

(304th Session)**SENATE SECRETARIAT**

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”*to be asked at a sitting of the Senate to be held on***Friday, the 16th October, 2020****DEFERRED QUESTIONS***[Questions Nos. 32 and 5 were deferred on 18th August, 2020
(302nd Session)]**(Def.)* ***Question No. 32 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 15/06/2020 at 3:45 PM) QID: 37076

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 1000 goods carrying trucks are stranded at the Torkham border with Afghanistan due to clearance of only 60 trucks per day as against the clearance of 1200 trucks previously, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (b) the details of facilities being provided by the Government for border trade with Afghanistan?*

Minister for Finance and Revenue: (a) Afghan Transit (ATT) and Bilateral trade traffic at Torkham has come to normal. There is no congestion from Karachi to Torkham. Numbers of containers as reach Torkham are cross border on the same day. Average time a vehicle takes from Karachi to Torkham is 05 days.

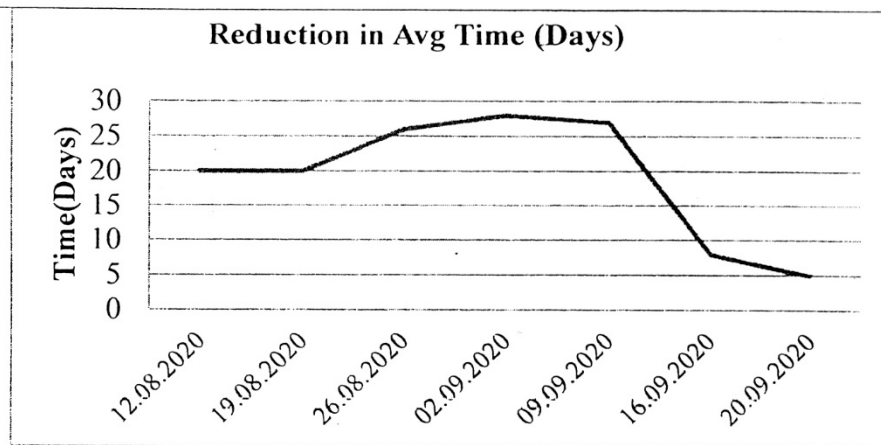
Drastic Improvement in Situation:

The shifting of clearance processes to Michni Check post and implementation of the realignment of border management procedures has

made the situation better. There is no enroute congestion and staging areas are virtually empty. The average trip time from Karachi to Torkham has reduced to 05 days till cross border.

Improvement in Trip Time:

Date	Average Time taken from Karachi to Torkham
12.08.2020	Twenty (20) Days
19.08.2020	Twenty (20) Days
26.08.2020	Twenty Six (26) Days
02.09.2020	Twenty Eight (28) Days
09.09.2020	Twenty Seven (27) Days
16.09.2020	Eight (08) Days
20.09.2020	Five (05) Days



As regarding transit clearance figures. Customs transit formation, as a matter of fact, processes all container for cross border on the same day as is evident from the statement for 10 days from 15th September to 30th September, 2020 is tabulated below;

Date	Vehicles container processed		Vehicles/containers border crossed	
	No Of Vehicles	No Of Containers	No Of Vehicles	No Of Containers
15.09.2020	183	253	241	317
16.09.2020	201	314	207	304
17.09.2020	259	374	236	339

18.09.2020	183	249	235	336
19.09.2020	192	272	197	291
20.09.2020	226	317	205	301
21.09.2020	205	257	190	266
22.09.2020	191	252	194	249
23.09.2020	172	209	185	258
24.09.2020	136	199	128	182
25.09.2020	89	117	100	137
26.09.2020	169	197	103	151
27.09.2020	114	148	144	183
28.09.2020	117	158	111	145
29.09.2020	95	125	83	110
30.09.2020	153	195	127	176
Total	2685	3636	2686	3745

3. Export Dwell Time Analysis:

The export clearances have been analyzed. The dwell time of exports cargo is presented at a glance below:

S.No	Date	GD filling time	Total GDs	Average time / GD in Hours (Gate-in to Allow Loading) {By MCC (A&F)} In Hours		Average time / GD (Allow Loading to Actual Cross Border (BY MCC (E&C)/NLC/FC) In Hours	
1	02.09.2020	00:01 to 11:59	43	2.81	2.28	7.04	8.7
2	02.09.2020	12:01 to 23:59	58	1.76		10.35	
3	09.09.2021	00:01 to 11:59	51	2.49	2.87	8.92	7.53
4	09.09.2021	12:01 to 23:59	68	3.53		6.14	

5	16.09.202 2	00:01 to 11:59	42	5.98	2.57	6.03	7.38
6	16.09.202 2	12:01 to 23:59	45	2.82		8.73	
7	26.08.202 3	00:01 to 11:59	65	2.45	2.68	9.48	7.88
8	26.08.202 23	12:01 to 23:59	57	2.93		6.28	
9	19.08.202 4	00:01 to 11:59	62	2.81	3.05	6.20	6.7
10	19.08.202 5	12:01 to 23:59	56	3.30		7.22	

The dwell time of imports cargo is around 2 to 3 hours and 95% cargo is cleared on same day. Consignments involving intrusive inspections are also cleared in two days

(b) Following facilities have been provided/step taken by the government;

- (i) Staff strength has been increased at border station to facilitate bilateral trade. Clearance has been going on round the clock 24/7;
- (ii) Senior officer of the rank of Additional Collector has been posted at Torkham who is available there round the clock to address any issues, resulting in swift clearance.

(Def.) *Question No. 5 **Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 18/06/2020 at 2:00 PM) QID: 37091

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state:

- (a) *the overall losses suffered by State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) as of December, 2019 indicating also the steps being taken by the Government to overcome the losses of those SOEs'; and*
- (b) *whether there is proposal under consideration of the Government to hand over the administrative matters of the*

said SOEs to private sector in accordance with Public Sector Companies Rules, 2013, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: (a) Performance of SOEs

The overall position of SOEs in FY 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18 is as under:

Rs. Million	2017-18	2018-19	Change %
Aggregate Losses	(563,280)	(450,845)	-20%

Government is consistently reviewing the performance of SOEs. Improvement in the overall performance of the SOEs is mainly attributed to the significant reduction in net losses of power sector companies, mainly, DISCOs due to:

- (1) Tariff notification by NEPRA that led to improvement in revenue streams of DISCOs thereby covering the cost and distribution of electricity, hence, enhancing the sustainability.
- (2) Reduction in line losses of DISCOs by taking effective measures against theft and leakages and improved distribution network.
- (3) Improved recovery of bills and arrears. Reduction in losses of PIA is attributed to rationalization of routes, control on expenditure and improvement in service delivery.

