

**SENATE SECRETARIAT**

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**“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”**

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

**Tuesday, the 16th April, 2013**

**DEFERRED QUESTIONS**

(Questions Nos. 20, 29, 31, 31-A, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41-C, 41-D, 42 and 43 were set down for answering on 7th March, 2013 (91st Session) but were deferred)

20. **\*Mr. Nisar Muhammad:** (Notice received on 14-02-2013 at 09:10 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the names and place of domicile of Appraisers, Examiners and principal Appraisers posted/transferred at Karachi port during the last 10 years; and*
- (b) *the criteria/procedure adopted for the said posting/transfer?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The information is annexed;

(b) The staff is posted at Karachi Port according to the workload, experience and fitness for the job.

*(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)*

29. **\*Mr. Karim Ahmed Khawaja :** (Notice received on 11-02-2013 at 09:15 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased state the amount collected under the heads of various taxes and duties since 2002 with year-wise break-up?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** The amount collected under the heads of various taxes and duties since FY: 2001-02 with year-wise break-up is as under:—

(Rs. Million)

Years	Direct Taxes	Customs	FED	Sales Tax	Total
2001-02	142,505	47,818	47,186	166,561	404,070
2002-03	151,898	68,836	44,754	195,139	460,627
2003-04	165,079	91,045	45,552	219,167	520,843
2004-05	183,372	115,374	53,104	238,537	590,387
2005-06	224,988	138,384	55,272	294,798	713,442
2006-07	333,737	132,299	71,804	309,396	847,236
2007-08	387,861	150,663	92,137	377,430	1,008,091
2008-09	443,548	148,403	117,455	451,744	1,161,150
2009-10	525,977	160,273	124,784	516,348	1,327,382
2010-11	602,451	184,853	137,353	633,357	1,558,014
2011-12	738,424	216,906	122,464	804,899	1,882,693

31. **\*Mr. Karim Ahmed Khawaja:** (Notice received on 12-02-2013 at 09:10 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) the formula adopted for distribution of resources under the last NFC Award;*
- (b) the percentage of amount being provided to each province under the said Award; and*
- (c) the amount of share and paid as well to each province under every Award so far with year-wise break-up?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) & (b) The formula adopted for distribution of resources under the last NFC Award as well as the percentage of amount being provided to each province under the said Award is explained as under:

The share of each province in the net proceeds of divisible pool taxes are derived as follows:

- 1% of undivided divisible federal taxes set aside for KPK for War on Terror Expenditures:
- Out of the balance, during FY 2010-11, the provincial share was 56% and from FY 2011-12 onwards, the share of the provinces is 57.5%.
- The provincial share in the divisible pool taxes is being distributed as per ratio given below:

Punjab	Sindh	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Balochistan	Total
51.74%	24.55%	14.62%	9.09%	100%

(c) The amount of share and paid as well to each province under every Award so far with year-wise break-up is at **Annex-I**.

31 -A. \*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq: (Notice received on 11-02-2013 at 9:30 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state with reference to Starred Question No. 33 replied on 29th January, 2013:*

- (a) the role of State Bank of Pakistan with regard to protection of the value of rupee both within and outside Pakistan;*
- (b) whether it is a fact that the SBP conducts post assessment of its monetary policies, if so, the details of such assessment; and*
- (c) whether the SBP has worked to limit the credit facility to the Government of Pakistan as required by section 9A (b) of the State Bank of Pakistan Act, 1956, if so, its details?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) Since 2000, SBP has been following a flexible exchange rate regime in which the value of Pakistani rupee *vis-a-vis* other currencies is determined in the foreign exchange market through the market forces of supply and demand in both domestic and international markets.

However, volatility in the foreign exchange market can have implications for the inflation outlook due to potential feedback from exchange rate changes. Therefore, to avoid excessive volatility, ensure smooth functioning of the foreign exchange market, and building its foreign exchange reserves, SBP occasionally intervenes in the foreign exchange market in a calibrated manner. It is pertinent to highlight that SBP does not aim to keep the exchange rate at any pre-determined level.

Research and experiences of central banks support that allowing economic fundamental to determine the value of exchange rate provides stability to balance of payment position.

