

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*

**Friday, the 13th November, 2015**

**DEFERRED QUESTIONS**

*(Questions No. 64 and 65 were deferred on 5th November, 2015)*

\*Question No. 64. **Senator Saeed Ghani :**

(Notice received on 13-10-2015 at 03:30 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:*

- (a) the details of Eurobond issued by Pakistan in 2015;*
- (b) the details of coupon rate and period of Eurobond issued by Pakistan; and*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** (a) Pakistan issued US \$ 500 million Eurobond in September, 2015

(b) The coupon rate of the bond is 8.25% per annum with the tenure 10 years.

\*Question No. 65. **Senator Saeed Ghani :**

(Notice received on 13-10-2015 at 03:30 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the details of remittances from Pakistan to India during the last five years with years-wise breakup alongwith list of senders?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** (a) An amount of US\$ 81,500 was sent from Pakistan to India during the last five years (FY11 to FY15). Year-wise break-up of the same is given below:

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<b>Amount in US Dollars</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Home remittances for family maintenance to India</b>

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2010-11	—
2011-12	—
2012-13	—
2013-14	—
2014-15	81,500

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has advised that information relating to individuals is treated as strictly confidential under Section 46A of SBP Act, 1956, Section 33A of Banking Companies Ordinance (BCO) 1985 and Section 9 of Protection of Economic Reforms Act, 1962.

**\*Question No. 174. Senator Karim Ahmed Khawaja:**  
(Notice received on 14-10-2015 at 12:40 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the number of appointments made in the National Bank of Pakistan during the tenure of the present Government with province-wise and grade-wise break-up?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** National Bank of Pakistan has made 219 appointments in executive and non-executives cadre from July 2013 to October 31, 2015. Details are as under:

Grade	Province							Total NA/GB
	Sindh		Punjab	Khyber Pakhtun- khawa	Balochistan	AJ&K	FATA/	
	R	U						
SEVP	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
EVP	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	7
SVP	1	9	2	0	0	0	0	12
VP	0	9	5	0	0	0	0	14
AVP	0	6	4	0	0	0	0	10
OG-I	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	10
OG-II	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
OG-III	2	10	30	9	3	0	4	58
Clerical	7	19	30	6	4	0	1	67
Non-Clerical	2	6	15	5	2	0	0	30
Player	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7
<b>Total:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>219</b>

**\*Question No. 175. Senator Karim Ahmed Khawaja:**  
(Notice received on 15-10-2015 at 09:15 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the number of Banks and branches working in all over the country?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** 36 commercial banks and 12,529 branches are working all over the country.

\*Question No. 176. **Senator Kalsoom Parveen:**

(Notice received on 16-10-2015 at 10:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:*

- (a) *the amount collected by the government through withholding tax levied on the banking transactions above the amount of Rs. 50,000; and*
- (b) *whether any decline observed in the banking transactions after the levy of the above said withholding tax?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** The information is being reconciled and will be submitted as soon as the figures are finalized.

\*Question No. 177. **Senator Nisar Muhammad:**

(Notice received on 19-10-2015 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economics Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the names, designations, educational qualifications and place of domicile of the officers in BPS 17 and above presently working on deputation in Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** The names, designations, educational qualifications and place of domiciles of the officers in BPS 17 and above are enclosed as Annex-A.

\*Question No. 178. **Senator Nisar Muhammad:**

(Notice received on 19-10-2015 at 09:00 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the amount of public debt before March 2013 and the increase in it till August 2015?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** The total outstanding amount of public debt as on end February, 2013 was Rs.13,477.8 billion and the net increase in it till August, 2015 is Rs. 4,560.9 billion.

\*Question No. 179. **Senator Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:**

(Notice received on 20-10-2015 at 03:15 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:*

(a) *whether it is a fact that the Asian Development Bank has asked Pakistan to prevent power and gas theft to control the rate of inflation; and*

(b) *if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?*

Reply not received.

