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(314th 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 24th September, 2021

*Question No. 1 Senator Mushtaq Ahmed:

(Notice Received on 10/06/2021 at 10:30 AM) QID: 37952

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that 3G and 4G internet services are not available in the merged districts of Ex-FATA in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, if so, the steps taken by the Government for provision of the said services to those areas indicating completion duration thereof?

Syed Amin-ul-Haque: 1. Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT) issued Policy Directive under Section-8 of Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-Organization) Act, 1996 regarding "Closure of Telecom Services due to National Security Concerns". Pursuant to the GoP Policy Directive, PTA as a regulator, issued SoPs to service providers for handling the closure activity.

2. Ministry of Interior being the custodian of internal security under the Rules of Business, 1973 initiates such references and issues necessary instructions to PTA for implementation through Cellular Mobile Operators (CMTOs). PTA has to ensure compliance to such instructions.

3. Currently, voice services are available in all Districts of Ex-FATA. Recently, in pursuance of Government's vision of providing internet services across the country, internet services have been restored in Bajaur, South Waziristan and Khyber Districts, whereas internet services in Kuram, Orakzai, North Waziristan and Mohmand Districts will be restored in phases after review of security situation by the quarters concerned. The detail of internet services in the *Ex*-FATA Districts may be seen at **Annex-A**.



Ref: USF/MolT-SENATE-SQ/BA/UFB

Mr. Izaz-ul-Hag Shah Section Officer (Council) Ministry of IT & Telecommunication Islamabad

Subject : Senate :: Starred Question Diary No. 6 (Group 4) Moved by Senator Mushtag Ahmed,

Districts

Khyber Agency, FR Kohat, FR Peshawar, Karak, Hangu

North Wazirstan, FR Bannu, FR

Bajeur Agency, Mohmand Agency, Malakanad PR DIGITAL PARISTAN

June 29, 2021

Mauras

503

584

401

411

224

Status

Completed

In progress

In progress

In progress

In progress

This is with reference to your letter no2-7/2021-Council (Senate) dated 28th june 2021 on the same subject.

Please find details of USF Projects in Merged Districts (Ex-FATA) below in response to your letter.

Population

1,751,781

1,599,514

565,460

Broadband for Sustainable Development Projects

SP

Ufone

Telenor

Jazz

Jazz



Optic Fiber Cable Projects

Project

North Waziristan

South Waziristan

Khyber

Mohmand

St

No.

1

2

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5 Kurran

Sr No.	Project	SP	OFC (km)	Districts	THQs/ Towns	Status
1	Ex-FATA Package One	PTCL	656	North Waziristan (NWA), South Waziristan (SWA), FR Bannu, FR Lakki Marwat, FR Tank	23	Completed
2	Ex-FATA Package Two	PTCL	.910	Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Orakzai, Kurram, FR Peshawar, FR Kohat	40	In progress

Jazz 565,460 Lakki Marwat Jazz 638,286 South Waziristan, FR Tan

442,675 Kurram

With best regards,



*Question No. 2 Senator Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan: (Notice Received on 30/06/2021 at 9:42 AM) QID: 37986

Will the Minister for Climate Change be pleased to state whether it is a fact that environment impact assessment has been done for the Margalla Expressway Project, if so, details indicating the environment impact area, number of tree felled and proposed to be felled and the number and names of species that will be effected by the said project? **Ms. Zartaj Gul:** It is stated that the as per available official record, this Agency had not issued any environmental approval against any phase or segment of the Margalla Expressway.

However, 02 separate cases pertaining to different sections of Margalla Expressway were received and dully process by Pak-EPA as per following detailed and rejected on the basis of non-perusal by CDA.

S. No.	Name of the Project	Name of the proponent	Status
01.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report of Extension of Margalla Avenue From Constitution Avenue to Murree Road, Islamabad. Date of Receipt: 13-07-2009	Assistant Director Roads (Division-IV) Capital Development Authority (CDA), Islamabad.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			 2009 and 29-11-2010, no action was taken by proponent. (Annex-I). iii) The case was closed by Pak-EPA due to failure / non-performance in lieu of the provision of clarification regarding the commencement of development activities on the proposed project in violation of Section 12 of PEPA' 1997. (Annex-II).
02.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report of Construction of Khayaban-E- Margalla From, G.T. Road to Khayaban-E- Iqbal, Sector D-12, Islamabad. Date of Receipt: 22-10-2013.	M/s MAK Engineering Services Peshawar.	(Annex-II). The instant case was submitted by proponent before this Agency for environmental approval on 22 nd October, 2013. The proposed road (09 KM), at the border of Taxila and Islamabad, starts from a point on National Highway closed to Sangjani Town, extending to northeast in almost straight line and ends at western end of Sector, D-12. The case was closed by Pak-EPA due to failure / non-performance in lieu of the provision of clarification regarding the commencement of development activities on the proposed project in violation of Section 12 of PEPA' 1997 and Honourable Supreme Court of Pakistan's Suo-Moto action of case No. 22/2007 (Wherein CDA was directed not to carry out any activity in MHNP). (Annex-III).