(b) SBP reviews its monetary policy stance six times in a year; *i.e.* in the second week of February, April, June, August, October and December of each year. In the review of February and August, monetary policy announcements are accompanied with a detailed monetary policy statement that not only provides assessment of the earlier policy decisions but also analyzes emerging risks and challenges for the economy. On the remaining four occasions monetary policy decisions are communicated through a brief press release only.

The latest monetary policy statement was issued recently on February 8, 2013 (Annexed).

(c) Yes. The government has legislated amendments in the SBP Act in March 2012. As part of these amendments a new section 9C has been included that:—

- (i) The Federal Government borrowing from SBP shall be zero at the end of each quarter barring the ways and means limits.
- (ii) The debt stock of Federal Government owned to SBP as on 30th April, 2011 shall be retired within eight years .
- (iii) If above, provisions are not observed by the Federal Government, Finance Minister shall place before the parliament a statement giving detailed justification of the said failure.

*(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)*

35. **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 12-02-2013 at 10:30 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Economic Affairs be pleased to state the total amount of aid received so far from foreign countries for the flood affectees during the last three years?*

**Minister for Economic Affairs:** The total amount of foreign aid received from foreign countries during 01-07-2010 to 31-01-2013 amounted to US\$ 442.32 million. There was no disbursement, in this regard, prior to 1-7-2010 as floods started during moon soon season of 2010. This does not include amount spent by humanitarian organizations and UN system.

36. **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 12-02-2013 at 10:30 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether the amount of taxes and fuel surcharges collected by private airlines in the country at present goes to the government account;*
- (b) *if so, the revenue received during the year 2010-2011; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal to review the said policy; if so, the details thereof?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The amount of Income Tax, Sales Tax and Federal Excise Duty is deposited by private airlines in State Bank of Pakistan and National Bank of Pakistan and are accounted for by Federal Board of Revenue. Fuel surcharge is not a collection of Federal Board of Revenue.

(b) The revenue (taxes) deposited during 2010-11 from private airlines is given below;

(Rs. in Millions)

Name of Airline	Tax Paid			
	Income Tax	Sales Tax	FED	Total
Air Blue	45.509	113.609	274.951	434.069
Shaheen Air	858.762	98.344	296.500	1253.606

(c) There is no proposal under consideration to review the policy of collection of taxes by FBR from private airlines.

39. **\*Mr. Nisar Muhammad:** (Notice received on 13-02-2013 at 10:55 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that a number of NATO containers disappeared on the way, if so, the loss caused to the national exchequer on this account; and*
- (b) *the number of persons found involved in the said scam and action taken against them?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The matter is *sub-judice* before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan in *suo moto* case No.16 of 2010 (ISAF Container Scam). Thus, comments on the issue can not be offered at this stage.

(b) The National Accountability Bureau is investigating the cases of NATO/ISAF missing containers on the directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan. They have not yet concluded the inquiry. NAB has to submit their investigation report before Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan. Therefore, prior to disposal of the instant case by the Apex Court, no comments can be offered at this juncture.

40. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 13-02-2013 at 11:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state whether financial and administrative audit of office of the Auditor General of Pakistan is conducted, if so, when was it conducted indicating also irregularities pointed out in it?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** "The Director General (Federal Govt) is responsible for audit of all Audit & Accounts Offices in accordance with Para 30-B (P-11) of Manual of Standing Orders of Auditor General of Pakistan. Moreso, the Administrative Inspection of Pakistan Audit Department Offices as per Para-16 of Manual of Standing Orders of Auditor General of Pakistan is carried out by the Inspection Regulation & Vigilance Wing of the Office of the AGP. The Admn. Inspection of AGP's Office has been conducted upto 2008-2009 & 2009-2010. These Inspection Reports include 51 paras/observations."

41-C. **\*Mr. Abdul Haseeb Khan:** (Notice received on 13-02-2013 at 4:40 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased state:*

- (a) *number of cases in which refund was made under the head of "sales tax" since July 2008 indicating also the amount so refunded; and*

- (b) *whether it is a fact that in a number of said cases the refund was obtained fraudulently, if so, the details of such cases indicating also the names and other particulars of the persons found involved in those cases and action taken against them?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) Number of cases in which refund was made under head of "Sales Tax" since 2008 is 119,406 and the amount involved is Rs. 150.590 billion.