Handover of the management is part of the privatization process, which is duly approved by the Cabinet Committee on Privatization (CCoP). At present, there are 14 State-Owned Enterprises on the Active Privatization Program (Annex-1). The privatization program is continuously reviewed keeping in view the market conditions and appetite. Further, privatization shall be undertaken in a phased manner, while prioritizing the loss-making SOEs.

Annexure-I**Active Privatization Program**

S. No	Entity Name
1	1223 MW Balloki Power Plant*
2	1230 MW Haveli Bahadur Power Plant*
3	SME Bank Limited
4	First Women Bank Limited
5	Services International Hotel, Lahore*
6	Jinnah Convention Centre, Islamabad*
7	Mari Petroleum Limited (divestment of remaining shares)
8	Pakistan Steel Mills
9	Pakistan Engineering Company (PECO)
10	Heavy Electrical Complex (HEC)
11	Sindh Engineering Limited (SEL)
12	House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC)
13	Pakistan Re-Insurance Co. Ltd. (PakRe)
14	Oil and Gas development Company Limited (OGDCL)
15	Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL)
16	Guddu Power Plant (747 MW) – Central Power Generation Company Ltd – CPGCL (GENCO – II)
17	Nandipur Power Plant (425 MW) – Northern Power Generation Company Ltd – NPGCL (GENCO – III)
18	State Life Insurance Corporation
19	PIA-IL Roosevelt Hotel, NY*

* Not SOEs but projects and real estate assets respectively.

***Question No. 1 Senator Seemee Ezdi:**

(Notice Received on 28/08/2020 at 3:00 PM) QID: 37452

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state the steps taken by the present Government for elimination of Hawala/Hundi system for financial transactions in the country?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: Pakistan introduced its first standalone Anti-Money Laundering law in September 2007 through promulgation of Anti-Money Laundering Ordinance, 2007 (AMLO) followed by Anti-Money Laundering Ordinance-2009 and Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2010.

Present Government has taken various steps / measures for elimination of Hawala/ Hundi system for financial transactions in the country, detail is Annexed.

ANNEXED

The following steps/measures for elimination of Hawala/Hundi system for financial transactions have been taken:

- i. In February 2020, following amendments have been made in FERA, 1947:-
 - ✓ The simple imprisonment of 2 years has been enhanced to rigorous imprisonment of 5 years.
 - ✓ The offenses have been made cognizable.
 - ✓ The requirement of written complaints from SBP, for Tribunals to take cognizance of offences, has been abolished for unauthorized/illegal foreign exchange operators (Hawala/Hundi operators).
 - ✓ The time to conclude trial has been fixed for Tribunal i.e. session court is now bound to decide the case within 06 months.
- ii. Impact of FERA Amendments on Operations against Hawala/Hundi: These amendments have enabled FIA to expedite identification and registration of Hawala/Hundi cases as well as the process of conducting raids, seizing relevant evidences and arresting the offenders.
- iii. In July 2020, the existing MOU between FIA and SBP for mutual cooperation was revised. The revision aimed at establishing a more robust mechanism in the form of a core coordination committee to further enhance the on-going cooperation between both the agencies for the identification, registration and investigation of cases against Hawala/Hundi.
- iv. The on-going exchange of information and inter-agency cooperation among the competent authorities, under an existing multilateral MoU, was further strengthened through more frequent, regular and structured meetings and follow-ups by the Joint Working Group.
- v. FIA and SBP, in close collaboration, launched a robust public awareness campaign across the country with a view to discourage the public from using Hawala/Hundi, to encourage the public to identify and report illegal Hawla/Hundi cases to FIA and also to deter Hawala/Hundi operators from continuing their activities.
- vi. SBP and Pakistan Remittance Initiative (PRI) have intensified their promotional, policy and supervisory efforts to facilitate remittances/payments through channels provided by licensed financial institutions i.e. banks, microfinance banks and exchange companies (ECs), given the risk of ML/TF arising from the illegal hawal/hundi.
- vii. The Outcome/Impact of SBP/ PRI efforts: In sharp contrast to the World Bank's projection of a decline of 23% in remittances to Pakistan during 2020 due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, remittances registered an increase of 7.8% during the peak of lockdowns in major sending corridors i.e., March-June 2020. Moreover, the country witnessed a record high remittance of USD 23.1 billion during FY2019-20 (July-June) with a 6.4% year on year growth.

***Question No. 2 Senator Rana Mahmood Ul Hassan:**

(Notice Received on 21/09/2020 at 10:15 AM) QID: 37257

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to introduce uniform pension for Armed Forces personnel retiring in the same rank with the same length of service, regardless of their date of retirement, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: No, there is no proposal under consideration to introduce uniform pension for Armed Forces Personnel.

Pension of all Government Servants (Civil and Armed forces) is computed on the basis of length of qualifying service in term of Rule-3 of Liberalized Pension Rules, 1977 and emoluments drawn at the time of retirement under Article-486 of (CSR) Civil Services Regulations.

Therefore, pension of all retired Armed Forces personnel, retiring in the same rank with the same length of service, regardless of their date of retirement, cannot be equated uniformly as suggested by honorable Senator.

***Question No. 3 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 21/09/2020 at 12:00 PM) QID: 37435

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that according to the audit report of Pakistan Steel Mills for the year ended on 30th June, 2019, the Pakistan Steel Mill's Management has spent the amount of provident fund of its employees in violation of rules, if so, the details thereof?

Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar: Yes. As a result of international recession, PSM Management in 2008-09 has decided to borrow a temporary loan of Rs. 3.9 billion from Employees Provident Fund Trust to meet the immediate requirements of Raw Material, Working Capital and to avoid huge Markup burden on L/Cs as per following details. The said act was in violation of company law (**Annex-I**).

