

(306th Session)

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Friday, the 29th January, 2021

@*Question No. 16 **Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 26/11/2020 at 10:00 AM) QID: 37641

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Office be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Direct Investment in Pakistan has always been less than one percent of GDP, if so;*
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for increasing Foreign Direct Investment to 3 percent of GDP?*

Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Office: (a) It is not correct that FDI has always been less than one percent of GDP. It varied during last 20 years from lowest. 0.37% to highest 3.37% of GDP.

(b) Though promotion, facilitation and protection of investment is the domain of BOI; however, attraction of investment needs a whole of government approach. All the economic ministries, provincial governments and the private sector need to play their respective roles in attraction of investment. Other areas which contribute towards inward investment are infrastructure, ease and cost of doing business and federal, provincial and local policy, legal and regulatory frameworks. A number of steps have been/are being taken by the Board of Investment to increase the FDI to GDP ratio as detailed below:

- Improving Ease of Doing Business;

- Improving business climate through Pakistan Regulatory Modernization Initiative;
- Using Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to promote industrialization in the country;
- Devising and implementing Investment Promotion Strategy to attract quality investment in the country;
- Devising a Comprehensive Investment Law;
- Online Investment Facilitation Services-like Issuance of Work Visa, Branch/Liaison Office, Security clearance and Issuance of Airport entry Passes.
- Integration of Investor's Grievance Cell with Citizen Portal.

In addition to them following policies have also been introduced by this Government to attract FDI.

- Electric Vehicle Policy
- Mobile Device Manufacturing Policy
- National SME Policy
- Strategic Trade Policy Framework
- National Textile Policy

Details of these initiatives are **annexed**.

Source: PBS & SBP.

Annexure

Board of Investment
Islamabad

Steps taken/ being taken to enhance the FDI

Improving Ease of Doing Business

BOI, in consultation with all the relevant Ministries/Agencies and the Provincial Governments, is working on a comprehensive strategy to further improve Ease of Doing Business in Pakistan. According to World Bank, Doing Business 2020 Report, Pakistan improved its global ranking by 28 notches from 136 to 108 and we were declared the top reformer of South Asia and sixth on the globe. Pakistan improved in six areas measured by Doing Business report i.e. Starting a Business, Dealing with Construction Permits, Getting Electricity, Registering Property, Paying Taxes and Trading Across Borders.

Improving Business Climate through Pakistan Regulatory Modernization Initiative

The Prime Minister of Pakistan has launched “Pakistan Regulatory Modernization Initiative” to transform the regulatory landscape across the 3 tiers of government; federal, provincial and local government in Pakistan. PRMI is a comprehensive reform initiative that brings together all provinces, territories, and their respective departments to map, simplify, eliminate and automate regulatory landscape to reduce burden on businesses and elevate Pakistan among the top destinations for investment.

Using Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for Promoting Industrialization in the Country

Government has promulgated Special Economic Zones Act and the main objective of this act is to attract both local and foreign investment in the country and to enhance industrialization process. Income tax and Custom duty exemptions are allowed to the developers and enterprises located in these SEZs. Apart from fiscal incentives, other non-fiscal incentives like gas, electricity and other utilities are being provided at the zero-point of the Zones. Till date 22 SEZs has been notified.

Investment Promotion Strategy (IPS) 2020-23

To attract quality investment and to bring investment to GDP ratio at par with our competitors, BOI has launched Investment Promotion Strategy for the next three years 2020 to 2023 after extensive consultations with stakeholders, after studying the successful models of national, regional and global IPAs and their best practices. Strategy provides comprehensive investment cycle, it consisting of policy advocacy, market research, investment facilitation, promotion, protection including investors tracking and sector scanning and after-care services to investors and projects. Targets for FDI set in Investment Promotion Strategy for Year 2020-21 is \$4 bn, \$ 4.5bn for FY 2021-22 and \$5bn for FY 2022-23.

Drafting a Comprehensive Investment Law

Presently foreign investors are provided protection to their investment through Foreign Private Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act, 1976, Economic Reforms Act, 1992 and several other federal, provincial and local legal frameworks. Keeping in view the global best practices a new comprehensive Investment Act is being devised and proposed to replace the existing legislation on investment protection.

Integration of Investor’s Grievance Cell with Citizen Portal

BOI has integrated investor’s grievance cell (foreign/ local) with citizen portal introduced by the Prime Minister’s Office to further enhance the investors’ confidence on government’s resolve to solve their problems.

Investment Facilitation Services

BOI has developed an online portal titled "Pakistan Online Visa System (POVS)" for processing and recommending work visa cases of foreign expatriates employed by the companies. BOI also made easy the registration of Branch and Liaison Offices and in this regard developed online portal "Branch Liaison Management Information System (BLMIS)" for online receipt and processing of branch/ liaison office by the foreign companies.

***Question No. 31 Senator Zeeshan Khanzada:**

(Notice Received on 3/11/2020 at 11:40 AM) QID: 37584

Will the Minister for Law and Justice be pleased to state the total amount of recoveries made by National Accountability Bureau during the last 10 years with year and province wise breakup?

Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem: A total amount of Rs. 480.680 Billion has been recovered by NAB during last 10 years. Year and Province-wise recoveries through Voluntary Return / Plea Bargain, other direct recoveries (on accounts of Bank default, rescheduling of loans, PCBL and Court Fines) and indirect recoveries made by NAB from January 2011 to October 2020 are detailed below:

Year / Province	Punjab			Sindh		Kpk	Balochistan	Other direct Recoveries	Indirect Recoveries	Total (In Millions)
	NAB Rwp	NAB Lahore	NAB Multan	NAB Karachi	NAB Sukkur	NAB Kpk	NAB-B			
2011	49	271	0	446	0	83	52.4	817	0	1718.4
2012	192.683	514.416	0	355.349	0	175.517	633.919	13277	0	15148.884
2013	1389.45	689.57	0	781.61	0	253.55	10.9	3894	0	7019.08
2014	692.268	1610.173	0	229.371	0	186.073	75.536	1680	0	4473.421
2015	1562.71	525.33	15.42	526.70	12.49	1190.97	441.98	2354	5467	12096.6
2016	2456.131	1963.143	113.334	1164.530	101.090	3232.481	1337.897	628	1725	12721.606
2017	503.996	887.21	68.865	373.904	90.826	108.908	31.652	3448	3374	8887.361
2018	363.012	1605.634	236.826	335.802	122.050	198.315	488.097	4485	21051	28885.736
2019	365.498	1400.054	0	1247.948	810.315	4.679	13.408	15806	121895	141542.902
2020 (upto Oct)	3084.329	1430.076	17.998	662.404	1015.574	1.071	0	0	241974.497	248185.949
Total	10659.077	10896.606	452.443	6123.618	2152.345	5434.564	3085.789	46389	395486.497	480679.939

***Question No. 40 Senator Sirajul Haq:**

(Notice Received on 13/11/2020 at 10:05 PM) QID: 37552

Will the Minister for Religious affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the province wise names and details of registered companies for printing, publication and distribution of Holy Quraan in the country;*
- (b) *province wise names and details of un-registered companies / firms operating illegally in the country for publication, printing and distribution of Holy Quraan indicating also the steps being taken by the Government against these companies/firms; and*
- (c) *the details of law, rules, regulations and procedures framed for registration and operations of the said companies / firms, if not, reasons thereof?*

Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Qadri: (a) The subject matter relates to all Provincial Governments Auqaf Departments. In this regard, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony asked to all Secretaries (Auqaf), all Provincial Governments for providing the material / information of the question No. 40.

(b) The reply flout Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Government of Balochistan and Government of Punjab has received. The reply from Province of Sindh and Gilgit Baltistan is still awaited. However, they have been again reminded on 25th January, 2021.

(c) The complete report will be submitted after receiving reply from the provinces.

***Question No. 42 Senator Seemee Ezdi:**

(Notice Received on 24/11/2020 at 10:50 AM) QID: 37619

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister's Office be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of Pakistanis registered under the Tiger Force, indicating also the province-wise details including Islamabad Capital Territory; and*

(b) *the responsibilities assigned to the said force so far by the Government?*

Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister's Office: (a) Province-wise detail of Pakistanis registered under the Tiger Force as under:

Province	Persons Registered
Punjab	681,495
Sindh	160,804
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	149,632
Balochistan	15,676
Gilgit- Baltistan	6,685
Azad Jammu Kashmir	12,715
Islamabad Capital Territory	15,020
Total	1,042,027

(b) The responsibilities assigned to the Tiger Force Volunteers are as per the TORs (Annex-A) ranging from Covid SOPs compliance to facilitation in price control or as required by their respective district administration from time to time. Some of the volunteer services they have offered are as under:

- Social Guide in Hospitals/Public Places.
- Ration Distribution.
- Mosques, Utility Stores/SOP Compliance duty.
- Track, Trace & Quarantine Services.
- Quarantine Centre Management.
- Facilitation in Price Control.
- Support in Ehsaas Kafalat Programme.
- General Duty as required by District Administration.
- Panahgahs Monitoring.
- Tree Plantation/Clean & Green Drive.

Annex-A

Subject: **TERMS OF REFERENCE/JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE PM'S CORONA RELIEF TIGERS**

Services of the Volunteers may be utilized in the following areas;

- Identification of deserving people in respective locality subject to the direction of, and parameters given by the District Administration.
- Rashan distribution in respective locality under supervision of the concerned stakeholder.
- Quarantine Center Management in respective locality. However, the duties shall be non-technical.
- Transportation & Mobilization of Workers on honorary hired vehicles.
- Non-intrusive surveillance of home quarantine in respective locality as per specific parameters & SOPs and report on its proper maintenance or otherwise
- Social guide in Hospital / Public Places for awareness about Dos & Don'ts.
- Data collection of unemployed laborers or in any other aspect required
- Track & Trace (Suspect & Report)
- Non-intrusive identification of the following and to the extent of reporting to the authorities or on Pakistan Citizen's Portal
 - Hoarding, high prices, adulteration
 - Violation of restrictions
 - High handedness of administration
 - Public announcements & Funeral management
 - Enforcement of Lockdown
- Any other task / assignment assigned by the concerned Govt. authority

ISLAMABAD,
the 28th January, 2021

MOHAMMAD QASIM SAMAD KHAN,
Secretary.