

(302nd Session)

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Wednesday, the 26th August, 2020

DEFERRED QUESTIONS

*[Questions Nos. 18,19,23,28, and 366 were deferred on
10th June, 2020 (299th Session)]*

(Def.) *Question No. 18 **Senator Rana Mahmood Ul Hassan:**
(Notice Received on 5/03/2020 at 12:25 AM) QID: 36916

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state:

- (a) *The names and designations of employees of Estate Office, who have been working on same subject/seat for more than 3 years in Estate Office, Islamabad; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to fix a certain period for holding one post at one station by the employees of the said Office and rotate them on different subjects/seats at different stations, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason thereof?*

Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema: (a) None of the employees has been working in the same subject / seat more than three years in Estate Office, Islamabad.

(b) No. As above.

(Def.) *Question No. 19 **Senator Rana Mahmood Ul Hassan:**
(Notice Received on 5/03/2020 at 12:25 PM) QID: 36918

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of allotments Government accommodations, made by the Estate Office since 2011 with category wise breakup indicating also the name of Government employee, name of department, seniority number/position in General Waiting List, date of issuance of offer/consent letter, date of submission of consent by the employee, date of allotment, date of expected/supposed and actual occupation of the accommodation in each case; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that a number of the said allottees could not get possession of their allotted accommodations, if so, the reasons thereof indicating also the steps being taken by the Government to give them possession at the earliest?*

Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema: (a) The record of Estate Office has been burned in fire incident in 2014, further the IT section of Estate office has been established recently therefore it is not possible to provide the detail of allotments of government accommodations made by Estate Office since 2011 with category wise breakup indicating also the name of Government employee, name of department, seniority number/ position in General Waiting List, date of issuance of offer/ consent letter, date of submission of consent by the employee, date of allotment, date of expected/ supposed and actual occupation of the accommodation in each case.

(b) As above.

(Def.) *Question No. 23 **Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh:**
(Notice Received on 9/03/2020 at 2:40 PM) QID: 36944

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Government has recently conducted physical survey of Government accommodations allotted to Government employees in Islamabad, if so, the number of accommodations found under the occupation of legal allottee and the number of those found subletted or being used for commercial activities in the same; and*
- (b) *the number of accommodations found under illegal occupation in the said survey indicating also the number of accommodations out of the same retrieved from illegal occupants and action taken against the trespassers?*

Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema: (a) Yes, it is a fact that the Estate Office has conducted a physical survey of government accommodations at Islamabad on the directions of Supreme Court of Pakistan in HRC No. 20746/18. As per survey report 17327 accommodation have been found under occupation of legal allottees. Whereas 169 accommodations were found subletted and 08 were found under commercial activities.

(b) As per survey report 169 are found under illegal occupation. Whereas 42 Government accommodations have been got vacated from illegal / un-authorized occupants.

(Def.) *Question No. 28 **Senator Sirajul Haq:**

(Notice Received on 7/05/2020 at 12:45 PM) QID: 37025

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

- (a) *the amount released by the Government under the Ehsas Programme during the pandemic of corona virus with province wise breakup;*
- (b) *the procedure adopted for distribution of the said amount of financial assistance; and*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that the said financial assistance under that Programme is being distributed through the Government established centers instead of sending the same directly to the accounts of the deserving persons, if so, the reasons thereof?*

Minister Incharge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division : (a) As of 05-06-2020, an amount of around Rs. 118 billion has been disbursed among the deserving beneficiaries under Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program launched by the Federal Government in the wake of Coronavirus Pandemic. Province wise breakup of the same is given as under:

Province/ Region	Beneficiaries registered so far	Number of Beneficiaries paid so far	% age of beneficiaries paid	Amount Paid (in millions)
Sindh	3564330	2970823	83	35872
Punjab	5661951	4172736	74	50660
KP	2203983	1821474	83	22383

