

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Tuesday, the 27th October, 2026

***Question No. 87 Senator Jan Muhammad:**

(Notice Received on 30/06/2026 at 1:51 PM) QID: 44788

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

- (a) *the number of projects initiated under the Naya Pakistan Housing and Development Authority (NAPHDA), indicating the name, location, approved cost, and the number of houses/flats envisaged, present status of work and expenditure incurred on each project separately;*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to complete the ongoing or stalled projects through the NAPHDA or any other Government agency, public-private partnership, or alternative financing arrangement, if so, the details thereof?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: (a) The number of Projects initiated under the Naya Pakistan Housing and Development Authority are as follows:

Sr	Name of Project	Location	Approved Project Cost	No of Houses/Flats	Present Status	Expenditure Incurred on Each Project
I	LDA City Naya Pakistan Apartments Phase-I (June-2021)	Lahore	Rs 10826.04 million	4,000	It is under Government of Punjab	Rs 607 Mn
II	CDA Farash Town (Sep-2021)	Ali Pur Farash Town, Islamabad	7,779 million	4,000	Handed over to CDA	Rs.6480 Mn
III	Jalozai Housing Scheme, PHA-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Nov-2022)	Jalozai, Nowshera	Rs 3,300 million	1,320	116 Housing Units have been completed and handed over	Rs 290 Mn
IV	Rakh Paji, Raiwind (Jul-2021)	Raiwind	Rs 428.000 million	245	Under consideration for handing over to Government of Punjab	Rs.369 Mn

V	Chak 48/NB-Sargodha (Aug-2021)	Sargodha	Rs 567.000 million	324	Under consideration for handing over to Government of Punjab	Rs.506 Mn
VI	Chak 14/JB- Chiniot (Aug-2021)	Chiniot	Rs 472.500 million	270	Under consideration for handing over to Government of Punjab	Rs.407 Mn

- (b) i) NAPHA is in the process of being wound up. However, the Government is considering various options to utilise the projects optimally.

***Question No. 88 Senator Muhammad Aslam Abro:**

(Notice Received on 3/07/2026 at 2:19 PM) QID: 44572

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

- (a) the details of HTV official vehicles condemned by the Government during the last fifteen years under the rules;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that HTV official vehicles are not considered for condemnation due to exemption laid under staff car rules, if so, whether the government is considering to revise the said policy; and*
- (c) whether the Cabinet Division has taken climate factor as a reason for determining government motor vehicles policy with regards to life span and depreciation of official vehicles, if so, its details?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:

- (a) (a) In terms of **Rule 25 (2)** each Ministry/Division constitutes its own Condemnation Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary of the Ministry/Division or Head of the Department (not below BS-20). The Condemnation Committee submits its recommendations to their respective Secretary of the Division concerned.
- (b) As far as Cabinet Division is concerned no HTV vehicle has been declared condemned in the last 15 years since 2011.
- (b) (a) According to Staff Car Rules a Bus Truck having engine power of 2000cc and above can be condemned after 8x years of service or having being used for 200,000KM.

(b) In view of the Government's austerity policy, Cabinet Division continues to use its existing HTV vehicles for as long as they remain roadworthy and operationally viable. At present, Cabinet Division's protocol fleet includes following 3x HTV vehicles:

S#	HTV Vehicle	Prescribed Life	Actual age / mileage	Remaining age / mileage
1.	Toyota Coaster 4009cc (Model 2022)	8 years or 200,000 KM	4 years & 13,279 km	4 years & 186,721 km
2.	Toyota Coaster 4000cc (Model 2019)	-do-	7 years & 24,551 km	1 year & 175,449 km
3.	Toyota Coaster 4000cc (Model 2019)	-do-	7 years & 21,170 km	1 year & 178,830 km

(c) (a) Although the factor of climate might have been considered by the authorities while making rules, however, there is no specific mention of the same in the Rules. In so far, the factors leading to the determination of operational life span and depreciation of the vehicles are concerned, they are broadly based on:

- (i) Condition of the terrain on which the vehicle is being used.
- (ii) Its maintenance schedule; including timely change of lubricants and repairs if required.
- (iii) The vehicles that are carefully used and well maintained tend to remain operationally viable for seven years after which they are liable to be changed and fetch good auction price.

***Question No. 89 Senator Muhammad Aslam Abro:**

(Notice Received on 6/07/2026 at 10:44 AM) QID: 44828

Will the Minister Incharge of the Council of Common Interests Division be pleased to state whether the matter relating to inter-provincial objections raised by the Government of Sindh regarding proposed amendments in the IRSA framework and new canal projects have been placed before the Council of Common Interests, if so, the details and decisions thereof?

Minister Incharge of the Council of Common Interests Division:

No inter-provincial objections on amendments in the **IRSA Framework** have been received from the Government of Sindh, nor has the same been placed before the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

As regards "**New Canal Projects**", the CCI during its 52nd meeting held on 28th April, 2025, has decided that no new canals will be built without mutual understanding from CCI. It has been decided that the Federal Government will not move further until mutual understanding is evolved among the provinces. Copy of the decision is at Annex.

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the mover/concerned only.)

***Question No. 90 Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood:**

(Notice Received on 14/07/2026 at 10:35 AM) QID: 44901

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state the details of steps being taken by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) for improving telecommunication services in Kohistan?

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:

a). Current Situation

3G/4G mobile broadband services are available in the Kohistan region. Given its challenging mountainous terrain and historically underserved population, the Universal Service Fund (USF) initiated the Kohistan Project, which was awarded to Telenor Pakistan in 2017. Currently, Telenor is the largest service provider in Kohistan.

b). Steps being taken for improvement in Telecom services

i). Merging Telenor - Ufone Network

(1) **Spectrum.** Telenor is the major server in Kohistan. Its **BTS/sites will be equipped with additional 48% spectrum post Telenor Ufone Merger**, resulting significant relieve in network congestion during peak hours and overall improvement in QoS parameters.

(2) **BTS Sites Consolidation.** Telenor has the largest coverage footprint and the highest number of BTS sites in Kohistan. Telenor and Ufone network integration will help further enhance the overall voice and data services footprint.

ii). Internet Quality. Under new cellular licenses, QoS threshold has been revised from **4 Mbps to 20 Mbps for 4G user throughput**, with phase wise increase to 50 Mbps, however, the same will be achieved gradually with network upgradation in the area.

iii) Telecom Services in Kohistan Region

a. PTCL is the only fixed-line service provider in Kohistan, operating **3 exchanges** (copper-based) with a combined active customer base of **1,294**:

Exchange	Backhaul	Total Customers	Status
MSAN Pattan, Kohistan Lower	Microwave (400 Mbps)	507	Active
MSAN Dassu, Kohistan Upper	Microwave (800 Mbps)	759	Active
MSAG Kolai Pallas	Microwave (400 Mbps)	28	Active
Total		1,294	

b. A total of 113 BTS sites are deployed by all the CMOs, out of which 96 (85%) are USF-funded reflecting the commercially unviable nature of the terrain serving a combined customer base of approx. 164,544:

CMO	Total BTS	USF-Funded Sites	Commercial Sites	Total Customers
Jazz	12	5	7	49,810
Telenor	97	91	6	109,406

Ufone	2	0	2	2,200
Zong	2	0	2	3,128
Total	113	96	17	164,544

- c. Power availability is the major challenge. Reliable commercial electricity is unavailable across most of Kohistan; consequently, 92 of the 110 sites (83%) run on Diesel Generator + Solar + Battery Bank (DG+Solar+BB), whereas only 7x sites have the commercial power.

