

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

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

Thursday, the 18th February, 2010

@39. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 25-01-2010 at 12:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Secretariat be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of development schemes proposed for new Balakot city; and*
- (b) the number of the said schemes on which work has been started?*

Sardar Muhammad Latif Khan Khosa: (a) There are a total of 17x proposed development schemes for New Balakot City is Annexed.

(b) Work on 5 schemes *i.e.* basic infrastructure facilities (Water Supply, Sewerage System, Drainage System, Culverts, Bridges and Roads), has been started.

@40. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 25-01-2010 at 12:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister Incharge of the Prime Minister’s Secretariat be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide plots or accommodation to the earthquake affectees of Balakot in new Balakot city, if so, the procedure and criteria laid down in this regard?

Sardar Muhammad Latif Khan Khosa: Yes, there is a proposal under consideration by the Government of Pakistan to provide **Plots** to the Earthquake Affectees of Balakot (Red Zone) in New Balakot City. The procedure adopted for allotment of plots is based on survey carried out by Union Council Nazims, Representatives of Local Community, NESPAK and District Administration. The criteria set as per ERRA strategy is that the plots will be allotted to the owner’s of houses living in Red Zone of Old Balakot Town.

@ Deferred from 12th February, 2010.

90. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mahmood:** (Notice received on 28-01-2010 at 08:50 a.m.)

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

- (a) the percentage of increase or decrease in industrial production in the country during the last five years with year-wise break up; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the said production?*

Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani: (a)

YEARS	LSM 100 Items GROWTH RATE (%)
2004-05	19.9%
2005-06	8.3%
2006-07	8.7 %
2007-08	4.0 %
2008-09	-8.18 %
2009-10 (Jul-Nov)	0.66%

(b) Following are the main reasons for decline in production:

Industrial sector has been hit hard by a combination of economic factors.

The ‘International Economic downturn’; Energy crisis, lack of un-interrupted supply due to Electricity Load shedding and Sui Gas Load shedding and its increasing rates; High bank Mark up; Law and order situation; Tariff/Taxation issues; High cost of furnace oil; Rising cost of doing business; Inconsistent policies; Lack of basic infrastructure facilities; Smuggling and other governance related issues.

The above factors are being addressed by concerned Ministries like Water and Power for Energy; MoIP specific measures are given below.

High lights of steps being taken by the Government to increase the said production

Government of Pakistan has declared the year 2009-10 as the year of Industry. The Government has taken the following steps to address the declining trend:

1. **Establishment of the first ever SME credit Guarantee Fund** Worth 10 billion. This fund will be financed by the Government and the private sector in the ratio of 50:50 over the next two years. The government has already proposed Rs. 2.5 billion in the Budget 2009/10 as its share to the fund. **SMEs unable to produce collateral for bank loans will benefit from this facility.**

2. **Venture Capital Fund** of PKR 10 shall be financed in the same manner as the SME Credit Guarantee Fund. A provision of PKR 2.5 billion has been proposed in this budget.

3. With a view to promote industrialization and value addition and or promotion of exports, an **Export Investment Support Fund** worth PKR 40 billion is to established for FY 2009-10. The Government will contribute PKR 10 billion towards this funds; another 10 billion would be contributed by Export Development Fund; while the balance PKR 20 billion will be contributed by other government agencies through mopping up surpluses in commercial banks. The Ministry of Commerce is disbursing it.

PSDP related interventions aimed at reviving the industrial sector:

- The objectives targeted in our PSDP (2009-10) aim at rejuvenating the industrial sector through 48 projects worth Rs.7.8 billion with focus on:
 - Skill development.

- Technology up gradation.
- Cutting out on energy losses.
- Development of emerging sectors to achieve the goals of diversification.