(b) It is not a fact that FBR has cleared bogus refunds in said cases. In fact FBR foils all such attempts of seeking bogus refund on fake/flying invoices by bogus individuals and companies. FBR continuously evaluates the fake/flying invoices and claim of bogus refunds. All refunds claims are subjected to post refund audit to confirm genuineness and admissibility of refunds. Recently Computerized Risk-based Evaluation of Sales Tax (CREST) has been launched to plug all such attempts. Added to this, Directorate General of Intelligence and Investigation (IR) keeps an eye to forestall possibility of sanction of any fraudulent refunds.

41-D. **\*Mr. Abdul Haseeb Khan:** (Notice received on 13-02-2013 at 4:40 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased state:*

- (a) *the quantum of losses to the economy of the country due to war on terror from 1st July, 2010 to 31st December, 2012; and*
- (b) *the quantum of funds received as aid / assistance from US in connection with war on terror during the said period and details of its utilization?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) & (b) Detail of Disbursement made so far *w.e.f.* 2002-03 to 2011-12 is tabulated below:  
\$ Million

Year	Disbursed	Year	Disbursed
2002-03	1921.3	2003-04	1380.9
2004-05	2721.8	2005-06	3358.5
2006-07	3381.3	2007-08	3659.3
2008-09	4688.1	2009-10	3666.7
2010-11	2618.3	2011-12	3032.5
2011-12	384.7	Total	
(July-Sep.)		July 2002 to Sep. 2012	



42. **\*Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 14-02-2013 at 9:20 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased state:*

- (a) *the share of each province in the proceeds of divisible Federal Taxes; and*
- (b) *the amount actually disbursed to each province since 2010-11 with year-wise break-up?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The share of each province in the net proceeds of divisible pool taxes are derived as follows:

- 1% of undivided divisible federal taxes set aside for KPK for War on Terror Expenditures;
- Out of the balance, during FY 2010-11, the provincial share was 56% and from FY 2011-12 onwards, the share of the provinces is 57.5%.
- The provincial share in the divisible pool taxes is being distributed as per ratio given below:

Punjab	Sindh	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Balochistan	Total
51.74%	24.55%	14.62%	9.09%	100%

(b) The amount actually disbursed to each province since 2010-11, with year-wise break-up is as under:

(Rs. in Billion)

Components	PUNJAB	SINDH	KPK	BAL	TOTAL
FY 2010-11	421.308	199.784	133.435	83.337	<b>837.865</b>
FY 2011-12	483.37	229.36	152.99	93.26	<b>958.976</b>
FY 2012-13 (up to 31-01-2013)	309.128	146.677	97.845	66.620	<b>620.270</b>

43. **\*Ch. Mohammad Jaffar Iqbal:** (Notice received on 14-02-2013 at 9:40 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that FBR has cleared certain cases of refund/ adjustment to bogus individuals and companies on fake and flying invoices during the first half of the current fiscal year, if so, the details thereof;*
- (b) *whether FBR had evaluated the value / volume of such refunds/ adjustments on the same account during the last four fiscal years, if so, the details thereof alongwith the value / volume of such refund / adjustment with year-wise breakup; and*
- (c) *the steps being taken by the Government to curb such practice in future?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) It is not a fact that FBR has cleared bogus refunds. In fact FBR foils all such attempts of seeking bogus refund on fake/flying invoices by bogus individuals and companies.

(b) FBR continuously evaluates the fake/flying invoices and claim of bogus refunds. Recently Computerized Risk-based Evaluation of Sales Tax (CREST) has been launched to plug all such attempts.

(c) In order to check the menace of bogus refunds, the FBR formulated a policy of strengthening the internal controls to eliminate the curse of bogus refunds on the one side and ensure the speedy and transparent issuance of genuine refunds on the other.

The salient features of the policy are spelled out are as under;

- Facilitating the genuine taxpayers through a signal free refund issuance system by sorting out genuine refund claims from fake and fraudulent ones and ensure the issuance of the former in a fair and transparent manner.
- Putting in place a monitoring mechanism for checking fraudulent refund claims while allowing the free exercise of the legal powers of the field formations.
- The monitoring system generates timely **RED ALERTS** based on credible evidence for the concerned field formations and refund issuing authorities suspicious/bogus refunds claims. This ensures proper scrutiny of such refund claims before their issuance and thwarts efforts of plundering the national exchequer both on the part of taxpayers and officials of the department.