(Annexures have been placed on the table of the house as well as library.)

*Question No. 3 **Senator Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan:** (Notice Received on 30/06/2021 at 9:43 AM) QID: 37987

Will the Minister for Climate Change be pleased to state:

- (a) number of trees planted, surviving & traceable under the billion tree Tsunami project; and
- (b) the species and number of plants, planted under the said project?

Ms. Zartaj Gul: (a) Total number of trees planted are 1007.086 Million till June 2021. According to the Preliminary Assessment done by the independent Third Party Monitoring Consortium (UN-FAO, IUCN and WWF), the success/survival rate of plants/regeneration was reported between 75% to 90%.

(b) Detail of province-wise species planted / regenerated / distributed reported till June 2021 is given below:—

Province/ Territory	No of plants (million)	Name of plant species
KP	390.94	Pinus roxburghii (chir pine), Eucalyptus camaldulensis (Sufeda), Robinia pseudoacacia (Robinia), Pinus brutia (Cyprus pine), Populus caspica (White poplar), Salix babilonica (Weeping willow), Populus deltoides (Sufeda), Cedrus deodara (Deodar), Ailanthus altissina (Asmani), Acacia nilotica (Kikar), Melia azedarach (Persian lilac/Bakain), Pinus wallichiana (Kail), Leucaena leucocephala (Iple iple), Populus deltoides (Sufeda), Dalbergia sissoo (Shisham), Sapindus mukorossi (Ritha), Callistemon vimiinalis (Bottle brush), Morus alba (Mulberry), Acacia seyal (Talh), Acacia albida (Sufed kikar), Albizzia lebbek (Kala sirin), Mangifera indica (Mango), Quercus incana (Rein), Populus nigra (Lombardy poplar), Juglans regia (Walnut), Populus euramericana (Doghla poplar), Bombax cieba (Simal), Bauhinia variegata (Kaliar), Acacia modesta (Phulai), Punica granatum (Anar), Alnus nitida (Sharol), Cedrela toona (Tun), Acer caesium (Maple), Pinus helepensis (Quetta pine), Eucalyptus tereticornis (Lachi), Zizyphus mauritiana (Ber), Elaeagnus hortensis (Sanjata), Eucalyptus tereticornis (Lachi), Acacia farnesiana