Operator	Total Sites	CP+DG+BB*	DG+Solar+BB	DG+BB
Jazz	12	1	5	6
Telenor	94	4	87	3
Ufone	2	2	0	0
Zong	2	0	0	2
Total	110	7	92	11

*CP = Commercial Power; DG = Diesel Generator; BB = Battery Bank

- d. Site availability and service quality in Kohistan are adversely affected by several factors which hinder continuous operation and contribute to delay in maintenance & restoration:
- 1) Absence of reliable commercial power
 - 2) Most sites dependent on diesel generators
 - 3) Limited solar and battery backup
 - 4) Frequent theft and vandalism of site equipment

iv) Steps Taken to Improve Round-the-Clock Service Provision

- a. **Field Surveys:** Two field surveys were conducted, on 4th June 2026 and 2nd July 2026, with district administration engagement in Kohistan Upper and Kohistan Lower.
- b. **Network Optimization and Resolution of Power Issue:** Following the complaint of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (4 June 2026), PTA directed prioritized restoration of the 11 sites in Kandia/Jalkote given flood (GLOF) risk; 10 of 11 sites are now operational.
- c. **Sensitization of District Administration to Curb Theft and Vandalism:**
 - 1) Following DC-level engagement on 2 July 2026, PTA engaged licensee, FIRs shared with the DC for pursuance and support.
 - 2) A meeting was held with the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kolai Pallas, Kohistan, on 16 September 2026 in his office, in the presence of the Jazz representative, to discuss network QoS issues, accordingly instructions were issued to Jazz for optimization/ relocation of problematic sites.
- d. **Telenor-Ufone Spectrum Merger:** Telenor, the major operator in Kohistan (97 of 113 sites), will be equipped with an additional 48% spectrum post-merger, easing peak-hour congestion; network integration will consolidate sites and enhance the voice/data footprint.
- e. **District-Level Class License:** PTA's new District Level Class License (from 1 January 2026) allows local ISPs, startups and entrepreneurs to serve underserved areas and expand Fiber to the home (FTTH).

***Question No. 91 Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood:**

(Notice Received on 16/07/2026 at 10:07 AM) QID: 44216

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications be pleased to state:-

- (a) *the amount of Universal Service Fund (USF) utilized in Chitral during the last five years with year-wise breakup; and*
- (b) *the details of the projects/schemes on which the said amount was utilized?*

Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja:

- (a) **Consolidated year-wise breakup of fund utilization under two projects (RteS Chitral Lot & NG-BSD Chitral Lot) in last 5 Fiscal Years; (FY21 – till date) is stated below;**

S. No.	Fiscal Year (FY)	Net Subsidy (PKR)
1	2020 - 2021	282,772,152
2	2021 - 2022	290,904,050
3	2022 - 2023	274,417,010
4	2023 - 2024	548,834,022
Total		1,396,927,234

Project wise disbursements are stated below;

1. Rural Telephony and e-Services (RTeS) Chitral Lot (2G)

Year-wise breakup of fund utilization (only OPEX) for the completed RTeS Chitral project incurred – during the last 5 Fiscal Years follows.

S. No.	Fiscal Year (FY)	Net Subsidy (PKR)
1	2020 - 2021	8,355,142
2	2021 - 2022	16,487,040
Total		24,842,182

2. Next Generation Broadband for Sustainable Development (NG-BSD) Chitral Lot (3G/4G)

Year-wise breakup of fund utilization (CAPEX incurred) for NG-BSD Chitral during the last 5 Fiscal Years follows.

S. No.	Fiscal Year (FY)	Net Subsidy (PKR)
1	2020 - 2021	274,417,010
2	2021 - 2022	274,417,010
3	2022 - 2023	274,417,010
4	2023 - 2024	548,834,022
Total		1,372,085,052

(b) As per section 33B of the Telecom Act (1996), Universal Service Fund (USF) has been mandated to provide access to telecommunication services in the unserved, underserved, rural and remote areas. The telecommunication landscape in Pakistan consists of:

- 1- Urban and Rural areas served by operators on their own, are considered already served and are beyond USF mandate.
- 2- Un/Underserved rural and remote areas lacking telecom services are targeted for provision of voice and highspeed data/internet services, under the USF mandate.

Under its mandate, USF is running diverse programs across all provinces, that are playing a vital role in expansion of telecommunication infrastructure for provision of highspeed Broadband services and improving lives of millions of people across rural/remote/underprivileged areas.

USF Projects for District Chitral (FY21-till date)

1. Rural Telephony and e-Services (RTeS) Chitral (2G)

USF Project RTeS Chitral, worth PKR 1,905,393,349/-, targeting the districts of Chitral, Upper Dir and Lower Dir was awarded to M/S Telenor on 19-Feb-2015 for provision of voice (2G) services to 1,048 unserved mauzas having a population of 1,266,601 through deployment of 127 telecom sites. The project was completed on 6-Aug-2018.

In this project, 252 mauzas targeting a population of 214,621 have been provided with voice services through deployment of 48 telecom sites exclusively in district Chitral.

2. Next Generation Broadband for Sustainable Development (NG-BSD) Chitral (3G/4G)

USF Project NG-BSD Chitral, worth PKR 1,372,085,052/-, targeting the districts of Chitral, Upper Dir and Lower Dir was awarded to M/S Telenor on 11-Nov-2020 for provision of voice and high-speed broadband services (3G/4G) to 486 un/underserved mauzas having a population of 592,546 through deployment of 33 telecom sites. The project was completed on 2-Apr-2024.

In this project, 283 mauzas targeting a population of 313,756 have been provided with voice and high-speed broadband services through deployment of 23 telecom sites exclusively in district Chitral.

***Question No. 92 Senator Mohammad Humayun Mohmand:**

(Notice Received on 17/07/2026 at 9:31 AM) QID: 44943

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

- (a) the details of the recruitment of clerical posts in the Ministry and it's attached departments since 2023;*
- (b) number of posts advertised and number of candidates applied who applied for the said posts;*
- (c) the names of the candidates interviewed, marks obtained in the written test and interviews; and*
- (d) the names and designations of the members of the Interview Committees indicating also the dates and venue of the said interviews?*

Mr. Ahad Khan Cheema:

(a) Establishment Division (Main)

Recruitments against (02) posts of Balochistan Quota i.e. 01 x Statistical Assistant (BS-15) and 01 x Data Entry Operator (BS-14), have been made in Establishment Division (Main), since 2023 (**Annex-I**).

Attached Departments

The details of the recruitment of clerical posts in the STI, AHK-NCRD & FPSC since 2023 is attached at **Annex-II**.

(b) Establishment Division (Main)

Two (02) posts were advertised in the newspapers on 02-10-2022 (**Annex-III**). In response, (651) applications were received from the candidates having Balochistan domiciles:-

Name of Post	Number of applicants
Statistical Assistant (BS-15)	370
Data Entry Operator (BS-14)	281
Total	651

Attached Departments

Number of posts advertised and number of candidates who applied STI, AHK-NCRD & FPSC is attached at **Annex-IV**.

(c) Establishment Division (Main)

Names of the candidates interviewed and, marks obtained in the written test and interviews are tabulated as under:-

a) Candidates interviewed against 01 x Post of Statistical Assistant (BS-15)

Roll No.	Name	Father Name	Written test marks	Interview Marks	Aggregated Marks	Recommendations of DSC-I
128	Mr. Nawab Khan	Mr. Sarwar Khan	44.1	27	71.1	Principal candidate
93	Mr. Tahir Iqbal	Mr. Muhammad Iqbal	43.4	18	61.4	Alternative candidate
67	Mr. Muhammad Yahya	Mr. Gul Zaman	42.7	13	55.7	-
40	Mr. Abdul Saboor	Haji Syed Muhammad	42	12	54	-

b) Candidates interviewed against 01 x Post of Data Entry Operator (BS-14)

Roll No.	Name	Father Name	Written /Skill test marks	Interview Marks	Total Marks	Recommendations of DSC-I
221	Syed Muhammad Asif	Syed Muhammad Hassan	61.6	28	89.6	Principal candidate
43	Mr. Muhammad Raza	Mr. Safdar Ali	55.3	21	76.3	Alternative candidate

264	Mr. Muhammad Shafique	Mr. Liaqat Ali	64.4	9	73.4	-
227	Ms. Maria Maqsood	Mr. Maqsood Ahmed	62.3	9	71.3	-
196	Mr. Furqan Noor	Mr. Noor Muhammad	55.3	14	69.3	-

Attached Departments

The names of candidates interviewed, marks obtained in the written test and interviewed by STI, AHK-NCRD & FPSC is attached at **Annex-V**.