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (in Million)
Raw Material L/Cs	2,119
Salaries	39
Collector of Custom	1,230
Utilities	528
TOTAL	3,916

The entire amount of PF loan, however, has completely been repaid by PSM in the year 2014-15. The amount of loan availed and its subsequent repayment is mentioned hereunder

-----**REPAYMENT**----- (Rs. in million)

Loan Amount	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2014-15
3,900	1,095.60	701.40	1,603.00	500.00

Annex-I

- (a) the contract shall, at the option of the company, be void as against the company; and
- (b) such officer or other agent shall be liable to a penalty of level 1 on the standard scale.

215. Liability for undesired activities of the shareholders.—(1) A member of a company shall act in good faith while exercising its powers as a shareholder at the general meetings and shall consider the benefit of all the members.

(2) Without prejudice to his rights under this Act, a member of the company shall not exert influence or approach the management directly for decisions which may lead to create hurdle in the smooth functioning of management.

(3) Any shareholder who fails to conduct in the manner provided in this section and as specified by the Commission shall be guilty of an offence under this section and shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding of level 1 on the standard scale.

216. Company deemed to be a public interest company in certain circumstances.—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, a company shall be deemed to be a company with public interest as envisaged in the Third Schedule.

(2) Upon being deemed as a company with public interest, the company shall be required to comply with such disclosure and reporting requirements as may be specified by the Commission.

(3) The Commission may as specified, after giving an opportunity of hearing to a company or class of companies, by an order in writing exempt such company from the requirements of this section if the Commission determines that such exemption is in the interest of the public:

Provided that such order shall be posted on the official website of the Commission.

217. Securities and deposits.-(1) Save as provided in section 84, no company or any of its officers or agents shall receive or utilise any money received as security or deposit, except in accordance with a contract in writing.

(2) The money so received shall be kept in a special account maintained by a company with a scheduled bank.

(3) This section shall not apply where the money received is in the nature of an advance payment for goods to be delivered or sold to an agent, dealer or sub-agent in accordance with a contract in writing.

218. Employees' provident funds, contributory retirement funds and securities.-(1) All moneys or securities deposited with a company by its employees in pursuance of their contracts of service with the company shall be kept or deposited by the company within fifteen days from the date of deposit in a special account to be opened by the company for the purpose in a scheduled bank or in the National Saving Schemes, and no portion thereof shall be utilized by the company except for the breach of the contract of service on the part of the employee as provided in the contract and after notice to the employee concerned.

(2) Where a provident fund, contributory pension fund or any other contributory retirement fund has been constituted by a company for its employees or any class of its employees, all moneys contributed to such fund, whether by the company or by the employees or by both, or received or accruing by way of interest, profit or otherwise from the date of contribution, receipt or accrual, as the case may be, shall either-

(a) be deposited-

(i) in a National Savings Scheme;

(ii) in a special account to be opened by the company for the purpose in a scheduled bank; or

(iii) where the company itself is a scheduled bank, in a special account to be opened by the company for the purpose either in itself or in any other scheduled bank; or

(b) be invested in-

(i) Government securities; or

(ii) bonds, redeemable capital, debt securities or instruments issued by a statutory body, units of collective investment schemes registered as notified entities with the Commission, and in listed securities including shares of companies, bonds, redeemable capital, debt securities and equity securities, subject to the conditions as may be specified.

(3) Where a trust has been created by a company with respect to any provident fund or a contributory pension fund or any contributory retirement fund referred to in sub-section (2), the company shall be bound to collect the contribution of the employees concerned and pay such contributions as well as its own contributions, if any, to the trustees within fifteen days from the date of collection, and thereupon, the obligations laid on the company by that sub-section shall devolve on the trustees and shall be discharged by them instead of the company.

(4) The trustees of provident fund, contributory pension or retirement fund shall have appropriate representation from the members of the funds.

219. Penalty for contravention of section 217 or 218.- Any contravention or default in complying with requirements of sections 217 or 218 shall be an offence liable to a penalty of level 1 on the standard scale and shall also be liable to pay the loss suffered by the depositor of security or the employee, on account of such contravention.

ACCOUNTS OF COMPANIES

220. Books of account, to be kept by company.—(1) Every company shall prepare and keep at its registered office books of account and other relevant books and papers and financial statements for every financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company, including that of its branch office or offices, if any:

***Question No. 4 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 22/09/2020 at 9:30 AM) QID: 37075

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to the pandemic of covid-19 the country's economy is under immense pressure, if so, the details thereof; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the GDP growth, foreign remittances, exports and expand the tax net to get the economy out of the said pressure?*

Minister for Finance and Revenue: (a)

- The outbreak of COVID-19 covered the whole world, posing severe socio-economic challenges, especially for the developing countries.
- Pre COVID-19, the global growth was projected to rise by 3.3 % in 2020, which was sharply contracted by -3% (April, 2020) as a result of pandemic. According to the World Economic Outlook (WEO) June 2020 forecast, the growth is projected to reduce further by - 4.9 percent in 2020.
- Pakistan was no exception and COVID-19 drastically changed the whole scenario.
- Prior to COVID-19 outbreak, GDP growth was projected at 2.4% for FY2020, while it is estimated -0.4%.
- The last quarter of this fiscal year bore the most significant brunt of the COVID-19 crisis.

- FBR has collected Rs. 3,998 billion in FY2020. Pre COVID-19, FBR target was Rs. 4,807 billion, thus estimated revenue loss was approx. Rs. 809 billion due to pandemic.
- Budget deficit stood at 8.1 % of GDP in FY2020 against the target of 7.5%.
- Low economic activity in EU, USA, UK , Middle East and resultant fall in commodity prices, exports of Pakistan remained \$ 22.5 bn (Pre COVID: \$25.5 bn estimated).
- Workers' remittances reached at \$ 23.1 bn (Pre COVID: \$24 bn estimated).
- Before COVID-19, GDP was projected at 3.0 percent for FY2021, now it is projected at 2.1 percent.

(b) The Government acted in a timely and well-calibrated manner to lessen the detrimental effects of COVID-19.

- The Government has announced a largest ever Fiscal Stimulus package of Rs. 1,240 billion (around 8 billion). The package covers Emergency Response, Support to Business and Relief to Citizens.
- Special package for construction sector was also announced to facilitate the private sector investment and increase employment opportunities in the country in the wake of coronavirus outbreak.
- To uplift agriculture sector “National Agriculture Emergency Programme” in coordination with all provinces is being executed. Thirteen mega projects at the cost of Rs. 277 billion are under execution.
- The State Bank of Pakistan is providing liquidity support to households and businesses to help them through the ensuing temporary phase of economic disruption.

