

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Thursday, the 8th October, 2015

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

(Notice received on 23-07-2015 at 10:45 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the names of registered and non registered NGOs working in the country with province wise break-up indicating also the subject/field of work and number of persons working in each NGO; and*
- (b) *the names of foreign organizations/countries which financial aid/funds to the said NGOs during the last 05 years?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The subject of registration of NGOs falls under the purview of Provincial Governments and ICT. Economic Affairs Division does not maintain any record pertaining to NGOs in Pakistan.

(b) The same as above.

*Question No. 51. **Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 18-08-2015 at 03:32 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to bring Agricultural Sector into the tax net; if so, when?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: There is no such proposal under consideration to bring Agricultural sector in to the tax net as agricultural sector is already being taxed through Provincial Governments. As per Entry 47, Part 1 of Federal Legislative List contained in the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, the Federal Government is empowered to levy “Taxes on Income other than Agricultural Income”. Therefore agricultural Income Tax falls under the purview of Provincial Government.

Provincial Governments of Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhawa and Balochistan are charging tax on the agricultural income under Punjab Agriculture Income Tax (amendment) Ordinance, 2000, Sindh Land Tax and Agriculture Income Tax Ordinance 2000, The North-West Frontier Province Land Tax and Agriculture Income Tax (amendment) Ordinance, 2001 and Balochistan Tax On Land And Agricultural Income (amendment) Ordinance, 2001 respectively.

***Question No. 52. Senator Saeed Ghani :**

(Notice received on 18-08-2015 at 04:40 p.m.)

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

- (a) the date on which the Policy Board of Federal Board of Revenue was firstly constituted;*
- (b) the functions of the said Board;*
- (c) the number of meetings of the said Board required to be held during a year under the law; and*
- (d) the dates on which the meetings of that Board were held since its inception indicating also the agenda of the meeting and decisions taken in each case with date-wise breakup?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) The Policy Board of Federal Board of Revenue was firstly constituted through FBR (Amendment) Act 2011 on **29th April, 2011.**

(b) The functions of the Policy Board is to provide guidance in matters relating to the vision, mission and values of the FBR, and to provide policy guidelines in framing fiscal policy and in achieving goals and targets.

(c) The meetings of the Policy Board are required to be held at least once in each quarter of a financial year.

(d) Formal meetings of the Policy Board could not be held due to non-finalization of nominations of members of the Policy Board due to various reasons.

FBR had taken up the matter with Prime Minister's Office, Chairman Senate and Speaker, National Assembly for nomination of members of the Policy Board, well in time on **10-05-2011**. In response, the nomination From Speaker National Assembly has been received on **02-01-2014**. The nomination from Chairman Senate, however, was received on 22.08.2011 which became infructious on retirement of the Senator. The Chairman, Senate has, however, recently nominated Mr. Saeed Ghani as member of the Policy Board on **18-05-2015**. Nomination of the remaining co-opted member(s) of the Policy Board is in progress which shall be finalized shortly.

* Question No. 53. **Senator Nuzhat Sadiq :**
(Notice received on 19-08-2015 at 03.20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to set up banks in all the rural areas which are not catered by the banks already established across the country?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: As per policy of State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) all commercial banks are required to open at least 20% of their new branches in rural/underserved areas. During the last ten years, branch network of banks has increased tremendously by adding 6,051 new branches out of which 1,175 branches have specifically been opened in rural and underserved areas. Further, as a special case, SBP is also encouraging banks to open their branches in less privileged districts having wider rural coverage.

* Question No. 54. **Senator Nuzhat Sadiq :**
(Notice received on 21-08-2015 At 12:06 p.m.)

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

- (a) the names of projects / proposals presently lying pending with the Planning Commission for approval as on date indicating also the date on which the same was received and the reasons for non-approval so far in each case; and*
- (b) whether the Government has received requests from Provincial Governments to accord approval of any of the said project / proposal, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Federal Government in this regard?*

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal: (a) At present 11 projects are under process for placing before the ECNEC for consideration / approval of the projects. List attached at Annex-I.

