stage due to the huge financing requirements as well as long construction period.

(c) It has not been considered for taking up in the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

(d) In light of the reply to Part (b), response is not required.

(e) Gwadar Port Free Zone has been proposed while other economic zones are yet to be determined under the cooperation mechanism.

(f) For Gwadar Port Free Zone, land measuring 2,281 acres has been acquired under Federal Government financing and the land lease deed between GPA & China Overseas Ports holding Company is under process.

***Question No. 2 (Def.). Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh:**

(Notice received on 13-03-2015 at 04:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for revenue collection during the current financial year;

(b) the revenue collected so far with quarter-wise break-up; and

(c) if the said collection is not as per the target fixed, the reasons for the shortfall?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The revised target for revenue collection during the current financial year is Rs. 2,691 Billion.

(b) The revenue collected during July-March 2014-15 has been Rs. 1,775.1 billion. The quarter-wise break-up is as under:

	Rs. Billion
Quarters	Collection
Quarter-1-	537.9
Quarter-2	634.1
Quarter-3	603.1
Total (July-March)	1,775.1

(c) Target of Rs. 2,810 billion was fixed at the time of budget which was later on revised to Rs. 2,691 billion. As far as the revised target of Rs. 1,775 billion (upto March 2015) is concerned, it has been met. However, if it is compared with original target (upto March 2015) it is Rs.151 billion short. The reasons of shortfall to the original target is as under:—

- (i) The macroeconomics indicators like inflation, imports, LSM (Nominal) and GDP (Nominal) remained below expectations.
- (ii) This has been further accentuated by decline in international prices specifically of POL (Rs. 68 billion shortfall estimated in Sales tax alone.)
- (iii) The Law and Order situation and electricity, gas outages further deteriorated the tax collection efforts.
- (iv) The tax base was eroded by around Rs. 21 billion as against revised target of Rs. 2275 billion set for FY 2013-14. The actual collection stood as Rs. 2254.5 billion for the year 2013-14.

***Question No. 3 (Def.). Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh:**

(Notice received on 13-03-2015 at 04:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of income tax payers registered in the country at present;*
- (b) *the number of the said persons who actually paid the income tax for the last financial year; and*
- (c) *the number of the persons who have been registered as tax payers but they did not file their returns for the said financial year indicating also the action taken by FBR against them?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The number of income tax payers registered in the country *i.e.* NTN holders as on 30-03-2015 is **3,762,383**

(b) The number of persons who actually paid the income tax for the last financial year is **1,093,475**. This includes the persons who have filed income tax returns for tax year 2014.

(c) The number of the persons who have been registered as tax payers but did not file their returns for the tax year 2014 is **2,958,485 (till 30-03-2015)**.

Non filing taxpayers have been struck off from the Active Taxpayers List (ATL).

Legal notices for non-filing u/s 114(4) of Income Tax Ordinance 2001, have been issued to the non-filers. Further action is being taken as provided in law and procedure to ensure filing of returns.

***Question No. 4 (Def.). Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan:**

(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of vehicles and motorcycles assembled / manufactured in the country during the last five years with year-wise break-up;*
- (b) *the number of vehicles and motorcycles exported by Pakistan based manufacturers / assemblers during the said period with year-wise break-up; and*
- (c) *the number of vehicles and motorcycles imported into the country indicating also the import value thereof during that period with year-wise break-up?*

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi: (a) No. of Vehicles & Motorcycles assembled/manufactured during last five years are as under:

Products	Production During 2009-10 to 2013-14
Cars	647,438
Jeeps	5,089
Pick-Ups / LCVs	89,113
Trucks	15,240
Buses	3,588
Tractors	281,353
Motorcycles	7,860,524
Auto Rickshaw	201,732
Grand Total	9,104,077

Year-wise break-up is attached as **Annex-I**.

(b) Year-wise break-up of vehicles and motorcycles exported by Pakistan as received from FBR is attached as **Annex-II**.

(c) The number of imported vehicles and motorcycles in the country, the period with year-wise breakup of import value received from FBR is attached as **Annex-III**.

