

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Tuesday, the 20th November, 2012

DEFERRED QUESTIONS

(Questions No.33, 68 and 2 were set down for answering on 8th November, 2012 but were deferred)

33. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 04-06-2012 at 16:20 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state the names of countries with which Pakistan has dual citizenship agreements indicating also the year of enactment of agreement with each country?

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: The Government of Pakistan has dual nationality arrangements with sixteen (16) countries as per “**Annex-A**” indicating the year of commencement of the arrangements country-wise.

Annex-“A”

LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH WHOM PAKISTAN HAS DUAL NATIONALITY
ARRANGEMENT

S. No. Name of Country	Year of Arrangements
1. Australia	2nd September, 1974
2. Belgium	1st December, 1983
3. Canada	17th May, 1973
4. Egypt	1st December, 1990

S. No. Name of Country	Year of Arrangements
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5. France	1st December, 1983
6. Iceland	1st December, 1983
7. Ireland	9th April, 2005
8. Italy	1st December, 1983
9. Jordan	27th February, 1989
10. Netherlands	18th February, 1993
11. New Zealand	1st December, 1983
12. Switzerland	1st December, 1983
13. Syria	13th March, 1989
14. Sweden	29th August, 2002
15. United Kingdom (UK)	13th April, 1951
16. United States of America (U.S.A)	29th August, 2002

68. ***Mr. Hamza:** (Notice received on 10-09-2012 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that restrictions on visit visas for Pakistan and India are being relaxed on reciprocal basis, if so, its details; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of both the countries to give special concession in the said visas to the senior citizens particularly those who were born and brought up in other country, if so, its details?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: (a) Yes.

- (i) Number of cities to be visited has been increased from three to five.
- (ii) Period of stay has also increased for maximum from three months to six months.
- (iii) Grant of visa for a longer period of up to two years with multiple entries to:—
- (a) Senior citizens (those above 65 years old).
- (b) National of one country, married to a national of the other country.
- (c) Children below 12 years of age accompanying parents as given in above (b).
- (b) Yes.

- (i) The visitor visa will be issued to senior citizens (those above 65 years old) for a period up to two years with multiple entries and also exempted from Police Reporting.
- (ii) Issuance of visa on arrival at Attari / Wagha Check-post.
2. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 19-10-2012 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state whether the persons having dual nationality are eligible for appointment in Armed Forces of Pakistan?

Syed Naveed Qamar: Persons holding dual nationality are not eligible for appointment in the Armed Forces of Pakistan.

63. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:**(Notice received on 25-10-2012 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of NADRA offices in the country with province-wise breakup;*
- (b) *the number of buildings hired for the said offices and amount being paid as rent of the buildings with province-wise breakup; and*
- (c) *the procedure adopted for hiring the buildings?*

Mr. A. Rehman Malik: (a) **NADRA Offices**

478 NADRA Registration Centres (NRCs) / Offices are operational in the country. Province wise break up is given below:—

Province/Region	Number of Office
Capital Territory Islamabad	7
Punjab	187
Sindh	117
Balochistan	53
KPK	94
Gilgit Baltistan	9
AJK	11
Total	478

Buildings Hired by NADRA

308 buildings have been hired for NADRA Registration Centres/Offices. Remaining 170 are gratis buildings provided by the Provincial / Local Governments. Province / Region wise break up of hired buildings along with monthly Rent being paid is given below:—

Province / Region	Hired Buildings	Rent in Rs.
Capital Territory Islamabad	2	121,384
Punjab	136	4545035
Sindh	48	3485255
Balochistan	25	674260
KPK	77	1757140
Gilgit Baltistan	8	84,476
AJK	12	195,780
Total	308	10,863,330

(c) **Procedure Adopted for Hiring of Buildings (Offices)**

- (1) Buildings are hired as per rules after having the recommendations of local Regional Head offices.
- (2) Buildings are hired within the easy approachable distance to the general public.
- (3) Hired building does not hamper the privacy of resident in the area.
- (4) Building hired has enough space to deal with both genders separately.

64. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:**(Notice received on 25-10-2012 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *the functions of Airports Development Agency; and*
- (b) *the details of income and expenditures of the Agency during the last three years with year-wise and head-wise breakup?*

Syed Naveed Qamar: (a) The mandate of Airport Development Agency (ADA) was as follows:

- (i) Construction of new works within the boundary of civil airports in Pakistan.

- (ii) Repair and maintenance of structures and installation within the terminal buildings and pavement areas.
- (iii) Consultancy services and supervision of construction for Civil Aviation Department/Civil Aviation Authority, Pakistan Air force, Pakistan Navy, Pakistan Army, Pakistan International Airlines and Airports Security Force etc.

(b) The Agency was finally wound up in October, 2010. The process of winding up of ADA was started after convening of a general meeting of ADA held on 22nd February 1993. Hence, this part of the question is not applicable.

65. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:**(Notice received on 25-10-2012 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state the class of persons or dignitaries who are entitled to travel by train free of cost indicating also the details of facilities available in each case?

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: Free passes are issued only to the Railway Officers/ employees according to their entitlement. No other person or dignitary is entitled to travel by train free of cost. However, Limited powers vest in senior officers to allow free of cost travelling to passengers in case of emergencies and in the interest of Railways as per following monthly ceilings:

- i. Secretary Chairman Railways = Rs: 20,000/-
- ii. General Manager/Operations = Rs: 20,000/-
- iii. Divisional Superintendents = Rs:10,000/-

These discretionary powers have been suspended with effect from January, 2012 due to the adverse financial condition of Pakistan Railways. The discretionary ceilings of the Minister for Railways and the Minister of state are presently as under:

- i. Federal Minister for Railways = Rs: 25,000/-
- ii. State Minister for Railways = Rs: 21,000/-

66. ***Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 25-10-2012 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) *the overall financial losses of PIA as in March 2008 and at present;*
- (b) *whether an independent performance based and financial / operational audit of PIA has been conducted to identify the disadvantages and grey areas of*

the National Airline by the incumbent government, if so, the details thereof; and

- (c) *the details of malpractices / embezzlement reported in the last four audits of PIA indicating also the names and designation of the persons involved in the same and the action taken against them?*

Syed Naveed Qamar: The requisite information is being obtained from the concerned quarter and will be provided on next Rota Day.