		(vilayati kikar), Tamarix aphylla (Frash), Eucalyptus citriodora (Lemon Scented Gum), Pistacia integerrima (Kangar),
Punjab	68.675	Acacia nilotica (Kikar), Acacia modesta (Pulai), Dodonea viscosa (Sanatha), Leucaena leucocephala (Iple iple), Zizyphus mauritiana (Ber), Acacia senegal (Gum Arabic), Eucalyptus camaldulensis (Sufeda), Ehretia serrata (Puran), Terminalia arjuna (Bahera), Dalbergia sissoo (Shisham), Morus alba (Mulberry), Melia azedarach (Bakain), Albizia lebbeck (Siris), Cordia myxa (Lasura), Mangifera indica (Mango), Bombax cieba (Simal)
Sindh	408.39	Avicennia marina (Timmar), Acacia nilotica (Babul), Albizia lebbeck (Siris), Azadirachta indica (Neem), Terminalia arjuna (Bahera), Eucalyptus camaldulensis (Sufeda), Acacia catechu (Cutch tree), Rhizophora mucronata (Kamo), Acacia senegal (Gum arabic), Prosopis cineraria (Kandi), Conocarpus erectus (Conocarpus), Ficus religiosa (Pipal), Olea ferruginea (Kahu), Eucalyptus citriodora (Lemon Scented Gum), Manilkara zapota (Cheku), Parkinsonia aculeate (Parkinsonia), Bombax cieba (Simal), Callistemon viminalis (Bottle brush)
Balochistan	6.102	Olea ferruginea (Kahu), Azadirach indica (Neem tree), Robinia pseudoacacia (Robinia), Melia azedarach (Persian lilac/Bakain), Ailanthus altissina (Asmani), Quetta ash, Morus alba (Mulberry), Punica granatum (Anar), Acacia nilotica (Kikar), Acacia catechu (Cutch tree),
AJK	110.59	Bombax cieba (Simal), Populus euramericana (Doghla poplar), Salix acmophylla (Willow), Eucalyptus camaldulensis (Lachi), Populus deltoides (Sufeda), Pinus roxburghii (Chir), Cedrus deodara (Deodar), Populus ciliata (Himalayan poplar), Populus caspica (White poplar), Acacia nilotica (Kikar), Leucaena leucocephala (Iple iple), Dalbergia sissoo (Shisham), Robinia pseudoacacia (Robinia), Pinus wallichiana (Kail), Ailanthus altissina (Asmani), Salix tetrasperma (Indian williow), Populus nigra (Lombardy poplar), Morus alba (Mulberry), Sapindus mukorossi (Ritha), Bauhinia purpurea (Bauhinia), Ulmus wallichiana (Kain), Melia azedarach (Persian lilac/Bakain), Quercus incana (Rein)
GB -	22.39	Elaeagnus hortensis (Sanjata), Salix tetrasperma (Indian williow), Populus nigra (Lombardy poplar), Populus deltoides (Sufeda), Populus hybrid (Sufeda), Eucalyptus camaldulensis (Sufeda), Robinia

		pseudoacacia (Robinia), Cedrela serrate (Himalayan cedar), Pinus wallichiana (Kail), Olea europaea (Wild olive), Platanus orientalis (Chinar), Populus euphratica (Bahan), Populus ciliate (Himalayan poplar), Syzygium cumini (Black plum), Juglans regia (Walnut), Olea ferruginea (Kahu), Cedrus deodara (Deodar), Populus caspica (White poplar), Salix babilonica (Weeping willow), Platycladus orientalis (Morpankh), Casuarina Equisetifolia (Saru)
Total	1007.087	

*Question No. 4 Senator Hidayatullah Khan:

(Notice Received on 2/07/2021 at 11:00 AM) QID: 38011

Will the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunications be pleased to state as to whether it is a fact that Universal Services Fund is being spent in the backward areas of Pakistan, if so, the details of existing total funds, funds spent during the last 5 years, on various projects with province wise break-up indicating those in Ex- FATA and District Malakand?

Syed Amin ul Haque: Universal Services Fund (USF) under Ministry of IT &Telecom is mandated to empower the under-served and un-served areas through Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to achieve a digitally inclusive Pakistan and thereby improving the lives of communities by making high speed internet services available and affordable for all. With the above stated objective Universal Services Fund is being utilized. As desired detail of USF Funds utilization is as under:—

- Total funds till to date = Rs. 135.974 billion
- Current balance: = Rs. 32.118 billion
- Current balance at Federal Consolidated Fund (FCF) = Rs.57.21 Billion
- Province wise breakup of Funds spent during the last Five years including EX-FATA is at **Annexure A**
- Subsidy contracted = Rs.4.48 billion
- Subsidy spent = Rs.1.5 billion
- Position of District Malakand is at Annexure-B

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ANNEX-B

Detail of Universal Service Fund subsidy spent in Malakand District is as under:-

- 1. BDS Mohmnd Lot covering areas of Malakand District valuing Rs.850 million.
- 13-new BTS sites have been installed in areas of Malakand District under BSD Mohmand project.
- A number of OFC nodes have been deployed in Malakand District under the umbrella of OFC KPK project. The detail is as under:

District	THQ & Towns	Node	Links	Length KM's
Malakand	Warter	Warter	Warter-Dargai	7.6
Malakand Karkai		Karkai	Daragi-Karkai	3.6
Malakand	Ghari Usman Khel	Ghari Usman Khel	Ghari Usman Khel-Karkai	8.49
Malakand	Nasho Kandu	Nasho Kandu	Ghari Usman Khel-Nasho Kandu	9.3
Malakand	Koper	Koper	Nasho Kandu- Koper	2.94
Malakand	Badarga	Badarga	Koper-Badarga	5.34
Malakand	Kharki Dehri	Kharki Dehri	Sakhakot-Karki Dehri	6.45
Malakand	Khar	Khar	Batkhela-Khar	4.5
Malakand Deri Julgram		Dheri Julgram	Khar-Dheri Julgram	3
Malakand	Totken	Totken	Dheri Julgram- Totken	10.8

- 4. An OFC node has been upgraded at Batkhela and extended up to Khar.
- Total approximate subsidy spent under the OFC program in Malakand District is Rs.64 million.