***Question No. 5 (Def.). Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan:**

(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Science and Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of mechanism devised for quality testing of packaged milk being sold in the country;*
- (b) *the names and other details of accredited laboratories in the country where the said testing is carried out;*
- (c) *the nature and frequency of such testing; and*
- (d) *whether the said testing is periodically conducted at accredited laboratories abroad, if so, the names and location of such laboratories indicating also the dates on which testing was carried out in each of those laboratories during the last two years?*

Rana Tanveer Hussain: (a) The Government of Pakistan has mandated Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) to monitor the quality of the 37 food items in the country which are under mandatory certification through SRO's issued by the Govt. of Pakistan from time to time (**Annexure -A**). As per PSQCA Act VI of 1996 and Pakistan Conformity Assessment Rule 2011, the quality testing of packaged milk does not fall under the mandate of PSQCA being not included in the list of mandatory items.

PSQCA has however a complete mechanism in place to check the quality of Food and other mandatory items as per Pakistan Standards (**Annexure-B**).

Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) working under the administrative control of Ministry of Science and Technology is playing crucial role in the sustainable development of the country through provision of quality control and quality assurance services to food sectors including milk products in Pakistan on demand basis.

(b) Pakistan National Accreditation Council (PNAC) working under the administrative control of Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) has accredited following laboratories which are involved in the testing of the Microbiological & Chemical Testing of Milk/Milk products:

S. #	Organization Name
1.	Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (PCSIR), Karachi
2.	Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (PCSIR), Peshawar
3.	Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (PCSIR), Lahore
4.	Qarshi Research International (Pvt) Ltd, Hatter
5.	QA Lab, Nestle Pakistan, Sheikhupura
6.	QA Lab, Nestle Pakistan, Kabirwala

(c) The testing of food and commodity products by PCSIR is purely on commercial basis (as and when demanded by the clients).

(d) Not applicable to MoST organizations.

***Question No. 6 (Def.). Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz:**
(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the pay, allowance and other fringe benefits admissible to the President of National Bank of Pakistan; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that salary of the President of the said Bank has recently been increased by Rs. 1.1 million, if so, the reasons/ justification thereof?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The pay, allowances and other fringe benefits admissible to the President of National Bank of Pakistan are **annexed**.

(b) The salary of President NBP has not recently been increased. He was appointed President NBP on January 21, 2014 for a term of three years and his salary was fixed by the shareholders in their Extra Ordinary General meeting held on February 06, 2015.

Annexure

Subject	Compensation Package and Benefits
Position	CEO/President
Contract Period	The contract period is 3 years from date of Govt. Notification, renewable at the option of the Federal Government.
Gross salary	Monthly Gross Salary of PKR 3.5 million
Variable Salary/Annual Performance Bouns	Performance Bonus will be RECOMMENDED by the Board and APPROVED by the shareholders in the general meeting based on performance against agreed Performance indicators and in comparison to the Presidents of peer Banks.
Utilities, Security Arrangements and Domestic Help	Utilities (Electricity, Gas, Water, Residence Telephone(s)/Mobile phone(s) at actual). Security arrangement to be provided by the Bank Deployment of four (04) security Guards <i>i.e.</i> two Security Guards on 12 hours shift basis at Residence. Salary of five (05) persons (PKR. 90,000/- per month on reimbursement basis).
House Loan	As part of the employment arrangement, NBP will take over the unpaid portion of the existing housing loan availed by syed Ahmed Iqbal Ashraf on the terms and conditions applicable in NBP. However, the Bank may convert the same into a commercial loan in case of separation of the President from the Bank.
Subject	Compensation Package and Benefits
Home Furnishing Allowance	Amount equivalent to one gross salary payable one during tenure of three years.