The Directorate General, Intelligence & Investigation (Inland Revenue) has been activated to detect any such frauds. This Directorate General has so far intercepted and blocked bogus refunds amounting to **Rs. 2,007,932,903/-** in 87 cases.

1. **\*Haji Ghulam Ali:** (Notice received on 14-03-2013 at 14:10 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Capital Administration and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *whether it is a fact that teachers in BPS-19 working in Model Colleges in Islamabad, under the administrative control of the Federal Directorate of Education, have been given time scale promotion to BPS-20 in pursuance of the Prime Minister's directive / approval; and*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that some of the said Teachers have not been granted monetization allowance, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the same will be granted to them?*

**Minister for Capital Administration and Development:** (a) The teachers in BPS-19 working in Model Colleges in Islamabad under FDE have been given time scale promotion to BPS-20 in pursuance of the Prime Minister's Directive.

(b) Yes, some of the teachers have not been granted monetization allowance by the AGPR. However, their cases are under process at AGPR.

2. **\*Mrs. Farah Aqil:** (Notice received on 14-03-2013 at 14:18 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Capital Administration and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the details of burns units in Islamabad and other parts of the country; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the number of burns units or expand the existing one?*

**Minister for Capital Administration and Development:** (a) The mandate of Ministry of Capital Administration and Development is to provide health care facility at the extent of ICT only. There is one burn unit in the premises of Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Islamabad.

(b) As far as PIMS is concerned, there is a proposal under consideration for the extension of the burn centre during 2nd phase (addition of 40 more beds and expansion of the outpatient area) subject to the availability of funds.

3. **\*Mrs. Naseema Ehsan:** (Notice received on 15-03-2013 at 10:15 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the volume of foreign loans obtained by the Government during the last five years indicating also the names of countries / financial institutions from which loans obtained; and*

(b) *the volume of domestic loans obtained by the Government during the said period indicating also the names of financial institutions from which the same were obtained?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The total amount of loans obtained (disbursed) during the last five years from (01-03-2008 to 28-02-2013) was US\$ 14,609.92 million. The said loans were obtained from the following Countries/Financial Institutions:—

Countries/Financial Institutions	Amount US\$ million
China	2,915.03
France	38.84
Germany	67.37
Italy	39.31
Japan	491.27
Korea	26.94
Kuwait	94.22
Saudi Arabia	778.34
ADB	4,397.38
ECO T&D Bank	9.98
IBRD	350.78
IDA	3,216.68
IDB	489.25
IDB (Short term)	1,581.26
IFAD	81.04
OPEC Fund	32.22
<b>Total*</b>	<b>14,609.92</b>

\* Excluding IMF.

(b) The amount of loans obtained from domestic sources (State Bank of Pakistan, National Savings Schemes, Commercial Banks etc.) during the last five years (from 29-02-2008 to 28-02-2013), was Rs.5,611,835.3 million as per the following details :—

S. No.	Component	Stock as on 29-02-2008	Stock as on 28-02-2013	Variation/ Loans obtained during the period
(Rs.in Million)				
I	Permanent Debt	610,368.6	1,910,831.5	1,300,462.9
II	Floating Debt	1,378,251.5	4,622,381.5	3,244,130.0
III	Unfunded Debt	986,699.3	2,053,941.7	1,067,242.4

<b>Total</b>	<b>2,975,319.4</b>	<b>8,587,154.7</b>	<b>5,611,835.3</b>
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The domestic debt contains instruments offered to retail investors as well as market debt (Treasury Bills, Pakistan Investment Bonds, Ijara Sukuk etc.) which are tradable instruments with active secondary market. Therefore, the ownership continues to change on regular basis.

4. **\*Mr. Hamza :** (Notice received on 18-03-2013 at 09:15 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Capital Administration and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) the date on which National Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine (NIRM) started functioning;*
- (b) the names and grade of Medical Officers and Specialists appointed in the said institute so far indicating also the grade in which they were initially appointed,*
- (c) the procedure adopted for promotion of said Medical Officers and Specialists; and*
- (d) whether any service structure for the said doctors has been framed, if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to do so, if so, when?*

**Minister for Capital Administration and Development:** (a)

- The National Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine (NIRM) Islamabad was established under the Ministry of Social Welfare in 1988 on a Presidential Directive.
- The NIRM started functioning on 23-06-1997
- Transferred to Ministry of Health in August 2001
- Transferred to Ministry of Capital Administration & Development on 1st July, 2011.