(d) **Establishment Division (Main)**

1) The composition of Departmental Selection Committee (DSC-I) (Annex-VI) is as under: -

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| a). Joint Secretary (Admn) (BS-20) | Chairman |
| b). Deputy Secretary (Admn-I) (BS-19) | Member |
| c). Deputy Secretary (CP-IV) (BS-19) | Member |

2) A meeting of the Departmental Selection Committee (DSC-I) was held on 26-01-2023, in the Establishment Division (Main) to conduct interviews of the shortlisted candidates against the said posts.

Attached Departments

The names and designations of the members of the Interview Committee indicating also the dates and venue of the said interview STI, AHK-NCRD & FPSC is attached at **Annex-VII**.

(Annexures have been placed in library and on the table of mover/concerned member.)

***Question No. 93 Senator Mohammad Humayun Mohmand:**

(Notice Received on 20/07/2026 at 12:47 PM) QID: 44952

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state the as to whether it is fact that the appointment of the Deputy Prime Minister has been carried out under the provisions of the Constitution of Pakistan, if so details thereof indicating also the relevant Article of the Constitution of Pakistan?

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: It is submitted that Rule 5(2A) of the Rules of Business, 1973 provides for the following: The Prime Minister may, from amongst the Ministers, designate a Minister to be the Deputy Prime Minister and assign him such functions as he may deem appropriate for efficient performance of the functions of the Federal Government. In case a Minister had already been so designated, before the coming into force this Notification, he shall be deemed to have been under this sub-rule”.

It is further submitted that the Prime Minister had designated the Deputy Prime Minister under rule 5(2A) of the Rules of Business, 1973, which are formulated under Article 99 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973

***Question No. 94 Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood:**

(Notice Received on 28/07/2026 at 10:16 AM) QID: 45022

Will the Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of land in Pakistan presently covered by forests indicating also the internationally recommended percentage of forest cover of the land; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the forest cover in the country?*

Mr. Musadik Masood Malik:

(a) According to the Forest Cover Atlas of Pakistan (2022), developed by the Ministry of Climate Change, the total forest-covered area of Pakistan, including Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), was recorded as 4,113,657 hectares, representing 4.68% of the country's total land area in 2020.

There is no universally recommended minimum percentage of forest cover that every country must adhere to, as the percentage of forest area depends upon geographical, climatic and ecological conditions. Globally, forests cover approximately 30% of the terrestrial land area, while SDG 15 calls upon countries to protect, restore and sustainably manage terrestrial ecosystems and forests.

(b) National level Tree Planting Campaigns are organized regularly during Spring and Monsoon Tree Planting seasons to encourage tree planting by different sections of the society. Furthermore, the Government of Pakistan is implementing various forest conservation, afforestation, reforestation, and landscape restoration initiatives through the Up-Scaling Green Pakistan Programme (UGPP) to enhance forest cover and restore degraded ecosystems. Since 2019, the programme has achieved the milestone of **2.294 billion plants** through a combination of plantation activities, assisted natural regeneration, and free distribution of plants across the country. Under the Third-Party Monitoring Consortium comprising WWF, IUCN, and FAO, a total of 681,675 hectares of forests and degraded landscapes have been restored through these interventions and other ecosystem restoration measures. Furthermore, Mangrove cover in Pakistan has recorded increase by 300% since 1990, making Pakistan the only country in region with expanding mangrove cover.

***Question No. 95 Senator Muhammad Azam Khan Swati:**

(Notice Received on 28/07/2026 at 10:46 AM) QID: 45020

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications be pleased to state the steps taken by the current Government for promotion of Artificial Intelligence (AI), in the country?

Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja:

The Government of Pakistan, through the Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication (MoITT), its attached organizations including Ignite National Technology Fund, Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB), National Information Technology Board (NITB) and other relevant stakeholders, has taken a comprehensive range of measures to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a strategic technology for economic growth, innovation, employment, exports and public-sector transformation.

The Government's AI agenda has now progressed from policy formulation and capacity building towards implementation of a national AI ecosystem, encompassing AI infrastructure, human capital, research, startups, financing, sovereign computing, public-sector applications and responsible AI governance.

1. National AI Policy - Establishing the Policy Foundation

The Government has formulated the National Artificial Intelligence Policy, providing the overarching policy framework for development and responsible adoption of AI in Pakistan. The Policy covers:

- AI human capital development;
- AI research and innovation;
- AI infrastructure and computing;
- AI startups and entrepreneurship;
- Data and AI governance;
- Ethical and responsible AI;
- Public-sector adoption;
- International cooperation; and
- Inclusive AI development.

The Policy envisages measures such as Centers of Excellence in AI, high-performance computing infrastructure, a National AI Fund, AI research and innovation programmes, AI scholarships, internships and large-scale skills development. Thus, the National AI Policy provides the strategic and policy foundation, while subsequent programmes such as NAAI and NAIEDP are intended to translate this framework into implementation.

2. National AI Ecosystem Development Programme (NAIEDP) - PakistanAI

A flagship initiative for development of Pakistan's AI ecosystem

The National Artificial Intelligence Ecosystem Development Programme (NAIEDP)-PakistanAI is one of the Government's most significant upcoming interventions for AI development. The programme has been designed as a comprehensive, execution-oriented national programme aimed at developing Pakistan's AI ecosystem through coordinated investments in infrastructure, human capital, innovation, financing, public-sector transformation and emerging strategic technologies.

The Government has announced a US\$1 billion investment commitment for Pakistan's AI ecosystem by 2030, with NAIEDP serving as a major vehicle for achieving this ambition. The programme is envisaged for implementation during 2026–2031. The programme subsequently structured as a much broader multi-year national ecosystem initiative.

Major areas/components of NAIEDP

The programme is designed around multiple strategic components, including:

1. National AI Compute/Infrastructure
2. Buraq – Sovereign Language Model
3. National AI Talent Surge
4. National AI Fund
5. Smart Hukumat / AI-enabled Government
6. National Fiberization Plan
7. Emerging Technologies / Strategic Projects Window

NAIEDP is a comprehensive programme focused on core infrastructure, human capital, innovation and effective governance frameworks, while positioning it as a platform for international collaboration. NAIEDP is presented as the Government's umbrella, ecosystem-level programme, whereas NAAI represents a more immediate AI advancement and capacity-building intervention.

3. National AI Advancement Initiative (NAAI)

The Government is also implementing the National AI Advancement Initiative (NAAI) to accelerate AI adoption and build practical AI capacity. The initiative focuses on:

- AI training;
- AI Hubs;
- Startup support;
- AI skills for students and professionals; and
- development of an AI-enabled ecosystem.

A particularly important implementation step is the establishment of National AI Hubs across Pakistan. The programme also includes provision for a National AI Startup Seed Grant Programme supporting 150 startups and AI

workshops/awareness sessions. The NAAI also envisages 20,500 specialized AI training opportunities for graduates and civil servants through an advanced Learning Management System.

4. Indus AI Week 2026

MoITT organized Indus AI Week 2026, held from 9–15 February 2026, as a national platform to bring together government, academia, industry, startups, investors and international technology partners. The event included:

- Indus AI summit;
- AI technology showcases;
- Startup showcases;
- AI training and certification;
- Innovation challenges;
- AI for her;
- Govtech and defencetech;
- Robotics;
- University activities; and
- Public awareness programmes.

5. AI Seekho 2026 - Nationwide AI Upskilling

MoITT, in collaboration with Google for Developers, Telenor and Innovista, launched AI Seekho 2026, a nationwide AI upskilling initiative. The programme focuses on practical AI development, including building AI-powered:

- Applications;
- Games;
- Digital solutions; and
- Prototypes.

6. IGNITE – AI Startups and Innovation

Ignite National Technology Fund, under MoITT, is playing a central role in developing Pakistan's AI entrepreneurship ecosystem. Through its National Incubation Centers (NICs), Ignite supports startups through:

- Incubation;
- Mentoring;
- Technical assistance;
- Investor linkages;
- Market access;
- Commercialization; and
- International exposure.