Whereas 79 projects are pending for consideration by the CDWP and are at different stages. Details are placed at Annex-II.

(b) At Present only two (2) projects are pending for placing before the CDWP regarding which request received for placing the same before the CDWP. Details are placed at Annex-III.

The development projects are placed before the relevant forum CDWP/ECNEC after proper scrutiny by the Technical Section concerned and with incorporation of comments received from members of CDWP/ other technical sections concerned.

In some cases delays occur in coordination/collection /discussion of information from the sponsoring Ministry / Division / Province / Special Areas.

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

*Question No. 55. **Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 25-08-2015 at 11:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the number of persons who have availed the Prime Minister's Tax Amnesty Scheme so far and the amount collected therefrom?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: Total Number of taxpayers who have availed scheme alongwith revenue collected therefrom is as under;

(Rs. in Million)

No. of Taxpayers	Amount Collected
6,314	673

*Question No. 56. **Senator Mohammad Azam Khan Swati:**

(Notice received on 26-08-2015 at 03.20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state the number of vehicles supplied on priority basis by Indus Motors, Honda and Suzuki on the recommendations of Minister for I & P and Secretary I & P since 1st July, 2014?

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi: The number of vehicles supplied on priority basis by Indus Motors. Honda and Pak Suzuki Companies on the recommendation of Minister for Industries and Production, Secretary Industries and Production since 1st July 2014 are presented in the table given below:—

TABLE

Priority recommended by	Number of vehicles supplied on priority basis by:			Total
	Indus Motors	Honda Atlas	Pak Suzuki	
Minister for Industries & Production	02	0	01	03
Secretary Industries & Production	09	0	18	27
G. Total	11	0	19	30

*Question No. 57. **Senator Nuzhat Sadiq:**

(Notice received on 27-08-2015 at 11.50 a. m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that pension benefits are not granted to the employees of Utility Store Corporation on their retirement, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *whether the said employees are provided some other benefits on retirement, if so, the detail thereof?*

Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi: (a) As per USC Service Rules, there is no provision for payment of pension to the employees of USC at the time of retirement. However, the employees of the Corporation appointed prior to 16th October, 1984 are entitled for payment of Gratuity in terms of Finance Division (Regulation Wing-II) O.M. No. F. 15 (3) R-14/84/ dated 16.10.1984 read with O.M of even number dated 11.02.1985 (**Annex-I**). Case regarding payment of Service Gratuity to employees who were appointed after 16th October 1984 was approved by USC Board of Directors, but on the observation of Commercial Audit, the payment of Gratuity was stopped. However, some retired employees who were appointed after 16-10-1984 have filed their cases in various Court for payment of Gratuity which is under process.

- (b) The following benefits are being paid on retirement to USC employees:
 - i. Contributory Provident Fund (CPF)
 - ii. Fare Well Grant
 - iii. Leave Encashment
 - iv. Service Gratuity to employees appointed prior to 16-10-1984.

***Question No. 58. Senator Sheher Bano Sherry Rehman:**
(Notice received on 27-08-2015 at 12.47 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the present status of implementation of recommendations made by the Tax Reforms Commission, constituted by the Ministry of Finance in September, 2014?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: Tax Reform Commission (TRC) was notified *vide* FBR's Notification C.No.6(5)2014 dated 25-09-2014. The Commission was required to finalize its recommendations in 120 days *i.e* 15-02-2015. The tenure of the Commission was extended by 90 days *i.e* upto 16-05-2015. Since the Commission could not finalize its recommendations within stipulated time therefore, the tenure of the Commission was further extended by 90 days *i.e* upto 14-08-2015. The Commission has so far furnished its interim report and considering that it will take some time to submit Final Report, the tenure of the Commission is further extended by 90 days *w.e.f* 15-08-2015.