(b) & (c) A list showing the names and grades of Specialists, Medical Officers and Registrars is attached at Annex-I.

The Specialists are initially appointed in BPS-18, while Senior Medical Officers / Registrars and Medical Officers are appointed in BPS-17. Senior Medical Officers/ Registrars and Medical Officer are promoted in BPS-18 according to the recruitment Rules if they are qualified and eligible subject to availability of post.

(d) No Service Structure is available so far in NIRM. However, case for implementation of the service structure introduced in Polyclinic and PIMS is under consideration.

5. **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 19-03-2013 at 11:40 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

(a) *whether loan was granted to the persons /firms who purchased government units privatized during the years 2008 to 2012; and*

(b) *if so, the amount thereof in each case separately?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) Yes.

(b) During the years 2008-2012, loans were granted to only one company i.e. M/s Agritech Limited (Formerly Hazara Phosphate Fertilizer Limited (HPFL) before Privatization) as per detail given below:—

(Rs. in Million)

Bank Name	Loan/Credit Granted in years				Total	
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
Summit Bank	200.00	—	—	11.80	—	211.80
Bank Alfalah-	—	100.00	—	—	—	100.00
Bank Islami Ltd.	—	175.00	—	—	—	175.00
Dubai Islamic Bank	400.00	—	365.00	—	—	765.00
Faysal Bank	200.00	—	—	150.00	—	350.00
HSBC	1000.00	168.30	—	50.00	42.56	1,260.86
Pak China Inv.Co.	—	100.00	—	—	—	100.00
Pak.Libya Holding Co.	—	500.00	—	—	—	500.00
Soneri Bank	—	500.00	—	—	—	500.00
Bank of Punjab						168.50
				(2008-12)		
Barclays Bank	200.00	—	—	—	—	200.00
National Bank of Pakistan						3196.00 (2008-12)
KASB Bank	725.00	635.00	550.23	549.88	549.88	2,149.99
JS Bank	—	—	635.44	—	314.30	949.7
Al-Baraka Bank-	—	333.69	341.69	309.29	393.58	1,378.25

Allied Bank Limited	200.00	—	—	—	—	200.00
Askari Bank Ltd	2.00	300.00	—	—	—	302.00
Citi Bank	922.17	849.44	897.72	897.72	812.06	4379.11
Standard Chartered Bank	1,500.00	—	—	—	—	1,500.00
Silk Bank						700.00 (2008-12)

6. **\*Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 19-03-2013 at 11:40 a.m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that various commercial companies use to send SMS/Messages of ambiguous advertisements against the will of the cell phone customers;*
- (b) *whether there is any law/regulations framed by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority to stop such unwanted messages; and*
- (c) *the steps taken by the PTA against such companies and individuals in this regard?*

**Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:** (a) Unsolicited Communication  
Unsolicited SMS/messages can be categorized in two broad groups based on the content of the SMS.

- i. SMS/messages comprising of promotional/advertisement contents that are sent through telecom systems to mobile subscribers without their consent fall under the category of ‘unsolicited’ communication.
- ii. SMS/messages comprising of all other contents besides promotional broadcast including harassing, malicious, anti state etc that are sent through telecom systems to mobile subscribers without their consent fall under the category of ‘obnoxious’ communication.

In legal term, unsolicited calls or messages are categorized as a communication that is made to a telecom device, which usually contain marketing materials without the express consent of the recipient.

In a more practical sense, subject SMS are sent in bulk at the same time from one mobile subscription to a large number of mobile subscriptions.

## **Complaints Received at Authority on unsolicited Communication**

The matter of unsolicited communication came into the knowledge of Authority approximately five years ago through analysis of consumer complaints. Taking cognizance of the fact, Authority immediately started the consultative process for promulgation of Regulations with an aim to provide regulatory framework for controlling the menace.

### **(b) Regulations to control Unsolicited Communication**

*Protection from Spam, Unsolicited, Fraudulent and Obnoxious Communication Regulations, 2009* were promulgated, pursuant to which regulatory safeguards, redressal mechanisms and technical measures were established by the Authority to control unsolicited communication. Amendments have also been drafted in the subject Regulations in consultation with all stakeholders that shall be notified shortly. (Copy of Regulations is placed at Annex A for ready reference please).