The specific core objectives of these PSDP interventions are:

- ◆ Innovation and efficiency in industrial sector.
- ◆ Building high skilled human capacity through targeted worker skills development programs.
- ◆ Provision of technology through technological up-gradation; provision of sophisticated machines, equipment, tools & spares in Common Facility Centers and machine pools; CAD/CAM facilities.
- ◆ Research and development in key industrial sectors.
- ◆ Targeted development of small and medium business entities to boost employment and reduce poverty.
- ◆ Industrial infrastructure development through Industrial Parks and development of Industrial Estates.
- ◆ Attracting FDI by incentives of 100% ownership; right to repatriate capital; joint public –private ventures.

91. ***Hafiz Rashid Ahmad:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 09:15 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the names of Chairmen Pakistan Steel appointed during the last ten years indicating also the tenure of each Chairmen; and*
- (b) *the procedure laid down for appointment of the Chairmen, Pakistan Steel?*

Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani: (a) The names of the Chairmen Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) appointed during the last ten years alongwith their tenure are given as under:—

Name of Chairman	Duration	
	From	To
Lt. Col. (R) Muhammad Afzal Khan	18-12-1999	31-12-2003
Lt. Gen. (R) Abdul Qayyum	19-1-2004	13-9-2006
Maj. Gen. (R) Muhammad Javed	13-9-2006	26-5-2008

Mr. Mueen Aftab Sheikh	26-5-2008	18-8-2009
Mr. M.M. Usmani	21-8-2009	To date

(b) The chairman of PSM is appointed by the Federal Government as per clause 88 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Pakistan Steel Mills Corporation (Pvt) Ltd. As per procedure, Establishment Division after selection through a Selection Committee appoints Chairman Pakistan Steel Mill with the approval of Prime Minister.

92. ***Hafiz Rashid Ahmad:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of persons belonging to FATA in foreign jails, indicating also the nature of their crime; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government for the release of the said persons?*

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: (a) As of 1st September 2009, there are a total of 6337 Pakistani National prisoners in Foreign Jails. Out of these 5136 Pakistanis are convicted, where as the remaining 1201 are under trial prisoners. A table showing the Pakistani nationals imprisoned abroad along with the major types of offences committed is attached as Annex "A".

Currently we do not have the complete details of the province-wise break up of all the Pakistani prisoners. We have requested all our Missions abroad to furnish these details. The confirmed information on the Pakistani persons in Foreign Jails belonging to FATA area is attached as Annex "B".

(b) Officers/Officials of the Pakistan's Missions frequently visit various Jails, to look after the welfare of Pakistani prisoners and explore the opportunities for their release. In order to ensure their timely repatriation, our Missions abroad issues Out-Passes (Emergency Passports) to those Pakistani prisoners who do not possess valid travel documents, after confirming their citizenship status. In rare cases when the person to be deported is a destitute and the sending state also does not bear the expenses, the Mission arranges repatriation cost as well.

93. ***Mst. Afia Zia:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 10:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the mechanism devised by the Government to check manufacturing and sale of sub-standard and spurious medicines?

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: The major steps taken by the Government to check the manufacturing and sale of substandard and spurious medicines includes:

- (i) A comprehensive legislation in the form of Drugs Act 1976 is in operation which covers all the vital aspects including detail Good Manufacturing Practices guidelines on all important drug manufacturing aspects like manufacturing site, its layout, processing, quality control, documentation etc.
- (ii) Drugs manufacturing sites and authorizations for sale of individual drugs are approved by Central Licensing & Drug Registration Boards respectively after ensuring availability of appropriate manufacturing facilities and scrutiny of the safety, efficacy and quality aspects.

- (iii) The Federal Inspector of Drugs posted throughout the country closely monitor the manufacturing sites. Random sampling of drugs for test/analysis is also done to assess the quality.
- (iv) Seven drug testing laboratories in Federal & Provincial Governments for test/analysis of drug samples picked by the Drug Inspectors throughout the country.
- (v) The Provincial Drug Inspectors also monitors the quality of drug through regular market surveillance which includes random sampling for test/analysis and evaluation of storage conditions of drugs to ensure their quality.
- (vi) The Central Licensing Board, Drug Registration Board, Provincial Quality Control Board and the Drug Courts established under Drug Act 1976 take up the cases of violations including those related to drug quality and awards appropriate punishment to those found guilty.