Vehicles and Fuel	Two cars (one 4.700 cc and one 3,500 cc) provided by the Bank, both fully maintained by the Bank President to have options to purchase one car at 10% of cost or at WDV, whichever is higher, at separation or on expiry of contract. Fuel for the Bank provided vehicles at actual.
Drivers	Two drivers provided and paid by the Bank or alternatively salary of two drivers reimbursed @ PKR. 25,000/- per driver per months.
Leave Entitlement	Annual leaves 30 days and Medical/sick leave 18 per annum Annual leaves may be accumulated upto 90, which are encashable on the basis of last drawn gross salary.
Generator Facility at Residence	As per Bank's policy for SEVPs.
House and Garden Maintenance	Fully maintained by Bank at actual.
Official Travel/Expenses Reimbursement	As per Bank's policy for SEVPs.
Medical	Medical/Dental coverage for self and dependent family members within Pakistan and reimbursement of all expenses at actual. Full fledged dental treatment facilities at cost. No post separation or retirement medical/dental facility will be available.
Group/Life Insurance	Life insurance coverage to be provided by the Bank (amount Rs. 30 million) during the tenure of contract. 50% yearly premium to be paid by him and remaining 50% yearly premium to be paid by the Bank during the tenure of contract only.
Terminal Benefits	Gratuity to be paid at one-month last draw gross salary for each year of service 6 months or more to be treated as a completed year of service.
Club member ship	Membership (entry fee) for two clubs of incumbent's choice to be paid by the Bank Subscription/other Charges of 3 clubs to be paid by the Bank.
Annual salary and Benefits Review	The package shall remain fixed during the tenure of the contract.
Separation from Bank's Service	In-cash of Termination of contract. Three months' notice period or salary in lieu thereof. in-case of Resignation: Three months' notice period or salary in lieu thereof.

***Question No. 7 (Def.). Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz:**
(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the management of the National Bank of Pakistan has announced to abolish the region / regional headquarters of the National Bank Larkana, if so, the reasons thereof?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: Yes

Reasons

The prime objective of restructuring of field offices is to improve efficiency and service quality to ensure competitive & dynamic presence in the contemporary banking industry. This strategic move will result in reduced processing /decision time, prompt delivery, aggressive marketing of NBP products & services. Beside, it will help divert maximum skilled human resources to branches/hub branches instead of back offices.

The restructuring plan of NBP has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank after thorough deliberations.

***Question No. 8 (Def.). Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Dhamrah @ Aajiz:**

(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state that:

- (a) the names, designation and place of domicile of the persons directly appointed as SEVP, EVP and SVP in the National Bank of Pakistan during the last two years;*
- (b) the number of officers of the said bank whose promotions were affected due to the said appointments;*
- (c) the names, designation and place of domicile of the officers / officials of the said bank who have been promoted against the posts of SEVP, EVP and SVP during the said period;*
- (d) the criteria laid down for promotion against the said posts; and*
- (e) the names and designation of the officers/officials of the said bank belonging to Sindh rural and Sindh urban whose services have been terminated, dismissed or suspended during the said period indicating also the reasons for termination/dismissal/suspension in each case?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) Seventeen (17) persons have been directly appointed as SEVP/EVP/ and SVP in the bank during last two years. Details are at **Annex-I**.

(b) Contract appointments in senior grades have been made against technical/professional assignments for specific period of time. Therefore, promotions of regular executives have not been affected.

(c) Eighty two (82) officials have been promoted, their names, designation and place of domicile are at **Annex-II**.

(d) The criteria for promotion were the seniority in the grade, professional qualification, last three years performance ratings and interview of the candidates.

(e) Forty (40) employees from the province of Sindh have been terminated/dismissed on account of fraud/forgery/submission of fake degree & un-authorized absence from duty. Details are at **Annex-III**.

***Question No. 9 (Def.). Ms. Nighat Mirza:**

(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 02:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the amount collected as taxes and duties by Federal Board of Revenue under various heads from July 2014 to February, 2015 and during the same period of preceding year indicating also the percentage of increase in collection during that period of current financial year;*
- (b) *the percentage of increase made in various taxes and duties and details of new taxes imposed during the said period of 2014-15 as compared to the same period of preceding year; and*
- (c) *the amount of taxes and duties collected as a result of the said increase and its percentage to the total collection?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) FBR has collected **Rs. 1538.1** billion during July-February 2014-15 against **Rs. 1360.6** billion collected in the corresponding period of preceding year. The collection of July-February 2014-15 is **13%** higher than the collection of July-February 2013-14. The head-wise collection and growth is shown in the following Table:

Table 1: Head-wise Taxes and Duties Collected by FBR

Rs. Billion

Tax Head	July-February 2014-15	July-February 2013-14	Growth%
Direct Taxes	599.3	500.1	19.8
Sales Tax	669.3	635.6	5.3
FED	88.7	78.0	13.7
Customs	180.8	146.9	23.1
Total	1,538.1	1,360.6	13.0

- (b) The percentage of increase made in various taxes and duties is given above.