### **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to control Unsolicited Communication**

Under above stated regulations, SOPs have also been notified by the Authority in 2009 in order to define clear cut mechanism in the form of obligations placed upon the licensed telecom to tackle the menace of unsolicited communication (Copy of the same are enclosed at Annex B for ready reference please).

### **Redressal Measures**

As per above stated Regulations, following are the key features of the redressal mechanisms in order to control unsolicited SMS/messages:—

- i. All telemarketers need to have valid permission from PTA for sending SMS to ONLY those subscribers that have given their explicit permission to receive marketing SMS/calls. All such SMS/Calls shall be sent through PTA approved short codes only.
- ii. Promotional SMS/Calls shall be made to ONLY those mobile numbers that have given their consent to receive such SMS/calls. All other such SMS shall be considered as unsolicited, hence illegal.
- iii. All telecom operators are required to establish procedures at their respective end to accept customers' request for addition/deletion of his/her telephone subscription from the register that is meant to maintain such requests from mobile users in accordance with the minimum requirements provided in the regulations. The said register is called Do not Call Register (DNCR). A common short code 3627 (DNCR) has also been issued by PTA upon which subscribers can send their requests.



- iv. All mobile operators have installed state of the art *anti spam filters* at their respective networks that block all those SMS/mobile subscriptions that are involved in generation of one way bulk WS—based on high frequency. Such blocking is carried out both live as well as pursuant to off line analysis of SMS traffic as per specifically laid procedure approved by PTA.
- v. Besides regular method of lodging complaint with mobile operators as well as PTA, mobile users that are facing the issue of receipt of unsolicited communication can also report the same through **9000 Spam Reporting Mechanism** established by PTA. In this regard, a dedicated common short code (9000) has been exclusively made available to consumers for reporting spam/undesired marketing SMS. The detailed working of the reporting mechanism is placed at Annex-C for ready reference please.
- vi. Mobile subscriptions involved in sending promotional SMS without the permission of the recipient party is blocked within 24 hours of the receipt of complaint.

(c) **Media Awareness Campaigns**

PTA strongly believes that the key towards consumer activism is through creating awareness among the consumers regarding their telecom rights as well as knowledge about the contacts and procedures to lodge complaints and grievances. PTA regularly run media campaign for the awareness of telecom users on unsolicited communication. In this regard, advertisement run by PTA for awareness of general public on the issue are enclosed at Annex-D for ready reference please. The same have also been run on Radio and TV.

**Current Status**

Owing to the concerted efforts of PTA and licensed operators, for the Year 2012, Authority only received 192 complaints from a mobile subscriber base of 120 million consumers on the issue of unsolicited communication. PTA is striving hard to ensure that the matter is redressed in line with best international practices.

7. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 19-03-2013 at 13:45 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the method applied to calculate foreign exchange reserves;*
- (b) *the foreign exchange reserves in the country as of 16th March, 2008 and 16th March, 2013;*

- (c) *the foreign and indigenous loan obtained in USD during the aforesaid period;*
- (d) *the amount of loan in USD to be returned to the IMF and other indigenous and foreign financial institutions separately during 16th March, 30th June, 2013; and*
- (e) *the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen economic position of the country?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) Liquid foreign exchange reserves compiled and published by SBP on weekly basis have two components (i) Reserves with SBP and (ii) Reserves held with Banks.

- (i) Reserves with SBP include all foreign currency assets held by SBP including SBP Nostro Accounts held outside Pakistan and Special Drawing Rights (SDR) with IMF.
- (ii) Reserves with Banks are FE-25 Foreign Currency Accounts balances with banks less any foreign exchange lending by banks against these foreign currency deposits.

(b) The total Liquid foreign exchange reserves as on 14th March, 2008 were \$13844.5 million and 15th March, 2013 at \$12436.1 million.

(c) The amount of foreign loans borrowed by Pakistan since 16-3-2008 till 16-03-2013 from IMF stands at \$7878 million. Whereas, the foreign loans by GOP excluding IMF stood at \$6887 million.

(d) The amount of loan to be returned to the IMF during the said period is \$ 1086.95 million including \$16.5 million as interest charges. However, the amount of loans to be returned to foreign financial institutions against loans in US dollar during the said period is estimated at US\$73.5 million (excl. IMF).