Province/ Region	Beneficiaries registered so far	Number of Beneficiaries paid so far	% age of beneficiaries paid	Amount Paid (in millions)
Balochistan	684872	462842	68	5644
AJK	222386	168231	76	2082
GB	90139	68221	76	859
Islamabad	74957	38435	51	466
Total	12502618	9702762	78	117966

(b) The amount to the deserving persons under Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program is being distributed through Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)'s partner banks (Bank Alfalah in KP, AJK and GB: HBL in Punjab Sindh and Balochistan), under Biometric Verification System (BVS) system. Under BVS payment mechanism, individual bank accounts of beneficiaries are opened by BISP's partner banks after biometric verification and amount is directly transferred into these accounts. Beneficiaries can withdraw their amounts after biometric verification through Point of Sale (POS) agents of the banks, BVS ATMs, bank branches or special campsites. However, payments under Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program are being made at designated campsites.

(c) The financial assistance under Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program is directly being transferred into the individual bank accounts of deserving persons opened by BISP's partner banks. For withdrawal of amounts, special campsites are established in coordination with the Provincial Governments/District Administrations, mostly in Government owned buildings like school, colleges, community centers etc., to manage logistics, crowding and to take preventive measures to avoid spread of Coronavirus. The withdrawals are being made through BVS mechanism under the supervision of local administration, partner bank's focal persons and BISP staff.

(Def.) *Question No. 366 **Senator Khushbakht Shujat:**

(Notice Received on 20/11/2019 at 11:30 AM) QID: 36642

Will the Minister for Housing and Works be pleased to state the details of award distributed to the land owners in Sector G-14 so far?

Chaudhary Tariq Bashir Cheema: The Award of Land falling in Sector G-14 was awarded as per following details:

- i. The Award of land in Sector G-14/4 Islamabad was announced in 1995 @ Rs. 2,30,000/- per Kanal for total land 1459 Kanals. The Sector is now developed and allottees are residing therein.
 - ii. The land falling in Sector G-14/1, 2 & 3 was announced in 2005 @ Rs. 5,90,000/- per kanal for total land of 4820 Kanals.
2. The amount was transferred to the LAC office ICT, which has accordingly been paid to the respective owners of the land.
 3. Provisionally handed over plots to the respective allottees in sector G14/2 & 3 Islamabad are 999.
 4. Due to Covid-19 the development of sector G-14 was stalled in months of March, April and has been resumed in month of May, 2020.
 5. The Award of built up property in G-14/1, 2 is yet to be made for which survey of the BUPs is going on. Whereas, Rs. 1,889,183,730/- has been awarded as compensation for 529 BUPs in G-14/3 by the LAC office ICT, Islamabad.

Sector	Mouza	Total Plots	No. of BUPs
G-14/1	Challo	2963	580
G-14/2	Jhangi Sayyeddan	1333	250
G-14/3	Thalla Sayyeddan	1190	529 (406+ 123) (award of BUPs announced in G-14/3)

6. Rs. 6-7 billion is required to clear BUPs in Sector G-14/1, 2 & 3.

***Question No. 10 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 24/06/2020 at 2:00 PM) QID: 37111

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that Government has made an increase of Rs.12000 in PIA's fare from Dubai to Karachi and Rs.22000*

- from Dubai to Lahore; if so, the reasons thereof; and*
 (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to provide relief to the overseas Pakistanis in PIA's fare?*

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan: (a) Due to COVID-19 scheduled operations of airlines across the globe were suspended and PIA was no exception to this. As per directives of Prime Minister of Pakistan, repatriation operations were launched by PIA to many countries including UAE.

Further, due to restrictions imposed by UAE government, outbound passengers were not allowed on any flights operating to UAE. Similarly, due to inbound restrictions imposed by government of Pakistan, only a limited number of passengers were allowed to travel on arriving flights in to the country. As airlines around the world were also facing an un-precedented cash flow crisis due to the pandemic, it was not possible for PIA to operate these flights on excessive loss.