- Further, the policy rate was cut by 625 basis point in total till June 25, 2020, bringing it down to 7.0 percent from a peak of more than 13.25 percent.
- To support exports,—
 - Export Finance Scheme (EFS) Rate is maintained at 3.0 % and Long Term Finance Facility (LTFF) has reduced from 6.0% to 5.0 %. Per project LTFF limit has been enhanced to Rs. 5 bn from 2.5 bn.
 - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SBP has reduced the performance requirement for availing credit under EFS, from twice to one and a half times of borrowed fund and extended the facility till December, 2020.
 - In addition, SBP announced additional support of Rs. 190 billion for exporters and investors in the export-oriented sectors to safeguard against reduction in global export opportunities due to the pandemic.
 - Payment of export rebates is being fully automated.
 - More than 1600 tariff lines constituting thousands of raw materials were exempted from customs duty.
- For worker's remittances,—
 - Reimbursement of T.T. Charges Scheme is revised in March 2020 accordingly, Remittance transaction between USD 100/- and USD 200/- (or equivalent in other currencies) to be reimbursed increased from Saudi Riyal (SAR) 10/ to SAR 20/-.
 - SBP has encouraged formal banking channel for remittances and raised the payment limits for IT related freelance services from US\$ 5,000 to US\$ 25,000 per individual per month to enhance business-to-customer transactions.

- National Remittance Loyalty Program will be launched from December 1, 2020 through mobile app.
- Government has exempted withholding tax on remittances transactions.
- Rs. 25 bn has been allocated to improve foreign remittances through banking channels and build up foreign exchange reserves.
- To expand the tax net,—
 - FBR has envisioned various reforms/ special initiatives with an aim to improve revenue collection in line with efforts to facilitate the taxpayers for best outcome.
 - Data obtained from DISCOs and Gas Companies for broadening of tax base.
 - In order to develop 360 degree view of tax payers, data sources like banks, vehicles and real estate transactions have been captured and a Data Bank developed.
 - Due to enforcement measures, number of tax filers has reached to around 2.7 million, which is record high in the history of FBR.

***Question No. 5 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:**

(Notice Received on 22/09/2020 at 9:30 AM) QID: 37149

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of conditions on which the Government is obtaining loans from IMF at present indicating also mark up on which those loans are obtained and the period and procedure for the return of the same; and*
- (b) the details of agreements made with the IMF and other international financial institutions by the present Government?*

Minister for Finance and Revenue: (a) The Government is implementing a home-grown economic reforms program with the support of the IMF. The reforms aim to stabilize the country's economy by addressing deep-seated structural imbalances and lay the foundation for sustained and inclusive growth. These measures are largely directed towards achieving fiscal consolidation, reducing external sector vulnerabilities, broadening of tax base, improving the country's competitiveness, reforming and improving governance in state owned enterprises, strengthening the anti-money laundering and terror financing regimes, addressing energy sector imbalances and strengthening the autonomy of the State Bank of Pakistan. One major component of reforms is ensuring social protection for the poorer sections of the society.

The markup of IMF loans varies according to the SDR interest rate, which is calculated every week, and the level of utilization of its quota by a member country. At present, the markup is 4.05 percent (as of 10th August, 2020). Repayments of ongoing IMF program will start from 2024 and will continue up to 2032.

(b) The details of the agreement with the IMF are as above. These are also available on IMF's website, Furthermore, the government is undertaking reforms with the support of the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank to improve fiscal management and trade competitiveness, address energy sector deficiencies and develop the financial markets of the country. The details of 21 agreements made with the World Bank, 22 with Asian Development Bank, 11 with Islamic Development Bank and 4 with Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank are given at (**Annex-I, II, III & IV**), respectively.

Annex-I**WORLD BANK**

S#.	Project Name	Loan / Grant	Net Commitment (US\$ m)	Signing Date	Executing/Implementing Agency
1.	Pakistan Raises Revenue Program	Loan	400.0	17.06.2019	Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)
2.	Higher Education Development in Pakistan	Loan	400.0	18.06.2019	Higher Education Commission (HEC)
3.	KP Revenue Mobilization Program	Loan	118.0	18.06.2019	Finance Deptt. Government of KPK
4.	Competitive & Livable City of Karachi	Loan	230.0	26.11.2019	Local Deptt Government of Sindh
5.	Karachi Water & Sewerage Services Programme	Loan	40.0	26.11.2019	Local Deptt GoSindh
6.	Karachi Mobility Project	Loan	382.0	26.11.2019	Transport & Mass Transit Deptt Government of Sindh
7.	KP Integrated Tourism Project	Loan	70.0	26.11.2019	Tourism Deptt. Government of KPK
8.	Khyber Pass Economic Corridor	Loan	460.6	13.12.2019	NHA & P&D Deptt of KPK
9.	Punjab Human Capital	Loan	200.0	18.05.2020	Education & PSPA Deptt GoPunjab
10.	KP Irrigated-Agri. Improvement Project	Loan	171.0	18.05.2020	Agricultural & Irrigation Deptt, Government of KPK
11.	FATA TDPs Emergency Recovery Project Additional Financing	Grant	15.0	06.09.2019	National Data Base and Registration Authority (NADRA)
12.	Pakistan Hydro-Met and Climate Services Project	Loan	188.0	22.05.2020	M/o Climate Change /National Disaster Management Fund
13.	Pandemic Response Effectiveness Program	Loan	200.0	03.04.2020	Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and Health Departments of all Provinces.
14.	Central Asia-South Asia (CASA) Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000)	Loan	65.0	26.11.2019	National Transmission & Despatch Company (NTDC)
15.	CASA-1000 Community Support Project	Grant	15.0	27.07.2020	P&D Deptt. Govt of KPK
16.	Securing Human Investments to Foster Transformation (SHIFT) DPC	Loan	506.0	19.06.2020	Finance Division through Ministry of PD&SI, Health, Education and BISP
17.	Regulatory Inductors for Sustainable Energy (RISE) DPC	Loan	506.0	22.07.2020	Finance Division through Ministry of Power, Commerce, FBR and SBP
18.	Sindh Solar Energy Project	Loan	100.0	09.01.2020	Energy Department GoSindh
19.	KP Hydropower Development Project	Loan	4.0	15.05.2019	Energy & Power Department, GoKPK
20.	Digital Jobs in KP	Grant	2.0	17.10.2018	KP Information Technology Board, Government of KPK
21.	Southern Punjab Poverty Alleviation	Loan	39.0	12.02.20	P&D Deptt., Government of Punjab