Following action has been taken against manufacturing/ sale of spurious/ substandard drugs by the Federal and Provincial Health Authorities during last two years.

S. No	Activity	Total
i	Pharmaceutical Units/ market Inspections	105160
ii	Samples drawn	60636
iii	Samples declared spurious	323(0.53 %)
iv	Samples declared substandard/Adulterated	1210(1.9 %)
vi	Cases of Seizure	5529
viii	Prosecution launched in Drug Courts	4885
ix	Permissions granted for registration of FIRs	981
x	Raids conducted	322
xi	Accused arrested	122
xii	Cases decided by the Drug Courts	2068
xiii	Fine imposed by the Drug Courts	36750800

94. ***Dr. Abdul Khaliq Pirzada:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 10:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the budget allocated for Pakistan Medical Research Council for the current financial year with head-wise break up and details of its utilization so far?

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: ♦ During the current financial year 2009-2010 an amount of Rs.118.000 million has been allocated to PMRC as grant-in-aid.

♦ Head wise break-up and details of utilization so far is as under:

Object Classification	Budget grant-in-aid 2009-10	Upto date Expenditure During the current
--------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

	(Rs.)	financial year 2009-10 (Rs.)
Establishment Charges	73,176,832	31,644,829
Project Pre-investment analysis	10,450,000	1,434,848
Operation Expences	15,919,019	7,556,966
Other Transfer payment	14,123,483	7,146,110
Repair & Maintenance	974,975	841,124
Total:	188,000,000	51,739,181

95. ***Dr Abdul Khaliq Pirzada:** (Notice received on 29-01-2010 at 10:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to pay extra allowances during sessions of Parliament to the staff of Federal Government Services Hospital posted at Parliament House Dispensary, Islamabad?

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: There is no proposal under consideration to pay the extra allowance to the staff of FGSH, Islamabad posted at Parliament House Dispensary.

97. ***Dr Abdul Khaliq Pirzada:** (Notice received on 30-01-2010 at 12:15 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state the amount provided to Federal Government Hospitals during the last two years with head-wise break up and details of its utilization?

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: The sanctioned budget and its utilization for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 in respect of (i) JPMC, Karachi, (ii) FGSH, Islamabad, (iii) NICH, Karachi, (iv) PIMS, Islamabad, (v) NIRM, Islamabad, (vi) SKBZH, Quetta and (vii) NICVD, Karachi may be seen at **Annexure**.

98. ***Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain:** (Notice received on 01-02-2010 at 10:25 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Industries and Production be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to stabilize the prices of sugar in the country?

Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani: In 2009-10 a shortage of 1.1 million tons of sugar is anticipated due to low yield of sugarcane crop. The government is taking the following steps to meet the shortage and increase the domestic sugar reserves well before the shortage is expected to ensure that there is no incentive to hoard and consequently no pressure on prices to rise:

- I. TCP is importing 0.5 million tons white sugar to reach the country before end April, 2010.

- II. TCP will further import 0.75 million tons of sugar before 1st June, 2010.
- III. Strategic reserves of 0.5 million tons are being built.
- IV. At USC outlets government is maintaining subsidize price of sugar at Rs.45/- per kg for the lower income groups.
- V. Moreover, USC is being financed to double the USC intervention for lower income groups.

100. ***Hafiz Rashid Ahmad:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 09:00 a.m.)

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

- (a) *the quantity of fertilizer provided to Mohmand Agency during the last two years;*
- (b) *the names of dealers through which the said fertilizer was provided; and*
- (c) *the procedure adopted for the allotment of dealership for the said fertilizers?*

Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani: The information is being collected from Concerned departments/agencies and the reply will be given on the next rotter day.

101. ***Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 10:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the price of sugarcane has recently been increased in the country, if so, its reasons; and*
- (b) *the steps taken by the Government to control the said price?*

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: (a) Yes, the price of sugarcane has been increased due to short supply.