(e) To strengthen economic position following steps have been taken by the government.

- (i) New Framework of Economic Growth has been approved by the National Economic Council in order to accelerate and sustain the economic growth through productivity, competitiveness, innovation and entrepreneurship.
- (ii) Government has made substantial transfer to the rural sector through crop support price policies to strengthen agriculture.

- (iii) Inflation rate has been contained through tight monetary policy, prudent expenditure management and regularly monitoring price situation of essential items.
- (iv) Policy rate has been reduced to 9.5 percent to boost the economic activities in the private sector.
- (v) To boost growth in agriculture and manufacturing sector, the government has substantially reduced the GST from 16 percent to 5 percent on the production of tractors.
- (vi) Fiscal austerity measures and tax reforms to reduce fiscal deficit.
- (vii) Finalization of NFC award.

8. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 20-03-2013 at 12:00 p.m.)

*Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state with reference to Starred Question No. 41, replied on 7th March, 2013:*

- (a) the criteria adopted by the CDA to select sites for tree plantation;*
- (b) whether Margallah Hills, National Park and Simly Catchments had enough space to accomplish tree plantations drives;*
- (c) details of tree plantation drives conducted by the CDA itself or through private contractors; indicating also the selection criteria of contractor and plantation site; and*
- (d) whether it is fact that CDA has failed to show tangible results of each tree plantation drive on ground, if so, the steps taken to make such tree plantations drives result oriented?*

**Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:** (a) CDA plants trees in designated green areas. The major tree planting sites of CDA are:—

**Urban Areas:**

1. Green belts
2. Road Side /Avenues plantations
3. Road Medians
4. Streams / Nullah
5. incidental open Space
6. Parks & play grounds
7. Street Plantation

**Regional Areas:**

8. Margallah Hills National Park

9. Simly Catchment area.

(b) Yes

(c) During the current Spring Plantation drive 2013, following targets were set for different areas through CDA itself.

S. No	Environment	Divisions	Target (Plants)
1.	Environment (East)	Urban-I Nursery Division	30,000 5, 000
2.	Environment (west)	Urban-II Urban III	20,000 30,000
3.	Parks (East)		2,5000
4.	Parks (West)		25000

S. No	Environment	Divisions	Target (Plants)
5.	Environment (Regional )	Forest Division Soil Conservation Unit (SCU) Park Division	1.90,000 1.45000  30,000

**Total** **500,000**

(d) It is not correct. The trees sapling planted in urban areas are properly taken care by watering through water tanks and fencing. However, plantation in Margallah hills national park and Simly catchments totally depend on rainfall.

9. **\*Mr. Kamil Ali Agha:** (Notice received on 20-03-2013 at 15:20 p.m.)

*Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state the procedure laid down for extension in leases of land in Chak Shahzad, Islamabad?*

**Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:** The procedure laid down for extension of leases of land allotted for Agro Farming plots in Chakshahzad, Islamabad is as under:—

(i) Submission of application for Extension of lease for 2nd term by the allottee.

- (ii) Undertaking by allottee regarding acceptance of terms & conditions of 2nd term lease.
  - (iii) No Objection Certificate of CDA regarding non-violation of Building Control Regulations non-conforming use of plot.
  - (iv) Upto date payment of Revised Annual Ground Rent.
  - (v) Payment of extension fee @1% at average market reserve price for extension of lease period for another 33 years.
  - (vi) Approval by competent Authority *i.e* Member (Estate) CDA.
10. **\*Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 21-03-2013 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to refer to Senate starred question No. 10 replied on 14th December, 2012 and state:*

- (a) *the details of the facility of enhancement in encashment of leave preparatory to retirement up to three hundred and sixty five days indicating also the date of its applicability;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that the officers / officials born on 1st July, 1952, spent the day of 30th June, 2012, in Government Service and stood retired w.ef 1st July, 2012, have not been given the said benefit, if so, its reasons; and*
- (c) *the criteria laid down to give benefit of encashment of enhanced LPR to Government servants who stood retired on 1st July, 2012?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) Federal Government has enhanced encashment of leave preparatory to retirement (LPR) from 180 days to 365 days in lieu of 365 days (LPR) vide Finance Division's Notification dated 29-08-2012. This facility is applicable to a Civil Servant retired on or, as the case may be, retiring on or after 01-07-2012 provided such leave is available at his credit subject to a maximum of 365 days.

