

(315th Session)

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTION FOR ORAL ANSWER AND ITS REPLY”

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

Tuesday, the 16th November, 2021

***Question No. 91-A Senator Afnan Ullah Khan:**

(Notice Received on 28/10/2021 at 12:25 PM) QID: 38466

Will the Minister Incharge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not used the Data collected by the BISP in 2010 and 2017-2018 for Ehsaas Emergency Cash transfers, if so, reasons thereof; and*
- (b) whether it is also a fact that for the Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program poverty index has not been used as a base for delivery of cash to the poor people, if so, reasons thereof?*

Minister Incharge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division: (a) No it is not a fact. The beneficiaries of Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme were identified/ selected through the databases of both National Socio Economic Registry (NSER) surveys conducted by BISP in 2009-2011 and 2018-21, as well as through 8171 portal/ SMS service as approved by the BISP Board and Federal Cabinet.

(b) Poverty Index was used for identification/ selection of majority of beneficiaries for Ehsaas Emergency Cash Programme. However, as the NSER (2009-11) database was created almost a decade ago and the work on the NSER (2018-21) was completed only around 30% by March, 2020, but a higher eligibility threshold was used to ensure maximum deserving families get benefits. Wealth profiling was also used as exclusion criteria so that only the deserving people are included in the Programme.

ISLAMABAD,
the 15th November, 2021

MOHAMMAD QASIM SAMAD KHAN,
Secretary.