*Question No. 5 Senator Hidayatullah Khan:

(Notice Received on 6/07/2021 at 11:54 AM) QID: 38029

Will the Minster for Climate Change be pleased to state whether it is fact that under the Rule of Business, each Division has to prepare Annual Book of performance, achievements of the ministry and its departments, if so, the details of year Books published during the last three years and if not reasons there of indicating also the reasons action taken against the responsible functionaries? **Ms. Zartaj Gul:** According to rule 25 (2) and (3) of Rules of Business, 1973.

"Each Division shall, for the information of the Cabinet and for general public, prepare and upload on its website as a permanent record a Year Book which shall contain the details of its activities, achievements and progress during the proceeding financial year etc.

Accordingly, Ministry of Climate Change have already uploaded on the Ministry's Website the Year Books for the last years (*i.e.* 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20) which can be accessed by clicking the link www.gov.mocc.pk.

*Question No. 6 Senator Muhammad Akram: (Notice Received on 6/07/2021 at 2:18 PM) QID: 38025

> Will the Minister for Climate Change be pleased to state the number of trees that were planted so far in Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab under the 10 Billion Tsunami Project (BTTP) indicating also the district-wise break-up of trees planted in Balochistan?

Ms. Zartaj Gul: Following is detail of trees planted under Ten Billion Trees Tsunami Programme in Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab till June 2021:—

- 6.069 million trees have been planted / distributed in Balochistan, 408.39 million trees have been planted / regenerated / distributed in Sindh while 68.675 million of trees have been planted / regenerated / distributed in Punjab.
- District-wise break-up of plants planted / distributed in Balochistan is as under:

S. No.	Name of District	Total No. of plants
	Zhob Circle	
1	Zhob	303,133
2	Loralai	38,400
3	KillaSaifullah	73,550
4	Sherani	105,650
5	Barkhan	97,650
6	Musakhel	84,120
7	Duki	16,500
	Sub-Total	719,003

	Quetta Circle	
8	Quetta	792,161
9	Pishin	87,442
10	Chagai	224,393
11	Nushki	307,707
12	Killa Abdullah	37,810
	Sub-Total	1,449,513
	Sibi Circle	
13	Sibi	80,330
14	DeraBugti	116,176
15	Kohlu	20,400
16	Harnai	173,695
17	Ziarat	48,680
	Sub-Total	439,281
	Nasirabad Circle	
18	Dera Murad Jamali	119,188
19	Jaffarabad	265,915
20	Kachhi	248,973
21	JhalMagsi	45,580
22	SohbatPur	43,600
	Sub-Total	723,256
	Kalat Circle	
23	Lasbella	1,014,735
24	Khuzdar	143,768
25	Kalat	56,420
26	Mastung	74,911
27	Kharan	648,715
28	Washuk	134,750
29	Awaran	53,070
30	Soorab	5,000
	Sub-Total	2,131,369
	Mekran Circle	
31	Gwardar	380,401
32	Kech	151,266
33	Panjgur	75,340
	Sub-Total	607,007
	Grand Total	6,069,429

*Question No. 7 Senator Walid Iqbal:

(Notice Received on 7/07/2021 at 3:50 PM) QID: 38039

Will the Minister Incharge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state whether the officers of National Assembly, Senate, other constitutional bodies and services other than the occupational groups can be posted as Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners?

Minister Incharge of the Establishment Division: The posts of Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners are manned by the officers of Pakistan Administrative Service and Provincial Civil Services being their cadre posts as envisaged in the schedule appended with the Civil Service of Pakistan (Composition and Cadre) Rules, 1954 and service rules of Provincial Civil Services / Act of Provincial Assembly. Specifically Section 2 (r) and Section 3 of the Punjab Civil Administration Act, 2017 which provides as under:

- "2 (r) "Service" means Pakistan Administrative Service or Provincial Management Service Punjab.
 - 3. Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioner.- (1) The Government shall appoint a Commissioner for each Division a Deputy Commissioner for each District and an Assistant Commissioner for each Tehsil in the Punjab from amongst the officers of the Service."