67. ***Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 25-10-2012 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the overall financial losses of Pakistan Railways as in March 2008 and at present;*
- (b) *whether any independent performance based financial / operational assessment of the said department has been done to identify weak / grey areas of Pakistan Railways by the incumbent Government, if so, the findings of the same; and*
- (c) *the steps being taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to make Pakistan Railways a profitable organization?*

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: (a) The overall losses sustained by Pakistan Railways as in 2007-2008 and at present are as under:—

(Rs. in Billion)

Period	Loss	Average Loss per month
2007-2008	16.855	1.405
2011-2012	30.361	2.530
2012-2013 (Budgeted)	31.000	2.583

(b) On the directives of Supreme Court of Pakistan, Railway Administration has contracted an agreement with a Chartered Accountants Firm *i.e* M/s. Yousuf Adil Saleem & Company at Islamabad to carry out the Forensic Audit of the Department. The firm is to take all the accounts, inventories, assets, liabilities, capital and other economic elements to determine how they should work together.

Earlier, Ministry of Railways with the funding of World Bank contracted an agreement with M/s. Riaz Ahmed Khan & Company, a Chartered Accountants firm for Pakistan Railways to develop a Financial Information System/Management Information System. The project is aimed at upgrading the Railways' capability to take timely and informed decisions. This is key initiative and forms part of Railway organizational restructuring. This will introduce cost conscious management and profit driven decision-making in the organization. Implementation of this project will allow PR to separate its costs and revenues for all of its relevant functions, services and activities and adopt line of business approach. It would also minimize the inefficiencies in the system, reduce the cost of business and consequently enhance productivity, facilitating informed business decision making.

(c) Following steps have been taken to make Pakistan Railways a profitable organization:-

- (i) Repayments of 4 Chinese loans and interest from 2011-12 onwards have been transferred to Economic Affairs Division.
- (ii) On the request of this Ministry, Finance Division recommended to SBP impose moratorium on Interest on Overdraft from October, 2011 to June, 2013.
- (iii) All non-productive expenses have been stopped and expenditures are being incurred in accordance with available resources *i.e* revenue generation and government subsidy.
- (iv) incurrence of expenditures other than salary/pension, fuel and utilities have been subjected to cash release by the competent authorities.
- (v) A separate project "Special Repair of 150 Running locomotives" have been got approved during 2012-13 under PSDP. It will decrease the burden of locomotive maintenance on Revenue Budget.
- (vi) A programme for repair of 96 locomotives has been prepared. Federal Government is lining up a loan from National Bank of Pakistan.
- (vii) Transport facility has been monetized for senior officers of Pakistan Railways.
- (viii) Only commercially viable trains are being run.
- (ix) In addition, the austerity measures issued by Finance Division have been implemented in true spirit.

70. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 31-10-2012 at 10:34 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway saloons owned by Pakistan Railways at present; and

(b) the persons who are entitled to use the said saloons?

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: (a) Presently 33 railway saloons are available over the system.

(b) The following persons are entitled for use of these saloons ;

S. No.	Names of entitled persons
1.	President of Pakistan
2.	Prime Minister of Pakistan
3.	Chairman Senate
4.	Speaker National Assembly
5.	Chief Justice of Pakistan
6.	Federal Ministers
7.	Minister of State for Railways
8.	Adviser to the Prime Minister
9.	Chief of Army Staff
10.	Chief of Naval Staff
11.	Chief of Air Staff
12.	Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee

S. No.	Names of entitled persons
13.	Vice Chief of Army Staff
14.	Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman)
15.	Chief Election Commissioner
16.	Governors
17.	Provincial Ministers (Punjab & Balochistan)
18.	Secretary/Chairman Railways
19.	Member Finance/Additional Secretary Railways

- 20 Secretary Railway Board
 - 21 General Managers Railways
 - 22 Additional General Manager Railways
 - 23 Inspector General Pakistan Railway Police
 - 24 Principal Officers Railway Headquarters
 - 25 Federal Government Inspector of Railways
 - 26 Divisional Superintendent Pakistan Railways
 - 27 Public on commercial basis
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71. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 31-10-2012 at 10:34 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) *the date of establishment of locomotive factory in Risalpur; and*
- (b) *the number of locomotives and bogies manufactured in the factory so far?*

Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour: (a) Pakistan Locomotive Factory was established in the year 1992 for manufacturing of new locomotives.

(b) Pakistan Locomotive Factory Risalpur has manufactured 97 Diesel Electric Locomotives so far in the range of 2000-3000 Horsepower for hauling passenger and freight trains.

ISLAMABAD :
The 19th November, 2012.

IFTIKHAR ULLAH BABAR,
Secretary.

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ITS REPLY”

For Tuesday, the 20th November, 2012

(Question No. 1 was set down for answering on 8th November, 2012
but was deferred)

1. **Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 22-10-2012 at 09:10 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Interior be pleased to state whether it is a fact Adda fee is being charged from public transport vehicles on GT Road at Rawat which is situated in ICT, if so, its reasons?

Reply not received.

ISLAMABAD :
The 19th November, 2012.

IFTIKHAR ULLAH BABAR,
Secretary.