Annex-IIASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)

S#.	Project Name	Loan / Grant	Net Commitment (US\$ m)	Signing Date	Executing/Implementing Agency
1.	Multitranches financing facility (MFF) Power Transmission Enhancement Investment Program II - Tranche 3 (NTDC)	Loan	280.0	13-Dec-18	National Transmission & Despatch Company Limited
2.	MFF Power Transmission Enhancement Investment Program II - Tranche 3 (NTDC)	Grant	4.0	13-Dec-18	National Transmission & Despatch Company Limited
3.	Balochistan Water Resources Development Sector Project	Loan	100.000	5-Jan-19	Irrigation Department, Government of Balochistan
4.	Balochistan Water Resources Development Sector Project	Grant	2.000	5-Jan-19	Irrigation Department, Government of Balochistan
5.	Piloting High-Value Agriculture in Balochistan	Grant	3.000	5-Jan-19	Irrigation Department, Government of Balochistan
6.	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Roads Improvement Project (Additional Financing) - Swabi-Mardan Road	Loan	75.0	26-Feb-19	Communication and Works Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
7.	National Disaster Risk Management Fund	Grant	1.500	22-Mar-19	National Disaster Risk Management Fund
8.	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project - Project Readiness Financing	Loan	7.000	29-Mar-19	P& D Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
9.	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project - Project Readiness Financing	Grant	2.000	29-Mar-19	P& D Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
10.	Trade and Competitiveness Program - Subprogram 1	Loan	500.000	7-Aug-19	Finance Division
11.	Social Protection Development Project (BISP) Additional Financing	Loan	200.000	11-Oct-19	Benazir Income Support Programme
12.	Economic Stabilization Program	Loan	1000.000	9-Dec-19	Finance Division
13.	Energy Sector Reforms and Financial Sustainability Program (Subprogram 1)	Loan	300.000	9-Dec-19	Finance Division
14.	Punjab Water Resources Management Project	Loan	8.320	15-Apr-20	Irrigation Department, Government of Punjab

15.	Urban Development Project	Loan	15.000	28-Apr-20	Local Government and Community Development Department, Government of Punjab
16.	Emergency Assistance for Fighting the Covid-19 Pandemic	Loan	300.000	5-Jun-20	Benazir Income Support Program National Disaster Risk Management Fund
17.	Emergency Assistance for Fighting the Covid-19 Pandemic	Grant	5.280	5-Jun-20	National Disaster Risk Management Fund
18.	Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project	Loan	75.000	19-Jun-20	School Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh
19.	Karachi Bus Rapid Transit Red Line Project	Loan	235.0	19-Jun-20	Sindh Mass Transit Authority
20.	Karachi Bus Rapid Transit Red Line Project (Green Climate Fund)	Loan	37.200	19-Jun-20	Sindh Mass Transit Authority
21.	Karachi Bus Rapid Transit Red Line Project (Green Climate Fund)	Grant	11.800	19-Jun-20	Sindh Mass Transit Authority
22.	COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Program (CARES)	Loan	500.000	19-Jun-20	Finance Division

Annex-III**ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)**

S#.	Project Name	Loan / Grant	Net Commitment (US\$ m)	Signing Date	Executing/Implementing Agency
1.	Central Asia-South Asia (CASA) -1000 Power Project	Loan	35.00	17-03-2019	National Transmission & Despatch Company Limited
2.	Jamshoro Power Generation Project	Loan	100.00	02-09-2019	National Transmission & Despatch Company Limited
3.	Polio Eradication Program (Ph-III)	Loan / Grant	100.00 (including \$ 10 million grant)	02-09-2019	M/o NHR&C
4.	Jamshoro Power Generation Project	Loan	72.00	02-02-2020	National Transmission & Despatch Company Limited
5.	Commodity Murabaha Financing for Import of Oil / LNG (Pak-0017)	Loan (short-term)	275.00	03-12-2018	PSO, PARCO & Pak LNG Ltd.
6.	Commodity Murabaha Financing for Import of Oil / LNG (Pak-0200)	Loan (short-term)	551.00	22-04-2019	PSO, PARCO & Pak LNG Ltd.
7.	Commodity Murabaha Financing for Import of Oil / LNG (Pak-0201)	Loan (short-term)	461.8	22-10-2019	PSO, PARCO & Pak LNG Ltd.
8.	Commodity Murabaha Financing for Import of Oil / LNG (Pak-0202)	Loan (short-term)	50.00	28-11-2019	PSO, PARCO & Pak LNG Ltd.
9.	Commodity Murabaha Financing for Import of Oil / LNG (Pak-0203)	Loan (short-term)	44.00	28-11-2019	PSO, PARCO & Pak LNG Ltd.
10.	TA Grant for Enhancement of Agricultural Production Using Efficient Irrigation System in Balochistan	Grant	0.28	02-05-2019	Irrigation Dept. Govt. of Balochistan
11.	TA Grant for Operationalization of EXIM Bank of Pakistan	Grant	0.28	02-05-2019	Finance Division

ASIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK (AIIB)

S#.	Project Name	Loan / Grant	Net Commitment (US\$ m)	Signing Date	Executing/Implementing Agency
1.	Karachi Water and Waste Water Project	Loan	11.12.2019	40 M USD	Karachi Water and Sewerage Board, Government of Sindh
2.	Resilient Institutions for Sustainable Economy (RISE) Program	Program Loan	27.07.2020	250 M USD	Finance Division
3.	COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Program	Program Loan	19.06.2020	500 M USD	Finance Division
4.	Project Grant for Lahore Water and Waste Water project	Grant	13.11.2018	0.51 M USD	Lahore Water and Sanitation Agency

***Question No. 6 Senator Rana Mahmood Ul Hassan:**

(Notice Received on 23/09/2020 at 11:10 AM) QID: 37440

Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) has allocated any funds for the payment of pension to its retired employees in the budget for fiscal year 2020-21, if so, the details thereof; and*
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said Institute has not paid pension to its retired employees for the last few months, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the same will be paid to them?*

Mr. Asad Umar: (a) PIDE receives funds under the head Pay & Allowances and Operating Expenditures; from Federal Government; under which historically it used to manage its budgetary expenditure including payment of pension.