*Question No. 8 Senator Walid Iqbal:

(Notice Received on 7/07/2021 at 3:50 PM) QID: 38041

Will the Minister Incharge of the Establishment Division be pleased to state whether the officers of National Assembly, Senate, other constitutional bodies and services other than the occupational groups can be posted as Chief Secretaries of the four provinces, Gilgit Baltistan and AJK?

Minister Incharge of the Establishment Division: The officers of PAS are posted as Chief Secretaries of the four provinces by Establishment Division, Government of Pakistan in consultation with the provinces in terms of Rule 15 (iv) of the Civil Service of Pakistan (Composition and Cadre) Rules, 1954 (Annex-I) read with Para 2 (iv) and (vi) of Inter-Provincial Agreement of 1993 reached between Federal and Provincial Governments (**Annex-II**). Likewise, transfer / posting of Chief Secretary, Azad Government of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is made in terms of Clause (viii) of Karachi Agreement, 1949, (**Annex-III**). However, transfer / posting of Chief Secretary, Gilgit-Baltistan is made by the Prime Minister being the competent authority. Under the existing framework, officers of National Assembly, Senate, other constitutional bodies and services other than the Pakistan Administrative Service cannot be posted as Chief Secretaries of the four provinces, Gilgit-Baltistan and AJK.

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

*Question No. 11 Senator Khalida Ateeb:

(Notice Received on 28/07/2021 at 4:40 PM) QID: 38118

Will the Minister In-charge of the Aviation Division be pleased to state that whether it is a fact that work on Hyderabad Airport has been stopped, if so, reasons thereof indicating also tentative date of completion of the project and operationalisation of Airport?

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan: It is apprised that no engineering Services Project is under consideration, in pipeline or suspended at Hyderabad Airport. Moreover, Hyderabad Airport is an operational airport and can handle aircraft upto ATR-42. Therefore, it rests with the airlines operators to start flight operations from / to Hyderabad Airport considering its financial viability / passenger load.

*Question No. 15 **Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi:** (Notice Received on 5/08/2021 at 9:45 AM) QID: 38158

> Will the Minister Incharge of the Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division be pleased to state whether it is a fact that poverty index / ratio has increased substantially during last year, if yes, please indicate percentage of increase and reasons thereof?

Reply Not Received

The Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division has transferred this question to the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. But the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives has not accepted it so far. *Question No. 16 **Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi:** (Notice Received on 6/08/2021 at 9:40 AM) QID: 38169

> Will the Minister Incharge of the Aviation Division be pleased to state the increase registered in the financial losses of PIA during the last three years?

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan: A significant reduction instead of increase in PIA losses has been noted as evident from the year-wise audited figures for the last three years as per details given below:—

	PKR in Million
Year	Losses
2018	(67,327)
2019	(52,602)
2020	(34,643)

*Question No. 17 Senator Bahramand Khan Tangi: (Notice Received on 9/08/2021 at 10:00 AM) QID: 38173

> Will the Minister Incharge of the Aviation Division be pleased to state the details of properties owned by PIA in foreign countries indicating also profit earned from the same during the last three years?

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar Khan: The properties owned by PIA in foreign countries and revenue being earned from these properties is placed at **Annex-I**.

Annex-I

PROPERTIES OWNED BY PIA

Sr. No.	Station	Description of Property	Comments		
1.	New York	Residence for PIA General Manager (Americas)	Renovated and rented out in March, 2020 at US\$ 5700/- per month. However, from August, 2020 onwards due to Covid-19, rent reduced to US\$ 5500/- per month.		
2.		Residence (PIA Manager Benelux)	Currently under renovation. Shall be rented out after renovation is completed.		
3.	Amsterdam	Apartment	Currently under renovation. Shall be rented out after renovation is completed.		
4.		PIA Town Office	Currently under renovation. Shall be rented out after renovation is completed.		
5.	Tashkent	PIA Sales Office	Renovated and rented out from January, 2020 at US\$ 1750/- per month.		
6.	Delhi (India)	PIA Booking Office	Recently vacated and presently laying vacant. No action taken due to hostile geo political situation with neighbor.		
7.	Bombay (India)	Residence Accounts Manager	Recently vacated and presently laying vacant. No action taken due to hostile geo political situation with neighbor.		

ISLAMABAD, the 23rd September, 2021 MAJ. (R) SYED HASNAIN HAIDER, Acting Secretary.

PCPPI-4124(2021) Senate-23-09-2021-275.