(b) Yes, they are not given the said benefit because they were not in Government Service on 1st July, 2012.

(c) As replied above.

11. **\*Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 22-03-2013 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Economic Affairs be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the details of foreign loans obtained by the Government since 2008-09;*
- (b) *the details of foreign loans paid back by the Government during the said period; and*
- (c) *the percentage of increase or decrease in the foreign loans during present regime?*

**Minister for Economic Affairs:** (a) Total amount of foreign loans (Public and Publically Guaranteed) obtained by the Government during FY 2008-09 to January, 2013 was US\$ 13,282 million. The details are at Annex -I.

(b) The amount of foreign loans paid back by the Government during the said period is US\$ 9,510 million. The details are at Annex II.

(c) The increase in the Public and Publically Guaranteed outstanding loans from 2008-09 to 31- 01-2013 was 11.3 percent

12. **\*Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 25-03-2013 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the rate of inflation in the country at present; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to control it?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) The rate of inflation in the country at present is 6.6 % as compared to 10.8 % of March 2012.

(b) Following steps are being taken to check inflation:—

- (a) The Cabinet and ECC reviews inflationary trend and prices of essential commodities in its meeting on regular basis.
- (b) To maintain fiscal discipline, the government has focused on prudent expenditure management.
- (c) The SBP under their Monetary Policy control inflation through policy rate.
- (d) National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) is also monitoring prices of essential commodities in consultation with Provincial Governments and concerned Federal Ministries/ Divisions and Organization.

13. **\*Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 25-03-2013 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the revenue collection target fixed for the current financial year with head-wise break-up; and*
- (b) *the revenue collected so far with head-wise break-up?*

**Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning and Development:** (a) & (b) Head wise revised revenue targets fixed for the current Financial Year (2012-13) and collection upto February 2013 is given below:—

(Rs. in Billion)

Tax Head	Revised Target	Provisional Collection (Upto February 2013)
Direct Taxes	908.4	426.4
Sales Tax	904.3	523.4
Federal Excise Duty	131.1	70.7
Customs	249.6	141.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,193.4</b>	<b>1,161.9</b>

14. **\*Col (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 27-03-2013 at 09:30 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Capital Administration and Development be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the total number of schools for girls in Islamabad and its suburbs;*
- (b) *details of vacant seats of primary / Montessori school female teachers in each school;*
- (c) *the modus operandi of filling up three vacant seats; and*
- (d) *whether it is a fact that the number of schools and teachers are insufficient to meet the educational requirements of Islamabad?*

**Minister for Capital Administration and Development:** (a) The total number of schools for girls in Islamabad Capital Territory working under Federal Directorate of Education, Islamabad is 233.

(b) Details of vacant seats of primary school female teachers in each schools is placed at Annex-A.

(c) & (d) Yes it is a fact that the existing institutions and number of teachers are insufficient to meet the educational requirement for students of ICT. At present FDE is running 424 Educational Institutions catering educational needs of around 200,000 students but due introduction of article 25-A of the constitution and due huge migrations to Islamabad Capital Territory, we are expecting a large number of students and out of school childrens, seeking admission in public sector in educational institutions. Over the past few years 17 full fledged institutions have established at various levels and many institution have been upgraded from lower academic levels to higher levels depending upon the needs of various sectors for which all types of teaching and non teaching posts are still awaiting for smooth functioning of the facilities. At present temporary arrangements have been made for the current academic session which affects the regular teaching activity in other institutions. A case for creation of justified 4017 posts is already in process with Finance Division.

15. **\*Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 28-03-2013 at 09:30 a.m.)

*Will the Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to install a power house in Islamabad, if so, its details?*

**Minister Incharge of the Cabinet Division:** Former Chairman CDA had taken an initiative to make “Islamabad load shedding free” and Expression of Interest to study the feasibility to install 2x100 MW coal fired power plant in Islamabad was called. However, during preliminary studies it was revealed that the territory of Islamabad is not suitable to establish 2x100 MW coal fired Power Plant due to environmental & other reasons. Therefore CDA is considering not to proceed further in the matter.

ISLAMABAD :  
*The 15th April, 2013.*

IFTIKHAR ULLAH BABAR,  
*Secretary.*