(b) Incidentally, during 2019-20, Internal Audit objected that pension payments cannot be made without specific allocation under the head of account. The M/o PD&SI took up the case with Finance Division. Finance Division has allowed utilization of expenditures under all head of accounts; *i.e.* A01 to A13 under Assignment Account.

The Ministry has conveyed the advice of the Finance Division to PIDE and the matter is likely to get resolved shortly.

***Question No. 7 Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi:**

(Notice Received on 28/09/2020 at 3:10 AM) QID: 37338

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state the progress made in bringing in reforms / restructuring of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) by the present Government so far?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: It is submitted that FBR has undertaken a series of reform measures to improve the processes, structures and effectiveness of the organization. This is being done through focus on automation, organizational restructuring for a leaner, smarter setup and development of an efficient work force by revamping Human Resource, removing the dead wood and establishing a system of zero tolerance for corruption. To achieve the objective of reforms, following measures were taken and completed as far as Ease of Doing Business & Enforcement, Transparency is concerned:

Ease of Doing Business Initiatives:

A. Inland Revenue:

- Sales Tax Refund processing module has been introduced — Fully Automated Sales Tax Refund (**FASTER**)
- Automated Web Based IT System for **Asset Declaration Scheme 2019**, which ensures full transparency and confidentiality. (Tax of Rs. 65 Billion collected and Rs. 2.4 Trillion Assets were declared)
- Developed mobile App (**Tax Asaan**) for facilitating taxpayers for sales tax registration
- Launch of new **purpose built website of FBR** (Ranked in top 25 user friendly websites by **Alexa & Similar Web**)
- Urdu translation of various forms completed and **Urdu version of website** is available online
- **PM Package for Builders & Developers:**
 - Online system for registration of **Builders & Developers**

- Virtual One Stop Shop (VOSS) auto Issuance of NTN for Corporate Sector
- **E-Payment System** for making online tax payments
- Regular placement on ATL of persons who file returns after due date to address the hardship faced by taxpayer
- Launch of revised version of “**Maloomat**” on FBR website portal which provides assets details/economic transactions conducted by taxpayers. Accessible to Taxpayers
- Concessionary Taxation Regime fed, **Builders & Developers**
- Withdrawal of restriction on purchase of property by removing the threshold limit
- Awareness Campaign for shopkeepers/traders
- **Automated Centralized Refund System & Customs Duty Drawbacks**
 - Refunds of Income Tax, Sales Tax and Customs Duty Drawbacks to the-tune of Rs. 80 Billion have been issued to address the hardship faced by business community during FY 2019-20.

B. Customs:

- **WeBOC-Glo** launched in 2019 with new modules to automate Customs Processes
- **Installation of scanners** at various customs stations in Pakistan to facilitate and secure imports/exports without human interference
- Introduction of Devices Identification, Registration and Blocking System (**DIRBS**) for Mobiles
- **International Transshipment Rules** issued

Enforcement:**C. Inland Revenue:**

- Introduction of **ICT based risk system** for selecting cases for audit without human interference.
- **Licensing Rules-2019** for electronic monitoring of production facility in five specified sectors namely **Tobacco, Sugar, Cement, Fertilizer and Beverages**.
- **FBR has signed 12 MoUs** with various provincial and federal public sector organizations for mutual data sharing/access to third party data.

D. Customs:

- **Border Management Initiatives** for Effective anti-smuggling and Appraisalment
- **Export Facilitation** through Reduction in retention period.
- Introduction of **Currency Declaration System** and **Advanced Passenger Information System** at major airports of the country
- Creation of Directorate of Cross Border Currency Movement (**CBCM**)

Transparency:

- Launch of online complaint **system (Integrity Performance & Management Unit)** regarding corruption of FBR employees.
- The concept of **whistle blower** and protection under the law.

Besides the completed initiatives above, FBR has finalized Reforms Initiatives for FY-2020-21, FY-2021-22 and FY-2022-23 as under:

- ICT based survey for Sales Tax Registration
- Online taxpayer's complaint & feedback system
- Simplification of Income Tax Return for Salaried persons and SMEs (Small retailers with turnover less than 10m)
- Strengthening of FBRs Integrity Management Mechanism
- Restructuring of FBR Head Office and Field Offices
- Strengthening of Revenue Analysis and forecasting Unit in FBR Headquarters
- 360 Degree view of taxpayers (TaxRay)
- Data Sharing between FBR & Controller General of Accounts (CGA)
- Automation of Sales Tax Processes (Return, Refund & other Business Processes)
- Establishment of LTO Multan
- Review and Rationalization of income Tax and Sales Tax and Federal Excise tax expenditures
- Linkage with Third Party databases (Banks, NADRA, SECP, Provincial Tax departments, etc.) Data sharing and connectivity.
- Strengthening, revitalizing and automation of Prosecution and Dispute Resolution System (Appellate and ADRC)
- Single system for filing Sales Tax returns
- Rationalization/Reduction of Withholding Tax Regime
- Expansion of Point of Sale System (POS) to cover more and more business entities and areas.
- Computerized audit scheme (E-Audit)

- Online Import Duties Calculator
- Automation of Export Duty Drawback payments
- Automation of Approvals under Export Promotion Schemes
- TIR Multi Model automation module
- Transit trade portal accessible by importers through website (Customs)
- Online Anti-Smuggling & confiscation of goods Portal (Customs)
- Clearance in the Sky: Filing of IGM before arrival of the airplane
- E-Auction: wide access and increased revenue for Government
- Smart Examination: Focused examination, real time feeding of data at container of the terminal, GPS tagging
- Automation Post Clearance Audit Process and enhanced Focus on Post Clearance Audits

Moreover, FBR field offices have been restructured on functional specialization basis by transferring revenue yielding cases to Large Taxpayer Offices. Necessary jurisdiction orders in this regard have been issued and postings of officers have been successfully completed.

***Question No. 8 Senator Seemee Ezdi:**

(Notice Received on 28/09/2020 at 3:00 PM) QID: 37458

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state the details of 13 targets out of 27 targets given by the Financial Action Task Force to Pakistan in February 2020 for getting out of the gray list indicating also the steps taken by the Government to take action on implement the same so far?