Ignite's startup ecosystem has already incubated 1,480+ startups and generated more than 188,000 direct and indirect jobs. AI startups are increasingly being supported in sectors including:

- FinTech;
- HealthTech;
- AgriTech;
- EdTech;
- LegalTech;
- Climate technology;
- Robotics; and
- Enterprise automation.

7. Pakistan Startup Fund – Financing AI Entrepreneurship

The Pakistan Startup Fund, administered by Ignite, provides an important financing mechanism for technology startups. The Fund can provide up to 30% of an investment round as a grant, subject to applicable conditions. This is particularly relevant for AI startups because AI ventures have high initial requirements for:

- Computing;
- Cloud/gpu resources;
- Technical talent;
- R&D;
- Model development; and
- Commercialization.

The Fund therefore complements the proposed National AI Fund under NAIEDP, creating a continuum from incubation and early-stage financing to scale-up and commercialization.

8. AI Innovation Competitions

Ignite has also promoted practical AI innovation through competitions and challenges.

The AI Wrapper Competition 2025, for example, provided opportunities for students, startups, researchers and innovators to develop AI solutions addressing real-world challenges. The competition focused on areas including education, healthcare, governance, finance, agriculture and climate. Such initiatives provide a pathway from:

Idea → Prototype → Competition → Incubation → Investment → Commercialization.

10. AI for HER – Women's Participation

The Government is also promoting inclusive participation in the AI economy. During Indus AI Week 2026, AI for HER trained more than 500 women and girls and

showcased 10 women-led AI startups. This supports the Government's objective of ensuring that women become not merely consumers of AI technologies but also:

- AI developers;
- Entrepreneurs;
- Researchers;
- Freelancers;
- Technology professionals; and
- Startup founders.

11. NITB - AI-Enabled Government

NITB is supporting the Government's transition towards AI-enabled public administration. A significant example is the development of an AI-enabled Parliamentary System, providing AI capabilities while keeping sensitive parliamentary data within a controlled/on-premises environment. This supports the broader objective of:

- Sovereign AI;
- Secure government data;
- Intelligent document processing;
- Automation;
- Decision support; and
- Paperless government.

NITB is also moving towards development of sovereign agentic AI capabilities for government institutions, reflecting the Government's objective of developing AI solutions where sensitive public-sector information can remain under national control.

11. AI for Smart Hukumat

The Smart Hukumat component of NAIEDP provides a strategic mechanism for integrating AI into public-sector processes. Potential applications include:

- AI-powered citizen services;
- Intelligent chatbots;
- Automated document processing;
- Predictive analytics;
- Fraud detection;
- Decision-support systems;
- Policy analytics;
- Resource optimization; and
- Automated government workflows.

This will gradually transform government from:

Digitized Government → Data-driven Government → AI-enabled Government.

12. PSEB – AI Skills and IT Export Development

PSEB is supporting AI through the broader development of Pakistan's IT and IT-enabled services industry. Its interventions in:

- Professional certifications;
- Industry placements;
- Internships;
- Skills development;
- IT company facilitation;
- International market access; and
- Export promotion

Provide the industry base required for Pakistan to develop AI-enabled IT and ITES exports. The Government's strategy is increasingly focused on moving from conventional IT outsourcing towards higher-value services involving:

AI + Cloud + Data Analytics + Cybersecurity + Software Engineering.

This is critical for converting Pakistan's large youth population and IT workforce into AI-enabled export capacity.

This infrastructure agenda complements the National AI Compute Grid envisaged under NAIEDP.

14. Responsible and Sovereign AI

Pakistan's AI strategy also emphasizes responsible and sovereign AI. The Islamabad AI Declaration, adopted during Indus AI Summit 2026, establishes principles around:

- Sovereign AI;
- Responsible AI;
- Human accountability;
- Trusted governance;
- Inclusive innovation;
- Use-case-driven AI; and
- Measurable public value.

This provides an important governance layer alongside the investment and infrastructure programmes.

15. AI Research and Academia–Industry Linkages

The Government's AI agenda also includes strengthening:

- University AI research;
- Centers of Excellence;

- Postgraduate education;
- PHD programmes;
- AI theses;
- Applied research;
- Industry-academia collaboration; and
- Commercialization of research.

The National AI Policy envisages significant annual support for AI research projects, theses and innovation, while NAIEDP provides the larger ecosystem framework for connecting research with computing infrastructure, funding and commercialization.

Consolidated Government AI Ecosystem

The Government's initiatives can therefore be presented as follows:

Area	Major Government Initiative
Policy & Governance	National AI Policy; Islamabad AI Declaration
National AI Ecosystem	NAIEDP – National Artificial Intelligence Ecosystem Development Programme
AI Advancement	NAAI – National AI Advancement Initiative
AI Infrastructure	National AI Compute Grid; Emerging Technologies Data Centre
Sovereign AI	Buraq Sovereign Language Model; sovereign computing
Human Capital	AI Seekho; NAAI training; AI scholarships; 1 million non-IT professionals
AI Hubs	National AI Hubs across Pakistan
Startups	Ignite NICs; AI startup seed grants
Startup Finance	Pakistan Startup Fund; proposed National AI Fund
Research	AI research, CoEs, PhDs, academia-industry collaboration
Public Sector	Smart Hukumat; NITB AI systems; sovereign Agentic AI
IT Exports	PSEB AI/advanced technology skills and export promotion
Women in AI	AI for HER; women-led AI startups
Awareness & Ecosystem	Indus AI Week; Indus AI Summit
Responsible AI	AI ethics, governance, data protection and human accountability
Emerging Technologies	Strategic Projects/Emerging Technologies window

The Government of Pakistan, through the Ministry of IT & Telecommunication and its attached organizations, has adopted a comprehensive and phased approach for promotion of Artificial Intelligence in the country. This includes formulation of the National AI Policy; implementation of the National AI Advancement Initiative (NAAI); development of the National Artificial Intelligence Ecosystem Development Programme (NAIEDP); establishment of AI Hubs; large-scale AI skills and capacity-building programmes; promotion of AI startups through Ignite and the Pakistan Startup Fund; AI research and innovation; development of sovereign AI and computing infrastructure; promotion of AI-enabled governance through NITB; and AI skills and export development through PSEB.

The Government has further announced an ambition to invest US\$1 billion in Pakistan's AI ecosystem by 2030, train one million non-IT professionals in AI, introduce AI education in federally administered schools and provide 1,000 fully funded AI PhD scholarships by 2030. Collectively, these interventions are aimed at developing a secure, sovereign, inclusive and innovation-driven AI ecosystem capable of contributing to economic growth, productivity, employment, IT exports, public-sector transformation and Pakistan's competitiveness in the global digital economy.

***Question No. 96 Senator Haji Hidayatullah Khan:**

(Notice Received on 29/07/2026 at 3:00 PM) QID: 45032

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

- (a) the details of vehicles in OGRA's pool indicating also the make/model of each vehicle and expenditure incurred on fuel and repairs of the same during the last 3 years with year wise break up; and*
- (b) the details of the vehicles of the said Authority parked in pursuance of the austerity drive during the said period with year wise break up?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:

Detail of vehicles in OGRA's Pool including its six Regional Offices:

Sr. #	Make	CC	Model
1	Honda City	1300	2010
2	Honda Civic	1500	2016
3	Toyota Corolla	1299	2017
4	Toyota Corolla	1299	2017
5	Honda City	1339	2017
6	Honda City	1339	2017
7	Toyota Hilux Revo	2982	2018
8	Toyota Altis	1598	2018
9	Toyota Altis	1598	2018
10	Suzuki Bolan	796	2018
11	Toyota Altis	1598	2018
12	Toyota Altis	1598	2018
13	Honda City	1339	2018
14	Suzuki Pickup	796	2021
15	Toyota Yaris	1329	2021
16	Toyota Yaris	1329	2021
17	Toyota Yaris	1329	2021
18	Suzuki Cultis	1000	2021
19	Suzuki Cultis	1000	2021
20	Toyota Yaris	1329	2021
21	Toyota Yaris	1329	2021
22	Toyota Altis	1598	2022
23	Toyota Yaris	1329	2023
24	Toyota Yaris	1329	2023
25	Honda Civic	1500	2023
26	Honda Civic	1500	2024

Expenditures incurred on fuel and repairs of the same during the last 3 years with year wise break up.