Moreover, to maintain social distancing, Pakistan CAA had also imposed restrictions, due to which cost of operation was to be met. For example, aircraft operating with 300 plus seats was permitted to carry 250 passengers likewise aircraft having capacity of 170 was allowed to carry 140 passengers. Therefore, in order to offset the impact of this cost, some fares were increased by PIA. PIA has rationalized fares to provide relief to travellers; cheap fares are available in the system.

(b) The safe return of stranded Pakistanis was the top most priority of PIA's COVID-19 repatriation operation. However, some fare increase was un-avoidable due to the given circumstances. PIA remains committed to playing its part in serving Pakistanis across the globe.

In order to provide relief to travelling public, PIA has rationalized fares and cheap fares are now available in the system.

***Question No. 11 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 2/07/2020 at 2:45 PM) QID: 37116

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the Government has decided to abolish the posts lying vacant for the last one year in various Divisions and Departments of the Federal Government, if so,*

- the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) *the number of posts lying vacant in the said divisions and departments for the last one year with grade wise break up?*

Reply Not Received.

The Establishment Division has transferred this question to the Ministry of Finance and Revenue. But the Ministry of Finance and Revenue has not accepted it so far.

***Question No. 13 Senator Sirajul Haq:**

(Notice Received on 9/07/2020 at 1:55 PM) QID: 37133

Will the Minister Incharge of the Aviation Division be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 600 persons have been found to be appointed on fake educational certificates / degrees in PIA, if so, the action taken against them so far?

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan: • It is fact that external employment were made in PIACL through different advertisement as per requirement of the Company and candidates were selected against their educational degrees/ certificates submitted by them to PIACL at the time of recruitment.

- On the directions of Management, Establishment Division and Honourable Supreme Court of Pakistan the issue of verification of degrees were taken up with the concerned University(s)/ Board(s). Upon declaring as bogus/ tempered/ fake by the concerned University(s)/ Board(s), disciplinary action was initiated against all those employees as per rules of the company.

- After due process, 760 employees have been dismissed/ terminated from PIA service till date. However, departmental action against 127 employees is still under process, out of which 87 are on stay from different courts.

***Question No. 14 Senator Gianchand:**

(Notice Received on 16/07/2020 at 4:10 PM) QID: 37136

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

- (a) *whether 4G service has been provided in district Tharparkar, Sindh, if so, the details thereof;*
- (b) *the names of areas / villages of the said district covered /*

- provided with the facility of cellular network; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to extend the facility of cellular network to the areas / villages in that district which are not covered with the network at present, if so, the details thereof indicating also the names of areas / villages which will be provided that facility and the time during the same will be provided?*

Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division: (a) 4G Services have been provided in all 7 Tehsils of District Tharparkar *i.e.* Mithi, Islamkot, Chachro, Dihly, Diplo, Kaloj and Nagarparkar. Details attached at **Annex – A**.

(b) Facility of cellular network (2G/3G/4G) services have been provided in all Tehsils of District Tharparkar. BTS sites located in District Tharparkar is attached at **Annex-B**. Furthermore, coverage foot print for Voice and Mobile broadband services have also been attached at **Annex-C**.

(c) USF awarded contract to M/s Telenor in year 2009 to extend the then prevalent 2G (voice and data) cellular services to the unserved mauzas in the districts of Tharparkar.

After issuance of 3G/4G licenses, USF NG-BSD Tharparkar Lot targets provision of Voice and Highspeed Mobile Broadband Internet (3G) services in the unserved and Mobile Broadband Internet Services in the underserved mauzas of districts Tharparkar. List of 226 un/underserved mauzas/sub-mauzas, mandated for coverage in the Tharparkar District, is attached at **Annex-D (planned)**.

Contract for USF's Tharparkar Lot was awarded to M/s Telenor Pakistan, in December 2019. M/s Telenor will be upgrading some of its sites to offer 4G services. The Project is to be completed within 18 months.

Till date 25% implementation has been completed and USF has provided coverage to 39 mauzas in Tharparkar district List attached at **Annex-E (implemented)**

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

ISLAMABAD,
the 25th August, 2020

DR. SYED PERVAIZ ABBAS,
Secretary.