Minister for Finance and Revenue:**FATF ACTION PLAN - HIGHLIGHTS OF PAKISTAN'S PROGRESS**

FATF placed Pakistan in its “Improving Global AML/CFT Compliance: On-going Process-Jurisdictions in increased monitoring” document commonly known as grey list, in its plenary held in June, 2018 and required Pakistan to implement an Action Plan that included 27 points. Since then Pakistan has made considerable progress towards implementation of FATF Action Plan.

At the end of last FATF Plenary (February 2020), Pakistan was assessed as largely addressed on 14 Action Plan Items, 11 as partially addressed while in 2 Action Plan items assessed as incomplete. Due to COVID 19 situation, FATF extended Pakistan and other countries in International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG) process by one plenary cycle.

This means that Pakistan & other countries in FATF-ICRG process have been given four months extension for submission of next progress report to FATF in August 2020 and this progress shall be reviewed by FATF in its plenary scheduled in October 2020.

Of the 13 remaining action items of the FATF Action Plan, 2 pertain to financial sector supervisors-SBP and SECP, 1 pertains to FIA, 1 pertains to FBR while 9 action plan items pertain to MOI, MOFA, NACTA and Provincial Authorities.

The steps being taken by relevant authorities to achieve implementation are also **Annexed**.

Annexed

The details and steps being taken by relevant authorities to achieve implementation are given below:-

1. **IO-3d - Violations by Financial Institutions (Partially addressed):** Both supervisors (SBP and SECP) have introduced risk based penalty regimes for their regulated sectors, whereby higher penalties/ stricter actions are taken against financial institutions (FIs) for higher risk violations of AML/CFT regulations including procedural violations and delays in implementation of instructions. These include both monetary penalties against the FIs and/ or administrative actions against delinquent officials of these FIs, depending on the nature of violations and after following the due process provided in their respective legal frameworks. Both the supervisors have also considerably enhanced the penalty scales for violations of AML/CFT regulations, to create deterrence against the weaknesses in the AML/CFT control environment. Overall compliance in the financial sector has improved significantly which has been acknowledged by FATF.
2. **IO-3f-Actions against Illegal MVTS (Partially addressed):** Pakistan has also demonstrated that FIA, the relevant law enforcement agency for illegal MVTS, has vigorously enhanced its actions by registering cases, seizing assets, arresting and successfully prosecuting individuals involved in the illegal activities. FIA has considerably increased its resources by establishing a dedicated Cell with additional officers, to take action against illegal MVTS. Moreover, both SBP and its regulated entities have carried out programs through print and social media to raise awareness and educate the general public to use the licensed channels for foreign exchange transactions & remittances and avoid dealing with illegal MVTS operators.
3. **IO8 (a)-Controls at ports of entry (Partially Addressed):** Effective control mechanisms are now in place at all entry/exit points. The mitigation strategy has been implemented. This includes the Integrated Currency Declaration System (CDS+IBMS) as well as dedicated joint currency teams and border task forces. As a result, the interception of cash couriers has increased. Amendments to the Customs Act 1969 have been enacted. The acts of false declaration/ failure to declare as well as related administrative and criminal sanctions have been added in the law. A graduated series of sentences, including confiscation, fines and imprisonment have been provided depending on the amount of currency seized in excess of the permissible limit
4. **IO9(d)-TF Investigations & Prosecutions (Partially Addressed):** Pakistan previously reported a wide range of TF investigations conducted by LEAs including kidnapping for ransoms, extortion, narcotics, donations, misuse of front NPOs, cash smuggling, hawala, etc. Number of TF cases registered and persons convicted has increased manifold since the FATF Action Plan. Further focused efforts have been launched by LEAs to target terrorist financing activity in line with Pakistan's risk profile including wide range of TF investigations. Regular monitoring and follow up is underway and key stakeholders are fully engaged in implementation at federal and provincial level.
5. **IO-9(e)-International Cooperation in TF Matters (Partially Addressed):** Pakistan in last progress demonstrated that it has initiated 78 MLA requests through Ministry of Interior and forwarded to different countries. FATF in February 2020 review has sought further evidence that MLA and informal international cooperation are pursued in line with the risk profile for targeting, investigating and prosecuting TF cases. Pakistan has conducted a detailed review of existing SOPs on international cooperation and issued guidance documents including Directive to LEAs on International Cooperation and SOPs for Pursuing International by NACTA and detailed Guidelines on Procedures of Mutual Legal Assistance in TF matters by MOI. Pakistan is taking further steps to adjust the FATF queries and number of MLA requests have been initiated or in the pipe line. Other informal cooperation requests have also been initiated through FMU, Customs, ANF, etc.