Period	Fuel	Repair/Maintenance
01-07-2023 to 30-06-2024	Rs. 27,000,000/-	Rs. 5,500,000/-
01-07-2024 to 30-06-2025	Rs. 21,000,000/-	Rs. 7,000,000/-
01-07-2025 to 30-06-2026	Rs. 26,000,000/-	Rs. 8,500,000/-

Note: Repair/maintenance cost has been increasing as 19 Vehicles are older than 05 years

(b) Details of Grounded Vehicles:

Details of Grounded Vehicles		
Make/Model	Fleet Card Number	Location where vehicle is Parked
Toyota Revo Model: 2018	7002000288852653	OGRA Head Office Basement
Toyota Altis Model: 2018	7002000287418167	-do-
Toyota Altis Model: 2018	7002000260073757	-do-
Toyota GLI Model: 2017	7002000202901156	-do-
Honda City Model: 2018	7002000206307061	-do-
Honda City: Model: 2010	7002000248267968	-do-
Suzuki Bolan Model: 2018	7002000242184854	-do-
Suzuki Pickup Model: 2021	7002000247099347	-do-

It may be appreciated that although OGRA was exempted from the applicability of additional Austerity Measure of "Reduction of fuel provisions by 50%" and "Grounding of 60% of official vehicles" however, the Authority being a Regulator in Oil and Gas sector, played very positive and effective role in this regard by following all initiatives of the Federal Government.

***Question No. 97 Senator Haji Hidayatullah Khan:**

(Notice Received on 10/08/2026 at 4:31 PM) QID: 45097

Will the Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety be pleased to state the details regarding the number of vehicles at the pool of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) during the last three years indicating also their make/model and expenditure incurred on fuel and repairs along-with the number of vehicles parked under the Austerity Drive of the Government during the same period with year wise break-up?

Syed Imran Ahmed Shah: BISP established its Zonal, District (Large/ Normal) and Tehsil Offices across all provincial headquarters to ensure the effective delivery of services at the grassroots level. In order to monitor and to ensure the proper implementation of BISP initiatives, operational vehicles were procured / provided at BISP Headquarters as well as Zonal and Large District Offices.

At present, BISP has a total of 25 official vehicles at BISP Headquarters and 50 vehicles at Field Offices which are in working condition and actively performing operational duties. The detailed statement of vehicles, indicating their make/ model along with expenditure detail incurred on fuel and repairs is attached herewith for perusal. During the austerity drive imposed by the Government during FY 2025-26, **22x official vehicles were grounded / parked at BISP Headquarters and Field Offices** as part of the austerity measures.

The supplementary information containing details of Vehicles are at **Annex-A** and the details of the expenditure is at **Annex-B**.

List of Vehicles at BISP Head Quarter						
Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	BISP HQs	Toyota Corolla	2019	GAG-384	Secretary Office	Operational Activities
2	BISP HQs	Crown	2005	GT-421	Chairperson Office	Operational Activities
3	BISP HQs	Toyota Corolla	2014	BD-533	Chairperson Office	Operational Activities
4	BISP HQs	Honda City	2021	GAS-290	Additional Secretary Office	Operational Activities
5	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2014	BD-534	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
6	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2014	BD-531	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
7	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2009	LEJ-1060	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
8	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-459	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
9	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-460	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
10	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-461	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
11	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-462	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
12	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-463	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
13	BISP HQs	Vigo Hilux	2019	GAG-464	NSER Operations	Operational Activities
14	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAK-473	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
15	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAK-474	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
16	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAK-475	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
17	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAG-812	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
18	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAG-813	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
19	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAG-814	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
20	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAG-815	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
21	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAG-816	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
22	BISP HQs	Suzuki cultus	2019	GAH-182	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
23	BISP HQs	Toyota Hiace	2010	GU-510	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
24	BISP HQs	Suzuki Bolan	2021	GAK-471	Admin Pool	Operational Activities
25	BISP HQs	Suzuki Bolan	2021	GAK-472	Admin Pool	Operational Activities

Punjab Region						
Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	Punjab	Vigo Hilux	2014	BC-719	Zonal Office	Operational Activities
2	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-095	Zonal Office	Operational Activities
3	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-113	Faislabad District	Operational Activities
4	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-097	Kasur District	Operational Activities
5	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAS-214	North Zone Rawalpindi	Operational Activities
6	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-084	South Zone Multan	Operational Activities
7	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-098	Multan District	Operational Activities
8	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-096	Muzaffargarh District	Operational Activities
9	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA- 101	Rahim Yar Khan District	Operational Activities
10	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-087	DG Khan District	Operational Activities
11	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-085	Bahawalpur District	Operational Activities
12	Punjab	Suzuki cultus	2021	GBA-083	Rajanpur District	Operational Activities

Sindh Region						
Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	Sindh	Vigo Hilux	2014	BD-536	Zonal Office Karachi	Operational Activities

2	Sindh	Vigo Hilux	2009	GP-8899	Zonal Office Karachi	Operational Activities
3	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-222	Zonal Office Karachi	Operational Activities
4	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-223	Karachi District	Operational Activities
5	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	A-1731	Noushero Feroze District	Operational Activities
6	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-221	Thatta District	Operational Activities
7	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-137	South Zone Hyderabad	Operational Activities
8	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GA- 242	Benazirabad District	Operational Activities
9	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-218	Sanghar District	Operational Activities
10	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-220	Umerkot District	Operational Activities
11	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-217	Sukkur North Zone	Operational Activities
12	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	A-1469	Kot District	Operational Activities
13	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-135	Khairpur District	Operational Activities
14	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-136	Shikarpur District	Operational Activities
15	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-139	Ghotki District	Operational Activities
16	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-216	Badin District	Operational Activities
17	Sindh	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPB-219	Larkana District	Operational Activities

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Region

Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	KP	Vigo Hilux	2021	GAK -539	Zonal Office Peshawar	Operational Activities
2	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAK-535	Zonal Office Peshawar	Operational Activities
3	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAK-534	Peshwar District	Operational Activities
4	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	A-1873	Mardan District	Operational Activities
5	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	AB-4351	South Zone DI Khan	Operational Activities
6	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	AB-1479	DI District	Operational Activities
7	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	GAS-03	North Zone Malakand	Operational Activities
8	KP	Suzuki cultus	2021	AB-4360	Swat District	Operational Activities

Balochistan Region

Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	Balochistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-132	Zonal Office Quetta	Operational Activities
2	Balochistan	Vigo Hilux	2009	GU-268	Zonal Office Quetta	Operational Activities
3	Balochistan	Vigo Hilux	2011	GO-857	Zonal Office Quetta	Operational Activities
4	Balochistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-134	North Zone Ioralai	Operational Activities
5	Balochistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-133	South Zone Lasbela	Operational Activities
6	Balochistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GPA-138	South Zone Khuzdar	Operational Activities

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Region

Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
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1	AJ&K	Suzuki cultus	2021	GA-045	Zonal Office Muzaffarabad	Operational Activities
2	AJ&K	Suzuki cultus	2021	GA-156	Mirpur District	Operational Activities
3	AJ&K	Vigo Hilux	2009	MD GO 811	Zonal Office Muzaffarabad	Operational Activities

Gilgit-Baltistan Region						
Sr. No.	Region	Vehicle Type	Model	Reg. No.	Section/ Wing	Remarks
1	Gilgit-Baltistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GLTG-391	Zonal Office Gilgit	Operational Activities
2	Gilgit-Baltistan	Vigo Hilux	2021	GLTC-775	Zonal Office Gilgit	Operational Activities
3	Gilgit-Baltistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	GLTC-390	Gilgit District	Operational Activities
4	Gilgit-Baltistan	Suzuki cultus	2021	BLNC-20	Skardu	Operational Activities

Annuxre-B

SENATE STARRED QUESTION NO.29 MOVED BY SENATOR HAJI HIDAYATULLAH KHAN									
Sr. No	Financial Year	POL			Repair and Maintenance			Total	Total
		Region	Headquarter	Total	Region	Headquarters	Total		
1	2023-24	15,360,361	24,241,107	39,601,468	1,585,172	5,379,960	6,965,132		
2	2024-25	19,986,671	24,739,555	44,726,226	3,388,969	9,063,453	12,452,422		
3	2025-26	20,611,894	22,459,281	43,071,175	6,002,184	10,973,500	16,975,684		
Total		55,958,926	71,439,943	127,398,869	10,976,325	25,416,913	36,393,238		

***Question No. 98 Senator Dost Muhammad Khan:**

(Notice Received on 4/09/2026 at 9:40 AM) QID: 45227

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to refer to Starred Question No.14 replied on 7th May, 2026 and to state the action taken against the functionaries responsible for negligence or involvement in the utilization of the amount which made part of audit objections referred to therein?