**\*Question No. 180. Senator Samina Abid:**

(Notice received on 20-10-2015 at 04:30 p.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:*

(a) *the year during which the survey for Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) was conducted in union council Nikka Pani, Tehsil Oghi, District Mansehra;*

(b) *the names and addresses of the persons belonging to the said union council who are being provided support under that programme; and*

(c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to conduct a new survey for the said programme in that area, if so, when?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** (a) BISP Poverty Scorecard Survey in union council Nikka Pani, Tehsil, Oghi, District Mansehra was conducted in 2011.

(b) The names and addresses of the beneficiaries cannot be shared as per Data Sharing Protocol approved by BISP Board, constituted under the Act of Parliament (BISP Act 2010). However, it is stated that a total of 1,357 beneficiaries of the said area are receiving BISP benefit.

(c) BISP is in process of technical consultation with relevant stakeholders, for assessing the need of conducting new survey across the country. However, exact time line in this regard cannot be shared at this point of time as process is lengthy in nature, involves deliberations of various stakeholders, and entails allocation of financial resources by the Government.

**\*Question No. 181. Senator Chaudhary Tanvir Khan:**

(Notice received on 21-10-2015 at 10:35 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state?*

(a) *the names of the public and private banks presently functioning in the country indicating also the number of branches of each bank in urban and rural areas with province-wise breakup; and*

- (b) *whether the number of said branches is sufficient to meet the requirements of urban and rural areas or otherwise?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** (a) As of 30th September 2015, 36 commercial banks are operating with a network of 12,529 branches all over the country. The names of the public and private banks presently functioning in the country indicating the number of branches of each bank in urban and rural areas with province-wise breakup are attached at **Annexure-A.**

(b) State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Branch Licensing Policy requires the banks to open at least 20% of their planned branches in Rural and Under-served Areas (RUAs) of Pakistan. As of 30-09-2015, out of total 12,529 bank branches operating in the country, 3,178 branches are operating in RUAs, which are over & above the SBP's existing requirement of 20%. It is important to mention that every year around 750 new branches are being opened in the country. The continuous expanding bank branches network is meeting the business needs/requirements of the general public, corporate sector, SME and consumers etc.

**\*Question No. 182. Senator Farhatullah Babar:**

(Notice received on 27-10-2015 at 11:00 a.m.)

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

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the CPEC projects relating to the western and northern alignments have been specifically mentioned as such in the PSDP 2015-16 but those relating to the eastern route have not been mentioned as such, if so, the reasons for not making public details of projects under eastern route;*
- (b) *the amount allocated for each of the western route road projects (excluding the common northern alignment) listed in the PSDP and the amount actually released until end of October, 2015;*
- (c) *the names of the various road projects in the eastern alignment (excluding the common northern alignment) of the CPEC even though not specifically mentioned in the PSDP indicating also the amount allocated for each and the amount actually released until end of October, 2015;*
- (d) *whether it is also a fact that road projects listed under the western route in the PSDP are old projects approved by ECNEC several years ago and not designed to carry the huge and heavy cargo envisaged to be transported through the corridor; and*
- (e) *the breakup / details of projects Land Acquisition / Construction of Western Alignment and other CPEC Project as given in the PSDP 2015-16?*

Reply not received.

**\*Question No. 183. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar:**

(Notice received on 27-10-2015 at 11:20 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the establishment of custom gateways at Badini, District Qilla Saifullah, and at Qamar ud Din Karez, District Zhob, Balochistan, has been approved by the Government, if so, the details thereof indicating also the time by which the same will become functional?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** It is a fact that both “Badini, District Qila Saifullah” and “Kamar-ud-Din Karez, District Zhob”, Balochistan have been notified as customs stations on Pak-Afghan border in the year 2005 & 2006 respectively. Customs have constructed office buildings at both the above mentioned Customs stations. However, due to non availability of branches of National Bank of Pakistan coupled with volatile security situation in the area, both the Customs stations are not yet operationalized:

**\*Question No. 184. Senator Muhammad Usman Khan Kakar:**

(Notice received on 27-10-2015 at 11:20 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state the amount received under various taxes and excise duty levied on tobacco being produced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the last 3 years with year-wise break-up and the details of its utilization?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** Tobacco is produced mainly in the areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa but un-manufactured tobacco attracts a marginal amount of excise duty. The major revenue on tobacco is collected through the cigarettes manufacturing companies. Since the duties and taxes are levied on production and consumption stage, therefore, it is not possible to bifurcate the revenues generated from a particular Province. However, year-wise break-up of Sales Tax and Federal Excise Duty on cigarette at national level for the last three years is as under:

*(Rs. In million)*

		Year
Sales Tax	Federal Excise Duty	
2012-13	14,535	61,671
2013-14	17,672	70,733
2014-15	20,991	81,899

However, Federal Excise Duty is also levied @ Rs. 10/- per kg on un-manufactured tobacco.

The whole amount of duties and taxes is deposited in the Federal Consolidated Funds from where funds are distributed amongst the Federal and Provincial Governments as per the NFC award. Each Government then incurs expenditure as per their budget.

**\*Question No. 185. Senator Kalsoom Perveen:**

(Notice received on 28-10-2015 at 11:10 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms be pleased to state the names of projects to be executed under China Pakistan Economic Corridor with province-wise break-up indicating also the cost of each project?*

**Mr. Ahsan Iqbal:** (a) During the 3rd Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting held on August 27th, 2014 between National Development Reform Commission (NDRC) of Peoples Republic of China and Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform (MPDR) of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, a list of early harvest projects (EHP)/priority projects of energy, transport infrastructure, Gwadar and others was agreed which is attached as Annex-A alongwith their names, estimated cost and Province wise location.

All Energy projects are in Independent Power Producer (IPP) mode.

**\*Question No. 186. Senator Mohsin Aziz:**

(Notice received on 02-11-2015 at 11:40 a.m.)

*Will the Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization be pleased to state:*

- (a) the number of public entities, firms, projects etc. short listed during the tenure of present Government for privatization;*
- (b) the number of the said entities, firms, projects etc. which have been finalized so far indicating also the reasons for their privatization; and*
- (c) whether the privatization of the said entities, firms, projects etc. was discussed and cleared by the Council of Common Interests (CCI), if so, when and if not its reasons?*

**Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Dar:** (a) The Cabinet Committee on Privatisation (CCoP), on October 03, 2013, *inter-alia*, has approved a broad-based privatisation programme of 69 PSEs (**Annex-I**), out of which 31 Public Sector Entities (PSEs) were earmarked for “Early Implementation”, later extended -to 39 PSEs in June, 2015 (**Annex-II**).

(b) The Privatisation Commission have so far completed five (05) privatisation transactions, during the tenure of present government. Details at **Annex-III**.

Privatisation is a high priority area of the present government as part of its overall economic reforms agenda. The scope of the approved privatisation programme includes PSEs in the Power, Oil and Gas, Banking and Insurance, Infrastructure and Transport, Telecom, Real Estate and Industrial sectors. The privatisation programme is focused to harness the capital and managerial potential of the private sector by making it strategic partner(s) through divestment of

optimal equity shareholding in the identified PSEs. The programme also includes divestment in various entities, especially in Oil & Gas, Power and Financial sectors through Capital Market Transactions to enhance the attractiveness and visibility of Pakistan as a favored investment destination.

(c) Yes, the privatisation of the said entities (mentioned in portion 'b' above) was discussed and cleared by the CCI, in its meetings of 1997 & 2006. Copy of the decisions are at **Annex-IV & V**.

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

AMJED PERVEZ,  
*Secretary.*

ISLAMABAD,  
*the 12th November, 2015*

PCPPI—12457(15)Senate—12-11-2015—275.