6. **IO-9(f)-TF Investigations & Prosecutions of UN Designated/Proscribed Entities and Individuals including Entities of Concern (Partially Addressed):** Pakistan's reporting in last review regarding TF investigations & prosecutions covered full range of entities of concern. FATF in February 2020 review sought further specifics on investigations and prosecutions involving the entities of concern. LEAs are doing utmost efforts to demonstrate successful investigations & convictions against the concerned entities. A number of new investigations and prosecutions are underway.
7. **IO-9(g)-Dissuasive Sanctions (Convictions) in TF Cases (Incomplete):** Actions are being taken in consultation with relevant stakeholders including LEAs and Provincial Prosecution Departments to demonstrate dissuasive convictions (punishments) in line with FATF requirements.
8. **IO-10 (a)-TFS without delay (Partially complete):** This is related to provision of dissuasive, proportionate and effective penalty structure to penalize Targeted Financial Sanctions (TFS) violations under the United Nations Security Council resolution (UNSCR) 1267 & 1373 Sanctions regime. For compliance, amendments to the Anti-Terrorism Act 1997 have been made whereby penalties for TFS have been enhanced, including monetary penalties and imprisonment terms. Additionally, a separate section has been introduced to include TFS violations under the UNSC 1267 sanctions to make them dissuasive and proportionate.
9. **IO10(d)-FIs take immediate action to implement TFS (Partially addressed):** The targeted financial sanctions are implemented across the financial sector and wherever FIs steps are found inadequate, necessary enforcement actions (including imposition of monetary penalties) are taken. In this regard, the relevant regulations are already in place and that FIs have also developed systems to implement the requirements of TFS without any delay. Both the supervisors conduct inspections/ assessments of their regulated FIs to ensure that actions are being taken as required. In case any deficiencies are identified, appropriate enforcement actions (both monetary penalties against the FI and/ or administrative actions against their delinquent officials) are being taken.
10. **IO-10 (f)-Actions against Listed entities (Incomplete):** This is related to implementation of the UNSC Sanctions on the UN designated terrorist groups and individuals (UNDPs and UNDEs) as well as those proscribed under the domestic sanctions regime. Pakistan is required to report on effective implementation of UN sanctions on UNDPs from Pakistan and all persons proscribed under the domestic 4th schedule. In order to demonstrate compliance, Pakistan has demonstrated effective implementation of UNSC Sanctions against designated persons and entities. Additionally, sanctions against the UNDPs alongside monitoring of these sanctions have been reported to the FATF.
11. **IO-10(g)-Violations (Targeted financial sanctions)(Partially addressed):** This sub action item is related to demonstration of existing penalties for TFS violations. Pakistan has reported to the joint group of FATF, the penalties imposed by the financial sector regulators and by the LEAs for TFS violations both under the UNSC 1267 & 1373 Sanctions.
12. **IO-10(h)-Freezing and seizing of Assets (Partially addressed):** The action item relates to freezing, seizure and management of properties owned, controlled and managed by the UN designated entities (Let/JuD, FiF, Taliban, JeM, Da'esh, Haqqani Network and Al-Qaida). For compliance under this action item the government of Pakistan, has frozen, seized and taken over the administrative control of a number of properties that were previously under the control of UN designated entities. The taken over properties, both moveable and immovable assets, include ambulances, vehicles, boats, schools, dispensaries, hospitals and others. An effective management system for controlling and running of these assets has been devised by the respective provincial government and the federal government (for ICT).

13. **IO10(i)-Actions against vulnerable to TF NPO (Partially addressed:** Pakistan has taken a number of steps demonstrating that it is applying focused and proportionate measures to NPOs which have been identified as being vulnerable to terrorist financing abuse, in line with the risk-based approach such as:
- ✓ Completing an NPO Sector Review
 - ✓ Completing an NPO Risk Assessment
 - ✓ Completing an NPO Strategic Paper

In order to strengthen the oversight of its broader NPO sector to ensure financial integrity and good governance and check its abuse, various legal and administrative measures have been implemented as under:

Legal Measures

- ✓ Enactment of new Charity Laws in all Provinces.
- ✓ Establishment of Charity Commissions under Charity Laws to regulate and supervise NPOs Sector.
- ✓ Initiation of process for formulation of rules and regulations for Charity Commissions.

Administrative Measures

- ✓ Formation of specialized National Working Group on NPOs.
- ✓ Formation of Provincial Working Groups on NPOs.
- ✓ Collection and collation of NPOs data by Provincial Working Groups and District Intelligence Committees.
- ✓ NPO Sector Risk Assessment, identification and de-registration of inactive NPOs.
- ✓ Completion of special TF audit of vulnerable NPOs in 1st Phase.
- ✓ As a permanent policy, institution of a risk-based mechanism of identification and inspection of NPO Sector.
- ✓ Enhanced collaboration between Federal and Provincial authorities for monitoring of NPOs.
- ✓ Issuance of revised AML/CFT Guidelines for NPO Sector.
- ✓ Conduct of outreach events for NPOs by NACTA, SECP, PPC, MoFA, FMU and UNODC.

***Question No. 9 Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi :**
(Notice Received on 29/09/2020 at 9:40 AM) QID: 37354

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is no service limit requirement for the officers of Federal Public Service Commission for the grant of House Building Advance by AGPR but the same facility has not been provided to the officers of other constitutional bodies, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the said facility will be provided to the officers of those bodies?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: There is no special treatment for the officers of Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC) for grant of House Building Advance (HBA). The condition of 10 years' service is

mandatory for all officers of FPSC as well as officers of other constitutional bodies, who have not been appointed through FPSC recruitment process.

***Question No. 10 Senator Sassui Palijo:**

(Notice Received on 29/09/2020 at 2:25 PM) QID: 37463

Will the Minister for Finance and Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to announce 9th NFC Award, when and if not, the reasons thereof?

Minister for Finance and Revenue: No proposal is under consideration to announce 9th NFC Award.

The 9th NFC was constituted on 24th, April, 2015. The 9th NFC held five meetings and deliberated for new Award, however, could not reach on a consensus. The tenure of the 9th NFC expired on 23rd April 2020.

At present, the 10th NFC has been constituted and it will start deliberations on different proposals for announcement of new NFC Award.

***Question No. 11 Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi:**

(Notice Received on 2/10/2020 at 1:15 PM) QID: 37470

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Utility Store Corporation has recently increased the prices of various items in its stores, if so, the details thereof; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce the prices of various items with particular reference to food items in those stores to provide relief to the general public?*

Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar: (a) No. USC has not increased the prices of the five essential items i.e. Atta, Ghee, Sugar, Pulses & Rice, since 11-02-2020. The prices of these five commodities

have been maintained as per below-given rates, in accordance with Cabinet Decision in Case No. 88/04/2020 dated 11-02-2020:-

Sr. No.	Commodities	Current Subsidized Price
1.	Atta Per 20kg Bag	800
2.	Sugar Per kg	68
3.	Ghee Per Kg	170
4.	Rice Per kg	15–20 Rupees less than the market / kg
5.	Pulses Per kg	15–20 Rupees less than the market / kg

(b) To reduce the prices of essential food items and to provide relief to the general public, the essential commodities *i.e.* Atta, Ghee, Sugar, Pulses & Rice, are being sold on subsidized prices through Utility Stores Corporation under the Prime Minister's Relief Package since 08-01-2020.

***Question No. 12 Senator Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah:**
(Notice Received on 2/10/2020 at 3:35 PM) QID: 37476

Will the Minister for Commerce be pleased to state the detail of the rebate filed by the exporters of sugar during the years 2019 and 2020?

Reply Not Received.

The Ministry of Finance and Revenue has transferred this question to the Ministry of Commerce which has accepted it and will be placed in the House on next Rota Day of the Ministry of Commerce.

ISLAMABAD,
the 15th October, 2020

DR. SYED PERVAIZ ABBAS,
Secretary.