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has provided updated position in respect of FY 2022-23 as follows:

Audit Year	Total Audit Objections		Settled Objections		Pending Objections	
	No. of Paras	Amount (Rs)	No. of Paras	Amount (Rs)	No. of Paras	Amount (Rs)
2024-25	14	6,174,352,602	1	3,003,013,373	13	3,171,339,229
2023-24	4	2,041,553,642	3	2,032,315,542	1	9,238,229
2022-23	26	17,751,771,133	3	6,636,896,681	23	11,114,874,452
Total	44	25,967,677, 377	7	11,672,225, 596	37	14,295,451, 781

PCB has further informed that in compliance of the directives of the PAC Sub-Committee issued during its meeting held on 02nd July, 2025, the PCB has furnished requisite record pertaining to remaining 23 audit paras (Audit Report FY 2022-23) to the office of DG, Federal Audit on 03rd December, 2025 for verification which is awaited. Further clarification and necessary action by the PCB in respect of the outstanding audit paras are dependent upon receipt of these verification results.

***Question No. 99 Senator Asad Qasim:**

(Notice Received on 10/09/2026 at 7:50 PM) QID: 45285

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

- (a) *the number of officers from Balochistan presently posted/deputed in the Federal Government in BS-20 and above, indicating their designations and departments; and*
- (b) *whether the prescribed provincial quota for Balochistan in such posts has been fulfilled; if not, the reasons therefore?*

Mr. Ahad Khan Cheema:

- (a) List of BS-20 and above officers (cadres under the administrative control of Establishment Division) from Balochistan (on the basis of domicile) presently posted/deputed in the Federal Government:

Sr.	Name of officer	BS	Group	Current Posting	Date of posting
1	Mr. Muhammad Bashir Khetran	21	SG	OSD Establishment Division	24.06.2026
2	Mr. Irfan Anjum	21	SG	OSD Establishment Division	15.04.2026
3	Mr. Ghulam Farooq	21	SG	Senior Joint Secretary, Power Division	20.11.2025
4	Ms. Azra Jamali	20	SG	Joint Secretary, Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development	31.12.2025
5	Mr. Athar Sajid Khan	20	SG	Joint Secretary, Finance Division	09.08.2023
6	Mr. Asif Saif Ullah Paracha	21	PSP	Deputy DG, Anti-Narcotics Force	03-05-2024
7	Mr. Ehsan Manzoor	20	PSP	Federal Investigation Agency	02-08-2023
8	Mr. Sheryar Taj	21	PAS	Secretary, Trade Development Authority, Karachi	22-08-2024
9	Mr. Naseer Khan Kashani	21	PAS	Managing Director, Overseas Employment Corporation	28-10-2022
10	Mr. Waqas Alam	21	PAS	MD, PASSCO, Lahore	08-10-2025
11	Mr. Aziz Ahmad Jamali	20	PAS	Secretary, WAPDA, Lahore	18-11-2025

List of BS-20 & above officers of Balochistan (from Government) posted in Federal Government on deputation basis.

Sr.	Name of officer	BS	Current Posting	Date of posting
1	Dr. Syed Ali Raza Shah , Associate Professor, Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar, Government of Balochistan	BS-20	National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA), Quetta under National School of Public Policy (NSPP)	21-03-2023
2	Mr. Noor-ul-Haq Baloch , an	BS-20	Chairman, Gwadar Port	16-06-2026

	officer of Balochistan Civil Service (BCS), Government of Balochistan		Authority (GPA)	
3	Ms. Roomana Gul , Professor, Colleges, Higher and Technical Education Department, Government of Balochistan	BS-20	Director General, Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)	12-06-2025
4	Dr. Jalal Faiz , Associate Professor, Lasbella University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences, Uthal Balochistan, Government of Balochistan	BS-20	Director General, Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)	27-11-2024
5	Mr Navid Hassan Khan , an officer of Colleges, Higher and Technical Education Department, Government of Balochistan	BS-20	Joint Education Advisor (BS-20), Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training	24-10-2024
6	Dr Muhammad Ayub , Professor (BS-20), University of Balochistan, Quetta, Government of Balochistan	BS-20	Director General, Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)	March, 2024
7	Dr. Khair Muhammad Kakar , Director General (ORIC), Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar	BS-20	Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Islamabad	29-01-2024
8	Syeda Mubin Fatima , Associate Professor Government Girls Degree College, Khanozai, Balochistan, College, Higher & Technical Education Department, Government of the Balochistan	BS-19 (Time Scale - 20),	NIM Quetta, under National School of Public Policy (NSPP)	19-04-2023
10	Mr. Abdul Jabbar , Chief Conservator, Forest & Wildlife Department, Government of Balochistan, Quetta	BPS-20	Director General (SPS-20), BISP Balochistan Region	3-05-2021

- (b) As regards the prescribed provincial quota for Balochistan, it is stated that 6% quota is reserved for Balochistan in recruitment to civil posts under the Federal Government, including appointments made through the Central Superior Services (CSS), subject to the applicable rules and allocation mechanism.

***Question No. 101 Senator Jan Muhammad:**

(Notice Received on 14/09/2026 at 2:56 PM) QID: 45289

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Public Administration Research Centre (PPARC) is responsible for collecting, compiling and publishing statistics relating to Federal Government employees for monitoring compliance with the provincial/regional quota policy; if so, the details thereof;*

- (b) *the latest available data on employees of Ministries, Divisions, Attached Departments, Subordinate Offices, Autonomous and Semi-Autonomous Bodies, Corporations and Regulatory Authorities, indicating the percentage share of employees with province/region-wise break-up, separately for each Ministry, Division, Department, Corporation and Authority; and*
- (c) *the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure compliance with the prescribed quota for under-represented regions, particularly Balochistan, former FATA and Rural Sindh?*

Mr. Ahad Khan Cheema:

- (a) Pakistan Public Administration Research Centre, Establishment Division maintains the grade wise statistics of civil servants and employees of autonomous bodies through publishing Annual Statistical Bulletins every year. PPARC maintains the data on annual basis regarding Federal Government Civil Employees and Employees of Autonomous Bodies on various parameters including sanctioned strength, working strength, domicile and gender wise statistics, minorities employees statistics etc. of employees. The quota policy is regulated and administered by the Regulation Wing of the Establishment Division. However. PPARC only collects, compiles and maintains the employment statistics, with a view to provide greater insight of provincial/regional representation in Federal Government Services
- (b) The latest available data of employees working in Ministries/ Divisions/ Attached Departments/ Subordinate Offices is placed at Annex-I Whereas, the data in respect of Autonomous/ Semi-Autonomous Bodies/ Corporations, indicating the percentage share of employees with province/region-wise break-up is placed at Annex-II .