Since the Tax Reform Commission has not submitted its Final Report and the recommendations are still in the process of attaining finality, therefore the recommendations can only be implemented after the Final Report of the Commission. However based on the interim report number of recommendations of the Commission have been implemented *vide* Finance Act 2015. The implementation status of the recommendations is as below:—

	No. of Recommen- dations	Implemented	Partially Implemented	Not related to FBR	To be considered after compilation of final report
General and Administrative Recommendations	34	8	5	9	12
Related to Income Tax Ordinance, 2001	51	12	-	-	39
Sales Tax	22	3	3	-	16
Federal Excise Duty	3	-	-	-	3
Customs	17	2	11	-	4
Total:	127	25	19	9	74

***Question No. 59. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar:**

(Notice received on 07-09-2015 at 02:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the names, age, place of domicile, educational qualifications and date of appointment of the Governors and Directors/Members of the Board of various organizations under the administrative control of the Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization?

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: The Material is being collected from concerned quarter which will be placed on the Table of the House as and when received.

***Question No. 60. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar:**

(Notice received on 07-09-2015 at 02:20 p.m.)

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

- (a) *the names, place of domicile and designation of the persons appointed in the Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization and its attached departments and subordinate offices etc. during the last five years;*

- (b) *whether the person belonging to other provinces have been appointed in the said Ministry, its attached departments and subordinate offices etc. against Balochistan quota during the said period, if so, the details thereof; and*
- (c) *the number of post of Balochistan quota presently lying vacant in that Ministry, its attached departments and subordinate offices etc. with grade-wise breakup?*

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar: (a) Finance Division (Main) Annex-I.

(b) No person belonging to the other province has been appointed against the Baluchistan Quota during the last five years.

(c) Presently no post is lying vacant under the Balochistan Quota.

CENTRAL DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL SAVINGS (CDNS)

a. Annex- II

b. Nil

c. Assistant Director * (BS-18)	03
National Saving Officer ** (BS-17)	07
Asstt. National Saving Officer *** (BS-14)	01
Junior National Saving Officer **** (BS-11)	16
Gunman (BS-1)	12

AUDITOR GENERAL OF PAKISTAN (AGP)

a. Inter Departmental Cadre/PA & AS Officers (IDC) Annex-III

b. Nil

c. Nil

DEPARTMENTAL CADRE

a. Nil

b. Nil

c. Annex-IV

ACCOUNTANT GENERAL PAKISTAN REVENUE (AGPR)

a. Nil

- b. Nil
- c. One (01)

PAKISTAN MINT, LAHORE

- a. Annex. V
- b. Nil
- c. Driver (BS-04) 01 post (already advertised)

Office of the Federal Treasury Officer (FTO)

- a. Nil
- b. Nil
- c. Nil

Privatization Division (Flag Privatization Division)

Federal Board of Revenue (Flag Federal Board of Revenue)

Statistics Division (Flag Statistics Division)

Economic Affairs Division (Flag EAD)

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

***Question No. 61. Senator Sassui Palijo:**

(Notice received on 16-09-2015 at 04:40 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms be pleased to state the number of officers belonging to Sindh and Balochistan presently working in Planning Commission?

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal:

Sindh = 46

Balochistan = 11

Total = 57

ISLAMABAD :
The 7th October, 2015.

AMJED PERVEZ,
Secretary.

PCPPI—5248(15)Senate—07-10-2015—275.

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“UN-STARRED QUESTION AND ITS REPLY”

For Thursday, the 8th October, 2015

DEFERRED QUESTION

(Un-starred question No. 3 Deferred on 7th August, 2015 (118th Session))

(Def.) Question No. 3. **Senator Nuzhat Sadiq:**
(Notice received on 22-05-2015 at 09:30 a.m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is fact that the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms has not reimbursed the amount of medical bills and house rent for five years after death as announced in PM Assistance Package to the widows / heirs of their employees who died in service since 1st January, 2013, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Ministry to finalize such cases at the earliest?*

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal: (a) All such cases (Reimbursement of Medical Bills and House Rent) have been settled except one which was not covered under the rules.

(b) The payment of House Rent is not covered under the rules as the deceased employee was not shifted to “hired house”. For reimbursement of medical bill, Finance Division’s Regulation Wing is being consulted.

ISLAMABAD :
The 7th October, 2015.

AMJED PERVEZ,
Secretary.