(b) All affairs pertaining to sugarcane growers and sugar industry is addressed under the Sugar Factory Control Act, which is Provincial subject.

102. ***Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:

- (a) *the steps being taken by the Government to create anti smoking awareness amongst the public; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to stop the use of "Sheesha" in restaurants and other public places?*

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: (a) The following steps are being taken by overnment to create anti-smoking awareness amongst the public:

- ◆ Introduction of the **“Textual Rotational Health Warnings”** on cigarette packs. Following warnings have appeared on regular basis:
 - WARNING: Protect children. Do not let them breathe your smoke. Ministry of Health.
 - WARNING: Smoking causes mouth and throat cancer. Ministry of Health.
 - WARNING: Quit smoking; live longer life. Ministry of Health.
 - WARNING: Smoking severely harms you and the people around you. Ministry of Health.
- ◆ Bringing into effect **“Pictorial Health Warnings”** on cigarette packs with effect from May 31, 2010.
- ◆ Initiating **revision and updating of the “Prohibition of Smoking and Protection of Non Smokers Health Ordinance 2002”** in order to bring it in conformity with the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
- ◆ Launching of anti-tobacco awareness campaign in **April 2010** for, (i) **creation of awareness about the various sections of law** given in the “Prohibition of Smoking and Protection of Non Smokers Health Ordinance 2002” among persons authorized to act under this law, like police officers, magistrates, members of parliament, heads of educational institutions, hoteliers, transporters and government servants, **as a prelude to actual enforcement of the existing law**, which has by and large remained un-enforced, and (ii) creating awareness about hazards of smoking, particularly among **students**.
- ◆ Design and preparation of **brochures, posters and a documentary film**.
- ◆ Implementing tobacco control activities in Pakistan through **WHO/Bloomberg Grant** assistance of **US\$ 381,646**.
- ◆ The Ministry of Health has planned the **“National Tobacco Control Program: 2010-2012”**, to be implemented with the funds of Government of Pakistan at a cost of Rs 59 million.
- ◆ Formation of **Journalists Health Forum** to get the support of media.
- ◆ Publication of a book containing the **opinions of religious scholars** on the use of tobacco.
- ◆ Formation of the **National Alliance for Tobacco Control** alongwith provincial chapters.
- ◆ Partnership with **civil society organizations** *i.e.* The Network for Consumer Protection, Coalition for Tobacco Control (CTC), Aga Khan University, Health Sciences University Lahore and carrying out awareness raising activities.

(b) The Ministry of Health is developing awareness materials with regard to the health hazards of Shisha smoking in the awareness campaign to be launched in April 2010. It will be targeting the youth, who are the major consumers of Shisha tobacco. In addition, the current SRO No.51(KE)/2009 and under section 2 of the "Prohibition of Smoking and Protection of Non-Smokers Health Ordinance 2002", Ministry of Health has informed the Pakistan Hotel Association and Pakistan Food Association that smoking in any form in general and Shisha in particular is prohibited in Hotels and Restaurants. A legal review is underway at the Ministry of Health to update the Printing of Warning Rules for Shisha.

103. ***Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen:** (Notice received on 02-02-2010 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to discourage the cultivation of tobacco in the country on health grounds and give some alternative to its growers, if so, its details?

Mr. Nazar Muhammad Gondal: There is no proposal under consideration to discourage the cultivation of tobacco in the country.

103-A ***Dr. Khalid Mehmood Soomro:** (Notice received on 03-02-2010 at 10:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Health be pleased to state:

(a) *the names and locations of medical colleges and universities in the country indicating also the number of students studying in each institution;*

(b) *the number of sanctioned, filled in and vacant posts in each institution; and*

(c) *the funds provided by the Government to each institution during-the last ten years?*

Makhdoom Shahabuddin: (a) The names and locations of medical colleges and universities in the country indicating the number of students studying in each institution is placed at **Annexure-A**.