(c) The steps taken by the Establishment Division to ensure compliance with the prescribed quota is as follows

(i) Instructions for strict adherence to the regional/provincial quota policy are issued from time to time to all Ministries, Divisions, Attached Departments, Subordinate Offices, Autonomous and Semi-Autonomous Bodies, Corporations and Regulatory Authorities. The administrative heads of these entities are responsible for ensuring that recruitment is carried out in conformity with the prescribed provincial share.

(ii) Pursuant to the decisions taken in the meeting of SENATE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE ON DEVOLUTION on 02-03-2026, this Division issued an O.M on 3rd March, 2026 to all Ministries/Divisions, with clear directions/instructions to ensure strict implementation of provincial share in letter & spirit and establish the centralized quota committee at Ministry/Division level for observance of various quotas in departments under their administrative control. **(Annex-III)**

(iii) The Special CSS competitive examination 2023 was undertaken to address long standing shortfalls and to enhance representation under various quota categories, where deficiencies had emerged over time.

(iv) Letter has already been sent to FPSC in light of the direction of subcommittee of SENATE FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE ON DEVOLUTION on 24-07-2026 to accord priority to the recruitment process for vacant posts referred by Ministries/Divisions, particularly those earmarked for the province of Balochistan and Sindh and to take all possible measures to expedite the completion of the selection process in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures **(Annex-IV)**.

(v) Pakistan Public Administration Research Center continuously collects employment statistics from Ministries/Divisions/Departments to identify the vacant positions against the 6% Balochistan quota on quarterly basis.

(vi) A formal request has already been sent to Ministry of IT & National Information Technology Board (NITB), for development of an integrated IT-based system for real-time monitoring of employment statistics and observance of the prescribed provincial and regional share across Federal Ministries, Divisions, Departments and organizations. The proposed system would significantly enhance transparency, accuracy, efficiency and institutional oversight **(Annex-V)**.

(Annexures have been placed in library and on the table of the mover/concerned member.)

ISLAMABAD,
the 26th October, 2026

SYED HASNAIN HAIDER,
Secretary.

(364th Session)

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“UN-STARRED QUESTIONS AND THEIR REPLIES”

For Tuesday, the 27th October, 2026

Question No. 12 Senator Muhammad Aslam Abro:

(Notice Received on 3/07/2026 at 9:53 AM) QID: 44820

Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to replace conventional motor engine vehicles with electric or solar vehicles in all Government, Public Service Organizations and Judiciary, if so, details thereof?

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: At present, no proposal is under consideration in the Cabinet Division for the across-the-board replacement of existing conventional motor-engine vehicles with electric or solar vehicles in all Government entities, Public Service Organizations and the Judiciary.

Question No. 13 Senator Haji Hidayatullah Khan:

(Notice Received on 22/07/2026 at 1:51 PM) QID: 44986

Will the Minister Incharge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state the names, service group, date of promotion & current posting and seniority position in their respective cadre of the Special Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Sr. Joint Secretaries currently working in various Ministries/Divisions?

Mr. Ahad Khan Cheema: It is submitted that a list of SG/BS-21/BS-22 officers presently posted as Special Secretary, Additional Secretary and Senior Joint Secretary is enclosed **Annex-I**.

Three (03) PSP/BS-21 officers are currently posted as Additional Secretaries in Federal Secretariat (**list attached Annex-II**). However, no PSP officer is presently posted as Special Secretary or Senior Joint Secretary in Federal Secretariat.

List of PAS officers who are Special Secretaries-Additional Secretaries working in Ministries/Divisions. **Annex-III**.

Annex-I

LIST OF SG/BS-21/BS-22 OFFICERS PRESENTLY POSTED AS SPECIAL SECRETARY,
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY AND SENIOR JOINT SECRETARY

S#	Name of officer	Group	BPS	Designation	Date of Promotion	Place of Posting
Special Secretaries (BS-22)						
1.	Mirza Nasir-ud-Din Mashood Ahmad	Secretariat Group	BS-22	Special Secretary	20.05.2022	Petroleum Division
Additional Secretaries (BS-21)						
1.	Mr. Qamar Sarwar Abbasi				26.02.2021	Finance Division
2.	Syed Moazzam Ali				26.02.2021	Establishment Division
3.	Mr. Laeeq Ahmad				02.06.2025	NHSR&C Division
4.	Mr. Alam Zeb Khan				26.02.2021	NFS&R Division
5.	Mr. Mir Hassan Naqvi				26.02.2021	Cabinet Division
6.	Ms. Alia Shahid				14.12.2022	NFS&R Division
7.	Dr. Muhammad Shoaib Akbar				02.12.2021	Interior and Narcotics Control Division
8.	Dr. Muhammad Tahir Noor				02.12.2021	PD&SI Division
9.	Mrs. Sabina Qureshi				02.12.2021	Economic Affairs Division
10.	Ms. Humaira Zia Mufti				12.12.2022	Additional Secretary, Industries and Production Division
11.	Ms. Humera Azam Khan				14.12.2022	Climate Change and EC Division
12.	Ms. Saira Najeem Ahmed				09.08.2023	Finance Division
13.	Syed Zakria Ali Shah				09.08.2023	Petroleum Division
14.	Mr. Zafar Abbas				09.08.2023	Petroleum Division
15.	Mr. Amir Mohyuddin				09.08.2023	Additional Secretary, Climate Change and EC Division
16.	Mr. Mohammad Saeed Ashraf Siddiqi				26.05.2025	Economic Affairs Division

17.	Dr. Mirza Ali Mahsud					09.08.2023	Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Division
Senior Joint Secretaries (BS-21)							
1.	Mr. Salman Qayyum Khan	Secretariat Group	BS-21	Senior Joint Secretary		26.05.2025	Cabinet Division
2.	Mr. Muhammad Ijaz Ghani					26.05.2025	Climate Change & EC Division
3.	Mr. Aijaz Ahmed Mahesar					26.05.2025	Commerce Division
4.	Mr. Miran Mohyuddin Soomro					26.05.2025	Economic Affairs Division
5.	Syed Junaid Akhlaq					14.12.2022	FE&PT Division
6.	Mr. Saad Fazil Abbasi					26.02.2021	Finance Division
7.	Mr. Irfan Aman Yusufzai					26.05.2025	Finance Division
8.	Mr. Hassan Raza Saeed					02.12.2021	Finance Division
9.	Mr. Rehan Saleem					26.05.2025	Military Finance Wing
10.	Mr. Ghulam Farooq					26.05.2025	Power Division
11.	Ms. Ayesha Zareen Siddique					26.05.2025	Prime Minister's Office
12.	Syed Mujtaba Hussain					26.02.2021	Railways Division
13.	Mr. Usman Yaqub Khan					14.12.2022	Water Resources Division

Annex-II

LIST OF PSP OFFICERS PRESENTLY POSTED AS SPECIAL SECRETARIES, ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES AND
SENIOR JOINT SECRETARIES IN VARIOUS MINISTRIES / DIVISIONS

Sr.No	Name of Officers	BPS	Seniority No as per seniority list dated 20.07.2025	Date of Promotion to BPS-21	Present Posting	Date Present Posting
1.	Mr. Salman Ch.	21	12	03-12-2021	Additional Secretary, National Security Division, Islamabad.	30-03-2026
2.	Mr. Sohail Habib Tajik	21	21	14-12-2022	Additional Secretary, Communications Division, Islamabad.	26-09-2025
3.	Mr. Waqar Ahmad Chohan	21	42	24-06-2025	Additional Secretary, Interior and Narcotics Control Division, Islamabad.	14-07-2026

LIST OF PAS OFFICERS WHO ARE SPECIAL SECRETARIES-ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES WORKING IN MINISTRIES/DIVISIONS