Detail of new taxes:

I. Customs

- 0% duty slabs in tariff was substituted with 1% duty slabs.
 - 5% regulatory duty was imposed on luxury goods.
 - Concessions available under different SRO's was withdrawn/reduced.
- The further details of new taxes and duties are given in Annex-A, B and C.

(c) The amount of taxes and duties collected during July-February 2014-15 as a result of the said increase is **Rs. 137 billion**, which is **9.0%** of the total collection.

***Question No. 10 (Def.). Ms. Nighat Mirza:**
(Notice received on 16-03-2015 at 02:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the names and value of smuggled items confiscated by the regional offices of the Directorate General of Customs Intelligence from January to December, 2014?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: The details of smuggled items confiscated by the regional offices of the Directorate General of Customs intelligence & Investigation-FBR, from January to December, 2014 is enclosed as (*Annex-A*).

***Question No. 11 (Def.). Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan:**
(Notice received on 17-03-2015 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reform be pleased to state the details of the Early Harvest Economic Corridor projects indicating also the estimated cost, source of funding, terms of funding, date of commencement and date of completion in each case?

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal: The list of communication and energy related prioritized/early harvest projects as agreed during 2nd & 3rd Joint Cooperation Committee meetings of China-Pak Economic Corridor alongwith tentative estimated costs is attached at Annex. Under an energy cooperation agreement with Chinese side it was mutually agreed that both sides would cooperate to complete 10,400 MW prioritized energy projects of thermal, wind & solar by 2017-18 and hydro projects by 2020 (Sr. No. 1-14 of attached list). The transport infrastructure projects at Sr. No. 1, 2, 5 and 6 are also scheduled to be completed by 2017-18.

The timing of remaining projects would be finalized after necessary technical & financial work is completed. The energy projects at Sr. No. 1-14 of attached list are expected to be constructed in IPP mode with major financing by Chinese financial institutions. The transport infrastructure projects at Sr. No. 1, 2, 5 and 6 are expected to be completed through concessional loans by the Chinese side.

***Question No. 12 (Def.). Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**
(Notice received on 17-03-2015 at 10:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps being taken by the Government to restructure the units proposed to be privatized in order to get the best possible price thereof;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that some profit making institutions like Banks, OGDCL and PPL are also being privatized, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *the details of mismanagement surfaced in privatization of Public entities in the past and precautionary measures being adopted by the Government to avoid the same?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The restructuring of the units to be privatised will be carried out, if deemed necessary, after the diagnostic analysis of the sector and entity. Services of independent Financial Advisors are being hired on major transactions keeping in view the complexity of the entity. Currently, restructuring plans of PSMC and PIA, are in process. In case of PSMC, a restructuring plan of Rs.18.5 Billion has been approved by the ECC in April, 2014, to revive the unit to maximize its production capacity and to turn around the same to profitability. In case of PIA, Financial Advisors are preparing the proposals.

(b) The Government has not privatised OGDCL and PPL. The Government was only divesting minority stakes in OGDCL and PPL through the capital market. Divestment of shareholding in OGDCL could not materialize due to decline in oil price, whereas only ~3.5% of company share capital was divested in PPL through the domestic stock exchanges. The PPL share was sold at a premium to market price. In case of Banks, UBL, ABL and HBL has already been privatised

(c) Since the promulgation of Privatization Commission Ordinance, 2000, the Privatisation Commission (PC) has carried out privatisation of public entities as per the approvals of the Cabinet Committee on Privatisation (CCOP). Neither any case of mismanagement has been highlighted by COOP nor has any inquiry of mismanagement in the privatisation process been initiated by PC on the directions of CCOP. However, National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) have investigated some cases of privatisation. A list of all such cases is attached at **Annex**. Details / current status of these cases can be obtained from the concerned Agency, as PC does not have that information.

This Commission is fully committed to ensure the highest standards of integrity and transparency in conducting all its transactions.

***Question No. 13 (Def.). Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh:**
(Notice received on 17-03-2015 at 03:55 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names, designation and place of domicile of the employees of Utility Stores Corporation whose services have been terminated during the present regime indicating also the reasons for termination in each case;*

(b) *the names, designation and place of domicile of the employees of the said Corporation whose services have been regularized during the present regime; and*

(c) *the names, designation and place of domicile of the persons appointed in that Corporation during the present regime?*

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi: (a) List of terminated employees is enclosed (Annex-A).