(b) This question relates to provinces. Complete information has not been yet received. The question may be considered in the next Session.

(c) The federal government only gives Rs. 8,200,000 annually as grant-in-aid to Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Lahore. All other public sector institutions / universities get their funds through regular budget.

104. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 04-02-2010 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) *the number of officers in BPS-16 to 22 working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies or missions abroad with province-wise break up;*

(b) *the number of persons appointed in the Ministry during the last two years with province-wise break up; and*

(c) *the number of posts presently lying vacant in the Ministry?*

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: (a) At present 441 officers are working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Pakistan Missions abroad. Their province wise break up is as under:—

BPS	Province-wise break up						Total
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	FATA/FANA	AJK	
22	5	2	3	1	-	1	12
21	24	5	6	-	1	-	36
20	45	21	14	5	3	2	90
19	56	21	13	5	9	2	106
18	59	14	13	2	5	2	95
17	45	15	9	3	4	1	77
16	17	5	3	-	-	-	25
Total	251	83	61	16	22	8	441

(b) A total of 34 officers have been appointed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the last two years:

BPS	Province-wise break up						Total
	Punjab	Sindh	NWFP	Balochistan	FATA/FANA	AJK	
17	14	2	3	1	2	-	22
17	5	4	1	1	1	-	12
Total	19	6	4	2	3	-	34

(c) Currently 40 posts of officers (BS-17 & 18) are lying vacant. Efforts are in hand in consultations with the FPSC to induct more officers in the FSP Cadre to overcome this deficiency.

105. ***Dr. Muhammad Ismail Buledi:** (Notice received on 04-02-2010 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the number of official foreign visits made by the officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the last two years indicating also the expenditure incurred on the said visits?

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: The officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertake official visits after formal approval from the competent authority. Foreign Minister is the competent authority for officials/officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. While seeking approval for a visit, financial expenditure involved is also specified. Official visits take place in bilateral or multilateral context. Officers also represent international and regional conferences, where issues of interest to Pakistan are discussed.

Expenditure on a visit is finalized when the concerned official submits Traveling Allowance and Daily Allowance (TA/DA) bill to the Audit authorities. Since the financial year

would close in June, 2010, the expenditure on the visits undertaken by the officials of this Ministry during the current financial year has not been finalized as yet. Collection of data of the official visits during the last two years involves calculating individual TA/DA bills after its settlement by the Audit authorities. Therefore, the Ministry would require some additional time. However, data collected so far is attached as Annexure-A.

ANNEXURE-A

OIC DIVISION

65 officers/officials of this Division visited abroad to attend OIC meetings during 2008 and 2009. An expenditure of Rs.16,736,538/- was incurred on these visits.

FODP DIVISION

21 officers/officials of this Division visited abroad to attend six international meetings/Sessions during 2008 and 2009.

AFRICA DIVISION

02 officers of this Division visited abroad to attend official meetings/Sessions during 2008 and 2009. However, TA bill have not yet submitted, hence, the total expenditure could not be calculated.

ME DIVISION

01 officer of this Division visited abroad to attend the Pakistan Envoys Conference in Dubai on 14 December, 2009. However, TA bill has not yet submitted, hence, the total expenditure could not be calculated.

SOUTH ASIA DIVISION

38 officials of this Division made foreign visits during 2008 and 2009. An expenditure of Rs.4,139,451/- was incurred on these visits.

106. ***Mr. Sabir Ali Baloch:** (Notice received on 04-02-2010 at 10:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs .be pleased to state the names and place of domicile of the non-career Ambassadors / High Commissioners appointed in Pakistan Embassies/High Commissions during the years 2008 and 2009 and the criterion adopted for appointment in each case?

Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi: The names and places of domicile of Non-career Ambassadors / High Commissioners appointed in Pakistan Missions abroad during the years 2008 and 2009 are as follows:

Islamabad :
The 17th February, 2010.

RAJA MUHAMMAD AMIN,
Secretary.

PCPPI—248(10) Senate—17-2-2010—275.