S.No	Seniority No.	Name of Officer	BS	Current Posting	Date of Posting	Date of Promotion
1.		Mr. Ali Sher Mahsud	22	Special Secretary, Communications Division.	02-11-2023	
2.		Mr. Shakeel Ahmed Magnejo	22	Special Secretary, Prime Minister's Office.	09-04-2025	
3.	02	Ms. Sumaira Samad	21	Additional Secretary, Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division.	03-12-2024	11-08-2023
4.	08	Mr. Salman Mufti	21	Additional Secretary, Commerce Division.	30-04-2025	14-12-2022
5.	11	Mr. Ahsan Ali Mangi	21	Special Secretary, Industries and Production Division.	23-04-2026	20-03-2020
	23	Ms. Saima Saeed	21	Additional Secretary, Finance Division.	01-07-2025	26-02-2021
6.	28	Mr. Manzoor Ali Shaikh	21	Additional Secretary, Establishment Division.	18-09-2024	26-02-2021
7.	36	Mr. Ali Bahadur Qazi	21	Additional Secretary, Science and Tech. Division.	05-06-2026	14-12-2022
8.	38	Ms. Sarah Aslam	21	Special Secretary, Cabinet Division.	05-02-2026	14-12-2022
9.	45	Mr. Ibrar Ahmad Mirza	21	Additional Secretary (Incharge), Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Division.	06-04-2026	11-08-2023
10.	50	Flt.Lt. (Retd.) Kamran Rehman	21	Additional Secretary, Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Division.	27-12-2024	14-12-2022
11.	52	Mr. Saad Sikandar Khan.	21	Additional Secretary, Revenue Division.	09-04-2026	11-08-2023
12.	53	Mr. Sarfraz Durrani	21	Additional Secretary, Cabinet Division.	22/12/2025	14-12-2022
13.	56	Mr. Nazar Muhammad Bozdar.	21	Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office.	27-01-2026	14-12-2022
14.	57	Mr. Mahmood Hassan	21	Additional Secretary, Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Division.	07-04-2026	11-08-2023
15.	58	Mr. Ali Hussain Malik	21	Additional Secretary, Senate Secretariat.	02-10-2025	14-12-2022
16.	61	Syed Imtiaz Hussain Shah	21	Additional Secretary, Power Division.	26-12-2024	11-08-2023
17.	71	Mr. Rafiq Ahmed Buriro	21	Additional Secretary, Information Technology and Telecom Division.	27-02-2025	11-08-2023
18.	75	Ms. Noreen Bashir	21	Additional Secretary, Finance Division.	24-06-2025	24-06-2025
19.	78	Mr. Humayun Khan	21	Additional Secretary, Power Division.	24-06-2025	24-06-2025
20.	25	Mr. Usman Ahmad Chaudhary	20	Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office Under Section 10 of the CSA, 1973	11-06-2026	09-07-2019
21.	33	Mr. Muhammad Yahya Akhunzada	20	Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office Under section 10 of the Civil Servant Act, 1975	13-01-2026	03-12-2021

Question No. 14 Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri:

(Notice Received on 1/09/2026 at 2:34 PM) QID: 45194

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications, with reference to Un-starred Question No. 2 replied on 21 August 2026 during the 363rd Session of the Senate (QID: 44964), be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the figure of freelancers' export remittances during FY 2025-26, stated as "US\$1.16 billion (US\$1.164 million)" in reply to the said question, is a typographical error and should correctly read "US\$1.164 billion (US\$1,164 million)", indicating also the exact percentage share of individual freelancers in the total ICT export remittances of US\$4.6 billion;*
- (b) whether the reported US\$4.6 billion represents only foreign exchange received through Pakistani banking channels or the total export earnings of IT companies and freelancers, including amounts received or retained through foreign bank accounts and international digital payment platforms; and*
- (c) the details of tax and banking incentives directly available to individual freelancers and IT exporters for bringing their foreign earnings into Pakistan, indicating the applicable tax rates, relevant statutory provisions, registration requirements, foreign-currency retention facilities, number of beneficiaries and amount remitted under each incentive during FY 2025-26?*

Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja: (a) The figure of US\$1.164 million figure submitted in the previous response was a typographical error. The corrected state is as under:

Pakistan tech freelancer export remittances inflow, included in ICT exports, surged 49.4%, reaching US\$ 1.16 billion (US\$ 1,164 million) during FY 2025-26 (compared to US\$ 779.4 million achieved during the corresponding period last year (FY 2024-25).

Tech freelancer export remittances constituted 25.3% of the total ICT remittances inflow of US\$4.6 billion in FY26.

(b) The reported US\$ 4.6 billion figure represents only the foreign exchange officially received and realized through Pakistani banking channels (Authorized Dealers). It does not reflect amounts retained or accumulated in overseas bank accounts and international digital payment platforms.

(c) Salient Tax Incentives for the ICT industry & freelancers to facilitate industry growth and encouraging remittances inflow:

1. The 0.25% FTR on export income for the ICT industry was extended till 2029 to provide long term confidence for the industry in order to encourage them to bring earnings to Pakistan and to invest in the ICT sector. Provides 3 years of policy stability, making Pakistan a globally competitive destination for outsourcing and FDI.
2. The Advance Tax on Foreign Card Payments was reduced by 90% (from 5% to 0.5%). This significantly reduces the cost of tech sector for making overseas payments and procuring services from overseas entities
3. Restoration of Tax Pass-Through Treatment for VC Funds (Clause 57(2). Funds distributing 90% of income are tax-exempt at the fund level. This measure helps improve capital availability for startups by increasing investor confidence and help attract foreign investment into the tech sector.
4. Continuation of Section 65F Technology Tax Credit. The tax credit is in line with the government policy to support growth of tech ecosystem in Pakistan and boost exports by providing 100% tax credit to startups.
5. Income Tax Reduction for Salaried Individual. Increases take-home pay for IT professionals without increasing company payroll costs. Crucial for retaining talent during the AI disruption era.
6. Super Tax abolished for income up to Rs. 500 million. Reduced from 10% to 8% for income above Rs. 500 million (excludes banking, ENP, and fertilizer sectors). Encourages business growth, capital formation, and reinvestment of profits.

Salient Banking Incentives for the ICT industry & freelancers to facilitate industry growth and encouraging remittances inflow:

1. Remittances inflow is made attractive for IT exporters and freelancers through Exporter Special Foreign Currency Accounts for IT exporters and

freelancers. Exporters' Special Foreign Currency Accounts (ESFCAs) allow IT exporters and freelancers in Pakistan to retain up to 50% of their foreign export proceeds (or up to \$5,000 per month, whichever is higher) directly in foreign currency. These accounts enable unrestricted international payments without prior approval from the State Bank of Pakistan and provide internationally accepted debit card to facilitate payment in Pakistan and abroad.

2. Banks have designated specific branches with specialized expertise in foreign exchange regulations. These branches are well equipped to handle Exporter Special Foreign Currency Accounts (ESFCAs) and related foreign exchange procedures. In addition, banks have established dedicated desks to facilitate IT exporters.

3. A maximum turnaround time of one working day has been introduced through a directive by SBP for Banks for processing inward export receipts and outward remittances from Exporters' Special Foreign Currency Accounts (ESFCAs).

4. IT companies and freelancers are no longer required to submit Form "R" for every individual's export transaction. Instead, they provide a one-time declaration, specifying the nature of services being offered overseas, at the time of opening of new account and, in the case of existing customers, as and when required thus significantly enhancing ease of business.

5. The threshold level for requiring Form "R" has been increased to above US\$ 25,000 (or equivalent in other currencies), providing convenience to the IT exporters.

6. Documentation requirements for outward remittances from ESFCAs for acquiring services from abroad have been standardized by SBP to promote clarity and consistency across banks.

7. Roshan Digital Accounts framework has been expanded to allow foreign nationals, companies, and institutional investors to open RDAs and thus invest in high-yield government

securities and Naya Pakistan Certificates. These competitive returns encourage global Pakistani IT exporters to remit earnings back to Pakistan instead of holding them abroad.

8. The Digital Service Providers List, available under Para 14A, Chapter 14 of the Foreign Exchange Manual, has been expanded. This revision allows Pakistani ICT companies to make international payments to a wider range of approved overseas digital service providers.

9. Equity Investment Abroad Policy was broadened allowing the utilization of ESFCA funds for equity investments overseas thereby facilitating IT companies and enhancing the attractiveness of ESFCAs'.

ISLAMABAD,
the 26th October, 2026

SYED HASNAIN HAIDER,
Secretary.