(b) Nil.

(c) List of employees appointed during the present regime is enclosed (Annex-B).

***Question No. 14 (Def.). Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 18-03-2015 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

(a) *the number of Utility Stores in Karachi at present; and*

(b) *the steps being taken by the Government to establish more such stores in the said city?*

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi: (a) Presently the Corporation is operating 189 Stores in the Karachi City out of which 158 are regular Stores and 31 are Franchised Utility Stores.

(b) At Present there is no proposal for opening of more stores in Karachi City.

Annexure-A

Sr. No.	Region	Regular	Franchise	Total
01	Karachi (S)	81	15	96
02	Karachi (N)	77	16	93
Total :		158	31	189

***Question No. 15 (Def.). Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 24-03-2015 at 10:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the revenue collected through taxes on export of garments during the last three years with category-wise / type-wise breakup?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: Only 1% withholding tax is leviable on all textile exports. Tax collected on export of garments during the last three years is as under:—

2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (upto 31st March, 2015)
2,318	2,804	2,144

***Question No. 16 (Def.). Mr. Abdul Rehman Malik:**
(Notice received on 16-04-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 41.1 % of Government shares in Habib Bank Limited have been sold to a business group, if so, its reasons;*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the said shares were giving profit of over 200 million dollars yearly;*
- (c) whether it is further a fact that D.G. Khan Cement and Muslim Commercial Bank (MCB) were also sold to the said business group;*
- (d) whether it is further a fact that an inquiry of dubious deal of Muslim Commercial Bank is pending in NAB where the forged guarantees were generated; and*
- (e) whether the said group / company against which inquiry / proceedings are pending in NAB can buy or participate in the process of Privatization of public entities?*

Reply not received.

***Question No. 17 (Def.). Mr. Nauman Wazir:**
(Notice received on 17-04-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that smuggled goods are being sold in Bara markets in Peshawar and other parts of the country, if so, the reasons for not confiscating those goods and closing down the markets?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: The status of Bara Markets selling foreign origin goods has been a matter of concern since many years. It initially evolved at Bara, in Khyber Agency during the late 1970s for sale of foreign origin smuggled goods. With the passage of time such markets have been established in different parts of the country selling a mix of smuggled, legally imported and counterfeit goods having wide customer base due to its reputation for

comparatively cheaper goods. ‘Karkhana market established at the border between the settled district of Peshawar and Khyber Agency near Hayatabad is one of such markets.

As regards confiscation of smuggled goods being sold in the Bara Markets and closing down of these markets, the issue has political, administrative and social dimensions. Any operation against these markets requires complete support of the provincial government and other stakeholders. In the past, Pakistan Customs approached the Home & Tribal Affairs Department (KP), Police and other law enforcement agencies for a coordinated action against the markets, but the effort could not materialize due to lack of consensus amongst the stakeholders and concerns regarding its implications on the already volatile law and order situation in the province.

As a matter of fact, FBR has reinvigorated its efforts against smuggling by resorting to raids on godowns/storage dens of smuggled goods throughout the country on specific, authentic information and by associating law enforcement agencies.

As a result of this heightened enforcement efforts made by Pakistan Customs, a visible increase in seizure of smuggled goods can be noticed from the following data of smuggled goods seized during the last three years:

Year	CIF Value (Rs. in Millions)
July 2014 to March 2015	21,483.11
2013-14	7409.32
2012-13	5328.83

***Question No. 85. Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh :**

(Notice received on 17-03-2015 at 03:55 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) the names, designation and place of domicile of the employees of National Bank of Pakistan whose services have been terminated during the present regime indicating also the reasons for termination in each case;*
- (b) the names, designation and place of domicile of the employees of the said Bank whose services have been regularized during the present regime; and*
- (c) the names, designation and place of domicile of the persons appointed in that Bank during the present regime?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) 101 employees of the Bank have been terminated/dismissed from bank's service on account of submission of fake educational

documents/having involved in fraud and un-authorized absence from duty. Details are at **Annex-I**.

(b) During the present regime, the service of no employee of the Bank has been regularized.

(c) 52 persons have been hired on contract basis considering their educational qualification and professional expertise. Details are at **Annex-II**.

***Question No. 86. Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan :**

(Notice received on 18-03-2015 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the total credit off take by the private sector from the scheduled banks in the country from 1st July to 31st December, 2014;*
- (b) *the credit off take by the Government and state owned enterprises from the said banks during that period;*
- (c) *the amount of loans by those banks outstanding against the private sector as on 31st January, 2015; and*
- (d) *the amount of loans by those banks outstanding against the Government sector, including bank investment in Government securities and lending to public sector enterprises, as on 31st January, 2015?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) The total credit off take by the private sector from the scheduled banks from 1st July to 31st December, 2014 is Rs. 238.510 million.

(b) The credit off take by the Government and state owned enterprises from the scheduled banks from 1st July to 31st December, 2014 is Rs. 682,644 million and Rs. 79,812 million respectively.

(c) The amount of loans by those banks outstanding against the private sector as on 31st January 2015 is Rs. 3,502,214 million.

(d) The amount of loans by those banks outstanding against the Government sector, including bank investment in Government securities is Rs. 4600,649 million and lending to public sector enterprises, as on 31st January, 2015 is Rs. 600,126 million.

***Question No. 87. Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh:**

(Notice received on 18-03-2015 at 12:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of complaints received regarding illegitimate withdrawal of amount from accounts of various account holders of the National Bank of Pakistan through various ATMs since 1st January, 2015 and the action taken thereon;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that the concerned authorities of the said Bank have failed to investigate such malpractices, if so, the action taken or being taken against them; and*
- (c) the steps being taken to investigate the said malpractices, plug the loop holes in the system, bring the culprits to justice and refund the amount to the affected account holders?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) No such case has been reported since January 1, 2015.

(b) No. Whenever such incidents happened in the past, NBP took up the matter with the State Bank of Pakistan and 1-link (Shared ATM Network that enables the customers to access their funds from any of banks' ATMs) member banks to take necessary action with regard to non-vigilant monitoring of ATM Machines to safeguard the interest of NBP Customer and to formulate a framework through which these illegitimate withdrawals could be minimized.

(c) National Bank of Pakistan is making all out efforts to make sure that such incidents do not occur with vigilant round the clock ATM monitoring.

***Question No. 88. Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan :**

(Notice received on 20-03-2015 at 10:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage / share of advances in the total assets of the five largest scheduled banks in the country as on 31st December, 2013 and 31st December, 2014, separately;*
- (b) the percentage / share of investments in the said assets as on the said dates; and*
- (c) the percentage / share of Federal Government securities in the investments made by the said banks as of those dates?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) Percentage/share of advances in total assets of the five largest scheduled banks in the country as on 31st December, 2013 is 36.94% and as on 31st December, 2014 is 35.72%.

(b) Percentage/share of investments in total assets as on 31st December, 2013 is 43.67% and as on 31st December, 2014 is 46.24%

(c) Percentage/share of Federal Government securities in the investments made by said banks as of 31st December, 2013 is 86.35% and as on 31st December, 2014 is 88.25%.

***Question No. 89. Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 31-03-2015 at 10:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state the steps taken / being taken by the Government to improve the quality and rationalize the prices of various items being sold at utility stores in the country?

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi:

- a. Quality of commodities being sold at USC outlets has substantially improved. Branded items in the brand name like Unilever, Nestle, Racket and Benkisser are procured directly from National and Multi-National Companies of repute. These Companies stand for the warranty and quality of the products and items provided by them. There is no complaint on the quality of these items. The annual turnover of the Corporation is close to Rs. 60 billion, which itself proves the confidence of customers on quality of commodities being sold at USC Outlets.
- b. The prices of the items being sold at Utility Stores are usually lower by 5 to 10% in comparison with the open market.

***Question No. 90. Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq :**

(Notice received on 22-04-2015 at 09:10 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the average per capita income in the country with province-wise break up; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to increase the said income and to equalize the same in all federating units?*

Reply not received.

***Question No. 91. Ms. Rahila Magsi:**

(Notice received on 22-04-2015 at 11:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the percentage of increase registered in foreign remittances since the launch of Pakistan Remittance Initiative (RI), in 2009 with year-wise breakup;*
- (b) *the name / names of the countries which are the highest contributors to those remittances; and*
- (c) *whether any policy initiative / framework has been proposed by the present Government to streamline the said remittances, if so, the details thereof?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) Average percentage of increase registered in foreign remittances since the launch of Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI) in 2009 till 2014 is 16.3%. Year-wise breakup is as follows:

							Amount in USD billion
							Fiscal Year
2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
6.45	7.81	8.90	11.20	13.18	13.92	15.83	

(b) Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA and UK are highest contributors to remittances.

(c) Government has taken various steps to improve/increase the inflow of home remittances including establishment of Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI). PRI made efforts to bring commercial banks in the business of home remittance and also provided assistance and training to facilitate banks to enter in the home remittance business. As a result, banks have invested in technology and established their dedicated home remittance cells and call centers for quick complaint resolution. As a result, 24 banks and their branches are now disbursing remittances, which is convenient and safe from the regulatory and individuals perspective.

The Government of Pakistan has also been reimbursing the cost of sending money to Pakistan under the Scheme of Reimbursement of TT charges on Home Remittances. During the current fiscal year (2014-15), Government has released an amount of Rs.13 billion so far, on account of outstanding claims by banks under the TT charges scheme. This also helped bolster the growth in home remittances during recent months.

Efforts are being made to increase outreach through inclusion of microfinance banks and telecom companies for the payment of home remittances in the country. Furthermore, for efficient flow of remittances, following projects have been undertaken:

- (i) Enhancement of outreach and marketing efforts.
- (ii) New home remittance products *e.g.* automated delivery into bank accounts, cash over counter payments etc.

- (iii) Improvements in payment infrastructure.
- (iv) Remittances through branchless banking and
- (v) Pre-departure briefing programs.

***Question No. 92. Ms. Rahila Magsi:**

(Notice received on 22-04-2015 at 11:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) procedure laid down for verification of "Service Books" of the Government employees in BPS-4 to 16 by the AGPR;*
- (b) the number of officers / officials deputed by AGPR for verification of Service Books of the said employees;*
- (c) the names and names of departments of the employees whose Service Books have been verified by the AGPR since January, 2015; and*
- (d) the names and names of departments of the employees whose Service Books are pending for verification by the AGPR since that month and the time by which the same will be verified?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: The material is being collected from concerned quarter which involves a lot of details. Accordingly, Senate Starred Question No.92 may be deferred to the next ROTA DAY.

***Question No. 93. Ms. Rahila Magsi:**

(Notice received on 23-04-2015 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Science and Technology be pleased to state whether it is a fact that both surface and ground water in the country are contaminated with coli forms, toxic metals and pesticides, if so, the present status of research to develop and test simple technologies for sustainable availability of safe drinking water?

Rana Tanveer Hussain : Yes. It has been found that 82-84% drinking water sources (surface as well as ground water) have major contaminations such as Bacteria (Coliforms), Arsenic, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Turbidity, Nitrate and Fluoride.

Pakistan lags far behind in the provision of safe drinking water. The tenth MDG target was 93% of the population's access to safe and improved water by 2015. This enormous challenge requires enhancing the implementation capacity of relevant institutions.

As far as research to develop and test simple technologies is concerned, Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) has established 24 water quality testing laboratories all over the country including Islamabad (Annexure-I).

Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources a research organization of MoST has developed simple water testing and treatment technologies available to general public and water supply agencies at a low cost, like;

- i. Microbiological Field Testing kit (Rs. 200/test).
- ii. Arsenic Field Testing Kit (Rs. 100/test).
- iii. Safe Water Filter for simultaneous removal of Arsenic, Bacteria and Turbidity (Rs. 2500/filter device of 18 liter capacity).
- iv. Mahfooz Pani Disinfection Tablets for removal of microbial contamination (Rs. 150/ Pack of 30 tablets, one tablet for 20 liters).

***Question No. 94. Mr. Rozi Khan Kakar :**

(Notice received on 23-04-2015 at 03:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether any development funds have been granted / released to Members of National Assembly (MNAs) of Pakistan by the present Government, if so, the amount granted to each MNA; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to grant the said funds to the Members of the Senate of Pakistan, if so, the amount to be granted to each Member?*

Reply not received.

***Question No. 94-A. Mr. Rozi Khan Kakar :**

(Notice received on 23-04-2015 at 03:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of complaints submitted by the account holders of National Bank of Pakistan, B-Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad, regarding non-release of money by ATMs from 31st October to 2nd November, 2013, indicating also the action taken in each case;*
- (b) *the details of the said complaints in which amount have been paid to the complainants; and*

(c) *the details of the said complaints in which the amount has not been paid to the account holders/complainants so far and the time by which the same will be paid?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar : (a) No complaint was received against National Bank of Pakistan, B-Block. Pak. Sectt. regarding non-release of money by ATM from the account holders from 31st October to 2nd November, 2013.

(b) Not required in view of 'a' above.

(c) Not required in view of 'a' above.

***Question No. 95. Mr. Rozi Khan Kakar :**

(Notice received on 24-04-2015 at 09:00 a.m.)

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

(a) *the original route map of Pak-China Economic Corridor;*

(b) *whether any material changes have been made in the said route of that corridor, if so, the details thereof; and*

(c) *the estimated benefits to be accrued from the said corridor with province wise breakup?*

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal : (a) There is no original planned route of China Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC). The facts of the case are as follows:—

China Pakistan Economic Corridor envisages connectivity and expansion of trade and investment through a network of road, rail, sea, aviation, fiber optic cables and energy pipelines. The MOU, signed on 5 July, 2013 also provides for creation of special economic zones, industrial parks, trade centers and development of energy and technical cooperation.

Thus, CPEC is a comprehensive package of cooperative initiatives and projects, which covers the key areas including connectivity, information network, infrastructure, energy cooperation, industries and industrial parks, agricultural development and poverty alleviation, tourism, financial cooperation as well as livelihood improvement including municipal infrastructure, education, public health and people to people communication.

CPEC would connect the nodes of growth center. Significant nodes along the corridor would be Kashgar, Taxkorgan, Kunjerab, Peshawar, D.I. Khan, Islamabad, Lahore, Multan, Sukkur, Quetta, Karachi and Gwadar etc. and such other nodes/growth centers which may fall within CPEC in future. It will also be connected with trade facilitation corridors, dedicated freight corridors, energy corridors, trade logistics corridor, telecommunication corridor etc. Both sides are committed that the fruits of the

development shall benefit all areas/Provinces of Pakistan consistent with scientific planning parameters.

In the light of the above explanation, it is clarified that connectivity under the CPEC is a network of routes/links/connections which includes western alignment and not specific to any specific route, original or otherwise.

(b) As explained in para (a) above there has been no such change.

(c) It is a long term project and its benefits both direct and indirect will continue to equitably benefit all regions of Pakistan including reducing the cost of doing business, increase in number of opportunities, creation of jobs etc. which will lead to better living standards for the whole of Pakistan.

***Question No. 96. Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq :**

(Notice received on 24-04-2015 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Science and Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status / position of Pakistan in the field of research in Science and Technology at International level;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan's share in global research work in the said field is very low, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to increase Pakistan's share in global research in that field?*

Rana Tanveer Hussain: (a) Countries are ranked on the basis of research publications, research impact and patents granted at international level. Pakistan's position is 42 in Publications, 57 in Research Impact and in case of patents granted its position is 91 in the world.

(b) Yes. Pakistan's share in the global research is low as compared to its intellectual potential. Main reasons for this are:

1. Low spending on R&D in the country by both public and private sector. Pakistan's spending on R&D is only 0.29 percent of GDP.
2. Private sector's share in R&D spending in Pakistan is negligible.
3. Pakistan has very low number of researchers (164) per million population.
4. Lack of incentives for researchers.

(c) Present government consider Science & Technology a central pillar of National Development Strategy and has prepared the National Science, Technology & Innovation Strategy 2014-2018 whereby National R&D expenditure will be enhanced upto 1.0%

of the GDP by 2018 for development of human resource in Science and Technology and improving S&T structure for enhanced performance.

Government has also taken following steps to increase Pakistan's share in Global Research.

- (i) Talented scientists and researchers are awarded with highest National Awards and President's Medal for Technology based on their Research Publications, Research Impact and Patents granted.
- (ii) Accelerated promotion of scientists and researchers working in S&T organizations of MoST on the basis of their Research Publications, Research Impact and Patents.

ISLAMABAD :
The 12th May, 2015.

AMJED PERVEZ,
Secretary.